City Manager’s Update

WHO KNEW?
Santa Claus and VB’s First Responders
Make a Great Team

SANTA IS ON THE AIR: Each year since 2004, Virginia Beach EMS has teamed up with Santa Claus for a one-of-a-kind program that provides children with a direct line to the jolly man. Beginning yesterday at noon to Dec. 25 at noon, Santa is connected with first responders from Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake and Hampton Roads Navy Regional Fire through the Santa on the Air program.

- It started one Christmas Eve after EMS handled a tragic call involving children. An EMS volunteer noticed the children were scared about what was happening, and spoke with them to help make them feel better. Wanting to do more, the volunteer helped develop Santa on the Air.

- When children are present at a call and there is the opportunity, a provider at the scene secretly phones Santa and gives a quick briefing. The children are then gathered around the radio to hail Santa at “North Pole 1,” the established call sign that first responders use when contacting Santa over the radio. When the familiar “Ho! Ho! Ho!” comes back over the radio, the children (often the adults too) are delighted. They talk with Santa, who offers words of encouragement in a jolly voice.

FIRST RESPONDERS ASSIST EDMARC WITH “SANTA RUN”: The Virginia Beach Fire and Police departments and Virginia Beach Sheriff’s Office along with Police, Fire and Rescue departments from across Hampton Roads joined forces to help bring holiday cheer to terminally ill children and their families. This is the third year Virginia Beach has participated in EDMARC Hospice for Children’s Santa Run, using police and fire vehicles and personnel to bring Santa and his elves to the homes of these special families.
SHARING BEST PRACTICES IN TOWN CENTER DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Economic Development hosted a municipal delegation from Greenville, NC on Monday, Dec. 18. The visiting delegation included the city manager and members from various city departments. The discussion centered around the public-private partnership between the City and Armada Hoffler, what led to the development, how essential the partnership has been in creating a vibrant downtown, the risks taken, lessons learned and successes to date.

Over the one-day visit, the delegation toured the Westin Virginia Beach Town Center hotel, the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts, the Armada Hoffler tower, the Town Center James K. Spore Plaza and the ongoing $40 million Phase VI development in Town Center.

Today, Town Center is generating more than $8 million a year in business taxes, which include business license, business property, trustee and general sales taxes. This project is an excellent example of a successful public-private partnership.

CVB’S SOCIAL MEDIA REACHES NEW FOLLOWER HEIGHTS

The Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) has gained some momentum on several leisure social platforms since bringing the social media work in-house this past summer. For several years, the CVB’s social media work was outsourced to an advertising agency. Moving forward, all social posting and engagement will be handled internally.

The CVB has gained a stream of new followers reaching more than 22,000 follow on Instagram and just over 224,000 likes on Facebook.
VIRGINIA’S FIRST LADY AND INCOMING FIRST LADY VISIT VB

Virginia’s First Lady Dorothy McAuliffe and incoming First Lady Pam Northam visited White Oaks Elementary school with staff from No Kid Hungry Virginia on Wednesday, Dec. 13. Their visit highlighted the commitment of Virginia Beach City Public Schools to providing breakfast in 100 percent of its to ensure all children start their day nourished and ready to learn.

While at White Oaks, they also spoke with volunteers of the VB Reads First Grade Mentoring program. VB Reads is an award winning partnership between VBCPS, Virginia Beach GrowSmart and the Office of Volunteer Resources. This collaborative program works to ensure all Virginia Beach students are reading proficiently by the third grade.

First Lady McAuliffe has led the charge for Virginia’s children, working with legislators, educators and advocates to devote more resources to those in need, ensuring all young people have the tools to reach their full potential to lead in the 21st century, which aligns with our Virginia Beach GrowSmart efforts. Mrs. Northam shares in this commitment and also advocates for children to have access to quality early child care.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

VB RECEIVES GFOA AWARD FOR BUDGET PRESENTATION

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) presented a “Distinguished Budget Award” to the City of Virginia Beach for the annual budget beginning July 1, 2016. The award represents a significant achievement by the entity, reflecting the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive this award, the published budget document by a governmental unit must be rated “proficient” in four categories: as a policy document, an operations guide, a financial plan and a communications device, and in the 14 mandatory criteria within those categories.

A Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation was also presented to Budget and Management Services Director David Bradley as the representative of the department primarily responsible for having achieved the award.
VBFD CHIEF GRADUATES FROM NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

VBFD Chief David Hutcheson was one of a record 58 graduates to complete a Master of Arts in Security Studies from the Center of Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) at the Naval Postgraduate School on Dec. 15. In addition, Chief Hutcheson was one of five graduates who earned special recognition for academic and/or leadership achievement, receiving a Mark Carr Esprit De Corps Award.

