

Thalia Civic League Newsletter

Volume 31 Issue 5

<https://thalianeighbors.com>

June 2023

PUBLISHED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE THALIA CIVIC LEAGUE, INC.

Thalia Residents: *Informed - Inclusive - Involved*

June Membership Meeting

Update on the Development at Pembroke Mall – Ramsay Smith, President Pembroke Realty Group
Monday, June 19, 2023, 7:00 PM New Life Church, 420 Thalia Road



Ramsay Smith, President and Principal Broker of Pembroke Realty Group will provide an update on the \$200 million development plans for Pembroke Square, formerly Pembroke Mall, that include the addition of a Senior Living Center that is now under construction on the corner of Constitution Drive and Jeanne Street, an apartment complex in the former mall and a hotel. Pembroke Mall was the first enclosed mall in Hampton Roads when it opened in 1966. Learn how this 57-year-old institution is changing to meet the needs of the community in the 21st century.

We will also have a community update from MPO David Shoenbach, Community Liaison Officer from the Third Precinct of the Virginia Beach City Police Department.

Upcoming Events

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

Tuesday, July 4 - Neighborhood Fourth of July Parade
9:00 AM Corner of Glen Road and Greentree Drive.

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

President's Corner – Rick Boyles

Thanks to all who showed up for the last meeting with Guest Speaker Elias Paulson who gave us a quick seminar on Estate Planning and Revocable Living Trusts. We had a room of about 20 folks out of the 850 homes in the area. To try to reach more folks, and in increase our membership and participation, we are starting a 1-year pilot program of mailing a quarterly newsletter to each home. The newsletter will provide important information about the Thalia neighborhood and the City. Please be so kind as to provide us with your email address so that we can reach you without having to spend a lot of money. The Thalia Civic League does not have the budget to always use the postal mail, so being able to email information to you eliminates that cost. As always, thank you for your support. We appreciate it very much.

Traffic Calming Efforts

Councilmembers Holcomb and Berlucci are spearheading an effort to have the City revisit the traffic calming program because of speeding and accidents on roads used as “cut throughs” in various neighborhoods. The suggestion from the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO) is to lower the requirements for entry into the Traffic Calming program. We will report any progress made by the City officials.

Vacancy in Board – Rick Boyles

Rona Marsh has resigned as the Vice-President of the Thalia Civic League to pursue other opportunities. We wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors. Pursuant to the by-laws, the President has appointed Board Member Phillip Hines to the office of the Vice-President for the remainder of the term. That leaves 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>

Fourth of July Parade – Molly Howlett



Time to start thinking about those decorations for the annual Fourth of July Thalia neighborhood parade on Tuesday, July 4th. We will gather at 9:00am at the Little Free Library at Glen Road and

Greentree Drive to start the parade through the neighborhood, ending at the lawn in front of Steinhilber's. We will have coffee and donuts to get that energy flowing. Decorate your bikes, carts, strollers etc. with your most patriotic attire to celebrate the country's 247th birthday! Watch the Facebook page for updates.

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Flag Etiquette

When displaying the flag, DO the following:

- Display the U.S. flag from sunrise to sunset on buildings and stationary flagstaffs in the open. When a patriotic effect is desired the flag may be displayed 24-hours a day if properly illuminated at night.
- When placed on a single staff or lanyard, place the U.S. flag above all other flags.
- On special days, the flag may be flown at half-staff. On Memorial Day it is flown at half-staff until noon and then raised.
- When stowing the flag, fold it in the traditional triangle for stowage, never wadded up. When disposing of a flag, the fire should be of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag.

Flag Etiquette Don'ts:

- Don't dip the U.S. flag for any person, flag, or vessel.
- Don't let the flag touch the ground.
- Don't fly flag upside down unless there is an emergency.
- Don't carry the flag flat, or carry things in it.
- Don't use the flag as clothing.
- Don't store the flag where it can get dirty.
- Don't use it as a cover.
- Don't fasten it or tie it back. Always allow it to fall free.
- Don't draw on, or otherwise mark the flag.
- Don't use the flag for decoration. Use bunting with the blue on top, then white, then red.

