

The Croatan Civic League News

June 2021

President's Letter by Mike Kelly

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We had an outstanding evening at the New Realm Brewery last night. It has been over a year and a half since we had a CCL event, so it was great to see many of our neighbors. The turnout was good with almost 90 people. Many thanks to Amanda Robinson and Katie Ripberger who put this together. They not only held off heavy weather but insured that we had a large tent as a backup. It was very well-done.



Our social last night reminded me again that we are a very close community and we definitely need to have more events. So, I again remind everyone that we will have an end of Summer party on Saturday, September 18th at the point. The time will be 3 – 7 PM.

“Connie” Agresti’s Security Update has some important information and safety updates. Please take a few minutes and read them.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

Mike Kelly

President, Croatan Civic League
(M) 703.439.9153 (Primary)

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 6/17 Book Club
- 7/5 CCL Board Meeting
- 7/9 Newsletter Deadline
- 9/18 End of Summer Party
- 9/20 Women’s Club



Beach Restoration by Mike Kelly

Just prior to Memorial Day, we had a series of storms that impacted the beach. The pictures below were taken on June 1st at high tide, a day after the storms ended. One picture shows a “hanging” stairway towards the south end of the beach where the dune has been eroded. The other is looking north from Twilight Lane where you see no damage. At our request, Public Works moved some sand to shore up bases of the exposed stairways.

We are entering into the accretion cycle so, hopefully, we will see some significant recovery over the next few months.



The US Army Corps of Engineers Rudee Inlet Maintenance Dredging Solicitation is supposed to be released on June 20th. It include the option that the city is funding which will take about 55,000 cubic yards of sand from the outer deposition area, east of the jetty, and put it on the Croatan Beach. I will keep you updated.

Michael Kelly, CCL President
 (M) 703.439.9153
 president@croatanbeach.org
 mkellyav8@aol.com

Acceptable Recyclable Material

- Paper: office paper, newspaper, junk mail, magazines, phone books, paper bags
- Cardboard & Chipboard: flattened, un-waxed, clean & dry
- Plastics Bottles # 1 -7, NO plastic bags.
- Cartons, including food and beverage cartons (juice, milk, soy milk, soup, broth, etc.)
- Glass Bottles & Jars: clear, green & brown; remove & discard lids.
- Metals: aluminum, steel, or tin food & beverage cans; clean aluminum foil

DO NOT PLACE RECYCLABLES IN PLASTIC BAGS.



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



Safety/Security:

Bottom Line Up Front:

- Beach Safety – NO DIVING
- Hurricane Season
- Plastic Kills
- Seasonal Dog Rules
- Minors and Alcohol
- CAC – protests, crime, speed
- VBCCO – short-term rentals, voting districts, flooding survey, Juneteenth

Beach Safety - Diving: You may have seen the news: A 46-year-old man broke three vertebrae diving into the water at the Oceanfront – something he has done for years. He is now paralyzed. Sand bars shift on a daily basis. Be safe – don't dive into the water!

Hurricane Season: Officially began on June 1. While the month arrived without any named storms threatening Virginia Beach, a Memorial Day-weekend storm dropped our shoreline almost as dramatically as it dropped temperatures. Some Croatan beachgoers faced a $\pm 6'$ escarpment to get onto and off of the beach. Cross-over walkways previously anchored in sand were left suspended. It takes the City a few days (and many complaints) to get equipment out to level the "cliffs." Until they do, please be careful negotiating them. More importantly, be conscious of escape routes to egress the beach as the tide rises.

As borne out by our Memorial Day-weekend storm, surges and surf regularly over-wash Croatan Beach, so stay off during storms. Stock/ pack hurricane preparedness essentials. Please visit [Hurricanes | Ready.gov](#) for additional information, including learning your hurricane evacuation zone.

Plastic Kills: Both Nauticus (in downtown-Norfolk) and Norfolk Botanical Gardens have startling and distressing displays depicting the deleterious environmental and wildlife impacts of discarded plastic. Straws, toys, bottles, balloons, cans, bottle caps, candy, drink, tobacco, and/or snack wrappers, and ponytail holders are a daily eyesore and can choke, strangle, or block the digestion of sea mammals and shorebirds. Please be conscientious when cleaning up after your day at the beach.

Seasonal Dog Rules: Please remember that your dogs are allowed on Croatan Beach, leashed or loose, only between the daylight hours of 6:00 PM – 10:00 AM during "the season." Unleashed dogs must be under the verbal control of their handler. Please pick up after them.

Dogs are not allowed on the sand beach north of Rudee Inlet to 42nd Street at any time during the summer and only on the grassy part of the boardwalk, leashed at all times, for four hours per day (6 AM – 10 AM).

