CROATAN CIVIC LEAGUE NEWSLETTER

CROATAN BEACH
SINCE 1774

NOVEMBER 2026

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Annual Meeting and Social was held on Sunday, October 25th at Surf Rider. We had 93 people show up. What a wonderful time – good conversation and great food.

Bob Lougen created a great presentation for the meeting. Please visit CCL Annual Meeting Presentation to view the presentation. It includes a financial update and an overview of what we have done. I urge you to take a look. You may not always see it, but your civic league has been very active.

Board elections resulted in the re-elected board members of Michael Kelly, Connie Agresti, and Amber Alvarez Torgerson. We also added five new board members. They are Mary Adams, Tony Aiken, Tim Johnson, Nic Masarone, and Chuck Womack.

This past Tuesday, November 3rd, the board elected officers for 2027. Bob Lougen will continue as Vice-President, Chuck Womack is the Treasurer, and I will continue as President.

There will be a Members' Holiday Social at Gino's Pizzeria on Sunday, December 6th. It starts at 5:00 PM and goes until 7:00 PM.

The most important part of this newsletter!

Connie's Safety and Security report for November. You will find important information and answers to the on-going safety and security concerns.

The next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, December 8th.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

Mike Kelly
President, Croatan Civic League
703.439.9153 | mkellyav8@aol.com

SAFETY/SECURITY – NOVEMBER 2026



Please share with your renters and contractors

Bottom Line Up Front:

- Larceny from Motor Vehicles
- E-Bike Education and Safety
- Drought Warning
- Sand Fence Installation Guidelines
- Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) – Ages & Stages

Larceny from Motor Vehicles: In the last week, I have received reports of two larcenies from motor vehicles within our neighborhood, plus an attempted larceny and attempted home intrusion. We are approaching the time of year when opportunists seek to boost their Holiday-shopping by "boosting" what others already own. Upscale neighborhoods, such as Croatan, are prime hunting grounds. Help yourselves by ensuring that vehicles are locked and valuables (especially firearms) are removed – even when in garages. Do not keep spare fobs in or near vehicles.

Please report all incidents to police at 757-385-5000 or 9-1-1, as appropriate. As of Monday evening (11/2), our VBPD Precinct Commander was unaware of these incidents. We spoke and he has taken action to increase evening patrols. Second Precinct's direct number is 757-385-2700. Master Police Officer Kishon M. Roberts, our 2nd Precinct Community Liaison Officer, can be reached at kmroberts@vbgov.com or (m) 757-817-9825.

E-Bike Safety and Education: At District 5 Town Hall on October 21, 2026, several focus groups identified E-bikes as a key safety concern in their neighborhoods. It is safe to say that E-bikes are not going away. Therefore, the challenge that we all (owners, operators, and motor vehicle drivers) have is to operate them safely in and around traffic.

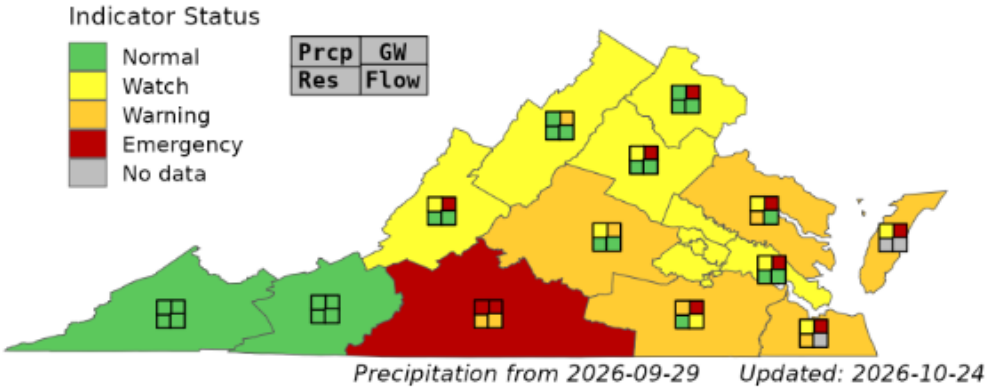
Please take the opportunity to read (reread?) the section I wrote on E-bikes last month and avail yourselves of the educational tools that are downloadable through the city's E-bike website, reachable using the attached QRC.



