



# Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: March 9, 2011

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](mailto: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](http://www.capecharles.org) where you will find up-to-date information about the operation of the Town government.



Courtesy of Nancy Vest

## NOTICE TO MASON AVENUE BUSINESS AND PROPERTY OWNERS

Construction of the **Mason Avenue Force mains and Sewer Project** will begin early March 2011 and the construction is expected to last until the end of May 2011. The affected area will be the south side of Mason Avenue to the hump and some parking will be blocked on the south side. Heavy equipment will be travelling on Mason Avenue. Please use caution.

Please contact [Bob Panek](mailto:Bob.Panek@capecharles.org) at 757-331-3259 x19 with any questions or concerns.

## Recycling Facilities

**Northampton County** provides several **Recycling Facilities** that accept plastic, glass, newspaper, cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, waste oil and batteries. The closest location to the Town is in Bayview at 22564 Bayview Circle. The hours of operation are Monday – Saturday 7 AM – 12 Noon and 2 PM – 7 PM; Sunday 1 PM – 6 PM. More information can be located on the Northampton County website at [www.co.northampton.va.us/departments/landfill.html](http://www.co.northampton.va.us/departments/landfill.html).

## EMAIL CONTACTS:

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

## CODE ENFORCEMENT

Jeb Brady, Code Official, reported the following:

- **Central Park Trail Project:**
  - Substantial construction is complete. The contractor still has a few items left on the punch list; however, due to the weather, completion of these items has been postponed until spring.
  - The ornamental bollards and chain for the fountain area has arrived and will be installed in early spring.
- 30 Erosion & Sedimentation Control inspections, 19 building inspections and 6 courtesy residential inspections were performed in February.
- 1 Shallow Well permit was issued.
- Jeb continues the site inspections on the New Wastewater Treatment Plant project.
- Work on updating the nuisance ordinance has continued to incorporating language regarding piling of trash, garbage, materials, etc. of an unnecessary quantity as a violation.



## TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA

Smitty Dize, Harbor Master, reported the following:

- The current Harbor office hours are 9AM – 5PM Monday through Friday. The office reopened on weekends as of 3/5/11.
- **Harbor Redevelopment Project – Phase 1** – Somerset Paving & Marine is moving along with the construction of the floating docks.
  - **PLEASE NOTE: To ensure the safety of the public, the West Dock Area of the Harbor will be closed to through traffic during construction. PLEASE obey the posted "No Trespassing" signs.**
  - The slips can be viewed from the paved parking area by the boat ramps.
  - This project will be mostly funded through grants from the Boating Infrastructure Grant and the Virginia Port Authority and the Town will be financing the remainder through long-term financing for Capital Projects.
  - The bath houses and site work will be put out to bid after the **Harbor Area Review Board** has completed their review of the plans.
- Staff continues to work on the **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of the Fleet** activities which are scheduled for 4/8-4/9. Delegate Lynwood Lewis will be this year's Master of Ceremony! Stay tuned for updates regarding the planned activities.
- Follow the **Cape Charles Town Harbor** on Facebook by [clicking here!](#) Pictures of the slip construction and information on upcoming events are posted weekly.



## TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA (CONTINUED)

- Annual & Seasonal Slip Rental Agreements were mailed on 3/1 and staff has started contacting the individuals on the waiting list for the 45' slips.
- The Harbor crew has been busy performing maintenance around the Harbor.
  - Work has begun to power wash and recoat the walkways around the Harbor.
  - Routine maintenance checks were done on all the gas powered equipment.
  - Broken pile caps will be replaced.
  - The fuel tank will be repainted.
- **Save the Dates!**
  - The **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of the Fleet** has been scheduled for 4/8/11 beginning at 5:30 PM.
  - The **Chesapeake Bay Buyboat Association** will be holding their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion at Cape Charles from 8/5/2011 – 8/8/2011. The boats will be open to the public to tour and we are definitely looking forward to hosting their event this year!

