

# SUBURBAN ACRES CIVIC LEAGUE NEWS



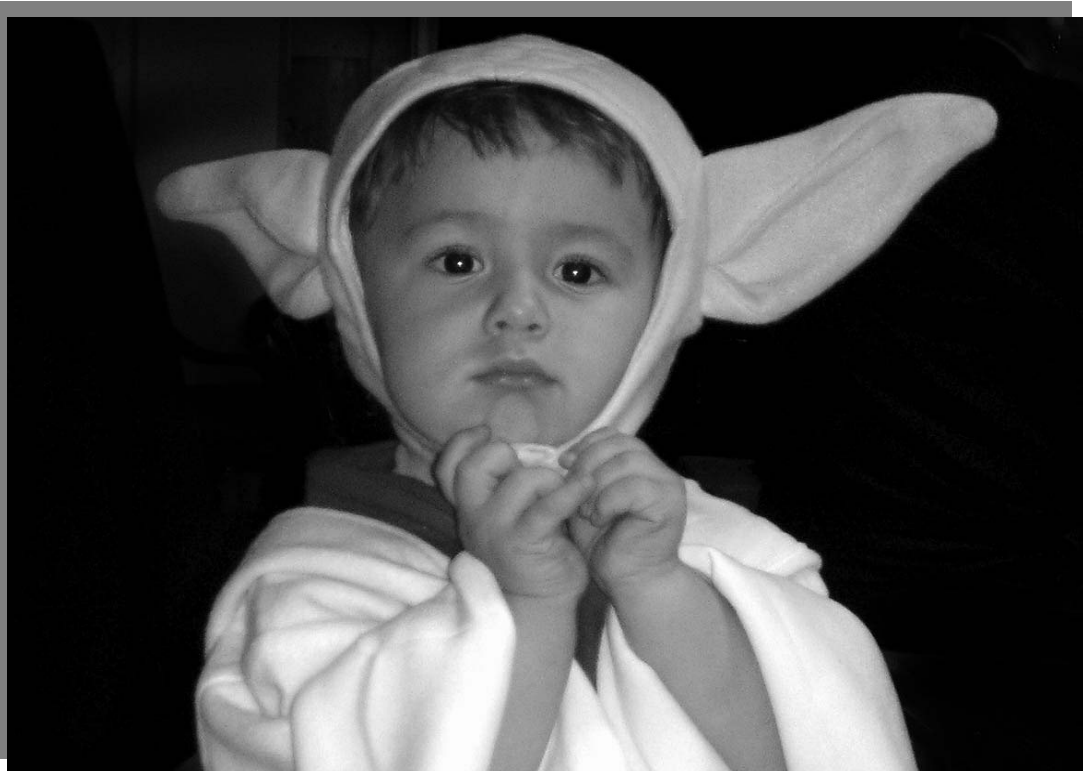
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January 1, 2009

Volume 6 Issue 1

## In This Issue

2	November Meeting Minutes Civic League Meeting and Events Calendar
3	Message from the VP Year in Review
5	Civic League and Community News
6	Holiday Fire Safety Word Search Puzzle
7	2009 Goals Survey
8	Officers and Board Contact List Advertising Information Membership Information



### Suburban Acres Family Harvest Celebration

Costumes, a chili cook off and pumpkin carving brought out the families at Suburban Acres first annual Harvest Celebration on Saturday, October 25th. Pictured here is costume wizard Sam Adams as Yoda.

