

# North Virginia Civic League News

July 2014

## A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

**O**UR SUMMER SEASON is in high gear, and I hope this letter finds each of you well and enjoying a great summer season. The weather has been terrific – can't remember a more enjoyable Memorial Day weekend. It started the season off on a perfect note.

You may have noticed the pruning done by the city on the areas of oleander these past few weeks. Apparently the severe winter had a drastic effect on the shrubs, and the city was left with no real good options other than to cut them back dramatically. In a few weeks, they will review the results and replant where necessary. We have suggested more oleander and possibly more live oak trees where suitable because they are more native to the area. (*Details, Page 2*)

The civic league met with Hampton Roads Transit's chief engineer regarding two bus shelters that are in the planning phase at the two busiest stops: 67th Street, in front of A.R.E., and 57th Street, very near the Wyndham hotel. Both have the new design like the one in



front of the aquarium. We are a contributing partner in the plan. (*Details, Page 3.*)

We continue to hear of several minor thefts, car break-ins, etc. Please help reduce this

by locking your car doors and putting bikes, surfboards and other items away and out of sight at the end of the day. Let's all watch out for each other and our valuables.

NextDoor.com now is over 550 members and growing, a great success and another good way to stay in touch with your neighbors. Thanks to all who have joined and made it a tremendous success. There's still room for more!

Mark your calendars now for the end-of-summer party, which was so much fun last year. The date is set for Sept. 5 and will be at the Oceanfront Cavalier this year, which closes the prior Monday. More news coming, but hope to have you join us again for another great turnout of friends and neighbors. (*Details, Page 3*)

Finally, our speaker for the July 15 meeting will be Bart Frye of Frye Properties. He is involved in the redevelopment of the Old Cavalier and the properties that will be built around the historic hotel, and he should have a great deal of information and insights about the progress. I predict a strong turnout, so come early to listen and learn.

As is always the case in the summer, our neighborhood is filled to capacity with people visiting, going to the beach and just enjoying the North End. Please watch out for those who don't know their way around as well as we do, and allow a little extra time to safely get where you are going as you travel. Hope to see you around our great neighborhood as well, and have a great summer.

Regards,

**John Pharr**, President, NVBCL



**Upcoming civic league general meeting dates**  
(Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. at A.R.E.)

July 15

Oct. 21

**Guest speaker for July 15**

*D.B. "Bart" Frye*, chairman of Frye Properties Inc. and managing partner of East Beach Co.; he will speak on the old Cavalier Hotel residential development, which he is spearheading.

**Treasurer's report**

Total assets:  
**\$43,512**

Members who have paid \$15 dues so far in 2014: **700**

(Please check the mailing address label to see if you have paid your dues.)



## BEAUTIFICATION

NVBCL directors Dave Jester and Jim Spruance met recently with Shawn Hopson, the city's superintendent of special zones (North End landscaping), to review some problem areas in our medians: median cleanup in general and lack of long-range planting goals, particularly considering the Atlantic Avenue medians are the city's longest major gateway to the tourist-resort area. Dave, Jim and Shawn preliminarily agreed to a three-year goal for two projects throughout the North End, from 42nd to 89th streets:

- Planting 50 live oaks with the goal of at least four per block. The NVBCL would attempt to raise about \$10,000 over the three-year time frame to pay for supplying and planting the 50 2-inch caliper live oaks.

- Redoing 30 juniper beds that are high-maintenance, have no color and are pretty much choked with weeds – at the city's cost.

These projects would not start until the fall and would be goals instead of annual quotas.



**Shawn Hopson said he expects 90 percent of the winter-damaged oleanders to recover and said the city will do a weed overspray in July. Residents are asked to weed on their own in their closest median beds. Some recent efforts by neighbors in the upper 70s have yielded obvious positive results. Thanks!**

## BEACHES

As you may know, we had another drowning recently, at 61st Street. We have sent a letter to the city requesting red flags (now posted every other block) be posted every block when the surf is dangerous.

These actions are controlled by a contract with the lifeguard service that does not expire until late 2016. We have asked that the new requirement go into the new contract and that the city request accommodation to achieve it sooner.

Some people will always ignore the flags, but please don't become the next tragedy!

## OTHER RESORT NEWS

- The Dome project has been re-advertised for interest. The Peterson Company won the exclusive rights to prepare a proposal for the city to review. <http://hamptonroads.com/2014/03/virginia-beach-weighs-new-proposal-dome-site>

- City Council has appointed a citizen's advisory committee to assist in reviewing the ESG arena proposal. [www.esgco.com/virginia-beach-arena/](http://www.esgco.com/virginia-beach-arena/)

- Design work is nearing completion on the conceptual phase for the Sense of Arrival project for the Interstate 264 entry into the resort city. Following closely are The Rudee Promenade Walk connection along the Owl Creek waterfront connecting the Boardwalk with Rudee's Restaurant. Also, the new Aerial Adventure Park, which includes a system of

zip lines, is now open at the Virginia Aquarium. [www.virginiabeachadventurepark.com/](http://www.virginiabeachadventurepark.com/)

- The IFLY Sky Diving facility and associated condominium and retail, mixed-use project is under construction at 25th Street and Pacific Avenue. You can find out about IFLY online at [www.iflyvirginiabeach.com](http://www.iflyvirginiabeach.com)

- The Cavalier property development is in design, and the historic hotel is under renovation with exploratory demolition. The project is reportedly well under way. [www.cavaliercollection.com](http://www.cavaliercollection.com)

- Koch Development, which wants to build a nearly 200-foot-tall SkyWheel at the 17th Street park area, has asked the city for an indefinite deferral of its permit application due to objections to the project.

