North Virginia Beach Civic League News

OCTOBER 2017

A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Zoning compliance depends on residents being watchful

THE RECENT SURGE in new-home construction has brought to light several North End zoning and building permit violations of significant concern to the civic league. As a consequence, David Jester, architect Gerrie West, Martin Warranch, Billy Almond and I met Sept. 12 with City Attorney Mark Stiles, Planning Department Director Barry Frankenfield and several of their assistants, including those individuals directly responsible for zoning compliance, building permits and construction inspections.

The city has in place a reasonable process to insure that zoning compliance and residential construction meet the building code. However, a problem arises when a builder or owner alters a home after the final city inspection.

The objective of our meeting was to explore how to insure that our neighborhood zoning is maintained and that all North End construction complies with appropriate city-issued permits.

Our meeting was very productive in that one builder is now being prosecuted by the city for violating the zoning requirements of his construction permit; however, determining future compliance by a property owner and/or builder of zoning restrictions as well as building permits is not realistically something the city can detect once the completion of the particular project has occurred.

It is up to our residents to report questions of this nature to the appropriate city official for investigation and remedial action if required. We urge you to be vigilant when construction takes place in the area where you live. Should you see something of concern, report it directly to the city or to the civic league's Zoning Committee.

We have been assured that the city takes these complaints seriously and that proper action will be taken should violations occur.

 $- \ {\bf Jack \ Drescher}, \ NVBCL \ president$



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

Oct. 17 Jan. 16 April 17

Program for the Oct. 17 meeting

We'll update you on the civic league's Zoning Committee and NVBCL positions regarding zoning, building permits, builder/owner compliance and zoning variance requests.

Treasurer's report

As of Sept. 29, our league had 833 paid members, and our total assets were \$21,602.

Thank you to all donors and members who have paid their 2017 dues, and we look forward to seeing everyone at the general membership meeting Tuesday, Oct. 17. (Remember, only those who have paid their dues may vote at the general meetings. You may pay by check at the meeting.)

NVBCL dues have allowed us to support landscaping, bus shelters, the neighborhood welcome signs and several organizations. Contributions are deposited as they are received, and envelopes are included with this newsletter to submit your \$15.

- Bonner Styles

HOSPITALITY / A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

WE PARTIED LIKE IT WAS 1917 (but with a rock band)

The NVBCL's 100th anniversary celebration at the Princess Anne Country Club on Friday night, Sept. 15, brought together neighbors, old friends and new acquaintances. Guests filled the west lawn and listened to the sounds and songs of local rockers Dogjaw.

A shout-out is due to the many people who volunteered their time to make the evening a success: Monica Stein, for locating the band and assisting with the video invitation; Donna Haycox and Kate Michaels, for the beautiful autumn flowers on the tables; Linda Palluch, who assisted the NVBCL board members who managed the check-in tables; and the club's chef, who knocked it out of the park with



PHOTO COURTESY OF BILL HENRY

It was an evening when our North End neighbors could get together, savor the end of summer and usher in another North End autumn.



Public safety phone numbers

Nonemergency police, 385-5000, option 3 2nd Precinct, 385-2700 Fire/police emergency, 911

RESORT PROJECTS



The Cavalier Hotel's reopening is now set for sometime in February, according to Marriott's website. The Cavalier will reopen as a Marriott **Autograph Col**lection prop-erty, including a spa and three restaurants.

ARENA PLAN STILL LOOKS LIKE IT'S A GO

The Virginia Beach Arena is just a few signatures away from reality, according to city leadership. The contractors have been busy programming mobilization on the site for weeks.

The Dome site went through a series of interviews this summer with four qualified development teams. The field was narrowed to two, and additional interviews were held. At this time the city is in negotiations with the preferred developer on the terms of the redevelopment opportunity. The chosen developer will then have six months to finalize their project specifics.

Resort leaders are continuing to focus on the surrounding development opportunities including a field house, 19th Street redevelopment, infrastructure improvements around the arena, 18th and 19th street improvements, the ViBe District and the Sense of Arrival project at the eastern end of I-264. Streetscape Improvements on 19th Street are at 90 percent construction document phase with the intention of Bid+Award in early 2018.

The Cavalier Hotel renovation, meanwhile, has a new opening target: February, according to Marriott's website. The Cavalier will reopen as a Marriott Autograph Collection property.

Recent news about these resort projects can be found at the city website, www.vbgov.com.

- Billy Almond & Don Naden

BEACHES & RECREATION



CATAMARANS LEFT ON BEACH ARE AT RISK

Just a reminder about catamarans: While they are no longer "registered" and tracked, they must not be parked in the dunes or blocking a crosswalk/beach

In addition, if the city's Beach Operations needs to do beach work where your catamaran is parked, they will move it to their storage lot. Catamarans left unused for two years are considered abandoned and might be removed by the police.

Better to remove your boat during the winter – less damage to your boat and less risk of it becoming a flying object in high winds (and damaging someone's house).

- Ron Pearson



FORT STORY UPDATE

Contractors have strengthened the Fort Story fence on the 89th Street beach and extended the new barrier well into the surf. As you can see, however, Mother Nature has reacted to this intrusion by taking out a section of the fence (photo was taken Sept. 31). Will be interesting to see how it stands up to the next coastal storm.