The CHDS provides an 18-month master’s degree program in homeland security. CHDS graduates comprise professionals from the fields of homeland security, emergency management, law enforcement, the fire service, public health, education, and city/county government.

VBPD LIEUTENANT COMPLETES FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY

VBPD Lieutenant Johnny Gandy was among 220 graduates who recently completed the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) National Academy, an 11-week course held at the FBI Training Academy in Quantico, VA. Internationally known for its academic excellence, this professional development course serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies at home and abroad, and to raise law enforcement standards, knowledge and cooperation worldwide. Those selected to attend the National Academy have an average of 21 years of law enforcement experience and serve in executive or senior management positions.

The latest session, #270, held its graduation Friday, Dec. 15. The keynote speaker was President Donald Trump, accompanied by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and FBI Director Christopher Wray.

DID YOU KNOW…?

VIRGINIA BEACH IS THE SECOND MOST CARING CITY AMONG THE UNITED STATES’ 100 LARGEST CITIES.

WalletHub recently ranked Virginia Beach as the second most caring large city in the United States. The data set used to determine the rankings ranges from share of sheltered homeless persons to number of volunteering hours per capita to share of income donated to charity. To read the article and see the complete list, visit www.wallethub.com.
EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

The 47th Annual Service Awards Ceremony was held on Dec. 14 at the Advanced Technology Center Theater. Deputy City Manager Ken Chandler served as master of ceremonies and Regina Hilliard, director of Human Resources, announced each award. Mayor Sessoms and I each expressed our deepest gratitude and congratulations to the employees for their dedication and commitment to our City. We were honored to recognize 145 employees who achieved 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of continuous full-time service. There were 91 individuals recognized for 30 years; 35 for 35 years; 16 for 40 years and 3 for 45 years—an incredible 4,730 combined years of service.
The Virginia Beach Sheriff’s Office (VBSO) held its 42nd Basic Academy graduation ceremony last Friday, Dec. 15, recognizing 10 deputies’ successful completion of 16 weeks of training. Virginia Beach Correctional Center Chaplain Steven Christenson delivered the commencement address, encouraging the graduates to perform their duties by being courteous, consistent, concrete, conscionable, composed and compassionate.

The 10 deputies have each met the Department of Criminal Justice Services’ requirements for graduation and received their Basic Jailer and Civil Process certifications. Sheriff Ken Stolle congratulated the graduates and welcomed them to the VBSO family. They will be assigned to the Virginia Beach Correctional Center and bring the number of active, sworn Virginia Beach Sheriff’s Office deputies to 427.

Additionally, the VBSO received its accreditation certificate from the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. The office was fully reaccredited for another four years following a three-day inspection in October that resulted in a perfect score.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• **LAST NIGHT ON THE TOWN:** Celebrate New Year’s Eve at Pembroke Mall and the Town Center of Virginia Beach. Activities kick off mid-afternoon at Pembroke Mall with family entertainment throughout the mall. The fun continues until midnight at Town Center with live music on multiple stages. This year’s headline band is national recording artist 10,000 Maniac. A midnight countdown with a spectacular laser light show and a Virginia Beach Ball Drop celebration will ring in 2018! All activities and entertainment are free and open to the public, with food and adult beverages available for purchase. A separate, ticketed VIP Party hosted by the Central Business District Association will be held stage side in a heated tent. For more information, visit [www.lastnightonthetown.com](http://www.lastnightonthetown.com).
THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

*Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.*

~ Hamilton Wright Mabie

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

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**ATTACHMENTS**

- Dec. 14, 2017 – Copy of a letter from Virginia Beach citizen Gary Litchfield expressing thanks, gratitude and appreciation to the Virginia Beach Public Utilities Department.

- December 2017 – Copy of an article from *Governing* titled, “The Quiet Revolution Happening in the Suburbs.”

- Flyer for VBHA’s Coffee Connection on Jan. 11, 2018 with featured presenter Dr. Brian Batten, project manager for the City’s Comprehensive Sea Level Rise & Recurrent Flooding study.

Dave L. Hansen, Virginia Beach City Manager

Sir:
I'm writing to express my thanks, gratitude and appreciation to the Virginia Beach Public Utilities Department.

On the cold December morning of December 14, 2017, I went outside, and noticed water pouring out from the asphalt street in front of my home.

I called the Public Utilities Department (757-385-1400) to report the situation. I made it through the auto attendant phone script and surprise, my call was answered by a real person. She took all of my information and told me she would dispatch someone to assess the situation. She said they were already working three other problems, but would get to me as soon as possible. She also warned me the water would have to be turned off to make repairs. This was about 9AM.