Also, the city's resort-projects website offers information on the projects listed below and more: [www.vbgov.com/government/departments/sga/projects](http://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/sga/projects)

- 19th Street/Central Beach Corridor
- The Aquarium and Owl Creek District Plan
- Convention Center Headquarters Hotel

- Arena proposals
- The Dome site
- Resort Area Master Plan and Form-Based Codes
- Rudee Loop (Marina District)

Please also check out the Beachevents website for fun activities at all city venues: [www.beachstreetusa.com](http://www.beachstreetusa.com)

## ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE (ZRC)

### Variances, nonconforming uses, planning initiatives

In order to better serve our neighborhood and to establish regularity in our review process, the NVBCL Zoning Review Committee meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the A.R.E. Visitor Center, 67th Street and Atlantic Avenue. We invite all North End residents to attend with their current or future applications for variances, nonconforming uses and encroachments

for preliminary or final review. We also invite residents who might simply have a question concerning zoning, land development or other site and building construction issues to attend. If you are considering buying property in the North End, give us a call so we can advise you before your purchase. Contact Billy Almond at 235-0731 or [billy@wplsite.com](mailto:billy@wplsite.com) for more information.

## GIMME SHELTER

COURTESY OF HAMPTON ROADS TRANSIT



Bus shelters have been proposed for two stops on Atlantic Avenue: 57th Street near the Wyndham hotel and 67th Street at A.R.E. (Above: example of similar shelters in Norfolk)

Sibyl Pappas, chief engineer of Hampton Roads Transit, met recently with NVBCL board members to discuss the shelter proposal, and at their June 10 meeting league board members were told \$3,000 was still needed to complete the project. At that meeting, league directors voted to try to raise that amount of league donation.

## HOSPITALITY

### Autumn party time

Save the date – Friday, Sept. 5 – for an evening with your neighbors at the North Virginia Beach Civic League Autumn Beach Party. It will kick off at 5:30 p.m. on the lawn of the Cavalier Beach Club, 42nd Street at the Oceanfront. It will remind you of last year's party: food, beer, wine, fun and a ton of your neighbors.

Tickets will be available Aug. 1 – all league board members will have them for sale; their names and phone numbers are listed on our website, [www.NVBCL.org](http://www.NVBCL.org), and on the back of this newsletter.

We hope to watch the full moon rise while dancing to the sounds of Count Basie, Frank Sinatra, Pharrell, Motown, beach music, Allman Brothers and much more.

Details to follow at the July 15th civic league meeting.

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2014

### OFFICERS

President	John Pharr	202 50 <sup>th</sup> Street	435-3738	john@nbgourmet.com
Vice President	Jack Drescher	6410-A Oceanfront Ave	428-3344	jdrescher@breitdrescher.com
Treasurer/Membership	Kaye Harris	108 60 <sup>th</sup> Street	425-0883	kaye.harris@cox.net
Executive Secretary	Jeannie Panza		437-1677	jpanza@marlyndv.com
Past President	Brian Murden	417 Goodspeed	428-7243	beachgallery@verizon.net

### DIRECTORS

Zoning	Billy Almond	209 70 <sup>th</sup> Street	422-9522	billy@wplsite.com
Streets/Utilities/Public Safety	Martin Waranch	111 66 <sup>th</sup> Street	491-3343	mlwaranch@cox.net
Beaches & Recreation	Ron Pearson	6204 Oceanfront	428-6634	ron@beachfas.com
Budget/ Assessments/Taxes	Guy Tower	235 74 <sup>th</sup> Street	804/398-0070	guytower@gmail.com
Beautification	Jim Spruance	200 78 <sup>th</sup> Street	425-1225	jhspruance@cox.net
Meetings/Publicity	Buddy Matthews	217 68 <sup>th</sup> Street	422-6151	beachtreehouse68@yahoo.com
Hospitality	Kimberly Goold	311 49 <sup>th</sup> Street	428-7537	kimberly.goold@troutmansanders.com
Newsletter	Don Naden	213A 81 <sup>st</sup> Street	491-4483	naden2@cox.net

### AREA DIRECTORS

42 <sup>nd</sup> – 49 <sup>th</sup> Streets	Will Fluharty	303 49 <sup>th</sup> Street	965-2173	willyflu@gmail.com
50 <sup>th</sup> – 59 <sup>th</sup> Streets	Mark Chase	111 57 <sup>th</sup> Street	491-1729	chasemark@msn.com
60 <sup>th</sup> – 69 <sup>th</sup> Streets	Buddy Matthews	217 68 <sup>th</sup> Street	422-6151	beachtreehouse68@yahoo.com
70 <sup>th</sup> – 79 <sup>th</sup> Streets	Sue Bowser	223 77 <sup>th</sup> Street	422-5204	suebowser@cox.net
80 <sup>th</sup> – 89 <sup>th</sup> Streets	Larry Staunton	212 84 <sup>th</sup> Street	428-1514	larrystaunton@cox.net
Princess Anne Hills/Liaison	Mike Byrnes	551 Susan Constant Dr.	422-2539	mikebyrnes@cox.net

### DIRECTORS AT-LARGE

Dave Jester	200 63 <sup>rd</sup> Street	437-1677	eljefe11@marlyndv.com
Mark Chase	111 57 <sup>th</sup> Street	491-1729	chasemark@msn.com
Mary Lee Harris	216 55 <sup>th</sup> Street	428-0737	maryleeh3@verizon.net
Vincent O'Brien	6111 Atlantic Ave	428-8479	vincent6111@cox.net
Virginia Rader	307 55 <sup>th</sup> Street	425-2943	vellen1@aol.com
Dorothy Spitalney	115-B 68 <sup>th</sup> Street	425-5443	tallron@aol.com
Mary K. Drew	5250 Lakeside Ave.	422-3669	marykdrew@gmail.com