



Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: March 9, 2010

We hope that you will enjoy reading the Cape Charles Gazette which is the electronic newsletter published from time to time by the Town Manager on behalf of the municipal government of the Town of Cape Charles. The Gazette provides a variety of information that we believe will be useful to the citizens and businesses of Cape Charles as well as those who plan to travel to Cape Charles or have any interest in our Town or the Town's government. The Gazette provides information on actions being undertaken or being considered by the Town government, upcoming activities in the Town, important public safety and security issues and emergency announcements.

We welcome your responses which may be sent to gazette@capecharles.org, by regular mail to 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310 or by calling (757) 331-3259.

We also encourage you to visit the Town's website at www.capecharles.org where you will find up-to-date information about the operation of the Town government.



CODE ENFORCEMENT

Jeb Brady, Code Enforcement Officer, reported the following:

- The construction on the **Central Park Trail Project** is slow due to adverse weather conditions.
 - 90% of the demolition has been completed.
 - The tennis court fence has been moved in to accommodate installation of the sidewalk.
 - ANEC, Verizon and Charter Cable are working to move the power poles on the east, west and north sides of the park.
 - The tree relocations are still at a standstill due to ground conditions. The Town is looking into alternative ways to save and protect the trees that have not yet been relocated.
 - **REMI NDER:** The **Cape Charles Central Park** will be closed until further notice. **The Basketball Court, Tennis Courts and Playground will remain open** unless otherwise noted. Please access these facilities from Madison Avenue.
- 30 Erosion & Sedimentation Control inspections and 9 building inspections were performed in February. Also, 1 residential plan review was completed.
- 9 Permits were issued in February (3 Building Permits, 4 Electrical Permits, 1 Mechanical Permit and 1 Plumbing Permit).
- The Code Enforcement process has been initiated on a commercial property on Mason Avenue.

EMAIL CONTACTS:

[Mayor](#)
[Town Council](#)
[Town Manager](#)
[Treasurer](#)
[Town Clerk](#)
[Code Enforcement](#)
[Town Planner](#)
[Public Works/Utilities](#)
[Harbor](#)
[Library](#)
[Police](#)
[Recreation](#)
[Newsletter Feedback](#)

TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA

Smitty Dize, Harbor Master, reported the following:

- Beginning 3/13/10, the Harbor will be open again on Saturdays from 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM.
- The work on the offshore breakwaters is scheduled to begin in April to construct 2 400' sections of breakwater. The construction is expected to be completed in June 2010.
- Maintenance work continues around the harbor in preparation for Spring.
- Smitty is looking to hire a **seasonal, part-time Harbor Assistant**, to work from 4/1 through 9/15. The deadline for applications is Friday, 3/12/10. [Click here](#) for details.
- The **Third Annual Blessing of the Fleet** ceremony will begin at 5:30 PM on Friday, April 9th, followed by a celebration with music, great food and beverages. The events will continue on Saturday, April 10th, beginning at 9:00 AM with a 5K Walk/Run, contests, games, food and much more! We look forward to seeing you there!

LIBRARY

Ann Rutledge, Library Manager, reported the following:

- **Kid's Crafts** is held every Tuesday morning and **Toddler/Preschool Storytime** is held every Thursday morning at the Cape Charles Memorial Library. A total of 22 children and caregivers attended in February. [Click here for the schedule.](#)
- The next **Harrington Casino Bus Trip** is scheduled for Wednesday, 3/24/10. If you are interested in attending, please call Chris at 331-2206 to reserve your place. The cost is \$50.00 per person.
- On Saturday, 3/20, 2 classes will be held (10:00 AM & 1:00 PM) on **Decorating Ukrainian Easter Eggs** at the St. Charles Parish Hall. 6 participants will be accepted for each class and the cost is \$10. At the end of the class, participants will keep their uniquely decorated egg. Also, decorated eggs will be available for sale at a cost of \$10 each. Reservations are necessary. Please call the Cape Charles Memorial Library at 331-1300 to reserve your spot today!
- On Saturday, 3/22, a **Diabetes Awareness Seminar** will be held at 7:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. Diabetes testing will be available. This seminar is free to the public.
- On Saturday, 3/27, local author **Judi McCoy** will present a seminar entitled **"So You Want to Write a Book"** from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. Judi has authored 16 books. The seminar is free and open to the public. Please call 331-1300 to register for the seminar. Judi has graciously agreed to conduct a second seminar on 4/10 entitled **"So You Want to Publish Your Book."**





Cape Charles Gazette

Page 2

TOWN CLERK

Libby Hume, Town Clerk, reported the following information:

- **Upcoming Meetings:**

Thursday, March 11, 2010:

Town Council Executive Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall. [AGENDA](#)

Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 7:00 PM at St. Charles Parish Hall. [AGENDA](#)

Tuesday, March 16, 2010:

Historic District Review Board Meeting starting at 4:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Thursday, March 18, 2010:

Harbor Area Review Board Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Thursday, March 25, 2010:

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

Thursday, April 1, 2010:

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

Tuesday, April 6, 2010:

Planning Commission Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Thursday, April 8, 2010:

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

Tuesday, April 13, 2010:

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

Thursday, April 29, 2010:

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

- **Cape Charles is Looking for a Few Good Volunteers!** The Town is seeking a **minimum of 5 citizens** who are interested in volunteering their time in assisting their community for the following:
 - **Planning Commission – 1 citizen needed:** The Planning Commission serves as an advisory body to the Town Council for planning-related matters and their responsibilities include reviewing Zoning Ordinance amendments, Comprehensive Plan amendments, conditional use permit applications, and rezoning applications. Regular sessions are held the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM. Public Hearing and work sessions are scheduled on an as-needed basis.
 - **Harbor Area Review Board – 1 citizen needed:** This is the latest addition to the Town's Commission and Boards. The purpose of the Harbor Area Review Board is to review and make recommendations to the Town Council regarding architectural designs on the developments in and around the Town's Harbor. Regular sessions are held the third Thursday of every month at 6:00 PM.
 - **Wetlands / Coastal Dunes Board – 1 citizen needed:** The Wetlands and Coastal Dune Board reviews applications for certain activities in wetlands and dune areas. Meetings are scheduled on an as-needed basis. The Town's Wetlands Ordinance can be found in Appendix E of the Zoning Ordinance. The Coastal Primary Sand Dune Ordinance can be found in Appendix C of the Zoning Ordinance.
 - **Building Code Board of Appeals – 1 citizen needed:** The Building Code Board of Appeals hears appeals concerning the Uniform Statewide Building Code. Meetings are scheduled on an as-needed basis.
 - **Library Board – 1 citizen needed:** The Library Board oversees the Cape Charles Memorial Library.
 - Several alternates will also be named to fill future vacancies on the Planning Commission and other boards. **If you are interested in serving on any of the boards shown above, please submit your resume to Libby Hume at the Town Hall or send by email to clerk@capecharles.org.**

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tom Bonadeo, Town Planner, reported the following:

- Tom is working with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) to create a beach plan. Scott Hardaway, a professor at VIMS, will visit Cape Charles on Tuesday, 3/23, to provide input for the plan. The Town is still working with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management on the FEMA beach plan.
- The Historic District Review Board met on Tuesday, 2/16, and approved a historic restoration to a house near the corner of Pine and Tazewell. The plan was presented by Parham Architects and the restoration is currently being reviewed by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources for tax credit. This is a contributing four square to the National Historic District of Cape Charles.



Cape Charles Gazette

Page 3

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sambo Brown, Chief of Police, reported the following information:

- The law enforcement statistics for the month of February:
 - 32 calls for service within Cape Charles were received.
 - 5 calls for service outside of Cape Charles were received.
 - 2 felony arrests, 3 misdemeanor arrests and 1 DUI arrest were made.
 - 37 traffic summonses and 20 traffic warnings were issued.
 - 2 parking tickets were issued.
 - 5 calls were received to assist Fire & Rescue.
 - 1 call was received to assist the Northampton County Sheriff's Office.
 - 4 calls were received to assist the Virginia State Police.
- For **non-emergency police assistance**, please call 678-0458.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Jen Lewis, Community Events / Recreational Coordinator, reported the following:

- The **Cornhole Tournaments** have resumed and are held on Sunday afternoons at 3:00 PM. There is a \$15 entry fee per 2-person team.
- **Arts and Crafts** have a new day and time! Come join us at the **Cape Charles Memorial Library** on Wednesdays at 4:00 PM starting March 10th.
- There will be a **Teen Dance** on 3/13 from 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. It will be a St. Patrick's Day theme. Volunteers are welcome! Donations of baked items are also appreciated! If you are interested in volunteering for the dance or would like to contribute a baked item, please contact Jen at 331-3259 x18 or by email at reccoordinator@capecharles.org.
- There will be a skateboard demonstration at the **Skateboard Park** on Saturday, 3/20. Mike's Skatepark will be here to demonstrate skateboarding techniques. The Town reminds all skateboarders to wear a helmet while skateboarding in the park.
- Jen has collected a huge assortment of lost items that have been found in the Park. Please contact Jen if you have lost an item.
- Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Valentine Gift Exchange**. There were over 40 participants and a good time was had by all!
- The Recreation Department is still collecting used or old ink cartridges and cell phones. So far, \$103 has been raised through Funding Factory. Proceeds from these donations go toward purchasing new equipment and supplies for future recreational activities.
- If you have any ideas on how to make the Town's Recreation Program as successful as possible, please contact Jen at 331-3259 x18 or by email at reccoordinator@capecharles.org.

PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES

Dave Fauber, Director of Public Works / Public Utilities, reported the following information:

- The IFB for the printing and maintenance of the **Cape Charles Water Tower** closed on 2/17 and the contract should be awarded to the low bidder at the Town Council meeting on Thursday, 3/11.
- A water main leak near the hump was repaired which interrupted service to Bay Creek for a couple of hours on Thursday, 2/25.
- The electrical upgrade for the Municipal Building has been completed.
- Alley maintenance and grading is moving forward. Gravel and crusher run will be added where needed.
- Dave met with VDOT regarding the handicap beach access at the south end of Bay Avenue.
- A fence was installed at the basketball court for the safety by the school.
- The annual maintenance on the vacuum sewer pods have been completed.
- The lost or broken meter box lids are in the process of being replaced.
- The Public Works crew has trimmed up the Christmas Tree at Peach Street and Mason Avenue. The Town is planning on installing lights on the tree which can be lit during the holidays.
- Upcoming Projects:
 - New beach access walks will be built at Jefferson, Madison and Monroe Avenues. A kayak access will be built at Washington Avenue and a handicap access will be built for the Fun Pier / Boardwalk. Grant money received from the Eastern Shore of Virginia Tourism Commission will help with these projects.
 - The Public Works crew has prepped the corner at Bay and Mason Avenues in preparation for the installation of the beach access.
 - Repairs will be completed to the Fun Pier and the Boardwalk. Funding from FEMA will help with these projects.



Cape Charles Gazette

Page 4

TOWN MANAGER

Heather Arcos, Town Manager, reported the following:

- Heather Arcos was named the **Public Servant of the Year** by the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce at their annual awards banquet which was held on Friday, 2/25. Heather wishes to thank the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce for this great honor. She is grateful to the Mayor and Town Council for allowing her the privilege to serve the people of the town she was born and raised in. She has a natural love for this town – its past, present and future. She shares this honor with the Town staff and with those people who have mentored her and helped her to grow.
- Heather and Bob Panek gave a presentation to the **Cape Charles Rotary Club** regarding the potential of a regional wastewater system.
- On 2/25, Heather Arcos and Jen Lewis met with the **Cape Charles Women's Club** and gave an update on various activities that have been held since Jen Lewis was hired as the Community Events / Recreational Coordinator and activities that are planned for the future. An update was also given regarding the Central Park Trail. The Women's Club did not have an issue with the removal of the playground fence but they wanted to ensure that the fence would be re-installed after completion of the construction. They are also providing pricing for the special mulch that is needed for the playground and have agreed with the replacement of the boards and painting in the area.
- On 3/4, a preconstruction meeting was held with Precon Marine, the contractor for the **Offshore Breakwater Project** regarding the plans for the breakwater. The Notice to Proceed has been issued and construction should begin in April.
- On 2/16, Heather Arcos, Chris Bannon and Smitty Dize met with the Virginia Port Authority in Richmond. The Town is very hopeful of receiving monies for the Phase II floating slips. Smitty Dize asked Jeffery Keever, Deputy Director, to be the Master of Ceremonies at this year's Blessing of the Fleet.
- Town Council Work Sessions have been scheduled for the Council to analyze projections for the upcoming year's budget. The meeting dates have been posted on the website and are included in the Town Clerk's report in this issue of the Gazette.
- Representatives from Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates were at the Town office on 3/1 and 3/2 compiling information for the Town's financial audit. In previous years, we received the audit management letter in May and the final audit financial report in July.
- Tom Bonadeo met with VDOT regarding approval of handicap parking spaces in various locations around Town, including Trinity Methodist Church. The only locations in Town that are feasible for designated handicap parking is at the beach front and a location on Mason Avenue. The location on Mason Avenue would require the use of an existing parking space on each side of the street to construct a ramp meeting all requirements on both sides with a crosswalk in between. The possibility of school crossings were discussed as well. Unfortunately, VDOT cannot assist with the cost of either project.
- The Boundary Adjustment Sub-Committee met on 2/22 and finalized a Memorandum of Agreement between Cheriton and Cape Charles which will be reviewed by the respective Town Councils.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- **St. Patrick's Day Teen Dance** – March 13th from 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall.
- **Ukrainian Egg Decorating Class** – March 20th at 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall
- **Skateboard Demonstration** – March 20th at the **Skateboard Park**. Mike's Skatepark will be here to demonstrate skateboarding techniques.
- **Diabetes Awareness Seminar** – March 22nd at 7:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall
- **"So You Want to Write a Book" Seminar by Judi McCoy** – March 27th, at 9:00 AM at the St. Charles Parish Hall
- **3rd Annual Blessing of the Fleet** – April 9 – 10, at the Cape Charles Harbor. Save the Date! There ceremony will begin at 5:30 PM on Friday April 9th followed by great music, food and fun!

Any reference to an external website is for public information only and does not constitute an endorsement of that website.

Municipal Corporation of Cape Charles
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