

# The Community Advocate

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations

P.O. Box 9252 Virginia Beach, VA 23450-9252

<http://vbcco.org>

August 2008 Volume 49 - Number 7

## August 13th Meeting: Local Roads, Where Are We Headed?

Tabitha Crowder and John Fowler will be discussing that status of current local road projects and the challenges that lay ahead in funding these and choosing future projects.

**August 13th, 7pm to 8:30pm**  
Virginia Beach Central Library  
4100 Virginia Beach Blvd

CCO will hold a 50/50 raffle to raise funds for operating expenses, so bring a few dollars with you for a chance to help CCO and to win half of the night's wager.

### COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT:

*Virginia Beach Red Light Program*

**CCO's Executive Committee:**  
**August 27, 2008, 6:45 pm to 9pm**  
Glenwood Community Center  
2097 Round Hill Drive

*"Be bold for what you  
stand for and careful  
what you fall for"*

*-Ruth Boorstin in the Wall Street  
Journal*

### Upcoming Program Topics:

The schedule below is tentative and is subject to change.

- |         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------|
| Sept 10 | What to do about<br>Gangs? |
| Oct 8   | Legislative Package        |
| Nov 12  | Stake Holder's Meeting     |

All VBCCO meetings will begin at 7pm at  
Virginia Beach Central Library

## Virginia Beach Photo Red Light Enforcement Program

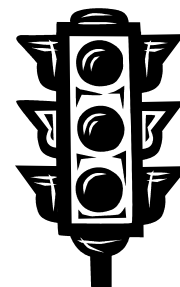
By: *Brian Walters, PHOTOSafe program Coordinator*

"RED Means Stop!" National Stop On Red Week is August 3-9, 2008.

Virginia Beach's photo red light running enforcement program is expected to be capturing red light violations by the end of summer 2008. Our city's goal is to simply gain compliance with traffic signals, which will significantly contribute to public safety in Virginia Beach. The camera systems are a force multiplier for the uniformed police officer and they reduce the risks involved in the red light violation enforcement of large intersections.

The key to the program's success is public knowledge of the systems and the assurance that if you run a red light, your vehicle will be photographed and you will receive a civil penalty for the violation. Therefore, the locations of monitored intersections will be highly publicized as they become active. Information on the Virginia law governing the photo-monitoring systems to enforce traffic light signals can be found under the [Code of Virginia section 15.2-968.1](#).

Here is a summary of how photo enforcement works. The PHOTOSafe program is designed to reduce the number of violations by automatically taking photos of the license plate of vehicles whose drivers violate the law. The enforcement cameras are only active during the red cycle of the traffic light. Only vehicles entering the intersection after the light has turned red are captured. The cameras are wired to the traffic lights using sensors buried in the roadway surface. Vehicles that cross the sensors after the light has turned red are recorded by video during the violation. The vehicle is also photographed prior to entering the intersection and again after entering the intersection. The documentation of the event is evidence for the police department to issue a civil penalty to the owner of the vehicle.



## VBCCO Committee Meetings



### Community Empowerment Taskforce

Saturday, August 2; 10 a.m.

Daily Grind

Town Center

*Meets 1st Saturday every month*

### Community Advocacy Taskforce

Saturday, August 9; 10 a.m.

Daily Grind Coffee

Town Center

*Meets 2nd Saturday of every month*

### Banquet Committee

Saturday, August 9; 11 a.m.

Daily Grind Coffee

Town Center

*Meets 2nd Saturday of every month*

### Programs Committee

Monday, August 25; 7 p.m.

Bayside Library

*Meets 4th Monday of every month*

### Communications Committee

Monday, August 25; 8 p.m.

Bayside Library

*Meets 4th Monday of every month*

## Empowerment and The Grillmaster

*Community Empowerment Taskforce*

*Brenda Armitage-Committee Chair*

When we think of the word EMPOWERMENT, we think of neighbors communicating on a regular basis. These neighbors engage with others. They build relationships with not only their neighbors but also with those who support their community, such as civic league volunteers, VBPD and VBFD.

So, what can the average person do to start engaging their neighbors? Is there a simple act that takes little to no money or time, does not involve driving (with gas at \$4/gal) and something where you do not have to be part of any one group? Can an individual create a warm community and instantly bond with neighbors any day of the year on their own?"

The answer came by remembering last February's CET CIVIC REVITALIZATION WORKSHOP suggestion on how to increase participation and volunteerism. The message...

