



# Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: March 25, 2009

Welcome to the official Town of Cape Charles Newsletter. The purpose of this electronic newsletter is to pass factual, informative and timely information to the citizens of Cape Charles and to any other individuals who have a business, property, travel or historical interest in our Town.

The information contained in this newsletter is considered to be the "official word" on the Town's activities. The Cape Charles Gazette is a news source which reports upon weekly events, upcoming Town activities, articles of interest to our citizens, Town projects, safety & security issues and emergency announcements.

We hope that you will enjoy reading the Cape Charles Gazette.

References to external websites are for information purposes only. The Town makes no representation as to the accuracy of information on such sites and reference to such sites is not intended as an endorsement by the Town of any materials or opinions expressed on such sites.



## CODE ENFORCEMENT

Jeb Brady, Code Enforcement Officer, has been certified by the State of Virginia as a Certified Building Maintenance Official and a Certified Fire Official. Congratulations, Jeb! Jeb reported the following:

- Code Enforcement performed 13 Erosion & Sedimentation Control Inspections.
- A notice was sent to a property owner on Mason Avenue to pick up the limbs and branches that are blocking an ingress/egress easement.
- A Code Enforcement Case on Mason Avenue has been closed.

## TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA 2008

Smitty Dize, Harbor Master, reports the following:

- The Harbor is now open on Saturdays
- The cannon issue for the Blessing of the Fleet has been resolved. Thanks to Dan from Interstate Equipment! The Second Annual Blessing of the Fleet is scheduled for Friday, April 3, 2009, beginning at 5:30 PM.
- A big "Thanks" to the Public Works Department for the great job done at the west dock!
- The wall that protects the flower bed near the boat ramp has been rebuilt and all the flower beds have been weeded and clipped.
- The deck and handicap ramp near the harbor master's office is being re-preserved.
- A finger pier has been added to existing pilings giving us the ability to tie up two (2) more vessels.
- The Harbor staff repaired three water lines on the center dock. The water had been shut off for the winter and the leaks were noticed when the water was turned back on. All water valves are being inspected and any that are found to be leaking are being replacing.

## LIBRARY

Ann Rutledge, Library Manager, reported the following:

- The **Toddler/Preschool Storytime** held on 3/12 had a total of six (6) children and caregivers who attended. The theme was "**Like Green!**" celebrating St. Patrick's Day.
- The **Toddler/Preschool Storytime** held on 3/19 had a total of five (5) children and caregivers who attended. The theme was "**Good Night!**"
- On Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> the **Friends of the Library** and the **Library Board** met with the **Library Board of the Eastern Shore Public Library** at the Saint Charles Fellowship Hall to share information and ideas.
- On Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> the Library held the second computer class series on **Excel, Word Processing and the Internet**. It was taught by Etta Kaye Pruitt and three (3) people attended. This class will continue for two more weeks.
- Also on March 18<sup>th</sup>, the Eckhart Tolle Class, taught by Ettore Zuccarino resumed at the Library.
- Ann attended the Career Fair at Northampton High School on March 18<sup>th</sup> to represent the career of Librarian.
- Local author Paula Nico will be reading her children's book **The Clug-Clug Story** at the Library on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM. All children are invited to attend.

## PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENTS

Dave Fauber, Director of Public Works, reported the following:

- A new surge reduction value has been installed on the tower well.
- The Public Works crew is still working on repairing alley ways.

## EMAIL CONTACTS:

[Mayor](#)  
[Town Council](#)  
[Town Manager](#)  
[Asst. Town Manager](#)  
[Treasurer](#)  
[Town Clerk](#)  
[Code Enforcement](#)  
[Town Planner](#)  
[Public Works/Utilities](#)  
[Harbor](#)  
[Library](#)  
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- The crew is also making any needed repairs to the fishing pier.
- The dune cross-over at the end of Monroe is being worked on.
- The tennis courts are being cleaned up and the nets are being repaired.
- The harbor parking lot is being prepared for the Blessing of the Fleet.

## TOWN CLERK

Libby Hume, Town Clerk, reported the following information:

- Four (4) Freedom of Information requests have been received and are being processed.
- Fifteen (15) applications have been received for the Town Treasurer position. The deadline for applications was March 13, 2009. The Town Council will review these applications and interviews will be scheduled over the next several weeks.

- **Upcoming Meetings:**

Thursday, March 26, 2009:

**Town Council Work Session** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall re: Budget

**Town Council Special Session** immediately following Work Session

Tuesday, April 7, 2009:

**Planning Commission Regular Session** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall

Thursday, April 9, 2009:

**Town Council Regular Meeting** starting at 7:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall

Tuesday, April 14, 2009:

**Town Council Work Session** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall re: Budget

Thursday, April 16, 2009:

**Planning Commission / Town Council Joint Work Session** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall re: Comprehensive Plan Update

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Tad Taborn, Recreation Director, reported the following:

- He passed the test for a commercial drivers' license on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations Tad!
- The plans for the Skateboard Park are being finalized and construction should begin later this month if everything goes as planned.
- He is making arrangements for adult presenters to meet with the Town's youth to conduct presentations on a variety of recreational and vocational topics ranging from organic farming to crabbing. The tentative dates are:
  - April 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM – Organic Gardening: Jeanie Flynn, with help from Jennifer Ingram, will instruct participants in the preparation and maintenance of a garden over several sessions. The first session is scheduled during the Northampton County Public Schools Spring Break. The garden will be on town property near Rayfield's Pharmacy at the corner of Fig Street and Mason Avenue.
  - April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM – Pier Fishing and Crabbing: Ben Lusk, with help from Tad Taborn, will instruct participants in preparing poles and pots for use; the proper and safe handling of equipment and bait; and catching and releasing fish at the Town Pier.

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tom Bonadeo, Town Planner, reported the following:

- Cela Burge, Planning Commission Chairwoman, has tendered her resignation from the Commission effective March 16<sup>th</sup>. Cela played an important part in the Comprehensive Plan update process, which the Planning Commission has been working on for the last two years. We wish her the best for her future.
- The Planning Commission met on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, and is nearing the completion of the Comprehensive Plan Update.
- Historic District Review Board met on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, and reviewed three (3) applications.
- Tom attended a teleconference on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, to learn more about access to the Stimulus Dollars.
- The Broadband Management Team has completed the budget and preliminary engineering for the fiber network, which will be sent to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). A contract is expected shortly.
- Tom attended a seminar at the UVA Center on sea level rise and its potential impact on our marshes.
- On March 16<sup>th</sup>, a new management contract was announced for the Bay Creek Marina. The Bluewater Group has a growing portfolio of yachting destinations worldwide and now has added Cape Charles to their list.



## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Police Chief David Eder reported the following:

- The Department made three (3) arrests over the weekend
  - One (1) person was charged with Driving Under the Influence
  - One (1) person was charged with a weapon law violation of carrying a concealed weapon about his person and Drunk in Public
- Officer Braatz gave an Identity Theft presentation to the Women's Club last week
- With the summer months ahead, the Department would like to encourage everyone to come by the office to register any bikes that they have not previously registered. The Town does this at no cost to the owner.

Chief Eder reported the following numbers for the month of February:

- Assisted Northampton County Sheriff's Office – 2
- Assisted Fire & Rescue – 4
- One (1) misdemeanor arrest was made
- Eleven (11) traffic summonses were issued
- Seven (7) traffic warnings were issued

## **TOWN MANAGER**

Heather Arcos, Acting Town Manager, reports that accountants from Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates out of Richmond, VA were at the Town offices gathering information for the Fiscal Year 2008 audit.

The Cape Charles Community Trail Committee met on March 13<sup>th</sup>, and VDOT has notified the Town that the grant will cover the demolition of the recreational items that need to be relocated (tennis court, basketball court, playground) to open up the historic pedestrian connection to Peach Street; however, the grant will not cover the reconstruction/relocation of these elements. The grant funds will also cover the fountain, drainage improvements, and the handicapped access to the gazebo. The committee voted to move forward and put the project out to bid with the relocation/reconstruction of the recreational elements as a bid alternate. Once the bids come back they will identify which bid alternates they want to include and address any revisions needed to the drawings through a change order. The committee is expecting to award the contract in August 2009, so the park will remain open this summer.

Heather Arcos  
Town Manager (Acting)  
Town of Cape Charles, VA  
757-331-3259 x12

## **NOTICE TO CAPE CHARLES RESIDENTS**

### **2009 VEHICLE DECALS**

Decals are required for all motor vehicles, trailers and golf carts. They will be on sale beginning March 16, 2009 and may be purchased at the Cape Charles Municipal Building, 2 Plum Street, on weekdays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Decals must be displayed no later than April 15, 2009 in accordance with Section 42.47 of the Town Ordinance.

The cost for a vehicle or golf cart is \$27.00 and the cost for a trailer \$10.00. Golf carts require proof of insurance and inspection.

To purchase a Decal, you must:

- Present a valid vehicle registration card
- Have paid all personal property taxes due

If you included your payment for your vehicle decal with your personal property taxes at the end of last year, your 2009 decal will be mailed to you by the end of March 2009.

All information contained in this publication is believed to be true and correct at the time of publication.

Not responsible for typographical errors.

Municipal Corporation of Cape Charles  
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