### Message from the President

## Honor the Past, Welcome the Future

Season's greetings! It's *customary* to take a look over the shoulder and size up the year as we prepare to leave it behind. Perhaps that's because we are motivated by our accomplishments and the pursuit of goals we've yet to meet. For the Suburban Acres Civic League, 2008 has been a successful year. We set out to improve the League's functionality and enhance the sense of community in Suburban Acres. Progress has been made on all fronts and we're gaining great momentum to realize our organizational goals in 2009. Let's take a look at the year in review:

The Fourth of July celebration was an outstanding success. The turn out was quite impressive, and the patriotic spirit in our neighborhood was inspiring. The memories of our children parading through our streets alongside some of the original residents of this neighborhood, smiles abound, lemonade and summertime watermelon under a shade tree at the park...I don't think it gets

(Continued on page 3)

**Join us  
Monday,  
January 12, 2009  
at 7 pm for our  
regularly  
scheduled  
meeting at  
Suburban Acres  
Elementary**

## Suburban Acres Civic League Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2008

*Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.*

**Introduction of new neighbors/SACL members.**

**Update regarding Pamela Brown** (Hula Hoop Lady)

Assistant Chief Chamberlin, Assistant Chief Ron Wright, Lieutenant Scott Evans, Lieutenant Roger Hungerford and PACE Officer Bev Hubbard were in attendance.

We were given an update on the circumstances concerning Ms. Brown. We were also given a briefing on officer training as relates to dealing with mentally challenged citizens and protocol about responding to these citizens. In addition we were briefed on Taser training and its usage. No PACE report was given.

**Ray Steffens—Norfolk Fire Department**

Mr. Steffens distributed pamphlets outlining many fire prevention tips.

Make sure smoke detectors are working properly. If you need assistance, you can call the fire department and they will have someone come out to change batteries for you! Remember this time of year that live Holiday trees are very combustible. LED lights are the safest to use on your trees. Also, be careful using candles. Do not use paper or plastic holders. For other tips go to [Norfolk.gov](http://Norfolk.gov) under Fire-Rescue.

Jodee Cook reported on our **Neighborhood Watch Program**. Our signs are now up in the neighborhood. Archer's Green will soon be getting six additional signs. Jodee and Marian Whitmore attended the recent gang awareness meeting at Sacred Heart. More meetings will follow.

The **Treasurer's Report** was given by Bruce Larson. Our balance at the end of October was \$995.75. We purchased signs and also contributed to Suburban Park's food drive.

Jen Hellman presented the proposed **slate of officers for 2009**.

**President:** Tim Fox

**Vice President:** Pearl Windle

**Secretary:** Lori Cloud

**Treasurer:** Bruce Larson

**Board Member:** Doug Barnhart

**Board Member:** Jodee Cook

**Board Member:** Susan Boice

**Board Member:** Eric Heard

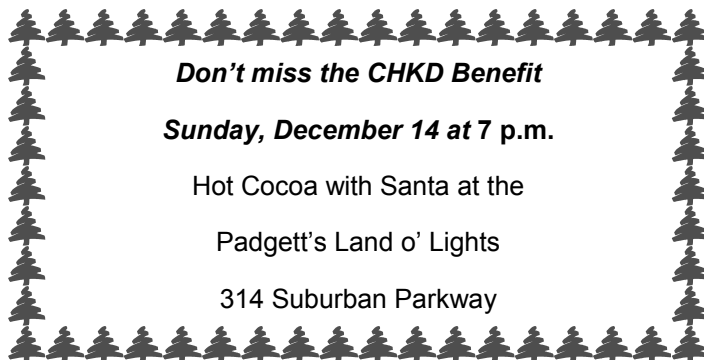
No additional nominations were made from the floor.

A motion and second was made, and the body voted in favor of the proposed slate. No one was opposed.

Suburban Acres Civic League has a web site at [www.suburbanacres.wordpress.com](http://www.suburbanacres.wordpress.com)

Andrea Fox will head the **Yard of the Month (YOTM)** committee, and Lori Cloud, Jodee Cook and Margaret White will serve on the committee.

*Meeting adjourned: 8:30 p.m.*



### 2009 Civic League Meeting and Events Calendar

<b>January 12</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>February 9</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>March 9</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>April 13</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>May 11</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>June 8</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>July 4</b>	Fourth of July Parade
<b>July 13</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>August 10</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>September 14</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>October 12</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>October 24</b>	Fall Harvest Celebration
<b>November 9</b>	Civic League Meeting
<b>December 14</b>	Civic League Meeting



**Above:** Jack and Shawn Padgett cleaning up our community park at the Great American Cleanup last April. **Below:** NFD Engine 9 drew kids of all ages at our neighborhood Fourth of July parade.



