

City Manager's Update



JAN. 27, 2023

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REMINDER: PROVIDE INPUT ON RUDEE LOOP PROPOSALS

The City has been collecting input since November 2022 on the conceptual proposals received in response to an RFI for Rudee Loop. The last in-person opportunity to provide feedback is this Tuesday, Jan. 31, from 6:30-8 p.m. at Kempsville Recreation Center, 800 Monmouth Lane. Residents also have the option of providing feedback online at publicinput.com/RudeeLoop. The survey closes at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 29. Upon completion of the community outreach, the results will be analyzed and briefed to City Council. Additional information may be found at VBgov.com/RudeeLoop.

NEW RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT PROGRAM RATES TO TAKE EFFECT MARCH 1



Beginning March 1 of this year, Resort Area residents that reside within the boundaries of the **Residential Parking Permit Program (RPPP)** will see an increase to \$5 per permit. Currently, the program provides the first two permits for each household for free and charges \$5 for an optional third and fourth permit. The two allowed guest permits will also increase from \$2 to \$5 each on March 1, 2023. The rate increase was proposed April 2022 due to increased expenses, and the last rate hike was more than 15 years ago. Additionally, the vast majority of households only get the two free permits – only 8% of residents in the program actually pay for residential permits.

Increased costs are related to the fact that parking enforcement has expanded to a year-round operation this year and there is the added expense of fuel, enforcement vehicles and equipment, staff wages and software licensing. Further, the flat \$5 fee for all passes simplifies the rate structure and will help to streamline operations which is helpful as high annual turnover in neighborhoods has also placed additional demands on staff. Even with the increase, the proposed new rates still fall well below other peer cities with residential parking permit programs.

Peer City Pricing

- Norfolk: \$10 each; \$2 for temp. passes
- Arlington County: \$20-\$50
- Alexandria: \$40 (first pass), \$50 (second pass), \$150 thereafter
- Baltimore: \$20 each

Previous Virginia Beach Rates

- Residential Permits:
 - Permits one and two – no cost
 - Permits three and four – \$5 each
- Guest Permit: \$2 each (two max)

New Rates (effective March 1, 2023)

- Residential Permit: \$5 each (four max)
- Guest Permit: \$5 each (two max)



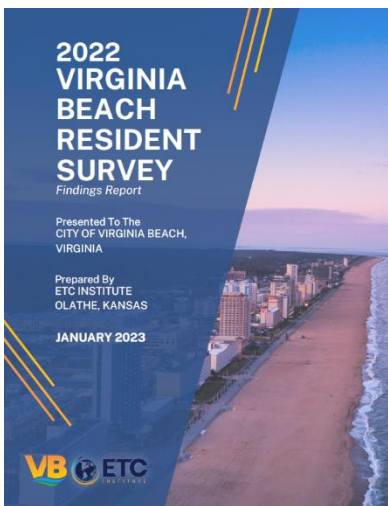
TOPCZYNSKI SELECTED AS NEW EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

After a competitive search, I have selected **David “Tops” Topczynski** as the emergency management coordinator, effective Feb. 9. Tops has served as the interim coordinator since the departure of Danielle Progen in early December 2022. He began assisting the **Virginia Beach Office of Emergency Management** in 2018 as a part-time member of the Incident Management Team and has fulfilled key roles planning Emergency Operations Center activations including Something in the Water and the May 31 Municipal Center tragedy. He ultimately joined the City full time as the deputy emergency management coordinator in June 2021.

Prior to joining the City of Virginia Beach, Tops served in the fire service for 14 years before joining the City of Portsmouth, where he served as the first civilian emergency manager tasked with growing the city’s Office of Emergency Management while simultaneously managing the COVID-19 pandemic, severe weather incidents and civil unrest. Tops is a co-chair of several regional and federal workgroups and holds a number of credentials and certifications. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in emergency management from Waldorf University.

OPPORTUNITIES

RESULTS OF 2022 RESIDENT SURVEY NOW AVAILABLE



The results of the **2022 City of Virginia Beach Resident Survey** are available to review on the City website. A random sample of Virginia Beach residents were invited to participate in the survey asking for their feedback on City programs, services, and priorities. The complete survey results can be viewed online at www.VBgov.com/ResidentSurvey.

The City contracted ETC Institute, one of the nation's leading firms in the field of local government research, to administer the survey. Residents invited to complete the survey were randomly selected to ensure that the survey data would be statistically viable and that input from a diverse range of residents that reflect the demographic composition of the city with regard to age, geographic dispersion, gender, race and other factors was received.

