



The Community Advocate

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations

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

<http://vbcco.org>

October 2008 Volume 49 - Number 9

October's Topic: Guess what they're sending to Richmond?

An open discussion to encourage input from our members on the City's Legislative Package.

October 8, 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:

Share the Light Night

CCO's Executive Committee:

October 29, 2008, 7 pm to 9 pm

Glenwood Community Center
2097 Round Hill Drive

"Every private citizen
has a public
responsibility."

-Myra Janco Daniels,
in Newsweek

Upcoming Program Topics:

The schedule below is tentative and is subject to change.

Nov 12 Stake Holder's Meeting
& Canned Food Drive

Dec 10 Senior's Social

Jan 14 Planning Meeting

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

Remembering and Reestablishing the bond shared by most citizens soon after 9-11

By Brenda Armitage

It is the goal of *Share Your Light Night* to empower citizens and create camaraderie between our neighbors. Luminary events have proven to affect this type of atmosphere nationwide. This simple event is universal and will encourage stewardship of our communities. It will help us create close-knit neighborhoods where neighbors look out for one another - just as we did soon after September 11th.

Although Share Your Light Night (SYLNight) has connected with other communities throughout our nation as far away as San Diego, we know where our roots are. Last November during Open-Mic Night, we invited City Council and other officials present to participate as neighbors in the SYLNight.

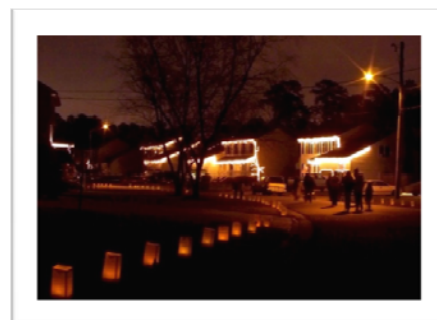
As last year was a test run, The VBCCO and Illuminate A Cause, LLC (a not-for-profit organization) are now ready to formally invite the City of Virginia Beach to adopt our citizens' event and help promote it. Sam Reid and I will be meeting with our City Manager, Jim Spore in the near future and expect to announce the City's response soon in our newsletter or at the next general meeting.

In addition to the 15 neighborhoods that pledged participation last year, we already have a few multi-neighborhood groups pledging participation. We ask now, will you help rekindle that strong bond felt by others in previous years and create treasured memories that will last a lifetime in the minds and hearts of all children, families and communities? Are you ready to broadcast the warmth and hospitality that we Virginians offer our friends, family and visitors?

There are risk-free options, and others that offer opportunities to raise funds for charities. For more information or to see the new bright white tea lights negotiated for this year's display...

- COME to the next CCO meeting, October 8th
- [LOG ON](http://www.shareyourlightnight.blogspot.com) to www.shareyourlightnight.blogspot.com
- [EMAIL](mailto:brenda@shareyourlightnight@yahoo.com) Brenda at [shareyourlightnight@yahoo.com](mailto:brenda@shareyourlightnight@yahoo.com)
- CALL 714-2772

When we unite, we all win.
Community Empowerment
Taskforce



VBCCO Committee Meetings



Community Advocacy Taskforce

Saturday, October 11; 10 a.m.
Daily Grind Coffee
Town Center
Meets 2nd Saturday of every month

Banquet Committee

Saturday, October 11; 11 a.m.
Daily Grind Coffee
Town Center
Meets 2nd Saturday of every month

Programs Committee

Monday, October 27; 7 p.m.
Bayside Library
Meets 4th Monday of every month

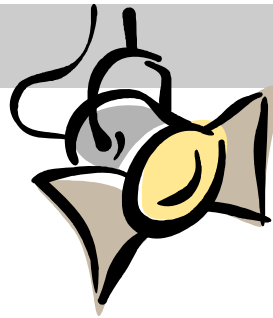
Communications Committee

Monday, October 27; 8 p.m.
Bayside Library
Meets 4th Monday of every month

A copy of the most current **Legislative Package** is available on the VBCCO's website.

Go to VBCCO.org and select the Legislative Package Link on the right-hand corner.