(Continued from page 1)

any more classic or any more American. With such participation and so much fun had this year, I'm very excited for next July!

The Fall Harvest Celebration was also a hit! It provided another opportunity to meet with neighbors while enjoying a bowl of friendly competition by way of a delicious chili cook off. The children enjoyed pumpkin decorating and prizes were awarded for some extraordinary carving talent. Thanks to our President and his family for hosting us in their elaborately decorated and seasonally festive setting. Thank you, Padgett family!

The Yard of the Month committee was established in July, and five yards have been recognized to date. This is a beautiful neighborhood, and there are several homes worthy of the award each month. Be on the look out for "Flora", our exquisitely decorated mermaid, posted proudly in the next *Yard of the Month!*

The Neighborhood Watch program was implemented in August with our program coordinator and a host of attentive neighbors as block captains and block watchers. We can all be block watchers, though, so be vigilant in your routine and safeguard yourself and your family -- and keep an eye on your neighbor too. Don't hesitate to call the police if you see or hear something suspicious. You can call the non-emergency number if you're not certain that you have an actual emergency: 441-5610.



A number of crime watch signs have been strategically placed throughout the neighborhood to let would-be criminals know that we are taking an active role in crime prevention in our community.

We made technological strides by starting a webpage and an email distribution list. You can now see pictures from the neighborhood events, read this and past newsletters, and much more by logging into [www.suburbanacres.wordpress.com](http://www.suburbanacres.wordpress.com). The site is still in the early stages, so check in often as it grows. You can also shoot us an email to join the email distribution list or to simply say hi! [suburbanacres@gmail.com](mailto:suburbanacres@gmail.com)

The long anticipated medians on Thole Street were constructed

(Continued on page 4)

-- now awaiting completion with vegetation. The medians were included as a part of a traffic calming initiative, with the additional benefit of beautifying our street.

SACL meeting notification signs have been produced and the Civic League body voted to meet monthly in the coming year. In doing so, we will be much better postured to make advances in our neighborhood.

I hope you've noticed the growth in this newsletter. The production committee has worked hard to give it a facelift and to make it enjoyable and useful. With the much appreciated help of our contributors, they've done an outstanding job.

These activities (and others not mentioned here) from 2008 are all very exciting for the growth of our community, and I think we're just getting started.

I'd like to thank all of you—volunteers, officers, and attendees—who have been actively engaged in the Civic League during 2008. Our success this year has been through your support. I have been given the honor of leading our Civic League in the coming year. Along with me are seven very dedicated folks who will serve in various positions on the Board of Directors. We've been discussing a number of new ideas and we will be soliciting for help to form the committees needed to make 2009 a success. This Civic League is yours. It's a vehicle to address issues and to enhance the community in which we live. We'd love to have your participation and we invite and encourage your ideas.

On behalf of the Civic League, and from my family to yours, we wish a very happy and memorable holiday season. We'll see you in January!

