

Thalia Civic League Newsletter

Volume 31 Issue 6

<https://thalianeighbors.com>

July 2023

PUBLISHED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE THALIA CIVIC LEAGUE, INC.

Thalia Residents: Informed - Inclusive - Involved

July Membership Meeting

Melissa Kuch – Founder, Coastal Virginia Community Rowing

Monday, July 17, 2023, 7:00 PM New Life Church, 420 Thalia Road



The Thalia area has been an important part of the local rowing community for years with training opportunities out of the Thalia Creek dock and one of our homeowner's back yard. Melissa will introduce us to the sport of rowing and its health and community benefits. Rowing is a life-long sport that builds community engagement and is often picked up at different ages, from middle school to adulthood. Coastal Virginia Community Rowing promotes rowing for middle school, high school, and collegiate student-athletes in the Virginia Beach area. Melissa Kuch is also the coach for Cox Crew Club, has competed internationally in rowing and is a resident of Thalia/Malibu.

Upcoming Events

Monday, July 17 – Thalia Civic League July Membership Meeting, New Life Church 7:00 PM

Monday, August 21 – Thalia Civic League August Membership Meeting, New Life Church 7:00 PM

Wednesday, September 20 - Thalia Garden Club Meeting 10:00 AM Location TBD

President's Corner – Rick Boyles

Thanks to all who participated in the Molly and Danny Howlett July 4th parade. They had an outstanding turn out and it looks like everyone had a good time. Also, thanks to all who picked up the American flags I put out at the end of my driveway and placed them on your street. As you could tell, they were donated by a local politician, but they were free!

There are a couple of important issues to be aware of to discuss at the July 17, 2023, meeting:

Big Issue #1-Selection of a new voting system. We have a court mandated 10 – 1 City Council District Voting system (10 Districts where the Council Member is elected only by voters in that District) imposed during the last Council election cycle. That system violates the City Charter (which is derived from State Law) and must be changed by the State Legislature in 2024. The ultimate question is going to be whether to keep the 10 – 1 system or move to something else such as a 7 – 3 – 1 system (where there are 7 Districts with Council members elected only by people in those Districts, with 3 “superward” Districts made up of parts of the 7 Districts. **The question becomes: Do you want 11 Council Members to push their decision on the Richmond lawmakers or should the issue be put in front of the taxpaying, voting public to say which voting system will be used for the foreseeable future?**

Big Issue #2-Possibly “moving” the Green Line-Project Wayne

At last report, the City Attorney was directed by City Council to work with a medical device manufacturing company to prepare a rezoning request for taxpayer owned land below the Green Line, which would require the company to disclose their name. The City and the private company would be co-applicants for a rezoning of this property located in the ITA/Transition area. This rezoning has the potential to set a legal precedent in that land-use decisions must be fair to all who apply. If rezoning is allowed for one, then it must be allowed for others, opening the door to further development of agricultural land south of the Green Line. We believe that the next time we hear about this is going to be when it is in front of the Planning Commission.

This question becomes: Should we allow a rezoning of land south of the Green Line or do we hold to the promises made by City Councils over the past 44 years to not install water, sewer, roads, curbs, and gutters (service infrastructure)?

To those of you who appreciate our efforts to educate and keep you current on City affairs, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continuing support. For those of you who have yet to join us, please consider supporting your neighborhood by joining the Civic League.

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Vacancy in Board – Rick Boyles

We have a vacancy on the Board of Directors of the Civic League. Anyone interested in volunteering for a working Board position (monthly required meetings and committee assignments) may contact us using the website page so that we can chat: <https://thalianeighbors.com/contact>

Yard Debris Delays – Hobie Ritzel

You may have noticed that the City's yard debris collection has been much slower than normal in recent weeks. The city indicates that they are having labor constraints due to excessive injuries and that collection of materials may be slowed for some time into the future.

Until this is resolved, you can put allowable yard debris in your black trash collection can or recycle it in your yard. The city asks that we be patient as they work through the delays.

Local Home Sales – Phillip Hines

Homes sales in our area for May and June 2023.

