

Welcome to...

OPCL

Ocean Park Civic League - Virginia Beach, VA

Important Dates

Ocean Park Civic League Meeting

May 10
Thursday
7:30 p.m.
Ocean Park
Rescue Squad

Fireworks Payment Deadline

June 1
Friday

BAC Meeting

May 17
June 21
3:30 p.m.
Bayside
Recreation Center

SDCC Meeting

May 21
June 25
7:30 p.m.
Ocean Park
Rescue Squad

Surprise?

June 16
2:00-3:00 p.m.

Fireworks

July 4
9:15 p.m.
Anywhere on the
beach. Get your
email to
tgearpsu@gmail.com
if you wish to
receive last-minute
rain date

Ocean Park Echo

MAY 2012

Fourth of July Fireworks!



If you haven't already donated, please do.

**Our show is funded ENTIRELY
through our donations.**

NO money comes from civic league funds.

NO money comes from the city.

We must raise the money to have a show.

Your donation is very appreciated.

Enjoy the new, bigger and better show!

The next payment is due June 1.



Fireworks Update!

Expect a much larger and more spectacular show this year. The explosive shells in the past measured two inches in diameter and went up about 200 to 250 feet in the air. This year, because the barge allows the permitted distance from people, we upgraded to eight-inch shells, which can reach heights of 600 to 900 feet. Not only will the entire crescent of beach from Little Creek to Lesner Bridge have an excellent view, but the Eastern Shore

and Pembroke will see them. In January the beach measured too thin to allow even the show from last year to repeat. With the anticipation of more beach loss before July, and because the permit deadlines didn't allow a change the location once we applied in March, we had to look at an option. If we lost too much beach, we wouldn't have a show or the down payment. The safer bet became the barge show. Safer in monetary risk and in liability. The barge will sit roughly 900 feet off the beach in front of Aries

(chosen for the water depth, the central location, etc.) We significantly reduced the chance of an explosive accident during the show and during the loading process.

Due to the higher cost of the barge show, the three bayfront civic leagues will raise money for the show together.

As part of that joint effort, all civic leagues will promote and support any fireworks fundraising efforts. Please help us work together to have the best little show in Virginia Beach.

Make your fireworks donations through PayPal at the OPCL website, drop checks in my mailbox at 3967 West Stratford Rd., hand your donations to a civic league representative, or catch me on the red golf cart. You won't be able to miss me.

Money raised from the Chic's Beach Bar Crawl will go towards the Fourth of July Fireworks on the Bay.

Chic's Beach Spring Bar Crawl will benefit fireworks

May 20

Enjoy your neighborhood restaurants from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

\$25 ticket gets you a special event t-shirt as well as a raffle ticket.

Get your ticket punched at each restaurant:

Travel from

(1) The Green Parrot (2) Zia Marie's (3) Alexander's on the Bay

to be entered in the raffle.

Raffle prizes include six \$50 gift certificates.

Come dressed as your favorite ROCK STAR.

We expect some KISS and Gaga look-a-likes!

**Tickets available at Alexander's on the Bay
4536 Ocean View Avenue
464-9999**

All proceeds will help bring fireworks to the bay on July Fourth.



Some ideas to improve your fireworks experience:

Parking will be tight. While this is a private, neighborhood show and we don't promote it beyond the neighborhoods, word gets out. If you have friends or family coming, consider inviting them earlier so they will have space.

Dogs may be bothered by fireworks. Turn on the television or some white noise before leaving for the show. Or, for those truly neurotic pets, consider asking the vet for something to calm them.

Children may also be upset by the show. Have a backup plan for those who panic. Perhaps walking back up the beach path, or even back up to the street, to watch might make them more comfortable.

Please clean up your trash.

Be conscious of blocking the roads. Our roads are narrow enough. Make sure emergency vehicles have a way to get through to all homes.

Fundraising Baylake Pines

Baylake Pines fund-raising efforts are on track, thanks to the great support from a large majority of our neighbors. Our goals are within reach and we feel very confident that we will achieve them by the end of May.

We can attribute this to hard work and great efforts by the seven-member Baylake Pines Fireworks Committee and the overwhelming support of our officers and board of directors, not to mention the generous contributions of individual neighbors.

Our fund-raising consists of a number of events. First, our door-to-door solicitation continues, and then successes with a kickoff of a CASHOLA at Taste Unlimited, an Oyster Roast at the Leaping Lizard Café, and an online Silpada Jewelry sales event, which will conclude this month.

This year's Oyster Roast goes on record as the biggest hit so far. We have had a lot of positive comments, with the biggest one being "when are we doing this again!?" We also heard, "this definitely needs to be an annual event., at the very least!"