Warmest regards,

Timothy Fox

SACL, VP

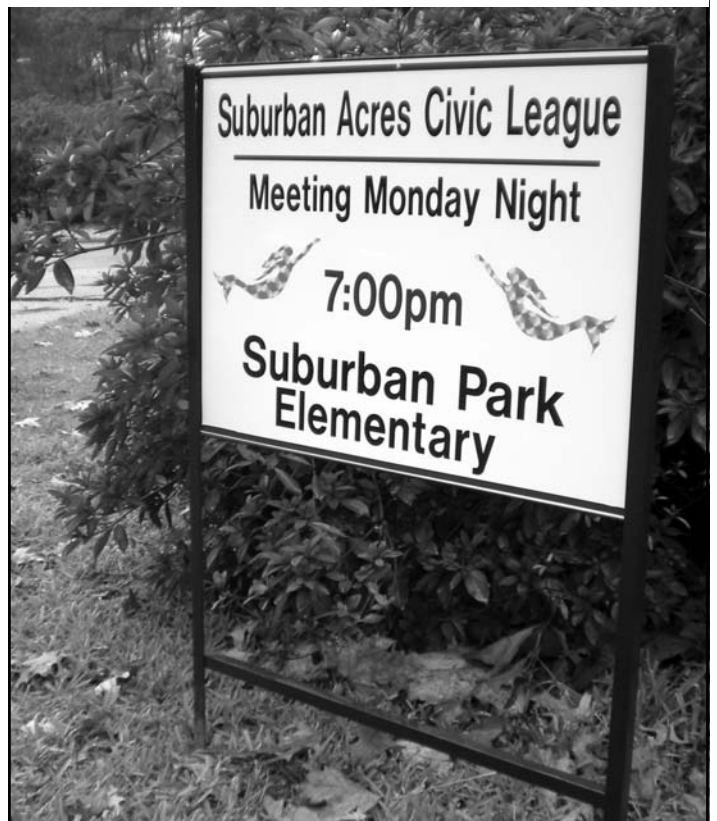


Get the Suburban Acres Civic League newsletter *and more* online!

[www.suburbanacres.wordpress.com](http://www.suburbanacres.wordpress.com)



**Above:** Pumpkin decorating was a hit at the Harvest Celebration in October. **Below:** New civic league meeting signs will be placed at points around the neighborhood before monthly meetings.



## Civic League and Community News

### **Meeting Time Change**

The Suburban Acres Civic League will be voting on a motion to change the start time of monthly meetings from 7 pm to 6:30 pm. This will ensure we'll be able to conclude the meeting by 8 pm. The Civic League pays extra for janitorial overtime if we are not out by 8 pm. The earlier start time means we may get home earlier from meetings, while still giving us an hour and a half to address issues when necessary. Please attend the January meeting to vote on this issue and express your opinions!

### **2009 Member Dues**

Keep your membership active. You'll find a membership form on the back of this newsletter, or you can re-activate your membership at any meeting. For more information, e-mail Bruce Larson at [larsonontheroad@msn.com](mailto:larsonontheroad@msn.com) or call 761-0192.

### **Mermaid Fund**

You've seen them all over Norfolk, decorated with many creative and unique designs, each representing something symbolic of its location. Norfolk's mermaids add a sense of beauty, art, and city-pride. Suburban Acres has launched an initiative to bring a mermaid to our neighborhood. Donations are being accepted at civic league meetings and by mail. Checks can be made to 'Suburban Acres Civic League', with 'Mermaid Fund' in the memo. Contact our Treasurer, Bruce Larson, for details.

