



Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: May 10, 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 moving along very smoothly now.
 - Over 200' of sidewalk has been poured in several areas around the park.
 - Over half of the memorial trees have been relocated in their final resting place with the rest to be moved within the next 2 weeks.
 - Lighting has been put back into the project and 17 of the 34 lights are going to be installed throughout the park.
 - The fountain has been put back into the project and is to be installed in the west node near Strawberry Street.
 - **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, 49 building inspections, 2 zoning clearances, 5 courtesy residential inspections, 2 courtesy commercial inspections and 1 residential plan review were performed in April. 1 Public Utilities Shallow Well permit was issued.
- Code Enforcement is currently working on an enforcement case regarding a property in Bay Creek. Numerous complaints have been received regarding the building which is in an unsafe/uninhabitable condition.
- Jeb also attended the kick-off meeting for updating the Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- If you plan to rent your home this summer, please make sure that you have registered in the rental program and that Code Enforcement has made the proper inspections. For more information, please call Jeb or stop in.

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:

- The **Third Annual Blessing of the Fleet** was a success! The ceremony seems to get better each year. A big "Thank You" to everyone who took part in helping to make it such a success. I also want to thank everyone who attended and I look forward to seeing you next year! Mark your calendars for **April 8-9, 2011!**
- There are still some **Blessing of the Fleet t-shirts** available if you did not have a chance to get one at the event. Please stop by the Harbor office to pick one up.
- Precon Marine began Section 1 of the **Offshore Breakwater** on 4/13 and you can see the progress from the fishing pier. The construction is already helping to shelter the Harbor from the westerly seas. Concrete blocks have been relocated from the Harbor side to the Bay side of the breakwater and additional bedding stone has been added to increase stabilization. The anticipated completion date is the end of June.
- Staff has been working with Langley & McDonald regarding finalization of the design for the new slips and restroom facilities.
- Staff is continuing with spring maintenance on equipment and flower beds. We hope to have our vegetable garden growing soon. This was a great hit with the transient boaters last year.
- As most of the businesses in Town are aware, the Harbor distributed a Welcome Package to all of our transient boaters last year and we will be doing the same this year. If you would like to include your business card or a discount promotion, please bring them to the Harbor office or contact the staff at 331-2357. There is no charge to be included in the Welcome Package.
- Due to popular demand, the Harbor is selling **block ice** this year.
- **IMPORTANT NOTICE:** In the Commonwealth of Virginia, "**No Wake Zones**" are described as zones where "**A vessel moving as slow as possible without losing steerage.**" Please observe the "No Wake Zone" in the Harbor area – for your safety and the safety of others.
- **FYI** – 831,465 lbs. of crabs, 37,115 lbs. of conch, and 605 lbs. of fish were brought into the Harbor during the month of April.



Cape Charles Gazette

Page 2

TOWN CLERK

Libby Hume, Town Clerk, reported the following information:

- **Upcoming Meetings:**
 - Thursday, May 13, 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 the St. Charles Parish Hall. [AGENDA](#)
 - Monday, May 17, 2010:
Planning Commission Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Tuesday, May 18, 2010:
Historic District Review Board starting at 4:30 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Thursday, May 20, 2010:
Harbor Area Review Board starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Monday, May 24, 2010:
Cape Charles-Cheriton Boundary Adjustment Committee Meeting starting at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Thursday, May 27, 2010:
Town Council Work Session (tentative) starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- **The Town offices will be closed on Monday, May 31, 2010 in observance of Memorial Day.**
- **Cape Charles is Looking for a Few Good Volunteers!** The Town is seeking a **minimum of 2 citizens** who are interested in volunteering their time in assisting their community for the following:
 - **Library Board – 2 citizens needed:** The Library Board oversees the Cape Charles Memorial Library.
 - **Planning Commission – 2 citizens 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.
 - **If you are interested in serving on any of the Town's boards, even if there is currently no vacancy on the Board or Commission of your choice, please complete the [Cape Charles Boards & Commission Application](#) and return it to Libby Hume at the Town Hall or send by email to clerk@capecharles.org.**