We sold 270 tickets. Many people made a great effort, including the Leaping Lizard Café/Billy and Amy Prince. Everything was as close to perfect as possible. Attendance, weather, food, beverages all equaled a great day and a very successful event.

We look forward to a very fun event this Fourth of July. We have a lot of excitement building in the Baylake Pines community!

If we can help by supporting any of your fund-raisers please get me the information and we will do everything to make your events successful. One for all and all for one great Fourth of July show!

Thanks,

**Current OPCL
Fireworks Fund
Total: \$747
I know you
enjoy the show.
I've seen you there.
Please donate.
Any amount counts.**

Catastrophic Event Training

April 14, 2012

Learn how to help neighbors during a catastrophic event.
sponsored by FEMA VDEM and the
Virginia Beach Fire Department
35 hours training in lifesaving skills, emergency preparedness and
practical exercises

Training at City of Virginia Beach Fire EMS Training Center
927 South Birdneck Rd.
Tuesday/Thursday 6-10 p.m.
May 15

Register Early

Training will be useful and a lot of fun.
For more info. or to register call Cookie Ketcham, VB cert pro-
gram coordinator 385 2914 or email VBcert at vbgov.com. For
local OP contact info. Call Bob Leavenworth at 477-8307

Encourage Safety for your family and neighbors!!

OPCL CRAWL OUT!!! Thanks

Thank you to all who came out to the annual Ocean Park Civic League Crawl Out! on Saturday, March 24 at La Casa Rana. We hope you had a great time and met some new neighbors in the process.

Raffle tickets raised \$232 for the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia during the event. Special thanks to all the local businesses who donated raffle prizes including:

- La Casa Rana
(for their donation and hosting the event!)
- Salty C's
- C P Shuckers
- Yotini
- Bayside Bar & Grill
- Becka Brothers Landscape Services
- Ava Clara
- Amici Style
- Maninos

Last but not least, thank you to Brent Shepard for providing the awesome live music all night long.



Lynnhaven River Now and the Virginia Beach SPCA printed stickers to place on trash receptacles as reminders to dog owners to clean up after their pets. A more informative article will appear in the October newsletter, but to receive stickers now contact Mike Wills at mandjwills@cox.net or pick one up at this Thursdays OPCL meeting.

OPCL official business

OPCL Zoning Committee Update:

The Robbins Legacy account held investments valued at approximately \$204,100

as of March 31. The portfolio is allocated 66 percent fixed income/ cash and 34 percent equity/balanced funds. In addition to appreciation from the original \$180,000

investment, the account continues generating approximately \$5000/ year in interest and dividends. Ideas for funding of community projects are encouraged and welcome.

OPCL Finance Committee Update:

The zoning committee met with representatives from Bishard Development to review a proposed seven-unit condo development a the

Chic, Cheap Resale Boutique property on the corner of Dupont Circle and Shore Drive. The developers have addressed concerns of two adjacent property owners and solicited input from the OPCL Zoning Committee. At

this time, the committee has found no reason to oppose the development and Bishard is expected to go before the Virginia Beach Planning Commission to request a conditional use permit in the near future.

Dredge Letter to the city

The Ocean park Waterways Development and Redevelopment Committee send the following letter on behalf of the Ocean Park Civic League requesting information about the proposed permanent dredge transfer station.

Dave Hansen
Deputy Manager
City of Virginia Beach

Dear Mr. Hansen
Thank you for your latest correspondence with Ocean Park Waterways Development and Redevelopment Committee. As an effort to consolidate questions from our community regarding a multitude of significant proposed impacts to Ocean Park including the Lesner Bridge replacement project, the proposed dredge spoils transfer station and the eventual development of Pleasure House Point property, the Ocean

Park Civic League appointed this committee (OPWDRC) to streamline questions and answers to the city of Virginia Beach about these projects and report to the civic league as needed. Ocean Park has approximately 1600 residents that include 3556 condos, Chesapeake House, north and south Ocean Park, Aries, Pelican Dunes, BayVista and Mystic Cove. We appreciate you and your staff working with us to educate residents and respective parties involved in the aforementioned projects over the next several years.

Sincerely,
Andrew Broyles
Chairman OPWDRC
cc: OPWDRC Members
Wendy Vaughn
Mike Wills,
Johnathan Macy
Capt. Shuler (consultant)
President Martin Thomas

...more OPCL business

Pleasure House Point Stakeholder Committee Meeting

The Pleasure House Point Stakeholder Committee held its inaugural meeting at the Bayside Recreation Center April 23, 2012, co-hosted by the city of Virginia Beach and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). The almost 100 percent attendance by appointed representatives showed a remarkable demonstration of interest and commitment by the city and the public.