A Public Utilities truck was on site within an hour. Miss Utility was notified and at least three different Public Utility shops were dispatched and coordinated. Shops 616, 617, and 623 arrived on site and started working on the problem. A section of the street was sawed, the asphalt was removed, the hole was dug, a dump truck was hauling off the mud and mucky dirt, water was pumped out, pipe uncovered and the problem located. The men were working together like a fine tuned machine.

Some of the men began repairing the cracked cast iron pipe. Others handled pumps and provided tools and equipment to workers in the hole; they unloaded and loaded equipment, turned the water on and off as necessary. Another dump truck came with sand and gravel to fill in the hole. Every man had a job and they all worked together.

I was amazed by the efficiency and speedy repair to this water main. These hard working Public Utility Workers were finished by 1:00 PM. That’s only 4 hours from when I reported the problem.

The organizational and trade skills for this speedy repair warrant recognition. The entire repair seemed to proceed like clockwork with men, material and equipment arriving at just the right time. The men in these shops deserve praise. My neighbors and I are still talking about how efficient and fast this repair was accomplished. Even with me watching and asking lots of questions.

I do worry our city infrastructure is aging. Please keep in mind that sufficient funding will be required to continue maintaining it. The pipes in my neighborhood are 50 years old. The VB Public Utilities Department is proving they have an efficient system in place to maintain and repair this infrastructure better and faster than an independent contractor.

Gary Litchfield
2021 Seafarer Cove
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

c: Bob Montague, Director of Public Utilities
The Quiet Revolution Happening in the Suburbs

Suburbs first gained popularity for being everything a big city wasn't. Now they want to be just like downtown.

BY ALAN GREENBLATT (HTTP://WWW.GOVERNING.COM/AUTHORS/ALAN-GREENBLATT.HTML) | DECEMBER 2017

It's a sunny Saturday afternoon in Shirlington. Clusters of people are sitting outside, dining al fresco at restaurants serving high-end American or Italian food, or quaffing drinks at a pub named for a famous Irish writer. Women walk by with mats under their arms, fresh from yoga class or sessions of massage or reflexology. Shoppers step in and out of an artisanal bakery, a kitchenware store playing peppy French music or a cheese boutique named Cheesetique. All the stores have doors that open right onto the sidewalk, with most people parking at a multilevel garage tucked off the main drag. Newly built apartment towers loom over the scene, although none of the residents are out on their tiny terraces.

Shirlington is a slice of suburban Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. But it could just as well be a retail pocket in any number of suburbs in the D.C. area, or, for that matter, on the edge of Atlanta, Cleveland or Denver. All over the country, suburbs are rushing to develop new mixed-use corridors, complete with dense, walkable shopping areas, often attached to a town hall or performing arts complex, as in Shirlington, and usually surrounded by mid-rise apartment or condo buildings.
Mixed-use developments like these are becoming kind of a cliché in American metropolitan areas -- but that doesn’t make them any less revolutionary. After decades offering themselves as safer, quieter alternatives to cities, suburbs are refashioning themselves to become more like them. Development built around cars, with zoning restrictions that strictly segregate housing from office space and shopping, is giving way to the desire to create new downtowns, bubbling with all kinds of activity, and create them largely from scratch. “We’re starting to see some competition even between these comparable types of developments, as consumers and even businesses are looking to have a different atmosphere,” says Julie Palakovitch Carr, a member of the city council in Rockville, Md.

Back in the 1970s, Rockville, which is a few miles north of Shirlington, tore out its downtown in order to build an enclosed shopping mall. That mall declined over the years due to local competition and the overall drop in brick-and-mortar shopping, so now it’s been torn down in favor of a mixed-use development. In effect, the downtown has been put back where it once was. Lots of suburbs have torn down dead or dying malls, putting in their place town centers that encourage foot traffic among the shops, while still taking advantage of their...
proximity to a highway or major arterial road. Office parks are reshaping themselves as well, hoping to hold on to tenants as big companies buy into the trend of moving back to center-city downtowns.

Demographics have also brought changes to what many people are looking for from suburban life. Carr points out that in Rockville, the biggest demand in housing over the next 20 years is going to be from one-person households. That's true in a lot of places. Around the country, one out of every four households is composed of a single person. Three out of four households don't have a school-age child living at home. There just aren't as many traditional families with a couple of kids at home, wanting a big yard, as there used to be.

