

# CCL Newsletter

May, 2024



Submitted by Kathy Donahoe

## President's Letter

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Is it summer or early spring? The way the temps are shifting, who knows for sure.

Memorial Day Weekend starts on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. As you are aware, many of the rules change a bit, especially regarding dogs on the beaches. "Connie" Agresti has a great write-up in the security section that everyone should read. I would add a safety reminder. The city has highlighted crosswalks in the resort part of the beach. Please watch out because I have already noticed pedestrians not being careful as they approach the walkways. The on-going construction work at the 19<sup>th</sup> St. area also adds to the need for awareness. If pedestrians are in the crosswalk area, they have the right-of-way. So, watch at the corners of every street and watch your speed. That also applies to the crosswalk on Croatan Rd. at Christine Drive.

### **DON'T FORGET THAT SPRING FLING IS ON SATURDAY, JUNE 1st.**

Tickets are on sale, and you can purchase them on our website.

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) held the Norfolk Harbor Deepening Atlantic Ocean Channel Phase 2 Construction Project groundbreaking on April 25<sup>th</sup>. It was a cold, windy morning, and the key dignitaries were there giving their speeches. We all wished that they had shorter speeches. Croatan Beach was mentioned three times. The resort beach will start getting sand in January 2025 and we should see sand on Croatan Beach by July 2025.

The Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project will start up again on the State Military Reservation next week. Bob Lougen will continue to provide updates as he receives them.

The Board continues to meet via Zoom. We rarely have Civic League members observe or participate. I urge you to attend. Your concerns are especially important. Contact me at the email address below and I will send you an invitation with the link. The next meeting is on Monday, July 1st.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

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President, Croatan Civic League  
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UPCOMING EVENTS:  
5/16 Book Club  
6/1 Spring Fling  
7/1 CCL Meeting

## CROATAN BOOK CLUB

CROATAN BOOK CLUB May 2024

Next Meeting Thursday,  
May 16, 2024 Time 7 P.M.  
Hostess: Debbie Warwick  
Place: 516 Kerry Lane  
Book: The Frozen River – Ariel Lawhon

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)

Saved – Benjamin Hall

The Emancipation of Evan Wallis – Jeffrey Blount

Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone – Benjamin Stevenson

Next Year in Havana – Chanel Cleeton

Ordinary Grace – William Kent Kruger

The Measure – Nikki Erlick

The Heaven and Earth Grocery – James McBride

## **VBCCO Meeting April 27, 2024**

**Submitted by James Ferrera**

- VBCCO Bylaws changes were voted on and approved.
- The Mayor asked for a Resolution from the VBCCO to oppose Collective Bargaining (Unions). The Board will have to decide if we want to comment on Unions. If so, then the Membership will have to decide if we want to comment on Unions. More to come.
- Karen Forget from Lynnhaven River Now spoke about their programs. <https://www.lynnhavenrivernow.org/>
- Dianna Starkey from the Virginia Arts Festival talked about their programs. <https://youtu.be/D3WuxrGmrYA?feature=shared>
- Next VBCCO meeting is Wednesday May 15, 2023 6:30PM at Bow Creek Recreation Center. Meet the City Assessor! Guest Speaker Sue Cunningham, Virginia Beach City Assessor, will discuss your property assessments and Gina Benefiel, the Executive Director of the Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Foundation will speak on the EMS/Rescue squads.

