



Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: April 11, 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, 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.



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) 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.

EMAIL CONTACTS:

[Mayor](#)
[Town Council](#)
[Town Manager](#)
[Treasurer](#)
[Town Clerk](#)
[Code Enforcement](#)
[Town Planner](#)
[Public Works/Utilities](#)
[Harbor](#)
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CODE ENFORCEMENT

Jeb Brady, Code Official, reported the following:

- **Central Park Project:**
 - The repair work on the fountain began the first week of April.
 - Jeb is working with the contractor to alleviate drainage problems and staff is hopeful that the remaining punch list items will be completed within the next several weeks.
- 30 Erosion & Sedimentation Control inspections, 33 building inspections and 2 courtesy residential inspections were performed in March.
- Jeb continues the site inspections on the New Wastewater Treatment Plant project.



TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA

Smitty Dize, Harbor Master, reported the following:

- The current Harbor office hours are 9AM – 5PM Monday through Sunday.
- **Harbor Redevelopment Project – Phase 1** – Somerset Paving & Marine is moving along with the construction of the floating docks.
 - C and D docks are complete and B dock is close to completion. The electric pedestals should be installed this month.
 - **PLEASE NOTE: To ensure the safety of the public, the West Dock Area of the Harbor will be closed to the public during construction. PLEASE obey the posted "No Trespassing" signs.**
 - The slips can be viewed from the paved parking area by the boat ramps.
 - A change order has been awarded to Somerset Paving for the new water line and broadband conduit around the Harbor.
 - Monthly meetings are held with the Somerset Paving and the Town is pleased with their quality of work.
 - 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 next award of funding through the Virginia Port Authority will be announced in May.
- The Harbor crew has been busy performing maintenance around the Harbor.
 - The power washing and recoating of the walkways around the Harbor have been completed.
 - Staff has been working on gardening and the flower beds around the Harbor.
 - An inspection of water lines was performed and several valves have been replaced.
 - Soon, the broken pile caps will be replaced and the fuel tank will be repainted.
- **FYI** – 30,645 lbs. of crabs, 6,000 lbs. of fish and 390 lbs. of conch were brought into the Harbor during the month of March.
- As part of the Tall Ships Economic Development Initiative, there is a possibility that the first Tall Ship may be arriving in the Cape Charles Harbor later this spring or early summer. Stay tuned for details.



TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA (CONTINUED)

- Follow the **Cape Charles Town Harbor** on Facebook by [clicking here!](#) Pictures of the slip construction and information on upcoming events are posted weekly.
- **Save the Dates!**
 - The **Lower Chesapeake Bay Black Drum Classic** has been scheduled for 5/20/2011 – 5/22/2011 at the Cape Charles Harbor. This event is sponsored by the [Northampton County Chamber of Commerce](#).
 - The [Chesapeake Bay Buyboat Association](#) will be holding their 8th 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 MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Ann Rutledge, Library Manager, reported the following:

- During the month of March, a total of 50 children and caregivers attended the **Toddler/Preschool Storytime**.
- On 3/16, a reception was held at the Barrier Islands Center for recipients of the Holiday Sampler Tour and Friends of the Cape Charles Library president, Alice Morehouse, received a generous donation for the Library.
- On 3/22, Ann attended the **Career Fair at Northampton High School** representing the field of Librarianship.
- On 5/11, the **Friends of the Library** will be sponsoring a bus trip to the Harrington Casino.
- The **Friends of the Library** will be having **Book Sales** on 4/30, 6/11, 7/2 and 10/8. You can always check out the used books for sale in the Library lobby.
- Check out the Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library on Facebook by [clicking here!](#)