Leadership Spotlight



Brenda Armitage



Hometown - Virginia Beach

Civic Organization - Carolanne Farm Civic League

Family - My husband and I will be celebrating 10 years of marriage raising 3 young children, a Himalayan cat (Saj) and a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel (Andy)

Pet project - Share Your Light Night - I'm working to unite and empower citizens

Pet peeves - negativity. Offer a solution with every area you report needs improvement. If you've thought about the problem, you should always think of ways to create positive change.

Favorite local restaurant - "El Rodeo" on Princess Anne Road. However, if you use the actual name of the restaurant in our neighborhoods, some might not know what you're talking about. You usually hear neighbors ask, "Do you want to go up to the Mexican with us?... or Want to meet up at the Mexican?".... LOL.

Last movie: The BEE MOVIE at Mt. Trashmore ... thanks Parks and Recs!

North end or Chesapeake Beach? Neither - OBX all the way.

Quote or motto: "Life is not measured by the number of breaths you take, but by the moments that take your breathe away."

You and CCO — Together, We Can Make a Difference!

.....

The Nominating Committee is seeking committee members for many of committees.

Do you have an idea for a speaker or Program you'd like to see? Is there a burning issue on which you would like the city to take action? Do you want to learn new skills? Are you an outgoing person who just wants to meet new people?

Even if you can only commit a few hours a month, there are ways you can help!

If you are interested, or know someone who you believe would be a good candidate, please contact Chandler Scarborough at 757-621-4919.

Going Green, Practical things we can all do to promote a more sustainable future.

By, Daniel Baxter, Business Recycling Coordinator

Many think that the whole "Going Green" thing is just a fad. However regardless of your position on the matter, there are some realities that are shared through out the political and economic spectrum. As we all know the price of fuel, food and services have increased dramatically over the past year. This has caused some changes in behavior because of the cost of fuel.

Did you know that typically the second highest cost to municipal governments is energy? Not only gasoline and diesel, but also electricity all contributes to higher government costs. When the city has to divert funds to cover energy costs, that is less money to cover salaries, benefits, equipment and other needs. If we work together to conserve, we are not only good environmental stewards, we demonstrate to the city leadership and the citizens we serve that we care.

What else can we do to save money and preserve the environment? Some practical answers that you can use:

- Turn off equipment and lights when you leave the office for more than an hour. Did you know that computers and peripherals could consume several hundred watts of power per hour? Even those little transformers for your computer speakers, printer and other accessories use power even if the item is turned off. Simple solution: Hook up all computer related equipment to the strip, turning off the strip when you leave for the day.
- When using the copiers in our facility, select the "Duplex" mode when copying. This reduces paper consumption by 50% with the Toshiba copiers, if you select the "Booklet" option that will reduce a four-page document to one page.
- Try to re-use paper for routine printing in your office printer. While office printers we have do not duplex automatically, taking paper used for another project and re-using it can save paper. This reduces the need to restock paper. Saving money.
- Take advantage of and use our single stream recycling program...Every ton of material diverted from the landfill is a ton of material that we do not have to pay to landfill. In addition to decreasing disposal cost, this extends the life of existing facilities reducing transportation costs.
- Properly dispose of recyclable material: Office paper, newspaper, magazines, junk mail, plastic and glass bottles (No caps please), aluminum and steel cans.
- While McDonalds, Wendy's and 7-11 bags are paper or plastic, they and other food waste are **not part of our recycling program**. When we contaminate our recyclable material, this reduces the value of the product and can actually render an entire lot of material increasing our disposal costs.
- Recycle plastic bags in appropriate receptacles. Yes they can be recycled, but they have to be separated from our normal recyclables. Plastic bags are made into Trex Lumber. *Please look for the Trex containers to dispose of your plastic bags.*
- Do not leave doors in buildings propped open unnecessarily.
- Report air leaking doors and windows to Building Services. Bad magnets on our door locks cause major air leaks in buildings and can cost an amazing amount of money very quickly.
- Avoid idling in your vehicle. Whether a city vehicle or your own car or truck, extended idling simply wastes fuel and provides no benefit to the vehicle. While it may seem trivial, ten minutes of idling in the morning can translate to a significant amount of fuel used over a period of time. Vehicle maintenance for your private vehicles and our city vehicles including tire pressure, air filters and tune ups can improve fuel economy by as much as 10%.

While these are all little things, they can add up to big savings when combined with the efforts of others. Together, we make a difference!

