

# City Manager's Update

City of Virginia Beach

December 14, 2012

## *18<sup>th</sup> Century Wreaths Grace the Municipal Center*



Once again, we owe a special thanks to the members of the **Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach** who provided their time and talents to assist the **Landscape Management Division of Parks and Recreation** in creating 18<sup>th</sup> Century wreaths. This year, 45 members representing 12 garden clubs created 44 wreaths for Municipal Center buildings, **Old Coast Guard Station, Adam Thoroughgood House, and Francis Land House**. All who see the wreaths each holiday season enjoy their creativity!

## *Employees Recognized for Dedicated Years of Service*



The City held its **42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Service Awards Program** on December 13 at the Municipal Center in the City Council Chamber. **Mayor William D. Sessoms, Jr.** and I each shared our heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the employees' for their dedication and commitment to the City. The Mayor and I were honored to present acrylic awards to seventy-three employees (of the eligible 125 employees) who achieved 30, 35, 40, and 45 years of continuous full-time service.

In attendance were **Jerry Banagan**, Real Estate Assessor (who was honored for 40 years of service); **Harvey Bryant**, Commonwealth Attorney; **Phil Kellam**, Commissioner of Revenue; **Dave Hansen**, Deputy City Manager; and several Department Directors, representing the twenty-three departments who received awards. **Cindy Curtis**, Deputy City Manager, served as mistress of ceremonies and **Regina Hilliard**, Director of Human Resources, announced each award.

The Service Awards Program is administered by the **Department of Human Resources** (HR). Special thanks to **Virginia Rogers**, HR, who coordinated this event. Thanks also to those who assisted during the ceremony **Lissa Gundlach**; **Aida Ortiz**; **Karen Lee**, all of HR; and **Craig McClure** of ComIT.

### *Sandbridge Civic League Sponsors Successful Neighborhood Cleanup*



Last Sunday, December 9, almost 60 volunteers ranging from young children to adults of all ages, joined together to help keep Sandbridge clean. Volunteers spread out in groups throughout the area and collected litter and recyclable materials. Both **Public Works** and the **Parks and Recreation** provided logistical support and disposal assistance.

“The citizens of Sandbridge have always taken a lot of pride in their community and worked hard to

maintain their neighborhoods,” said **Councilmember Barbara Henley**. “Not only is it great to see them clean and recycle through these group efforts, but it’s a wonderful example of young and old alike working together and displaying the lessons of volunteerism and community pride.” The cleanup was organized by **James Barton**, **Kevin Wong** and the **Sandbridge Civic League**, and is held twice a year.

### *Sacrifice to be Recognized*



In August 2012, **Chief James Cervera** hosted a ceremony in which the first black police officers of the **Virginia Beach Police Department** were honored. Despite the best efforts of the department to identify all of the black officers, it was discovered that some names were left off. A few citizens came forward and provided names, or partial names, of additional officers that were not part of any official City records.

**Theresa Dunleavy** (Virginia Beach Public Library) and **Ivey Glendon** (University of Virginia Library) were asked to help conduct a more thorough search on the existence of these individuals. Both librarians uncovered facts that were extremely helpful and relevant in terms of one particular officer. What was discovered was that on August 2, 1953, **Special Officer Hezekiah Little, Jr.** was killed in the line of duty while patrolling Seaview Beach, part of what is now Chick’s Beach near Great Neck Road and Shore Drive.



Based on this new information, Chief Cervera submitted the information regarding Officer Little to the **National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial** for consideration for inclusion of his name on the memorial wall honoring our nation's fallen officers. On December 6, 2012, Officer Little's application was granted and his name will be inscribed on the memorial wall. His name will be dedicated on May 13, 2013, at the **25<sup>th</sup> Annual Candlelight Vigil**. We are extremely proud that Officer Little's memory will be acknowledged and that his sacrifice will not remain unrecognized. Officer Little was survived by two sons and a daughter. Both of his sons are still alive and live locally. Both are extremely proud of their father and have extended their gratitude to those who brought this issue forward.

It is with great pride that we celebrate the hard work of the following individuals **Bonnie Hall, Deborah Kopicki, Freddi Moody, Edna Hendrix, Sharon Felton, Lt. Scott Humphrey, John Wills** (of John Wills Studio), **Retired Chief Jake Jacocks, Theresa Dunleavy** and **Ivey Glendon** and **Police Captain Patrick Gallagher**. A second ceremony will be held sometime in the future to add Officer Little's name to the current memorial displayed in the lobby of the Second Precinct.

### *Cutting Edge News*

STIHL, Inc. reports the production of their 50 millionth unit. Who would have imagined in 1974 when STIHL, Inc., first opened its doors here in Virginia Beach that they would one day produce their 50 millionth unit?

That is exactly what happened in October of this year. Representing this important milestone is the 4282 BR 600 line, pictured here. Congratulations Team STIHL!



### *Planning Commission Announces 2012 Design Awards Winners*



The **Planning Commission** announced the winners of the **2012 Design Awards Program** at its meeting on December 12. The program encourages and formally recognizes creative and innovative development solutions in the built environment. Honor Awards were presented in the following categories Residential Development – Erik Homes 73<sup>rd</sup> Street Duplex and Greenwich Village Apartments; Commercial Development – Regional Health Professions Center at Tidewater Community College and Sentara Princess Anne Hospital; Rural Development – Southern Fried Country Market; Industrial Development – DAVCON, Inc.; Redevelopment – Russo Law Building; Strategic Growth Areas – Oceanaire; Sustainable Development – College Park Elementary School and Great Neck Middle School; and Public Facilities – Virginia Beach Animal Care and Adoption Center, and Virginia Beach Law Enforcement Memorial. A Merit Award for Redevelopment was presented to Vintage Pointe. Congratulations to all those recognized with this prestigious award.

## *Virtual Town Hall & New Online Citizen Feedback Program Launched*



On Wednesday, December 12, the City introduced a new Web-based citizen engagement tool called **Virtual Town Hall**. This program gathers resident feedback about City projects and initiatives with the goal of incorporating feedback in the decision-making process.

Based on the topic, Virtual Town Hall allows citizens to indicate budgetary priorities, share opinions, and review what fellow residents are saying about current issues. We plan to post two or three different topics each month – questions may range from desired features at a proposed park to feedback on the budget.

Only a small fraction of the 431,000 people who live in our community actually attend City Council meetings and public information forums. This can be attributed to any number of different reasons, but the bottom line is that we need to make it easier and more convenient for people to participate in local government. This tool is designed to do exactly that.

Comments will be monitored for profanity, personal attacks and spam. Participants are authenticated and each person is only allowed one comment per topic in order to prevent a few people from dominating the conversation, arguing or attacking one another. Citizens may join Virtual Town Hall by simply registering with their name, address and a valid email address at [www.VBgov.com/VirtualTownHall](http://www.VBgov.com/VirtualTownHall).

## *Holiday Awareness Walks*



Most often, when we hear of a business robbery or burglary, it is after the fact – the crime has already been completed and citizens are then asked to call the police for assistance. When we do hear of a crime being thwarted, it is definitely a positive news story, and we all breathe a collective sigh of relief and celebrate the moment. Preventing crime, however, requires proactive, directed efforts on the part of all stakeholders involved – not only the police, but business owners, other city agencies, and of course, our citizens.

Over the past several weeks, officers from the **Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit** have visited over 500 businesses in various areas of the City. These efforts included canvassing a majority of the businesses in the Town Center area of Virginia Beach during the week after Thanksgiving. During these visits, officers reminded business employees to be extra vigilant about safety during the holiday season. The Crime Prevention Unit offers a variety of programs directed at assisting different segments of the population, from small children up to and including our seniors. Security assessments are also offered for home and business owners, free of charge, which will provide site-specific information on how to make one's home or business a harder target for would-be criminals. The goal of the Crime Prevention Unit is to provide for a safer city by preventing and/or reducing crime through educating the public and forming community partnerships. Have a wonderful, and safe, holiday season!



## *HNP Offers Assistance for Heating System Repairs*

Now through May 15, the **Department of Housing and Neighborhood Preservation** is offering affordable loans to eligible Virginia Beach homeowners to replace defective heating system equipment through its **Emergency Home Repair Program**.

The Emergency Home Repair program helps low- to moderate-income homeowners make emergency repairs or modifications to remove health or safety hazards. Other eligible activities include replacing defective air conditioning equipment in the summer; correcting electrical, gas and plumbing hazards; and correcting defective roof/ceiling assemblies in life-threatening situations. The program also assists with making homes more accessible for the physically disabled. It is not intended for making routine maintenance repairs to systems or equipment. Program participants must own and live in the home and cannot own additional property.



For additional eligibility requirements and income qualifications visit [www.vbgov.com/emergency-home-repair](http://www.vbgov.com/emergency-home-repair). Assistance is based on availability of funding. For more information, contact **Housing Programs Coordinator Olin Walden** at **385-5760**.

## *Public Works Repairs Beach Access in Ocean Park*



High winds and water in the Chesapeake Bay from Hurricane Sandy took their toll along the bay front. One casualty was the existing wooden step beach at East Stratford Road that was washed away. **Public Works** dispatched a crew to the area last week where they made the needed repairs and reconstruction. The beach access has re-opened and is available to the public in the Ocean Park community.

## *Thoroughgood House Presents Annual Yule Log Lighting*



On Sunday, the **Adam Thoroughgood House** will present the annual **Yule Log Lighting** from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. The lighting procession will begin at 4:15 p.m. and the great Yule Log will be brought forth amidst toasts and merry wishes. Prior to the lighting ceremony, visitors may enjoy refreshments provided by the **Friends of the Historic Houses** and can learn the interesting history of the “marsh mallow” while roasting the modern confection over a fire. Visitors will have an opportunity to tour the Adam Thoroughgood House between 3:00 and 4:15 p.m.

The earliest English settlers in the Virginia colony celebrated Christmas with the traditions they brought with them. The lighting of the Yule Log began the festivities of the Christmas season, which concluded on Twelfth Night, January 6. The Yule Log Lighting program is free and open to the public.

## *E. K. Sloane Piano Scheduled for Delivery in Early 2013*

**The Sandler Center Foundation** is pleased to accept a beautiful Yamaha C2 Piano from the **E.K Sloane Fund** for placement in the Sandler Center lobby. The piano is expected to arrive in early 2013 and will serve as a wonderful addition for intimate performances and receptions taking place in the Miller Studio. Resident Companies at the Sandler Center will also be able to use this piano.

The E.K. Sloane Fund was responsible for the generous donation of an original Steinway piano which was graciously accepted by the Sandler Center in 2007. This piano has been used for over 200 performances and has been seen by over 90,000 guests per year since it was received.



## *Thought of the Week*

*"It's not just other people we need to forgive.  
We also need to forgive ourselves.  
For all the things we didn't do.  
For all the things we should have done."*

*~ Mitch Albom*

## *Attachments and Enclosures*

*Provided to City Council*

- ◆ December 2012 - Copy of an article from The Trust for Public Land – Land & People, entitled, ***“Conserving a Virginia Riverfront – Turning the Tide at Pleasure House Point,”*** by Tom Horton.
- ◆ December 12, 2012 - Copy of City Page.
- ◆ December 11, 2012 – Copy of a letter to Governor Robert F. McDonnell from Mayor William D. Sessoms, Jr., entitled, ***“Mining Sand for Beach Replenishment along the Chesapeake Bay Beaches.”***
- ◆ December 14, 2012 – Copy of an interoffice memorandum to me from Patti Phillips entitled, ***“Construction Bid Information for November.”***
- ◆ December 12, 2012 – Copy of a ***“Position Statement of the Board of Directors of the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce on Uranium Mining and Milling.”***
- ◆ December 13, 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.blueridgecaucus.com](http://www.blueridgecaucus.com) entitled, ***“Bolling to announce opposition to uranium mining,”*** by Michael Sluss.
- ◆ December 2012 - Copy of a letter to the editor of the Washington Post from Mayor Will Sessoms of Virginia Beach entitled, ***“The Safety of Uranium Mining Should be Beyond a Shadow of a Doubt.”***
- ◆ December 10, 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.pewtrusts.org/fiscal-federalism](http://www.pewtrusts.org/fiscal-federalism) entitled, ***“The Impact of the Fiscal Cliff on the States - Virginia.”***
- ◆ December 2012 - Copy of an article from Governing Magazine entitled, ***“Problem Solver/ Public Money – The Fiscal Future that Won’t Happen,”*** by Mark Funkhouser.
- ◆ December 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com) entitled, ***“Women in Business 2012: Martha McClees, Executive Director, Virginia Beach Vision,”*** by Lydia Wheeler.



- ◆ December 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com) entitled, ***“Craig Quigley, Executive Director, Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance,”*** by Bill Cresenzo.
- ◆ November 30, 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com) entitled, ***“Brocks donate \$3M toward new EVMS institute,”*** by Jared Council.
- ◆ November 30, 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com) entitled, ***“Resort developer found recession’s silver lining,”*** by Jared Council.
- ◆ December 7, 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com) entitled, ***“Sentara’s request for more psych beds underscores national need,”*** by Jared Council.
- ◆ December 7, 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com) entitled, ***“Team would commit before arena deal is sealed, Mayor Sessoms says,”*** by Bill Cresenzo.
- ◆ December 7, 2012 - Copy of an article from [www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com) entitled, ***“Two Beach Businesses invest and expand, another moves HQ to city,”*** by Lydia Wheeler
- ◆ Virginia Beach Television Program Schedule for December 16 through December 22.



# THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

Land&People

ANNUAL REPORT ISSUE

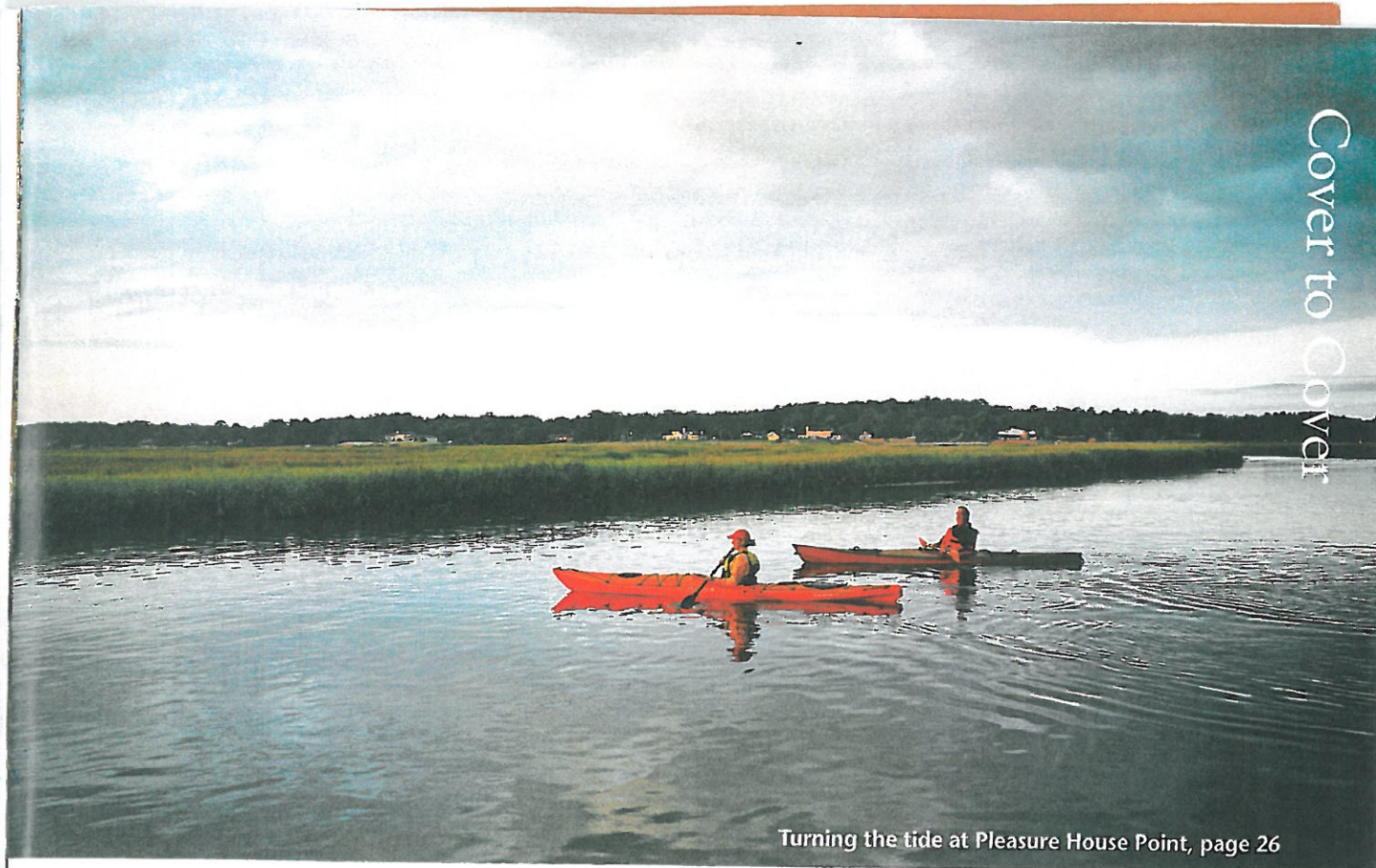
Celebrating 40 Years  
America's Next Great Park

★ Conserving a Virginia  
Riverfront

Plus  
New Parks for L.A.  
A Greenprint for Hawaii

Volume 24 Number 3  
Fall/Winter 2012





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JOHN HENLEY

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## ON THE COVER

*Children enjoy the Seattle Art Museum's Olympic Sculpture Park overlooking Puget Sound. In 1999 the museum and The Trust for Public Land raised funds to acquire a former petroleum transfer and distribution facility for the park, which attracted more than 382,000 visitors last year. Photo: Darcy Kiefel*



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DAVID SCHALLIOL



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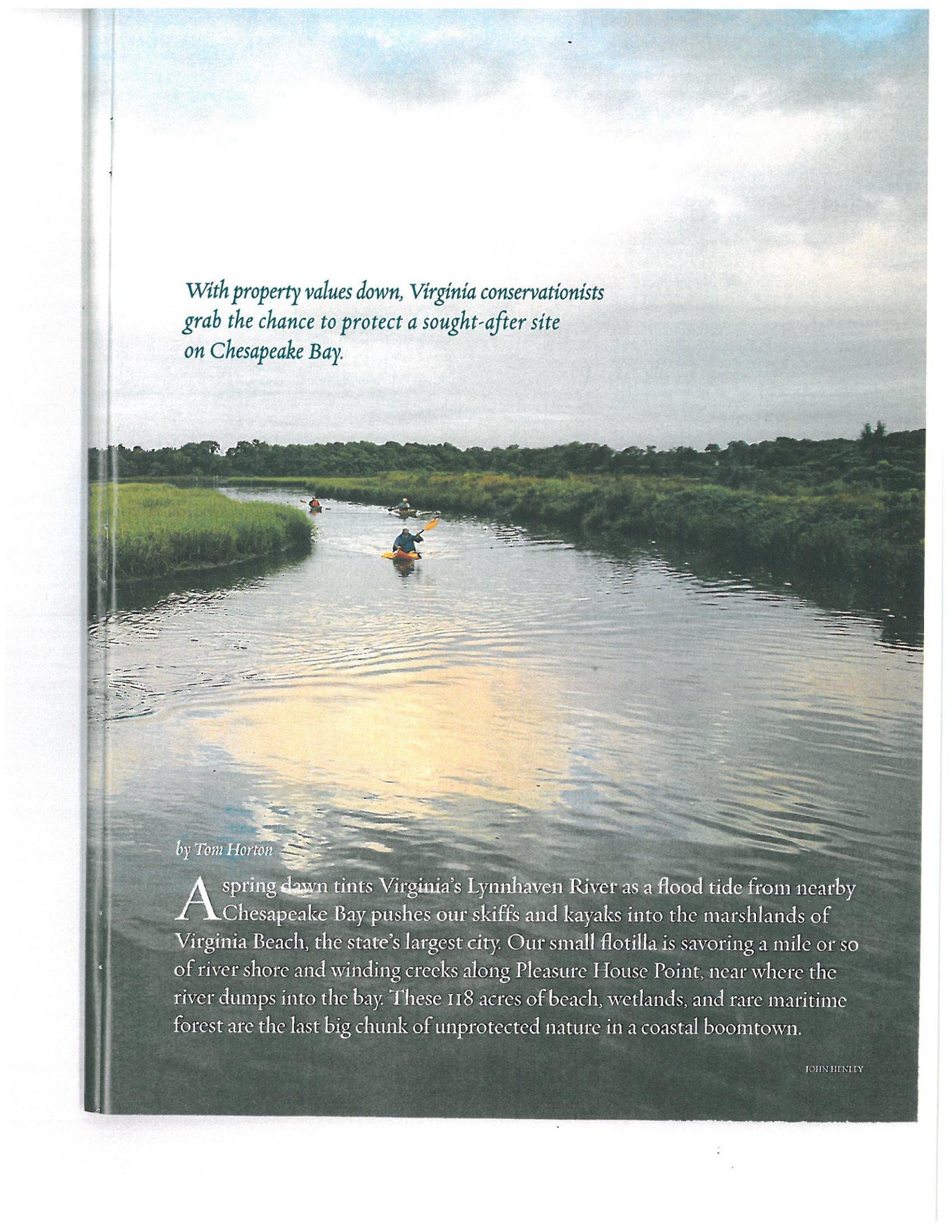
RICH REID PHOTOGRAPHY.COM



# TURNING THE TIDE AT PLEASURE HOUSE POINT







*With property values down, Virginia conservationists grab the chance to protect a sought-after site on Chesapeake Bay.*

*by Tom Horton*

A spring dawn tints Virginia's Lynnhaven River as a flood tide from nearby Chesapeake Bay pushes our skiffs and kayaks into the marshlands of Virginia Beach, the state's largest city. Our small flotilla is savoring a mile or so of river shore and winding creeks along Pleasure House Point, near where the river dumps into the bay. These 118 acres of beach, wetlands, and rare maritime forest are the last big chunk of unprotected nature in a coastal boomtown.

JOHN HENLEY



Even at 6:30 a.m., traffic is buzzing along nearby Shore Drive, a busy artery serving a sprawling metro area of 1.7 million residents that includes not only Virginia Beach but also Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Hampton Roads.

Improbably and delightfully, the sights and sounds of the metropolis fade away as our boats enter the nooks and crannies of the Lynnhaven's creeks and marshes, vibrant with the singing of redwing blackbirds and saltmarsh sparrows. It's at least a hint of what colonists from Jamestown found here when they explored up the Lynnhaven nearly 400 years ago. Green herons stalk shorelines clumped with oysters and mussels, and shorebirds peck mudflats ahead of the rising tide. Black skimmers glide inches off the water sipping minnows, their lower beaks tracing delicate Vs in its glassy surface. Periwinkles climb the marsh grass stalks, grazing on algae. A fisherman ambles down a sandy trail from a nearby condo complex and wades out waist deep into Pleasure House Creek—casting for toothsome speckled trout.

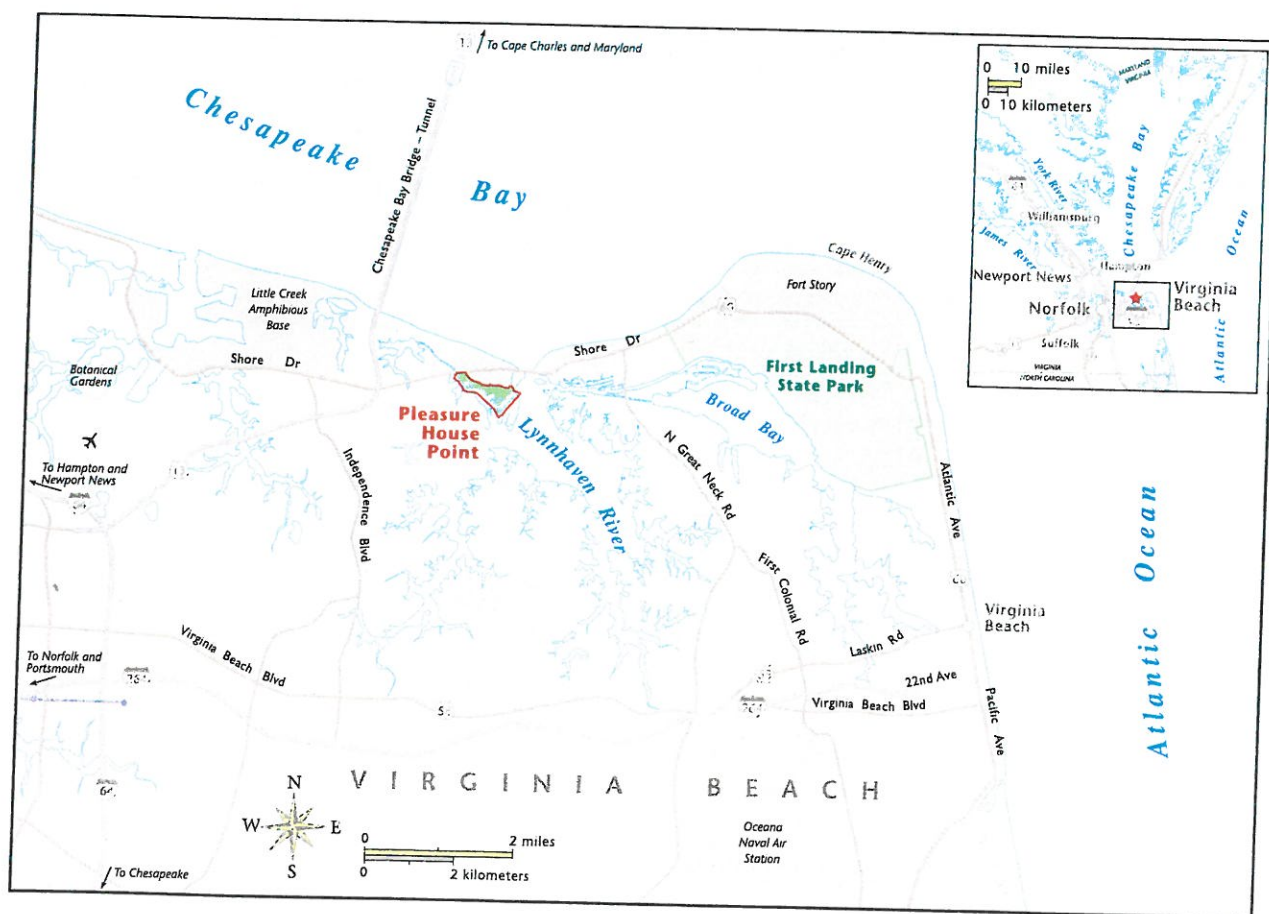


JOHN HENLEY

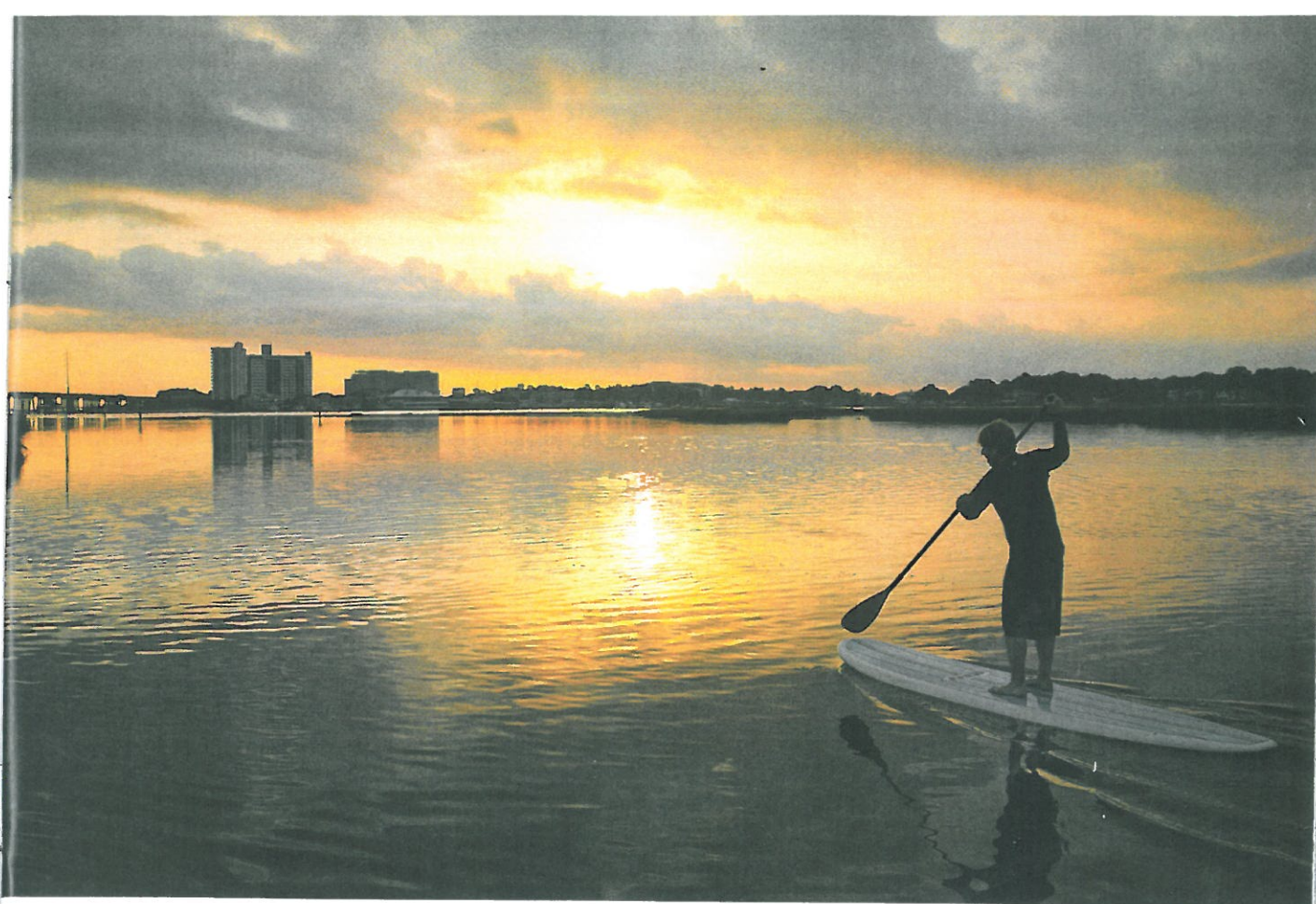
"Tree-hugging capitalist" Tim Solanic in his Save Pleasure House Point shirt. Pages 26-27: Kayakers explore the waterways around Pleasure House Point.