Instead, the demand is for amenities not only at home but also out in common areas, whether it’s a fancy game room or swimming pool in an apartment complex or a wide range of choices for things to do in the neighborhood -- preferably without having to drive to them. “People who don’t have kids in their houses eat out a lot more than people who have kids,” says Ellen Dunham-Jones, director of the urban design program at Georgia Tech University and a leading authority on suburban evolution. “Suddenly,” she says, “you see the suburbs have way more restaurants than they used to, even bars and nightlife, which used to be anathema.”

Certainly, this isn’t the case in every suburb. Suburban populations are still growing fastest in developments further out, where cars remain king and sit in big garages next to big houses on big lots. Meanwhile, many close-in older suburbs with small bungalows built in the 1950s for a blue-collar clientele have entered into decline, with homes turning into downmarket rentals and rundown garden apartments leasing for cheap. Some of these suburbs are becoming pockets of intractable poverty, while others are ports of entry for new immigrants who are moving directly to conventional suburbs, bypassing urban life altogether.

But all of this creates a tempting opportunity to cater to members of the millennial generation who are attracted to cities but can’t afford to live near the urban center. “The downtown housing has gotten absurdly expensive in those cities that have revitalized,” says Dunham-Jones. This explains to a large extent the denser development taking shape in communities such as Shirlington and Rockville. Many millennials -- and a lot of empty nesters as well -- want a walkable lifestyle, with just about everything they need within a few blocks of their homes. Some suburbs have learned that they can attract this cohort by offering these urban-style amenities, often alongside high-performing schools that are better than their center-city counterparts.
In some markets, the biggest demand in housing over the next 20 years is going to be from one-person or childless households. (David Kidd)

This model of development isn’t going to work everywhere. There has to be enough market demand for builders to be interested in reshaping large parcels of property. But the old suburban model of subdivisions as residential worlds unto themselves, often in a cul-de-sac format, has lost at least some of its luster. An increasing number of developers want to appeal to people who prefer to live and work in places where they don’t have to drive for everything they want. “The suburbs that have gotten that are going to be the winners in the future,” says Ed McMahon, a senior resident fellow with the Urban Land Institute. “The way people work, shop and move around is changing. Those that have figured that out are going to prosper, and others are going to decline.”

Suburbs have always been shaped by transportation. The ones made possible by carriage and rail lines a century ago that took residents away from the pollution and noise of the big city were given the name of “streetcar suburbs.” Following World War II, the desire to leave the city and attain some space was enabled by the interstate highway system. Those suburbs were built for and around the use of automobiles.
Now suburbs are being reshaped again, but this time more by communication than transportation. You might call them “smartphone suburbs.” There’s less need to go to the mall if you can have goods produced practically anywhere in the world shipped to your door by online retailers -- and perhaps more important, can stock up on toilet paper, diapers and medicine without ever leaving home. When you do need to get out, you don’t have to own a car. Taxi service was always notoriously bad in suburbs, but now you can hire a Zipcar for weekend trips to Home Depot, or summon an Uber or Lyft to take you to a distant friend’s house for dinner. “When I was a kid, getting your driver’s license was a ticket to freedom,” McMahon says. “Today, the cellphone is a way to connect without having to get in a car.”

It’s true that millennials are driving less. Teenagers, too. In 2014, only one out of four 16-year-olds had a driver’s license, compared with nearly half back in 1983, according to a University of Michigan study. The share of 19-year-olds with licenses has also plunged, by 21 percent.

If more people are embracing a car-lite lifestyle, they’re also looking for more social interaction. The smartphone may have something to do with this as well. People have gotten used to sharing interior thoughts and intimate feelings over digital devices. They may not be baring their souls to all and sundry around the town center fountain, but they’re not coveting privacy in the way that earlier generations used to. This applies to older people as well as millennials. “The privacy that the aging boomers really valued while raising their kids, now they’re beginning to question that,” Dunham-Jones says. “Do I really want to mow that big lawn? If they’re retired, suddenly that privacy can seem lonely.” Or, to put it another way, the ability to conduct much of one’s life on a cellphone may be generating a desire for in-person contact, perhaps the only thing the phone cannot deliver.

