



The Croatan Civic League News

2021

President's Letter by Mike Kelly

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The hottest thing in Croatan certainly isn't the weather. We recently had a light dusting of snow that was deep enough to allow sledding and snowboarding on Mace Hill. While that fun only lasted a couple of hours, it was a very welcome diversion from the typical rain. At the moment, it is 55° F. and sunny with reasonable Virginia Beach winter temperatures in the forecast. It's a great day to be out walking.

The hottest thing in Croatan is Short-Term Rentals (STRs). As many of you are aware, the City Council proposed changes to the current ordinances. You can find detailed information on the Croatan Civic League website and the VBgov.com website under Short-Term Rentals. I urge everyone who is a Croatan homeowner to review the issues and let the members of the City Council and Planning Commission know how you feel. You can find their contact information below.

I have talked to a few people in the neighborhood who have received their first COVID vaccine shot so there does appear to be some light at the end of the tunnel. However, progress is slow, and it seems that we will still have State restrictions for the next several months. I would like to say that I am looking forward to the Spring Fling, but I think it will be a Post-Summer Blast. In the meantime though please keep your eye open for announcements on upcoming CCL sponsored events like our next scavenger hunt and a virtual art night.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

Mike Kelly

President, Croatan Civic League

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(H) 757.961.6244 (After 6:00 PM)

president@croatanbeach.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3/1 CCL Board Meeting
- 3/5 Newsletter Deadline
- 3/18 Book Club



City Council Members and Email Addresses

Dyer, Robert M. "Bobby" (Mayor) mayorsoffice@vbgov.com

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Berlucchi, Michael mberlucc@vbgov.com

Henley, Barbara bhenley@vbgov.com

Jones, Louis lrjones@vbgov.com

Moss, John jdmoss@vbgov.com

Rouse, Aaron arouse@vbgov.com

Tower, Guy (Our Councilperson) gtower@vbgov.com

Wilson, Rosemary rcwilson@vbgov.com

Wooten, Sabrina swooten@vbgov.com

Planning Commission Board Members and Email Addresses

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Wall, Jack jckwall@aol.com

Weiner, David dweiner@batchelder-brick.com

Planning Commission planadmn@vbgov.com

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

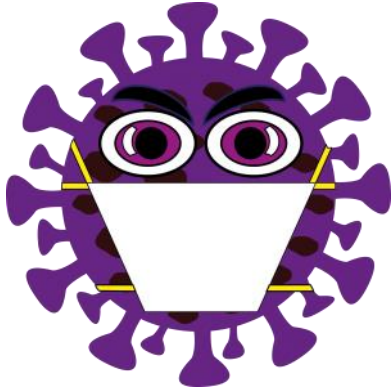
Safety/Security:

Bottom Line Up Front:

- Dog Safety
- COVID-19 Vaccines
- Winter Driving Tips
- Hands Free Police Non-Emergency Number



COVID-19 Vaccines: are now being offered to individuals **Tier 1a** (front-line health care workers, long-term care facility residents/staff, essential workers, and first responders) and **Tier 1b** (persons > 65 and those < 65 with certain co-morbidities). Vaccinations are being given at the Convention Center (1000 19th Street) by the Virginia Dept.



of Health, assisted by a bevy of volunteers – thanks to them al. After some growing pains, the vaccination process ran very smoothly on Saturday, January 30, so I expect they will continue to run smoothly performing about 10,000/week. **All persons must register and obtain an appointment.** Register at <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-vaccine> . The website has changed twice since I first drafted this note, so please check <http://www.vbgov.com> for the latest information. Many are impatient to receive these vaccines but people need to keep in mind that vaccines are allocated to municipalities by population; therefore, going elsewhere may get you the first vaccine, but may not get you the second, and will necessarily deny an individual from that municipality the vaccine that they, themselves, need. **Note:** The CDC is tracking age, gender, and ethnicity very closely

to assess the efficacy of the vaccines upon various groups – while some may feel this is invasive, it is necessary. Please do your part to help us all get through this miserable pandemic.

Winter Driving Tips: Driving in winter weather reminds me of an old saw on two ways to hit a billiards shot – soft and softer. Winter precipitation, low overnight temperatures, reduced visibility, and low sun angles all combine to present challenges most effectively countered by smooth and smoother driving. Some key reminders:

- **Clean snow from all windows, mirrors, hood, lights and roof:** Cleaning all windows and mirrors should be a “no-brainer” – you can’t avoid what you can’t see. Unless protected by “The Force,” your vision is your best deterrent to an accident. If you don’t clean the hood of your car, you are creating your own white-out that blocks your vision. If you don’t clean the roof, you’re creating a white-out for travelers behind you. What’s behind you won’t be “history” if you stop and they can’t see you.
- **Four-wheel drive helps you go; it doesn’t help you stop:** Four-wheel drive vehicles are susceptible to the same laws of inertia as other vehicles – plus they often have a higher center of gravity and lighter aft end, both of which can adversely affect stability. 4WD helps move you through snow, stopping is all in the brakes.
- **Easy on both brakes and accelerator:** Like the pool shot – be gentle with your pedals. Read the road ahead, increase your following distance, and gently apply brakes, especially on snow. When starting from a standing stop, let the engine idle start the car moving then gently apply power. “Jack-rabbit” starts will cause wheel spin and it can be very embarrassing to lose control at 5 MPH. If driving a manual transmission, consider starting in second gear.
- **Use lights when appropriate:** Virginia law requires the use of headlamps when windshield wipers are in use. Additionally, when driving during sunrise or sunset, consider putting on your headlights to help other drivers see you. Remember, daytime running lights do not illuminate tail lights. Please only use low beams to avoid blinding oncoming drivers.
- **Black Ice:** is a misnomer to describe icy patches of road that do not appear any different than the rest of the roadway. In near-freezing temperature, elevated road surfaces (e.g., bridges, causeways) will freeze before roadways built upon turf. Road surfaces in shadow may also be frozen before and after the rest of the roadway. If you feel your wheels start to slip, ease off of the gas and steer into the skid. Many newer model cars have electronic stability control, which may help at slow speed, but not at highway speeds.
- **Take-Away:** Winter weather rarely causes vehicle accidents. Vehicle operators over-driving the conditions cause accidents. Arrive alive – even if it means being late.



Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC):



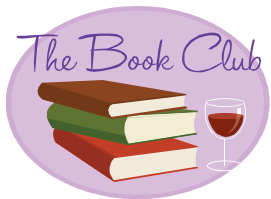
The Second Precinct CAC met virtually on January 13. The key take-away is that even though the police **non-emergency number – 757-385-5000** – prompts the caller to “press 1 for police,” **the answering system will automatically cycle back to “1” if no number is pressed.** Police are pursuing an upgrade to the system that will recognize a spoken selection, so that drivers calling from their vehicles do not risk an accident or ticket by fumbling with their phone when behind the wheel. Remember: using a handheld device while driving became illegal in Virginia on the start of the year.

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO) remains active but without meetings.

The VBCCO monthly newsletter – *The Voice* can be found at <http://www.vbcco.org> .

M. C. “Connie” Agresti,
CCL Security & Safety Chair

The Croatan Book Club



Next Meeting

Date: **Thursday**, February 18

Time: 7 PM

Place: Jane Kelly, 604 Fort Raleigh Dr.

Selection: **American Dirt** by Jeanine Cummins

All Neighbors are welcome. Just read the book (or maybe not), bring a beverage or snack, and e-mail the hostess that you will be attending.

Future Selections (In Order)

Author

This Tender Land

William Kent Krueger

Tempest on the Outer Banks

Rod Barfield

Information is also on the CCL website: www.croatanbeach.org/book-club/.

Croatan Women's Club

From President Amanda Robinson....

We decided not to have in person meetings until things with COVID are safer. In the interim we are taking people's email addresses (send to wclub@croatanbeach.org), if you are interested in being part of our email list (which now includes a cocktail of the month recipe), but we are not collecting dues. We will host beach clean ups, and see what the spring brings. For more information please see our page on the CCL website.

Wildlife in Croatan by Susanna "Suditi" Miller

We will no longer carry "Wildlife in Croatan" in the newsletter. You can view past and future articles on the Croatan Civic League website at <https://www.croatanbeach.org/>. Choose Croatan Community on the top line and click on Wildlife in Croatan. Notice of new articles will come from the website.

The format for the newsletter and that of the website are different; so the decision was made to limit publication to one site.

Neighborhood Contacts

Send any corrections, deletions or additions to this page to Marian Kitchin at mdkitchin@gmail.com.

Welcome Wagon

Contact Cheryl Garvey at cgcroatan@gmail.com or phone 471-5436 if you know of new Croatan neighbors .



Magazine Collection

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

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



Important Contacts

Police Fire & Rescue Emergencies	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 , Inc.	543-7000
VBSPCA Wildlife Referral Line	263-4762
Wildlife Conflict Helpline (toll free)	(855) 571-9003
Beach Wedding Permit	385-4800

Tidewater Wildlife Rescue

Helpline 757-255-8710

A volunteer organization dedicated to assisting orphaned and injured wildlife throughout Tidewater, Virginia.

Tidewaterwildliferescue@gmail.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.

We are on the WEB!
Check us out at
www.croatanbeach.org
and Nextdoor.com

The People Make the Beach

Croatan Civic League

Croatan Civic League Officers, Directors and Committee Chair Contacts

President, Spring Fling, City Government and Military:

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Director, Beach Restoration:

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Director, Halloween Party and Parade:

Amber Torgerson

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Director, Spring Fling and Directory:

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Special Advisor:

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Committee Chairs

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Women's Club President :

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Book Club Leader:

Alice Weisz

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