



CONTENT	
Opportunities	2
Community Connections	3
City Improvements/Closures	3
New & Noteworthy	4
Upcoming Events	4
Attachments	5

BE VOTER READY FOR NOV. 8

With the election just four days away, here is information from the **Voter Registration & Elections Office** and **Communications Office** that's worth sharing with our friends and neighbors so they can be prepared for Election Day.

WHEN & WHERE TO VOTE: The polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.



on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8. Anyone in line by 7 p.m. will be allowed to vote. Verify your voter registration and polling location at vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation.

KNOW YOUR DISTRICT: Recent legislation and the outcome of a court case shifted our local elections to a 10-1 system. Due to the staggered terms of representatives, not all districts are on the ballot this year. Learn more and find your district at VBgov.com/VB10.

GETTING TO THE POLLS: If you need a ride, Hampton Roads Transit will not collect fares (including on paratransit services) as a public service to the citizens in the region. The fares are being waived to give riders every opportunity to get to the polls to vote. For more info, visit gohrt.com.

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING AVAILABLE UNTIL TOMORROW: Early in-person voting is available until tomorrow, Nov. 5. No appointment is needed. Early voting is available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the following locations:

- Voter Registration & Elections office, Bldg. 14, 2449 Princess Anne Road
- Bayside Recreation Center, 4500 First Court Road
- Great Neck Recreation Center, 2521 Shorehaven Drive
- Seatack Recreation Center, 141 S. Birdneck Road
- Central Library, 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd.

VOTING BY MAIL: Voters who opted to vote by mail can drop off completed ballots at the locations above until Nov. 5. The Voter Registration & Elections office will accept completed ballots through 7 p.m. on Nov. 8 at the ballot drop box located behind Building 14. Ballots can also be dropped off at each polling location on election day. If you do mail your ballot, be sure it is postmarked on or before Nov. 8 and that it will be received by the Voter Registration & Elections office before noon on Nov. 14.

For more information, contact the Voter Registration & Elections office at (757) 385-8683, voter@vb.gov or visit VBgov.com/voter.

- CALENDAR REMINDERS -

- **MONDAY, NOV. 7:** Virginia Beach Public Utilities is asking residents to complete a short online survey to gauge interest in drop-off locations for residential quantities of fats, oil, and grease after Thanksgiving. This survey is open until Nov. 7 at www.publicinput.com/holidaycookingoil.
- **WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9:** The Historic Preservation Commission will host a public meeting starting at 6 p.m. in the auditorium of the Meyera. E. Oberndorf Central Library. This will be the commission's first opportunity to update the public on its preservation activities since 2019. Visit VBgov.com/historicpreservation for more info.
- **THURSDAY, NOV. 10:** The Minority Business Council Conference and Expo will be held from noon to 5 p.m. at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Attendees can engage with Hampton Roads resource partners, procurement professionals, and business owners looking to do business with local municipalities and state and federal agencies. Register online at VBgov.com/mbc.
- **TUESDAY, NOV. 15:** The Virginia Beach Arts & Humanities Commission has grant programs available for nonprofit organizations whose missions are based in providing arts, humanities, history or cultural programming and services. The deadline for the Community Cultural Arts Grants, which may provide up to \$5,000 to aid in building cultural equity in the arts, is Nov. 15 at 5 p.m.



PRAVETZ SELECTED AS NEW FIRE CHIEF

After a competitive search, I have selected **Kenneth Pravetz** as the new fire chief, effective Jan. 1, 2023. Pravetz has been with the **Virginia Beach Fire Department** since February 1999, and currently serves as the deputy chief of services responsible for personnel, finance, training, logistics, planning, and community risk reduction.

Chief Pravetz has 35 years of career fire experience and is an U.S. Air Force veteran. As a member of the Virginia Beach-based FEMA Urban Search & Rescue Virginia Task Force 2, he has deployed to several national disasters as a planning team member and task force leader. Pravetz holds an associate degree in fire science, a bachelor's degree in health and safety, two master's degrees in public administration and security studies, and is nearing completion of the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire Service Executive Development Institute.

OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDE INPUT ON SOMETHING IN THE WATER FESTIVAL

The City invites the public to view [proposed contract terms](#) and share their opinions on hosting the **2023 Something in the Water Festival**. Citizens can attend a public comment session during the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on the proposed contract terms on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 6 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Council is expected to vote on the proposed contract terms at the Dec. 6 meeting. To register to speak, call the City Clerk's Office at 757-385-4303.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

AROUND TOWN: OCTOBER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RECAP

Community engagement is not just about connecting with our citizens, but also about getting to know our employees better. When we hosted a private tour of new City Hall for employees prior to the public dedication, I was fortunate to catch up with a few (pictured right).



Mayor Dyer and I presented at the **Virginia Municipal League (VML) Mayors Institute** meeting in Richmond, where we provided attendees with insight on our working relationship and discussed our challenge and response to the city’s flooding threat. The presentation highlighted that coordinated and effective teamwork can see a major initiative come to fruition with a long-term positive impact on our residents and community.

