

CCL Newsletter

September, 2023



Submitted by Kathy Donahoe

President's Letter

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Labor Day has passed, the kids are back in school, restaurants are not as crowded, and the dogs reclaim the beach. Now if only we can get some Fall weather. The long-range forecast is showing temps in the low 80's out to September 22nd. It is still hot and will stay that way for a while. Be careful when you are out in the sun.

We had a nice social event at Chicho's on Sunday, August 20th. We had at least 65 members show up and a few new faces. An unexpected surprise is that they make good pizza.

Elections for the 2024 Board of Directors will be on Saturday, November 11th, as part of our Annual Meeting. As we have traditionally done, it will be held in conjunction with the Fall social. Katie Ripberger and Amanda Robinson have finalized the venue. It will be held at Hunt Club Farms. Please put it on your calendar. The cost will be forthcoming. We also need a few more civic league members to volunteer for the Board. Many of the members of the Board have been on it for several years. But it is also time for some fresh ideas and new energy, especially from people who are relatively new to Croatan. So, if you are interested, please call me, or contact one of the Board members listed in this newsletter.

People appear to be adjusting to the speed tables on Croatan Rd. The city measured the average speed one-month after installation to be 22.7 MPH. While pedestrian traffic has decreased along the bike path, school buses and children are now out in the morning and afternoon. So, staying below the speed limit is a good safety measure.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

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

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

UPCOMING EVENTS:

9/18 Women's Club
9/21 Book Club
10/2 CCL Meeting
10/6 Stargazing (Rescheduled)
10/29 Neighborhood Halloween Party
11/11 Annual Meeting, Hunt Club



Please Volunteer!

Croatan Book Club

Next Meeting Thursday, September 21, 2023. Time 7 P.M.

Hostess: Cynthia Kilmer

Place: 406 Vanderbilt

Book: Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow - Gabrielle Devin

All Neighbors are welcome. Just read the book (or maybe not – come to socialize and hear a review of the book) and notify the hostess that you will be attending via a response to the email. Bring a light snack/wine to share, if desired. We meet on the third Thursday of each month, location varies.

Future Selections (in order):

Lessons in Chemistry – Bonnie Garmus

Dancing in the Mosque – Homeira Qaderi

The Maid – Nita Prose

The Violin Conspiracy – Brendan Slocumb

Women's Club

JOIN US!

Croatan Woman's Club

Meet and Greet



Monday September 18th, 7pm

740 Virginia Dare Drive

Food AND drink provided!

DUES: \$50 for all 10 meetings,
includes appetizers

RSVP if you can: 757-567-1412

Bring school supplies for local schools if you can

Women's Club Meeting Schedule for the Year

October 16, 2023

November 13, 2023

December 11, 2023

January 8, 2024

February 12, 2024

March 11, 2024

April 15, 2024

May 6, 2024

June 10, 2024

VBCCO Meeting Update

August 24th, 2023

- ✓ The planned Social BBQ on 9/16/23 at the Red Wing Golf Pavilion has been cancelled.
- ✓ Project Wayne Status has not changed. It appears that the medical device company will be filing an application and this will make their name public. They will be requesting the 50 acres of city land be rezoned. They are interested in the city land since it is a much cheaper option than private.
- ✓ Comp Plan Updates. There will be 5 meetings in September in various locations in VB to discuss the consultant's plan. At this point there are 8 target areas for redevelopment of aging strip malls. It will be multi family housing with some component of affordable housing in each area. All Civic Leagues need to address concerns if redevelopment is close to their neighborhood.
- ✓ The 10-1 voting districts ruling was approved by the City Council and passed on to the State Legislature.
- ✓ Rudee Inlet's Park and Rec. Plan D was approved by the City Council but they are hiring a National Design Consultant to draw it up. It will definitely include a parking garage most likely near the bridge. There is talk about a rooftop restaurant and shops under the garage to help offset some of the costs.
- ✓ Wycliffe Presbyterian Church in Great Neck is selling off property that includes wetlands. Bishard Homes plans to build 12 homes on the land. Bishard is requesting rezoning and the City Council is modifying a permit for wetlands.
- ✓ Next VBCCO meeting is Thursday, September 21, 2023 6:30PM at Bow Creek Recreation Center

Jim Ferrera

Croatan VBCCO Representative

Safety/Security – September, 2023

Residents/Owners: Please share with renters and contractors – be courteous; we all live in this community.

Bottom Line Up Front:

- Crimes in Our Neighborhood
- School Zones and Buses

- Hurricane Season Not Over Yet
- CAC – Suicide Prevention, Get-It-Together (GIT), E-Cycling, City Seeks Input on Budget Priorities & Recycling Options

Crimes in Our Neighborhood: Although we live in one of the safest neighborhoods in one of the safest cities in America, Croatan is not immune to crime. Recent concerns:

Burglary: At about 4:00 AM on Sunday morning, August 13, two individuals broke a garage door window and stole two dirt bikes (motorcycles). Homeowner and neighbor video capture the actual breaking and entering and then the departure of the two motorcycles (along with a suspected support van) from the neighborhood. Anyone with home video in the Bushnell Dr, Ft. Raleigh Dr, Christine Dr, and Croatan Rd areas is requested to review it in that time frame for anything suspicious. If found, we can direct people to the appropriate detective.