Minors and Alcohol: First of all – Congratulations to our residents and guests celebrating High School graduations. Well done in a tough year! That celebratory drink may seem appropriate, but must

regrettably wait. Adults serving alcohol to those under the age of 21 can be charged with a variety of misdemeanors for each child served. Don't shoot the messenger.

Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC):

Protests and Demonstrations: Groups exercising their First Amendment rights continue to demonstrate at the Oceanfront. On Saturday, June 19 ("Juneteenth"), a group known as "Underground 1865" has requested to conduct a demonstration.

Crime Statistics: The Second Precinct is showing positive numbers in almost all crime categories. The increased focus on interactive community policing has resulted in more than 50 illegal firearm confiscations just since the March 26 shootout. Crime statistics can be found at WAVES-Crime Statistics :: VBgov.com - City of Virginia Beach .

Speed Monitoring: Police are responding to citizen concerns about speeding on all roadways. We have seen speed control within our neighborhood and on General Booth Blvd. VBPD is working with Virginia State Police to monitor I-264 as well. Police cite many tickets being issued for speeds in excess of 80 and 90 MPH. Twenty MPH above the posted limit is reckless driving – big points, big fine, big insurance premium increase, big headache.

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO) : There was no VBCCO meeting conducted in June, but there are a few things happening.

Short Term Rentals (STRs): The City Council is preparing to vote Tuesday, June 15 on whether to adopt STR Overlay districts and new STR restrictions. We have been told that the Council will accept public comment up until (but not the day of) their vote – so please write or call our Councilman Guy Tower and/or other Councilmembers with your concerns and vote.

Voting Districts: Courts have decided that Virginia Beach must revamp its process of voting for City Council and School Board members. Residents will be able to vote for representatives in their specific neighborhood (e.g., Beach) versus throughout the city. The City has sent out mailings (bright yellow postcards) discussing the options that the City Council will be voting on come June 15.

Flood Protections Program Survey: The Department of Public Works is seeking feedback on citizens' knowledge and opinions of the City's flood protection initiatives. This is very important to Croatan. Visit <https://publicinput.com/hub/3> to participate.

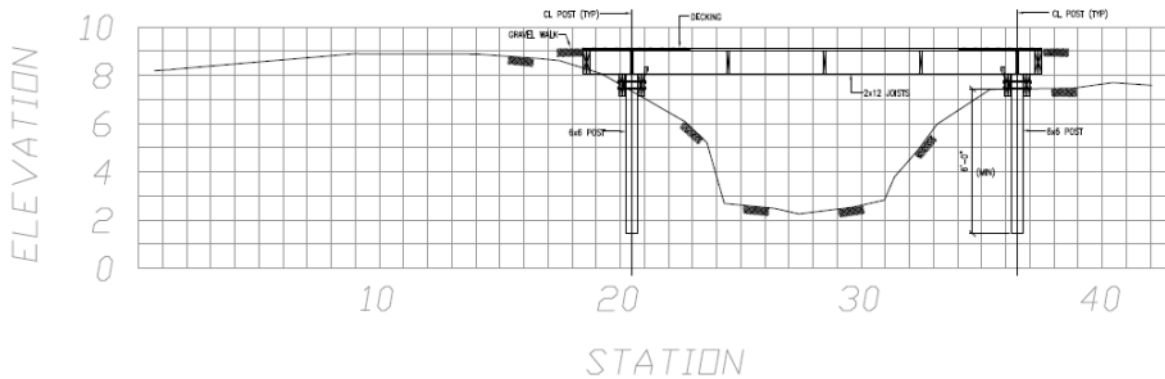
Juneteenth: The City will observe Juneteenth on Friday, June 18. Many City services will not be available that day, but some will. It pays to call ahead. **What is Juneteenth?** June 19 marks the day (in 1865) when Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, TX and declared the end of both the Civil War and slavery – nearly two years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. There have been some interesting books written lately about the efforts of southern planters to move their slaves through Texas, to Mexico, and continue the antebellum way of life.

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

M. C. "Connie" Agresti,
CCL Representative to CAC and VBCCO

Bridge Update by Mike Kelly

As many of you know, Public Works removed the “home-built” bridge for safety reasons that had been there for many years. We are in the process of getting approvals for a replacement which we will build.