## A CLOSE-TO-HOME WETLAND

Our trip is a celebratory voyage of sorts, complete with champagne and oysters shucked out fat and creamy on the half-shell. Local conservationists—some of them







JOHN HENLEY

A paddle-boarder slips through the Lynnhaven River at dawn. The inlet on Chesapeake Bay is in the heart of Virginia's largest city.

along on today's trip—have recently learned that their quixotic effort to preserve Pleasure House Point has succeeded. (The name derives from a tavern that existed there in the 18th century.) With its waterfront of close to a mile, the point has been a target for development since the 1970s. The most recent plan—known as Indigo Dunes—was well advanced when a combination of environmental concerns, a crashing real estate economy, and a fruitful negotiation with the bank that held the property turned the tide to conservation.

"This marshland was all going to be filled in six feet or higher, and over there two 11-story condo towers were going to go up—more than a thousand units across the whole property," says Tim Solanic, a self-described "tree-hugging capitalist" who is sharing my skiff. Solanic, an intense and friendly man who lives only a few blocks from the point, was a key player in mobilizing a handful of residents in 2002 to preserve it. At the time, many people in Virginia Beach considered this an exercise in futility, because the land was then valued at around

*In 2002, many people in Virginia Beach considered the conservation effort an exercise in futility, because the land was valued well outside the budget of the city or any conservation group likely to protect it.*

\$250,000 per acre, well outside the budget of the city or any conservation group likely to protect it.

Solanic still remembers the day in 2002 when, while out for a walk near his home, he came upon a public notice that a developer was applying for variances to Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Protection Act for a massive housing project. "So of course I walked back there," he says, "and I was just blown away by the place, so close to all this dense development." Solanic was at a low point in his life, without a job, feeling adrift. He needed a cause. "I felt then and there, this is what I'm going to get behind, saving this land."

Solanic plunged into civic activism: working the phones and the Internet, writing letters to local newspapers, and networking with community groups, including the local





A fisherman tries his luck near Pleasure House Point. Below: A Lynnhaven oyster. Today, thanks to improving water quality, 40 percent of the Lynnhaven is open to oyster harvesting.

JAMIE BETTS

Shore Drive Coalition, which became a vocal opponent to development along the river. By 2007 the initial development proposal had given way to a new one. A major coastal developer had bought the land for close to \$30

million and was moving ahead with a \$450 million project, budgeting millions for marketing and lobbying. The Shore Drive Coalition, joined by environmental groups like Lynnhaven River NOW, fought a delaying action. "We threw up every road block we could," recalls Solanic, "requested more information, questioned every undotted 'i' in their permit applications."

The activists were not opposed to development per se, but Pleasure House Point did seem like the wrong place for it. "I'm a Realtor," says Cindy Cuskey, who's paddling with us this morning. "But we had enough condos, and we didn't have many spaces to be alone and see wildlife."

There were also sound environmental reasons for protecting land along the river. The Lynnhaven was once famed for the large size and exquisite taste of its oysters. (See "The Fanciest Oyster," page 31.) But by 2002, 99 percent of the river was so contaminated that



JAMIE BETTS



*The Chesapeake Bay Foundation had been eyeing Pleasure House Point for an outdoor teaching center—attracted not only by the land but by the community that had grown up around protecting the river.*

shellfish harvesting there was banned. In the years since, Virginia Beach has spent more than \$100 million to control pollution. Thanks to this and other water protection efforts, the oyster beds are now in resurgence. So why risk new pollution from waterside development and fill in wetlands that help keep the river clean? "The potential for restoring wetlands at Pleasure House Point dwarfs all of our other opportunities," says Karen Forget, director of Lynnhaven River NOW, a group organized in 2002 to clean up the river and restore the oyster beds.

### THE GREEN LINING

Through 2007 the fate of the land seemed to hang in limbo. First Virginia Beach denied the developer's wetlands permits, then the state overruled the city's decision. At the same time, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), nationally known for its environmental education programs, had been eyeing Pleasure House Point as a possible site for a state-of-the-art outdoor teaching center. The foundation was attracted not only by the land but by the community that had grown up around protecting the river. In 2008, as real estate values sagged, the foundation noticed that the developers had missed a quarterly tax payment. "Let's see if there's an opportunity there," William Baker, the foundation's president, told Christy Everett, its tidewater Virginia director.

With some 200,000 members and a multimillion-dollar annual budget, CBF has as much clout as any regional environmental group. But it didn't have the real estate expertise needed to acquire land for an educational center at Pleasure House Point. So its leaders contacted The Trust for Public Land, with whom they had partnered on previous projects. Local TPL project manager Lynda Frost met with Virginia Beach officials, who were all for protecting Pleasure House Point. But even in a real estate downturn, a likely multimillion-dollar price tag for the rare waterfront parcel seemed insurmountable.

This Barrel Contains  
**"REDWOOD ACRES"**  
**LYNNHAVEN**  
**OYSTERS**

These Fine Oysters Have Been Toned, Not Dredged. Their Flavor Speaks For Itself.

REDWOOD ACRES FARMS, Little Neck Road, LYNNHAVEN, VA. PHONE NORFOLK 53941

COURTESY OF DENI NORRED

### THE FANCIEST OYSTER

Nothing is more iconic to the Chesapeake Bay than *Crassostrea virginica*, the eastern oyster. And no Chesapeake Bay oysters were more famous than those from the Lynnhaven River, a tidal estuary at the south end of the bay. Noted for their size and exquisite taste, Lynnhavens, or Lynnhaven "fancies," were highly prized through the 19th and first half of the 20th centuries.

Lynnhavens were served in New York's finest restaurants and to U.S. presidents and British royalty. It's said that wealthy Gilded Age businessman Diamond Jim Brady once ate three dozen Lynnhavens at a sitting.

And famed French actress Sarah Bernhardt received a bushel of fancies from an



Sarah Bernhardt

admirer, who kept them in salt water and fed them oatmeal during the two-week ocean crossing.

And then they were all but gone. As the city of Virginia Beach grew up around the estuary, development led to sewage and stormwater pollution. Beginning in the 1960s, shellfish diseases rippled through the region, and by 2002, 99 percent of the Lynnhaven was closed to shellfish harvesting.

Today, thanks to pollution control and improvements in water quality, the oysters are rebounding, with 40 percent of the Lynnhaven open to harvesting. Oyster reefs and sanctuaries are being restored and new ones built, and a thriving oyster farming industry has arisen—all within the city limits of the state's largest urban center.

The benefits of the Pleasure House Point conservation project are many, including new public access to the bay and a new site for environmental education in a rapidly developing region. But perhaps no outcome is as potentially delicious as the continuing recovery of these renowned fancy oysters.





JOHN HENLEY

An egret near Pleasure House Point. "We had enough condos, and we didn't have many places to be alone and see wildlife," one conservationist said.

In 2009, Wachovia Bank, which was holding the loan on the property, was acquired by the San Francisco-based Wells Fargo Bank. Coincidentally, TPL president Will Rogers had been talking with top Wells Fargo officials about a range of properties that might be candidates for preservation. "Put Pleasure House Point at the top of your list," Frost advised. She and Kent Whitehead, director of TPL's Chesapeake Bay field office, then began working on a funding plan to see exactly how much they might be able to offer for the land. Under Mayor William Sessoms and Vice Mayor Louis Jones, the city took the lead with an initial proposed commitment of \$5 million. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation would kick in \$1 million for ten acres for its educational center. Other funds could come from state and federal conservation funding programs, and from a foundation grant. (See "Funding Pleasure House Point," page 33.)

Coincidentally, Trust for Public Land president Will Rogers had been talking with top Wells Fargo officials about properties that might be candidates for preservation. "Put Pleasure House Point at the top of your list," Lynda Frost advised.

In the end, Wells Fargo officials and TPL staff settled on \$13 million for the property—an amount more in keeping with the current real estate market and \$17 million less than the land had sold for in 2007. It was the upper limit of what TPL thought it could raise. In the spring of 2011, at a restaurant with a view across Lynnhaven Bay to Pleasure House Point, TPL staff met with Wells Fargo officials to settle on terms. As recently as that morning, Frost and Whitehead had seen commercial real estate agents cruising the land. But in the end the bank agreed to sell if TPL could pull the funding together in a reasonable time frame. "I think the bank felt we knew what we were doing, and as long as we were able to deliver a decent amount for their shareholders, a preservation outcome would be a win for them and the community," Frost says.

"We are proud to play a role in the preservation of this landmark property," said Wells Fargo Senior Vice President Bill Honaker when the project closed earlier this year. "Wells Fargo worked hand in hand with TPL to structure the transaction in a way that meets both their funding and preservation goals. We're pleased to make this investment in one of the many communities we serve."

Such opportunities to protect conservation-worthy properties have been described as a "green lining" in the otherwise dark cloud of an economic downturn that has been desperately painful for the country, especially to many homeowners and workers. But the situation is fraught with irony for conservationists, says TPL president Will Rogers. "On the one hand, there are properties such as Pleasure House Point—lands of remarkable value for public access and the environment that would have been completely out of reach for conservationists even a few years ago. On the other hand, public funding is much harder to find. We are grateful that we were able to put together this funding package, and, of course, we were very fortunate that Wells Fargo was able to make the conservation possible while still meeting its commitment to its shareholders."





Environmental restoration at Pleasure House Point dwarfs all other opportunities for wetlands recovery on the Lynnhaven River.

JAMIE BETTS

## A WIN FOR THE COMMUNITY AND CONSERVATION

Most of the 118 acres will become a city open space reserve, and CBF will be able to establish its educational center in one of the most densely populated regions of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. And while it could not have happened but for the depressed real estate market, “that only provided the window,” says CBF’s Everett. “Without TPL’s expertise and strong relationship with Wells Fargo, without the unbelievable partnerships and community support and creative financing that made the city willing to go for it, there is no way it would have happened.”

Back on the Lynnhaven, oyster farmer Chris Ludford serves us samples of his product, which fetch up to \$21 a dozen at local restaurants. It’s the salty—but not too salty—taste from the mix of Lynnhaven water and water

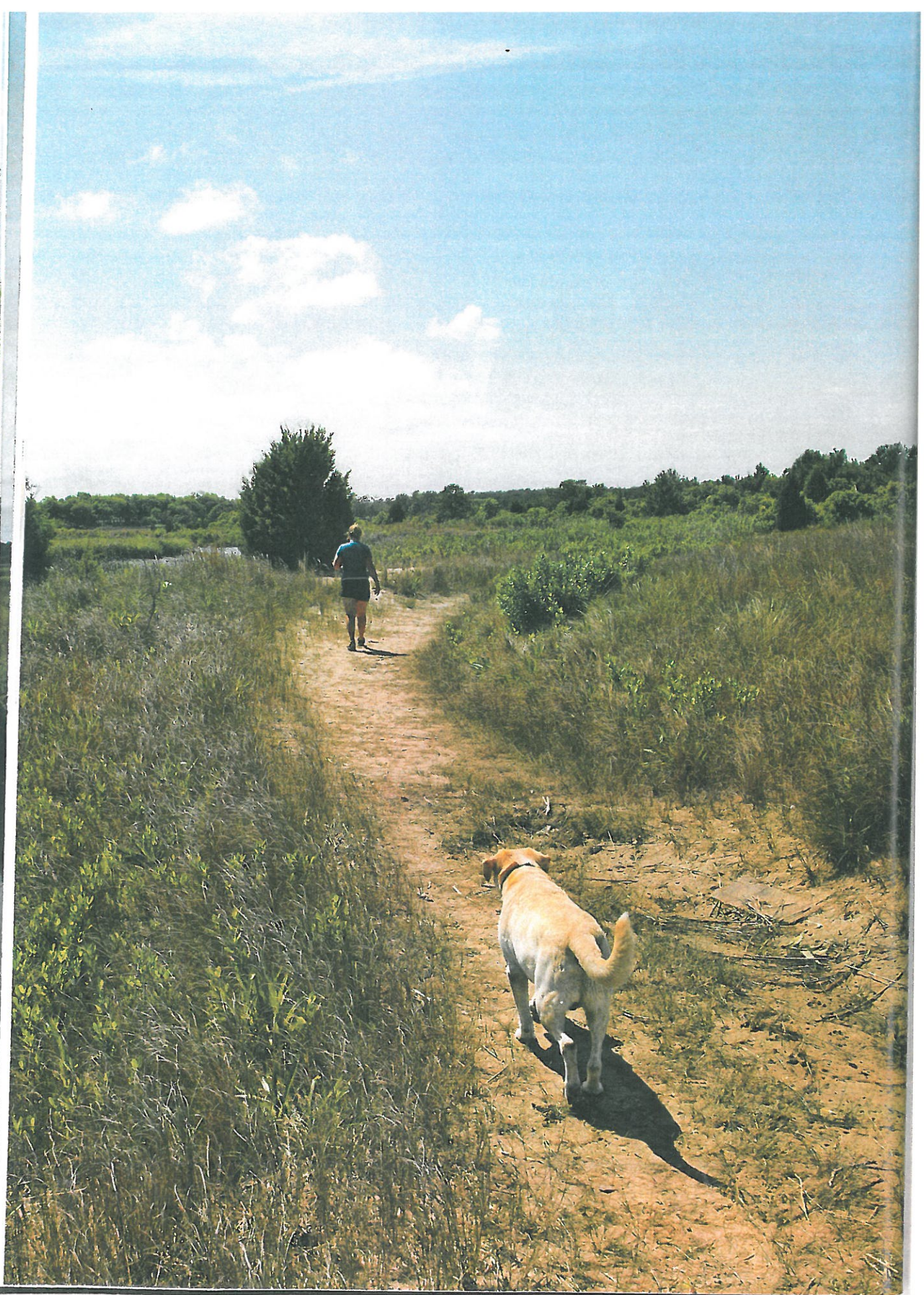
## FUNDING PLEASURE HOUSE POINT

Ambitious conservation projects often require a combination of public and private funding. Support for Pleasure House Point came from:

- City of Virginia Beach
- Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- Virginia Land Conservation Foundation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Dominion Foundation of Dominion Virginia Power
- Individual donors to The Trust for Public Land

Thanks to this generous support, The Trust for Public Land was able to negotiate the transaction, help build support and assemble funding for the project, and complete the legal, financial, and real estate work to accomplish the acquisition.







from the bay that elevates these oysters above all others, he opines, adding, "If that development had gone in, my business would not exist."