Legislative Positions

The following positions will be submitted to members for approval at the October 8 General Meeting.

Proposed Position Statements Regarding Gang Activity:

The Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations supports shifting resources toward programs and services that proactively address the factors that underlie the causes of gang affiliation (e.g., gain respect or power, protection, excitement, acceptance / belonging, and the chance to make money).

The Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations urges the City of Virginia Beach to work cooperatively with neighboring cities and the Virginia Beach public school system to develop programs and services to assist community leaders, neighborhoods, and parents. These efforts should focus on both understanding the causes of gang violence and youth crime and efforts to prevent such criminal activities.

The Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations urges the City of Virginia Beach to increase funding to expand the Gang Unit.

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

Candidate Forum Replay

If you didn't have an opportunity to attend the VBCCO sponsored Candidate Forum, you can watch them on VBTv Cable Channels (Cox 47, Verizon 47 and Cavalier 118). Make an informed decision on election day!

City Council At-Large

Sunday, Oct. 5, 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 11, 6 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 12, 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, Oct. 19, 10:30 a.m.

Mayoral

Sunday, Oct. 5, 12 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 12, 12 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 18, 6 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 19, 12 p.m.

City Council District

Sunday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m.
Sunday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m.
Sunday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m.

School Board District

Sunday, Oct. 5, 2 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 19, 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 25, 6 p.m.

School Board At-Large

Sunday, Oct. 5, 3 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 12, 3 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 19, 3 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 26, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2 p.m.
Saturday, Nov 1, 6 p.m.

If you curious to know what the candidate fundraising totals are, visit:

<http://www.vpap.org/candidates/list?fips=51810>

Halloween Safety

Virginia Beach City Code 23-3

"If any person over the age of twelve (12) years shall engage in the activity commonly know as Trick-or-Treating or any other activity of similar character or nature under any name whatsoever, he shall be guilty of a class 4 misdemeanor . . .

If any person shall engage in the activity commonly known as Trick-or-Treat or any other activity of similar character or nature under any name whatsoever after 8:00 p.m., he shall be guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor."

It's Important To Remember To:

- Trick-or-Treat when it is still light outside.
- Plan your route with your family ahead of time.
- Pick streets that are well-lighted.
- Trick-or-treat with a parent, older brother or sister, or with a group of children if someone older can't go with you.
- Carry a flashlight and use retro-reflective tape on your costume so you can see and be seen easily.
- Wear a costume that makes it easy for you to walk
- A face mask will keep you from seeing well. Why not use make-up instead? If you must wear a mask, take it off before you cross the street.
- Cross at corners and use marked crosswalks whenever possible. Do not cross the street between parked cars.
- If there is no sidewalk, walk with the road on your right.
- Wait until you get home to sort, check and eat your treats. PARENTS, please check you children's treats before allowing them to eat them.



Community Calendar

City Council Meetings:

Tuesday, October 7, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, October 14, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, October 28, 6 p.m.
Council Chambers, Building 1

October 4th

**Virginia Beach
Neighborhood Conference**
8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Virginia Beach Central Library
Enter at the side door!

Saturday, October 11th

SK8R Bash
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Skateboard competition
Mount Trashmore

Sunday, October 12th

Hunt Club's Adoption Day
11 a.m.—4 p.m.
Pet Adoption Opportunity
For more information,
Call 385-4444

October 26th

Walk with the Animals
1:00 p.m.
31st Street & Boardwalk
To register: www.vbspca.com

Save the Date:

Sunday, November 9th

Pet-Palooza
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Princess Anne Middle School
For more information,
Call 385-4444



You have a voice, use it-
Don't forget to register to vote!

Under Virginia law, registration is closed 29 days before an election. Residents must register in the precinct in which they reside. **October 6th is the last day to register.**

For more information email voter@vbgov.com.

Civic League Candidate Forums—You're Invited!

The following civic groups have reported the scheduling of the candidate forums. Please direct questions or requests for additional information to the individuals indicated for each announcement.