GROWSMART TO BEGIN LENA START SESSIONS IN FEBRUARY

Virginia Beach GrowSmart is set to launch another session of LENA Start classes in February. This innovative program is for families with children ages 0-3 and helps to support interactive talk during this important brain development stage. LENA Start is a free group class for families and supports parents' ability to promote and participate in their child's learning. Parents receive high-quality resources and a take-home book at each of the 10 weekly sessions. Sessions are offered in English and Spanish at the following days and times:



- Mondays at 6 p.m., Williams Farm Recreation Center (Orientation: Feb. 20)
- Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Bow Creek Recreation Center (Orientation: Feb. 22) *BILINGUAL (English/Spanish)
- Thursdays at 10 a.m., Central Library (Orientation: March 9) *BILINGUAL (English/Spanish)
- Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Virtual Via Zoom (Orientation: Feb. 22)
- Thursdays at 6 p.m., Virtual Via Zoom (Orientation: Feb. 23)

To register for a LENA Start class, complete the [Caregiver Interest Form](#). For more information, visit www.vbgrowsmart.com/lena-start or contact at vbgrowsmart@vbgov.com or 757-385-0144.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

VBFD EMPLOYEES RECEIVE DRIVE SAFE HAMPTON ROADS RECOGNITION

Jessica Xenakis, life safety education coordinator for the Virginia Beach Fire Department (VBFD), and Master Firefighter Ryan Arab were recently named as the Drive Safe Hampton Roads John T. Hanna Award recipients for 2022. The award recognizes traffic safety excellence for outstanding achievement in occupant protection. Xenakis and Arab have devoted countless hours rebuilding VBFD's car seat program, making it more accessible to citizens.



Since 2021, their teamwork has included becoming nationally certified instructors, training 56 local individuals to become Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPST) which resulted in 713 car seat checks being implemented by the close of 2022. In addition, they collaborated with Hall Mile One Automotive Group to spearhead a "Buckle Up for Life" seat check event where over 50 car seats were given away and installed properly for local families in need. Xenakis and Arab are currently conducting their first CPST hybrid training course with both local and regional students enrolled.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

HISTORY MUSEUMS STAFF ATTEND DEVELOPMENT DAY

Virginia Beach History Museums staff visited Colonial Williamsburg on Jan. 23 for a training and development session. VBHM staff toured the area with Colonial Williamsburg staff, visited historic homes, learned more about preservation techniques, collections, period dress, archaeology, architecture and more. The development day assists the department's mission of engaging Virginia Beach residents and visitors through meaningful arts, heritage and cultural experiences to connect and strengthen communities.



VOLUNTEER SHOUT-OUT FOR HOLIDAY WREATHS

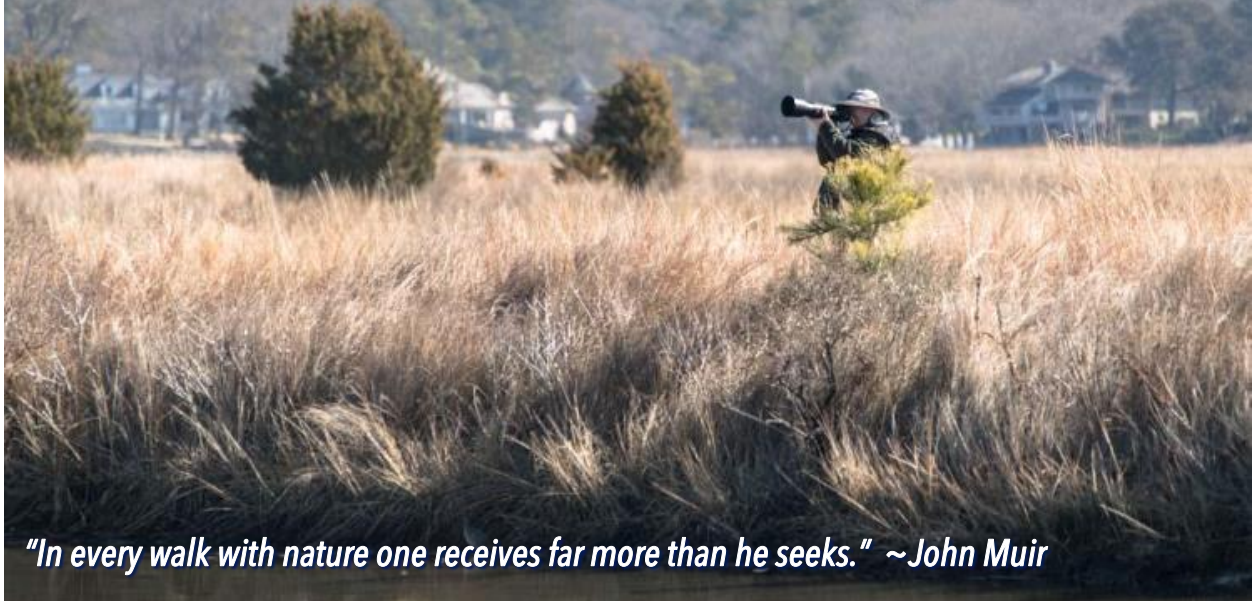
Have you ever wondered where the beautiful holiday wreaths that adorn various City buildings come from? Volunteers from the Virginia Beach Council of Garden Clubs (VBCGC) annually create these holiday wreaths. More than 40 members of the VBCGC made last year's wreaths for City buildings. Park and Landscape Services staff assisted the volunteers and brought in greenery for the wreaths.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ART SHOWCASE:** This week, Virginia Wesleyan University and Sandler Center staff installed the next Sandler Center Art Gallery exhibition, "The 2023 Virginia Wesleyan University Student Art Showcase." The showcase presents artwork by students of various academic majors, but all share an essential artistic spark that is a hallmark of the academic experience at Virginia Wesleyan University. There will be a FREE public opening reception for the exhibition on Feb. 13 from 6-8 p.m. Artwork in this exhibition will be on display until mid-April 2023. Contact: John Rudel, jrudel@vwu.edu.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK



"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." ~John Muir

ATTACHMENTS

- ◆ Virginia Beach Television (VBTV) Program Schedule | Jan. 29 through Feb. 4, 2023.




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


PROGRAM SCHEDULE JANUARY 29 – FEBRUARY 4, 2023


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 RETREAT (Cox 48 / Verizon 45)** — *Recablecast of the January 24 & 25 retreat: Sun 9am; Thu 7pm; Fri 9am.*

 **VIRGINIA BEACH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING (Cox 48 / Verizon 45)** — *Recablecast of the January 31 special meeting: Thu 9am; Fri 10pm; Sat Noon.*

 **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING (Cox 47 / Verizon 47)** — *Recablecast of the January 24 meeting: Mon 2pm; Wed 7pm; Sat 9am.*

VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION – COX 48 / VERIZON 45

DUCK CARVERS OF THE TIDEWATER — Decoys were first made to lure wildfowl within shooting range by market hunters but are now sought after by collectors who pay thousands of dollars for those made by the top names in carving. An art handed down from father to son, hear how some of the prominent decoy carvers of the Virginia Beach and Knott's Island areas have preserved the art and lore of this fascinating skill. Sun & Fri 6pm; Mon & Sat 3pm; Tue Noon; Wed 9am; Thu 6am & 9pm.

HOW IN THE WORLD — Hop aboard the Airship Curiosity and travel the globe for an adventure of fun and discovery. How do leaves change color? What was farming like in colonial days? Why are fingerprints different and how do police use them to solve crime? Also, learn how a submarine works, and discover the causes of wind. Sun & Fri Noon; Mon & Sat 9am; Tue 6am & 9pm; Wed 6pm; Thu 3pm.

UNION KEMPSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL MUSEUM VIRTUAL TOUR — Princess Anne County Training School was the first high school for African Americans in what is now known as Virginia Beach. Today the legacy of the school continues with the establishment of a museum to share stories of family, community, sacrifice, and the importance of education. Sun & Fri 3pm; Mon & Sat Noon; Tue 9am; Wed 6am & 9pm; Thu 6pm.

VBPD ACADEMY CLASS #62 PART 1 — Meet members of the Virginia Beach Police Department Training Academy staff and the recruits of Class 62 as they begin their 26-week journey to become sworn officers of the VBPD. Sun & Fri 6am & 9pm; Mon & Sat 6pm; Tue 3pm; Wed Noon; Thu 9am.

VIRGINIA BEACH COLD CASE FILES: *WHATEVER HAPPENED TO BARBARA JEAN?* — See if you can help solve perplexing disappearances, tragic murders and unsolved crimes from VBPD's cold case files. Sun & Fri 9am; Mon & Sat 6am & 9pm; Tue 6pm; Wed 3pm; Thu Noon.

VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION – COX 47 / VERIZON 47

DUCK CARVERS OF THE TIDEWATER — Sun & Fri 8am; Mon & Sat 5am & 8pm; Tue 5pm; Wed 2pm; Thu 11am.

HOW IN THE WORLD — Sun & Fri 5pm; Tue 11am; Wed 8am; Thu 5am & 8pm; Sat 2pm.

UNION KEMPSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL MUSEUM VIRTUAL TOUR — Sun & Fri 5am & 8pm; Mon & Sat 5pm; Tue 2pm; Wed 11am; Thu 8am;

VBPD ACADEMY CLASS #62 PART 2 — Sun & Fri 11am; Mon & Sat 8am; Tue 5am & 8pm; Wed 5pm; Thu 2pm.

VIRGINIA BEACH COLD CASE FILES — Sun & Fri 2pm; Mon & Sat 11am; Tue 8am; Wed 5am; Thu 5pm.

VIRGINIA BEACH TELEVISION – COX 46 / VERIZON 46

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.

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