

# CROATAN CIVIC LEAGUE NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2025

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Summer is over, Labor Day has passed, the kids are back in school, restaurants are not as crowded, and the dogs reclaim the beach. Most are looking forward to a beautiful Fall, hopefully, with some rain. Overall, August was dry, and September isn't doing much better.



I was down at the beach earlier yesterday (Sep 9) just after high tide. We have had heavy northeast winds over the last several days. These winds contribute to a higher-than-normal tide, as well. As you can see from the attached picture, the berm in front of the dune line is providing good protection and the winds are depositing more sand on the dunes.

On September 5th, we held the Annual/End of Summer Ice Cream Social for the Croatan neighborhood children. The turnout was impressive – more than 50 children and quite a few parents. A special thank you to Patty and Tyler Volpe who continue to host this event each year.

## Upcoming Events:

Oct (Date/Time/Location TBD)	Croatan Town Hall, CVB Beach and Weir Update
Oct 26 (Sunday, 5:00 - 8:00 PM at Warriors Taphouse)	CCL Annual Meeting and Social (New Board Member Elections)
Nov 1 (Saturday, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM at 728 Surfside)	Halloween Party
Nov 30 (Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00 PM at north end of Croatan Beach)	Pictures with Santa. Please RSVP - pixiefloat@hotmail.com
Dec 7 (Sunday, Time TBD at Chicho's)	CCL Holiday Social
Dec (Date/Time/Location TBD)	Walk the Lights

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER (CONT'D.)

**Elections for the 2026 Board of Directors will be on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>** at the Warriors Tap House on General Booth Blvd. We need more civic league members to volunteer for the Board. We have two Director vacancies for the 2026-27 Board years. Several Directors have been on the Board for years. They are doing a great job, but they need a break. We need some fresh ideas and energy, especially from people who are relatively new to Croatan. Is volunteerism fading? If you want to help keep our traditional social events, as well as keeping the Croatan neighborhood aware of issues that affect us, please consider joining the Board.

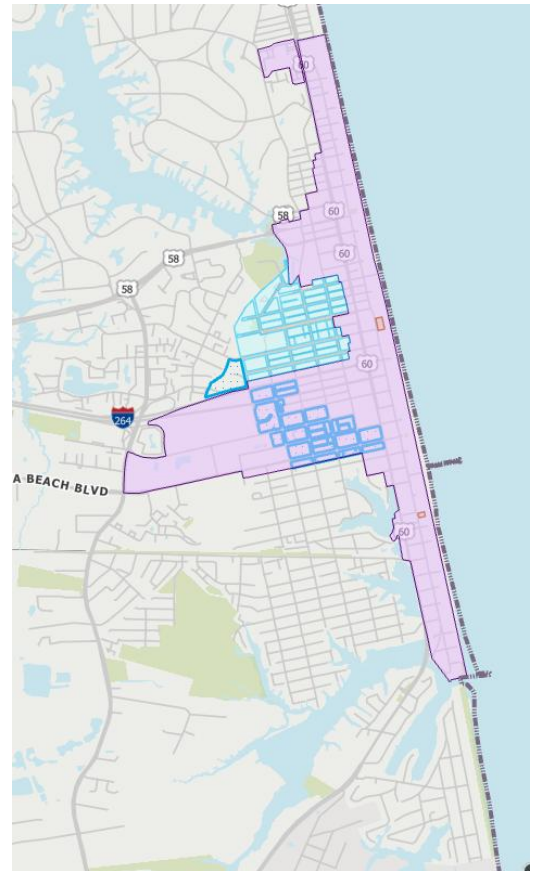
All the best, stay safe,

Mike Kelly  
President, Croatan Civic League  
(M) 703.439.9153 / [mkellyav8@aol.com](mailto:mkellyav8@aol.com)

## SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN CROATAN

Recently, there have been some questions and concerns about Short-Term Rentals (STRs) in the Croatan Neighborhood.