### FEED THEM AND THEY WILL COME

The next time you are going to grill out, challenge yourself. Bring your grill to your front driveway. If you do not have a mobile grill, ask a neighbor who does. Take a leap of faith. Invite all passing by neighbors to stop and have a bite. It is a great way to bring people together.

Once visiting neighbors come together, challenge each of them to be the grill master during a future event and grow the neighborly circle bigger and bigger. The key to the success is grilling in the front driveway close to the street. Eventually, everyone will know each other - and their children - not only by face, but also by first and last name.

### VIRGINIA BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD CONFERENCE SURVEY

Help shape our VB NEIGHBORHOOD CONFERENCE 2008 scheduled for October 4, Saturday from 10AM – 2PM at the Central Library. Share this link with your board members and neighbors, to get them involved in making a better organization for you. Be sure to fill out the July 21st CET Survey emailed to membership. The results to be posted online mid to late August. If you did not receive a survey, you can participate by logging onto:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=zpV094EzatBKHqQzVtMh7A\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=zpV094EzatBKHqQzVtMh7A_3d_3d)

## Reflections—*By Chandler Scarborough, Past President*

As many of you know, my father recently passed away after a long battle with Alzheimer's. At nearly the same time, my cat, Chase, was diagnosed with lung cancer.

My family and I would like to thank everyone for your prayers and kind words over the past few weeks. We would also like to share a few things that we learned along the way.

Knowing the end was rear for my father, we began making final arrangements a couple weeks before his passing. So we had time to consider available options before the emotion set in.

Even through my parents had long ago purchased cemetery plots, the cost of even a basic funeral today can easily run to \$10,000 or more. My father, an engineer by trade, was always a very practical man, who I remember on more than one occasion while I was growing up saying "When my time comes, just put me at the curb on trash day." So an elaborate funeral just seemed inappropriate. Plus, it just didn't seem right for us to spend so much money for a funeral when the money could be used for my mother's care or to help others in need.

Consequently, based on the suggestion of a family friend, we donated my father's body for medical research in the hope that some good can come from our loss. Hopefully, some new knowledge can come to those with Alzheimer's or other diseases.

Any funeral home can help with arrangements, and the cost is a fraction of what a funeral and burial would cost. While doing something noble, you will be saving money that could be used to help ease financial burden of survivors, care for an aging relative, or help a worthwhile charity.

We will also be donating money that would have gone toward a funeral and burial to Alzheimer's research to help others who have or develop the illness and to hospice care to help ease the suffering as they near death.

Buy long term care insurance. Changes in medicine mean that we will likely be living longer but not necessarily better. The odds of a nursing home stay are increasing significantly.

Getting into a good nursing home will be much more likely if you are able to privately pay than if you need to rely on Medicaid. Once you have been accepted, the nursing home is prohibited by law from discharging you after you require Medicaid.

Leave clear instructions for your family - both about medical care and funeral arrangements. This will relieve stress from your family at an emotional and stressful time, and it will help to ensure that your wishes are carried out. Get good legal advice, including estate planning, will, power of attorney, medical power of attorney, and a living will.

Take good care of yourself in the meantime. Find a good doctor, get regular check ups, eat right, and exercise. And, if you are like me, start eating better and lose weight.

## Community Calendar

### City Council Meetings:

Tuesday, August 12th, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, August 26th, 6 p.m.

Council Chambers, Building 1

### August 6

Community Legislative Town Meeting

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Virginia Beach Convention Center

### August 15

Movie Night

Starting @ 7:30 p.m.

"Bee Movie"

Mount Trashmore

### August 19

Council Workshop

Tuesday, August 19th, 4 p.m.

Council Chambers, Building 1

### August 21

City Council Community Conversation Round Table Discussion

7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

VB Convention Center

### August 22 and 23

City Council Two-Day Retreat Goal-Setting Workshop

8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m.

Economic Development Conference Room

Town Center

### August 31

Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon

Oceanfront

## Membership Spotlight

### *Congratulations*

**Joe Yurso**, Treasurer, for his recent appointment as President for the American Maritime Modernization Association.

~&~

**Dottie Hampton**, of the Empowerment Taskforce, for being elected President of the Green Run High School Booster Club

## Community Legislative Town Meeting



What:

The **City of Virginia Beach** and the **Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations** will be co-hosting a town-hall style discussion to give citizens an opportunity to provide valuable input into the City's 2008 Legislative Agenda – goals which the City will submit to members of the local General Assembly delegation later in the year.

City Council members and General Assembly members will be invited to answer questions and hear your comments. This meeting will be an opportunity for neighborhoods, civic leaders, and citizens to share goals and ideas for state legislation that can have a positive impact on our city.