Drought Warning: In my October Newsletter notes, I addressed Fire Safety Month and provided a link to VBFD's FAQ sheet answering issues such as open burning and fire pits. The Drought Watch for Southeast Virginia, to include Hampton Roads and Virginia Beach that had been in effect since April, has been elevated to a Drought Warning. The graphic on the next page reflects the severity, especially in ground water and reservoir levels.

Drought Indicators and Key to Drought Map:

- Precipitation (Prcp)
- Groundwater Levels (GW)
- Reservoir Levels (Res)
- Streamflow (Flow)



Steps we can take as neighbors include limiting or ceasing filling of pools, washing of cars, and irrigating lawns. Fortunately, seasonal changes will necessarily limit some of these actions, yet I still see some neighbors watering lawns daily.

Sand Fence Installation Guidelines: The two nor'easters tore up many sand fences and several dune faces. The dunes with properly installed sand fencing fared better than those with fencing designed simply to designate a property line (i.e., solely parallel and/or perpendicular to the shoreline). Dunes can be rebuilt (over time) by installing new fencing in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Public Works (Engineering). For both textual and graphic descriptions, please visit Sand Fence Installation Guidelines | City of Virginia Beach .

Planting appropriate vegetation[1] and ***staying off of the dunes*** are also essential to anchoring these protective barriers (i.e., primary sand dunes) and ensuring that they are ready to protect our property against the next storm.

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC): The most recent Second Precinct CAC meeting was held on Wednesday, October 14.

Ms. Karen Gill, VB Engagement Communications Strategist, delivered a presentation on the City's initiative under the *FY 2026-27 Focused Action Plan* to provide a consolidated source of information to city services and city-sponsored programs and events. Known as **Ages & Stages,** this website offers a huge step towards a "one-stop-shop" when seeking information. Key take-aways are:

- Seeks to standardize terminology for programs across 30 city departments and offices.
- Provides a ready source of information for ECCS[2] personnel responding to 3-1-1 calls.

[1] Appropriate dune vegetation is defined by state and local ordinance as exclusively: American beach grass (Ammophilla breviligulata); beach heather (Hudsonia tometosa); dune bean (Strophostylis spp.); dusty miller (Artemisia stelleriana); saltmeadow hay (Spartina patens); seabeach sandwort (Arenaria peploides); sea oats (Uniola paniculata); sea rocket (Cakile edentula); seaside goldenrod (Solidago sempervirens); Japanese sedge or Asiatic sand sedge (Carex kobomugi); Virginia pine (Pinus virginiana); broom sedge (Andropogon virginicus); and short dune grass (Panicum ararum).

[2] ECCS = Emergency Communications and Citizen Services (i.e., 911 and 311 operators)

- Offers opportunity to sign up for age-focused newsletters: Family (ages 0 – 12); Teen (ages 12 – 17); Adult (ages 18 – 49), and Senior (ages 50+)
- Offers links to City Speaker's Bureau whereby community organizations may request speakers on a range of topics of interest to them or that could affect their quality of life.
- Links with both ***VBGo*** cellphone application and ***Be In The Know*** web site.
- Visit https://Virginiabeach.gov/agesandstagesnews to sign up for the age-focused newsletters, etc.

CAC meetings are open to all. Please park in the Convention Center lot and enter through the main precinct entrance on 17th Street. The next meeting is **Wednesday, November 11 at 6p** in the Second Precinct Muster Room , 820 VB Blvd (aka: 17th Street). Yes, I know it is Veterans Day – attendees are invited to mention or discuss their military service or that of family members.

