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Doumar's – a Norfolk Institution Close to Cooper Hurley's Offices

In May 2001, Southern Living magazine described how you almost expect James Dean to stagger out of the front door of Doumar's with a tooth pick in his mouth, when you visit the Norfolk institution.

At that time owner Albert Doumar said the drive-in diner was "a dinosaur" even by the mid 1970s. Drive ins were already past their heyday in the 1950s. However, 13 years after the Southern Living magazine article appeared, Doumar's is still going strong. Albert, who is now in his early 90s, still lends a hand with the business.



Doumar's is so popular it sells themed clothing

[Click here to view the video](#)

Doumar's at 1919 Monticello Ave in Norfolk, is a close neighbor to Cooper Hurley Injury Lawyers at 2014 Granby Street and the attorneys have been known to frequent the diner to take advantage of some of the cheapest burgers and barbecue in the city.

The diner's full name is Doumar's Cones & Barbecue. In 2009 in his successful race to become Governor of Virginia, Bob McDonnell stopped by and described Doumar's as "a great American story."

While family owned restaurants have gone to the wall in droves as chain restaurants have cleaned up, Doumar's remains a tasty slice of the past. And it's not going away any time soon, according to Thad Doumar, Albert's son who runs the restaurant.

Doumar's claim to fame is its association with the world's first waffle cone. Thad said his great-uncle, Abe Doumar, created the world's first waffle cone at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. He went on to create a four-burner waffle-cone machine that turns out nearly 200 cones an hour. It has pride of place just inside the front door of the restaurant where customers can see it in action.continued on page 2

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Thad said Abe watched a busy ice cream vendor struggle with putting ice cream on paper plates or wax paper. He closed down his shop because he ran out of plates. Nearby a man was making waffles and putting whipped cream on them. Abe suggested the two men combine their operations. All three of them set up a business and the rest is history.

Abe opened up his ice cream cone business in Coney Island in 1905. He was soon so successful he had a chain of stands from Coney Island south to Jacksonville in Florida.

In 1907 he opened up a stand at Ocean View Amusement Park in Norfolk. "It was very successful. The Norfolk location was our best location and it was centrally located to the East Coast," said Thad. In 1925 Doumar's had its all-time busiest day, selling 22,600 cones in a single day.

But the completion of new roads to Miami in 1925 meant visitors from New York started to bypass Norfolk and business declined. Ocean View Amusement Park was [devastated by a major hurricane in 1933](#). Doumar's moved to its present location and opened in the spring of 1934. It added sandwiches to the menu to operate all year round.

"We have been operating here full time since May of 1934. We have been going strong ever since, basically with the same menu my granddaddy had in 1934," said Thad.

New Attorney Bill O'Mara Settles in at Cooper Hurley

Cooper Hurley's newest employee Bill O'Mara has only been at the firm for just over a month but he is already involved in some large and complex cases. The firm's new attorney was raised in Chesapeake before receiving his bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College. He is a 2008 graduate of Washington & Lee University-School of Law.



Bill has practiced personal injury and other litigation for more than five years. Since he joined Cooper Hurley in February 2014, he has dedicated his practice entirely to representing injured people.

"Doing solely personal injury work really makes a difference," he said. "In working for a firm that does exclusively personal injury work, I have the time to dedicate extra energy and effort in each one of your personal injury cases to get the best result under the circumstances," he said.

[Click here to view the video](#)

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....continued from page 2 **New Attorney Bill O'Mara Settles....**

Bill likes helping people. "I am troubled when people are distressed. The financial distress that often follows an injury is troubling to me. I try to resolve cases as quickly as possible," he said.

Bill first set his sights on becoming an attorney when he was studying government at Dartmouth College. He says he has no regrets. "It's a challenging profession, but it's one I wouldn't trade for anything."

He said partners John Cooper and Jim Hurley are a "wonderful resource" given their decades of experience in personal injury law.

Cooper Hurley Supports Healthy Heart Event in Virginia Beach



Event organizer Kim Wimbish at the Virginia Beach Convention Center

[Click here to view the video](#)

Cooper Hurley Injury Lawyers provided a splash of yellow in a sea of red when we sponsored the Heart-beat Gala at Virginia Beach Convention Center in February, an event that was intended to raise awareness and funds for heart disease prevention.