\$419,000 - 4101 Clintwood Ln

\$535,000 - 617 Pinetree Dr

\$570,000 - 616 Pinetree Dr

\$700,000 - 732 Pinetree Dr



Vulgar Flag on Display – Hobie Ritzel

Thank you to all who contacted us to express your concerns about a vulgar political flag that has been on display at a home near the corner of Edinburgh Drive and Green Castle Lane. The City of Virginia Beach has investigated your complaints and determined that the person's flag is protected speech under the First Amendment of the US Constitution.

News Channel 3 was alerted to the flag and reached out for comment. While we find the wording on the flag distasteful and something that we would prefer not be out for children to see, this is not an issue in which the Thalia Civic League would be involved.

We fully support anyone's right to voice their political opinions and hope that we all can do so in a more civilized manner. For anyone who wishes to log a ticket with the city about these types of issues, you may do so here: <https://vb311.virginiabeach.gov/assist/servicetypes>

Take Care Crossing Virginia Beach Blvd.

On June 27, 2023 at approximately 4:15 PM, an 82-year-old female pedestrian entered the roadway on Virginia Beach Boulevard near Caren Drive where she was struck by an eastbound vehicle and killed. The driver of the vehicle remained on scene and was cooperative with first responders. This accident is being investigated by the Virginia Beach Police Department Traffic Safety Unit.

Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Free Events

Parks After Dark, a new free event series from Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation, is available at Williams Farm Park this summer. Parks After Dark was created to help establish a safe space for fun and family-friendly activities during evening hours when there are often fewer activities available for teens.

Visitors will enjoy live music from a variety of performers each week, watch movies under the stars, play games like lawn darts, dodgeball and cornhole, take part in video game tournaments, meet their neighbors and local community organizations and try food from a range of local food trucks. Events are held from 6-11 p.m. on most Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and runs through August 26th.

Hurricane Season is June 1st – November 30th. Be Prepared.

Make an Emergency Plan

Make sure everyone in your household knows and understands your hurricane plan. Ensure your business has a continuity plan to continue operating when disaster strikes.

Know your Evacuation Zone

You may have to evacuate quickly. Learn your evacuation routes, practice with your household and pets, and identify where you will stay. Follow the instructions from local emergency managers, who work closely with state, local, tribal, and territorial agencies and partners. They will provide the latest recommendations based on the threat to your community and appropriate safety measures.

Review Important Documents

Make sure your insurance policies and personal documents are up to date. Make copies that you can



take with you and keep a set in a secure password-protected digital space.

Gather Supplies

Have enough supplies for your household, including medication, disinfectant supplies and pet foods and medications in your go bag or car trunk. You may not have access to these supplies for days or even weeks after a hurricane.

Strengthen your Home

De-clutter drains and gutters, bring in outside furniture, and consider hurricane shutters.

Get Tech Ready

When a storm comes, keep a full charge on your mobile phone and have backup charging devices to power electronics.

Help your Neighborhood

Check with neighbors, senior adults and anyone who may need additional securing hurricane plans to see how you can be of assistance to others

Contact Us! 2023 - 2024 Officers and Board Members

President, Rick Boyles - 757-589-4893 rick.boyles@computernetworksinc.com

Vice President, Phil Hines - 757-897-3538 philliphines@gmail.com

Secretary, Rose Buseti - 757-306-8901 rosebusetti@hotmail.com

Treasurer, Mike Dougherty - 757-498-2857 tclmikedougherty@gmail.com

Board Member, Neighborhood Watch, Tom Metcalf - temetcalf@cox.net 757-635-5982

Board Member, Newsletter, Hobie Ritzel - 757-403-1769, hobie.ritzel@gmail.com

Board Member - Vacant

CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP FORM

Be sure to renew your 2023 Civic League membership! Or join the Thalia Civic League and make a difference!
Household Dues: \$20 per year – January -December of each year.

Member Names: _____

Street Address: _____

Email address (1): _____

Email address (2): _____

Phone Number: _____

I want to receive e-mails related to Thalia Civic League activities and initiatives. Your personal information will never be shared.

I am interested in being a member of the Thalia Neighborhood Watch Program.

I am available to help the Civic League.

Opinions, Suggestions and comments?

Your application is confidential and your information will not be shared. Thank you for your support your suburban Virginia Beach neighborhood!

Applications and dues can be sent to:
Thalia Civic League, Inc. c/o Mike Dougherty, Treasurer
631 Lynn Shores Drive (drop it off in the milk box on the porch)
757-498-2857 (leave a message)