Whatever is driving the demand for walkability in the suburbs, it’s clearly very much in vogue. You’ll pay at least 25 percent more per square foot for housing in Reston, Va., which is built around a town center, than in nearby Sterling, a postwar cul-de-sac suburb that’s the same driving distance from Washington. And there are more urban-style developments emerging all the time. In 2008, when Dunham-Jones and June Williamson published their book Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs, they could come up with about 80 examples of suburban developments built to reduce automobile capacity. Today, their database contains more than 1,500 examples. “People are more willing to have compact housing,” says Williamson, an architecture and urban design professor at the City University of New York, “if it’s in the right location.”
To succeed, mixed-used developments have to be truly mixed-use. Simply moving town hall out from behind its big parking lot and onto a main street isn't going to magically attract retail. If you build housing on top of retail, but can't attract jobs to the area, your shops are going to be empty during the day. Or they'll be empty at night if they're near offices but no one's living nearby. Suburban office parks, for their part, are attempting to bring in more restaurants and coffee shops. For decades, there were three rush hours at Research Triangle Park in North Carolina -- morning, evening and lunch hour. Forty thousand people work in the park, but until recently there was no place for them to buy a cup of coffee, let alone lunch. Now there is a growing number of choices. The managers of even the most successful office parks admit they will have to change to survive. “Downtowns have a sort of personality that does not exist in a suburban research park like ours,” says Bob Geolas, the Research Triangle Foundation's former CEO. “A big part of what we're doing is building a personality that people can relate to and be inspired by.”

It is possible to have a successful retail environment without including either housing or offices, but then you've just created, in effect, a roofless shopping mall. An enclave that's pedestrian-friendly, but which everyone drives to, is not going to be as successful as one that combines jobs and housing and is connected to the outside world by transit, says Armando Carbonell, who leads the urban planning program at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

That may be the most radical change in suburban planning: the growing consensus that transit matters. The most in-demand suburban developments are being built around transit, and this is true even where the share of commuters using transit is still low. Shops and apartments are springing up alongside fixed-rail stations all over the country. New developments are capitalizing on proximity to bus rapid transit lines, or sometimes just plain buses, as has happened with some projects that have taken over former malls. In Carmel, Ind., new housing is built near biking trails that can get residents directly from their doors to downtown Indianapolis.
Steve Bellone understood that transit was the one asset the struggling town of Babylon, N.Y., could count on. The Long Island Rail Road can take you from Babylon into Manhattan in under an hour (at least when there are no delays). Nevertheless, at the start of this century, when Bellone was serving on the town council, Babylon was rated the most economically distressed community on Long Island, with a failing school district, the highest unemployment rate in the area and all the other standard indicators of blight. Back then, it took a herculean effort to combine federal, state, county, town and local nonprofit resources just to build a supermarket. “It was certainly a nice addition to the community,” Bellone says, “but it didn't fundamentally alter any of the underlying conditions.”

Bellone knew his town needed to think bigger. Over a number of years and following a long planning process, the result was Wyandanch Rising, a $140 million development that mixes apartment towers near the station and shops within walking distance. A majority of the apartments are subsidized, helping to lift up longtime residents rather than chasing them out. The first phase is open and lessons from the development are already being applied at a similar project nearby in East Farmingdale.
For an area that's about 15 miles from Levittown -- one of the pioneering postwar suburbs and an early model of exclusionary zoning -- Babylon's is a new approach, but one that harkens back to city building of the past. “What we’re really doing in suburbia is retrofitting it in a way that is [similar to] how we used to build communities,” says Bellone, now the Suffolk County executive. “You absolutely have to go back to the way we built communities in the past.”

As Bellone suggests, the new approach in suburbia is really a return to form. For centuries, people congregated within compact areas, doing all their trading and socializing, as well as interacting with government officials, in cities. The concept of suburbs dates back to Roman times, but the modern American suburb -- which amounted to a barracks where people could sleep separate from all their other activities -- represented a break from historic norms. Today’s suburbs represent an attempt to recapture a very old style of living, with commerce and community all mixed in together.

It’s clear now that the old suburban model created imbalances. Even before the recession, retail space was being built at several times the rate of growth of retail sales. There was an oversupply of large-lot, single-family homes, and an undersupply of every other type of housing. The new developments are an attempt to give today’s households what they are looking for in terms of convenience and choice.

Maybe today’s mixed-used plazas will be torn down one day in favor of a new generation of strip malls, but that seems unlikely. “The automobile-based suburb isn’t going to disappear overnight, and may never disappear,” says Carbonell of the Lincoln Institute. “But the suburb that provides more of a center and is connected to the metro region is going to be the growing sector.”

Alan Greenblatt (http://www.governing.com/authors/Alan-Greenblatt.html) | Staff Writer | agreenblatt@governing.com (mailto:agreenblatt@governing.com)
VBHA Coffee Connection

Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 8:00am

at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront

5700 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Sea Level Rise

Featured presenter:

Dr. Brian Batten

Project Manager for Virginia Beach's Comprehensive Sea Level Rise & Recurrent Flooding Study (see bio attached).

