

CCL Newsletter

October, 2022



Submitted by Kathy Donahoe

President's Letter

Ladies and Gentlemen,

An important reminder: Board of Directors elections will be held on Friday, November 4th as part of our Annual Meeting and Fall Social. All the details can be found on the website at <https://www.croatanbeach.org>. RSVPs must be in by 19 October, so if you are planning to attend, please sign up in the next few days.

We are still looking for a couple of **volunteers** for the Board. We want some fresh ideas and new energy, especially from people who are relatively new to Croatan. If you are interested, please call me, or contact one of the Board members listed in this newsletter.

As we move into the end of year holiday season, besides our annual meeting, there are a few other events to put on your calendar.

- a. Halloween parade and children's social event at Amber Torgerson's on Saturday, October 29th starting at 5 PM.
- b. Photos with Santa on the beach, Sunday November 13, 2:30 - 4:30 PM. Contact Amanda Robinson to schedule.
- c. Croatan Holiday Lights Decorating Contest. Carol Skarbek will provide details soon.

The beach suffered a bit in the last storm. Unfortunately, there are no immediate plans for repairs. As I have mentioned before that while the City Public Works Director knows that they must do some significant work, as does Council Member Rosemary Wilson, they are struggling to get the funds required in the near-term. The cost will be \$4 M+.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

Mike Kelly
President, Croatan Civic League
(M) 703.439.9153
president@croatanbeach.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

10/20 Book Club
10/17 Women's Club
10/29 Halloween Bash
11/7 CCL Meeting
11/4 CCL Annual Meeting & Fall Social



Did You Know?

- The CCL Annual Meeting/Fall Social is November 4th at the Attic (upstairs Waterman's).
- **Additional CCL Board members are needed? Please Volunteer!**

Halloween Bash

Saturday, October 29 at 5:00

Torgerson home @ 405 Croatan Hills Drive

Costume Contest and Halloween Parade



Croatan Book Club

Book club meets on the third Thursday of each month. All selections are available through the Virginia Beach Public Library among other sites.

Next Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2022

Time 7 P.M.

Hostess: Susan Martin

Place: 853 S Atlantic Avenue

Book: Tobacco Wives - Adele Myers

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

There will be no November meeting but rather it will take place early in December.

Future Selections (in order):

Cloud Cuckoo Land. Anthony Doerr

The Judges List – John Grisham

The Garden of Small Beginnings – Abbi Waxman

Privileged Information – Stephen White

The Orphan Keeper – Cameron Wright

Three Words for Goodbye – Gaynor, H. & Webb, H.

Have you read a good book recently? Want to recommend it to others? Share your find with us.

Santa Photos on the Beach

November 13th from 2:30-4:30



Safety/Security – October 2022

Bottom Line Up Front:

- Speed Deterrence
- Autumn Arrives – Several Safety Tips/Requests
- Bicycle Safety
- Parking Lot – new hours, no fee
- October is Fire Safety Month
- CAC – Summer Successes

Speed Deterrence: At the request of many, I have asked our patrol officers to provide more visual presence on Croatan Road and Vanderbilt to deter speeding. If you have contractors performing work for you, alerting them of our neighborhood-wide 25 MPH speed limit will be welcome. Rushing to begin/complete errands or get to work after dropping the children off for school remains a primary factor behind many speeding drivers. “We have met the enemy, and they are us.”

Unabashed plea for security funds: We remain a couple thousand dollars short of funding the allotted hours for these security patrols. If you would like to contribute, please visit our web site at <https://www.croatanbeach.org>.

Autumn Arrives: The first 3 weeks of Autumn brought three gales, lots of rain, and a significant temperature drop. These aren’t the only changes. Daylight hours are getting shorter.

Please be sure that drivers can see you when walking or bicycling in morning or evening dusk. Wear light-colored, reflective clothing/gear. Low sun angles can mask pedestrians and cyclists from a driver’s view; as can sharp sun/shadow contrast on bright days. Challenging right-of-way if you cannot be seen can be deadly or put you in serious hurt. Exercise due caution – especially when Trick-or-Treating.