- An STR is an entire dwelling rented for less than 30 consecutive days for compensation.
- There are only two areas where new STRs can be permitted, the Oceanfront Resort STR Overlay District (map attached) and the Sandbridge Special Service District.
- There are STRs in Croatan that were approved and permitted prior to the establishment of these two districts which was Sept. 7, 2021.
- Every STR property located within the City of Virginia Beach, regardless of location, is required to post an identification sign in accordance with Section 241.2(4) of the City Zoning Ordinance. If a property is being used as an STR it must have proper sign posted, as well as comply with other provisions of the STR zoning instructions.



For questions or complaints with Virginia Beach-based short-term rentals, call [757-385-8862](tel:757-385-8862) or email [STR@vb.gov](mailto:STR@vb.gov) to report.

For additional information, see the Short-Term Rentals| City of Virginia Beach site at <https://planning.virginiabeach.gov/permits/short-term-rental>.



## SAFETY/SECURITY - SEPTEMBER 2025

\*\*\*Please Share with Your Renters & Contractors\*\*\*

### Bottom Line Up Front:

- School's Open – Please Drive Carefully
- Lifeguards are Gone – Rip Currents and Hurricanes Remain
- E-bike – Please Operate Responsibly
- Dogs on Beach
- Parking Lot Hours and Fees
- Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC)



**School's Open:** Please give yourself and our neighborhood children your ***focused*** attention when driving, whether to those walking to/from bus stops or when you're driving your child to school. No cell phone, no "to do" list, no mental math on work arrival time, etc.

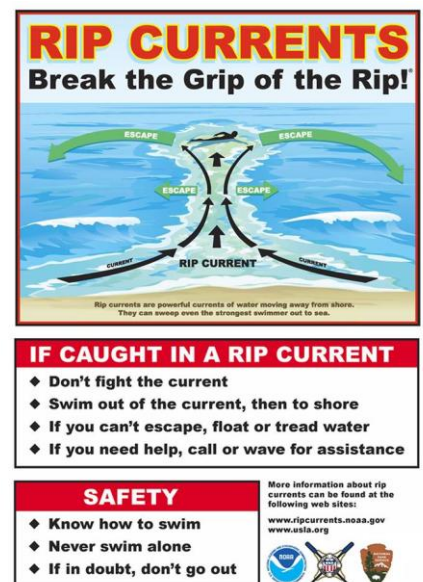
On streets and highways without a median, drivers must stop for school buses displaying flashing red lights. **General Booth Blvd north of Croatan Road is undivided – you must stop even if traveling in the opposite direction of a stopped school bus.** Consider using your car's own flashers when doing so.

Virginia Beach now has permission to use traffic cameras to ticket speeders in school zones. You've been alerted.

**Lifeguards Are Gone – Rip Currents Remain:** Croatan Beach loses its lifeguards after Labor Day. If you're going into the water, please do so with a buddy – or let someone know where you are.

As seen with Hurricane Erin this past month – storms hundreds of miles to sea can cause punishing surf and life-threatening rip currents. While advised not to enter the water in these conditions, people do. City lifeguards rescued more than 150 bathers from rip currents one weekend alone. Know how to escape rip currents. Also subscribing to **VBAAlert** will keep you informed of current beach hazards. Visit [VBAAlert | City of Virginia Beach](#).

The Atlantic Hurricane Season still has two months to go. Erin grew from a Tropical Storm to a Category 5 hurricane with winds of 140 MPH in a matter of hours and the Atlantic seaboard was fortunate that she stayed out to sea. Favorite [National Hurricane Center](#) for the latest information and forecast. That site is updated repeatedly throughout the day.



**E-Bikes:** Please operate e-bikes maturely, as in: obey traffic laws, signs, and signals, don't travel at more than the posted speed limit, wear a helmet, do not ride on boardwalk, approach pedestrians and animals with care.

Because they are small, often black, fast, and quiet, e-bikes seemingly appear out of nowhere often surprising automobile operators, pedestrians, and animals – all of which can lead to accidents. Many e-bikes lack lights (a requirement for nighttime operation but, as with motorcycles, a recommended way to be seen during daylight as well).