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

CCL UPCOMING EVENTS



CROATAN BHOF 'BE BONE STRONG' WALKING CLUB

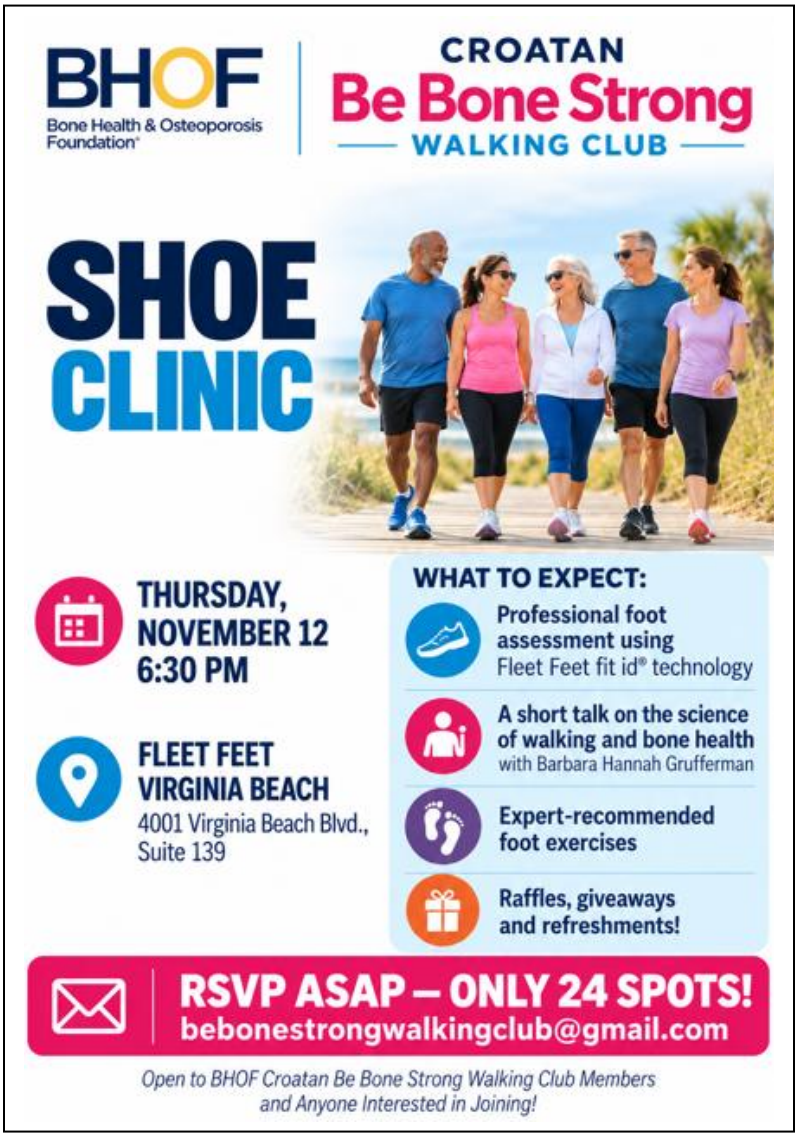
JOIN US EVERY SATURDAY MORNING AT 8AM!
We meet at the corner of Croatan Road and Kerry Lane at 8:00am. ALL PACES, ALL ABILITIES ARE WELCOME! We have different pace groups and no walker ever walks alone.

BHOF 'BE BONE STRONG' WALKING CLUBS ARE SPREADING THE JOY!
New chapters are popping up around Virginia Beach including Seatack, Southgate, Little Neck, and more!

JOIN US AT OUR FIRST SHOE CLINIC!
BHOF 'Be Bone Strong' Walking Clubs will be hosting a shoe clinic at the Fleet Feet Virginia Beach store on November 12th @6:30pm for all Walking Club members, and those who are interested in joining. RSVP to bebonestrongwalkingclub@gmail.com. It will be a great opportunity to get your feet properly assessed and fitted for the right shoes for you. Refreshments will be served and there will be raffles and giveaways! Fun!

