

THALIA CIVIC LEAGUE NEWSLETTER

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TOGETHER WE ARE INCLUSIVE, INFORMED, and INVOLVED

WWW.THALIANEIGHBORS.COM



Red at night - VB delight!

(credit: City of Virginia Beach)

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES!

Please first consider our “local” small businesses when you are looking to make a purchase.

There are treasure troves of shopping finds available in the small businesses around our neighborhood and throughout the city - no need to go to a “big box” or the internet.

Try it, you may be surprised!

Our NEXT MEETING is:

FEBRUARY 19, 2023
NEW LIFE CHURCH
7:00 PM
 Steve Lambert, Planner
 VB Parks and Rec
Planning for
The Virginia Beach Trail

A time to reflect and be grateful

Use the “inside days” before Spring to reflect upon:

- Your good health
- Your family members, friends, and community
- Your beautiful neighborhood

And most of all:
the opportunities we are given daily to thrive and succeed!

(SEE PAGE 4 FOR MORE!)

TRUE FACTOID

Daylight Savings Time starts in less than a month! Yippee!
March 10, 2024

FALSE FACTOID

“I can get through in time”
 (...said the driver who ran the red light and almost smeared you at the intersection)

UNREAL FACTOID

1.4 billion (*with a B*) chicken wings were expected to be consumed during SBLVIII.
 (We had our share!)

2024 TCL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION IS HERE: <https://thalianeighbors.com/members>

The Easter Bunny is coming with eggs for Thalia kids on March 23, 2024. Watch your email!

A WORD... (FROM OUR PRESIDENT)

Thanks to all who attend our meetings to hear our guest speakers. Mayor Dyer and Councilman Taylor are coming up in the 2024 Spring rotation, and you will find details in our email newsletters and notices, our website or our Facebook page. Next week's speaker is from Parks and Recreation and will be speaking on the Virginia Beach Trail. This project has received \$14.9 million-dollar federal grant funding and will be a welcome project with many benefits for everyone.

We are looking for a motivated and energetic individual to fill in our Board of Directors. Your elected officers "manage" Civic League operations with assistance and recommendations from the Board of Directors. Board members also serve as Committee chairs.

The 2nd annual Thalia Civic League Easter Egg hunt for Thalia neighborhood kids 5th grade or younger is on March 23, 2024 at 11:00am. Steinhilber's Thalia Acres Inn has graciously offered the use of their lawn for this event.

Please be sure to support this legacy neighborhood restaurant. Great food, great people, easy walk home!

Rich Boyles

SPEAK UP!

VA BEACH ACTIVE SURVEYS

<https://www.speakupvb.com/a8333>
(TRANSPORTATION PLAN IMPROVEMENTS)

- End list

Two final parting shots:

One: Sometimes saying nothing is the best answer. Silence can never be misquoted.

Two: The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The realist adjusts his sails.

BONUS: Remember, anyone can love you when the sun is shining. In the storms is where you learn who truly cares for you.

(Snoopy and the Peanuts Gang)

IT TAKES *YOU* TO MAKE A CIVIC LEAGUE

The last page of this newsletter is a Membership application. Please take the time to consider renewing or joining if you are not yet a member. We faced and overcame a development challenge and showed our strength in numbers with over 220 paid members just two-plus years ago. We know we will have new and likely greater challenges in 2024. Knowing what is going on *before, not after*, a project is approved and our money is obligated is essential. Recent developer initiatives seem to indicate a push is on to test existing laws and code limitations. We will continue to maintain our Civic League mission to ensure that citizens are involved and aware *in the light of day*. There is strength in numbers - stand up and be counted!

We are always looking for "fresh ideas" and new energy to implement our civic league mission. Contact an Officer or Board Member (<https://thalianeighbors.com/members>) regarding any ideas or elbow grease you care to share.

Truth in information is power



(...and verified truth is even more powerful.)