Fallen leaves can be as slick as ice when wet. Drivers, motorcyclists, and bicyclists should watch themselves on curves and when stopping.

As we perform autumn yard maintenance and storm clean-up, be sure to prune trees, bushes, and hedges sufficiently to unmask any traffic signs (including “no parking” signs) or sight distances that may have become obscured by summer growth. Please advise gardening companies (if you use them) to perform these tasks as well. Residents are expected to clean sidewalks, curbsides, and bicycle paths in front of their properties.

Bicycle Safety: A Virginia law passed last year requires motorists to give bicyclists three feet (3’) of lateral clearance when passing. Bicyclists, help yourselves – be sure you can be seen, don’t ride multiple abreast, **wear a helmet (mandatory if 14 or younger)**, and have a bicycle light if riding in the dark (VB Ordinance). “Share the Road” is a two-way door – it only works if both parties respect each other.

Parking Lot: As of October 1st, the parking lot is open from 6:00 AM until 5:00 PM. There is no fee to park during the “off-season.” If you are locked in, you may call 757-385-3111 to get “out of jail.” (If you are calling with a phone that has a 757-area code, you may simply call 3-1-1)

Fire Safety: The Autumnal Equinox is the traditional time to change batteries in smoke detectors. Hard-wired smoke and carbon monoxide detectors should also be checked to ensure that they are working properly. The following guidance on open burning, fire pits, etc. was taken from vbgov.com website. There's a lot I did not know:

The Virginia Beach Fire Department (VBFD) wants to remind citizens that open burning and recreational fires are allowed within the City of Virginia Beach and we want them to be safe. However, there is a strict set of Fire Code Regulations* that must be followed to ensure the safety of structures and nearby neighbors.

All open burning poses risks to the environment and public health. Smoke pollutes the air we breathe and can also become a nuisance, especially to neighbors. Burning only approved materials (dried logs) and following state and local regulations can minimize the potential for these harmful effects.

The VBFD recommends citizens review the [Opening Burning and Recreational Fires FAQs](#) prior to starting a recreational fire.

Opening Burning and Recreational Fires FAQs

- Opening burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fire hazardous shall be prohibited.
- The Fire Department has the authority to extinguish any fire, permitted or not, that creates, or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation. Any repeated calls for service to a particular location may require that the fire be extinguished.
- **Permits are required for pit burns and bonfires.**
 - **Permitted fires** must be at least 50 feet from any structure and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading within 50 feet of any structure. Bonfires can be no larger than 5 ft x 5 ft x 5 ft.
- Recreational fires must be at least 25 feet from any structure or combustible material. These fires can be no larger than 3 feet wide by 2 feet tall. Anything larger will be considered a bonfire, which is prohibited without an approved permit.
- Portable outdoor fire fireplaces (commercially sold units) must be at least 15 feet from any structure or anything combustible.
- Fires must be attended to at all times, and the means to extinguish a fire must be readily available for instant use. An extinguisher with the minimum rating of 4-A and/or other approved equipment such as dirt, sand, water barrels, garden hoses, or water trucks shall be available for instant use.
- Hot embers and ashes shall be thoroughly extinguished when the fire is no longer attended and prior to disposal in a non-combustible container.

Other recommended safety tips to follow:

- State regulations prohibit the open burning of any material that creates dense smoke or noxious odors. No one in Virginia may burn tires or other hazardous materials at any time.
- Make sure there are no tree branches, power lines, or other material above the location of the fire. Wet down the surrounding area before, during, and after the burn.
- **Always have water and fire tools on site.** Keep a water-charged hose, a bucket of water, a shovel, and dirt or sand nearby to extinguish the fire.
- **Stay with the fire.** Virginia law requires that you monitor a fire continually from start to finish, until the fire is completely out.