Brian Solis, of the city's Open Space Committee, opened the meeting and provided the following information, available soon on a city and CBF websites. CBF spokespersons also supplied information about their vision for their facility, which would have the three-fold function of environmental center, environmental education center and environmental restoration site. They hope for the building to go beyond LEED certification to "Living Building" designation. See <https://ilbi.org/> for more information.

The outline describes the project as "a natural conservation area, public park and environmental education area. Partners are the city, The Trust for Public Land (TPL) and CBF. Funding partners are U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Beach, the Trust for Public Land, CBF, Dominion Foundation, Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Foundation and the citizens of the Shore Drive

area. The city seeks public input prior to formulating the plans for this area.

The project timeline lists planning in May 2012, rezoning, permitting, acquisition by CBF of their 10-acre parcel on or about January 2013, and design and construction of the city portion January 2013 through December 2013.

The presentation offered a brief history of the property and included maps of the parceled areas, showing storm water management and proposed soft trails, kayak launch area, and a sidewalk with adjacent parallel parking along the northern portion of Marlin Bay Drive.

Miscellaneous enclosures included a section for habitat preservation and the threatened and endangered species that call PHP home, as well as the results of a survey conducted earlier from at least two meetings available to Ocean Park Civic League residents.

The city proposes three or four more of these meetings in addition to a yet-to-be-scheduled public meeting. The meetings are, of course, open to the public, but in the interest of time, observers are asked to channel their input to

one of the designated representatives. Shore Drive residents can communicate through Kal Kassir (Bayfront Advisory Committee) at kkassir@aol.com, Todd Solomon (Shore Drive Community Coalition) at todd@sdcc.info, Tim Solanic (savePHP.org) at tim@sdcc.info, or Grace Moran (Ocean Park Civic League) at grace@sdcc.info or 318-9224. Or you can contact Brian Solis (bsolis@vbgov.com) or

Barbara Duke (Bduke@vbgov.com) of the Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Department. The committee expects to have an interactive website up and running soon, so please hold your emails until after the next meeting. The next meeting has a tentative date of 4 p.m. May 21, or 4 p.m. May 16.

Grace Moran

Please volunteer with OPCL Volunteer Positions (Annual Hourly Needs)

- Vice President (12)
- VB Council of Civic Organizations Rep (6)
- Secretary (12)
- VBPB Community Advisory Committee Rep (6)
- At Large Executive Board Member (12)
- Newsletter distribution Coordinator (6)
- Newsletter Graphic Designer (30)
- Newsletter Content Contributor (5)
- Fireworks Committee (10)
- Newsletter Distributor (4)
- Scholarship Committee (5)
- Zoning Committee Member (5)
- Audit Committee (3)
- Safety and Traffic Committee Member (5)
- Meeting Coordinator (6)
- Social Committee Member (5)
- Door Prize Coordinator (6)
- Business Liaison (10)
- SDCC Representative (10)
- Membership Committee Member (5)

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3656 Shore Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Phone: 757.216.3300
Visit us at:
lacasaranavb.com

5% Discount on food items
only for all OPCL Members
*Not valid with any other
discount or coupon



RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL FACILITY AT THE LYNNHAVEN BOAT RAMP AND BEACH FACILITY (LBR&BF) POSED BY THE OPCL-WATERWAYS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. What is the process of creating and implementing the DMTS proposed plan? Briefly describe, from start to finish, including who initiated the DMTS proposal and the steps through city departments and any other agencies needed, the approvals required, including the acquisition of permits and award of contracts.

Response:

The Lynnhaven River was reasonably divided into five control areas. Within each control area, the staff selected at least one site which will be able to serve as a public transfer site. Essential to that site selection is its proximity to main transportation routes and a minimal impact to residential areas. The purpose for creating public transfer sites is because many of our residential streets cannot support the load bearing weights of multiple trucks which would result in the destruction of our neighborhood streets. Additionally, these transfer sites will be used for supporting the transfer of material in support of maintaining Coast Guard approved navigation channels whose responsibility for periodic maintenance resides with the city of Virginia Beach.

2 The Virginia Beach application for the dredging of the Western Branch of the Lynnhaven, page 3, notes that spoils will be transported to Thalia Creek. Does that mean that the dredge spoils from the main channels from the Lesner Bridge to Thalia can be handled by the Thalia site?

Response:

No, not without an exception being granted to the control area concept. The Thalia site distance from the Lesner Bridge creates an extraordinary financial burden to the contract costs and is located in a different control area.

3. Who is or was responsible for identifying the potential sites for DMTS locations in 2008 and now?

Response:

The City Water Resources Staff, overseen by the Department of Public Works and Deputy City Manager Dave Hansen, comprise the Neighborhood Dredging SSD Project Delivery Team who undertook the task of identifying potential sites for transfer operations.

