

North Virginia Beach Civic League News

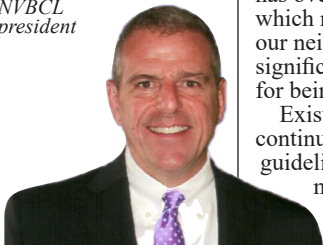
OCTOBER 2021

A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

THANKS TO YOU, THE NORTH END KEEPS STRs OUT

Massive efforts by you, our residents, turned back the equally massive effort to expand short-term rentals, which threatened to change the nature of our residential neighborhood.

By John David
NVBCL
president



I AM HAPPY to report that due to *your* efforts, we have kept new short-term rentals out of the North End. This victory clearly showed the power of the citizen's voice to influence city government. One City Council member told me that the council didn't want to "stir up the North End hornets' nest" again.

I cannot thank you enough for the support you provided every time we requested it. You should be very proud of your efforts and the results that you achieved. The Civic League now has over 960 members, which makes us a formidable voice for our neighborhood. This number is up significantly from prior years. Thank you for being a member of the NVBCL.

Existing legal STRs are allowed to continue to operate within the city's new guidelines for STRs. These new requirements include a 4-square-foot sign stating that the property is an

STR, and displaying the STR hotline phone number; a safety inspection every three years; and a maximum occupancy for decks. Fines are \$200 for the first offense and \$500 for each subsequent offense. The hotline telephone number to report an STR problem is 757.210-5385. I encourage everyone to call the hotline every time you see a problem with an STR.

The city has hired part-time employees to monitor STRs, which is a step in the right direction. This enforcement, coupled with our neighborhood involvement, will help maintain the tranquility of our residential neighborhood. Please rest assured that your Civic League will continue to advocate for your right to live in a peaceful community.

“... we will continue to advocate for your right to live in a peaceful community.”

John David

After the City Council vote July 13, new STRs are now allowed only in the Oceanfront Resort District, which runs from First Street to 42nd. This district is zoned for commercial use, and STRs have been determined to be an appropriate activity based upon input from the City Attorney's Office. To establish an STR in the Resort District, one must apply for and receive a conditional-use permit from the City Council. You may build a hotel in this area, so STRs are a logical extension of that zon-

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Upcoming civic league general meeting dates (Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., at A.R.E.)

Oct. 19; 2022: Jan. 18, April 19, July 19, Oct. 18

Speaker for the Oct. 19 meeting



Police 2nd Precinct commander Captain Harry McBrien will address our civic league membership

on policing in general and the North End in particular.

Treasurer's report

As of Sept. 29, our civic league had 972 paid members, and our assets totaled \$49,326.

I would like to thank all new members for supporting our civic league and all those members who have continued to support us each year. This newsletter will have envelopes for those who have not yet paid 2021 dues (1,108), which are \$20 per year. You may pay by check (mailing address is on the back page of this newsletter), but you also can pay online with PayPal at our website, www.nvbcl.org.

HOSPITALITY

Fall Social Party at PACC is on tap for Sunday, Oct. 24

By Monica Stein
Hospitality

We are "getting the band back together" Sunday, Oct. 24, for the NVBCL 2021 Fall Social. From 2 to 6 p.m. at the Princess Anne Country Club enjoy great food, live music, craft cocktails, beer and wine, and socialize with neighbors and friends.

The Hospitality Committee made the difficult decision to reschedule this event from Sept. 26 due to COVID-19 concerns, and the party will be outside on the club's terrace.

Here's the smokehouse buffet menu we've planned:



COURTESY OF DOG JAW

SAVE THE DATE!

What NVBCL's 2021 North End Fall Social

When 2-6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 24

Where Princess Anne

Country Club, 3800 Pacific Ave.

Cost \$35/person; limit 4 tickets per household.

Music Dog Jaw, North Enders' favorite band

- House-smoked pulled chicken and beef brisket
- Amazing house-made N.C. BBQ and traditional sauces
- Corn on the cob or skillet-grilled corn
- Applewood bacon slaw
- Braised collard greens
- Cornbread
- Dessert

You must be an up-to-date NVBCL member to purchase tickets. You can update your membership and buy tickets by sending a check (payable to

See **SOCIAL**, Page 2



NVBCL dues have allowed us to support landscaping, bus shelters, the neighborhood welcome signs and several organizations.

Please note: If you are not receiving our emails, be sure your email address is included with your dues – and please write legibly. Many email addresses were eliminated when we switched our email service.

– Bonner Styles



Public safety phone numbers

2nd Precinct Police, 385-2700

Nonemergency police, 385-5000, option 3

Fire/police emergency, 911

PRESIDENT

From the front

ing. Thankfully, we live in an area zoned residential, where STRs do not generally fit the fabric of our community.