Remember, because of the Dillon Rule, many local ordinances require General Assembly approval. So this meeting will impact more areas of local life than you may realize.

When: **7pm, Wednesday, August 6**

Where: **Virginia Beach Convention Center**

For meeting details, and examples of the City's Legislative Agendas from recent years, please visit [VBCCO.org](http://VBCCO.org).

## RAC REPORT—July 2008

by *Henry Ryto*

1. The outdoor cafe regulations are being redone, as new redevelopment is expected west of Pacific Avenue. Currently that area is not covered under the regulations.
2. The plan to extend the Virginia Legends Walk east to the Boardwalk is being dusted off. The extension would cover Virginia Beach and Princess Anne County figures
3. Parking is being looked at in conjunction with the pending Resort Area Strategic Action Plan.
4. Light rail was discussed in the Resort Investment Committee (RIC) meeting.

### Calling All Future Leaders

*Do you have a vision for CCO's future? Would you like to help guide and shape the organization? The Nominating Committee will soon begin meeting to interview candidates and to propose a slate of officers and directors for 2009. If you are interested, or know someone who you believe would be a good candidate, contact Chandler Scarborough at 757-621-4919 or visit the VBCCO website at [vbcco.org/nominate](http://vbcco.org/nominate)*

# Community Social

It was one of those days . . . when you don't know if it will clear up, rain or just keep you guessing. Then the phone started to ring , "do you have a rain date?" "Is there a cover if it rains!" "Can you move the picnic to a local restaurant or the Convention Center if it rains?" Come on people, "no sugar plums invited . . . bring an umbrella, put on galoshes and dance in the rain if the clouds decide to open". AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED! Even though most of us were prepared, the rain never came, the night was cool and we all had a ball. WHERE WERE YOU?

The first to arrive were the delegation from Aragona Village, then a bevy of police officers, so many city officials we could not count, individuals from Green Run, Seatack, Malibu, Birchwood, Ocean Lakes, Little Neck, and the list went on and on. Then of course our Mayor, the Honorable Meyera Oberndorf who kept a noticeable and delighted crowd around her. We were joined by numerous candidates for Congress, City Council , and School Board who met one-on-one with residents to listen and discuss their concerns.

Making a grand entrance and kind enough to bring music was Pat Edmonson of our school board.

Everyone commented on the food which was supplied by local businesses who always contribute to our community. We hope that all of you will join with us in thanking them for their continued support. Please keep these names in front of you when shopping. We owe them our patronage. Farm Fresh, Harris Teeter, Buffalo Beach, Frankie's, a place for Ribs, Bakers Crust & Taylor & Walker, P.C. Even with the questionable weather, we had a fabulous crowd who mingled, exchanged cards and offered opinions to city officials who were cordial and there to enjoy!

As soon as we have a date for 2009, please mark your calendars and plan to be there. We missed you!



**We  
Missed  
You**

**Next Year  
will be  
Bigger & Better**



**We'll see  
you  
There!**

*Continued from page 1*

The penalty for a photo enforced red light running violation is \$50.00 and there are no court costs associated with the fine. The photo red light running offense is not a summons issued to the driver so there are NO DMV DRIVER POINTS ASSESSED and there are NO INSURANCE IMPLICATIONS with a conviction. The operator of the vehicle is liable for the monetary penalty imposed from information obtained from the traffic light signal violation monitoring system. The video and photographed evidence of the red light violation will be available for review and inspection by the registered owner or driver of the vehicle. There is a rebuttable presumption that the registered owner, lessee, or renter of the vehicle was the person who committed the violation. This presumption can be rebutted by affidavit or testimony under oath in open court that the owner, lessee, or renter was not the driver at the time of the violation.

The City of Virginia Beach is authorized to monitor a total of 43 intersections by Virginia State Code guidelines of 1 intersection per 10,000 residents. The City Council has currently approved the use of 20 cameras. The police department and traffic engineering are currently selecting locations. The process for selecting the intersections to be monitored includes (i) the accident rate for the intersection, (ii) the rate of red light violations occurring at the intersection, (iii) the difficulty experienced by law enforcement officers in patrol cars or on foot in apprehending violators, and (iv) the ability of law enforcement officer to apprehend violators safely within a reasonable distance from the violation.

There are 25 intersections currently being reviewed based on combined crash and red light running statistics.

Go to [www.vbccco.org](http://www.vbccco.org) for a full list of intersections.