Trespass and Property Damage: On or about 3:44 PM on Thursday, August 18, someone in a dark colored sedan drove around the speed tables near Kerry Lane and Virginia Dare and into the yards of two residents thereby damaging/destroying personal property. Video suggests that the actions were deliberate.

Verbal Assault – two instances: One was resolved with the intervention of one of the police officers that Croatan employs during their off-duty hours. A second incident involving a Croatan resident occurred outside the neighborhood but rose to such a level that individuals involved advised CCL directors potential violence. Information has been passed to our off-duty VBPD security patrol officers.

Malicious Damage to Homes: During the first week of September, a neighbor's garage windows were broken possibly by thrown rocks. Similar reports of broken windows in other neighborhoods have been noted recently on Nextdoor. It is not known whether these rocks were thrown by vandals or accidentally by lawn equipment. But, for those who used to watch *NCIS – Jethro* doesn't believe in coincidences.

School Zones and Buses: Schools are open. Drivers need to adjust their schedules to allow increased transit time as well as tune up their situational awareness to be alert to school buses picking up or discharging students and observing speed limit changes of school zones. You **must** stop for buses with red flashing lights; even if proceeding in the opposite direction of the bus when **on roads without an island dividing the lanes** (e.g., General Booth Boulevard north of Croatan Road). Pack some patience and leave 10 – 15 minutes early. Beware of children running to catch the bus and (seemingly) oblivious to traffic.

Hurricane Season – at least another two months: The Atlantic Hurricane Season officially lasts until November 30. With warming seas, storms could persist beyond that date. In any event, we have all been watching Hurricane Lee, hoping that this large storm will complete its turn northward and miss our shores. At a minimum, we can expect high surf and strong rip currents.

Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC): Held on September 13. Discussion included:

National Suicide Prevention Month: September is National Suicide Prevention Month. Please ensure that your loved ones know that if they are in crisis, they can call the **National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 9-8-8.**

Get-It-Together (GIT) campaign at Hampton Roads schools is aimed at increasing usage of seatbelts among teenagers. Last year, 63 teens (aged 15 – 19) died on Virginia roads – two of those were local. Of the fatalities, more than half (35) were not wearing seatbelts. Nearly 1,500 more were injured. Being unrestrained, especially when combined with teen-driver inexperience, distractions, excessive speed, and alcohol or drug use is a losing bet. Even if they survive, being immobilized as a result of carelessness, nonchalance, or peer pressure is no way to spend the best years of one's life

E-Cycling Event at Aquarium: on Saturday, September 23 the Virginia Aquarium will hold (in conjunction with VBPd, AAA Tidewater, Goodwill, and TFC Recycling) an Electronics Recycling (E-Cycling) event. This event runs from 9:00 AM and closes promptly at noon. Please see eVite for details and to register at [E-Cycling Event Tickets, Sat, Sep 23, 2023 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#) .

City Seeks Resident Input – Vote Online: Make your voice heard.

1. **Fiscal Year 2024-26 Focused Action Plan - Open NOW:** – visit [City of Virginia Beach | SpeakUp VB: Share Your Thoughts on Two-Year...](#) to cast your vote on where you feel the city's funding and management priorities should be focused for the next two years. Type "Speak UpVB" in the search feature of [virginiabeach.gov](#) or [vbgov.com](#).
2. **Recycling Options – Vote starting October 2:** The Virginia Beach contract with their recycling company is up for renewal. Local government leaders are seeking public input to influence their decisions on how to proceed. Visit "[SpeakUpVB](#)" after October 2 to cast your vote for one of four options:
 - **Option 1:** Same services as present with increased cost (estimated at \$2.50 - \$4.00 per household per month).
 - **Option 2:** Eliminate curbside recycling and increase number of recycling centers (currently only two) at an estimated cost of \$400,000 each.
 - **Option 3:** Develop an opt-in/opt-out recycling process. Cost increase would be a factor of how many households opt-in.
 - **Option 4:** Other options not already offered.

The next CAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11 in the conference room of the Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad, Station #14 – 740 VB Blvd (17th Street) - at 7:00 PM. If attending, please park on the east side of the building. This meeting is open to all.

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

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

Neighborhood Contacts

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

Welcome Wagon

Contact Cheryl Garvey
cgcroatan@gmail.com
 (757)739-7078

if you know of new



Who to Call

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



Magazine Collection

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

Book Collection

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

Croatan Civic League Board of Directors

Name	Title	Email	Phone
Mike Kelly	President, VB Gov	president@croatanbeach.org	703-439-9153
Bob Lougen	Vice President, Website, Facebook, Directory	support@croatanbeach.org	
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Jan Nielson	Treasurer	jnielsencroatan@gmail.com	757-617-0987
Bill Garvey	Past President, By-Laws	cddx@aol.com	471-5436

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