- October 15 -** **Stratford Chase Civic League** will sponsor a candidates' forum at 7 p.m. in the Kempsville Conservative Synagogue on Indian Lakes Blvd. near Providence Rd. All interested are welcome to attend.
Contact Diann Nickelsburg, tutorlatin@verizon.net.
- October 18 -** **Sandbridge Beach Civic League** forum-10:30 a.m. at the Sandbridge Community Chapel- 3041 Sandpiper; Road; Don Ashby VP-426-6635
- October 21 -** **Lake Smith Terrace, Haygood Point, Governor Square Civic Leagues** have scheduled a moderated forum for School Board Candidates Bayside Presbyterian Church.
Contact Mary Jane Taylor, taylormjane@cox.net, 671-7751
- October 22 -** **Thalia Civic League** will be sponsoring a moderated candidate forum for VA Beach City Council Candidates at 7:30 pm in the Princess Anne High School Auditorium. Mike Gooding will serve as the moderator for the evening.
Contact Sidney Rader, sarader1@cox.net , 463-2819
- October 23 -** **Wolfsnare Plantation Civic League** will be holding a Mayoral Forum from 7:00 - 8:30 PM at Trantwood Elementary School; forum is open to the public;
Contact Nick Calvert, Ybhousehunter@aol.com, 636-0872.

RAC Report –September 2008 *By: Henry Ryto*

Entertainment Contract

At it's September 4 meeting, the RAC voted to advise City Council not to invoke the final one-year option on Live Nation's contract for Entertainment in the Resort Area. There had been much discussion since Live Nation had fired Bobby Melatti about a month before, but I didn't expect RAC action that quickly, so the motion caught me a bit off-guard.

We now know from Bill Reed's *Beacon* column that another company had hired Melatti on September 3, the day before the RAC vote.

Neighborhood Spillover

The Oceanfront Enhancement Committee (OEC), a RAC committee, has churned out a list of four recommendations for dealing with late night behavior overspilling into adjacent neighborhoods. They'll now go to two other committees for discussion and possible implementation.

Hammerheads

A Resort Area bar has filed a lawsuit against the City, claiming the intent is to put the bar out of business. As a RAC Commissioner, I received a packet from the Plaintiffs with some devastating material. First, MPO Kennedy stated most 2nd Precinct VBPD officers use racial slurs (including the n-word) on and off duty. Second, VBPD dropped it's accreditation from 2004 to 2006 because it knew it would have trouble getting it again.

Since Plaintiff's attorney (Kevin Martingayle) requested anything we knew, I sent him an e-mail on what I could elaborate on in the packet.

OFFSHORE DRILLING

There was 90 minutes of Presentations and discussion on Offshore Drilling at the September RAC meeting. It is anticipated that the RAC will take a position on it in the near future.

FEMA Flood Insurance Rates Map

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has completed the modernization of the city's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM). Since the last update in 1996, technology has improved dramatically and has enabled FEMA to more accurately define the boundaries of flood zones in our city.

A review by city staff indicates that the modernization appears to have moved approximately 2,000 structures out of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) also known as a high risk area, located primarily along the Resort and North Beach. This is due in no small part to the completion of the Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Plan. While a majority of the affected structures were removed from the SFHA, there may be some structures that have been remapped into a high risk area. These structures appear to lie in the Windsor Woods area of the city.

Will the changes affect my insurance?

The federal government requires mortgage holders in high risk areas to carry flood insurance. However, if you are remapped into a high risk area and already have flood insurance when the maps are officially adopted, your premium will stay at the current rate structure when your policy renews. If you discover that your property has been impacted, contact your insurance agent immediately for information concerning mandatory flood insurance.

What is the timing for map reviews?

The public review period is open now until August 30, 2008. All comments and appeals must be supported by scientific or technical data to support the requested revision. Once all comments and appeals have been addressed, the final maps will be issued and should become effective near the end of 2008.

Who should I contact if I have questions about the new maps?

Please contact Rebecca Lear in the Public Works Coastal Engineering Office at 385-1948 or RLear@vb.gov

Membership Update

As of September 10, 2008, 76 membership payments from member organization have been received and deposited; those members are in good standing and their representatives are eligible to vote at general meetings. Those members that have not already done so, please send the fee payment for \$25 payable to VBCCO to:

VBCCO Treasurer
P.O. Box 9252
Virginia Beach, Virginia
23450-9252

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

These Organizations have paid their 2008 membership fee. Don't see your neighborhood listed? Contact Gene Moore at moore252@infinonline.net



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

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