### ***August 13 Agenda Items:***

Item 1: Appointment of Nominating Committee

Item 2: The following position will be submitted to members for approval at the August 13 General Meeting.

To ensure that community organizations are able to communicate with members in an efficient and cost-effective manner, VBCCO supports amending the city's sign ordinance relating to temporary signs that advertise community events to include the following language among the list of permitted temporary signs:

"temporary signs giving notice of civic leagues' or property owners associations' meetings or events, provided that such signs shall be located on property owned by the civic league or the property owners association holding the meeting or event and shall be no greater than 32 sq feet in area.

No more than one such sign shall be permitted at each entrance to the neighborhood or subdivision represented by the civic league or property owners association. Such signs shall be in place no more than 30 days before the meeting or event of which the sign gives notice or 7 days after the meeting or event has been held. Such signs may be illuminated in accordance with the restrictions set forth in section 213 hereof."

For more information on this or other CCO positions, or to suggest an issue that you would like to see addressed by CCO, contact Jay Kerr at [geekerr@gmail.com](mailto:geekerr@gmail.com)



## VIRGINIA BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD CONFERENCE 2008

Empowering and Inspiring the Leader in You

October 4th, Saturday - 10 AM to 2 PM  
 VIRGINIA BEACH Central Library  
 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd  
 Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
 (757) 385-3000

### THE GOAL:

The goal of the VB NEIGHBORHOOD CONFERENCE 2008 is to equip all current and future Virginia Beach community leaders and volunteers with the tools to strengthen their community foundations so they can excel and be in a position to support adjoining neighborhood groups.

Refreshments will be offered. Activities will be available for attendees' children during the event. A schedule will be posted online at [www.vbcco.org](http://www.vbcco.org).

This FREE event will be open to the public. Registration is required.

Please register by emailing Brenda Armitage at [ShareYourLightNight@yahoo.com](mailto:ShareYourLightNight@yahoo.com).

### Membership Update

As of July 28, 2008, 71 membership payments have been reported as having been received; those members are in good standing and their representative are eligible to vote at general meetings. Those members that have not done so please send the fee payment for \$25 payable to VBCCO to:

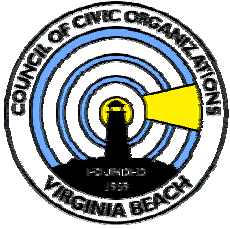
**VBCCO Treasurer**  
**P.O. Box 9252**  
**Virginia Beach**

Any CCO member-in-good-standing may reprint any article from the CCO newsletter or website provided that no changes are made to the article and that CCO is cited as the original source. Non-members may request permission to reprint CCO articles.

### VBCCO Member Civic Organizations

Aeries on the Bay	King's Point
Alanton	Lake Edward
Avalon Hills	Lake Shores
Avalon Terrace/Woods	Lake Smith
Back Bay / Pungo	Lakeview Park
Baycliff	Lakeville Estates
Baylake Pines	Lamplight Manor
Bellamy Plantation	Larkspur
Bellamy Woods	Laurel Cove
Bellwood Estates	Level Green
Birdneck Lake Homes	Linkhorn Cove
Birdneck Point	Little Neck Cove
Blackwater	Manchester Village
Brigadoon	Newcastle - Princeton
Brighton on the Bay	North Virginia Beach
Cambridge Courts	Ocean Park
Cape Henry Shores	Oceana Gardens
Cape Story By The Sea	Park Place
Carolanne Farm	Pembroke Manor
Cavalier Park/Bay Colony	Princess Anne Crossing
Charlestowne Woods	Princess Anne Plaza
Chelsea-Green Hill Farms/Meadows	River Haven
Chesapeake Beach	Rudee Heights
Chesapeake Colony	Sandbridge Beach
Croatan	Sea Breeze Farm
Cypress Point	Seatack
Fairfield	Southall Quarter
Glenwood	Stratford Chase
Great Neck Estates	Thalia
Great Neck Meadow	Thoroughgood Colony
Green Run	Three Oaks
Homestead	The Villages
Hunt Club Forest	Wellington Woods
Kempsville Greens	Witchduck
King's Grant	Wolfsnare Plantation
	Woodstock

These Organizations have paid their 2008 membership fee. Don't see your neighborhood listed? Contact Gene Moore at [moore252@infionline.net](mailto:moore252@infionline.net)



VBCCO MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
 4604 Williamsburg Court  
 Virginia Beach, VA 23462-2241  
 Return Service Requested  
 For all except "Temporarily Away"

PRSR STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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## 2008 Officers and Directors

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