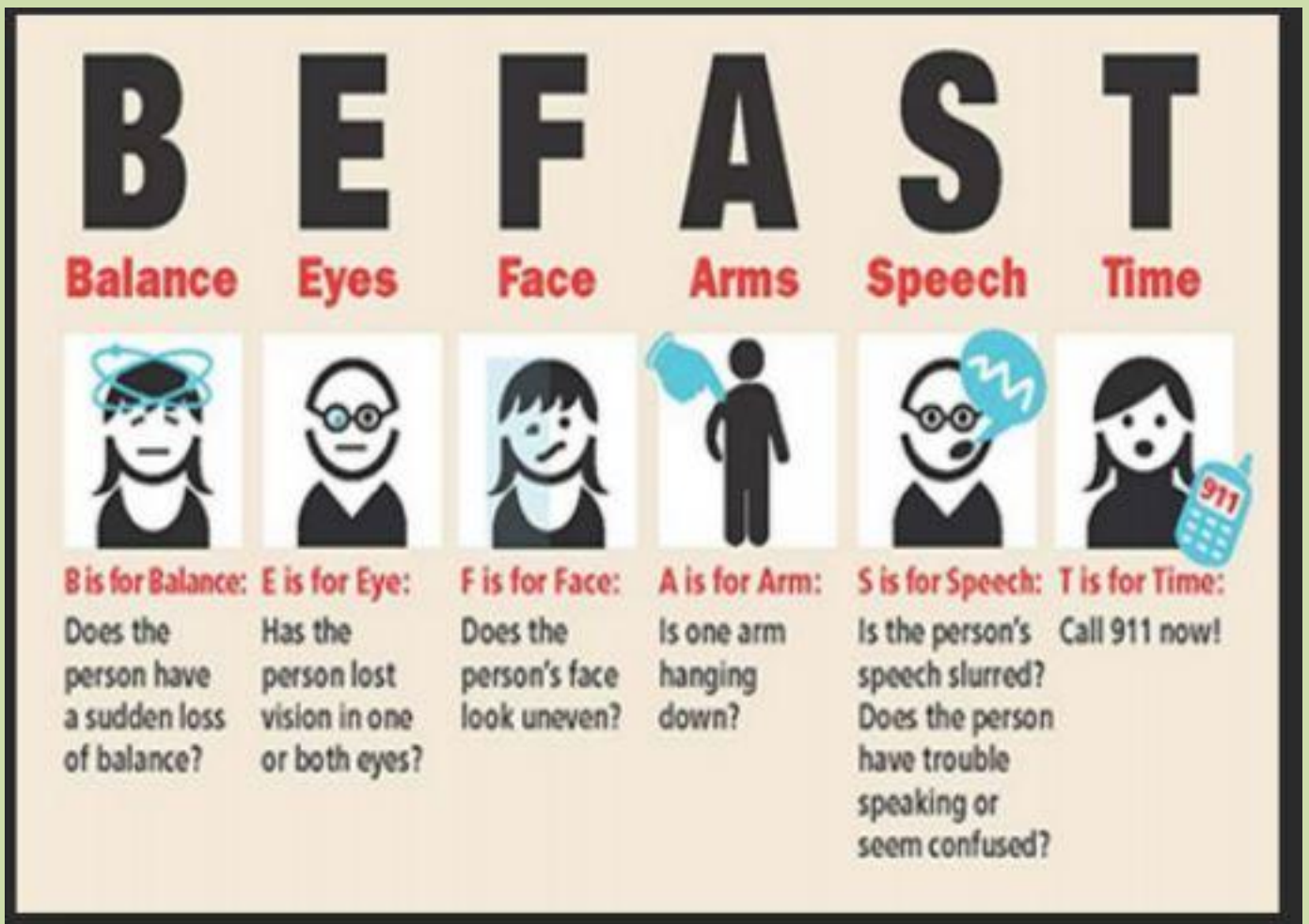
## **Safety/Security – May 2024**

Bottom Line Up Front:

- Stroke Awareness Month – BE FAST
- Parking in Croatan

- Dogs on the Beach – Seasonal rules start later this month
- Atlantic Hurricane Season Begins June 1
- 25 MPH Speed Limit Throughout Croatan
- CAC – VB Public Libraries; Motor Vehicle Thefts are Up; National Police Week

**Stroke Awareness Month:** May is Stroke Awareness Month. Learn and know the signs of a stroke in yourself and others. Google “Stroke Awareness” to learn more and remember **BE FAST**. Strokes are life-threatening emergencies – **call 9-1-1**.



**On-Street Parking in Croatan:** Last month I wrote that the seasonal fees for parking in the Croatan parking lot (south end of Vanderbilt) went into effect on April 1. I neglected to address on-street parking in Croatan; so here goes:

The following streets are designated as **“No Parking” [at all times]**: S. Atlantic Ave, Virginia Dare Dr, Twilight Ln, Croatan Hills Ct, Croatan Hills Dr, Mace Hill St, Aqua Ln, S. Maryland Ct, Lockheed Ave, Kerry Ln, and Surfside and Vanderbilt Avenues south of Croatan Rd.

On-street parking north of Croatan Rd is limited to marked spaces on Surfside and Vanderbilt Avenues between the hours of 9:30 AM and 7:00 PM. Please do not park outside of those times, please do not block mail box access (actually a federal crime), and please allow residents to put out their trash barrels on Mondays (for Tuesday pick-up).

While many see this primarily as a courtesy issue – **safety takes precedence when residents are unable to see cross traffic, pedestrians, pets, and bicyclists while exiting their driveways.** Remember – most streets in our lovely beach community lack sidewalks. Please drive slowly on these streets and beware of backing vehicles.

Our safety patrol officers have been asked to enforce parking regulations. When they do so, they will be looking at safety inspection stickers and registrations as well.

**Dogs on Croatan Beach:** Beginning 10:00 AM Saturday, May 25, dogs **may not be on Croatan Beach** between the hours of 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM. (Legitimately registered/marked service animals are allowed during the restricted hours but must be leashed or in escape-proof containers). Comfort and emotional support animals are **not** included in this exception.

All dogs are allowed leashed or unleashed (if under handler's verbal control) on the beach up until 10:00 AM and after 6:00 PM daily (daylight hours only). Handlers must clean up after their animals. Bag dispensers and trash barrels are available at every beach entrance.

**Dogs in Oceanfront Resort Area:** Dogs are **not allowed** on the Resort Area Oceanfront sand beach from Rudee Inlet north to 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. This is a 24/7 rule during “the season.” The rules for dogs on beaches north of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street are the same as for Croatan (see above).