Soon Ludford will be farming oysters within sight of the new environmental education center. As proposed by CBF, it will be one of the country's greenest buildings, with a goal of making its own energy, capturing its own water, emitting no waste, and using only sustainable local materials. Virginia Beach's school system plans to build on CBF's work to make the city a national leader in environmental education; already the first school groups are visiting Pleasure House Point with CBF educators. As for the rest of the land, details of its use are being worked out by a 30-member steering committee appointed by the city, says Brian Solis, planning director for its department of parks and recreation. But basically the point

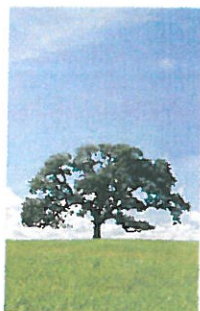
Now open to the public, Pleasure House Point will be set aside for nature, environmental education, and recreation—capping a 2001 goal to double Virginia Beach's community open space.

will be set aside for nature and low-impact recreation. Its protection caps a goal set in 2001 to double the city's community open space.

The conservation of Pleasure House Point comes a decade after Tim Solanic first wandered onto the land and assumed its protection as a personal quest. To him, the success of the effort suggests that even in this most urban corner of the Chesapeake Bay region, people will go out of the way to preserve its signal natural resource. "It reflects how people here want to live," he says, "their love of water, seafood, and fishing—of watching ospreys raise their young and sunsets over the marshes."

*Tom Horton teaches writing and environmental studies at Salisbury University, Maryland, and contributes regularly to Chesapeake Bay magazine and the Bay Journal News Service. Formerly an environmental reporter for the Baltimore Sun and an educator for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, he is the author of several books about the bay. His writing also has appeared in National Geographic, Rolling Stone, the New York Times, and the Boston Globe.*

## DOUBLE OR TRIPLE YOUR GIFT!



Make your donation go further—ask your company's human resources department about matching your contribution. If your employer participates, simply request a matching gift form and mail it to The Trust for Public Land. Your gift will be matched to help us conserve and protect even more open space, parks, gardens, and other natural places.

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PHOTOS: RICH REID



# City Page

ONLINE

***Keeping Citizens Informed and Involved***

***December 12, 2012***



***Let Your Voice Be  
Heard... Join in the  
Discussion at "Virginia  
Beach Virtual Town  
Hall"***

*The city introduces a new online civic engagement tool to increase community involvement in government.*

The city of Virginia Beach is introducing a new Web-based citizen engagement tool that will help the city gather residents' opinions about city projects and initiatives with the goal of incorporating this feedback into the decision-making process. The new tool is called Virtual Town Hall and is now available online at [www.VBgov.com/VirtualTownHall](http://www.VBgov.com/VirtualTownHall).

This platform allows citizens to indicate budgetary priorities, share opinions, and review what fellow residents are saying about current issues.

The city will post approximately two or three different topics for feedback each month—questions may range from desired features at a proposed park to feedback on possible roadway improvements. Each topic may consist of several questions, and background information will be provided so that participants can make informed decisions.

"We suspect that a lot of people care about the decisions the city makes—those that affect municipal service delivery and quality of life," says Catheryn Whitesell, director of the city's budget office, management services. "However, we've noticed that too often, only a very small fraction of the 431,000 people who live here actually attend city council meetings and public

information forums. This may be the case for a number of different reasons, but the bottom line is that we need to make it easier and more convenient for people to participate in local government, and that is the driving force behind Virtual Town Hall."

A well-known 2001 Gallup poll found that public speaking is one of the most common fears among Americans, ranking second only to snakes. So, given that nearly half of us are uncomfortable speaking publicly, it was clear the city needed an alternative to traditional public feedback mechanisms.

Research also indicates that limited participation at city council meetings and other public forums is not due to apathy, but inconvenience. City Council meets every other Tuesday evening, and citizens are invited to participate in an open dialogue following adjournment of the first formal session of the month, but some people face certain barriers to participation—among them, transportation, work conflicts, child care and other activities that can make attending public meetings difficult.

Virtual Town Hall alleviates most of these concerns.

If your schedule makes it hard to attend public meetings, don't worry—topic forums will be available on the VBgov.com website 24/7 for a minimum of two weeks, so you're able to respond to questions whenever it is convenient for you.



Don't have a home computer? No problem. Virtual Town Hall is also optimized for mobile devices so you can respond using your smart phone.

Once registered, users will automatically receive an email informing them when new forums are launched, or you can choose to receive text alerts instead. Just text the word "subscribe" to 757-215-4841.

Another important feature of the online public comment forms is that they are fair and civil. Comments are monitored for profanity, personal



attacks and spam. The city also recognizes that blogs are sometimes dominated by bullies that post multiple comments. This can be off-putting to some and gives bullies an unfair advantage, but Virtual Town Hall prevents this type of intimidation. Participants are authenticated and each person is only allowed one comment per topic, so they can't dominate, argue or attack one another.

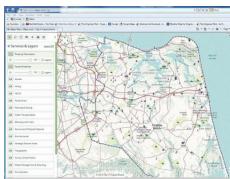
The first Virtual Town Hall topic is already posted for your feedback. This time, the city would like your input on changes to Bayville Farms Park. Due to growing demand for off-leash dog areas in our city, Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation is in the process of planning improvements to the 68-acre park in Northwest Virginia Beach. The city would like to know:

*"Should the dog park design at Bayville Farms Park follow the current design standard of one area for all dogs, or would you prefer separate areas for large and small dogs?"*

If you are interested in joining the conversation at the Virginia Beach Virtual Town Hall, register with your name, physical address and a valid email address at

[www.VBgov.com/VirtualTownHall](http://www.VBgov.com/VirtualTownHall), and begin sharing your thoughts today.

Broad participation helps us make better decisions and create stronger communities, so please be sure tell your friends, family and neighbors about Virtual Town Hall.

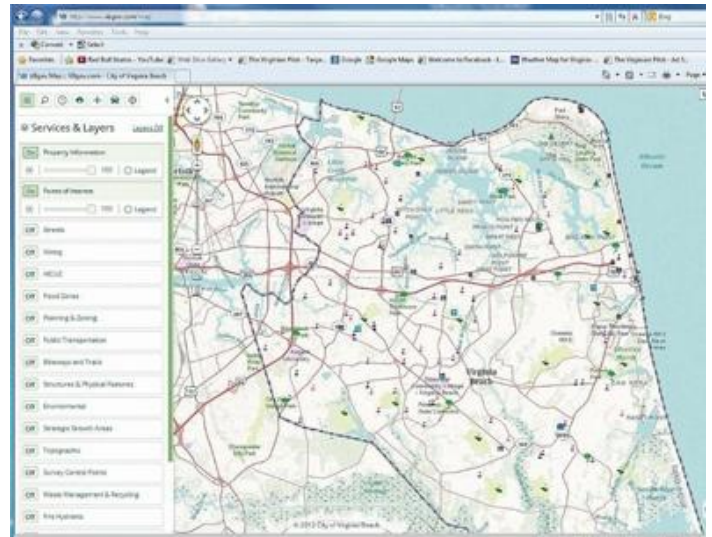


### **Take a Look at VBgov.com's New Online Map Application**

*In October, the city of Virginia Beach introduced a new map to VBgov.com. Developed in-house by the city's Information Technology department, the map features many new layers and added functionality that enable citizens to create and share maps that are customized to meet their specific needs.*

Starting with a base map of Virginia Beach, citizens can select from among several choices of map layers including trash and recycling collection days, voting districts, public

transportation routes, bikeways and trails, locations of the city's Strategic Growth Areas and Capital Improvement Projects, and much more. The various layers can easily be turned on or off, and users have the ability to set the opacity of each layer for easier viewing. Citizens can choose to see a satellite or standard map view of the information, and the new map includes the ability to get directions to a particular point of interest, instead of having to go to a separate application such as MapQuest.



Once a citizen has created the map they want, with layers of information that meet their specific needs, it can be saved and shared with others. For instance, suppose Jack has just moved to the Fox Run neighborhood and doesn't know when trash collection day is for Fox Run. Since Jack also enjoys bicycling, golfing, and reading, he finds Fox Run on the Virginia Beach map and selects the map layers that show trash collection days, bikeways and trails, golf courses, and libraries. Based on Jack's customized map, he will see that his trash collection is Friday, the closest golf course is Kempsville Greens, the closest library is the Kempsville Area Library, as well as where the various bike paths and parks are located in relation to his home.

The new map center is more responsive, has faster load times, and is optimized for viewing on different types of devices. Search results are more comprehensive and are highlighted to make finding information easier, and there is a comprehensive help menu to assist citizens with using the map and becoming familiar with the various features. In addition to property address and Geographic Parcel Identification Number

(GPIN), the map center includes new search options for schools, neighborhoods, intersections, golf courses, parks, libraries, museums and historic sites, and more.

Check out the new map by going to [www.vbgov.com/maps](http://www.vbgov.com/maps) and clicking on the VBgov Map.



### **Arena Town Hall Meeting Slated for Dec. 18**

*Join us on Tuesday, Dec. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. at a Town Hall meeting at the Virginia Beach Convention Center for a presentation and to provide your thoughts about the possibility of building a sports and entertainment facility near the Oceanfront.*

The newly formed Citizen Advisory Committee for the proposed arena project will hold a public Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. in Suite 1 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, located at 1000 19<sup>th</sup> St. The purpose of the meeting is to gather citizen input and assess residents' opinions about the possibility of building a sports and entertainment facility near the Oceanfront.

*"We want to find out what citizens think about the potential for an arena that would attract major sports events and top level entertainment to Virginia Beach," said Committee Chair, Linwood Branch. "This is the first in a series of conversations we will have with residents about this project."*

During the meeting, participants will receive a presentation about the project and will be asked a series of questions to elicit their input. The feedback will then be provided to the City Council for consideration.

For more information about the arena, click [here](#).

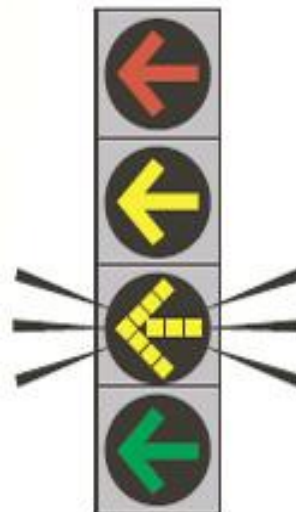
### **Flashing Yellow Arrows... What You Should Know**



Public Works has installed a new style traffic signal at four different intersections along Rosemont Road as part of a pilot program to control left turns and improve traffic safety at intersections.

New four-section signal heads with flashing yellow arrows have replaced the traditional five-section signal heads at four intersections on Rosemont Road. Rather than a circular green, drivers have a flashing yellow arrow to indicate that they can turn left after yielding to oncoming traffic.

With the new signals:



- A **solid red** arrow means STOP.
- A **solid yellow** arrow warns that the turn signal is about to change to red....be prepared to stop.
- A **flashing yellow** arrow means left turns are permitted, but you **MUST FIRST** yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians and then proceed with caution.
- A **solid green** arrow means, turn left...oncoming traffic **MUST** stop.

Public Works Traffic Engineering believes the new signal heads with arrows will provide a more direct, less confusing message. A national study demonstrated drivers had fewer crashes with the flashing yellow left-turn arrow than with the traditional yielding left-turn indication, because drivers perceive that any green signal means "go."

*"We strive to make the roads in Virginia Beach as safe as possible, and this is one thing that traffic engineering departments all across the country are trying to do," said Virginia Beach City Traffic Engineer, Robert Gey,. "That means coming up with the safest devices that they can. They've tested drivers and they found that*



*universally, people understand this particular signal. “*



The city has installed these signal heads at four intersections on Rosemont Road between I-264 and Holland Road:

- Chester Street/Sentara Way
- South Plaza Trail
- Silina Drive
- Bow Creek Blvd./Van Buren Drive

Over a three-year period at these four intersections, 31 of 106 crashes were on a permissive left turn with a solid green after the arrow phase — many of them resulting in injuries. The new flashing arrow could potentially help prevent these types of crashes. The city plans to eventually install them at other intersections throughout the city.

*“The pilot program would be about six months,” said Gey. “After that, any brand new signals that would go in we would automatically include the flashing arrow with any new traffic signals. If there are any known safety problems at that point, we would upgrade any of those signals with the flashing yellow arrow.”*

Virginia Beach is the first city in South Hampton Roads to install the new lights, but they are going up nationwide. While the pilot program is currently scheduled for six months, if it proves successful the city could move that timeline up and begin to install the signals at additional intersections even sooner.

Drivers can call **385-4131** or email [dlankfor@vbgov.com](mailto:dlankfor@vbgov.com) with any feedback on the new signals.

**And motorists...remember...flashing yellow always means turn with caution!**

A [video](#) explaining the new signals can be found on the city’s website or [YouTube](#) site.

To view a brochure about this new initiative click [here](#) or for more information, contact Public Works Traffic Engineering at (757) 385-4131.



### *Help Navigate the Region’s Future Transportation Needs*

*Imagine the year 2040... What will Hampton Roads look like? How will we get around? What transportation choices will be available for the next generation?*

The [Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization](#) is updating the region’s Long-Range Transportation Plan. Entitled *Navigating the Future to 2040*, this plan will address future road, transit, passenger rail, freight, bicycle and pedestrian needs for the region. Because decisions made now will directly impact and shape the region’s quality of life, the HRTPO needs to hear from the citizens’ perspective and obtain opinions and thoughts on vital transportation issues in the region. By taking this short five-minute [survey](#), citizens will help guide future modes of transportation in Hampton Roads.



To take the survey, visit [www.hrtpo.org](http://www.hrtpo.org). The survey will appear as one of the rotating topics in the large section at the top of the page.

For more information, call the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization at (757) 523-4881. Deadline for responses is Dec. 31.



## Christmas and New Year's Waste Collection Schedule

There will be no waste/recycling collection on Tuesday, Dec. 25. Tuesday's route will instead be collected Saturday, Dec. 29, 2012.

There will be no waste/recycling collection on Tuesday Jan. 1, 2013. Tuesday's route will instead be collected Saturday, Jan. 5, 2013.

The City Landfill will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, 2013.

Live Christmas trees will be collected with regular yard waste and will be recycled. No call for special pickup is necessary. Trees must be free of ornaments, lights and tinsel.

For more information on waste collection click [here](#) or call (757) 385-4650.



## Photographer's Corner - ACAC

The Virginia Beach Animal Care and Adoption Center celebrated their first anniversary in their new, state-of-the-art animal shelter. They had lots of

friends to help celebrate the occasion and a special free showing of the movie "The 12 Dogs of Christmas!" It was a fun day with prize give-aways, food and pet supply vendors, photos with Santa, horses from the Police Department's Mounted Patrol Unit, a Police K-9 demonstration, and tours of the shelter.