I attended the annual awards ceremony honoring **Virginia Beach Fire Department** firefighters and civilians. Congratulations again to the 2022 Firefighter of the Year **Master Firefighter Vincent G. Smith, III**. Smith received the prestigious award for his dedication, leadership and service to the VBFD.

This month saw the dedication of the City’s newest open space – **Patriots Park in Historic Kempsville**. It was not only a beautiful day, but an opportunity to celebrate the Historic Kempsville Citizen Advisory Committee (HK-CAC) and the group’s dedication to working alongside staff to advance the Historic Kempsville Area Master Plan by developing this park. The HK-CAC is truly an example of a highly effective, self-determined collaborative body and a model for effective community engagement.

I recently started meeting with neighborhood civic organization leaders regarding our current communications and to listen to their challenges in managing their organizations. Leaders from the Bayside area provided us with valuable and actionable information that will be used in the expansion of our community engagement efforts and the development of a neighborhood leadership academy that responds to their needs.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS/CLOSURES

- **S INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD:** A portion of S Independence Boulevard and surrounding roads will be closed starting at 9 p.m. this Saturday, Nov. 5 due to an ongoing sanitary sewer repair. The following will be closed: two left turn lanes of eastbound Edwin Drive onto S Independence Boulevard, two outside lanes of northbound S Independence Boulevard between S Plaza Trail and Edwin Drive, and two outside left turn lanes of S Independence Boulevard onto Holland Road. This work is expected to be completed by 9 a.m. the following morning, Nov. 6; weather permitting. Contact: Barron McPherson, 757-510-8128.

- **HOUSING MAIN OFFICE:** Housing & Neighborhood Preservation’s main office, located at 2424 Courthouse Drive, Building 18A at the Municipal Center, is currently closed to the public through Thursday, Nov. 10, to allow for the installation of new HVAC equipment. The department will be closed on Friday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day. The main office can still be reached at 757-385-5750 or HouseNP@vbgov.com.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

EMS APPOINTS LGBTQI+ LIAISON

EMS Chief Ed Brazle named **Drew Mercer** as **Emergency Medical Services’ liaison to the LGBTQI+ community**. In this role, Mercer will advise EMS on LGBTQI+ issues and advocate for increasing diversity and representation within VB Rescue. He will help EMS and VBRescue continue to be welcoming and inclusive for both its members and those they serve.



Mercer earned his Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification in 2018 and immediately began volunteering with VB Rescue as a member of the Sandbridge Volunteer Rescue Squad. He can be reached at dmercerc@vbgov.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

VB ARTS & HUMANITIES COMMISSION PICKS ITS "TOP 3" ARTS EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

The **Virginia Beach Arts & Humanities Commission** celebrates arts and culture each month by highlighting its “Top 3” arts events, all of which receive support from the commission.

- **"Aware '22" Exhibit:** An opening reception for Aware '22 will be held at the Virginia Beach Arts Center from 6-8 p.m. Guest speaker Nikki Bass of the Nansemond Indian Nation will discuss land recognition and connection with local indigenous communities. The exhibit is available through Nov. 13. Learn more: www.artcentervb.org/aware22.html.
- **"White Christmas":** With a dazzling score featuring well-known songs, White Christmas is an uplifting musical worthy of year-round productions. Performances run Nov. 11 through Dec. 11 at Little Theatre of Virginia Beach.
- **Virginia Musical Theater Presents "Always...Patsy Cline":** Come witness the charming country humor and powerful emotion of some of Patsy’s greatest hits from the 1950s and 1960s. Performances run Nov. 18-20 at the Sandler Center.

For more information about tickets and upcoming arts and cultural events, visit www.vbarts.org.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"How beautifully the leaves grow old. How full of light and color are their last days." ~John Burroughs

ATTACHMENTS

- ◆ Virginia Beach Television (VBTV) Program Schedule | Nov. 6 through Nov. 12, 2022.

Most City facilities and state agencies will be closed Friday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day. Trash, recycling, yard waste and bulky items services will be fulfilled as normal. For the complete listing of open and closed facilities, visit VBgov.com.



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

PROGRAM SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 6 – NOVEMBER 12, 2022

VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION provides locally produced 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 <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>.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

 **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEETING (Cox 48 / Verizon 45)** — *Recablecast of the November 1 meeting: Sun 9am; Thu 7pm; Fri 9am.*

 **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING (Cox 48 / Verizon 45)** — **LIVE:** Wed Noon. *Recablecast: Thu 9am. Also recablecast on Cox 47 / Verizon 47, Fri 7pm.*

 **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING (Cox 47 / Verizon 47)** — *Recablecast of the October 25 meeting: Mon 2pm. LIVE: Wed, Workshop 4pm; Formal Session 6pm. Recablecast: Wed 7pm; Sat 9am.*

AccessVB (formerly Virginia Beach Television), is upgrading vital infrastructure and unable to present our usual spectrum of programming. As noted above, live meetings and replays of those meetings will continue unchanged because of their importance, but the remainder of our schedule will be replaced with Community Matters, our text-based information channel featuring current events and late-breaking news of interest to local citizens.

Visit our web site at
www.VBgov.com/VBTV

For more information regarding VBTV programming please contact the Creative Services Division at 385-1868 or multimedia@vbgov.com