BRIDGE PROFILE
SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"

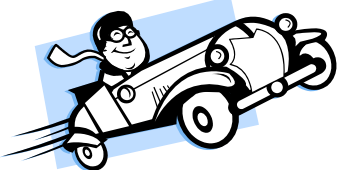
There are many details and requirements. For example, we had to submit the engineering profile above which shows that bottom of the joists are above the 100-year flood plain. But we are still waiting for the city to tell us the 100-year flood plain elevation for Lake Christine. We are using 8 feet for now but are hoping that it is a little lower. Why, you may ask? Because the bridge must be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This will require a ramp from the path to the bridge surface on both sides. The lower elevation will make the ramp easier to build. We also discovered that, in addition to city approvals and permits, we must apply for a permit from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and a US Corps of Engineers review is part of that process. I wouldn't be surprised if there are 20 people in the various agencies that must sign-off on our project. All of this takes time. Oh, did I mention that the city arborist must sign-off? Since it's city property, they must make sure that we are minimizing the impact on the trees. It is slow but moving along.

Michael Kelly, CCL President

(M) 703.439.9153

president@croatanbeach.org

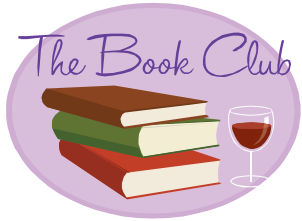
mkellyav8@aol.com Michael Kelly, CCL President



Do you want to save \$200.00, save your neighbors, save children, bicyclists, pets and wildlife? **GO SLOW IN CROATAN!!!**

The Croatan Book Club

Next Meeting



Date: **Thursday**, June 17 Time: 7 PM

Place: Outside backyard of Alice Weisz
501 Bushnell Dr.

Selection: **The Giver of Stars** by Jojo Moyes

All Neighbors are welcome. Just read the book (or maybe not), bring your own beverage/snack, and e-mail the hostess that you will be attending. If a new member, just show up and be welcomed; if no longer interested in book club please indicate that in the RSVP. COVID distancing and masks observed.

Future Selections (In Order)

Author

His and Hers

Alice Feeney

The Four Winds

Kristin Hannah

Due to problems with availability, the Future Selections order has changed as shown above.

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

Croatan Women's Club

The Croatan Women's Club has a few announcements.

First, we would like to thank Martha Heirtzler for all of her work as the Corresponding Secretary for the Board. She is resigning. Never fear, as we have another capable woman stepping into the role. Please applaud Kim Scholl for volunteering as the Board's newest appointed Corresponding Secretary.

We are so pleased to report that the Croatan Women's Club will resume meetings in September! We are going to hold regular monthly meetings on the second Monday of the month, excluding some exceptions. The first meeting will be held on September 20th. We will resume collecting dues at that time, which will be \$40 and include the meetings and programs through June.

Please contact wclub@croatanbeach.org to get on the mailing list, if you haven't already done so. More information about the programs will be distributed as we get closer to our meetings.

Best wishes,
The CWC Board

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:

Mike Kelly Phone 961-6244

Email: mkellyav8@aol.com

Vice President, Website, Facebook Group and Directory:

Bob Lougen

Email: support@croatanbeach.org

Secretary, Social Activities and Children's Programs:

Amanda Robinson

Email: secretary@croatanbeach.org

Treasurer:

Jim Skarbek Phone 491-3230

Email: treasurer@croatanbeach.org

Past President, Croatan Yard Sale:

Bill Garvey Phone 471-5436

Email: cddx@aol.com

Director, Security, VB Council of Civic Organizations, Citizen's Advisory Committee:

M.C. "Connie" Agresti Phone 425-2068

Email: security@croatanbeach.org

Director, Artisan's at Croatan Beach:

Jen Alex Phone 348-3884

Email: directorja@croatanbeach.org

Director:

Regina Amick

Email: directorra@croatanbeach.org

Director:

Kathy Donahoe Phone 757-403-0109

Email: Kdonahoe1@cox.net

Director, Welcome Wagon

Cheryl Garvey Phone 471-5436

Email—cgcroatan@gmail.com

Director, Spring Fling:

Larry Kurtz

Email: directorlk@croatanbeach.org

Director:

Nancy Purkey

Email: directornp@croatanbeach.org

Director, Social Activities, Logo Wear and Directory:

Katie Ripberger Phone 434-6450

Email: katiefr@howardhanna.com

Director, Halloween Party and Parade:

Amber Torgerson

Phone 319-6076

Email: directorat@croatanbeach.org

Director, Spring Fling and Directory:

Patricia Zuraw Phone 757-373-8601

Email: pzuraw@howardhanna.com

Special Advisor:

Ken Jobe Phone 428-0328

Email: kejo425@aol.com

Committee Chairs

Newsletter, NextDoor:

Marian Kitchin Phone 437-9554

Email: mdkitchin@gmail.com

Surfing:

Wes Laine Phone 428-2620

Email: surfing@croatanbeach.org

Women's Club President :

Amanda Robinson

Email: wclub@croatanbeach.org

Book Club Leader:

Alice Weisz

Email: bookclub@croatanbeach.org