

Thalia Civic League Newsletter/Fall

Community News & Resources | September–November 2026

<https://thalianeighbors.com>

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President's Note

As summer (maybe) gives way to fall, our community has many opportunities to connect, volunteer, and prepare for the months ahead. This issue highlights upcoming Virginia Beach events, seasonal home-maintenance reminders, important voting dates and information, and tips to protect yourself from fraud, among other subjects. To keep yourself versed on “official” City business and ongoing initiatives, please refer to our website, <https://thalianeighbors.com> and the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations’ website, <https://vbcco.org/>. They present very interesting – and educational – fact-based reading.

Thank you for helping to make Thalia a welcoming, informed, and engaged “suburban” neighborhood!

Rick Boyles — President, Thalia Civic League

Random Events Around Virginia Beach

- **REMINDER! THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL WAS AUGUST 24TH! BE PREPARED FOR MORE TRAFFIC AND WATCH OUT FOR E-BIKES and E-MOTORCYCLES, bicycles and walkers.** (It’s a jungle out there...)
- **THALIA ELEMENTARY PTA CAR SHOW - SEPT. 19:** a free event at Thalia Elementary for the whole family! See <https://www.facebook.com/events/421-thalia-road-virginia-beach-va/thalia-elementary-car-show-2026/1521978976282111/>
- **Beeps & Eats — Sept. 19:** A family-friendly Parks & Recreation event featuring food, vehicles, and community activities. Go to <https://parks.virginiabeach.gov/events-information/special-events/beeps-eats> for details.
- **International Coastal Cleanup — Sept. 19:** Join volunteers helping remove litter from local beaches and waterways. Thalia residents on the water, please continue this important work! <https://parks.virginiabeach.gov/events-information/special-events/international-coastal-cleanup>
- **52nd Annual Neptune Festival Boardwalk Weekend — Sept. 25 – Sept. 27:** an epic “locals” event, better than ever! <https://www.neptunefestival.com/events/boardwalk-weekend/>
- **Autumn in the Air — Nov. 7:** Celebrate the season at Mount Trashmore with a one-day festival. See <https://parks.virginiabeach.gov/events-information/special-events/autumn-in-the-air>
- **Santa’s Stocking Old Fashioned Craft Bazaar — Nov. 14–15 and 21–22:** Browse local craft vendors during this long-running seasonal event. See <https://parks.virginiabeach.gov/events-information/special-events/santas-stocking-old-fashioned-craft-bazaar>
- **Town Center December 2025 -** <https://www.towncentervb.com/december-2025-event-guide/>

Voting Information: Nov. 3, 2026 General Election

- **Early in-person voting:** Sept. 18 through Oct. 31.
- **Voter registration or registration-update deadline:** Oct. 23.
- **Vote-by-mail application deadline:** Oct. 23 at 5 p.m.
- **Election Day:** Tuesday, Nov. 3.
- **Returning a mail ballot in person:** It must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 3.
- **Returning a mail ballot by mail:** It must be received by 12 noon on Friday, Nov. 6.

The Virginia Beach Voter Registrar's Office is located at **500 Studio Drive** and can be reached at **757-385-8683**. Voters should verify their registration, district, polling place, identification options, and ballot details with official election resources before voting, especially if they have moved.

So, who are we voting for, or on what? The ballots are not yet released, but here is a broad brush:

Virginia Beach City Council – 6 seats are up for election: District(s) 2 (Henley); 4 (Ross-Hammond); 6 (Remick); **8 – (Cummings)**; 9 (Schulman) and 10 (J Rouse). It is worth noting that under the 10-1 voting system, District 8 (Thalia) voters may only vote for representation in District 8.

Federal level – Member, United States House of Representatives (basically, Kiggans vs. Luria, V2)
Member, United States Senate (Incumbent M Warner vs B Mizusawa)

State level – Also on the Ballot will be 3 proposed Virginia Constitutional amendments addressing reproductive rights, voting right restoration and the right to marry. Take the time to read up on them so that you know what you are voting for or against.

The VBCCO (VB civic leagues' mothership) will be holding a candidate forum for the City Council races. Go to <https://VBCCO.org/> for the latest information.

Upcoming Thalia Civic League Meeting Schedule

September 21 – this will be a back-to-business in-person meeting, the intent being to “catch up” on the latest city initiatives and pushes, outline The Board's plans for internal organizational and procedural changes, and solicit issues for civic league focus that are of primary interest to the Thalia residents. Come join us – let us help you help us!

October 19 – the President will present the proposed slate of officers and board members to be elected for a two-year term starting January 01, 2027. This will also be the time for interested members (or potential members) to appear before the general membership and announce their interest.