While this phase of the STR fight has concluded, I will now focus on assisting the Commissioner of the Revenue (COR) with legislation at the General Assembly to allow sharing of COR data with the city's Planning Department. Commissioner Phil Kellam is not allowed to share his data on STRs with Planning, and we will seek to have that restriction lifted through state legislation. This would help the Planning Department identify those STRs that pay taxes but have not registered and complied with Planning Department requirements.

I continue to hear from many of you about traffic on Atlantic Avenue, trash collection, parking and beach access. The Civic League has not forgotten these issues and will continue to seek improvements for our neighborhood.

Your involvement on the STR issue has been spectacular. We need your continued involvement to further improve life in the North End. Please consider joining an NVBCL committee. Our Board of Directors and committees have had the same membership for many years – new input and new ideas are most welcome and will help improve our Civic League and our quality of life in the North End. ■

HOSPITALITY

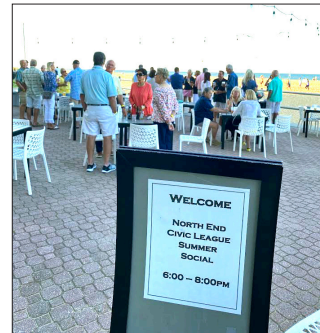
Good times We got together in June, and we're planning our Big Party this month

By Monica Stein
Hospitality

Beautiful night, fantastic turnout, perfect setting – it was great to get together at our June Summer Social!

Thank you to the Surf Club Ocean Grille at the Wyndham Hotel, 57th Street & Atlantic Avenue, for welcoming our members with live music, delicious complimentary appetizers and a private seating section. Plus we had great service and one of the most beautiful nights of the summer.

Not sure we can credit restaurant Managers Grant Myers and Charlie Kerr for all of the above, but they obviously put in a good word for our NVBCL!



JUNE SOCIAL Neighbors gathered June 17 on the Wyndham's patio for the NVBCL Summer Social. The weather cooperated, and so did the staff at the Surf Club Ocean Grille.

The Fall Social story begins on Page 1.

MONICA STEIN PHOTOS | NVBCL

SOCIAL

From Page 1

NVBCL) to P.O. Box 1676, Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

Tickets can be purchased only by check or money order. You will receive an email confirmation if you provide your email address with your payment. We are going paperless, so no paper tickets – but you will be on the check-in list and will receive a party wristband at check-in.

If you have questions or would like assistance in

getting tickets, please call or text Monica Stein at (757) 636-0222 or email Linda Palluch at lpalluch@gmail.com.

This is always a fantastic, sold-out event, with lots of fun surprises, including free commemorative NVBCL party merchandise, so get your tickets before they're sold out! Note: At the time of this newsletter printing, there were tickets available, but we cannot guarantee they still are.

Hope to see you there! ■



CHECK OUT OUR LOGO!

Our Hospitality Committee – Kate Michaels and Monica Stein, along with Fall Social committee members Jayna Eller and Caroline Willcox – worked with graphic artist Kristen Bunting to create our NVBCL logo!

We went for a retro feel and beach vibe to create a logo that we can use in this newsletter and will look great on custom

swag to promote our Civic League.

Look for the free stickers that will be given to all attendees at the Fall Social. These will be top-of-the-line, easy stick-on/take-off labels that we hope to see on cars, golf carts, beach roly carts, trash cans, etc. – all over the north End!

What a great way to promote our Civic League and show neighbors and friends that you support your community!

– Monica Stein

“The AVE” A new vision for Atlantic?



COURTESY OF HENDERSONVILLE, N.C.

By Billy Almond
Resort & Zoning

The Resort continues to rebound. Visitation was up, and bookings have been coming in fast. We are grateful to see the tourism we experienced this season.

“The AVE” project has been constructed to test options for redesigning Atlantic Avenue. It is a “tactile urbanism” installation, from 17th Street north to 20th. This is a direct result of the hard

work of volunteers who serve on the Resort Area Mobility Plan committee, or RAMP. We are testing options for such things as lane reduction, bike lanes, wider sidewalks, and outdoor cafes.

A great example of a similar “Main Street” renaissance occurred in Hendersonville, N.C., a few years ago. A similar straight, four-lane section was transformed into a vibrant, active downtown experience using a serpentine alignment. This created areas along the street for significant

Hendersonville, N.C., replaced its straight-line “Main Street” with a serpentine alignment – an example a Virginia Beach resort area committee has looked into.

outdoor cafes, seating areas, bike parking and open-space greenery.