Citizen complaints of irresponsible and reckless operation have led the City to form an interagency task force to review operation of these conveyances. CCL has also received reports of e-bike operators tearing up yards in our neighborhood and disturbing individuals' peace and quiet on our beach. Among the few ordinances that do exist regarding e-bike operations is a prohibition against riding them on dunes and beaches. Also, sand and salt don't do ball bearings or electrical parts any favors. Enjoy your ride, smartly.

**Dogs on the Beach:** As of 6:00 PM, Monday, September 1 (Labor Day), dogs are again allowed on Croatan Beach during all daylight hours. They may be unleashed if under the handler's verbal command. It should go without saying, but regrettably it doesn't, to please clean up after your pup.

**Croatan Parking Lot:** Parking fees begin their seasonal hiatus at the Croatan parking lot (902 Vanderbilt Avenue), effective Wednesday, October 1. This annual change will be accompanied by the parking lot closing time being dialed back to 5:30 PM.

### **CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC):**

The August Second Precinct CAC meeting was held in concert with City Councilman Worth Remick's District 6 Community Meeting on August 13. Topics of discussion included fraud awareness, emergency preparedness ([Emergency Preparedness | City of Virginia Beach](#)), and long-range planning for development around the "Central Beach District," which Councilman Remick described as the area around the Convention Center (Birdneck Rd to Cypress and I-264 to 17<sup>th</sup> Street).

The CAC meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the conference room of Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad #14, 740 VB Blvd (17<sup>th</sup> Street). CAC meetings are open to all. Next meeting is September 10. Please park on the east side of the building.

I intend to ask City representatives to improve the timeliness of push notifications of events (like the August 31 ten-miler footrace) that close or restrict neighborhood ingress/egress to main thoroughfares, like Gen. Booth Blvd.

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

### **VBCCO MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2025**

- It was open Microphone night.
- Bylaw changes were reviewed and discussed. Final vote will be in Oct or Nov.
- VBCCO now has Director and Officer insurance.
- VBCCO requested nominations for Officers and Directors to be voted on at the Oct meeting.
- VBCCO needs volunteers for committees.
- The VBCCO Academy officially kicked off on Aug 22nd and will be Chaired by Chris Taylor, former District 8 Councilperson and Mayoral candidate. The focus will be on Information and Education.
- Our future District voting structure in Virginia Beach was discussed. 7-3-1 versus 10-1.
- Several people expressed the danger of E-bikes on sidewalks traveling at 30mph. Rules need to be established.
- Golf carts parked on the grass near the beachfront were a concern as well.
- Next VBCCO Membership meeting, Wednesday, September 17, 2025 6:30-8:30PM. Bow Creek Recreation Center, 3427 Club House Road.

Jim Ferrera,  
VBCCO Representative





## BOOK CLUB

### New Members Welcome!

This month our book is *Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead. Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at the home of the Seltzers.



*Harlem Shuffle* is about a heist in 1959 -- with a cast of zany characters, tongue-in-cheek dialogue, questionable criminal skills, and of course, a bumbling, incompetent thief or two are undoubtedly part of the charm of Colson Whitehead's *Harlem Shuffle*. But the novel is also a powerful tale of a man's love for his family and the neighborhood where he lives. And the man at the center of that tale is a devastatingly enjoyable character who has a true gift for words — if not always the smartest actions.

Sounds interesting? Come join us.

### Future reads:

October 16th - *God of The Woods* – Liz Moore

November 20th - *Yours Truly* - Abby Jimenez

December – *The Correspondent* - Virginia Evans

Book reads are chosen by age, availability at library in print and audiobook form, plus suitability for the group and a mix of genres. Movie versions are also acceptable forms for discussion.

Any questions? Email [cynthiakilmer@verizon.net](mailto:cynthiakilmer@verizon.net) or call Cindy Kilmer 703-470-1996. Looking forward to spending time with some new and old members!