[View Related Images](#)

[View Related Slideshow](#)

## City Council Meetings

### Formal Sessions

Dec. 11 & Jan. 8, 2013 — 6 p.m.  
City Council Chamber, City Hall, 2nd Floor  
Preceded by informal session

There will be no City Council meetings on Tuesday, Dec. 18, 25 and Jan. 1, 2013.

A Ceremonial Oath of Office for re-elected and newly elected members of Council will take place Tuesday, Jan. 8, at 6 p.m.

### Citizens' Open Dialogue Following Adjournment

Citizens may speak for three minutes about concerns that are not on the agenda at the end of the first formal session of the month (Jan. 8).

[City Council Meetings](#) are cablecast live on VBTV via Cox Channel 48 & Verizon Channel 45. You may also watch online at <http://www.vbgov.com/media>.

### Contact Us:

City of Virginia Beach  
ComIT/Multimedia Services  
Advanced Technology Center  
1800 College Crescent, Room H161  
Virginia Beach, VA 23453  
Main: (757) 385-4075  
[mms@vbgov.com](mailto:mms@vbgov.com)







WILLIAM D. SESSOMS, JR.  
MAYOR

## City of Virginia Beach

VBgov.com

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2401 COURTHOUSE DRIVE  
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23456-9000  
(757) 385-4581  
FAX (757) 385-5699  
wsessoms@vbgov.com

December 11, 2012

The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell  
Office of the Governor  
Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor  
1111 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

**Subject: Mining Sand for Beach Replenishment along the Chesapeake Bay Beaches**

Dear Governor McDonnell:

The City Council has included an item in its legislative agenda for the 2013 session regarding the mining of sand for beach replenishment along the Chesapeake Bay beaches. I know you are very familiar with this area, especially the severe erosion and loss of property that has taken place due to severe nor'easters and most recently, Hurricane Sandy. The City has been performing nourishment of portions of our Bay beaches utilizing the Lynnhaven Inlet dredged material provided by the Corps of Engineer navigation maintenance projects. Unfortunately, these small sand replenishment efforts occur every third year and, in no way, provide sufficient storm protection for adjacent properties. The most efficient, practical method of creating a Chesapeake Bay Beach Storm Protection Program is by mining sand from nearby sources in the Chesapeake Bay and directly pumping it onto our beaches using a hydraulic dredging process.

We on the Virginia Beach City Council recognizing the importance of creating a long term storm solution for our Bay front communities, appropriated funds for the purpose of conducting a study to determine if there was an engineering solution available by mining sand within the Chesapeake Bay. We are pleased to report that VIMS (Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences) performed the study for us, and determined that there are ample sources of sand available just short distances from the shoreline. Establishing a replenishment program would provide significant protection to the residential and commercial Bay front beach properties. A copy of the VIMS findings are posted on our City website, VBgov.com, for public review.

Obtaining the environmental permits for mining sand in the Chesapeake Bay has never been requested by the City of Virginia Beach, nor to our knowledge, by our sister city of Norfolk. It is our intent, however, to continue developing a long term storm protection program involving the widening of our Bay front beaches in order to reduce the intensity of storm surge and wave action

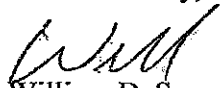
Subject: Mining Sand for Beach Replenishment for Chesapeake Beach  
December 11, 2012  
Page 2

impacts to our beaches and dune system. We acknowledge this new program will require permit approvals from at least two state agencies and a consolidated federal permit issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The City of Virginia Beach has tremendous working partnerships with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC), Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is our respectful request that you encourage the state agencies to prioritize streamlining this emerging process for sand mining permits and work collaboratively in establishing the necessary framework for developing an approval process. Rest assured we do not wish to avoid any environmental regulatory compliance issues; however, we recognize state agencies will be challenged to work through the details of creating a new solution for protecting life, property and the economic well-being of our municipalities adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

Our request is simply that your administration and subsequently the General Assembly favorably support pursuing the creation of a Bay Front Storm Protection Program which incorporates the replenishment of sand through mining of deposits within the Chesapeake Bay.

The damages along our Chesapeake Bay beaches caused by Hurricane Sandy underscore the critical nature of our request. The City staff has briefed our General Assembly delegation and, along with our community leaders, are available to sponsor a tour of our Bay front beaches so you and your staff can get a first-hand view of our needs and discuss our engineering solutions for enhancing the protection of what we feel is a critical asset to our economy and our quality of life. As always, I am certainly available to talk with you about this new initiative at a time convenient to you. Thank you as always for your great leadership of our Commonwealth.

Most Sincerely,



William D. Sessoms, Jr.

Mayor

WDS/DLH/s

c: The Honorable Scott Rigell, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Members of the Virginia Beach General Assembly Delegation  
The Honorable Paul Fraim, Mayor of the City of Norfolk  
The Honorable Members of the Virginia Beach City Council  
James K. Spore, City Manager  
Mark Stiles, City Attorney  
Dave Hansen, Deputy City Manager  
Robert Matthias, Assistant to the City Manager  
Phil Davenport, Interim Director, Public Works  
Kal Kassir, Chairman, Bayfront Advisory Committee





\* UPDATE  
JKS

# City of Virginia Beach

FINANCE DEPARTMENT  
PURCHASING DIVISION  
PHONE (757) 385-4438  
FAX (757) 385-5601

VBgov.com

2388 COURT PLAZA DRIVE  
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23456-9009

## INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** December 14, 2012

**TO:** James K. Spore, City Manager, Office of the City Manager

**VIA:** Patricia A. Phillips, Director of Finance, Department of Finance *PA Phillips*

**FROM:** Bill Davis, Purchasing Agent, Department of Finance/Purchasing *Bill Davis*

**SUBJECT:** Construction Bid Information for November

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Attached is the construction bid summary report for the month of November, 2012. It includes bids solicited and bids awarded in the month of November by the City of Virginia Beach. (More details on all bids and RFPs may be found at <http://www.vbgov.com/business/doing-business-with-the-city> under the Business caption.)

PAP/BSD/mdf

Enclosure (2)

cc: David Hansen, Deputy City Manager  
Phil Davenport, Interim Director of Public Works  
Tom Leahy, Director of Public Utilities  
Bob Montague, Interim Public Utilities Engineering Manager  
Catheryn Whitesell, Director, Department of Management Services

Attachment I

Construction Bid Information - Bids Solicited - November 2012

<u>Bid Number</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Solicited Date</u>	<u>Bid Opening Date</u>
PUCN-13-0011	Arrowhead Susquehanna Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation- Phase 1	11/25/2012	1/10/2013
PWCN-13-0023	Dam Neck at Harpers Road Safety Improvements and Shore Drive at Lake Shore Road & Helicopter Road Safety Improvements	11/25/2012	1/08/2013



**DMBE-CERTIFIED SUBCONTRACTOR PARTICIPATION BREAKDOWN FOR CONSTRUCTION**

## CONSTRUCTION

12/12/12 \* UPDATES  
JKS

**Position Statement of the  
Board of Directors of the  
Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce  
on Uranium Mining & Milling**

The Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce is a pro-business, pro-economic development organization, comprising almost 700 member enterprises. The Chamber is dedicated to representing private enterprise, promoting business, and enhancing the quality of life in our region. Our Chamber believes that it is our civic responsibility to participate actively in public policy debate and decisions of significance to our Chamber member businesses and organizations, private enterprise, our communities, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.


The Board of Directors of the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce has engaged in a thoughtful deliberation in considering a position on uranium mining and milling that focuses on our membership, the economic vitality and sustainability of our region, and the core values to which we adhere.

When the issue of uranium mining and milling resurfaced in 2007, the Chamber supported neutral, comprehensive, and independent studies that took into account all relevant factors regarding the impact of uranium mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Chamber's Board of Directors has encouraged its membership to read the studies, to participate in public meetings, and to share their views with both the Chamber's Board of Directors and elected officials.

Despite multiple studies and informational forums, there are still significant questions around whether uranium can be mined and milled safely in the Commonwealth of Virginia, specifically at the Coles Hill site, without incident or harm to the health, economy, and environment of the surrounding region.

While considering possible economic benefits of such an industry, the Board still has significant concerns surrounding the potential impact of uranium mining and milling on existing businesses and the region's ability to attract, retain, and grow jobs.

Because the uranium mining and milling industry will have far greater impact on the region and existing businesses than most enterprises, the Chamber's Board of Directors believes that it is imperative to adopt a position that focuses on the broader good.

 The Board of Directors of the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce believes there are still too many questions and uncertainties that could have negative irreversible consequences on our region; therefore, the Board of Directors strongly encourages the Virginia General Assembly to maintain the moratorium on uranium mining and milling in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Furthermore, the Chamber opposes the development of an uranium permitting program and regulatory framework that would effectively end the state's moratorium.



# ★ Blue Ridge Caucus ★

Virginia politics, west of the Capitol

« Kaine gets Senate committee assignments, including seat on armed services panel | Sen. Watkins “disappointed” by Bolling’s uranium mining stance »

2012.12.13

## **Bolling to announce opposition to uranium mining**

Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling will announce Friday that he opposes lifting Virginia’s moratorium on uranium mining, a position that could be critical if he has to cast a tie-breaking vote on the issue in the state Senate early next year.

Bolling will make his announcement at a news conference in Danville, according to two sources with knowledge of the lieutenant governor’s plans. Bolling will be speaking only for himself, and not for Gov. Bob McDonnell’s administration, the sources said. McDonnell has not taken a position lifting the 30-year-old moratorium. Bolling serves as the administration’s chief jobs creation officer.

Bolling’s announcement will come two weeks after he ended his candidacy for the Republican gubernatorial nomination and criticized the party’s presumptive nominee, Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli. Bolling said at the time that his withdrawal would allow him to speak with an independent voice on policy matters, and the controversial uranium mining issue may be his first step in that direction. Bolling also has not ruled out an independent candidacy for governor.

The debate over the 30-year-old uranium mining moratorium likely will be one of the most contentious issues of the 2013 General Assembly session, which begins Jan. 9. Lifting the moratorium would be a first step toward allowing Virginia Uranium Inc. to mine a 119-million-pound ore deposit in rural Pittsylvania County. A multi-agency state working group released a report two weeks ago outlining a regulatory framework for mining and milling that could be put in place if lawmakers lift the ban.

State Sen. John Watkins, R-Powhatan, has announced plans to introduce legislation to lift the uranium mining ban and establish a regulatory program for mining and milling.

Two state legislators who represent the proposed mining site said they plan to oppose lifting the ban. Del. Don Merricks, R-Chatham, reaffirmed his opposition last week, saying he believes uranium mining and milling “will provide the potential for health risks and environmental contamination.”

State Sen. Bill Stanley, R-Franklin County, said tonight that he, too, remains opposed to lifting the ban. Stanley said he was asked to attend Bolling's Friday news conference, but declined because of prior commitments. An advisory issued by Bolling's office earlier today said that the lieutenant governor will make an announcement at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research with local legislators, officials and business leaders.

Stanley called the timing of Bolling's announcement ironic "after what has transpired the last few weeks."

"It's good to know that if it comes down to a 20-20 vote [in the Senate] to lift the ban, he'll vote no," Stanley said. "I don't know that his announcement tomorrow moves the needle one way or the other."

– *Michael Sluss*



## Mayor Will Sessoms of Virginia Beach, The Safety of Uranium Mining Should be Beyond a Shadow of a Doubt

The work that has been conducted by the Virginia Uranium Working Group is completed and the final report produced. The Virginia Coal and Energy Commission met December 11 to discuss the report, and yet before they have begun the meeting, a decision has already been made to proceed with legislation to lift the moratorium.

I have read with great interest and concern the proponents' editorials, articles and blogs, which imply that Hampton Roads localities have an unreasonable mistrust about lifting the moratorium. They talk about the safety of nuclear energy and the nuclear navy as if those terms and activities are interchangeable with mining and milling of uranium. They are not.

The head of the regulatory agency that licenses uranium mines in Canada – one of the largest exporters of uranium in the world, is confident uranium mining can be done safely in Canada, and compares Canada with Pittsylvania County. Neither the regulatory framework, nor the population density, and certainly not the climate, are comparable to Virginia. Average annual precipitation in Saskatchewan, where Canadian mining occurs, is 16 inches, half of which falls as snow. In Virginia, 16-inches of precipitation is a not-all-that-infrequent storm.

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in its report to the General Assembly touted the Canadian approach to uranium mining as one of the best. But the NAS report was not so favorable to Virginia. It stated that there were significant gaps and steep hurdles to overcome before mining could be undertaken safely in Virginia. The Commonwealth's approach to environmental protection has not changed in the year since the NAS report was issued.

The proposed Coles Hill mine, and the potential for many future mines, occurs along the east flank of the Appalachian Mountain chain from the Potomac to the Roanoke. The US Geological Survey has noted that this location is particularly susceptible to devastating precipitation events and flooding as a result of moisture stacking up against the mountains. In fact, two such catastrophic storms occurred in Virginia: 1995 in Madison County and 1969 in Nelson County.

One can still drive along Route 29 in Nelson County and see the sides of mountains, stripped bare of vegetation and soil as a result of the 1969 storm. The Division of Mines, Minerals and Energy estimated that the storm, which officially dropped 30-inches of rain in one night (more unofficially), caused 2,000 years of erosion. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations encourage radioactive tailings disposal cells to be designed to last 1,000 years, but they mandate only 200 years. No one is really sure how long they will last in actuality.

Studies by Virginia Beach show that if there were a release of radioactive tailings downstream as the result of a catastrophic precipitation event, water in Kerr Reservoir and Lake Gaston would be contaminated for up to two years. The sediments in the river and reservoir beds, where most of the radioactive tailings would end up, would remain contaminated for hundreds of thousands of years.

Hampton Roads' jurisdictions have passed resolutions confirming our position that the ban on uranium mining should remain in place. These decisions did not come without a great deal of thoughtful analysis. Yet, many statements have been made publicly by uranium mining supporters that are incorrect and misleading, especially in light of the recently completed National Academy of Sciences (NAS) analysis.

In a recent Richmond Times Dispatch Editorial, claims were made that a Virginia Beach study of uranium mining impacts on our water supply is based on “**scenarios incorporating long-outdated (and, often, outlawed) practices.**” This is not true. Independent studies conducted by our city indicates that in the aftermath of a potential catastrophe, radioactivity in the main body of Lake Gaston, which is South Hampton Roads' major source of water, would remain above state and federal regulatory levels for up to two years.

Even with additional pledges of safety and operational modifications for storing radioactive tailings underground, we still do not have the confidence that a uranium mining and milling operation would be reasonably safe in Pittsylvania County. I also do not believe this area will be immune from a natural or operational catastrophic event. Is it unreasonable to assume this area will see hurricanes and major storm events? I don't believe it is unreasonable. If such a catastrophe were to occur, it would have enormous, long-term consequences to our cities and the 1.1 million residents of South Hampton Roads. Safety that is less than beyond the shadow of a doubt is simply too great a risk to the health of our citizens and economy.