The Hendersonville street redesign was considered a great success – for increased business activity and visitation – and won several national design awards. We

See **RESORT**, Page 4

BEAUTIFICATION

City removes swings from its live oaks

By Jim Spruance
Beautification

Damaged tree leads city to remove all residents’ private swings from Atlantic Ave. median.

Keeping the Atlantic Avenue median, our North End linear park, uncluttered, accessible and beautiful has been a long-standing mission of your Civic League.

Because it is all city of Virginia Beach property, this is primarily accomplished with the ongoing cooperation with various city departments, primarily with the Parks & Landscape Services but also the City Arborist, Public Works Department, city Beautification Commission, various garden clubs and organizations such as Friends of Live Oaks – and residents like you!

Unfortunately, there are occasions when sometimes well-meaning residents usurp the median areas with personal recreational attachments, such as numerous tree swings having been hung on live oaks. These swings, as well as benches and basketball standards, are in violation of the Virginia



CLAY BERNICK PHOTOS | FRIENDS OF LIVE OAKS

Beach Municipal Code (Sec. 23-29) as it applies to trees, shrubs or other vegetation on city property. These violations have been removed by the city and could be

reclaimed by contacting the Parks & Landscape Division.

To quote our city arborist in part: “... Damage ... often leads to tree health issues and their eventual removal. When too much weight is placed on tree limbs, it eventually leads to broken branches and open wounds that have a negative effect on tree health. We want to prevent that type of damage ...”

All the swings were removed as of Sept. 21, according to Parks & Landscape Services. They were taken to the P&L facility at 1401 Parks Ave. and could be retrieved by emailing John Brady at jbrady@vb.gov. com.

Public Works has informed me that it no longer uses the “SEE CLICK FIX” system to report/request repairs. To report a problem, go online to vb.gov.com (under “SERVICES” select “Report a Problem”) or download the “VB WORKS” app to your phone (on the website enter “vb works app” in the search window).

Just a reminder: With the political campaign season upon us, candidate signs are *not* ever permitted on public property.

CIVIC LEAGUE DIRECTORS

3 NORTH ENDERS NOMINATED TO SERVE ON NVBCL BOARD

By Willy Fluharty
NVBCL past president

Three North End residents would like to become directors on the board of the North Virginia Beach Civic League, and their nominations will be voted on at the general membership meeting Oct. 19.

Also, current director David McDaniels has filled the vacant position of area director for 60th to 69th streets.

Here are profiles for the three director nominees:

Skip Gibson

He would join Ron Pearson on the Beaches & Recreation Committee



I have lived in the Virginia Beach/Norfolk area for the majority of my life. I grew up in Malibu and graduated from Princess Anne High School and Old Dominion University. I obtained my masters from the University of Southern California. We owned a number of houses in the North End before constructing a new home on the Oceanfront in 2014. My wife, Lindsay, is a clinical psychologist and writer. Our son, Carter, graduated from Cape Henry Collegiate and works for Google in San Francisco.

I am a retired government executive and Army helicopter pilot. I am in the process of closing my consulting business and looking forward to devoting my time to supporting our community and the North End Civic League.

Gerrie West



I’ve lived in the Tidewater area my whole life and moved to the North End in 1984 with my husband, Herb, far exceeding my wildest dreams of a great place to live. We have two grown daughters and three dogs who rotate in and out of our household.

I studied architecture at Virginia Tech and owned Folck West Architects for many years with my partner, Scott. After his retirement I joined Dills Architects, designing cultural and civic projects, schools, office and restaurant spaces, and private residences.

I’ve participated in urban design initiatives and neighborhood improvement projects for the cities of Virginia Beach, Norfolk and Hampton and have been an active

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North Virginia Beach Civic League News

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www.nvbcl.org

2021 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	John David	748-3131
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Vice President	Gary Sharpe	544-0885
	gary.sharpe.iii@gmail.com	
Treasurer/Membership	Bonner Styles	831-3439
	mbonners@yahoo.com	
Executive Secretary	Linda Palluch	641-0410
	lpalluch@gmail.com	
Past President	Will Fluharty	715-1010
	willyflu@gmail.com	

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Beaches & Recreation

Ron Pearson, 428-6634, ronspearson@cox.net
Skip Gibson, 617-2824, skip.gibson@verizon.net

Beautification

Jim Spruance, 646-1225, jhspruance@cox.net

Budget/Assessments/Taxes

Jake Denton, 647-8259, jake@jeremiahdenton.com

Hospitality

Kate Michaels, 472-4949, ktmichaels@cox.net
Monica Stein, 636-0222, monica.stein@n2pub.com