November 16 - civic league elections; program TBA.

December 21 – Holiday meeting; recognition of house decoration contest winners and Holiday Assembly featuring homemade sweets and neighbor camaraderie. BYE-BYE -2026!

Financial Security & Fraud Protection – a few basics

With the advent of AI assistance, scammers are trying more than ever to get your money. Don't let them! Be alert – and suspicious – many AI-created attempts have been successful – and don't fall for anything that seems too good to be true. Because it isn't.

- **Pause when pressured.** Scammers create a sense of urgency to induce you to act without checking their story. Checking the represented “facts” after the transaction will not reverse a bad situation. Prevention is always better than cure.
- **Verify independently.** If a caller, text, or email claims to represent a bank, utility, government agency, or familiar business, contact the organization using a trusted number or website—not the contact information in the message.
- **Protect personal information.** NEVER provide Social Security, bank-account, credit-card, or password information in response to an unexpected request.
- **Trust your nose but also talk to someone you trust.** A quick conversation with a family member, friend, or neighbor can help expose a suspicious potential transaction.
- **Watch the payment method.** Demands for cryptocurrency, wire transfers, payment apps, or gift cards are major warning signs of fraud. Always pay using a method that is visible end-to-end.

Remember: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) will not threaten you or tell you to transfer money, withdraw cash, buy gold, or purchase gift cards to “protect” your funds. If you suspect a scam, don't bite and report it through the FTC's official fraud-reporting service <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/>.

TAKE HEED! Sentara Health has issued a warning about a severe phishing effort by bad actors to obtain YOUR personal data through an unrequested email sent to you with the subject line “MyChart Medicare Kit.” **Do not respond! Mark the email as junk and block sender – and delete it.**

Handy Fall Home-Maintenance Tips

- Schedule your professional heating system checks now, before cold weather arrives and backlogs begin. As with your AC, regular inspections and preventive maintenance save money by reducing repair occurrences.
- Inspect, clean, or replace your HVAC air filters monthly; a dirty filter can raise energy costs and strain equipment. If you have an electronic air cleaner, don't forget to clean the pre-filter and cells (if your system doesn't tell you to).
- Test your smoke and carbon-monoxide alarms (actually, do this monthly).
- Clear leaves and debris from gutters, downspouts, and exterior drains to reduce the risk of water damage (as we all know, this is an ad-hoc continual chore, but necessary.)
- Check weatherstripping for visible gaps around your doors and windows and fix them before heating season. Those cold drafts will remind you if you forget.

Meet Your Neighbors at **GET Maintained**

If you've driven past the entrances at Cedar Lane, Lynn Shores, or Piney Point lately and noticed things looking freshened up, that was us. We're Erik and Tara, and we wanted to introduce ourselves.

We're a husband-and-wife team with a small crew, including our son Grady, who's often right there tagging along with his dad when he is not in school. The name comes from something Erik used to say back when this was just weekend work, "we'll get it maintained." It also happens to be the first letter of each of our first names: Grady, Erik, and Tara.

We've grown mostly through neighbors telling neighbors, which is how we ended up at Thalia. Our clients Tommy and Miriam Callahan connected us with the Garden Club, whose volunteers had three entrances that had gotten away from them. We cleared and reset those beds, edging, mulch, and a good trim, until they were back to a manageable flower bed for the volunteers to keep up on.

Our approach is simple: this is lawn maintenance, not surgery. Good communication and fairness go a long way, and that's how we treat every customer.

- **No minimum commitment.** Need a single cut, help while you're out of town, or just want your place looking sharp until it sells, we can accommodate that.
- **Free estimates**, always.
- **If we don't do it, we'll point you to someone who does.** We call ourselves "exterior maintenance" for that reason, mulching, edging, cleanup, trimming, and more, and if it falls outside our lane, we'll gladly send you to someone in our network who can help.

If you're interested in a free estimate, head over to our website at **www.GETMaintained.com** and fill out a new client request whenever it's convenient for you.

And since you're reading this in the Thalia newsletter, mention it when you reach out and we'll take **10% off** your services.

Thanks for letting us be part of keeping this community looking the way it deserves to.

— Erik, Tara & Grady GET Maintained LLC www.GETMaintained.com

Submitted by the Thalia Garden Club. Contact Miriam.callahan@cox.net for Club information.

Have an announcement, volunteer opportunity, or neighborhood concern? Share it with the Thalia Civic League leadership team (tcivicleague@gmail.com) Better yet, JOIN our team

Help wanted and always appreciated!