## TOWN CLERK

Libby Hume, Town Clerk, reported the following information:

- **Upcoming Meetings:**
  - Thursday, March 10, 2011:  
**Town Council Public Hearing and Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. [Click here](#) to view the agenda packet.
  - Tuesday, March 15, 2011:  
**Cape Charles Broadband Management Team Meeting** starting at 2:00 PM at the Town Hall.  
**Historic District Review Board Meeting** starting at 4:30 PM at the Town Hall.
  - Thursday, March 17, 2011:  
**Harbor Area Review Board Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
  - Thursday, March 31, 2011:  
**Town Council Budget Work Session** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
  - Tuesday, April 5, 2011:  
**Planning Commission Public Hearing & Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- **Cape Charles is Looking for a Few Good Volunteers!** The Town is seeking a citizen who is interested in volunteering their time in assisting the community on the **Historic District Review Board**. The Historic District Review Board oversees the Town's Historic District. Regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 4:30pm. Work sessions are scheduled on an as-needed basis. If you are interested in serving on the Historic District Review Board, please complete the Cape Charles Boards & Commission Application (see below) and return it to Libby Hume.
- **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](mailto:clerk@capecharles.org).**

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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

- **Teen Night** is becoming a big success for the **Recreation Department** and **Library**. For the month of February, Sharon Silvey made baked ziti and everyone sat around and talked about different activities that the teens would like to have. Some of the teens worked on crafts and make-overs were done and overall everyone had a great time enjoying each other's company! The next teen event will be a **Teen Dance** scheduled for this Friday, 3/11. The Cape Charles Christian School is donating Heyward Hall for the event. [Click here](#) for information regarding the dance.
- Jen and Heather have been meeting with a small group of individuals regarding a **Community Garden**. The proposed garden may not be ready for planting during the summer but the preparations will be made to get it ready for planting. The **Cape Charles Rotary Club**, along with community volunteers and staff, will be implementing a plan which was developed by Ms. Laurie Klingel. The proposed garden will be located at the corner of Fig Street and Randolph Avenue beside Rayfield's Pharmacy.
- Jen is working with a class at the Cape Charles Christian School on a pilot **Get Fit Program** which is being sponsored by the **Cape Charles Rotary Club**.
- Jen is in the process of organizing a **Cheerleading Clinic** which will be a 6-week program that will start once the school year ends. If necessary, the clinic will be broken down by age groups to accommodate everyone.
- Jen is working with **First Tee**, a program through the YMCA, to organize a 6-week golf program to accommodate up to 22 children. There is a \$15 fee per child which will be paid to First Tee.
- Due to the cold weather, the activities at **Heritage Acres** went on hiatus, but Bingo will begin again on the first Tuesdays and last Thursdays of each month.



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## RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED)

- **Cornhole** games have started back up on Saturday afternoons at 3PM at the Cape Charles Fire Hall. On 2/27, there were 6 teams ranging in ages from 9 to 40. A great time was had by all!
- Jen and Heather met with the **SPCA** regarding holding their annual **Dog Walk** in Cape Charles. More details will follow.
- Jen will be holding a **Horseshoe Tournament** as part of the **Blessing of the Fleet** activities on 4/9.
- **Arts & Crafts** continues to draw a great crowd on Wednesday afternoons. Sometimes the kids in the **Cape Charles Christian School Afterschool Program** join in on the fun.
- The Town of Cape Charles recently participated in an auction for **St. Mary's Home for Disabled Children**. **Donations were made by Harbor Master Smitty Dize, Chris Bannon of Sea Gate Bed & Breakfast, Berkley Rayfield of Rayfield's Pharmacy, the Cape Charles Fire Department and Sarah Diley of Driftwood Florist**. All items were auctions off in Virginia Beach with all proceeds benefitting St. Mary's. Thanks to all who helped. If we missed you this year, we will be around next year to ask for donations.
- The first event of this year in Central Park is scheduled for 4/2. The Central Park Fountain area has been reserved for a private wedding. We are excited by the inquiries for such events throughout the spring and summer. If interested, please complete the Use of Facility Application – Central Park and submit it to Jen! [Click here](#) to download the form from our website.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

- The law enforcement statistics for the month of February:
  - 23 calls for service within Cape Charles were received.
  - 11 calls for service outside of Cape Charles were received.
  - 1 felony arrest, 1 misdemeanor arrest and 1 DUI arrest were made.
  - 19 traffic summonses and 6 traffic warnings were issued.
  - 1 parking ticket was issued.
  - 4 calls were received to assist Fire & Rescue.
  - 0 calls were received to assist the Northampton County Sheriff's Office.
  - 0 calls were received to assist the Virginia State Police.
- For **non-emergency police assistance**, please call 678-0458.

## PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES

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

- Public Utilities:
  - Thomas Stratton and Ron Bailey attended the *Basic Water Analysis and Process Instrument Verification Water and Wastewater* courses sponsored by the Virginia Rural Water Association.
  - Patrick Christman attended the *Nutrient Testing* course which was also sponsored by the Virginia Rural Water Association.
  - Completed projects include:
    - A water lateral leak in Bayside Village was repaired.
    - A water main lead on Bayshore Road was repaired.
    - A restriction in the Pine Street force main which caused the station to run in high water from time to time has been cleared.
    - The Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for the reduction of chlorination byproducts (THMs) has been submitted to the Department of Health.
    - 2 new 4" pumps have been installed and a faulty breaker has been replaced at the Mason Avenue Pump Station.
    - The contract for the re-phased Mason Avenue Pump Station and Force Main Project has been awarded to JCB Construction from Suffolk, VA.



**Don't Flush Trouble!**

Disposable wipes and other Products are clogging our sewer lines, and damaging pumps and other equipment.

Not only are these problems expensive to fix, they can also cause raw sewage overflows into homes, businesses and the Chesapeake Bay.



**Think Trash, Not Toilets!**

These belong in the TRASH:

Cleaning Wipes · Grease · Condoms · Disposable Diapers · Nursing Pads · Baby Wipes · Hair · Facial Wipes · Tampons & Pads · Dental Floss




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Photo courtesy of the City of Pacific Grove, CA



## **PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES (CONTINUED)**

- Ongoing projects include:
  - Repainting the pipes and tanks in the water plant (about 75% complete).
  - Installing the shell road to the Keck property wells has been delayed due to wet weather.
  - Awaiting response from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for our Ground Water withdrawal permit which should be issued upon adoption of the new water and wastewater ordinances by the Town Council.
  - Working with the DEQ to finalize the Keck Well Aquifer Plan.
  - Collecting flow data looking for sources of inflow and infiltration in the Plum Street Pump Station Basin sewer mains. Current flow meter location is in the intersection of Peach Street and Jefferson Avenue.
- Other upcoming projects include:
  - Installation of new metering system for chemical feed pumps at the water plant.
  - Draw down and yield testing on the Keck Wells.
  - Interior painting of the Water Tower.
  - Mason Avenue Pump Station force main rerouting.
  - Fig Street Force Main rerouting.
  - PER for connection to Keck Wells.
- New Wastewater Treatment Plant Update:
  - Operations Building: The roof has been installed and is 99% shingled. The plywood sheeting for the dormers has been installed and are ready for the vapor barrier installation. The interior walls have been prime painted and the foundation has the vapor barrier and insulation approximately 40% installed.
  - Headworks Building: The block walls are completed. The mechanical coarse screen and both fine screen have been placed into position. The stop gate frames are installed. The grit pumps are on the equipment pads and the metal roof trusses will be installed in early March.
  - Reactor Distribution Box: The weir gates are being installed. The Reactor slide gates and MLSS recycle piping has been installed. All davit cranes, mixer masts and mixers have been installed. Handrail installation is currently at 80% completion. The expansion joint filler material has been prepared for sealant. Pipe hangers and the 14" ductile iron piping and stainless steel piping are installed along the entire south side of Reactor #1.
  - Membrane Tanks: 90% of the structural steel is erected. This work will continue through March. The walls have been sand blasted for the Chemical Resistant Finish to be applied. Sealant has been installed at the construction joints.
  - Process Building: The block installation is 98% complete. Structural roof steel erection is 50% complete and will continue through March. Main electrical switchgear has been installed in the electrical room.
  - UV Structure: The UV system is currently being installed and conduit is being run to the control boxes. Both plant water pumps and piping have been installed.
  - Waste Sludge Tanks: The fill concrete has been installed in the bottom of the tanks and are currently being leak tested and leak repaired. All process piping has been installed. All blower pads to the east of the tanks have been installed.
  - Solids Process Building: The block installation is 100% complete. Metal roof truss erection is 75% complete, with 40% of the roof covered with plywood and felt paper. The belt filter press is installed along with the screw conveyor and 2 sludge pumps.
  - The electrical manholes and hand hold continue to have tops installed and grouted to required elevation. Conduit bushings are being installed and strings are being pulled through the conduit from point to point. Underground duct banks are 98% complete.
  - 100% of the yard piping has been installed to date.
  - The emergency generator is on site and in place on the pad.
  - Outfall piping is 90% complete and has passed all conflicting pipe. Installation will be completed in March.
  - Various equipment have arrived on site for the membrane system.
- Public Works:
  - Michael Mullner has been hired to fill the vacancy in Public Works. Michael was selected from a pool of 21 applicants.
  - Completed projects include:
    - Trimmed bushes and mulched beds along Mason Avenue, the hump and at the Skateboard Park.
    - Banners have been repaired.
    - The playground has been checked for maintenance issues.
    - Ballasts have been replaced in the lights at the Library.
    - Truck and equipment maintenance has been performed.
  - Other ongoing and upcoming projects include:
    - Making repairs to open the Beach Bathrooms in the spring. Proper signage will be installed.



## PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES (CONTINUED)

- Mulch has been delivered and is being installed in the playground. Maintenance will continue in the playground to bring it a new spring look!
- Preparing road patches for asphalt. Repairs will be completed when the asphalt plant reopens.
- The lights on the fishing pier are being replaced.
- The crew is working on clearing the beach sand and fence repairs.
- Repairs to exterior of the Municipal Building.
- Boardwalk repairs.

## CAPE CHARLES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Ann Rutledge, Library Manager, reported the following:

- During the month of February, a total of 79 children and caregivers attended the **Toddler/Preschool Storytime**.
- Etta Kaye Pruitt held a 3-week Beginning Computer Class.
- Ann took the **CPR Course** which was offered by the Town on 2/16.
- The theme for the **2011 Summer Reading Program** is *Amazing Tales at Your Library!* Ann and Sharon are busy planning the summer programs.
- Check out the Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library on Facebook by [clicking here!](#)

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tom Bonadeo, Town Planner, reported the following:

- The **Planning Commission** held their regular meeting on 3/1 and discussed the following:
  - Conditional Use Permit for a home occupation at 548 Madison Avenue. A public hearing is scheduled for 4/5 at 6PM.
  - The Commissioners worked on the Corridor Overlay project and will be submitting items to the County Planning Commission for their review. Items include:
    - Architectural Guidelines
    - Landscaping
    - Zoning
    - Road Access and many more
- 2 of the newest Commissioners attended the Certified Training Class on 3/7 & 3/8 in Richmond.
- The **Harbor Area Review Board** met on 2/17 and began their review of the revised plans for the new bath house at the **Cape Charles Harbor**. They have asked the architects for additional information which will be reviewed at their 3/17 meeting.
- The **Historic District Review Board** met on 2/15 and approved an application for 6 Randolph Avenue to rebuild and expand a rear addition and to brick over a window on the east side of the house. Several historic homes have been sold in the last two months and we expect a busy spring.
- Tom is also working on the following projects:
  - Wetlands Permits.
  - Flood Zone Review by the Department of Conservation and Recreation.
  - Review of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act and the Town's implementation.
  - Numerous setback informational issues for new and prospective property owners.
  - Shore erosion issues for some Cape Charles residents. A preliminary on-site meeting was held with Sea Breeze, Bay Vista owners and all the state and federal agencies to review erosion and to discuss the options available to the owners. An application has been received and a **Wetlands Board Public Hearing** has been scheduled for 4/4 at 5PM.

## TOWN MANAGER

Heather Arcos, Town Manager, reported the following:

- The **Town Council Public Hearing & Regular Meeting** will be held on Thursday, 3/10, beginning at 6PM. Agenda items include:
  - Reduction of Water and Sewer Facility Fees
  - Wastewater Treatment Plant Construction Update
  - PSA & Regional Wastewater System Update
  - Tree City USA Presentation
  - Tall Ships Economic Development Initiative Presentation
  - Federal Highway Safety Grant Application
  - Grounds Maintenance Contract Award
  - Contract Award for Emergency Generator At Pump Street Pump Station
  - Local Challenge Arts Grant Application



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## TOWN MANAGER (CONTINUED)

- **Harbor Development Update:** The construction of the floating slips is moving along nicely. D-Dock is complete and the electricians began last week. The Town is awaiting pricing for the installation of the waterline at the Harbor from Somerset Paving & Marine and JCB Construction. The waterline was not part of the original scope of work so will be handled by a change order.
- **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of the Fleet:** Last week, Gloria Bradley of the Eastern Shore News interviewed Heather, Smitty Dize and Jen Lewis regarding the Blessing of the Fleet. The article promoting this event and Cape Charles should be published within the next couple of weeks!
- The **Boundary Adjustment Sub-Committee** met on 2/28. The Cape Charles representatives advised Cheriton's Vice Mayor Larry Lemond that Council had decided not to pursue a boundary adjustment at this time. After hearing feedback from the property owners in the proposed area and Eastville's application being denied by the County, Council did not feel that Cape Charles had enough to move forward. The Town will be supporting Cheriton's application to the County and will continue working together regarding the Town Edge. The Boundary Adjustment Sub-Committee will continue to meet as needed throughout Cheriton's application process and to update each other regarding the discussions with the County Planning Commission on the Town Edge and Corridor Overlay.
- The Town gave a presentation to the **Eastern Shore Tourism Commission** on 3/2 regarding the 2 grant applications which were submitted on 11/19 for the **Northampton County Tourism Infrastructure Grant**. The following projects were included in the grant applications:
  - Golf Cart and Bike Trail to be constructed to provide safe access for golf carts and bicyclists to travel between the Bay Creek Golf Community and the Historic District.
  - An ADA access to be constructed from the boardwalk to the bathrooms at the south end of the beach to provide much-needed access to the bathroom for individuals with physical disabilities.
- **Mason Avenue Force Mains and Sewer Project:** The pre-construction meeting was held on 3/2. The residents and business owners along Mason Avenue have been notified of the construction which is expected to begin on Monday, 3/7.
- **Public Works Update:** Evaluation and plan for the beach is underway. The Volleyball area will be relocated this year. Spring Cleanup is underway and the Beach Gazebo will be getting a face lift.
- **Technology Zone:** A Town Council work session was held on 2/24 and guidelines for the Technology Zone were discussed. Staff is working to draft an ordinance regarding designation of this new zone.
- **Change re: Yard / Garage Sale Procedures:** With spring and nicer weather around the corner, many of you may be thinking about holding yard sales. The \$10 permit fee has been deleted, but the Town still needs to know when a yard sale will be held due to the possibility of increased traffic into Town and parking issues along the narrow streets. Please notify the Town that you are holding a yard sale by completing an **Application for Yard / Garage Sale** which is available for download from our website or you can [click here](#). Just complete the form and drop it by the office. Thanks for your cooperation!
- **FY 2011-2012 Budget:** Town Council work sessions have been scheduled, beginning on 3/31 at 6PM, to review the upcoming fiscal year budget.
- Landscaping will be added to the area surrounding the **Cape Charles Welcome Sign** at the intersection of Routes 13 and 184 to give the area a more attractive look.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- **Teen Night:** 3/11 at Heyward Hall from 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM. [FLYER](#)
- The **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of the Fleet** has been scheduled for April 8, 2011 beginning at 5:30 PM.
- **Cape Charles Historical Society Low Country Shrimp Boil:** 4/30. More details to come.
- **Best Friends Walk Together** – SPCA Fundraiser: 5/7. More details to come. Rain date – 5/14.
- **Citizens for Central Park Pirates & Wenches Ball:** 5/14. More details to come.
- **Bike MS – Virginia's Ocean to Bay Ride:** 6/4 – 6/5 – Leaving and ending in Cape Charles. [Click here](#) for details.
- **Cape Charles Fire Company 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Seafood Festival:** 7/2. More details to come.
- **4<sup>th</sup> of July Festivities:** 7/3. Fireworks at Dusk. More details to come.
- The [Chesapeake Bay Buyboat Association](#) will be holding their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion at Cape Charles from 8/5/2011 – 8/8/2011. The boats will be open to the public to tour and we are definitely looking forward to hosting their event this year!
- **Cape Charles Annual Fall Festival:** 9/24. More details to come.
- **Annual Birding & Wildlife Festival:** 10/7. More details to come.

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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