**Complimentary Breakfast – Hosting by the Wyndham VB Oceanfront**

Please RSVP by January 8, 2018 to Diana.Burke@vbha.net
Coffee Connection - Thursday, January 11, 2018

Thank you to our featured speaker
Dr. Brian Batten

Dr. Brian Batten is the Project Manager for Virginia Beach’s Comprehensive Sea Level Rise and Recurrent Flooding Study. He provides subject matter expertise on coastal hazards and resilience based on 20 years of experience. Brian has helped clients at the federal, state and municipal level tackle the issue of increased flooding due to sea level rise, including the National Academies of Science, FEMA, the states of New York, North Carolina, Florida, and communities such as St. Augustine Florida and Virginia Beach. Dr. Batten is an appointed member of the of FEMA’s Technical Mapping Advisory Council Future Conditions Subcommittee. Prior to joining Dewberry, Brian served as a research scientist at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Dr. Batten has authored or co-authored over 70 technical, journal and conference publications.
VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION
Cox Cable Channels 46, 47 & 48
Verizon Cable Channels 46, 47 & 45

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
DECEMBER 24 – DECEMBER 30, 2017

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.

<dimmer>Streaming is available at https://www.vbgov.com/media 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/archive.</dimmer>

PUBLIC MEETINGS

<dimmer>VIRGINIA BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEETING (Cox 48 / Verizon 45) — Recablecast of the December 12 meeting: Sun 9am; Thu 7pm; Fri 9am.</dimmer>

<dimmer>VIRGINIA BEACH CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING (Cox 47 / Verizon 47) — Recablecast of the December 19 meeting: Mon 2pm; Wed 7pm; Sat 9am.</dimmer>

A BIOGRAPHY OF AMERICA: THE TWENTIES — View history as a living narrative rather than a series of irrefutable facts to be memorized. Prominent historians present America’s story as something that is best understood from a variety of perspectives. Sun 5am; Tue & Thu 11am; Fri 12am.

A PLACE OF OUR OWN: MAKING THINKING VISIBLE — Insight and advice for solving issues related to parenting and child rearing. Sun 9pm; Mon 8am & 3pm; Thu 12am; Fri 3pm.

<dimmer>ACCESS VIRGINIA BEACH — Monthly news magazine highlighting city & school topics and issues.
- Emergency Medical Services mass casualty training
- Virginia Beach State of Tourism Address
- 2017 Minority Business Council Expo
- Veteran’s Care Center groundbreaking
- Virginia Beach Vietnam Veteran’s Commemoration
- Emergency Medical Services building dedication
- Symphonicity - A resident performing arts group in Virginia Beach
- Annual Senior Showcase held at Princess Anne Recreation Center
- Explore the Merry Mile – Holiday Lights on the Boardwalk
- SOL-aboration event
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.</dimmer>

AGAINST ALL ODDS: WHAT IS PROBABILITY? — 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 STUDIO SYSTEM* — Explore film history and American culture through the eyes of Hollywood insiders. Sun 10pm; Mon 9am & 4pm; Thu 1am; Fri 4pm.

ART HISTORY: *SOUTH OF THE BORDER* — Sun 4:30pm; Tue & Sat 9:30am; Wed 6:30am & 4:30pm.

CONSTITUTION: THAT DELICATE BALANCE: *RIGHT TO LIVE, RIGHT TO DIE* — Key political, legal, and media professionals engage in spontaneous and heated debates on controversial issues. Sun & Tue 1am; Mon & Sat 7pm; Wed 10pm; Thu 9am & 4pm; Fri 6am.

DISCOVERING PSYCHOLOGY: *THE RESPONSIVE BRAIN* — Explore historic and current theories of human behavior through demonstrations, classic experiments and simulations, current research, documentary footage, and computer animation. Sun 11:30pm; Mon 10:30am & 5:30pm; Thu 2:30am; Fri 5:30pm.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - *HURRICANE: IT’S NOT JUST ANOTHER STORM* — Learn how to assess personal risk, plan for hurricanes, and avoid hazards that emerge following a storm. Sun 8:30pm; Mon 7:30am; Tue & Fri 11:30pm; Wed 10:30am; Sat 2:30am & 5:30pm.

FOCUS NNS — Explore current events at Newport News Shipbuilding. 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.

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 1am, 12pm & 10pm; Tue & Thu 6am; Wed 1am, 12pm & 7pm; Fri 7pm; Sat 6am, 12pm & 10pm.

GETTING ALONG: *NO FAIR!* — Character development and conflict management for ages five through eight. Sun 4:15pm; Tue & Sat 9:15am; Wed 6:15am & 4:15pm.

