



The Croatan Civic League News

October 2020

President's Letter by Mike Kelly

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our weather the last few weeks has been terrific. It's a great time to get out and walk around the neighborhood.

Many of you responded to the survey we sent out on Nextdoor asking if you would attend an annual meeting so that we could conduct Board of Director elections. I appreciate everyone who took the time to respond to the poll. We had hoped that a good venue could be found where we could socialize as a large group and still maintain reasonable conformance to the Governor's Executive Orders for safety. Katie Ripberger did a great job looking at the options, but the Board of Directors, with an abundance of caution, voted not to have the meeting. Most were not comfortable with the risk for our members and themselves.

So, we still have the challenge of an annual election. Bob Lougen is running our website and Facebook page. For those of you who have looked at it, you can see that it is an outstanding site and Bob ensures that there is great and up-to-date content. He is putting together a voting site for the Board of Director election and will have more on the process in the next couple of weeks.

If you are interested in volunteering and serving on the Board, please contact me by October 15th.

Our Vice-President, "Connie" Agresti, has provided a lot of important and new information this month on safety and security. Please take a few minutes and read that section.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be virtual on Monday, 2 November at 6:30 PM. If you have an item you want placed on the agenda, please send it to me and plan on attending. I will provide the Zoom invite and connection to those who ask.

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 11/2 CCL Board Meeting
- 11/6 Newsletter Deadline
- 11/18 Book Club



If you haven't yet, please vote!

Stay safe and watch out for each other.

Mike Kelly

President, Croatan Civic League

(M) 703.439.9153 (Primary)

(H) 757.961.6244 (After 7:00 PM)

president@croatanbeach.org

Beach Restoration by John Mannarino, Director

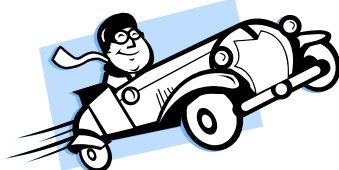


**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

1. The status of the Rudee Inlet Dredging project remains as follows (per US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) correspondence): Award is anticipated for January 2021 and Notice to Proceed (NTP) for February 2021 (contract performance period between April and July 2021). This statement indicates that the project will be bid in the November/December 2020 timeframe
2. The City is working to pursue an agreement with the Port of Virginia to receive beach quality sand on the identified beaches along the bay front. Currently, Croatan Beach remains slated to receive sand from the Rudee Inlet Dredging project (specifically material from the outer deposition dredging portion of the project).
3. Discussions have occurred pertaining to adding sand to the dune system, but the primary focus of the earmarked funding is to make sure the beach nourishment of the berm can occur. Given the recent high costs for dredging and beach nourishment construction, a dune restoration component may not be feasible based on the current budget.

Wildlife in Croatan by Susanna Miller

Wildlife in Croatan will be posted to the website later this month. You will receive an email when it is available. You can view it at <https://www.croatanbeach.org/wildlife-in-croatan/>. From the website, click on Croatan Community and then Wildlife in Croatan.



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

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

Safety/Security:

Bottom Line Up Front:

- School Zones and Busses
- “The Point” – It’s Open, Except When It’s Not
- Fire Safety Week – check smoke/CO detectors
- Halloween Safety Tips
- Croatan Parking Lot – New Hours
- Pacific Avenue Speed Limit – 35 MPH full length
- Free Parking on Atlantic Avenue? – Not Just Yet
- Golf Cart Operation
- Get Out to Vote; Respect Opponents



School Zones and Busses: School is back in session, so it is time to reacclimate ourselves to looking for flashing lights in school zones and on school busses when we’re behind the wheel. Flashing yellow lights in **school zones** indicate that you must reduce speed as indicated (usually 25 MPH). (Beware the school zones that begin within a car length or two of an intersection (think: S. Birdneck Rd and General Booth Blvd). They can be difficult to see if you’re focused on traffic and pedestrians when turning. For **school busses** – flashing yellow means that the bus is preparing to stop; **flashing red means that you must stop**. When approaching a stopped school bus from the opposite direction, you must stop unless there is a median between opposing lanes of traffic. A perennial high enforcement area applies to those traveling north (towards the resort area) on General Booth from Croatan. Save the money, the points, and possibly a child’s life.

“The Point”: Throughout the summer, rumors/questions have been floated on Nextdoor, etc. on whether the northern tip of Croatan Beach, known to many as “The Point,” was closed to pedestrian traffic. Following an incident last month, CCL President Mike Kelly made some phone calls. What he discovered was:

- The Point is open to pedestrian traffic **except** when Department of Public Works (DPW) personnel are moving heavy objects or operating construction equipment. This includes when they are preparing for such evolutions.
- When they are working, DPW will erect warning signs reading “**Area Closed; Maintenance in Progress**” and string **yellow hazard tape**. We should all heed the verbal and posted warnings of DPW personnel when they direct us away from The Point. **It is for our own safety** (and that of our pet(s), if applicable)
- Not everyone involved is tactful but you also don’t know how many others they have had to turn away that day or how much “lip” they’ve received prior to your arrival
- You can be charged with a misdemeanor (trespass) for refusing to heed the warnings of DPW officials
- Be safe, be smart – we’re out there for exercise anyway – hike south to Twilight Lane to access the beach during these infrequent interruptions.