Hundreds of people showed up to the gala. The women wore red dresses and men wore black tuxedos. The event raised money for the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women initiative.

Guests at the event on February 7 included cardiologist Dr. Mark East and the singer Gabrielle Pinkney. Middleton Academy Dance provided entertainment while the evening included some special guests – Barbara Ciara the WTKR anchor, the Newport News councilwoman Tina Vick, Angelia Williams, the vice mayor of Norfolk and Audrey Douglas-Cooke, the Vice President of Sentara Heart Hospital patient services.

Organizer Kim Wimbish thanked the sponsors including Cooper Hurley Injury Lawyers. "Heart disease is the number one killer among women," she said. "It's important to live healthy, eat healthy and be physically fit," she said.

Jasmine Kennedy, Miss Hampton Roads 2014, said many people were not aware of the seriousness of heart disease. Cooper Hurley Injury Lawyers supports many good causes in the Hampton Roads community. In 2013 the law firm supported the Foodbank of South-eastern Virginia and the Jingle Bells run/walk for arthritis research as well as other good causes.

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Five Healthy Heart Tips

1. **Quit Smoking.** If you didn't listen to your mother and throw away your cigarettes, you should do so now. Cigarette smoking accounts for about one-fifth of all deaths from heart disease in the United States. And if your mom smokes, tell her to quit.
2. **Watch Calories.** Carrying too much weight around the middle raises blood pressure and affects blood lipids, increasing the risk of heart disease. Count your calories and work out.
3. **Eat Fish.** Studies have shown that including fish high in omega-3 fatty acids such as herring, salmon, sardines, and tuna into your diet can reduce the risk of heart disease by a third or more.
4. **LOL.** And we don't mean on email or text. Research by the University of Maryland found laughter relieves the stress that damages the endothelium, the tissue that forms the inner lining of blood vessels and helps your blood flow.
5. **Shun Salt.** A recent study found just reducing your salt intake to just half a teaspoon a day significantly reduces the risk of coronary heart disease.

John Cooper is Reelected as a Governor for the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association

John Cooper has again been reelected as a 2nd District governor for the influential Virginia Trial Lawyers Association. His term will run from 2014 to 2015. The 2nd District covers Norfolk and Virginia Beach, the cities where Cooper Hurley Injury Lawyers has its main office and a client meeting location respectively. Additionally, Mr. Cooper was named by VTLA to co-chair its Public Affairs Committee which oversees programs bringing safety information to high schools.

The Virginia Trial Lawyers Association is a voluntary bar association "dedicated to enhancing the knowledge, skills and professionalism of trial lawyers and committed to improving the law and the fairness of Virginia's system of justice."



VTLA is the largest organization of its kind in the Commonwealth with about 2,200 members, representing clients in a vast number of practice areas.continued on page 5

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John Cooper is Reelected as a Governor for the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association

John Cooper was born and raised in Norfolk and Virginia Beach. He has worked for those hurt in car, truck and motorcycle accidents and the families of wrongful death victims for more than a quarter of a century. Other legal areas in which John Cooper has significant experience include railroad worker injuries under the FELA law, premises and product liability, as well as train crossing accidents.

Trivia

The Origins of May Day

May Day on May 1 originated as a pagan festive holy day celebrating the first spring planting. The ancient Celts and Saxons celebrated May 1 as Beltane, which means the day of fire. Bel was the Celtic god of the sun. In more recent years it has become associated with workers' rights and is a holiday in some countries.

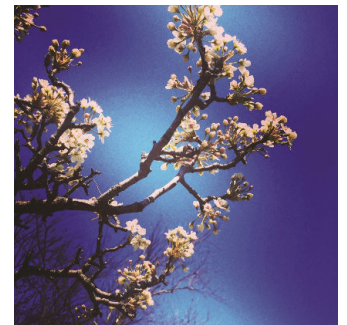
May Day is also international Workers' Day and is tied to the historic movement for an 8 hour working day.

Joke



Can February March?

No, but April May!



Happy Birthday

Happy birthday if you were born in April. At Cooper Hurley we like to celebrate the birthdays of all of our clients, former clients and friends. Email us your birthday to [marketing @cooperhurley.com](mailto:marketing@cooperhurley.com) and we'll send you a card in the mail.

