

# The Croatan Civic League News

November, 2021



## President's Letter by Mike Kelly

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Our Annual Meeting and election for the Board of Directors is next Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at the New Realm Brewery. Start time is 6:00 PM. The event includes a free drink and appetizers. We will conduct a very short meeting and the election at 7:00 PM.

The nominees for the 2022-2023 Board are:

Frank Borum	570 Croatan Rd.
Kathy Donahoe	601 Fort Raleigh Dr.
Mike Fantozzi	741 Virginia Dare Dr.
Cheryl Garvey	517 Croatan Rd.
Sharon Heath	628 Surfside Ave.
Bob Lougen	605 Fort Raleigh Dr.
Katie Ripberger	528 Kerry Ln.
Amanda Robinson	504 S. Atlantic Ave.
Bill Wren	518 Bushnell Dr.

You can still RSVP through November 8<sup>th</sup>. If you cannot attend, please pass your proxy via the CCL website, to your favorite Director or Amanda Robinson.

What are your thoughts on what the CCL should be doing in 2022? Social, Civic and Charitable? We would like to get your comments and concerns. Please talk to us at the Annual Meeting or send an email to your favorite Director or me.

The next Board of Director's meeting will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM via Zoom. If you would like an invite, please let me know and I will send you one.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

**And I hope to see you on the 12<sup>th</sup>!**

Mike Kelly  
President, Croatan Civic League

(M) 703.439.9153 (Primary)  
(H) 757.961.6244 (After 6:00 PM)  
[president@croatanbeach.org](mailto:president@croatanbeach.org)

**Beach Update for November 2021**

**Croatan Beach Restoration Project**

**GREAT NEWS!** The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has issued the notice to proceed. The work is expected to start late-January / early-February of 2022. I have asked the Coastal Section Project Manager to provide a presentation to the neighborhood when they have the specific details.

Michael Kelly, CCL President

(M) 703.439.9153

[president@croatanbeach.org](mailto:president@croatanbeach.org)

[mkellyav8@aol.com](mailto:mkellyav8@aol.com)



***UPCOMING EVENTS:***

**12/6 CCL Board Meeting**

**11/8 Women's Club**

**11/12 CCL Annual Meeting**

**11/28 Pics With Santa**

**1/20/22 Book Club**



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



### Safety/Security – November 2021:

#### Bottom Line Up Front:

- Fall Driving Safety Tips
- Parties, Parking, and 30/31 October incident
- CAC – please see separate note on Emergency Communications (911)
- VBCCO – sign up for VBAlert

#### Fall Driving Safety Tips:

- Wet leaves are slick as ice – watch out and adjust speed accordingly.
- On cold mornings, shaded roadways and curves may be icy.
- Beware of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorcycles “up sun” or in the dark. For those “out there,” wear/use lights and/or wear reflective clothing
- Use low beams only (please) – high beams are blinding to oncoming traffic.
- Don't leave idling cars unattended while warming up, fueling, or getting coffee. Grand Theft Auto isn't just a game; it is a crime of opportunity and just as popular.

**‘tis the Season for Parties and Parking Woes:** Many of us like to host parties for friends and co-workers as the holidays make their annual return. City of Virginia Beach (CVB) management transitions have led to some confusion as to who has the controlling interest in approving waivers for parking in Croatan beyond the 7:00 PM limit in the designated spaces on Surfside and Vanderbilt. The decision authority remains the CVB. Newer city officials may ask CCL if there are any objections to the waiver request, but CCL Board of Directors has no intention of wading into this contentious issue. (See our website [Http://croatanbeach.org](http://croatanbeach.org) for application procedures). All other areas of the neighborhood that are designated “No Parking” are enforceable 24/7. The reason for this is to allow emergency vehicle access, if necessary.

**Legal parking options include:** parking on unrestricted streets within the neighborhood, encouraging carpooling; clearing parking in adjacent driveways with neighbors – especially if the driveways are spacious; parking on streets that are not restricted; parking elsewhere (e.g., Aquarium) and shuttling guests. Be courteous with neighbors regarding music or other exterior noise. Don't let guests block driveways, fire hydrants, or mailboxes and beware of parking near street corners where driver visibility of traffic or signs may be impeded.

**30/31 October Incident:** In the six hours beginning approximately 11:30 PM, neighbors disturbed by a Halloween party at a short-term rental in the 700-block of S. Atlantic called 911 no less than ten times to report excessive noise, illegal parking, street racing, public urination, etc. The Oceanfront Community Police Operations (OCPO) unit of the Second Precinct sent officers out to these complaints repeatedly resulting in meeting with the party host, towing three illegally parked vehicles, and stopping one vehicle for speeding. An officer who reportedly remained on site (disputed by residents – research still underway) reported no loud music after 2:30 AM. (Recall

that there was a shots-fired incident in the resort district (20<sup>th</sup> and Pacific) that same evening. That trumps noise complaints for our understaffed police force). Regrettably, the extent of illegal parking that evening, may negatively taint requests for parking waivers among law abiding and respectfully neighbors. It is classic case of the 98% suffering for the sins of the 2%. I continue to work with the police to ascertain a timeline of events and find the reason that more illegally parked vehicles were reportedly not ticketed. It could be that the police are trained to de-escalate incidents rather than be confrontational, but we'll see.

**Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC):** Held Wednesday, October 13.

**Citizens Help Reduce Crime:** Frequent, timely, actionable reporting enabled police to arrest two suspects wanted in a string of home burglaries. Motor vehicle thefts remain up in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Precincts (i.e., those along the ocean). Lock cars and keep valuables out of sight.

The next CAC meeting will be Wednesday, November 10 at 7:00 PM in the VB Volunteer Rescue Squad #14 conference room (740 VB Blvd).

**Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO):** Meetings of the VBCCO remain on hiatus while the organization works on reforming.

**VBAAlert:** is the City of Virginia Beach's official emergency alert and notification system used to send alerts to the public during emergencies. VBAAlert is a free service that allows you to sign up online to receive customized alerts via text message, email, and/or voice message.



**Situations and events that could prompt a VBAAlert message include:**

- Weather watches and warnings
- Evacuation announcements
- Rabid animal alerts
- Police, Fire or EMS activity
- Hazardous Materials Incident
- Boil water advisories
- Transportation disruptions (road closures, major traffic incidents)

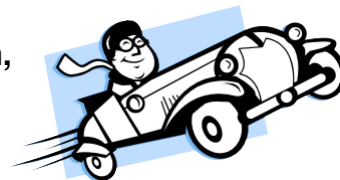
M. C. "Connie" Agresti,  
Safety and Security Director  
CCL Representative to CAC and VBCCO

## Emergency Communications Briefing to Citizens Advisory Committee

Ms. Jada Lee, Director of Emergency Communications and Citizens Services (ECCS) and two of her colleagues provided a presentation on ECCS to the CAC on October 13, 2021. Highlights included:

- When calling 9-1-1, the most important information to convey is **location, location, location**. ECCS personnel will ask/verify this three times during the conversation. GPS works from land lines, but cell phones are triangulated by three cell towers, thereby adding a margin of error to location data.
- If your call to 9-1-1 is not immediately answered, **do not hang up!** Every 9-1-1 hang-up must be called back, thereby increasing demand upon ECCS operators and precluding responding to other incoming calls.
- If calling 9-1-1 from the scene of an accident, **be patient** with the operator's basic questions because even if other individuals have called for the same event, they may have spoken to a different operator; and the one you're speaking with may be hearing the information for the first time.
- Virginia Beach 9-1-1 has the capability to accept text messages. The first reply from ECCS will be, "Are you able to talk?" If not (such as in a domestic assault or hostage situation), place your phone ringer on "silent" mode and communicate via text.
- All were encouraged to enroll in **Smart 9-1-1**, a free information system. Smart 9-1-1 provides key information to first responders, such as address, residents, medical conditions, medications, building access instructions, type/number of pets on premises, emergency shut-off switch/valve locations, etc. Ms. Lee and company stressed that Smart 9-1-1 operates in a secure, stand-alone system "walled off" from Internet access. Smart 9-1-1 enrollment must be renewed every six months. For more information [click here](#) or to enroll visit <https://www.smart911.com/>.
- Like many elements of VB City government, ECCS is overworked and understaffed. ECCS fielded **636,324 calls** during fiscal year 2020 (an average of more than one per minute). They have 35 open slots for entry-level positions. Applicants must be 18 or older, have a high school diploma or GED, pass drug screening, background checks, and undergo physicals. Hearing and eyesight are checked annually. Initial training is 10 – 12 weeks.
- All ECCS specialists have **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)** training to respond to mental health crises. During 2020, ECCS fielded nearly 2,300 CIT calls.
- ECCS operators work 12-hour shifts for four days followed by three days off.
- ECCS also handles 3-1-1 calls, animal control, and police non-emergency calls. The 3-1-1 system has recently been upgraded with Customer Relationship Management (CRM) software to make it easier to parse incoming calls to the cognizant City organization.
- ECCS operators can and do suffer burn-out and post-traumatic stress. One of the best ways to help them is to let them know the results, especially if positive, of the emergency calls to which they responded.

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



## Croatan Holiday Glow Competition

### Get ready for the 1st Annual Croatan Holiday Glow Competition

There will be 3 categories.

Traditional - classic and/or religious

Cute - inflatables, kid theme

Griswold - crazy, loud and lots of lights

One winner will be selected from each category.

If you would like to participate, please register by December 15 by emailing your name, address and which category you would like to be entered in to

[cskarbek8@gmail.com](mailto:cskarbek8@gmail.com)

All decorations need to be in place by December 17th.