Fire Safety Week: Each October, firefighters remind us to check our smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and change the batteries, if warranted.

Croatan Parking Lot: The “end of the season” brings a **5:00 PM closing time** for the Croatan parking lot located at the south end of Vanderbilt Avenue. There is no fee to park during the “off season.”

Pacific Avenue Speed Limit: The speed limit on Pacific Avenue has been returned to its off-season datum of 35 MPH. The stretch between 16th and 32nd Streets had been reduced to 25 MPH during the summer to reduce the risk of vehicle/pedestrian collisions. It still hasn't stopped people from jaywalking and challenging vehicles to stop; so, please keep a look out. Also, recall that there was a fatal accident at 35th and Pacific last year – please be wary of vehicles attempting to enter Pacific Ave from higher numbered resort area streets.

Atlantic Avenue Free Parking: The City has made parking on most of Atlantic Avenue south of 25th Street free as of November 1 the last two years. I have not seen an announcement yet for 2020, so I recommend visiting <https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/sga/parking-management/Pages/About-Parking.aspx> before assuming that this parking is again available for free.

Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC): In-person CAC meetings remain suspended due to an abundance of caution over coronavirus coupled with the onset of Flu season. The following is provided for your information.

Golf Cart Operation: VBPD Community Engagement issued a reminder on Nextdoor regarding golf cart operations. The key issue is that all operators of golf carts must possess a valid motor vehicle operator's license and all such vehicles must display a triangular “slow moving vehicle” sign.

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO): VBCCO meetings have similarly been postponed but expect to start anew (in-person) on November 12 at 7:00 PM, in the Ocean Lakes Community Association Clubhouse, 881 Old Dam Neck Rd, 23454.

Get Out to Vote: National, State, and City-wide posts are up for voter decision on November 3, as are two proposed amendments to the Commonwealth of Virginia Constitution. Everyone is encouraged to exercise his/her franchise to vote. Please respect others and their property should they endorse a candidate(s) opposed to those you support. Registrars are critically short of poll workers, so if you are healthy and would like to serve, please do so. Visit <https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/voter-registrar/Pages/default.aspx> for comprehensive election information, including how to volunteer to work the polls, sample ballot, absentee ballot procedures, and early in-person voting locations. The latter is also available on our website of <http://croatanbeach.org> thanks to webmaster Bob Lougen. Sample ballots were also recently mailed to registered voters.

The organization's monthly newsletter – *The Voice* can be found at <http://www.vbcco.org>.

COVID is still with us as evidenced by recent infections at the White House and Virginia Governor's Mansion.

Stay safe.

M. C. “Connie” Agresti,

CCL VP, Security & Safety Chair

Halloween Safety Tips by Connie Agresti

The City Manager's Office has placed a note on Nextdoor addressing Halloween safety tips for Trick-or-Treaters and those passing out candy.

If you are passing out candy:

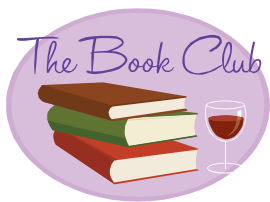
- Designate one person to pass out candy instead of having a self-serve bowl; wear a face covering (mask) and gloves.
- Purchase pre-packaged goodies to distribute instead of making homemade treats.
- Turn on your porch or other lighting if you are participating in trick-or-treating; if you are not participating, turn off the lighting.
- Make sure there is a safe path for the children to travel.

If you are trick-or-treating:

- Stay close to home and with people you know while staying apart from others.
- Use hand sanitizer often.
- Do not allow your children to consume any candy before you have had a chance to inspect it. When in doubt, throw it out.
- Wear a face covering even if a costume includes a mask. Make sure you and your child can still see well.
- Wear reflective clothing and/or carry lights so you are easily visible in the dark.

As a reminder, per Virginia Beach City Code, trick-or-treating is for children 12 years of age and younger only. It begins at dusk on Saturday, October 31 and ends at 8:00 PM.

The Croatan Book Club



Next Meeting

Date: **Thursday, October 15**

Time: **6:30 P.M.**

Place: **BACKYARD of Karen Moore**

Selection: **The Art of Racing in the Rain** by Garth Stein

All Neighbors are welcome. Just read the book (or maybe not), bring a beverage or snack, and e-mail the hostess that you will be attending. COVID distancing observed.

Future Selections: As we have no idea, as yet, just how meetings will be held in the cold months with COVID considerations, the books below are in order (without specific month designations)

Only Time Will Tell Jeffrey Archer

A Gentleman in Moscow Amor Towles

American Dirt Jeanine Cummins

This Tender Land William Kent Krueger

Information is also on the CCL website: www.croatanbeach.org/book-club/.

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
Wildlife Response , Inc.	543-7000
VBSPCA Wildlife Referral Line	263-4762
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

President, Spring Fling, City Government and Military:

Mike Kelly Phone 961-6244
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Secretary, Social Activities and Children's Programs:

Amanda Robinson
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Treasurer:

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Director:

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 Email: Kdonahoe1@cox.net

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 Email: kejo425@aol.com

Committee Chairs

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Women's Club President :

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Book Club Leader:

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