4. What other potential sites have been identified and what criteria have been used to evaluate them, especially sites in benefitting neighborhoods?

Response:

In addition to the Thalia site and the Crab Creek Dredge Material Holding site, we are looking at the Pep Boys site to support the dredging program.

5. How can we be assured that the city has conducted a thorough evaluation of alternative sites when you previously failed to identify the Thalia site and Boatel site?

Response:

Staff has spent a considerable amount of time assessing all waterfront properties and has a thorough knowledge of the neighborhood road system as well as the boat ramp accesses within the Lynnhaven watershed.

6. With the citizen-identified "Lynnhaven Boatel" site now city approved, why is it necessary to have another spoils site located less than 1.25 miles away?

Response:

At this point we are not pursuing the Boatel site. With City Council's recent Resolution, we will not pursue the Maple Street to support Neighborhood Dredging SSD projects. Whether the Boatel site is finally developed is a future question, but it is nonetheless located within another control area and does not serve the interest of the northern portion of the western branch channel, nor does it serve the interests associated with the inlet itself.

7. A posting on the Virginia Beach city website from 2009 states: "Based upon feedback received at the Public Meeting, alternate sites for a dredged material transfer station were evaluated. The proposed transfer facility

has been moved from the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp Facility to a site located near the crossing of Thalia Creek and Virginia Beach Blvd." Why has the LBR site been added back to the plan?

Response:



Once again, the location of the Thalia transfer site is not felt to be fiscally affordable to support the northern reach of the western branch or the Lynnhaven Inlet itself. The Beaches and Waterways statement that the Thalia site was the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp site being moved is incorrect and without fact.

8. The report prepared by the Beaches & Waterways Advisory Commission in January 2012 states that the decision against using Maple Street was due to the negative impacts on the neighborhood, property values, and quality of life. Why do you believe that those negative impacts would be acceptable in our neighborhood? Particularly, since we will not benefit from this program in any way.

Response:

Use of the LBR for transfer operations will minimally impact the Ocean Park neighborhood, not reduce property values, and will not reduce the quality of life for the neighborhood which already entertains significant public access traffic for using the public boat launch amenity and beach access parking.

9. Why does the city think it's appropriate for Ocean Park to bear the acknowledged impacts of a DMTS for the benefit of waterfront property Owners' miles away?

Response:

Because the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp is a

public site as is the Crab Creek Dredge Material holding site. Creating an ability to support multiple tasks makes it an ideal location without incurring additional costs to our city's taxpayers.

10. Ocean Park residents and homeowners are major stakeholders in the Crab Creek recreation area and propose DMTS site. How will the city keep an open dialogue on this with the Ocean Park Civic League in the future?

Response:

Just as we have recently done, through our briefings to the Bayfront Advisory Committee and our staff's attendance at your Ocean Park Civic League meeting, we will remain available to continue the dialogue and have committed to a mid-project review of our performance in operating a construction equipment material and lay down yard in support of the Lesner Bridge Replacement Project.

11. The 150,000+ citizens who use the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp and Beach Facility are also major stakeholders in the DMTS proposal. What is the city plan to create and maintain an open dialogue with them?

Response:

The city will go to great lengths to ensure that LBR is available throughout the construction period of the Lesner Bridge replacement and would create the operational procedures necessary for co-existing while any transfer operations for future missions were underway. Adequate public notices will be key to keeping our citizens and visitors informed.

12. Have you asked the VMRC for their position on turning a state funded boat ramp into an industrial site? (If not, why not? Or What was their response?)

Response:

We do not intend to turn the state funded boat ramp into an industrial site. It will remain a boat ramp facility. Adjacent to it will be the creation of a transfer site with appropriate accesses utilizing the boat launch site.

13. Given the proposed investment and plans of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for Pleasure House Point, have you contacted them for feedback on the proposed DMTS at LBR? (If so, please share.)

Response:

We have notified the Chesapeake Bay Foundation of our intentions for constructing a transfer site at the Crab Creek dredge material holding area and have not received negative feedback.

14. The Beaches and Waterways report recognizes the concern for decreased property values if a DMTS were to be located at the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp. How will property owners be compensated for the loss of value and/or the increased difficulty in selling?

Response:

We do not believe that the property owners will suffer any loss of value and/or any increased difficulty in selling by the location of a transfer facility at the Crab Creek dredge material holding site.

15. Has an economic study been done that includes the loss of tax base as property values decrease and the loss of revenue as boaters and fishermen go elsewhere?