Anon

2024 TCL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION IS HERE: <https://thalianeighbors.com/members>

WHO YOU GONNA CALL? (A quick and handy VB Contacts list)

Virginia Beach City Council District 8 **Chris Taylor** chtaylor@vbgov.com 757-840-5859

Virginia Beach Mayor **Bobby Dyer** mayorsoffice@vbgov.com 757-385-458

Virginia Senate 7th District **Aaron Rouse** district07@senate.virginia.gov 804-698-7507

Virginia House of Delegates 83rd District **Anne Ferrell Tata** delaftata@house.virginia.gov

US House of Representatives 2nd District **Jen Kiggans** <https://kiggans.house.gov/contact>

The Comprehensive Plan - So now, what?

“For decades, planning in Virginia Beach has centered around growth and outward expansion,” However, with limited buildable land remaining above the Green Line, our focus will need to shift to redevelopment and infill. We need public feedback to ensure that we use our land and other resources wisely and appropriately. This will help balance both current and future needs of a thriving City for the next generation.”

- Hank Morrison, Comprehensive Planning Administrator

The time is now - and the time is right - to get educated about what will be happening to our city in the next few years. One thing for sure, “redevelopment and infill” are the key words here, because (as Will Rogers said:) “Buy land. They ain’t making any more of the stuff.” Except perhaps in Virginia Beach, where anything is possible. That thriving neighborhood strip mall one day could be declared an eyesore unsuitable for business operations. Presto! New land, new behemoths, and Bob’s your uncle.

Take some time to understand what is, and what could be, happening:

<https://planning.virginiabeach.gov/comp-plan/2040-comprehensive-plan-update>

IT’S ALWAYS A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN PARADISE - UNLESS IT’S NOT. ***WHAT’S YOUR OPINION?***

Going into 2024, the citizens of Virginia Beach have a lot to think about, from global strife and war to trying to short grocery store prices. (Basically, THAT one is a no-starter, trust us.)

(from Stacy Parker, V-P, Feb 12, 2024:) *“We’re going to have a very tough go-around with this upcoming budget,” Mayor Bobby Dyer warned his colleagues at last Tuesday’s (Feb 6) City Council meeting. The City Council may have to pull back on some spending, and among the topics on the agenda at this week’s retreat (Feb 13 and 14) will be grants and sponsorships of festivals, regional initiatives and community programs. “This is going to be a tough budget year, and we know everybody has got the same problems with increased costs and so forth, so we’re going to be hearing from all of these people that they need more money,” Henley said. “We need to be prepared about how we’re going to address this when the budget gets here.”*