- **Extinguish the fire.** Drown the fire with water, stir the coals, and drown again. Repeat until the fire is completely out. Make sure that ashes from a fire pit, fireplace or grill are completely out before disposing of them in a metal, non-combustible container.
- **Call 911.** If your fire escapes or gets beyond your control, call 911 immediately; even a slight delay may be disastrous. Do NOT try and fight the fire unless it is small and you can do so safely and easily. Leave this up to trained firefighters.

**NOTE: City Code sections 12.1-12.6 have separate stipulations that are not found in the Fire Code, which must also be followed.*

For more information review the contact the Fire Marshal's Office at (757) 385-4228, email VBFMO@vbgov.com or visit: www.vbgov.com/fire-prevention.

Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC): Second Precinct Commander, Captain Harry McBrien, announced the arrest of all suspects (all out-of-town gang members) involved an Oceanfront shooting in early September.

Second Precinct leads all VBPD units in issuing traffic citations. Biggest offences – speeding in school zones, on I-264 access roads (21st and 22nd Streets), and on I-264 itself – many of those for speeds in excess of 80 MPH. During “the season,” more than 250 illegal weapons were confiscated by police within the Second Precinct.

Please continue to lock your cars, remove valuables from sight, and bring firearms inside. A visiting Miami police officer (retired) had his badge and weapon stolen from his car in Shadowlawn last month. Even those who should know better have lapses. Keep your head in the game.

M. C. “Connie” Agresti

CCL Safety and Security Director

Croatan Women's Club

Please see attached flyer.



Do you want to save \$200, save your neighbors, save children, bicyclists, pets and wildlife? GO SLOW IN CROATAN!!!



Croatan Logowear

The Croatan Civic League has an inventory of logowear for sale. The pictures below are all we have available and no new orders are being taken at this time. Please contact Katie for sizes on the shirts and jackets. This is all we have in inventory.

If you wish to purchase one of the items or have any questions please contact Katie Ripberger at katiefr@howardhanna.com.

THANK YOU!



Storm News

The recent storm dropped some trees from Camp Pendleton into the Cooper backyard on Fort Raleigh Drive. The Virginia Air National Guard 203rd Red Horse Squadron was on duty and responded very quickly and took care of the tree removal.



Neighborhood Contacts

Welcome Wagon

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

if you know of new
Croatan neighbors



Who to Call

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



Book Collection

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

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

Name	Committee	Email	Phone
Jo Bloomquist	Women's Club	vagolfers@mac.com	
Alice Weisz	Book Club	bookclub@croatanbeach.org	425-2068
Wes Laine	Surfing Advisor	surfing@croatanbeach.org	428-2620
Ken Jobe	Special Advisor	kejo425@aol.com	428-0328

**Croatan Civic League
 Board of Directors**

Name	Title	Email	Phone
Mike Kelly	President, Spring Fling, VB Gov, Military	president@croatanbeach.org	(703)439-9153
Bob Lougen	Vice President, Website, Facebook, Directory	support@croatanbeach.org	
Amanda Robinson	Secretary, Social Activities, Children's Programs	pixiefloat@hotmail.com	641-9403
Jim Skarbek	Treasurer	treasurer@croatanbeach.org	491-3230

Name	Title	Email	Phone
Bill Garvey	Past President, Croatan Yard Sale	cddx@aol.com	471-5436
M.C. "Connie" Agresti	Director, Security, VB Council of Civic Organizations, Citizen's Advisory Committee	security@croatanbeach.org	425-2068
Jen Alex	Director, Artisan's at Croatan Beach	directorja@croatanbeach.org	348-3884
Frank Borum	Director	fborum1117@gmail.com	
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Sharon Heath	Director	sharon.heath@goldstarbookkeepers.com	
Katie Ripberger	Director, Logo wear, Social Activities, Directory	katiefr@howardhanna.com	434-6450
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Bill Wren	Director	bwren2@cox.net	904-383-2318