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

- The law enforcement statistics for the month of March:
 - 23 calls for service within Cape Charles were received.
 - 16 calls for service outside of Cape Charles were received.
 - 1 felony arrest, 1 misdemeanor arrest and 1 DUI arrest was made.
 - 43 traffic summonses and 12 traffic warnings were issued.
 - 2 parking tickets were issued.
 - 5 calls were received to assist Fire & Rescue.
 - 6 calls were received to assist the Northampton County Sheriff's Office.
 - 2 calls were received to assist the Virginia State Police.
- The officers have recently undergone training for Child Safety Seat Certification, FBI Interrogation Training, and DUI Field Sobriety Training.
- For **non-emergency police assistance**, please call 678-0458.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tom Bonadeo, Town Planner, reported the following:

- The **Planning Commission** held a public hearing followed by their regular meeting on 4/5 and discussed the following:
 - Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a home occupation at 548 Madison Avenue. This CUP involves cooking in the home kitchen which requires approval by USDA. The Commission recommended approval of the CUP to the Town Council.
 - Tom distributed Article IV of the Zoning Ordinance to the Commissioners and asked that they review the Sign Ordinance for discussion at the May meeting.
- The **Harbor Area Review Board** met on 3/24 and completed their review of the revised plans for the **Town Harbor Redevelopment Bathhouse** project. The Board recommended approval of the plans to Town Council with a few modifications: i) The metal roof should be painted either gray or taupe, not galvanized; ii) The windows should have divided lights; and iii) The large trees near the docks should be removed and some plant substitutions should be made for more salt-tolerant varieties. Board member Laurie Klingel submitted several recommendations for alternate plants.
- The **Historic District Review Board** met on 3/15 and reviewed 2 applications as follows: i) 11 Randolph Avenue – Kitchen addition; and ii) 235 Mason Avenue – Renovation of the old Cape Charles Hotel. The Board asked for some changes and modifications to the plans for the Cape Charles Hotel and the applicant has revised the drawings to meet the requirements of the Board which will be reviewed at the 4/19 meeting.
- The **Wetlands and Coastal Dunes Board** held a public hearing and meeting on 4/4. The Board reviewed and approved the construction of an offshore breakwater for the Bay Vista subdivision off Washington Avenue. This area is between the Sea Breeze Apartments and the old Coast Guard Housing and at the end of the Bay Creek set of breakwaters. This area experienced significant erosion (about 30' of loss) since the November 2009 Nor'easters.



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PLANNING DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED)

- The Technical Transportation Advisory Committee met in Accomac and reviewed the Eastern Shore Bike Plan update which can be viewed online at the A-NPDC website.
- Tom is also working on the following projects:
 - Corridor Overlay
 - Wetlands Permits

TOWN CLERK

Libby Hume, Town Clerk, reported the following information:

• **Upcoming Meetings:**

Tuesday, April 12, 2011:

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

Town Council Executive Session immediately following Budget Work Session.

Thursday, April 14, 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, April 19, 2011:

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

Wednesday, April 20, 2011:

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

Thursday, April 21, 2011:

Harbor Area Review Board Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall. (*tentative*)

Tuesday, April 26, 2011:

Cape Charles Broadband Management Team Meeting starting at 2:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Thursday, April 28, 2011:

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

Tuesday, May 3, 2011:

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

Thursday, May 5, 2011:

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 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.**

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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

- The winners of the **Water Conservation Poster Contest** were announced at a morning assembly at the Cape Charles Christian School. Congratulations go to **Mallory Spady whose poster took 1st Place, Matthew Behrens for 2nd Place and Katie Nordwall for 3rd Place!** Pictures of these 3 posters will be published in the Eastern Shore News and Eastern Shore Post. [Click here](#) to see all the posters that were submitted.
- Thank you to Mike Sullivan who gave his time to prepare a computer for the residents of Heritage Acres. The computer was set up this week and the residents are excited to have a computer for their use.
- A St. Patrick's Day Teen Dance was held at Heyward Hall in March and was a big success! [Click here](#) for the Teen Night Schedule through July.
- Many individuals and organizations took advantage of what Cape Charles has to offer during March and early April. The "Reese's Freeze" fundraiser was held at the beach, a yard sale was held at Arts Enter and our first wedding of the season was held at Central Park. We are expecting many more events and activities to be scheduled as the weather warms up.
- Jen is the Cape Charles representative on the Randy Custis Board. The Town will have a better understanding of how our donated monies are being used and the opportunity to coordinate events so everyone can participate and have fun with everything the Shore has to offer.



