



The Croatan Civic League News

April 2020

President's Letter by Mike Kelly

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our world has changed dramatically in the last 30 days. You may remember that, last month had talked about socials, our membership drive, and preparation for the Shamrock marathon. Today, we are consumed with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Governor issued Executive Order 55, TEMPORARY STAY AT HOME ORDER DUE TO NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19). It states,

This Executive Order shall be effective March 30, 2020, amends Amended Order of the Governor and State Health Commissioner Declaration of Public Health Emergency, Order of Public Health Emergency One and Executive Order 53 and shall remain in full force and in effect until June 10, 2020, unless amended or rescinded by further executive order.

Based on this and the uncertainty of efforts to mitigate and defeat the spread of COVID-19, the Board of Directors voted to suspend our social activities. Specifically, the Spring Fling, scheduled for June 6th, is cancelled. We hope that we can reschedule it for August or September. The quarterly "Meet and Greet" are also on hold, as well as any children's events. As soon as we see what the "new normal" looks like, we will revise our plans. By the way, the Board meeting was held virtually using Zoom. It worked out quite well. If anyone would like to join us, the next one is scheduled for Monday, May 4th, starting at 6:30 PM. Send me your email address and I will include you on the invitation.



CONTENTS:

<i>From the President</i>	1
<i>Letter to the Neighborhood</i>	2
<i>Security Report, CAC, VBCCO</i>	3
<i>Croatan Beach Update</i>	4
<i>Book Club</i>	5
<i>Women's Club</i>	5
<i>Neighborhood Contacts</i>	7

UPCOMING EVENTS:

All events are cancelled until further notice. We will send notice as soon as we can resume social contact.

PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

5/4 CCL Board Meeting

5/8 Newsletter Deadline



On April 9th, a letter was placed in every mailbox in Croatan. If you didn't see it, we have included it in this newsletter. It makes a few key points. First, if you need help, contact one of the Board members. Second, this is a time when it is easy to get depressed. Watch out for each other. Third, get outside. Our neighborhood is beautiful. Seize the Day!

More important than ever - be safe.

Mike Kelly
 President, Croatan Civic League
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 (H) 757.961.6244 (After 7:00 PM)
 president@croatanbeach.org

The Croatan Civic League

Dear Croatan Neighbors,

Certainly, the COVID-19 pandemic is the most significant crisis our Nation has faced since September 11, 2001. We are impacted and have been forced to adjust our lives in ways that we never expected. No matter who you are, all of us have, at times, felt frustrated, scared, and lonely. We hope and pray that this will end soon, but there is uncertainty that we must accept.

Our Croatan neighborhood is very special. While minutes away from the activities that Virginia Beach offers, we are also uniquely isolated by geography. We live in a beautiful area and enjoy walking around, especially in the Spring when our gardens and yards look so lovely. It's a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors or renew and reinforce old friendships – at a safe distance of six feet. Fortunately, many of you are taking advantage of that as we wait for the virus to pass. It is really encouraging to see people walking around and talking.

The reason for distributing this letter is to check up on you and let you know that if you need help, your civic league is available. While Croatan is a very social neighborhood, there are more than 500 homes here. We don't know everyone, and we don't know if everyone is managing in this challenging time. Social distancing can easily become social isolation. Social isolation can easily lead to tragedy.

The Board of Directors of the Croatan Civic League is here to help those of you that may have some trouble getting through this crisis. If you are concerned or unable to go out for food or medicine, please contact us. If you get depressed or lonely, please say something to someone. It is easy to spiral down to a place where everything seems hopeless.

Please contact me or a member of the Board if you need help or have a suggestion.

Best to All and Stay Safe,

Michael Kelly, President, Croatan Civic League
 (M) 703.439.9153
 mkellyav8@aol.com
 support@croatanbeach.org
 For the Board Members, go to

<https://www.croatanbeach.org/civic-league-board/>

Safety, Security Update, Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC), and Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO)

For the **latest City information on COVID-19**, visit:
<https://emergency.vbgov.com/coronavirus>

Safety/Security:

One might expect that with so many of us staying at home, that the frequency of crime would be down, but history has shown that property crimes – burglaries and thefts of/from vehicles are crimes of opportunity and often occur in the wee hours of the morning. Although beaches are “closed,” they are available for exercise and fishing, so we can well expect to see people “escaping” from their shut-in existence to visit our beach. I have raised concerns of recent property crimes to the VBPD 2nd Precinct Commander, who promises increased patrols – in addition to our own security presence.



Remember to lock doors and take valuables out of cars. “Beep-It-to-Keep-It” is the VBPD slogan. Please watch out for neighbors, avoid gatherings of ten (10) or more (even family), maintain personal distance, and cleanse hands often. Also, heed government warnings and directives re: personal safety during these trying times and support each other when and where possible.

One element of daily life that the City has permitted to operate during the COVID-19 shut-down is Short-Term Rentals (STR). Although many owners have curtailed rentals and regulations have been promulgated to owners of rental units, whether they filter down to renters is unknown. Also, allowing STRs to continue brings potentially infected persons into our neighborhood from many municipalities, including those with high infection rates. Practice social distancing during your biking, jogging, or walking routines. Kindly remind visitors that the beach is closed for all but fishing and exercise and feel free to report gatherings of more than 10 people to City Operations office at **3-1-1** or police non-emergency number at **757-385-5000**.

Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC):



The March CAC meeting discussed issues that have mostly been cancelled – Something in the Water, Stop-the-Bleed and CPR training - in compliance with Governor Northam's stay-at-home order. The April 8 CAC meeting has also been cancelled.

First responders and health care-professionals are not afforded the luxury of working from home, so please thank police, fire, EMS personnel, and anyone wearing “scrubs” for their service when and where you see them.

Police non-emergency number is 757-385-5000. In an emergency, call 9-1-1.

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO):

Mr. Robert "Bobby" J. Tajan, City Director of Housing and Neighborhood Preservation, spoke on the pending short-term rental (STR) season. Again, this preceded Governor Northam's stay-at-home Executive Order, so the impact is likely several weeks away. However, sufficed to say that all STRs must comply with a set of rules that went into effect on November 1, 2019. These can be found at https://library.municode.com/va/virginia_beach/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=C O_APXAZOOR_ART2GEREPRAPALDI_CCOUSST_S241.2SHTERE .

Additionally, any STRs not in operation prior to July 1, 2018, not covered by an existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and appropriate sales/lodging tax payments, must apply for a CUP and register with the Commissioner of the Revenue before they can legally be rented out. Mr. Tajan said that his Code Enforcement staff is reviewing social media sites to identify some rental properties that have not met those conditions.

The VBCCO meeting previously scheduled for April 9 has been cancelled.

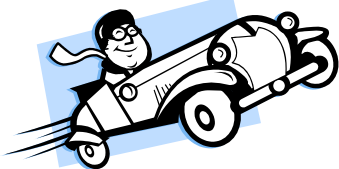
Be safe, be well.

M. C. "Connie" Agresti,
CCL VP, Security Chair



Beach Safety Update by John Mannarino, Director

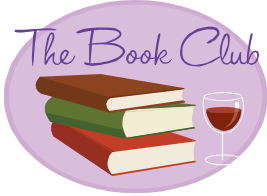
The dredging solicitation schedule is still on track for the work to commence in Summer 2020. Our Beach Operations personnel are continuing to work, but in a limited to adhere to the COVID-19 City policy.



Do you want to save \$200.00, save your neighbors, save children, bicyclists, pets and wildlife? **GO SLOW IN CROATAN!!!**

The Croatan Book Club

Next Meeting



In an abundance of caution, because of the Coronavirus pandemic, book club is canceled until further notice.

Future selections are shown below. Notice will be sent as soon as we are able to resume.



Future Selections

Author

Origin

Dan Brown

Dutch House

Ann Patchett

The Tattooist of Auschwitz

Heather Morris

The Art of Racing in the Rain

Garth Stein

See the CCL website for 2020 selections: www.croatanbeach.org/book-club/.

Croatan Women's Club

[April Croatan Women's Club Meeting CANCELLED](#)

Dear Members, After careful and deliberate consideration, the Board has decided to cancel the April Croatan Women's Club meeting scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2020.

This decision was not made lightly. The health, safety and well being of our members is the top priority of the Board.

We will evaluate the May meeting close to the date.

Please stay healthy and follow suggested government guidelines.

See you soon, Martha

Martha Davenport President



Neighborhood Contacts

Send any corrections, deletions or additions to this page to Marian Kitchin at mdkitchin@gmail.com.

Welcome Wagon

Contact Cheryl Garvey at cgcroatan@gmail.com or phone 471-5436 if you know of new Croatan neighbors .



Magazine Collection

Michele Speight, Teen Crisis Intervention
549 Bushnell Drive
428-7947; msp8@cox.net

Book Collection

Betty Rosignolo
760 Virginia Dare Drive
437-8662; rbrosignolo@cox.net
For Sentara Virginia Beach Hospital Auxiliary

Who to Call

Dead or Stranded Marine Mammal (dolphin, seal, whale) or Sea Turtle
Virginia Aquarium Stranding Response Team
757-385-7575



Important Contacts

Police Fire & Rescue Emergencies	911
Non-Emergency Assistance	385-5000
Miss Utility	811
Potholes, Street Signs and Repairs	385-1470
Animal Control (Option #1)	385-4444
City Landfill	385-1980
Bulk Trash Pickup	385-4650
Croatan Temporary Parking Permit	385-4131
VBSPCA Wildlife Referral Line	263-4762
Wildlife Response , Inc.	543-7000
Wildlife Conflict Helpline (toll free)	(855) 571-9003
Beach Wedding Permit	385-4800

Tidewater Wildlife Rescue

Helpline 757-255-8710

A volunteer organization dedicated to assisting orphaned and injured wildlife throughout Tidewater, Virginia.

Tidewaterwildliferescue@gmail.com



SCOOP THE POOP!!!! It's the LAW!!! Please carry a plastic bag with you when you walk your dog. Don't let pet waste become part of our waterways or our neighbor's landscape.

The People Make the Beach
Croatan Civic League

We are on the WEB!
 Check us out at
www.croatanbeach.org
 and Nextdoor.com

Croatan Civic League Officers, Directors and Committee Chair Contacts

Board

President, City Government and Militry

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