Response:

We do not believe that property values will decrease as a result of the creation of a transfer site at a location the currently provides for the retention of dredged material. Furthermore, we do not believe that revenue will be lost from LBR because we intend to co-exist.

16. The report states that "the Crab Creek DMTS be restricted from operation for anytime greater than one work segment not to exceed 60 consecutive workable days during any three year cycle." Does that mean 60 days in three years or 60 days per year for three years?

Response:

Staff does not agree with the Beaches and Waterways Committee that the Crab Creek DMTS should not be used in excess of 60 workable days in any three year cycle, nor has Council endorsed that recommendation.

17. On page 4 of the report it states that the program will operate at Crab Creek from Memorial Day to Labor Day (summer) while page 21 states that it will operate from Labor Day through Memorial Day (winter). Which one is correct?

Response:

Operational periods at the Crab Creek

transfer site will be determined through the permitting process and with the approval of City Council. We prefer not to restrict time of use periods because, in any case, the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp will be fully functional at all times.

18. It also states that it may operate during the summer with "special relief." What specifically is "special relief?" What will be the criteria for granting such relief?

Response:

We do not know what the Beaches and Waterway Committee is referring to by "special relief." Therefore, no criteria have been established. Please refer to the answer to 17 regarding approvals for use of the transfer site.

19. Why can't private property owners in private neighborhoods continue to develop and implement their own private dredging plans as previously done?

Response:

Staff's first preference for locating a dredged material transfer site will be to limit it to that neighborhood in which that neighborhood dredging project is being conducted. As referenced in an earlier answer, many of our city's roads were not constructed such that large truck traffic can be sustained. In such cases, the destruction of public roads is unacceptable. Establishing publically accessible logistics nodes with limited impact is key to the systems approach necessary for implementing the Neighborhood Dredging SSD Program.

20. Is dredging of privately owned neighborhood canals considered a "core" city service?

Response:

The Neighborhood Dredging SSD Program is a key initiative in support of the City Council's fourth strategic goal: Revitalize the city's neighborhoods and plan for the future. The cost sharing partnership establishes an acceptable fiscal arrangement whereby our taxpayers have an opportunity to reclaim the value of their properties while having a positive overall effect throughout their neighborhood. The definition of "core" can be construed many ways; but, the maintenance of navigable waterways could be deemed core.

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- Tidewater Insulators: 10 percent off any attic or crawlspace insulation package.
- The Royal Chocolate: 10 percent off product purchases. Does not apply to gift cards, shipping or delivery. One per person, per visit.
- Lend a Hand Massage Therapy Free half hour reflexology added onto your 60-minute massage. Not valid with other discounts.
- La Casa Rana: 5 percent discount for all OPCL members. Not valid with other discounts/coupons.
- Ampor Electric Corporation: Buy a one year Energy Saving Maintenance Agreement and get a year free. (\$140 value). Receive \$30 off service calls. Receive \$350 off a HVAC system replacement, home generator or tankless water heater installation.
- Tim Sidow, CPA will donate 10 percent of the professional fees from tax services to the Fireworks Fund. 615-9730 or www.facebook.com/SidowLLC.
- Salon De Bella: 25 percent to first-time customers and a 15 percent on subsequent visits. See coupon ad for more.

Consider becoming a business sponsor. Contact Terry Gearhart at tgearpsu@gmail.com. You may need to show your OPCL membership card to receive discounts.

Ocean Park Civic League Membership Form

Property owners, residents, renters and businesses are eligible to join. Membership year runs January 1 to December 31 so the earlier you pay your dues, the more time you have to enjoy your benefits.

Pay online at www.opcl.org through PayPal or mail a check to the address below.

If you use PayPal, make sure you fill

out the online membership form so we can get your membership card to you.

Even if you aren't a member, we want to keep you informed. Please email Terry Gearhart, membership, at tgearpsu@gmail.com to be added to the email list. We send out regular announcements from crime alerts and water quality warnings to rescheduled events. It is a much

Sign up for: Amount

Annual Household Dues \$15.00

Fireworks Donation \$ _____

OPCL supports the Fourth of July Show but does not fund it. It is funded strictly by Total: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Ocean Park Civic League

P.O. Box 55385

Virginia Beach, VA 23471

Website:

As seen on Facebook

- A petition to “Save the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp and Beach Facility / Say No to the city of Virginia Beach plan to put a Dredge Transfer Station here.” You may go to this link to sign if you wish. http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/save-the-lynnhaven-boat-ramp-and-beach-facility/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=system&utm_campaign=Send%2Bto%2BFriend
- Deb and Tim Bennett on Madison Avenue held a yard sale with 10 percent of sales donated to the Fireworks Fund. Thank you!
- Rumor has it that the house on Shore Drive with the soldiers in front will soon have an antique store. The soldiers supposedly came from the old Hess’ Department store in Allentown Pennsylvania.
- Patrick Finnerty noted his thanks to his great neighbors for cutting his lawn on a busy day.
- Mike Blankenship posted a great photo of pelicans on a stormy day.
- History from Patrick Finnerty: in 1959 Virginia Beach ran from the North Carolina line to Little Creek along the coast line, it didn’t go inland. Princess Anne County occupied the inland area. Pembroke Mall and Princess Anne High School sat in Princess Anne County. Little Creek Amphibious Base has a Norfolk address but the whole base sits in Virginia Beach. In Virginia, you either live in a city or a county. Never both.
- OPCL residents continue to look for alternative dredge off-loading sites for the city.

Posting to the OPCL Facebook page requires joining the site. Valuable real-time information about OP residents. These are summarizations of posts.

Acronyms: OPWDRC

Ocean Park Waterway Development and Redevelopment Committee

Ocean Park Waterway Development and Redevelopment Committee
OPWDRC



Jordan Bridge replacement.

Due to the large number of federal, state and municipal development and redevelopment projects scheduled to begin in the near future within Ocean Park, this committee formed to streamline questions and answers to and from the appropriate regulatory agencies dealing with these projects. OPCL President Martin Thomas appointed the OPWDRC at the March OPCL meeting and it has met three times since that appointment.

The last informal meeting took place at the Jordan Bridge replacement project April 21. The Jordan bridge, also a replacement bridge, has the same builders who designed the replacement Lesner bridge. The OPWDRC reports that a bridge replacement presents a very disruptive and complex project.

Other issues within the scope of this committee include the proposed dredge spoils transfer station, development at Pleasure House Point, Osprey Point Park and the Lesner bridge replacement. The OPWDRC reports to Ocean Park Civic League at each general membership meeting. The city of Virginia Beach answered a significant list of questions regarding the dredge spoils transfer station. See the initial letter and the city response on pages 6 to 7 of this newsletter or on the OPCL website.

When I jumped headfirst into the Ocean Park Civic League I quickly learned that the committees and the city representatives use many acronyms to shorten the names of locations, groups, divisions, etc. It can be very confusing to a newcomer or to those not regularly involved in meetings. To help shed light on some of this, I will include an explanation for frequently seen acronyms. In all newsletter use I will always follow Associated Press Style and identify by full name on first reference and acronym thereafter in each article.

Jill Doez, editor

The BAC Meeting Wrap Up

Kal Kassir shared hopes that the Bayfront Advisory Committee (BAC) will have involvement with Parks and Recreation determining appropriate uses of the Pleasure House Point property.

The committee will address the situation of the sushi restaurant not conforming to the conditions placed on their variance request. Also, AirTime Sports must comply with the conditions of their use permit or face legal action.

The committee will table the proposed parking project on the north side of Shore Drive from the Lesner Bridge to Kendall Street. Council members advised the committee to try to reach consensus with the neighborhood before bringing the project forward for consideration.

March 15, 2012 meeting

News from the Bayfront

Pleasure House Point

The acquisition of Pleasure House Point will establish, restore and protect Pleasure House Point for public access as open space, an environmental learning and research center.

Key attributes:

- * Model of sustainable facility
- * Wildlife refuge & rehab center
- * Educational & research center
- * Part of the Lynnhaven River Blueway
- * Consortium of public & private entities
- * Central core for features unique to the Chesapeake Bay
- * Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail
- * Leader in educational

programs for disabled children & adults

The following businesses, groups and individuals have played a part in the creation of Pleasure House Point:

- * Dominion Foundation
- * Trust for Public Land
- * Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- * City of Virginia Beach
- * Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation Foundation
- * Lynnhaven River Now
- * Shore Drive Community Coalition
- * Ocean Park Civic League
- * Wild River Outfitters
- * Croc's 19th Street Bistro
- * Back Deck Bar & Cafe
- * Baylake Pines
- * Chesapeake Beach Civic League
- * Cape Story by the Sea Civic League
- * Cape Henry Shores Civic League

- * Dominion Printers Inc.
- * Tidewater Kayak Anglers Association
- * Virginia Beach SPCA
- * Chick's Oyster Bar
- * Dockside Restaurant
- * Brian Morris
- * Mike Proffitt
- * Seth Stainbeck
- * Warren Seaburg
- * Pete Hansen
- * Frame25 Productions
- * Jon Friedman
- * Virginia Coastal Access Now
- * First Colonial High School Green Team
- * First Colonial High School Guitar Club
- * Patagonia
- * Marina Shores Million Dollar Rockfish Challenge

Printed from the SavePHP site at www.savephp.wordpress.com. Also visit the SavePHP Facebook page for updated information.