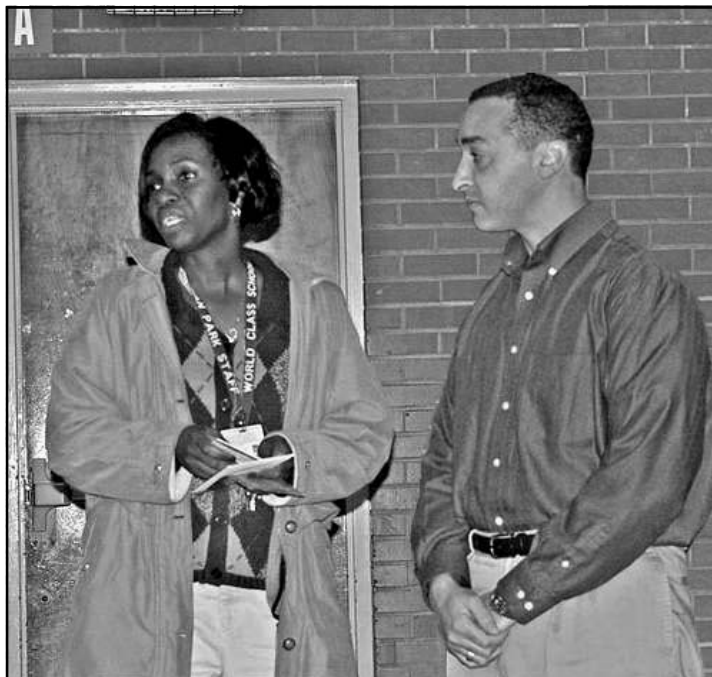
### **Norfolk Police Community Forum**

Norfolk Police Chief Bruce P. Marquis and the Norfolk Police Department invite you to the fifth NPD Community Forum from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Wednesday, December 17 at Bayview Elementary School, 1434 E. Bayview Avenue. This is your opportunity to ask the questions you've always wanted answered. Hear the experts discuss: Gang awareness, Codes Enforcement, Crime Prevention, Domestic violence/sexual assault, and Office of Professional Standards. Call 664-6937 for more information.

### **Yard of the Month Winners**

Congratulations to our Yard of the Month winners Ahn Tran of 444 Virginian Drive (October/November) and to Elsie Gregory of 309 Thole Street (December). We appreciate your efforts. Thank you for helping keep Suburban Acres beautiful.

**For more news and events, visit our website at [www.suburbanacres.wordpress.com](http://www.suburbanacres.wordpress.com)**



### **Civic League Supports Suburban Park Elementary Thanksgiving Food Drive**

Suburban Acres Civic League president-elect Tim Fox presented a grocery gift card for \$200 to Claudette Dalmida of Suburban Park Elementary School at the November meeting. The school's goal was to make 30 baskets to ensure needy families at the school had a feast to celebrate this Thanksgiving. Donations of canned goods were collected at the meeting, as well.

**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS  
TO ALL OUR  
SUBURBAN  
ACRES  
NEIGHBORS**



## During the Holidays, Think Fire Safety!

**Ray Steffens, Fire Inspector with the Norfolk Fire Department, offers these tips for keeping your holidays safe this season.**

When buying your Christmas tree, be sure to pick a fresh tree. You'll know it's fresh if the needles are firmly attached. When the tree is in your home, keep plenty of water around the base. A dry tree is the source of more than 1000 home fires every year.

Be bright about lights. Don't use lights with worn insulation, broken plugs or loose sockets. They can cause fires, shocks and even electrocution.

Be careful when hanging several light strings together. You could have an overload situation. Remember, all lighting, inside and out, should be turned off before going to bed.

Keep space heaters away from curtains, bedspreads and

furniture. Make sure children know they could get burned if they touch one.

Are the stockings hung by the chimney with care? Be especially careful if there's a cozy fire going in the fireplace.

When using the fireplace, be sure the opening is covered with a sturdy metal screen or heat tempered glass doors. This reduces the chance of a fire starting from escaping sparks or wood.

When the holidays are over, take the tree down. Every day it stands in the house, it gets a little drier.

### More Fire Safety Tips

You can prevent tragedies simply by testing and maintaining your smoke alarms and practicing a family fire escape plan. All smoke alarms should be tested once a month and batteries replaced annually. Every family should develop fire escape plans and practice them twice a year.

**Space heaters** are more in use with the cold weather and present many potential hazards.

Recommendations for safe use include:

- Make sure heaters are sturdy and balanced.
- Place the heater away from curtains, furniture and other combustibles and out of normal traffic paths.
- Keep heating units away from bathtubs and water.
- Supervise children near heaters.

**Wood burning stoves:** Make sure your unit is recognized by a national testing laboratory and installed according to local ordinances.

Provide adequate clearance from the unit to combustibles such as walls, floor and furniture. Contact the fire department to determine if a permit is necessary.

Dispose of hot ashes in a metal container placed on a non-combustible surface. Allow ashes to cool for several days before removing from container. Inspect chimney regularly and have it cleaned of creosote and other by-products.