BEAUTIFICATION

3 NE RESIDENTS **ADDED TO ADOPT-A-BED PROGRAM**

The NVBCL Beautification Adopt-a-Landscape-Bed program continues with three new resident volunteers: Wheeler, Knapp and Cole.

With the fall planting season arriving, we expect the city's Landscape Division to replace some of the trees in the median that might not have survived. Although we have made them aware of most of these lapses, please feel free to contact Jim Spruance by email to report any needed replacements.

- Jim Spruance, Anne Abraham

STREETS/UTILITIES

BASIC INFO TO HELP KEEP AREA CLEAN

In the past in this space, we've covered lambasting those who fail to clean up after their pets, toss their trash and/or use our beach as an ash tray.

Everyone now should know it is their individual responsibility to inform the city when a street light is out. Get the pole number and call 385-1470.

If you have big items for trash pickup, they go out on trash day, BUT you need to call 385-4650 a day or two earlier to schedule it. The regular truck does not pick up such items as broken furniture.

Infrequently, unthinking folks will put something in their yard that doesn't belong. If you can't ask or they won't listen, call Neighborhood Preservation at 385-4421 (option 1), and they'll look into it.

I haven't seen my foxes in a few years, but I heard about a cayote last year. Good chance the latter ate the former, but if you wind up with unwanted wildlife, call (855) 571-9003

If all this fails to cover whatever concern you have about Streets, Utilities or Public Safety, you can always email me at mlwaranch@ outlook.com. In the meantime, let's do all we can to keep our neighborhood neat and clean!

- Martin Waranch



DINING

THE CAFE AT A.R.E. GETS A NEW CHEF AND A NEW MENU

Kevin Todeschi, executive director and CEO of Edgar Cayce's A.R.E., is excited to announce that North End resident and chef Doug Cooperman now presides over Cafe67 in the historic Cayce Hospital building on the hill next to the A.R.E. Center at 67th Street and Atlantic Avenue.

Cooperman and the new cafe opened Monday, Oct. 2.

Chef Doug, who lives on 81st Street, "has always believed there is a direct link among health, wellness and nutrition," Todeschi said in a news release and a Sept. 30 email. "He began his professional culinary career at the prestigious Clam Bake Club of Newport, R.I., and has since found himself as an executive chef for fine dining, corporate dining and universities; a food service manager; caterer; and culinary and management educator.

"He spent four years in Andalusia, Spain, where he taught culinary and health and wellness classes while studying the Mediterranean cuisines



of Spain, Portugal, North Africa and France. ... Most recently he has been a culinary and management instructor with the Culinary Institute of Virginia, The Art Institute of Washington and the Culinary Center of Monterey, Calif., where he shared his passion for culinary arts with his students and colleagues."

According to Cooperman, "Food can nurture our bodies, but sharing and cooking with friends can feed our souls."

Hours will be Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; closed Sundays Telephone: (757) 457-7105 TOP Chef Doug Cooperman stands in the A.R.E.'s Cafe67, which he is now presiding over as a restaurant open to the public for breakfast and lunch. See a menu online at www.edgarcayce.org/ media/9625/cafe67menu.pdf

ABOVE The main entrance to the historic hospital building on the hill at the A.R.E Center.

info fyi

2nd Precinct Police 385-2700 Nonemergency: 385-5000, option 3

City of Virginia Beach

City Information & Help: 385-3111 Animal Control: Lt. Scott Wichtendahl, 385-2775

Wildlife Management (report animals): (855) 571-9003

Neighborhood Preservation: 685-5750 Zoning: 385-8074; Jennifer Cobb, 385-5069, JCobb@vbgov.com

Streets and utilities; drain problems: 385-1470

Waste Management: 385-4650 Landscape (visibility/bushes): 385-4693

Street Lights: 385-1470 or email pwclrks@vbgov.com

OPENING

SMARTMOUTH NOW LOOKING TO OPEN NEAR THANKSGIVING

The Smartmouth Brewing Company folks were shooting for an early fall opening for their second location, the Pilot House, at 313 32nd St.

"We are hoping for early fall if we are lucky," Chris Neikirk, the Norfolk craft brewery's HR and community engagement director, said in a June 19 email. "But considering we have a beer named Murphy's Law, we may not be!"

That apparently was the case. Neikirk updated us in a Sept. 26 email:

"I wish I had a good opening date to give you. I am hoping for mid-November, but there are so many variables it may be early December.

"You could say around Thanksgiving and tell folks to stay tuned to our facebook pages and website for specifics."

So there you have it.

- Don Naden

PARTY

From the front

his slow-cooked BBQ adding "yum" to the grill-out theme.

The board was thrilled to create an evening when our North End neighbors could get together, savor the end of summer and usher in another North End autumn.

Until next time and the next 100 years ...

- Kimberly Goold





Local rock band Dogjaw provided the entertainment for the NVBCL's Sept. 15 North End centennial celebration at the Princess Anne Country Club.

online



Pilot House update Porter Hardy, Smartmouth Brewing's founder and president, has posted a video updating us on the progress at the company's 32nd Street expansion. Find it online at www.youtube.com by searching "Smartmouth Pilot House Update".

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Have you paid your \$15 dues for 2017? YES

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2017

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