Comings/Goings

No official submissions this issue, but the renovations at the corner of Powhatan Ave. and West Stratford Road. as well as the corner of Madison and West Stratford Road. provide great improvement to the community.

Please submit any comings or goings to www.opclnews@aol.com. If you just moved into the neighborhood, please introduce yourself and give us your location. Returns will be printed, but, for obvious reasons, those leaving (unless permanently and saying goodbye) will not.

The SDCC Meeting Wrap Up

The Shore Drive Community Coalition met February 27, 2012. The following notes came from the meeting minutes.

Dave Williams gave a brief overview of the Virginia Beach Beaches and Waterways Advisory Commission (B&WAC) meetings he and several other concerned citizens attended and stated that they provided little opportunity for an open discussion of the major issues. The committee does not allow public comments and questions at meetings.

Vice Mayor Louis Jones submitted a resolution to remove the Maple Street site from the Neighborhood Dredge Spoils

Program. City council unanimously voted to remove the site.

Williams pointed out that although the city had instructed the B&WAC to study the impacts of dredge site use and conduct a formal public input meeting, no neighborhood impact studies (safety, environmental, real estate, damage to the infrastructure, private use by non-SSD participants, insufficient cost planned and estimates, and the technical issues involved with mechanical dredging compared with hydraulic dredging) have taken place.



WANTED: SYLVAN BEACH

I am interested in any photos of the area when it was known as Sylvan Beach. Either the entrance to the neighborhood or the beach itself.

Please contact Jill Doczi 407-5595 or jilldoczi@aol.com

Species diversity in Virginia Beach waters

The Chesapeake Bay, located in a biogeographic boundary, represents the furthest south that many cooler water Northern species are found, and the furthest north that many warmer water Southern species are found. Over 250 different species of fish have been found in the Chesapeake Bay. Many of the fish found in the Bay, such as lined seahorse, surprise people. A host of resident fish live here all year long, and even more transient species visit in the winter or summer.



Bay anchovy

especially during the late winter and early spring when schools of baitfish return.

I get to see hundreds of seine nets pulled in from our local waters during the summer, so I'm more familiar with our tropical visitors from the south.

Crab scrapers occasionally

Northern visitors include scup and cunner. The books report winter flounder come into the Bay, but I've never seen one. Friends of mine have come across seals resting themselves on our Bay beaches during winter walks. These Northern visitors also haul out on the rocky Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel islands and ocean beaches from time to time. Northern gannets can also be found diving for fish in the lower Bay,

find species of butterflyfish in the eelgrass beds in Tangier Sound and fishermen catch grey triggerfish half way up the York River. Pink, white and brown shrimp of edible size can be found in the Lynnhaven River and farther up the Bay, especially during dry summers. Other visitors from Southern waters include Florida pompano, gray snapper, mojarra, pinfish, pigfish, halfbeaks, houndfish, Southern stargazers, juvenile Crevalle jack, banded rudderfish and a whole lot more.

Most Frequent	Infrequent	Northern searobin
Atlantic silverside	Alewife	Northern stargazer
Bay anchovy	Atlantic croaker	Pigfish
Rough silverside	Atlantic spadefish	Pinfish
Striped anchovy	Banded killifish	Rainwater killifish
	Bay whiff	Red drum
	Bighead searobin	Rough scad
Less Frequent	Black drum	Scaled sardine
Atlantic herring	Black seabass	Sheepshead minnow
Atlantic menhaden	Blackcheek tonguefish	Silver jenny
Atlantic needlefish	Blue runner	Skillefish
Atlantic thread herring	Blueback herring	Smallmouth flounder
Bluefish	Bluespotted cornetfish	Spanish mackerel
Halfbeak	Chain pipefish	Spotted hake
Kingfish	Crevalle jack	Spotted seatrout
Mummichog	Florida pompano	Striped burrfish
Northern pipefish	Gizzard shad	Striped mullet
Permit	Hogchoker	Summer flounder
Silver perch	Horse-eye jack	Tautog
Spot	Inshore lizardfish	Threespine stickleback
Striped bass	Lined seahorse	Weakfish
Striped killifish	Lookdown	Windowpane
White mullet	Naked goby	Winter flounder
	Northern puffer	

The Virginia Institute of Marine Science (www.VIMS.edu) captured the following species with a 100-foot seine net in unvegetated sandy bottom sites in the lower Bay (Austin et. al 1996). There are many more visiting species to be found in the estuarine waters around Virginia Beach if you know where to look and how to catch them.

Bob Carroll, March 2012

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What in Ocean Park is that?