### Fire places

- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Always use a screen when a fire is burning.
- Burn only seasoned hardwood, never wrapping paper or trash which can result in a chimney or roof fire.
- Have chimneys cleaned and inspected every year.

## Holiday Word Search 2008

S	A	N	J	I	N	G	L	E	B	E	L	L	S
T	D	O	E	G	G	N	O	G	A	E	Y	C	N
A	S	E	L	I	I	B	U	B	G	M	R	N	O
R	E	L	F	E	P	F	Y	O	L	O	E	P	W
W	S	T	E	A	E	R	O	C	G	S	J	G	C
A	N	A	N	D	A	R	E	X	H	L	O	R	H
Y	O	S	U	M	C	H	I	M	N	E	Y	I	R
Z	W	T	T	S	E	H	J	K	E	D	E	N	I
A	M	Y	D	O	E	A	R	O	W	B	T	R	S
S	A	N	T	A	C	A	R	O	L	I	N	G	T
T	N	O	R	K	S	K	S	A	C	L	S	I	M
E	N	J	E	S	U	H	I	O	D	A	Y	H	A
V	W	R	E	A	T	H	E	N	N	Y	F	O	S
E	R	U	D	O	L	F	U	R	G	R	E	E	R

Caroling	Gift	Santa	Stocking
Cheer	Jingle Bells	Scrooge	Tree
Chimney	Jolly	Season	Wish
Christmas	Joy	Sled	Wreath
Dasher	Noel	Snow	
Eggnog	Peace	Snowman	
Elf	Rudolf	Star	



### Suburban Acres Civic League Officers

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**Pearl Windle, Vice President**  
480-2043  
Pearlygirl1@cox.net

**Dolores Cloud, Secretary**  
583-0250  
dolores.cloud@norfolk.gov

**Bruce Larson, Treasurer**  
761-0192  
larsonontheroad@msn.com

### Board of Directors

**Doug Barnhart** 480-9513  
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**Eric Heard** 963-6996

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**Mary Verykousis**  
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**PACE Officers**  
**Officer Curtis Jackson** 831-3484  
**Officer Beverly C. Hubbard**  
beverly.hubbard@norfolk.gov

**Non Emergency Police**  
441-5610  
**Code Enforcements** 664-6532  
**Norfolk Cares** 664-6510

**Neighborhood Watch  
Coordinator**  
**JoDee Cook** 587-7918

**Web site**  
suburbanacres.wordpress.com

### Advertise in the Suburban Acres Civic League News

It's the most cost effective advertising for reaching your local customers.

Place your business card ad in the Suburban Acres Civic League News for just \$15 an issue.

Or take advantage of our 10% advertising discount with an annual contract.

Call now! Advertising deadline for the February issue is January 15.

For complete advertising rates and information, call Dennis Mori at 761-0197 or email:

moriconi26@msn.com.

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### NORFOLK SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Robert J. McCabe**  
Sheriff / High Constable

**Robert J. McCabe, Sheriff**  
811 E. City Hall Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23510

Office: (757) 664-4713  
Fax: (757) 441-2531  
E-Mail: robert.mccabe@norfolk.gov  
Web Site: www.norfolksheriffsoffice.com

## *Being an active member of your community has never been as important as it is today.*

We need your involvement in the Suburban Acres Civic League. The larger our membership, the louder our voice will be heard! Don't wait, join today!

Individual Membership is \$5.00 and Family Membership is \$10.00. Make check payable to "Suburban Acres Civic League". Dues are now payable for the 2009 calendar year.

### Suburban Acres Civic League Membership Form 2009

Individual \$5.00       Family \$10.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print and include both names for family membership)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **Suburban Acres Civic League**. Bring to the next meeting or mail this form to Bruce Larson, Treasurer, Suburban Acres Civic League, 574 Thole St. Norfolk, VA 23505. **And thank you for your support!**