Will Sessoms is the Mayor of Virginia Beach



# THE IMPACT OF THE FISCAL CLIFF ON THE STATES

## VIRGINIA

Federal and state finances are closely intertwined, and the fiscal cliff's tax and spending provisions will have consequences for states.

**TAXES** Most state tax systems are linked in some way to federal tax law, and as a result, the fiscal cliff's scheduled tax increases could automatically affect state tax revenues. The magnitude of the direct impact of the specified provisions is currently unknown, but the potential increase or decrease in revenues is noted where possible.

### DIRECT IMPACT OF THE FISCAL CLIFF ON STATE TAX REVENUES

Tax Categories:	Personal Income Tax <sup>a</sup>			Corporate Income Tax <sup>a</sup>	Estate Tax
Federal changes under the fiscal cliff:	Increase total federal tax liability	Reduce certain federal personal deductions	Reduce certain federal credits	Reduce certain federal business deductions	Reduce federal exclusion and reinstate federal credit
State linkage to federal policy:	State allows deduction for federal income taxes <sup>b</sup>	State linked to those deductions <sup>c</sup>	State linked to the Earned Income Tax Credit <sup>d</sup>	State linked to the Child and Dependent Care Credit <sup>d</sup>	State linked to those changes <sup>e</sup>
Virginia	N/A	UNKNOWN	▲	▲	▲

▲ indicates an expected increase in state revenue  
▼ indicates an expected decrease in state revenue

N/A indicates the state is not linked to the federal provision or does not levy this tax  
UNKNOWN indicates any potential impact could not be identified at the time of writing

**SPENDING** The scheduled reductions in federal spending could affect some states more than others depending on the make-up of each state's budget and economy.

### SELECTED INDICATORS OF STATES' POTENTIAL VULNERABILITIES TO SPENDING CUTS IN THE FISCAL CLIFF

	Federal Grants Subject to Sequester as a Percentage of State Revenue (2010)**	Federal Spending on Procurement, Salaries, and Wages as a Percentage of State GDP (2010)	Federal Defense Spending on Procurement, Salaries, and Wages as a Percentage of State GDP (2010)	Federal Nondefense Spending on Procurement, Salaries, and Wages as a Percentage of State GDP (2010)	Federal Nondefense Workforce as a Percentage of Total Employed in State (2012)
National Average	6.6%	5.3%	3.5%	1.8%	1.0%
Virginia	5.6%	19.7%*	9.8%*	10.0%*	4.2%*

NOTE: The general economic slowdown that could result if the full fiscal cliff were allowed to take effect would likely overwhelm any of the separate impacts. For more information, see notes on page 2.

For the full report and 50-state information, see *The Impact of the Fiscal Cliff on the States* at:

[www.pewtrusts.org/fiscal-federalism](http://www.pewtrusts.org/fiscal-federalism)



THE  
**PEW**  
CENTER ON THE STATES

By Mark Funkhouser



# The Fiscal Future that Won't Happen

Arithmetic always triumphs; our unsustainable trends will stop. What matters is *how*.

Unsustainable" is a word we hear frequently these days, and in a lot of different contexts. Surprisingly, it seems that in the context of government finance, the same smart people who tell us that the current trends are unsustainable seem also to be telling us that the kinds of things that need to happen to reverse those trends cannot happen.

We have a number of fiscal trends that are truly unsustainable—ever-rising health-care costs, an overall federal budget in which 42 cents of every dollar is borrowed, the continuing deterioration of our infrastructure, trillions of dollars in unfunded public pension liabilities and more. Something has to happen to reverse these trends, but we are told that political paralysis will continue to prevent the kinds of changes that would bend the curve. The political climate is said to be too polarized to allow for meaningful solutions, and in fact, the solutions that are proposed are not of the required scale. Meaningful solutions would require compromise, stepping into the no-man's land between the warring sides—something we haven't seen yet and are told we'll never see.

That conventional wisdom is wrong. Why am I so sure? Because I believe in arithmetic. I have great confidence that two plus two is always going to equal four and that it will never be three or five. Eventually arithmetic triumphs over all. If these fiscal trends are math-

ematically unsustainable, and they are, then they will stop.

Of course, *how* they stop matters a great deal. We could have a disastrous debt-induced crash like one of those that Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff document in their book, *This Time Is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly*. Or we could adopt a set of painful sacrifices that would allow our governments to move toward balancing revenues and expenditures while making the large and badly needed investments that will let our economy continue to grow in the face of increasingly competitive globalization. It's not a great choice, between the disastrous and the merely very bad, but that's where the choices we've already made have left us.

Responsible state and local government officials and civic leaders have many options for how they respond to the fact that that which is unsustainable will not be sustained. They can work to persuade their congressional and legislative delegations to avoid that disastrous scenario and pursue the less painful alternative. And they can use the tools of deliberative democracy to engage their constituents. I often hear policy leaders despair of making the public understand the issues and their scale. They underestimate the wisdom of regular folks. There are lots of good arguments that their constituents are perfectly capable of understanding—intergenerational fairness, patriotism,

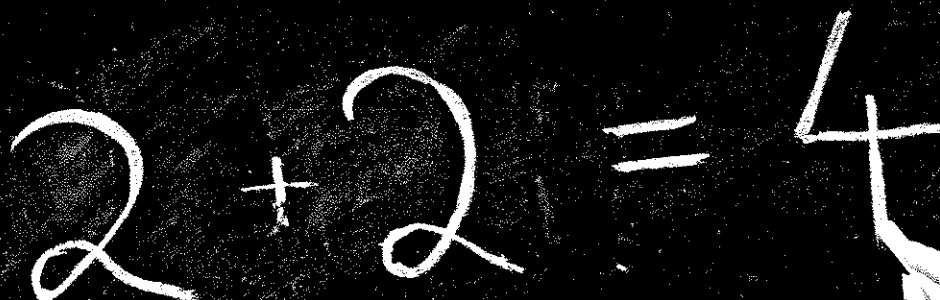
economic self-interest—and they all should be used.

Now is the time for public leaders to begin scaling back risk and strengthening the financial position of their governments, because a new fiscal storm is bearing down. As the federal government struggles with its own fiscal unsustainability, Washington's funding to the states certainly will continue to be reduced, and sharply. Likewise, state funding to local governments will be cut even more than it already has been.

Cities and counties, which already have undergone six straight years of revenue declines, are creatures of their state governments. They are at the bottom of the food chain, and their odds of being bailed out by their state capitals are slim. Local government leaders would do well to remember the famous New York *Daily News* headline from the days of New York City's fiscal meltdown in the 1970s: "Ford to City: Drop Dead." They also need to remember what former Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist said—"You can't build a city on pity"—and plan accordingly.

Regardless of your ideological persuasion or policy preferences, the numbers tell you that there is a hurricane the size of Katrina on the radar. With luck, it won't hit dead-on and the levees will hold, but it would be wise to begin gathering supplies and boarding up the windows.

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## **Women in Business 2012**

### **Martha McClees, Executive Director, Virginia Beach Vision**

By Lydia Wheeler



Martha McClees grew up in Virginia Beach and now, as executive director of Virginia Beach Vision, she gets to help grow the city.

Though McClees said she has had people call to get their eyes checked, Virginia Beach Vision is really a non-partisan, issue-oriented group made up of 120 private-sector business and civic leaders who work together to help determine the future direction of Virginia Beach and the Hampton Roads region in terms of development.

"Our focus is on things that have an impact on the city of Virginia Beach in the future like the light rail campaign," she said. "Our group took a position supporting light rail as a viable addition to our transportation system. Once we take a position, we advocate for it."

Being executive director is her full-time paid job, but member Michael Barrett said McClees always goes above what is expected to create new and dynamic positive change within the organization.

Prior to coming to work for Virginia Beach Vision in 2007, McClees was the intergovernmental affairs coordinator for the city of Suffolk.

She is currently chair of the Virginia Beach Social Services Advisory Board and director of Future of Hampton Roads, a nonpartisan, apolitical organization made up of community members committed to improving the area's quality of life.

A current or past member of numerous boards and organizations including the Virginia Musical Theater Board and the Together We Can Foundation, McClees said she is involved with things that touch her heart. She served the maximum nine years allowed by state law on the Virginia Beach Community Services Board, ultimately becoming the chairwoman. She joined after volunteering at the YMCA teaching parenting classes and

came across people struggling with their children either in foster care or in the court system.

"I was overwhelmed with my inability to help them and touched by the difficulties they were dealing with," she said. "I wanted to learn more to make a small difference." McClees has also been actively involved with the annual Neptune Festival for the last 35 years. Her mother, Nancy Creech, is the festival president.

"She tells my sister and me if we're not there to work there will be no Christmas," she said, with a laugh.

In the future, McClees she said she will continue working to build the city and can't wait to see how it will turn out.

"The city is still maturing and becoming what it's going to be and I think that's pretty exciting to be in a community where you can help shape the future," she said. "It's fascinating and rewarding to have a little bit of impact on that." nib

- Lydia Wheeler



## **Craig Quigley**

By Bill Cresenzo    [bill.cresenzo@insidebiz.com](mailto:bill.cresenzo@insidebiz.com)

Executive Director, Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance

Craig Quigley serves as executive director of the Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance, a public-private partnership dedicated to attracting, retaining and growing federal facilities in the region.

A career naval officer, Quigley served 27 years on active duty, achieving the rank of rear admiral and serving as deputy assistant secretary of defense (public affairs) at the Pentagon.

Upon retiring from the Navy, Quigley accepted a position as vice president of communications and public affairs for Lockheed Martin Maritime Systems & Sensors, leading a 30-person communications team across eight states for a \$3.5 billion operating company.

He then returned to federal government service as the director of communication for U.S. Joint Forces Command in Hampton Roads, during a time of transition in that organization.

Quigley is a 1975 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy where he served as president of his class. A native of Winthrop, Iowa, he is an active public speaker and believes in the value of mentoring juniors and developing teamwork to accomplish objectives. He has been listed in "Who's Who in American High Schools" and "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities," and was selected as an "Outstanding Young Man of America" in 1980. He is a member of the communications committee of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Board of Trustees, as well as a member of the board of directors of the Association of Defense Communities. He assumed his current duties in September 2010.

### **What do you think are the most important things to be aware of as far as the Hampton Roads area's dependence on the military?**

We must work harder to educate the citizens of Hampton Roads just how dependent we are on military spending. While this is a benefit in times of increasing federal budgets, it is a detriment when the opposite happens. Citizens need to better appreciate the enormous impact of military spending on our region and their lives.

**What would you suggest as a major step the region could take to handle the changes ahead with defense spending?**

We must adjust to the new reality of lower defense spending and a shift in focus to the Asia-Pacific region. Exact levels of local spending are still a work in progress, but they will be lower.

However, nothing can change the inherent advantages that Hampton Roads brings to the table - deep water port, training ranges right off the coast, moderate climate, talented workforce, a military-friendly culture - and we will always be a hub for a strong federal presence and federal spending.



## Brocks donate \$3M toward new EVMS institute

Posted: November 30, 2012



**Macon Brock and wife Joan**

By Jared Council    [jared.council@insidebiz.com](mailto:jared.council@insidebiz.com)

Although officials at Eastern Virginia Medical School had much to say about a new institute there, some were speechless about the \$3 million donation that will help establish it.

"I can't think of a big enough superlative," said EVMS President Harry Lester about the gift, which will be used for the M. Foscue Brock Institute for Community and Global Health.

"It's a really big deal," he later said.

Announced last week, the contribution came from Macon Brock, co-founder and chairman of Dollar Tree Inc., and his wife, Joan. Lester said it's likely the largest gift that EVMS has ever received from living donors.

"We are able to make this gift because we have made money with the Dollar Tree stores serving the public," Brock said, "and it's a way for Joan and I to give back to that public."

The institute - which can be viewed as an autonomous division within the school - will thrust EVMS forward in its goal of becoming one of the most community-minded medical schools in the world, officials said.

When plans are finalized and implemented, the Brock Institute will be the focal point for integrating the school's clinical, educational and research programs. Curriculum enhancements are in line, too, including a four-year community service requirement for all medical students.

Students already engage in community service, Lester said, but the requirement will organize the process.

"It's time that... we recognize the importance of what they're already doing," Lester said. Founded in 1973, EVMS has 1,131 students in MD, doctorate and master's programs.

The Brock Institute has officially been established by the Board of Visitors, so the next step is finding an executive director.

Officials said that should take place in early 2013, then planning and implementation will proceed.

Brock said EVMS officials approached him and his wife over the summer, and the parties eventually came to an agreement on the donation amount.

Officials said \$500,000 of the gift is used as seed money for the institute; the remaining \$2.5 million will fund its endowment.

"The Brocks are really lovely people," Lester said. "I know a lot of wealthy people, but I don't know anybody who enjoys giving money to good causes any more than the Brocks."

The center is named after Macon Brock's father, the leading physician at Norfolk's Grandy Sanatorium for nearly three decades until he entered private practice in the early 1950s.

Brock said he donated because the school has long demonstrated its community-oriented bent.

"It's enhancing an approach that they've already taken," he said about the institute.

Lester said the school has been community-oriented since its inception. He mentioned EVMS's HOPES Clinic, the only student-run free clinic in the state.

The clinic will fall under the umbrella of the new institute, Lester said, and initiatives for addressing community health issues will, too.

"We're not just teaching them the subject matter," Lester said, "but we're teaching them how to deliver that health care - for all our health professions - in the community."



## Resort developer found recession's silver lining

Posted: November 30, 2012



Bruce Thompson stands in front of OceanAire, which opened in June.

By Jared Council   [jared.council@insidebiz.com](mailto:jared.council@insidebiz.com)

At the dawn of the recent economic downturn, Bruce Thompson thought hard times would affect his company's multi-year plan to build \$250 million worth of developments on Virginia Beach's Oceanfront by 2014.

But in many ways, the recession turned out to be a blessing.

"That's one of the reasons we're doing all these projects," said Thompson, who co-founded Gold Key | PHR Hotels & Resorts 25 years ago.

"Interest rates are low, construction costs are low, subcontractors are available and we're taking advantage of that."

Progress at the Oceanfront has been strong in recent years, Thompson said, and once the company finishes bolstering its vision there it may take advantage of some of the various opportunities on the horizon.

"We are very excited about what they're doing at Waterside and hope that we will have the opportunity to participate at some point in time in the future," Thompson said about that downtown Norfolk project in a recent phone interview.

He also spoke about his company's reaction to a potential Virginia Beach arena. Separately, he said that he'll soon make a "significant announcement" about an upcoming project, the location for which he would not disclose.

Gold Key, known for razing and replacing several early-20th century hotels along the Oceanfront, recently broke ground on another such project.

It's the Hilton Garden Inn, a \$50 million hotel at the Oceanfront at 35th Street that's expected to be completed in May 2014. The mid-scale hotel will feature 167 ocean-view guest rooms, a new restaurant, an indoor/outdoor pool and 5,000 square feet of meeting space.

And 31Ocean, a \$75 million mixed-use complex, is slated to open in February.

When completed, the Hilton Garden Inn will become the company's ninth beach property. It already has Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront, its flagship site, as well as OceanAire, a \$70 million hotel/timeshare property that opened in June.

"OceanAire has exceeded our wildest imagination for success," Thompson said about the property, which is an expansion of the Ocean Beach Club.

"We have booked a significant amount of group business, weddings and even a few political events."

Gold Key didn't go untouched by the recession, Thompson said, as some of its properties experienced revenue declines.

But drops were not as bad as anticipated, he added, and revenue grew at some sites.

"We have yet to see any significant deterioration in demand in Virginia Beach for lodging or our food and beverage outlets," Thompson said.

The Oceanfront's largest employer has restaurant developments in the pipeline, too. Thompson said in the works is a 12,000-square foot restaurant complex known as "Big Italy," which will feature four Italian restaurant venues, including the three-year-old Pizzeria, which sits at 3316 Atlantic Ave.

Big Italy is expected to be complete Memorial Day.

Talks about building an 18,500-seat arena in Virginia Beach have been lurching forward lately. Last week, Virginia Beach Mayor Will Sessoms told City Council about the key players in an approximately \$300 million arena deal - the city, state and Philadelphia-based Comcast-Spectacor.

On Tuesday, Comcast-Spectacor President and Chief Operating Officer Peter Luukko is scheduled to address City Council about the deal.

The Sacramento Kings have been linked to arena talks, but Thompson said the city should move forward with the arena with or without a professional sports team.

"If the arena was developed, there obviously would be a need for the convention hotel," Thompson said, "and we would be interested in that opportunity, certainly."

The proposed site for the arena is near the Virginia Beach Convention Center. If the arena deal falls through, Thompson said he'd have no interest in pursuing development in that area, including a headquarter hotel for the convention center.

Overall, Gold Key has \$135 million in active construction with about \$70 million coming soon.

He said he's looking at a development on the Outer Banks, and that he just finished up site work for "Camp Grom." That's an extension of JT Grommet Island Beach Park and Playground for EveryBODY, the nation's first wheelchair-accessible beach-front park and playground.

"We're hopeful of breaking ground this spring," Thompson said about the overnight camp. "We need to raise a little more money and we need to solidify the land.

"But we certainly are very excited about this multipurpose, fully accessible camp for both our service people who have been wounded in the line of duty, as well as kids and adults with disabilities."

[www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com)



## **Sentara's request for more psych beds underscores national need**

Posted: December 7, 2012

By Jared Council      [jared.council@insidebiz.com](mailto:jared.council@insidebiz.com)

At a hearing this week, state officials will open considerations on Sentara Healthcare's request to place a dozen psychiatric beds at Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital.

A decision by Acting Virginia Health Commissioner Dr. Maureen E. Dempsey isn't expected until February, but opposition to the hospital's Certificate of Public Need request could extend the timeline.

"So far... no other entity has interjected to say Sentara doesn't need these beds," said Sentara spokesman Dale Gauding about the COPN, which was filed in August.

Officials at Virginia Beach General said they are looking forward to approval because strain on their emergency department has been increasing as availability of psychiatric beds in the region - and the state - has been on the decline.

In 2006, according to hospital statistics, there were 1,130 emergency room visits by patients with psychiatric needs at Beach General.

Through October this year, there were 2,388 visits by such patients, a 111 percent increase.

"What we are seeing is there's a delay in trying to place patients in behavioral health facilities," said Joanne Inman, vice president of operations at Beach General.

"And so our EDs are seeing wait times that can vary from seven hours to days."

Lynne Zultanky, a spokeswoman for Bon Secours Health System, declined to comment on the COPN application, but said the issue Sentara is facing is not unique.

"Oftentimes they're held, because they're in a state of crisis, in an emergency department," she said about psychiatric patients, "and that causes a diversion of resources."

Sentara officials aren't looking to add beds at Beach General, but rather convert 24 of the 276 beds there for geriatric and general adult psychiatric patients.

The transition is estimated to cost in the neighborhood of \$5 million, though.

"We're going to be taking a section of the hospital and be converting it from one form of health care into another," Gauding said. "So there's going to be a significant structural reconfiguration inside to create an environment for psychiatric patients that meets the current code."

Sentara has psychiatric beds at two other locations: Sentara Norfolk General, which has 34 adult psychiatric beds, and Sentara Obici, in Suffolk, which has 10 psych beds for adults.

The move has competitive implications, particularly for Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, a 100-bed, stand-alone facility across the street from Beach General on First Colonial Road. Beach General sometimes transfers patients to Virginia Beach Psychiatric.

If approved, Beach General officials foresee servicing psychiatric patients in-house, which they say has some patient conveniences.

"Oftentimes," Inman said, "we have a difficult time placing patients in psychiatric facilities because they also have an existing medical condition that needs to be managed at the same time that we're treating their behavioral health illness."

Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center officials did not return messages by press time.

Virginia Beach General also transfers psychiatric patients to Riverside Behavioral Health Center in Hampton, which has 147 beds, and Bon Secours Maryview Medical Center in Portsmouth, which has 34 psych beds.

Chesapeake Regional Medical Center used to be a player in this market, but it closed its 24-bed psychiatric unit in 2011 because of a change in Medicare funding three years prior.

Psych beds have been reduced across the state, and indeed the country, recently in part because of budget crunches.

Eastern State Hospital, a state facility in Williamsburg, had 529 psych beds in July 2002. Today there are 300, officials said.

According to a July 2012 report released by the Treatment Advocacy Center, a nonprofit that studies mental health care, Virginia lost 15 percent of its 1,407 psych beds between 2005 and 2010.

That has left the state with 17.6 beds per 100,000 residents, which represents 37 percent of the estimated number of beds needed per capita.

About Sentara's recent COPN, Brian Stettin, policy director at the Treatment Advocacy Center, said, "That's certainly bucking the trend. Everything we've been hearing has been closings."

Stettin said hospitals adding psych beds helps, but more work is needed on the behavioral health treatment front, particularly by elected officials.

He said the deinstitutionalization that's been going on for decades at state facilities has actually been a "transinstitutionalization" that burdens emergency rooms, prisons and families.

He was in Richmond last week advocating for court-ordered or "assisted" outpatient treatment.

"There are people who feel, as a civil liberties matter, that it's a violation of someone's rights," Stettin said.

"I reject that thoroughly. To me that's turning compassion on its head because we're talking about people whose illnesses prevent them from making good choices about their own best interest."

Sentara officials said the request for beds is a part of a hospital-wide effort to improve psychiatric patient services.

Officials launched an Assistant Task Force on Psychiatric Services.

"Something we've got to look at further," Inman said, "is, are there other opportunities to develop inpatient capacity - or outpatient capacity because inpatient is not necessarily the answer."

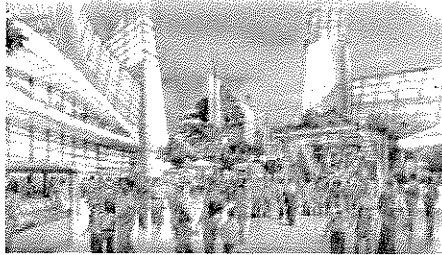
The COPN meeting is Friday at 1 p.m. at Virginia Beach Central Library, 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd.

[www.insidebiz.com](http://www.insidebiz.com)



## **Team would commit before arena deal is sealed, Mayor Sessoms says**

Posted: December 7, 2012



By Bill Cresenzo [bill.cresenzo@insidebiz.com](mailto:bill.cresenzo@insidebiz.com)

A pro sports team would commit to moving to Virginia Beach before the City Council votes on whether to move forward with plans to build an arena, Mayor Will Sessoms said.

Sessoms made the comment following a presentation at last week's City Council meeting by the Virginia Beach Department of Economic Development that included remarks from Peter Luukko, president of Comcast-Spectacor, the media and sports giant that wants to build the arena at 19th Street and Birdneck Road, across the street from the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

The economic development department wants the City Council to vote in February or March on whether to move forward on the project. By then, the council would know whether a team would move here and play in the new arena, the mayor said.

"There would be a firm commitment from a professional sports team," Sessoms said. According to the proposal, Comcast-Spectacor would pitch in \$35 million for the construction of the \$300 million arena, guarantee a 25-year lease term and annual operating costs for the length of the lease, host 200 events per year and guarantee a pro sports franchise as a tenant.

"We're negotiating hard," Luukko said. "We're making progress, but we're not there yet. We have a ways to go, but every day is a better day."

An early total estimated cost for the arena was \$350 million but that has been reduced to \$300 million. Beach officials now say financing costs will add another \$46 million to the project, for a total of about \$346 million.

While officials have repeatedly refused to divulge who the tenant team is, sources have said it's the Sacramento Kings. The team has until March to let the NBA know whether it plans to move.

Last week Luukko again declined to tell the City Council what team or teams he's negotiating with.

"We are pledged to confidentiality, and we can't discuss that," he said.

Councilman John Uhrin told Luukko he wished the arena proposal had been brought to the council sooner than this past August.

The Virginia Beach Department of Economic Development now acknowledges it had been secretly working on a deal since 2011.

"We, as a body, have not identified this as a priority," Uhrin said.

During a series of questions directed at Luukko, City Councilman Bill DeSteph said, "I don't know who the team is, but let's just say it's, oh, the Sacramento Kings."

DeSteph has repeatedly questioned various studies that say the region could support an arena and a team.

The city will have to convince the Virginia legislature of just that, because the project also hinges on securing millions from the commonwealth.

The Virginia Beach Department of Economic Development is asking the commonwealth for \$70 million in construction costs, \$38 million in relocation costs and \$42 million to offset the revenue that the team will lose when it plays in a temporary venue for two seasons while the arena is under construction.

The city would finance \$195 million of the cost through arena revenue and appropriation bonds, and a 1 percentage point hike in the city's hotel tax, something the Virginia Beach Hotel-Motel Association's 12-member board unanimously approved, said Verne Burlage, the association's president.

"We are in support of it, and if we have to tax ourselves as we did for the convention center, we will do that," he said.

Warren Harris, Virginia Beach's director of economic development, said the arena would have an economic impact of more than \$502 million in the commonwealth, and would create 3,712 jobs statewide.

"This type of facility will serve not just the local Virginia Beach market, but will create significant positive impact throughout the commonwealth," Harris said in a letter to

Martin Briley, president and CEO of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.  
"Without the participation from the commonwealth, this project cannot move forward."  
Meanwhile, the West Coast media is keeping a close eye on the arena developments.

"As upbeat Virginia Beach officials on Tuesday pushed forward with their effort to land an unnamed professional sports team - widely believed to be the Kings - Sacramento's mayor lamented that he once again has that helpless feeling of watching 'a slow death',  
" a story in the Modesto Bee said.



## Two Beach businesses invest and expand, another moves HQ to city

Posted: December 7, 2012



By Lydia Wheeler [lydia.wheeler@insidebiz.com](mailto:lydia.wheeler@insidebiz.com)

There is a flurry of activity in Virginia Beach as businesses plan to hire additional employees and relocate to the resort city.

According to the Virginia Beach Department of Economic Development, a local label manufacturer will hire 71 employees and invest \$3.5 million in new equipment for its headquarters.

Founded in Virginia Beach in 1979, Label Unlimited USA, located on Hawkeye Court, produces pressure sensitive labels and tags for industries such as food, beverage, cosmetics, clothing, candles, pharmaceuticals and shipping.

President and CEO John Wynne could not be reached for comment, but confirmed in a voice mail message that the company is expanding.

DaiEi Papers USA Corp., a Japanese-based trading company of pulp and paper, will move its U.S. headquarters from Chesapeake to Virginia Beach this month.

Chief Operating Officer Kevin O'Connor said the company will be located in a 5,400-square-foot space on Cleveland Street off Newtown Road. Though this is slightly smaller than the current 6,000-square-foot facility at 505 Independence Pkwy. in Chesapeake, O'Connor said the company will be more centrally located in Virginia Beach.

"It's really a convenience factor," he said, of the reason behind the move. "We'll be closer to the airport. A lot of our customers and suppliers come in from overseas and normally we put them up in Virginia Beach."

DaiEi Papers USA Corp. has 16 employees. O'Connor said there are plans to hire an additional two people next year.

Mosaic Tile Co., an independent distributor of ceramic tile and stone, is doubling its size, according to the economic development department.

The company, located on Avenger Drive off Lynnhaven Parkway, has purchased a 24,000-square-foot building in Lynnhaven and plans to invest \$2.5 million and hire an additional eight employees.

Branch Manager Phil Fahrig said the company won't comment on its plans until after the first of the year

# VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION

Cox Cable Channels 46, 47 & 48  
Verizon Cable Channels 46, 47 & 45

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**DECEMBER 16 – DECEMBER 22, 2012**

VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION provides locally produced and other specialty programming to support the mission of the Virginia Beach Municipal Government and the Virginia Beach City Public School System. Program listings reflect expected airtimes but may be preempted by public meetings, hearings, and special events.

Ⓜ e-Streaming is available at <http://www.vbgov.com/media/pages/live-videos.aspx> for all **LIVE** public sessions of Virginia Beach City Council and Planning Commission meetings, archives of previous meetings, and original VBTv programming. **LIVE** meetings and previous sessions of the Virginia Beach City School Board can be accessed at <http://www.vbschools.com/schoolboard/streaming>.

### PUBLIC MEETINGS

Ⓜ **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEETING (Cox 48 / Verizon 45)** — *Recablecast of the December 11 meeting: Sun 9am; Thu 7pm; Fri 9am.*

Ⓜ **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING (Cox 47 / Verizon 47)** — *Recablecast of the December 4 meeting: Mon 2pm. LIVE: Tue, Swearing-In Ceremony 4:45pm; Formal Session 6pm. Recablecast: Wed 7pm; Sat 9am.*

Ⓜ **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING (Cox 47 / Verizon 47)** — *Recablecast of the December 12 meeting: Fri 7pm.*

### **VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION – COX 48 / VERIZON 45**

**A PLACE OF OUR OWN: SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DELAYS** — Insight and advice for solving issues related to parenting and child rearing. Sun 9pm; Mon 8am & 3pm; Thu 12am; Fri 3pm.

Ⓜ **ACCESS VIRGINIA BEACH** — Biweekly news magazine highlighting city & school topics and issues.

- See the Great Neck Middle School formal dedication ceremony
- Students and staff reminisce, celebrate the new Great Neck Middle School
- Virginia Beach City Public Schools approves new high school schedule
- New flashing yellow left turn signals implemented on Rosemont Road
- Register now for the 2013 Winter Wildlife Festival
- Holiday Lights at the Beach returns to light-up the Oceanfront
- Take a look behind the scenes at Virginia Aquarium
- Enjoy a preview of upcoming holiday events at the Virginia Aquarium
- VBCPS named to college board's AP District Honor Roll
- College and work readiness assessments in Beach schools prepare students for the future
- Students at Windsor Woods Elementary make holiday cards for troops
- Enjoy a photo montage of holiday lights on the boardwalk

Mon 12am, 2:30am, 11am, 1:30pm, 9pm & 11:30pm; Tue 5am & 7:30am; Wed 12am, 2:30am, 11am, 1:30pm, 6pm & 8:30pm; Thu 5am, 7:30am & 6pm; Fri 6pm & 8:30pm; Sat 5am, 7:30am, 11am, 1:30pm, 9pm & 11:30pm.

**AGAINST ALL ODDS: EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN** — Discover statistical solutions to the puzzles of everyday life. Learn how data collection and manipulation - paired with intelligent judgement and common sense - can lead to more informed decision making. Sun 6am; Tue & Thu 12pm; Fri 1am.



**AMERICAN CINEMA: *THE HOLLYWOOD STYLE*** — Explore film history and American culture through the eyes of Hollywood insiders. Sun 6pm; Mon 5am; Tue & Fri 9pm; Wed 8am; Sat 12am & 3pm.

**ASSIGNMENT: THE WORLD** — Current events for ages eight through fourteen. Sun 4:15pm; Tue 9:15am & 7:15pm; Wed 6:15am & 4:15pm; Sat 9:15am.

**BRIDGING WORLD HISTORY: *GLOBAL INDUSTRIALIZATION*** — Explore global patterns through time, seeing history as an integrated whole. Sun 5am; Tue & Thu 11am; Fri 12am.

**CHECK THE TECH** — Produced by students at the Virginia Beach Technical & Career Education Center to report on the school's programs and activities. Mon 2am, 1pm & 11pm; Tue & Thu 7am; Wed 2am, 1pm & 8pm; Fri 8pm; Sat 7am, 1pm & 11pm.

**CRIME LINE TOP COP AWARDS** — Sun 7:30pm; Mon 6:30am; Tue & Fri 10:30pm; Wed 9:30am; Sat 1:30am & 4:30pm..

**DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA - *INTEREST GROUPS: ORGANIZING TO INFLUENCE*** — Sun 5:30am; Tue & Thu 11:30am; Fri 12:30am.

**DESTINATION TOMORROW** — Look back at the successful Cassini-Huygens mission to Saturn and Titan; revisit robotic exploration that will enable future human missions to the moon and mars; GPS technology; and a retrospective segment about the development of the space shuttle program. Sun 5pm; Tue 10am & 8pm; Wed 7am & 5pm; Sat 10am.

**DISCOVERING PSYCHOLOGY: *APPLYING PSYCHOLOGY IN LIFE*** — Explore historic and current theories of human behavior through demonstrations, classic experiments and simulations, current research, documentary footage, and computer animation. Sun 10:30pm; Mon 9:30am & 4:30pm; Thu 1:30am; Fri 4:30pm.

**ESSENTIAL SCIENCE FOR TEACHERS: *WHAT IS LIFE?*** — Sun 1pm; Fri 8am; Sat 2pm.

**GREAT AMERICAN AUTHORS: *1650 - 1845*** — Explore the rich, literary tradition of American storytelling, beginning with the first colonists in the 17th century to a small cadre of brilliant, 19th century, New England writers who defined the unique American experience and soul. Sun 7am; Tue & Thu 1pm; Fri 2am.

**HEALTH WATCH: *SMOKING CESSATION*** — Sun & Tue 1am; Mon & Sat 7pm; Wed 10pm; Thu 9am & 4pm; Fri 6am.



**HOW IN THE WORLD** — Hop aboard the Airship Curiosity for a world of discovery and adventure. Pilot Lindy explains how hurricanes are formed; why some foliage changes color in autumn; and Professor Omnibus teaches how to make a hovercraft from a CD and balloon. Sun 7pm; Mon 6am; Tue 10pm; Wed 9am; Thu 6:30pm; Fri 10pm; Sat 1am & 4pm.

**INSIDE WRITING COMMUNITIES: *REASONS FOR WRITING*** — Discover how writing workshops motivate students and help them become proficient writers. Sun 8:30am; Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 2:30pm; Thu 11:30pm.

**KENNEDY CENTER PERFORMING ARTS - *CONTEMPORARY PLAYWRIGHTS: AUGUST WILSON*** — Sun 2am; Mon & Sat 8pm; Tue 2am & 5pm; Wed 11pm; Thu 10am & 5pm; Fri 7am.

**LEARNING MATH: *FRACTIONS, PERCENTS, AND RATIOS*** — Designed for elementary and middle school teachers, and organized according to standards developed by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, this series explores topics in measurement, number operations, statistics, geometry, and algebra. Sun 6:30am; Tue & Thu 12:30pm; Fri 1:30am.

**MATH MONSTERS** — Designed for pre-kindergarten children, this animated series provides an amusing and enlightening introduction to mathematical concepts. Sun 3:45pm; Tue 8:45am & 6:45pm; Wed 5:45am & 3:45pm; Sat 8:45am.

**MEET THE AUTHOR: ADRIANA TRIGIANI** — Sun 8am; Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 2pm; Thu 11pm.

**MONEYTRACK: NEW WAYS TO WORK** — Learn how to make your money work for you, and keep your investments on track so you can retire in style and enjoy the good life. Sun 9:30pm; Mon 8:30am & 3:30pm; Thu 12:30am; Fri 3:30pm.

**NASA X** — Sun 1:30am; Mon & Sat 7:30pm; Tue 1:30am & 4:30pm; Wed 10:30pm; Thu 9:30am & 4:30pm; Fri 6:30am.

**NEWSWRITING** — Explore techniques to become a better writer through traditional and emerging journalistic styles.

**OPINION/COLUMN WRITING** — Sun & Thu 2pm; Fri 1pm.

**COVERING DISASTERS** — Sun & Thu 2:30pm; Fri 1:30pm.

**READ-ALEE-DEED-ALEE: A BEARD OF COLD GOLD** — An early reading series introducing sounds and rhyming patterns that unlock words and the meaning of words. Sun 4pm; Tue 9am & 7pm; Wed 6am & 4pm; Sat 9am.

**REAL VIRGINIA** — Agricultural news and family-oriented stories presented by the Virginia Farm Bureau. Mon 12:30am, 11:30am & 9:30pm; Tue & Thu 5:30am; Wed 12:30am, 11:30am & 6:30pm; Fri 6:30pm; Sat 5:30am, 11:30am & 9:30pm.

**SEASONS OF LIFE: CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE** — From conception through old age, explore the biological, psychological, and social "clocks" that are the essence of life-span education. Psychologists, sociologists, biologists, and anthropologists present theory, methods, and research, while real individuals from diverse backgrounds talk about the significant events in their lives. Sun 11pm; Mon 10am & 5pm; Thu 2am; Fri 5pm.

**SHAMU TV: THE SEA TURTLE STORY** — Each year, Seaworld parks rescue dozens of turtles either ill or injured. Follow the story of one of these special turtles as round-the-clock rehabilitation efforts make for an unforgettable success story. Sun 3pm; Tue 8am & 6pm; Wed 5am & 3pm; Sat 8am.

**SOLDIERS JOURNAL** — A monthly newscast taking a comprehensive look at what is happening throughout the Army. Mon 1:30am, 12:30pm & 10:30pm; Tue & Thu 6:30am; Wed 1:30am, 12:30pm & 7:30pm; Fri 7:30pm; Sat 6:30am, 12:30pm & 10:30pm.

**TECH SAVVY GIRLS** — Discover the technology gender gap existing in education and see solutions undertaken by local community organizations. Sun 4:30pm; Tue 9:30am & 7:30pm; Wed 6:30am & 4:30pm; Sat 9:30am.

**TEEN KIDS NEWS** — Sun 5:30pm; Tue 10:30am & 8:30pm; Wed 7:30am & 5:30pm; Sat 10:30am.

**THE MATH DUDE: LINEAR EQUATIONS** — Middle and high school students can improve their algebra skills with these fast-paced programs devoted to Algebra I as it is taught in the classroom today. Sun 3:30pm; Tue 8:30am & 6:30pm; Wed 5:30am & 3:30pm; Sat 8:30am.

**THE ROAD TO RECOVERY: A SHOWCASE OF EVENTS 2012** — See footage, photos, and interviews from 2012 National Recovery Month events held around the country that promotes the benefits of prevention and treatment for mental illness and substance use disorders. Sun & Tue 12am; Mon & Sat 6pm; Wed 9pm; Thu 8am & 3pm; Fri 5am.

**THE WHOLE CHILD CAREGIVER GUIDE: RESPECTING DIVERSITY** — Sun 10pm; Mon 9am & 4pm; Thu 1am; Fri 4pm.

**TODAY'S AIR FORCE** — A biweekly newscast about the U.S. Air Force, its people, its programs and missions. Mon 1am, 12pm & 10pm; Tue & Thu 6am; Wed 1am, 12pm & 7pm; Fri 7pm; Sat 6am, 12pm & 10pm.

**VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION – COX 47 / VERIZON 47**

**A PLACE OF OUR OWN** — Wed 3pm.

**ACCESS VIRGINIA BEACH** — Sun 9pm & 11:30pm; Mon 7:30am & 6pm; Tue & Thu 2:30am & 1:30pm; Wed 7:30am & 11:30pm; Fri 2:30am & 7:30am; Sat 6pm.

**AGAINST ALL ODDS** — Thu 9pm.

**ART HISTORY - *FIRE & ICE: THE ROMANTIC CLASSIC DEBATE*** — Tue & Thu 6am.

**ART OF THE WESTERN WORLD: *INTO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY*** — From the restrained classical tradition to energetic and spontaneous modern art, masterpieces of the Western world are interpreted through major paintings, Mon 10pm; Fri 3pm; Thu 11am.

**ASSIGNMENT: THE WORLD** — Thu 5:15pm.

**BRIDGING WORLD HISTORY** — Thu 8pm.

**CHECK THE TECH** — Sun 11pm.

**CLASSIC ARTS SHOWCASE** — Enjoy the classic arts by experiencing short video clips of film and music. Sat 12am through 8am, 1:30pm through 6pm, and 8pm through Sun 8pm.

**DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA** — Thu 8:30pm.

**DESTINATION TOMORROW** — Thu 6pm.

**DISCOVERING PSYCHOLOGY** — Wed 4:30pm.

**EARTH REVEALED - *SEDIMENTARY ROCKS: THE KEY TO PAST ENVIRONMENTS*** — Explore how scientific theories are developed and how our activities today affect earth's continuing evolution. Mon & Wed 11:30am; Tue & Thu 7:30am.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: *FORCE FOUR*** — Lessons learned in the wake of hurricane Hugo point to an urgent need for better disaster planning and preparation, especially as hurricane cycles become stronger and more frequent. Tue & Thu 7am.

**ESSENTIAL SCIENCE FOR TEACHERS** — Mon 7pm; Tue 11pm; Wed 2pm; Fri 5pm & 11pm.

**EXERCISE HORIZONS** — Mon, Wed, Fri 10:30am; Tue & Thu 2:30pm.

**EXPLORING THE WORLD OF MUSIC: *THE SHAPE OF MUSIC*** — Explore basic elements of music and how music is an expression of culture. Mon 9:30pm; Fri 2:30pm; Thu 10:30am.

**FIT FOR DUTY: *PLYOMETRIC DRILLS*** — An exercise program spanning several disciplines, such as kickboxing, Pilates, aerobics, weight training, and more. Produced by The Pentagon Channel. Mon & Wed 12pm; Tue & Thu 8am.

**FRONTLINE FIREFIGHTER** — Produced by the City of Virginia Beach Fire Department to explore current training trends and report news of interest to firefighters and citizens alike. Mon through Fri 9am; Mon, Wed, & Fri 1pm; Thu 11pm.

**FUZION FITNESS** — Mon & Wed 11am; Tue & Thu 3pm; Fri 11am.

**HOMEBOUND EXERCISE** — Mon, Wed, Fri 10am; Tue & Thu 2pm.

**GREAT AMERICAN AUTHORS: *1650 - 1845*** — Explore the rich, literary tradition of American storytelling, beginning with the first colonists in the 17th century to a small cadre of brilliant, 19th century, New England writers who defined the unique American experience and soul. Thu 10pm.



**HOW IN THE WORLD** — Mon, Wed, & Fri 9:30am; Mon & Sat 6:30pm; Thu 11:30pm.

**INSIDE WRITING COMMUNITIES: *REASONS FOR WRITING*** — Discover how writing workshops motivate students and help them become proficient writers. Tue & Fri 10:30pm; Thu 3:30pm.

**JURY ORIENTATION** — A helpful guide for anyone called to jury duty. Sun 8pm; Mon 8am & 8pm; Wed, Fri & Sat 8am.

**LEARNING MATH** — Thu 9:30pm.

**MATH MONSTERS** — Thu 4:45pm.

**MEET THE AUTHOR** — Tue & Fri 10pm.

**MONEYTRACK** — Wed 3:30pm.

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART: *MASTERS OF ILLUSION*** — Examines artistic and scientific discoveries of the Renaissance, offering insights into a remarkable visual revolution. Tue & Thu 6:30am.

**NEWSWRITING**

***OPINION/COLUMN WRITING*** — Tue 5pm; Wed & Fri 6pm; Thu & Sat 7pm.

***COVERING DISASTERS*** — Tue 5:30pm; Wed & Fri 6:30pm; Thu & Sat 7:30pm.

**POLICE RECRUITMENT** — Sun 8:30pm; Mon 8:30am & 8:30pm; Wed, Fri & Sat 8:30am.

**READ-ALEE-DEED-ALEE** — Thu 5pm.

**REAL VIRGINIA** — Sun 9:30pm.

**SEASONS OF LIFE** — Wed 5pm.

**SHAMU TV** — Thu 4pm.

**SIGNING TIME: *THE ZOO TRAIN*** — An introduction to American Sign Language for children. Mon & Wed 12:30pm; Tue & Thu 8:30am.

**SOLDIERS JOURNAL** — Sun 10:30pm.

**TECH SAVVY GIRLS** — Thu 5:30pm.

**TEEN KIDS NEWS** — Thu 6:30pm.

**THE MATH DUDE** — Thu 4:30pm.

**THE POWER OF PLACE: *HOLDING THE HINTERLANDS*** — Explore the physical, human, political, historical, economic, and cultural factors that affect people and natural environments. Mon 11:30pm; Tue & Fri 12:30pm & 4:30pm; Thu 12:30pm.

**THE WESTERN TRADITION: *THE DARK AGES*** — Journey from ancient, pre-western civilizations to the age of technology and beyond. Mon 11pm; Tue & Fri 12pm & 4pm; Thu 12pm.

**THE WHOLE CHILD CAREGIVER GUIDE** — Wed 4pm.

**THE WORLD OF CHEMISTRY: *WATER*** — Mon 9pm; Fri 2pm; Thu 10am.

**TODAY'S AIR FORCE** — Sun 10pm.