

News from the VBCCO (vbcco.org):

- 1) Sheriff Rocky Holcomb provided a presentation about the Sheriff's Department:
 - Their credo= TRUST (Transparency, Respect, Unity, Service, and Training)
 - They created a "Road to Hope" program for prisoners (currently 1,100)- provides work and training in the food kitchen to become certified food handlers, aiding in possible employment opportunities after release.
 - Includes a Consumer Protection Unit to assist with issues from scammers- go to VBSO.net for information.
 - They now have a fentanyl-sniffer dog, and confirmed that Narcan is carried by the deputies and is used on any unresponsive person.
 - Organizations- submit requests for special event coverage to Captain Karen Johnson- coordinator.
- 2) VBCCO will sponsor candidate forums this Fall, for the 6 City Council seats that will be open for election. Remick, Rouse, and Cummings (CSBTS's District 8) are running unopposed; Henley, Hammond and Schulman (District 9- across the Lesner Bridge) will have challengers. *Hearing the candidates in person provides more insight as to how they will represent the citizens than sound-bites.*
- 3) The City is providing a grant to Global Links for a Subsea Carrier-Neutral Colocation data center located in the Corporate Landing area off Dam Neck Road (residents noted a massive removal of all of the trees in that area recently). *There are three types of data centers- corporate, co-lo (space is shared with other companies) and AI data centers, which use electricity equivalent to a 40,000-person city; the cooling towers on top of the building include air cooled by water constantly flowing through it.*

Virginia Beach News (viriniabeach.gov)

- 1) Personal property and real estate taxes are due June 5.
- 2) Key Events at the Oceanfront this Summer:
 - June 5-7: North American Sand Soccer Championship
 - July 4: July 4th Stars and Stripes Celebration- 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM. Includes concerts at the 3 oceanfront parks, with fireworks at 9:30pm. *(Don't forget about the Shore Drive trolley!)*
 - August 21-23: Coastal Edge East Coast Surfing Championship
 - August 28-29: Virginia Beach Funk Fest Beach Party (evening performances- 32nd Street beach)
- 3) Shore Drive activities across the Lesner Bridge:
 - Pleasure House Point- the City plans to install an ADA-complaint kayak launch; locals have voiced concerns about the ability of the kayakers to maneuver successfully around that area, particularly at low tide.
 - Marlin Bay Condo project- a 3-story development will be built at the intersection of Marlin Bay and Shore Drive in Ocean Park. The Bayfront Advisory Commission voted to accept the latest plans with additional caveats and conditions, including height, scale, permeable pavement, and the use of the planned commercial space.
 - Westminster-Canterbury- a new multi-level garage is slated to be built in front of the existing brick Westminster Canterbury facility facing Shore Drive, replacing the existing parking lot. The company is working with the city to preserve the trees adjacent to Shore Drive, but the existing live oaks within the parking area will be removed.