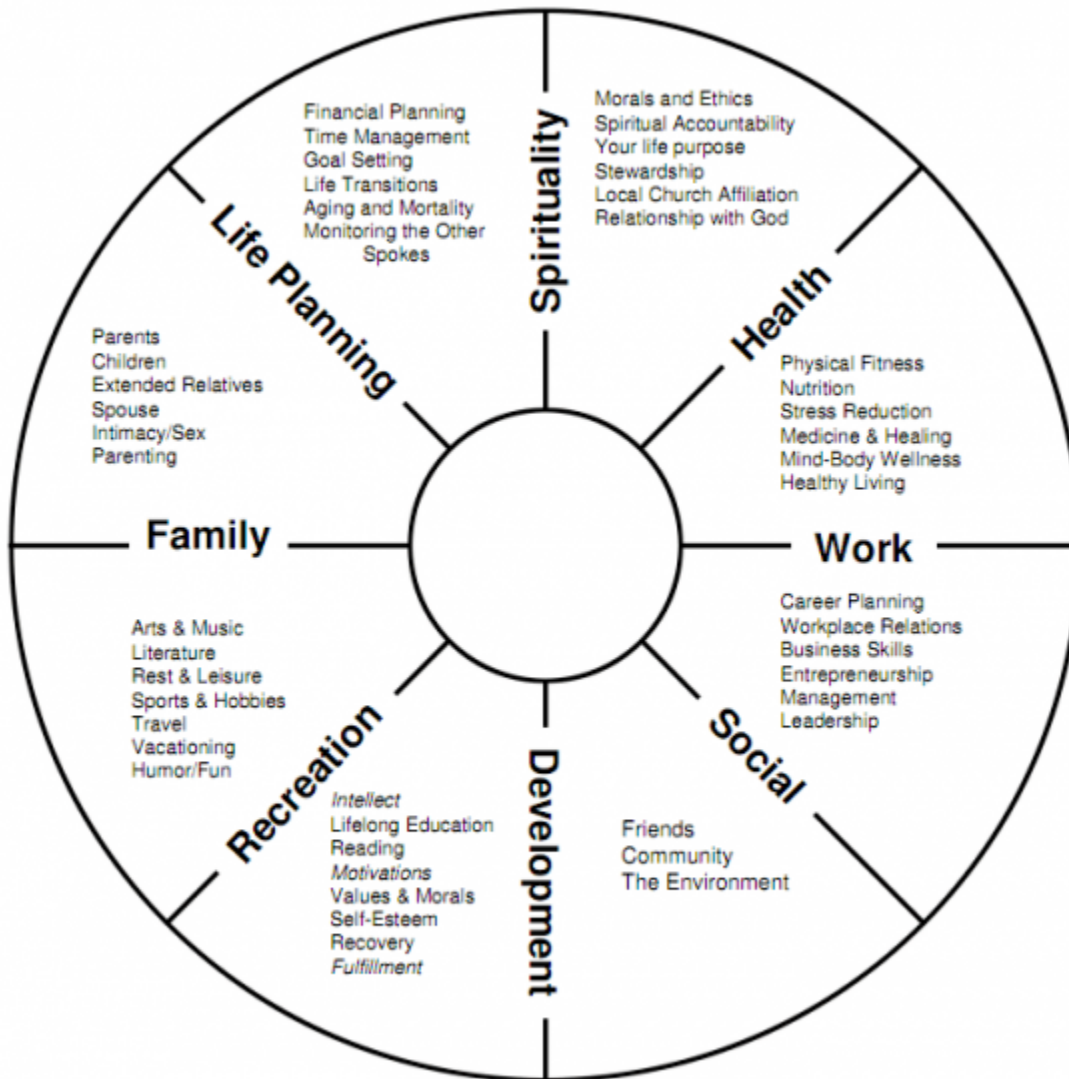
Other than grants, festivals and similar programs, WHAT DO YOU FIND IMPORTANT TO “FIX”?

FEEL FREE TO SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS - WE’LL DISTILL IT DOWN INTO DIGESTIBLE CHUNKS TO USE IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS.

LIFE IS ALL ABOUT BALANCE

(Or “Insanity is doing the same thing over and over and over again but expecting different results.”)

CLIFF NOTES: STOP, LOOK, LISTEN and ACT



(First and foremost, put your credit card away - this is not a selfish attempt at “selling” anything.)

Every now and again, we read articles that have the potential to be informative and helpful and the described activity is also *reproducible* (by the reader, not the author). This is one such article.

Our thanks to Lifehack.org - the whole article is here: <https://www.lifehack.org/696285/how-self-reflection-gives-you-a-happier-and-more-successful-life>

Let us know if this tool was of interest and how it may have helped you. With your permission, we may publish your comments (reserving the right to edit for conciseness, personal security and brevity...)

Thalia Civic League, Inc.

JOIN THE THALIA CIVIC LEAGUE and MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Household Dues: \$20.00 – 2024 Calendar Year (through 12/31/24)

Member name(s) _____

Street address _____

PRIMARY Phone _____ ALTERNATE _____

e-mail for Civic League contact _____

I want to receive e-mails related to Thalia Civic League activities and initiatives.
I understand my e-mail information will be kept confidential and will not be shared.

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

I would like to help in some way - Please contact me about opportunities to work with the Thalia Civic League Board.

I hereby apply for membership in the Thalia Civic League, Inc. I understand that dues are for the running calendar year and are per household.

(Signed) _____

YOUR APPLICATION INFO IS CONFIDENTIAL AND IS NOT SHARED.

THANKS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR SUBURBAN VB NEIGHBORHOOD!

You can mail or drop off your application:

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 (RECORDER)

OPINIONS, SUGGESTIONS, OR COMMENTS? ALL INPUTS ARE REVIEWED BY THE TCL BOARD

Dear Thalia Civic League Board: