



CYPT CA VB
MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

The Point

18 February 2025



ASSOCIATION NEWS:

CAC (Citizens Advisory Committee) Meeting: ~~Our next meeting will be Thursday, weather permitting. Meetings are held at Williams Farm Recreation Center from 6:30PM to 8:00PM. The meetings are free and open to anyone. The guest speaker this month will be Ruth Steenburgh from Crimesolvers. You'll also be able to meet the new Precinct Captain, CPT Gordon. Several awards will be presented including Third Precinct Officer of the year. Light refreshments will be served as well as a 50/50 drawing.~~ **WAS CANCELLED-PUSHED TO 3/19/25**

Association Meeting: We had a darn good meeting on the 13th. We broke the 40 member attendance ceiling for the first time I can remember, largely because of our guest speaker-Justin Boyd. He is the developer of the Farm Fresh strip mall. As always we had the police report, light refreshments and a 50/50 drawing. The minutes will be posted on the website.

Website: Please check out our website from time to time. You'll find it located at: <https://cyptca.com/>

Bylaws Update: The CYPT CA VB bylaws have been re-written and put on the table for discussion and voting in May. Key changes are:

1. Removed the term "Constitution" as not consistent with Virginia law
2. Map of the neighborhood now an integral part of document
3. Clarifies roles of officers and expenses in excess of \$1000 subject to members approval
4. Quorum required for voting reduced to 10% from 20%
5. Standing Committees updated to reflect current operation
6. Prior amendments on dissolution and indemnification are inserted into the main document
7. Approval of the members required for certain provisions

The new draft bylaws will be posted on the website.

Annual Hardcopy Newsletter: The annual hardcopy (this year the “Green” version) is out; ready for you to use to pay your dues as well as offering up some good information. Roger Blood was the winner of the informal “find the errors” contest. His prize? He gets to choose the base color for next year. Red.

SCAM Alert:

1. Amazon Prime ‘Zombie’ Listings

Commonly referred to as ‘zombie’ listings, these are product pages in which customer reviews don’t match the described product. What happens is scammers will search for inactive or abandoned listings with lots of great reviews.

“Once they find their target, they take control of the listing and update the images and descriptions to match the product they are selling”, says Patrick Connelly from Stellar Villa, a wall art company from Brooklyn.

“As a result, what was once a product page for a pair of socks with 1,000 5-star reviews, becomes a product page for a coffee mug. The scammer benefits because their brand new product displays 1,000 5-star reviews. At first glance, it appears to be a successful product that has been on Amazon for quite some time.”

However, in reality, none of the reviews are for the product you are thinking of purchasing. As a wary consumer, you need to do your due diligence. Read through a couple of customer reviews pages, don’t only look at the review rating. This is one of the most common [Amazon scams](#) out there.

“Also, examine customer submitted images of the product. If you see repeated reviews or images that describe a product completely different than the one depicted in the listing, this could be a tell-tale sign of a zombie listing”, adds Connelly.

CYPT Crime Stats Year to Date:

The Virginia Beach Open Data Portal shows no crime incidents for Cypress Point in December 2024 or to this point in 2025. It has still not been updated. I have pointed this out to the city.

In the Garden:

The winter season allows us all to enjoy a slower pace, but that doesn't mean pausing on yard work altogether. In fact, the month of February is a great time to start getting the garden into shape ahead of more busy activity in the spring.

Forcing is the practice of getting a plant to grow and flower outside of its natural growing season. You can do this with many plants at different times of the year, but February is a prime time to force spring-flowering trees and shrubs, and you'll need some particularly accurate [pruning shears](#) to make the most of each plant. Ideal candidates for some late-winter blooms include forsythia, flowering quince and pussywillow, but check to make sure they have come out of their winter dormancy before you get to work; you want these plants to have already begun to bud before you remove them and take them indoors.

To force, select branches with rounder, plumper buds that are more likely to contain flowers (as opposed to leaves). Gently remove from the rest of the plant with sharp, clean cuts – aim for about a foot or two in length. Try not to remove too many branches from a single plant and spread out your clipping, so that the remaining shape is still balanced and attractive.

Place the branches in a tall container of water, in a cool indoor location (60 - 65 degrees Fahrenheit), and change out the water on a daily basis during the forcing period. Mist regularly to keep buds hydrated. When flowers begin to appear, you can move the branches to a sunnier location, but remember that cooler temperatures will help to extend the blooming period.

History Corner:

February 2, 1848 - The war between the U.S. and Mexico ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

February 3, 1865 - A four-hour peace conference occurred between President Abraham Lincoln and Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens at Hampton Roads, Virginia.

February 8, 1910 - The Boy Scouts of America was founded by William Boyce in Washington, D.C., modeled after the British Boy Scouts.

February 9, 1943 - During World War II in the Pacific, U.S. troops captured Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands after six months of battle, with 9,000 Japanese and 2,000 Americans killed.

February 15, 1898 - In Havana, the U.S. Battleship *Maine* was blown up while at anchor and quickly sank with 260 crew members lost.

February 20, 1962 - Astronaut John Glenn became the first American launched into orbit. Traveling aboard the "Friendship 7" spacecraft, Glenn reached an altitude of 162 miles (260 kilometers) and completed three orbits

February 21, 1972 - President Richard Nixon arrived in China for historic meetings with Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Premier Chou En-lai.

February 23, 1991 - In Desert Storm, the Allied ground offensive began after a devastating month-long air campaign targeting Iraqi troops in both Iraq and Kuwait.

A new section: A little more in-depth on one of the critical battle above.

Guadalcanal-who could place it within 1000 miles on a map? And yet it was one of the two great turning points in the pacific in WW2. Absolutely miserable weather, terrain, and a very determined enemy. One of the greatest battles of the USMC. Numerous naval battles with great casualties. Winning this one stopped the Japanese southern advance and kept the supply lines open to Australia. Like all of the great battles in the Pacific, a Japanese win here would have delayed US entry into Europe by over a year and the whole continent might be speaking Russian now. They weren't going to stop at Berlin if they had half a chance but did because the US Army and British armies showed up.

CYPT Crime Stats Year to Date:

~~The Virginia Beach Open Data Portal shows no crime incidents for Cypress Point in December 2024 or to this point in 2025. It has still not been updated. I have pointed this out to the city.~~ **QUICK UPDATE-HAS BEEN FIXED, WILL RE-START NEXT MONTH.**

VBCCO NEWS: ~~The VBCCO plans a meeting on 2/19/25 (today) if the snow permits. Meetings are free and open to everyone and for now are held at the Bow Creek Recreation Center from 6:30-8:00 PM. Matters of general interest to the city, especially development plans always figure prominently. Guest Speaker: City of Virginia Beach Zoning Administrator Kevin Kemp on "by-right" development vs. "discretionary."~~ **CANCELLED. PUSHED BACK TO 3/18/25.**

City News: City Calendar

SUN	Feb 16	MON	Feb 17	TUE	Feb 18	WED	Feb 19	THU	Feb 20	FRI	Feb 21	SAT	Feb 22
No Events	<div><div><div><div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div><div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> 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VBPD Releases 2024 Crime Data

Today Virginia Beach Police Chief Paul Neudigate presented detailed 2024 crime statistics to Virginia Beach City Council on Part I crimes to include Violent Crimes (homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault) and Property Crimes (burglary, motor vehicle theft, theft from motor vehicle, all other larceny). He also presented data on fatal traffic crashes in the city in 2024.

Highlights

- Of the 7,977 Part I crimes that occurred in 2024, only 5.5% were violent. In fact, ***violent crimes are down 22.3% compared to 2023 and down 21% compared to the previous three-year average (2021 – 2023), making 2024 the lowest year for violent crimes in the last five years.***
- Part I property crime is down 4.3% compared to 2023, from 7,882 offenses to 7,541. Of particular note, larcenies from motor vehicles continue to drop, down 17%, and thefts of motor vehicles are down 27% compared to 2023 – *the lowest either number has been in five years!*
- Shooting incidents decreased by 49% in 2024 from 73 to 37, and shooting victims decreased by 56% from 88 to 39. Related, VBPD seized or came in possession of 1,221 illegally possessed firearms in 2024.
- The homicide rate fell by 46% in 2024, from 24 to 13. Of those, ***100% have been positively cleared.*** VBPD's homicide clearance rate continues to be far superior to the national average of 52% (as reported by the FBI in 2022).
- Citywide vehicle crashes are down 4% since 2023 and 7% since 2022.
- Citywide fatal vehicle crashes are down 31% since 2023.
- When compared to neighboring cities in Hampton Roads, at 4.8 per 100,000 residents, Virginia Beach had the lowest number of fatal vehicle crashes in 2024.