The wood roach does not live inside structures. It merely visits. Also, if it makes you feel better call it a "Palmetto Bug" but it is not a "Water Bug" Water Bugs are truly aquatic bugs and something different.

Wood Roach

Often confused with its cousin, the American roach, the Wood roach (or Pennsylvania wood roach) prefers to eat outdoor decaying organic matter. Females deposit their egg capsules outdoors under old logs, stumps and firewood. There is one generation of wood cockroaches per year and, in some cases, the life cycle takes two years.

Attracted by light, unlike all other cockroaches, they often fly to outdoor lights at night, especially during May and June. They may enter homes via cracks through which light is visible at night. At dusk, males may take short flights and are drawn to porch or house lights. They also come in through doors as they open or on items brought in from outside. An inspection of your home after dark may show visible light through cracks or openings.

Seal up possible entry points using an easy-to-use product called Xcluder. It is much like steel wool, but it doesn't rust. Make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens and exterior vents and louvers are covered with screen. Most actual infestations involve colonization outdoors of the spaces underneath wood shingles or siding. To control wood roaches in such spots, use a bulb or power

duster to puff less toxic insecticide dust, such as boric acid or diatomaceous earth, into space under the shakes. Be certain to wear a dust mask during application and to follow label directions.



Wood roaches do not survive indoors which is probably the best news you have read so far. They require the consistently moist environment of their natural habitats such as under wood piles or loose bark and in decaying logs. So, unless your house-keeping is way below par, the presence of wood roaches is strictly a temporary annoyance. They usually die within a few days in the house, so a call to the exterminator is usually not required.

If Wood cockroaches are found anywhere inside the home, usually they are solitary. So, it's not necessary to go looking for the mate. Wood cockroaches do not reproduce or multiply inside. Since wood cockroaches do not establish themselves indoors and their presence is temporary (a few weeks, at most) during the spring, chemical pest control measures indoors are rarely needed.

*Information provided by
Rick Steinau*

*Ask The Exterminator at www.asktheexterminator.com
And Peggy K. Powell, Ph.D., extension specialist,
West Virginia University Extension Service*

Fast Facts

Type: Insect

Diet: Decaying or fermenting matter

Average life span in the wild: 1 yr.

Size: Male head and body, 7/8 inch to 1 1/4 inches with wings as long as the body. Female head and body, 1/2 inch to 3/4 inches with wings as long as half the body.

Weight: I'm not going to weigh one. Does it really matter?

Did you know? Wood Roaches are the only cockroach attracted to light.



The Ocean Park scoop

I know, I KNOW, but I had to do it. Call them what you will, but Ocean Park has an unspoken evil, its own Voldemort. Since they enjoy light so much, it seems as good a time as any to bring them out into it.

If you live in Ocean Park you can find them. At night, crawling up a neighbor's siding, scrambling in the road near the manholes, under the live oak leaves and in fireplace wood.

Wood roaches are not German cockroaches. German cockroaches infest restaurants and homes. Exterminators find German cockroaches difficult to eliminate since they live, eat and reproduce indoors.

In addition to the listed methods of combat, I will add something found completely by accident. Spraying them with Lysol Antibacterial Kitchen Cleaner stops them in their tracks. Literally. I don't know what that says about the substance meant to clean your counters.

Jill Doczi

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Message from the president



I hope everyone is enjoying the early spring! We have lots of excitement coming our way this summer. Of course, we have the July Fourth Barge Fireworks show. Please contact Jill Doczi and make your donation now!!! In addition we have OpSail 2012 Virginia from June 1 through June 12. We will have sailing vessels from all over the world anchored off

our coast right here at Ocean Park. OpSail 2012 Virginia celebrates the bicentennial of the War of 1812, which played an important part in the development of our Navy. Please go this link for more information:

<http://www.opsail2012virginia.com>.

Many thanks to Lauren Bennis for putting on another great Crawl Out! I hope to see you all at the next meeting and if not, on the beach.

Martin Thomas
 OPCL president



Chesapeake Bay Foundation/Ocean Park partnership

Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) has selected our full design team for the Pleasure House Point environmental center. The design team, just at the beginning of the design phase, has just completed a green charrette (green visioning exercise) that included two international experts in LEED and other green designs.



Pleasure House Point from the water.— Tom Viele

CBF hopes to have design renderings completed in the summer and to begin the process of city planning commission review and approval. CBF is energized to see the enthusiasm of the Pleasure House Point stakeholder committee process. CBF thanks Ocean Park residents for all the ongoing support for this project.

CBF looks forward to working with OPCL and its members to enhance this Virginia Beach jewel. For more info, contact Christy Everett at CBF Hampton Roads office (ceverett@cbf.org or 622-1964) go to www.cbf.org/php.