Meetings/Publicity

Vacant

Newsletter

Don Naden, 491-4483, dnaden71@gmail.com

Streets/Utilities/Public Safety

Martin Waranch, 491-3343, mlwaranch@outlook.com

Zoning/Resort Area

Billy Almond, 422-9522, billy@wplsite.com

AREA DIRECTORS

42nd - 49th	Willy Fluharty	965-2173
	willyflu@gmail.com	
50th - 59th	Mark Chase	491-1729
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60th - 69th	David McDaniels	348-3386
	mcdanieldavid72@gmail.com	
70th - 79th	Steve Kelley	450-6019
	stekel4@cox.net	
80th - 89th	Larry Staunton	428-1514
	larrystaunton@cox.net	

Princess Anne Hills Liaison

Mike Byrnes, 434-3200, mikebyrnes@cox.net

Find more information, including postal addresses, on our website, nvbcl.org.

ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE

Before you sell, talk to us

Construction at the North End is very active. Property owners are selling to developers, who are tearing down older cottages and building duplexes or the detached-cottage schemes.

We recommend that before selling your property to a developer, talk with the NVBCL Zoning Review Committee regarding your options for redevelopment.

The ZRC has had several requests recently about what is required to have a house remain in place and be vested. For years, the city used the "50% rule" in terms of

the amount of house that had to remain to expand in the location on a property if the house was nonconforming. Please reach out to the ZRC if this is an issue you are reviewing.

We remind our neighbors that developers have three options for North End properties. They are a single-family house, a duplex or two detached cottages on one parcel.

The detached-cottages option is an incentive-based design guideline, and a developer must comply with the design criteria in

the zoning overlay ordinance.

We also remind our neighbors that any opportunity to determine what type of redevelopment happens on your street starts with the "Seller of the Parcel." Once the parcel has sold, it is in the hands of the buyer, who has the three by-right options listed above.

The ZRC is meeting at its regular time and reviewing applicants' requests for variances at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the A.R.E. Visitor Center, 67th Street at Atlantic Avenue.

- Billy Almond

STREETS/UTILITIES/PUBLIC SAFETY

Yes, city staffers can be responsive!

By Martin Waranch
Streets/Utilities/Public Safety

The question of whether anyone reads the NVBCL News is, in my case, totally answered with "yes."

My name is listed along with the job I'm assigned: Streets/Utilities/Public Safety. I receive calls from residents about garbage pickup/or its lack, excessive landscaping that blocks line of sight, streetlights out, utilities left open or unfinished, homes left in disrepair or with dangerous trees threatening power lines, drains that don't!

I am pleased to report

that the city agencies that actually *do* the things I get credit for have been mostly responsive and understanding. My emails and phone calls are never ignored. The action needed is taken promptly, *despite* assorted negative comments we hear about city services! If you have the opportunity to compliment someone from the city, please DO IT. For the most part, they live here and, as I'd hope for all, their response to me shows they "give a damn."

Keep the calls and emails coming. By keeping the small stuff under control, we avoid the big stuff.

RESORT

From Page 3

hope to transform our Atlantic Avenue soon.

Several transportation projects are in the works including the planning for Laskin Road from the roundabout to Birdneck Road, Pacific Avenue safety improvements and streetscape improvements on 17th Street from Pacific Avenue to Cypress.

The Atlantic Park surf project continues through the design process but has been delayed due to COVID-19 and rising

construction costs. The City Council might vote on whether to extend the development agreement.

Several other projects are underway including the Embassy Suites hotel just south of the Cavalier Beach Club, the Hyatt Place at 36th and Atlantic, and a 17th Street craft brewery planned for property between Parks Avenue and Washington Street.

You can learn about the Phase I and Phase II 17th streetscape project online at www.vbgov.com/government/departments/sga/projects/Pages/17th-Street-Improvements.aspx. ■

NOMINEES

From Page 3

member of the NVBCL's Zoning Review Committee for many years.

Outside of work, I'm interested in alternative energy sources, sustainable materials, growing our own food and living with less stuff. But dogs – always more dogs.

I am excited to have this opportunity to help preserve our uniquely wonderful neighborhood!

Caroline Willcox

Nominated to fill the vacant position of Meetings & Publicity chair.



Caroline Willcox grew up in Norfolk and relocated to the area in early 2020,

residing at 54th Street and the Oceanfront. She graduated from the University of Richmond then moved to the D.C. area, where she worked as a meeting/event planner for the American Trucking Associations.

Caroline met her husband, Dan Einwechter, and lived in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada for 26 years until moving back to Hampton Roads. They have two grown sons.

Over the past several years she has been involved with many volunteer organizations, serving on committees and boards both in Ontario and here in Virginia Beach.

She looks forward to being involved with the North Virginia Beach Civic League. ■