**Dogs on the Boardwalk:** Leashed dogs are allowed on the Oceanfront Boardwalk and grass surfaces west of the boardwalk between the hours of 6:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Again, owners must clean up their pet's waste.

**Atlantic Hurricane Season Begins June 1:** Take the time to review your Hurricane Preparedness Kit, identify your evacuation zone ([Know Your Zone | VDEM \(vaemergency.gov\)](#)), “favorite” the National Weather Center out of Wakefield, Virginia at <https://forecast.weather.gov>, and subscribe to **VBAAlert** ([More About VBAAlert :: VBgov.com - City of Virginia Beach](#)) for weather warnings and guidance. All of Croatan is in either Evacuation Zone A, B, or C. Forecasters predict an above average Hurricane Season in 2024. What we

observed last year is that warmer ocean temperatures contribute to building massive (Cat 5) storms very quickly. You must re-register with *VBAAlert* **at least every six-months** to continue receiving severe weather notifications.

**25 MPH Speed Limit throughout Croatan:** Notwithstanding the removal of a speed table, the speed limit within Croatan remains 25 MPH – slower when conditions warrant (e.g., when pedestrians are present on our non-sidewalked thoroughfares, at night in fog or rain). Drivers can expect more police speed enforcement as “the season” progresses.

**Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC):** At the April 10 meeting of the Citizen’s Advisory Committee representatives of the VB Public Libraries stated that a moratorium on late return fines, originally implemented for youthful borrowers, has been extended to all library users. The Oceanfront Library (700 VB Blvd [17<sup>th</sup> Street]) also emplaced small lending libraries in nearly trailer parks and Section 8a housing facilities to encourage reading among youngsters.

All libraries have “loaner kits” for a variety of youth and adult learning and recreational activities. Please visit <https://libraries.viriniabeach.gov> for more information.

The non-profit **Friends of the Library** (<https://www.friendsvblibrary.org>) has donated more than \$100,000 for book purchases. The libraries also accept “gently-used” books from the public. **Croatan has its own small lending library on Vanderbilt Ave** – feel free to donate or borrow a book. ‘Tis the season for a good “beach read.”

The influx of seasonal visitors to Virginia Beach also brings with it an influx of opportunists (read: predators). Please continue to remove valuables (especially firearms) from vehicles and lock your vehicles, even if in the garage. April crime statistics already show an increase in motor vehicle thefts in Second Precinct (our catchment area).

**National Police Week is May 9 – 18.** To show solidarity with police and respect the fallen peace officers, citizens are asked to burn a blue light on their porch or in a window during this week. As I write this, news is reporting that four officers have been killed in Charlotte, NC. VBPD Chief Paul Neudigate recently reported that our officers can expect the presence of a firearm – whether legally-owned and responsibly handled or not - on every response.

May is also **Military Appreciation Month** and culminates in **Memorial Day** – the day the Nation set aside to honor deceased servicemen and women. This year, Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, May 27.

We will Hail & Farewell Captains “Dirty” Harry McBrien and Brad Wessler at the upcoming CAC meeting, to be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the conference room of Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad #14, 740 VB Blvd (17<sup>th</sup> Street). Please park on the east side of the building. CAC meetings are open to all.

M. C. “Connie” Agresti,  
CCL Safety and Security Director

## Neighborhood Contacts

Name	Committee	Email	Phone
Jo Bloomquist	Women’s Club	<a href="mailto:vagolfers@mac.com">vagolfers@mac.com</a>	
Alice Weisz	Book Club	<a href="mailto:bookclub@croatanbeach.org">bookclub@croatanbeach.org</a>	425-2068
Wes Laine	Surfing Advisor	<a href="mailto:surfing@croatanbeach.org">surfing@croatanbeach.org</a>	428-2620
Ken Jobe	Special Advisor	<a href="mailto:kejo425@aol.com">kejo425@aol.com</a>	428-0328

### Welcome Wagon

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



if you know of new  
Croatan neighbors

### Who to Call

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



### Book Collection

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

### Magazine Collection

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

## Croatan Civic League Board of Directors

Name	Title
Mike Kelly	President, VB Gov
Bob Lougen	Vice President, Website, Facebook, Directory
Mike Fantozzi	Director, Secretary
Jan Nielson	Director, Treasurer
M.C. "Connie" Agresti	Director, Security, Citizen's Advisory Committee
Frank Borum	Director, Traffic Mgmt.
Kathy Donahoe	Director, Newsletter
Jim Ferrera	Director, VB Council of Civic Organizations
Bill Garvey	Past President, By-Laws
Cheryl Garvey	Director, Welcome Wagon, Landscaping
Jan Perriello	Director, Short-Term Rentals
Jen Resio	Director, Spring Fling
Katie Ripberger	Director, Logo wear, Social Activities
Amanda Robinson	Social Activities, Children's Programs
Amber Torgensen	Director, Halloween Events
Eileen Wren	Director