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RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED)

- The Town and the Cape Charles Rotary Club have joined forces in an effort to combat the obesity epidemic. Jen and volunteers from the Rotary will visit 2 classes at the Cape Charles Christian School every Friday to talk about nutrition and exercise.
- Children have started to sign up for the Gold clinic presented by First Tee of Hampton Roads. A big **THANK YOU** to **Mayor Dora Sullivan and Vice Mayor Chris Bannon** for sponsoring children in need of a scholarship for this program.
- New soccer goals have been purchased for public use in Central Park.
- An **Easter Egg Hunt** has been scheduled for 4/17 beginning at 3PM at Central Park. [FLYER](#)
- An Earth Day Celebration has been scheduled for 4/22 beginning at 1PM at Central Park. [FLYER](#)
- If you get by the park, check out the 2 new "bouncy" toys which were purchased through a grant with matching funds from the Town.
- 6 schools are participating in a project to paint new summer or beach-themed panels for the playground.

PUBLIC UTILITIES / PUBLIC WORKS

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

- **Public Utilities:**
 - Completed projects include:
 - The Preliminary Engineering Report for reduction of chlorination byproducts (TTHMs) has been submitted to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).
 - Yield and draw down tests on the Keck wells were performed for the VDH with great success. There was plenty of good water. Both wells were pumped at 300 GPM, for a total of 600 GPM for both wells, for over 80 hours. Approximately 3M gallons were pumped during the test.
 - Pipes and valves have been repainted at the water plant.
 - Ongoing projects include:
 - Collecting flow data looking for sources of inflow and infiltration in the Plum Street Pump Station Basin sewer mains. Current flow meter location is has been uninstalled awaiting parts to repair the flow meter. The next location will be the intersection of Plum Street and Randolph Avenue.
 - **Mason Avenue Force Mains and Sewer Project:** Work has begun on the Mason Avenue Forcemains and Pump Station Upgrade Project. 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.
 - A new metering system for chemical feed pumps will be installed at the water plant.
 - The crew is performing the annual inspection of vacuum system sewer pods in the Bay Creek and Marina Village areas.
 - Other upcoming projects include:
 - Interior painting of the Water Tower. The Town may experience fluctuations in water pressure during the period when this project is underway. When the date has been determined, notification will be sent to all utility customers.
 - **Pump Street Emergency Generators:** Staff has confirmed that we will be able to install 2 generators for the \$45K budgeted for this year, as suggested by Councilman Bennett at the March Council meeting. The generators will be for the Plum Street and Pine Street Pump Stations.
- **New Wastewater Treatment Plant Update:**
 - Operations Building: The roof has been installed and shingled. The vapor barrier has been installed on the exterior walls and 50% of the board insulation has been installed. The interior walls have been prime painted. The vapor barrier and insulations has been installed on the foundation. The metal siding furring metal is 50% complete. The interior drain and copper water piping is 50% complete. The ceiling drywall and insulation is 30% complete.
 - Headworks Building: The vapor barrier is 60% complete. The metal roof trusses have been installed. The plywood roof sheathing is 60% complete. Water and Ice barrier and felt paper has been installed on the roof. The grit classifier unit has been installed. The grit clarified has been set into place in the grit tank.
 - Reactor Tank Plant: the water piping is being installed. Diffuser support brackets are being installed in the reactor tanks. Process air piping in the reactor tanks is 50% complete.
 - Membrane Tanks: The Structural Steel is erected. The walls have been sand blasted and the Chemical Resistant Finish has been applied. Sealant has been installed at construction joints. The overhead crane and roof trusses are to be installed this month.
 - UV Structure: The UV system is currently being installed and conduit is being run to the control boxes. The stairs and handrail are currently being installed.



PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES (CONTINUED)

- Process Building: The roof erection is about 50% complete and will continue through April. The Main Electrical Room walls and ceiling have been painted. Lighting fixtures and conduit are being installed. Electrical disconnects and control panels for the pumps are being installed. Pump piping is currently being installed. The vapor barrier for the exterior walls has been installed. The Chemical Room has been painted.
- Waste Sludge Tanks: The air piping is 50% installed. The stair landing has been poured and stair and handrail installation to be completed this month.
- Solids Process Building: The metal roof truss erection is 95% complete, with 95% of the roof covered with plywood and felt paper. The interior walls have been painted. Electrical cabinets are being installed. The vapor barrier for the exterior walls is 99% complete.
- The pad and retaining walls have been poured for the Carbon Storage Retaining Structure.
- Outfall piping is 99% complete.
- The air scour blowers have arrived and various pieces of membrane equipment continue to arrive on site.
- **Public Works:**
 - Completed projects include:
 - Trimmed bushes and mulched beds along Mason Avenue.
 - The mulch for the playground has been installed.
 - Eastern Shore Landscape Management has been selected to perform ground maintenance services for the Town.
 - The gravel / shell road and service area to the Keck wells have been installed.
 - The mulch in the Fig Street Bio-filter has been replaced.
 - Other ongoing and upcoming projects include:
 - Making repairs to open the Beach Bathrooms in the spring.
 - Preparing road patches for asphalt. Repairs will be completed when the asphalt plant reopens.
 - Repairs to the exterior of the Municipal Building.
 - Repairs to the boardwalk. These repairs will be reimbursed from FEMA as a result of the November 2009 Nor'easters.
 - The lights on the pier will be replaced.

TOWN MANAGER

Heather Arcos, Town Manager, reported the following:

- The **Town Council Public Hearing & Regular Meeting** will be held on Thursday, 4/14, beginning at 6PM. Agenda items include:
 - Amendment of Southport Investors Lease
 - OpSail 2012 / Tall Ships Economic Development Initiative
 - Town Code Modification – Golf Cart Ordinance
 - Wind Energy Project Update
 - Support of Business
- **Community Trail Project:** Once the Central Park Trail portion of this project is closed out, we will begin to design **Phase 2 – North Peach Street and Washington Avenue** with construction to follow.
- **FY 2011-2012 Budget:** The first Town Council Budget Work Session was held on 4/7 and Council reviewed the proposed Departmental Operating and Capital Budgets. Council will be meeting again on 4/12 to continue this review.
- In February, Council adopted the updated water and sewer ordinances and in March, Council adopted another ordinance reducing the connection charges from \$20,000 to \$12,350. [Click here](#) to review the background information regarding the reduction in connection charges. Please click the appropriate link below to view the individual chapters.
 - **Change to Due Date:** As part of the revised water and sewer ordinances, the due date for the payment of utility charges was changed to the 21st of each month (§ 72-7). As in the past, if the utility charges that remain unpaid by the due date will be subject to a 10% penalty.
 - **Change regarding Leak Adjustments:** § 72-5 was revised to state that in cases of water leaks, the sewage portion of the utilities bill only will be adjusted to the previous 12-month average. No consumer shall be entitled to more than 1 adjustment every 3 years. There will be no charge for turning the water off or on because of a leak, with the exception of services performed during other than normal business hours which shall have a \$75 fee.
 - [Chapter 70 – Water Supply](#)
 - [Chapter 71 – Sewers and Sewer Use](#)
 - [Chapter 72 – Water and Sewer Service Charges](#)
- **Technology Zone:** Staff is continuing their work to draft an ordinance regarding designation of a Technology Zone based on the guidelines set by Council at their 2/24 work session.