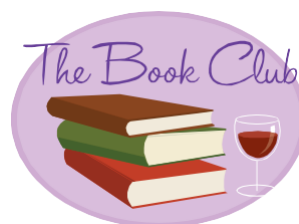
## The Croatan Book Club

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 20, 2022

**Time:** 7 P.M.

**Location:** Home of Mary Early

717 Vanderbilt Ave



**Book:** **The Postmistress** by Sarah Blake

We're taking a break for the Thanksgiving and December holidays as we meet on the third Thursday of the month.

All Neighbors are welcome. Just read the book (or maybe not), and notify hostess that you will be attending. Bring a light snack/wine to share, if desired.

chris Suit will be leading the discussion

Future Selections (in order):

Yellow Wife - Sadeqa Johnson

Middlesex - Jeffrey Eugenides


Finding Freedom - Erica French

Information is also on the CCL website: [www.croatanbeach.org/book-club/](http://www.croatanbeach.org/book-club/).

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!**

## Croatan Women's Club

**NOV  
8**



**Paint and Sip**

542 Southside Road  
6:30PM

This meeting is destined to be loads of fun and will include painting a beach-themed scene using acrylics on canvas with the guidance of an art instructor while enjoying our usual beverages and appetizers. Heather Donis Designs will provide all supplies and instruction. Painting is optional and you are welcome to attend whether painting or sipping, or both! If you wish to paint, please pre-pay \$15 by dropping your check payable to CWC to our Treasurer, Margaret Roomsburg 649 Fort Raleigh Drive by November 5. Our limit for painters is 40. Painting will begin promptly at 7:15, plan to arrive by 6:30 to set up.

### Important Contacts

Police, Fire and Rescue	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	543-7000
VBSPCA Wildlife Referral Line	263-4762
Wildlife Conflict Helpline	(855)571-9003
Beach Wedding Permit	385-4800

## Neighborhood Contacts

### 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**



### Welcome Wagon

Contact Cheryl Garvey  
cgcroatan@gmail.com  
(757)471-5436



if you know of new  
Croatan neighbors

### Magazine Collection

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

### Tidewater Wildlife Rescue

**Helpline 757-255-8710**

A volunteer organization dedicated to  
assisting orphaned and injured wildlife  
throughout Tidewater, Virginia  
Tidewaterwildliferescue@gmail.com

We are on the WEB!  
Check us out at  
[www.croatanbeach.org](http://www.croatanbeach.org)  
and Nextdoor.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.**





## Croatan Civic League Board of Directors

Name	Title	Email	Phone
<b>Mike Kelly</b>	President, Spring Fling, VB Gov, Military	<a href="mailto:president@croatanbeach.org">president@croatanbeach.org</a>	(703)439-9153
<b>Bob Lougen</b>	Vice President, Website, Facebook, Directory	<a href="mailto:support@croatanbeach.org">support@croatanbeach.org</a>	
<b>Amanda Robinson</b>	Secretary, Social Activities, Children's Programs	<a href="mailto:secretary@croatanbeach.org">secretary@croatanbeach.org</a>	
<b>Jim Skarbek</b>	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@croatanbeach.org">treasurer@croatanbeach.org</a>	491-3230
<b>Bill Garvey</b>	Past President, Croatan Yard Sale	<a href="mailto:cddx@aol.com">cddx@aol.com</a>	471-5436
<b>M.C. "Connie" Agresti</b>	Director, Security, VB Council of Civic Organizations, Citizen's Advisory Committee	<a href="mailto:security@croatanbeach.org">security@croatanbeach.org</a>	425-2068
<b>Jen Alex</b>	Director, Artisan's at Croatan Beach	<a href="mailto:directorja@croatanbeach.org">directorja@croatanbeach.org</a>	348-3884
<b>Kathy Donahoe</b>	Director, Newsletter	<a href="mailto:kdonahoe1@cox.net">kdonahoe1@cox.net</a>	403-0109
<b>Cheryl Garvey</b>	Director, Welcome Wagon	<a href="mailto:cgcroatan@gmail.com">cgcroatan@gmail.com</a>	471-5436
<b>Nancy Purkey</b>	Director	<a href="mailto:directornp@croatanbeach.org">directornp@croatanbeach.org</a>	
<b>Katie Ripberger</b>	Director, Logo wear, Social Activities, Directory	<a href="mailto:katiefr@howardhanna.com">katiefr@howardhanna.com</a>	434-6450
<b>Amber Torgensen</b>	Director, Halloween Party and Parade	<a href="mailto:directorat@croatanbeach.org">directorat@croatanbeach.org</a>	319-6076

## Committee Chairs

Name	Committee	Email	Phone
<b>Wes Laine</b>	Surfing	<a href="mailto:surfing@croatanbeach.org">surfing@croatanbeach.org</a>	428-2620
<b>Amanda Robinson</b>	Women's Club	<a href="mailto:wclub@croatanbeach.org">wclub@croatanbeach.org</a>	
<b>Alice Weisz</b>	Book Club	<a href="mailto:bookclub@croatanbeach.org">bookclub@croatanbeach.org</a>	
<b>Ken Jobe</b>	Special Advisor	<a href="mailto:kejo425@aol.com">kejo425@aol.com</a>	428-0328