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tom Bonadeo, Town Planner, reported the following:

- The **Planning commission** did not meet in April and their May meeting was rescheduled to Monday, 5/17, due to the election on 5/4, which was their regular meeting date.
- The **Board of Zoning Appeals** held a public hearing on Thursday, 4/29, to hear public comment on a rear-yard setback for a new house at 607 Pine Street. The Board recessed its meeting to get a legal opinion regarding the time limitation of variances as described in the Town ordinance. Legal Council recommended the original variance be upheld and the ordinance be changed to remove the time limitation as the State Code does not explicitly allow time limits on variances. The BZA upheld the original variance and the applicant withdrew the current application. The **Planning Commission** will begin working on the changes to the zoning ordinance.
- Tom is also working on the following projects:
 - Central Park Project
 - Beach Project – moving the sand dune, install snow fence and add sand
 - Bay TMDL and King's Creek TMDL. The total maximum daily load (TMDL) is the maximum amount of nutrients that a body of water can accept.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

- The law enforcement statistics for the month of April:
 - 34 calls for service within Cape Charles were received.
 - 3 calls for service outside of Cape Charles were received.
 - 0 felony arrests, 5 misdemeanor arrests and 1 DUI arrest were made.
 - 42 traffic summonses and 8 traffic warnings were issued.
 - 5 parking tickets were issued.
 - 4 calls were received to assist Fire & Rescue.
 - 1 call was received to assist the Northampton County Sheriff's Office.
 - 1 call was 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:

- Heritage Acres continues to be a success. On 4/17 a community yard sale was held with over 30 participants. Jennifer Scott donated a sheet cake that was enjoyed by all the residents. To help boost participation for arts and crafts, we will be raffling off a trip to the Harrington Slots. For each day a resident participates in the arts and crafts, they will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a free trip. There are many nurses at Heritage Acres that are starting to bring the wheelchair bound residents out for events.
- Pepsi gives away 1.3 billion dollars in grants monthly. Jen is in the process of submitting the paperwork for a community garden and is hoping to get both the children and seniors involved. The approval process is determined by community voting so look for further details if our idea is approved.
- The **Birding Festival** continues to move forward. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 5/11.
- Jen is also working on a little prevention and recycling grant. Public Works is researching the feasibility of placing recycling bins throughout the Town.
- New mulch has been laid and some minor repairs have been made to the playground to get ready for the warming weather.
- A **Scavenger Hunt** will be held on 6/5. More details will be provided at a later date.
- Congratulations to the winners of the **Encourage a Young Write Contest!**
 - Kindergarten – 2nd Grade:
 - 1st Place = Lauren Silvey
 - 2nd Place = Mollie Travis
 - 3rd Place = Savannah Eder
 - Grades 3 – 4:
 - 1st Place = Kayla Stokes
 - 2nd Place = Seth Johnson
 - 3rd Place = Candace Bowden
 - Grades 5 – 8:
 - 1st Place = Jordan Long
 - 2nd Place = Leigh Tyndall
 - 3rd Place = Guy Sayers
- 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 reccordinator@capecharles.org.

PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES

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

- The bathrooms at the beach are now open. Thank you to the Public Works crew for their efforts in cleaning them up and repainting the interior!
- The volley ball court has been moved to the south end of the beach near the fishing pier and should not be affected by the upcoming sand replenishment work at the beach.
- The new beach access walks at Jefferson, Madison and Monroe Avenues and the kayak access at Washington Avenue have been delayed until completion of the Beach Replenishment Project. The work on the handicap access to the pier and boardwalk has begun and is funded by grant money received from the Eastern Shore of Virginia Tourism Grant.
- The Public Works crew continues their work on the Mason Avenue street lights.
- The flag pole at the beach has been repaired and painted and the old communications tower on the Municipal Building has been removed.
- The maintenance and painting of the **Water Tower** has begun. During the next 4 weeks, the Town will be operating the water system without the storage tank and customers may experience some erratic water pressure.
- The water connection and meter has been installed on Strawberry Street for the Central Park fountain and drinking water.
- The construction for the new **Wastewater Treatment Plant** continues. The water reuse efforts are continuing and the Town is awaiting approval from the DEQ to waive the 50' water impoundment setback requirement in the state regulation.

LIBRARY

Ann Rutledge, Library Manager, reported the following:

- **Toddler/Preschool Storytime** continues to be held every Thursday morning at 10:30 AM at the Cape Charles Memorial Library.
- The book displays for April celebrated National Poetry Month and Earth Day.
- Dr. John J. Schulz, D.Phil presented a talk on **"China's Military: the Gang that Couldn't Shoot Straight!"** 13 people attended this event.



Cape Charles Gazette

Page 4

TOWN MANAGER

Heather Arcos, Town Manager, reported the following:

- Recently, the Town acquired 5 lots from Lan-Par Corp. The lots are adjacent to the Public Works maintenance shop. The purpose of this acquisition is to provide additional storage to cover the Town's equipment and to help centralize the Public Works Department.
- The contract for the **Cape Charles Beach Sand Replenishment Project** has been awarded to Gary Wagner and we have been testing the sand for grain size but are having difficulty finding sand of the recommended coarseness. The work is anticipated to begin the week of May 10th and the goal is to have work completed by Memorial Day.
- The **Cape Charles-Cheriton Boundary Adjustment Committee** did not meet in April. Their next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 5/24, at 5PM at the Cape Charles Town Hall. A joint meeting of the Planning Commissions from Cape Charles and Cheriton is being scheduled.
- Progress is being made to finalize the **Harbor District Design Guidelines**. The **Harbor Area Review Board (HARB)** reviewed the draft guidelines. Heather and Tom Bonadeo will meet with CMSS, the architects working on the guidelines, on 5/11 to review the modifications recommended by HARB.
- The Town received \$9K from the Northampton county Tourism Infrastructure Grant for the ADA compliant access for the beach at the south end of the fishing pier, a kayak access at the north end of the beach, and dune crossings at Monroe, Madison and Jefferson Avenues. The original deadline for the completion of work was 5/15 but the Town asked for an extension to 6/15 due to weather conditions. The Public Works crew has already begun the work on the ADA compliant access to the pier and boardwalk, but the work on the dune crossings and kayak access cannot be started until after the sand replenishment project has been completed.
- Items for review / action at the **5/13/10 Town Council Regular Meeting**:
 - Wastewater Treatment Plant Status
 - Potential Regional Wastewater System
 - Water Reuse Update
 - Mason Avenue Pump Station and Force Main Modernization
 - Cape Charles Trail Project Update
 - National Safe Boating Week Proclamation
 - Appointment to the Industrial Development Authority of Cape Charles-Northampton County
 - Joint Industrial Development Authority of Northampton County and Towns Appointee Term Resolution

UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- **Chamber of Commerce Harbor Party** – 5/22 at the Cape Charles Harbor from 6PM – 10PM
- **Friends of the Library fundraising trip to the Harrington Slots** – 6/9. Contact Chris Bannon to reserve your seat(s)!
- **Cape Charles Fire Department Annual Seafood Festival** – 7/3 at the Town Harbor from 4PM – 11PM
- **MS Bike Race** – 6/5 – 6/6

VIRGINIA'S HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS SALES TAX HOLIDAY May 25 - 31, 2010

Plan to go shopping the last week of May and you will save money on items you can use. During the week of May 25 - 31, 2010, you can stock up on supplies for protecting your home and business during hurricane and flooding season. You can also add items to your family's emergency supply kit. [Virginia's Hurricane Preparedness Press Release](#) / [Virginia's Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday Flyer](#)

[Click Here](#) to be directed to the Virginia Department of Taxation site to get more information regarding Sales Tax Holidays.

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

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