Thalia Elementary School Uses Dock to Deliver Unique Learning Experiences - Hobie Ritzel

Three years ago, Thalia Elementary School built a dock on campus to give them access to Thalia Creek and a one-of-a-kind outdoor learning experience for students. Mrs. Coughlin, Gifted Resource Teacher, and Ms. Johnson, Instructional Tech Specialist, have developed and led a number of outdoor dock experiences to help students gain a better understanding of the water's animals and plants and to learn how to protect our watershed.

Learning experiences have included:

- Kindergarten classes are testing boat designs off the dock to see whether they sink or float.
- Learning about the water path from Thalia Creek to the Lynnhaven watershed while testing water quality to better understand water runoff and pollution impact.
- Studying and observing the living and non-living components of the creek.
- Studying the ecosystem impact of the loss of native grasses and replanting native grasses along the Thalia Creek shoreline in a project with the US Army Corp of Engineers and Princess Anne High School.

Next year the school's Ecology Club will create nature guides describing the living organisms for the school's garden and dock area. The dock at Thalia Elementary School is strictly for the use by the Virginia Beach City Public School system and is secured to prevent unauthorized use.

Little Free Library UPDATE - Molly Howlett



We are excited to let everyone know the Free Little Library at Glen Road and Greentree Drive is open again for books. Thank you for the generous donation of a gently used library by Willis Carraway and Kelly Blazek (Conway). Danny Howlett and Patrick Dowd completed the updating which included painting, a new roof and installation of a new post. Thank you to the Kynett family for the monetary donation towards new books/supplies. REMEMBER: Little Free Library works as a 'Bring One - Take One' lending library. Please leave books that you no longer need so that others may enjoy them.

Member Spotlight: Jeanne Steinhilber Hobie Ritzel

We are going to start a series in the printed newsletter that allows us to get to know each other a bit better. Our first Member Spotlight is on Jeanne Steinhilber.

What street do you live on? I live on Thalia Road.

What kind of work do you do? My son Brady and I own Steinhilber's Restaurant. I was in high school when I first worked there. I made salads and desserts when they needed extra help. After college I taught school for 4 years and then slowly took on more responsibilities at the restaurant.

How long have you lived in Thalia? Except for a few years away, I live in the same house I grew up in. The center part of my house was the caddy shack for the Lynnhaven Country Club, which occupied part of this land 100 years ago. The club house burned in the late 1920's and a few years later my father purchased part of the original country club property. In 1939 Steinhilber's Restaurant opened, being built on the foundation of the club house.

Do you have any hobbies? I have a big vegetable garden that the chef uses as much as possible. I also plant and take care of the flowers on and around the deck of the restaurant.

What is your favorite part about living in Thalia? The neighborhood has changed over the years, but it has never lost its charm.

Lastly and most important, may I have a free plate of your famous fried shrimp? You can buy them like everyone else, but I'll give you extra dipping sauce when you do.

Thalia Garden Club News - Rose Busetti

Thalia Garden Club members Rona Marsh, Ellie Kreassig, and Rose Busetti attended the Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach (CGCVB) Annual Awards luncheon on May 31. Congratulations to Ellie Kreassig for winning the Laura Jacobson Wildlife Habitat Award. Thalia Garden Club won three awards at the luncheon: a first place Attendance Award (Small Clubs, 20 or less members), honorable mention in the Cheryl Klobuchar Participation Award (Small Club) and a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in 8 of the 9 award categories. Rose Busetti was installed for a second two-year term as President of the CGCVB. Ellie Kreassig will serve as Chaplain.

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 Busetti - 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

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- Tired of dull marble floors or countertops?
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- Is it time to polish and seal those countertops?

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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): _____

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.

Your application is confidential and your information will not be shared. Thank you for supporting 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)