BE INFORMED ABOUT YOUR BONES:
Get more information about how to protect your bones and even build back bone density from the only U.S. not-for-profit that focuses on bone health and the prevention of osteoporosis: https://www.bonehealthandosteoporosis.org.

See you Saturday mornings!
Barbara + Bettina
Croatan *Be Bone Strong* Walking Club



CROATAN's LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

We are happy to announce that Erin McElhone and Sam Woodle, who moved into 533 Vanderbilt Avenue this past June, will continue to maintain Croatan's Little Free Library! A BIG thank you to both Erin and Sam for continuing this wonderful contribution to our neighborhood. Please continue to drop off books directly to the Little Library.


533 Vanderbilt Avenue

CROATAN WOMEN'S CLUB

Hello ladies!

We had a great kickoff social in September and looking forward to a fun one this month. You will have the option to do a holiday craft while mingling with your neighbors and enjoying some bites. Most importantly, this is our TOYS FOR TEENS drive. We support Everheld, a non-profit charity for foster children this holiday season. Giving age appropriate "toys" to our teenage population is much appreciated.

We have an Amazon list that you can conveniently use, and gifts will be delivered to Elizabeth. You can search for CWC Toys For Teens on Amazon lists or use this convenient link:

SHOP THE TOYS FOR TEENS GIFT LIST



Our next social:
When: Wednesday, November 18th @ 6:30
Where: 740 Virginia Dare (home of Jo Bloomquist)

Thanks for your generosity!
Elizabeth Antolak Kasprak
CWC President

CROATAN BOOK CLUB



This fall it has been really fun for us to host new and recurring residents with some lively conversations. No pressure. Come as often as you can. Read our suggested book or just a book that sounds interesting We meet monthly. Bring a snack or drink to share with the group.

This month our book discussion is Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid. Please join us if you have read this love story and want to join the conversation. For more information and location, please email Cindy Kilmer at cynthiakilmer@verizon.net or call Cindy at 703-470-1996.

New guests are always welcome! Please feel free to reach out to other neighbors.

Future Reads:
December 17th – The Natural Way of Things by Charlotte
January 21st – Remain by Nicholas Sparks and M. Night Shyamalan
February 18th – The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Merriweather Post by Allison Pataki
March 18th – The Names by Florence Knapp
April 15th – Strangers: A Memoir Of Marriage by Belle Burden
May 20th – The Invisible Life of Addie Larue by V.E. Schwab
June 17th – Yesteryear by Caro Claire Burke
July 15th – Land by Maggie O'Farell

CROATAN CONSERVATION CREW



ONE EARTH, LET'S CONSERVE IT!

Please join the Croatan Conservation Crew beach and neighborhood monthly cleanup.

Note the new meeting time:
Saturday, November 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Meeting point at the Croatan Road beach access.
Nitrile gloves and trash bags provided.

Croatan Conservation Crew is a drop-in beach cleanup club started by Croatan resident and high school junior at First Colonial, Orlando Roberson. We will canvas our beach and Croatan neighborhood to pick up any unwanted litter or debris in order to protect our beautiful beach & community.

High school community service hours can be earned. Contact judgeorlando2010@gmail.com with any questions.



IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened to share that Croatan neighbor, Jim Edge, passed away on October 2nd. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Jim's family, friends, and neighbors. For an obituary, please visit: Obituary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Croatan CIVIC LEAGUE

Mike Kelly
President,
VB Government Liaison

Bob Lougen
Vice President, Website,
Facebook, Communications

Mike Fantozzi
Director
Secretary

Chuck Womack
Director
Treasurer

M.C. "Connie" Agresti
Director
Security, CAC

Frank Borum
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Traffic Management

Cheryl Garvey
Director, Welcome Wagon,
Landscaping

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