TOWN MANAGER (CONTINUED)

- Heather has met with Lynne Lochen, the new Tourism/Marketing Development Specialist appointed by Governor McDonnell, to discuss ideas for the Town regarding the shoulder seasons. Lynne has some great suggestions and we look forward to working with her.
- As mentioned briefly in last month's *Gazette*, the Town has received an offer and landscape plan from Bay Creek to landscape the entrance into Town along Routes 13 and 184 which includes the area surrounding the **Cape Charles Welcome Sign**. Much of the property to be landscaped belongs to VDOT so a Land Use Permit must be obtained. Staff has met with VDOT representatives and we are trying to expedite the approval of the plantings so Bay Creek can move forward with their plan. The Town is excited about the possibility of this much needed improvement to beautify the entrance into Town.
- Heather attended a meeting with Katie Nunez, County Administrator, Donna Bozza, Director of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Tourism Commission, and David Kabler regarding the OpSail 2012 / Tall Ships Economic Development Initiative. The Town and County will be working together regarding financial support for this initiative.
- The Town is still in discussion with Leslie Nelson, DVM and we are getting close to being able to bring veterinary services to Cape Charles and the surrounding area. Dr. Nelson will be providing basic examinations, routine vaccinations for dogs and cats, and routine wellness testing and mediations. The clinic will initially be available once per month during the summer to early fall to allow time to assess the feasibility and need of the community for wellness veterinary services.
- Light maintenance is being performed on the exterior of the old **Cape Charles School**. The fence in the back has been installed for security purposes and prices are being obtained for window repairs. The Town is still working on possible uses for this building.
- The Public Works crew has painted the plywood on the windows of the former Meatland Building and it looks much better coming into Town.
- **On Thursday, 4/14, beginning at 11AM at the Eastern Shore Community College in Melfa, a Public Hearing will be held regarding the Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital's Certificate of Public Need Application for the Location of the New Hospital. The Cape Charles Town Council and the Northampton County Board of Supervisors urge all citizens to attend this important meeting to express your concerns regarding the future of the medical facilities in Northampton County.** [Current Hospital Coverage Map](#) / [Proposed Hospital Coverage Map](#)
- **Northampton County Redistricting:**
 - Public Information Meetings regarding Redistricting will be held on the following dates all beginning at 6:30 PM:
 - Wednesday, 4/13 at Kiptopeke Elementary Auditorium
 - Thursday, 4/14 at Northampton High School Auditorium
 - Monday, 4/18 at Exmore Town Hall
 - Tuesday, 4/19 at Nassawadox Fire Hall
 - The Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, 4/25, beginning at 6:30 PM at the former Northampton Middle School located at 7247 Young Street, Machipongo.
 - [Click Here](#) to view the proposed Redistricting Map.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- **Easter Egg Hunt:** 4/17, 3PM at Central Park. [FLYER](#)
- **Earth Day Celebration:** 4/22, 1PM-3PM at Central Park. [FLYER](#)
- **Teen Wii Night:** 4/22, 7PM at the Cape Charles Memorial Library. [FLYER](#)
- **Cape Charles Historical Society Low Country Shrimp Boil:** 4/30. More details to come.
- **Best Friends Walk Together – SPCA Fundraiser:** 5/7, 9AM – 12PM at the Beach Gazebo. Rain date – 5/14.
- **Teen Night – Friday Night Tag:** 5/13, 7PM at Central Park.
- **Citizens for Central Park Pirates & Wenches Ball:** 5/14, 7PM at the Cape Charles Fire Hall. Tickets \$30 per person.
- **Lower Chesapeake Bay Black Drum Classic:** 5/20 – 5/22 at the Cape Charles Harbor. For more information, please contact the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce at 757-678-0010.
- **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 4th Annual Seafood Festival:** 7/2. More details to come.
- **4th of July Festivities:** 7/3 – throughout Town. Fireworks at Dusk. More details to come.
- The [Chesapeake Bay Buyboat Association](#) will be holding their 8th Annual Reunion at Cape Charles from 8/5 – 8/8. The boats will be open to the public to tour and we are definitely looking forward to hosting their event this year!

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