## CROATAN'S LITTLE FREE LIBRARY



533 Vanderbilt Avenue

### *Thank you, neighbors, for your generous donations!*

Croatan's Little Free Library has some new adult books on the upper shelf. The lower children-focused shelf has been updated too. Neighbors wanting to contribute books to the Little Free Library – children's, adults, young adults, holiday themes – are graciously received and can be dropped off at 614 Vanderbilt Avenue!

Now that children are back in school, hopefully adults (parents, grandparents, etc.) may have a few extra minutes to enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and a book for an afternoon or evening respite. There are books for all ages!

Sincerely, The Little Free Library Librarian

## CROATAN WOMEN'S CLUB

### Ladies of Croatan, please join us!

What?	⇒	Meet & Greet
When?	⇒	Monday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Time?	⇒	6:30 p.m.
Where?	⇒	517 Kerry Lane

Hope to see you there!



## CROATAN “BE BONE STRONG” WALKING CLUB REMINDERS

**Weekly Walk Schedule – Please note changes below in RED.**



**Meeting Spot:** Corner of Croatan Road & Kerry Lane

- **Saturday Mornings @ 7:30 a.m.** – Our regular weekend walk. A great way to kick off your Saturday with movement, conversation, and connection. There are different pace groups so find the one that works best for you!
- **Tuesday Mornings – On pause for the next few weeks.** We will reignite later this fall once the weather cools and schedules settle. We will keep you posted.
- **Thursday Evenings @ 7:00 p.m. will move to Wednesday Evenings @7:00 p.m. beginning Wednesday, September 10th** – Our *Walk & Talk* night! A slow-paced, social stroll through Croatan—perfect for catching up with neighbors and unwinding.

We'll always notify you by email if a walk is cancelled due to weather, but otherwise, we're out there rain(ish) or shine!

Let's keep moving—for our bones, our hearts, and our community.

See you on the corner,

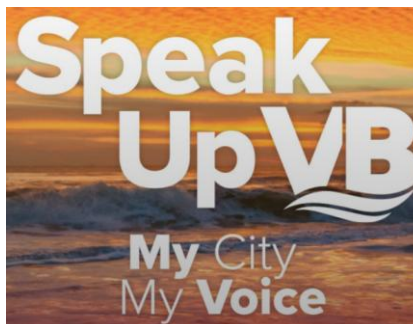
**Barbara + Bettina**

Croatan *Be Bone Strong* Walking Club

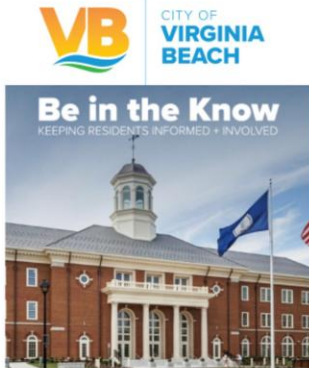


## CITY COUNCIL FISCAL YEAR 26-27 PRIORITY SURVEY

Virginia Beach residents have the opportunity to help the City Council shape its priorities for Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027. Ctrl+Click on the image below to complete the survey.



## CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES



Sign up to get email updates on news and happening in our City.  
Click on the image above to subscribe.



Click on the image above to see the latest events upcoming in VA Beach.  
Scroll down on the page to see the calendar.

## CCL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS



<b>Mike Kelly</b> President, VB Gov Liaison	<b>Bob Lougen</b> Vice President, Website, Facebook, Communications
<b>Mike Fantozzi</b> Director, Secretary	<b>Patrick Costigan</b> Director, Treasurer
<b>M.C. "Connie" Agresti</b> Director, Security, CAC	<b>Amber Torgensen</b> Director
<b>Jim Ferrera</b> Director, VBCCO, Directory, Membership	<b>Frank Borum</b> Director, Traffic Mgmt.
<b>Amanda Robinson</b> Social Activities, Children's Programs	<b>Katie Ripberger</b> Director, Logo wear, Social Activities
<b>Cheryl Garvey</b> Director, Welcome Wagon, Landscaping	<b>Eileen Wren</b> Director
<b>Bill Garvey</b> Past President, By-Laws	<b>Martha Kelly</b> Newsletter