GROWING OLD IN A NEW AGE: *SOCIAL ROLES AND RELATIONSHIPS IN OLD AGE* — A realistic and positive picture of older adults challenges the common misconceptions and fears that surround the aging process. Sun 1pm; Fri 8am; Sat 2pm.

HOW IN THE WORLD — Hop aboard the Airship Curiosity to discover the importance of estuaries; learn how Native Americans constructed canoes using fire; see how a windmill works; and find out how Edgar Allen Poe wove literary tools all through his famous poem, The Raven. Sun 7pm; Mon 6am; Tue 10pm; Wed 9am; Thu 6:30pm; Fri 10pm; Sat 1am & 4pm.

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY: *GLOBAL FIRMS IN THE INDUSTRIALIZING EAST* — Economic and cultural geography are combined to explore the relationships between humans and their natural environment, and to track the broad social patterns that shape human societies. Sun 8:30am; Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 2:30pm; Thu 11:30pm.

KENNEDY CENTER PERFORMING ARTS: *DR. BILLY TAYLOR AND YOUNG JAZZ MUSICIANS* — Sun & Tue 2am; Mon & Sat 8pm; Wed 11pm; Thu 10am & 5pm; Fri 7am.

LEARNING MATH: *DATA ORGANIZATION AND REPRESENTATION* — 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.

LOOKING AT LEARNING: *CONCEPTUAL CHANGE* — Sun 7am; Tue & Thu 1pm; Fri 2am.

MATH MONSTERS — Designed for pre-kindergarten children, this animated series provides an amusing and enlightening introduction to mathematical concepts. Sun 5pm; Tue & Sat 10am; Wed 7am & 5pm.

MEET THE AUTHOR: *NANCY YI FAN* — Sun 8am; Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 2pm; Thu 11pm.
MOM ALWAYS SAID: WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, I WALKED... — Discussion between real moms with real experiences and real tips on raising a family. Mon 12:30am, 11:30am & 9:30pm; Tue & Thu 5:30am; Wed 12:30am & 6:30pm; Fri 6:30pm; Sat 5:30am, 11:30am & 9:30pm.

MONEYTRACK: BECOMING AN EDUCATED INVESTOR — 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. Mon 2am, 1pm & 11pm; Tue & Thu 7am; Wed 2am, 1pm & 8pm; Fri 8pm; Sat 7am, 1pm & 11pm.

NASA X — Researchers have developed a revolutionary new way to land on other planets. Sun 7:30pm; Mon 6:30am; Tue & Fri 10:30pm; Wed 9:30am; Sat 1:30am & 4:30pm.

NEWSWRITING: MEDIA LAW — Explore techniques to become a better writer through traditional and emerging journalistic styles. Sun 11pm; Mon 10am & 5pm; Thu 2am; Fri 5pm.

ON THE OTHER HAND — Learn American Sign Language. Sun 8pm; Mon 7am; Tue & Fri 11pm; Wed 10am; Sat 2am & 5pm.

READ-ALEE-DEED-ALEE: THE HOT DOT — An early reading series introducing sounds and rhyming patterns that unlock words and the meaning of words. Sun 3:45pm; Tue & Sat 8:45am; Wed 5:45am & 3:45pm.

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.

RURAL COMMUNITIES: LEGACY & CHANGE - WHO CARES? — Examine why some rural areas in America are thriving while others are in decline. The social, political, and economic issues these communities face have far-reaching implications for individuals and the country as a whole. Sun & Thu 2pm; Fri 1pm.

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 & Tue 12am; Mon & Sat 6pm; Wed 9pm; Thu 8am & 3pm; Fri 5am.

SHAMU TV: THE STORY OF CATS — Sun 3pm; Tue & Sat 8am; Wed 5am & 3pm.

SIGNING TIME: MY FAVORITE SEASON — An introduction to American Sign Language for children. Sun 5:30pm; Tue & Sat 10:30am; Wed 7:30am & 5:30pm.

TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES: PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT — Learn about the connection between the national standards for foreign language learning and current research in foreign language education. Sun 9:30pm; Mon 8:30am & 3:30pm; Thu 12:30am; Fri 3:30pm.

THE MATH DUDE: POINT-SLOPE FORM OF A LINE — 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 & Sat 8:30am; Wed 5:30am & 3:30pm.

THE ROAD TO RECOVERY: A SHOWCASE OF EVENTS — Sun 6pm; Mon 5am; Tue & Fri 9pm; Wed 8am; Sat 12am & 3pm.

THE WESTERN TRADITION: THE FEUDAL ORDER — Journey from ancient, pre-western civilizations to the age of technology and beyond. Sun 5:30am; Tue & Thu 11:30am; Fri 12:30am.