Chief Neudigate touted the determination of VBPD personnel, the use of technology, the VBPD Real Time Crime Center, and ongoing regional teamwork and collaboration in the continued downward trend in Part I crime in 2024.

"In addition to the great police work and community assistance, technology aids those efforts with expanded citywide camera network and regional license plate readers playing a key role," said Police Chief Paul Neudigate. "By providing real-time data and capturing essential details like vehicle license plates, we can quickly identify suspect vehicles to aid our investigations. These technologies routinely enhance our ability to keep the community safe and ensure we use all available resources to protect our community."

Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation to Host Job Fair on Feb. 27

Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation (VBPR) will host a job fair to find energetic, dedicated employees to fill hundreds of spring and summer part-time positions with pay starting at \$15.08 an hour.

The department brings on approximately 350-500 staff members annually to fill these seasonal positions that have the potential to extend into the fall. Positions with particularly high demand include childcare staff, groundskeeping and lifeguards.

Interested applicants are invited to participate in the Spring Job Fair, 4-7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 27, at the Bow Creek Recreation Center, 3427 Club House Road. VBPR hiring managers and team members will be on-site to answer questions for interested applicants with more than 10 information tables.

"At VBPR we champion a workplace built on our cultural foundations of professionalism, respect, accountability, integrity and citizenship," said Michael Kirschman, VBPR director. "These guiding principles of behavior cultivate a positive and high-performing work environment."

VBPR is looking for passionate individuals who have demonstrated skills and are looking for opportunities to work with kids, teach swimming, or work outdoors in our scenic parks. Employment areas include aquatics, administrative/clerical, athletics, fitness, park and landscape services, recreation center support staff, therapeutic recreation and youth programs.

Current job openings can be found online at [VirginiaBeach.gov/careers](https://virginiabeach.gov/careers). For questions, contact HIREVBPR@vb.gov or call 757-385-1117.



The flyer for Wade Insurance Agency features a green and blue geometric border. At the top is the logo with the letters 'WIA' in a stylized font, followed by 'WADE INSURANCE AGENCY'. Below this, the text reads 'Hi Neighbor!' in a large, bold font. A sub-header says 'We're new in the neighborhood but not new in business!'. The main body of text states 'We recently relocated to 1131 Independence Blvd (Next to Taylor's Do It Center)'. A section titled 'A Little about us.....' lists several bullet points: 'Serving Hampton Roads since 2005', 'Veteran Owned and Operated', 'Multiple carriers to serve you better', 'Expert, unbiased advice to get you the right coverage for your specific needs', and 'Providing Auto, Home, Flood, Life and Business Insurance'. At the bottom, it says 'Call or stop by anytime!', provides the email 'Rwade@Wadeinsuranceagency.com', and the phone number '(757) 200-4063'.

WIA
WADE INSURANCE
AGENCY

Hi Neighbor!

We're new in the neighborhood but not new in business!

We recently relocated to 1131 Independence Blvd (Next to Taylor's Do It Center)

A Little about us.....

- Serving Hampton Roads since 2005
- Veteran Owned and Operated
- Multiple carriers to serve you better
- Expert, unbiased advice to get you the right coverage for your specific needs
- Providing Auto, Home, Flood, Life and Business Insurance

Call or stop by anytime!

Rwade@Wadeinsuranceagency.com

(757) 200-4063

Financial Review: On 27 January we conducted our annual financial review, assisted by an outside, independent person. The review summary as well as our estimated 2025 Budget will be presented at the 13 February general meeting.

CYPRESS POINT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Dues are \$15.00
(January to December)
Make check payable to
CYPT CA VB

NEW

RENEW

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

eMAIL: _____

I'm interested in volunteering for:

Association Officer: _____

Emergency Response Team: _____

Neighborhood Watch: _____

Newsletter: _____

Events/Contests/Food Drive: _____

Welcome Committee: _____

MAIL TO:

TREASURER
CYPT CA VB at

1228 Smith
Cove Circle

Routine correspondence
should be sent to

cyptca@gmail.com

Advertising rates: Full page
\$150 half-page \$75, Quarter
page \$40, business card \$25

Look for us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CYPTCA/) at
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/CYPTCA/)
[CYPTCA/](https://www.facebook.com/CYPTCA/) or visit our webpage
at www.cyptca.com

Dues can also be paid through
the association's PayPal
account. It is secure, free, and
doesn't require you to have
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