X-POWER: REALITY PLANES — Foster the development of algebraic thinking through visualization of concepts rather than abstract symbolic manipulation. Sun 4pm; Tue & Sat 9am; Wed 6am & 4pm.
A BIOGRAPHY OF AMERICA — Thu 8pm.

A HISTORY OF BLACK ACHIEVEMENT IN AMERICA: THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM — Explore the contributions of Black Americans to have influenced our culture, enriched our society, and shaped the history of the United States. Mon 10:30pm; Tue & Fri 11:30am & 3:30pm; Thu 11:30am.

A PLACE OF OUR OWN — Wed 3pm.

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

AGAINST ALL ODDS — Thu 9pm.

AMERICAN CINEMA — Wed 4pm.

ART HISTORY: SOUTH OF THE BORDER — Tue 6am; Thu 6am & 5:30pm.

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.

CONSTITUTION: THAT DELICATE BALANCE — Fri 8pm.

DEATH: A PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING: WHAT IS DEATH? — Gain a greater understanding of death and dying through case studies and moving personal stories of people facing their own death or the death of a loved one. Mon & Wed 11:30am; Tue & Thu 7:30am.

DISCOVERING PSYCHOLOGY — Wed 5:30pm.

EARTH REVEALED: METAMORPHIC ROCKS — Explore how scientific theories are developed and how our activities today affect earth's continuing evolution. Mon 10pm; Fri 3pm; Thu 11am.

ECONOMICS USA: RESOURCES AND SCARCITY — Explore fundamentals of economic history, theory, and practice. Mon 11pm; Tue & Fri 12pm & 4pm; Thu 12pm.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS — Tue & Thu 7am.

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

FIT FOR DUTY — 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.

FOCUS NNS — Sun 10:30pm.

FRONTLINE FIREFIGHTER — Sun 10pm; Mon through Fri 9am; Mon, Wed, & Fri 1pm; Thu 11pm.

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

GETTING ALONG — Thu 5:15pm.

GROWING OLD IN A NEW AGE — Mon 7pm; Tue 11pm; Wed 2pm; Fri 5pm & 11pm.

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

HOW IN THE WORLD — Hop aboard the Airship Curiosity to discover the importance of estuaries; learn how Native Americans constructed canoes using fire; see how a windmill works; and find out how Edgar Allen Poe wove literary tools all through his famous poem, The Raven. Mon, Wed, & Fri 9:30am; Mon & Sat 6:30pm; Thu 11:30pm.
HUMAN GEOGRAPHY — 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.

KENNEDY CENTER PERFORMING ARTS — Fri 9pm.

LAUNCHING YOUNG READERS: READING FOR MEANING — Learn how parents, childcare providers, and kindergarten teachers can get children started on the road to literacy. Mon 9:30pm; Fri 2:30pm; Thu 10:30am.

LEARNING MATH — Thu 9:30pm.

LOOKING AT LEARNING: CONCEPTUAL CHANGE — Thu 10pm.

MATH MONSTERS — Thu 6pm.

MEET THE AUTHOR: NANCY YI FAN — Tue & Fri 10pm.

MONEYTRACK — Sun 11pm.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART: OF TIME, TOMBS & TREASURES — The story of the discovery of Tutankhamen’s tomb in 1922 by archaeologist Howard Carter. Tue & Thu 6:30am.

NEWSPUBLISHING — Wed 5pm.

READ-ALEE-DEED-ALEE — Thu 4:45pm.

REAL VIRGINIA — Sun 9:30pm.

RURAL COMMUNITIES: LEGACY & CHANGE — Tue 5pm; Wed & Fri 6pm; Thu & Sat 7pm.

SEASONS OF LIFE — Fri 7pm.

SHAMU TV: THE STORY OF CATS — Thu 4pm.

SIGNING TIME: MY FAVORITE SEASON — Mon & Wed 12:30pm; Tue 6:30pm; Thu 6:30pm & 8:30am.

TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES — Wed 3:30pm.

THE MATH DUDE — Thu 4:30pm.

THE PATH TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY — Sun 8:30pm; Mon 8:30am & 8:30pm; Wed, Fri & Sat 8:30am.

THE WESTERN TRADITION: THE FEUDAL ORDER — Journey from ancient, pre-western civilizations to the age of technology and beyond. Thu 8:30pm.

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

X-POWER — Thu 5pm.
General information about the City of Virginia Beach, plus current events and late-breaking news of interest to local citizens, cablecasts 24 hours a day with audio provided by NOAA Weather radio.

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