



Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: September 2, 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.



Come Celebrate With Us!

Cape Charles ~ Virginia's Treasure By the Bay

August 5-September 5, 2011

Labor Day Weekend is the final weekend of our 125th Anniversary Celebration! There are a variety of activities scheduled for the weekend, including corn hole, horseshoes, volleyball and basketball games at the beach and in Central Park. Bay Creek Railway will be offering lunch and dinner excursions and visitors will be able to take historical tours of Cape Charles offered by the Olde Cape Charles Carriage Horses. The Northampton County Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their final Harbor Party of the summer as well. On Sunday, there will be an unveiling of the Historical Marker at the Cape Charles Museum and the festivities will conclude with a Birthday Party at the Park!

Please click the links below for the complete details of the events!

[125th Anniversary Celebration Event Schedule – Final Weekend](#) / [Harbor Party Press Release](#)

EMAIL CONTACTS:

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



TOWN MANAGER

Heather Arcos, Town Manager, reported the following:

- **Hurricane Irene:**
 - The Town sustained minimal damage during the hurricane.
 - The Public Works crew worked diligently throughout the storm and afterwards to clean up all the debris at the beach, Central Park and throughout Town.
 - There was some erosion at the north end of the beach and some fencing was lost.
 - Sea Breeze Apts., Bay Vistas and Aqua experienced further land erosion.
 - The fishing pier had to be closed to replace boards and brackets and is planned to open before the Labor Day holiday weekend.
 - We are hopeful to get assistance from VDOT regarding a downed tree on Plum Street and a small sink hole on Bay Avenue.
 - A memorial tree in Central Park was lost.
 - The Town's engineering firm evaluated an area of the new floating slips which had some damage to a few boards and a beam. The Town will work with the contractor and manufacturer regarding the repairs so as not to jeopardize our warranty.
 - There have been no reports of damage to any of the downtown businesses.
 - The Police Department, Public Works Department and the Cape Charles Volunteer Fire Company did an outstanding job during the storm.
 - A special thank you to Tom Bonadeo and Donnie Brady for helping the Public Works Department by replacing the damaged boards and screws at the fishing pier in order to have it open to the public for the Labor Day weekend.
- **Cape Charles 125th Anniversary Celebration:**
 - The 125th Anniversary Celebration has been very successful and brought in lots of visitors to the Town.
 - Special thanks to all the businesses and volunteers who helped to make this month-long celebration a reality!



TOWN MANAGER (CONTINUED)

- **Mason Avenue Force mains and Sewer Project Update:**
 - The work on the Mason Avenue Force mains and Pump Station Upgrade is almost complete.
 - An issue has arisen regarding reconditioning of the wet well and this portion of the project may take through the end of September.
- **Harbor Redevelopment Update:**
 - 9 responses were received from the Request for Qualifications for the Harbor Bath House Design-Build Project. A committee reviewed the responses and 5 firms were pre-qualified to receive the Request for Proposals which should be provided to them the beginning of September.
 - As a result of a Council Work Session, staff has gathered information for ground lease options for a possible restaurant at the Harbor. This process for this project will be reviewed by the Council at their 9/8 meeting.
- **Technology / Tourism Zone:**
 - Staff continues to work to develop an Operations Manual and contract requirements which would be completed prior to moving forward with approval of the new ordinances. A work session is being planned for September.
- **Tall Ship Initiative / OpSail 2012:**
 - The **Eastern Shore of Virginia Festivals** (ESVF) organization, which is comprised of representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Cape Charles, the Cape Charles Business Association and Bay Creek Resort & Club, has agreed to organize OpSail 2012 and the Tall Ships Initiative. An Executive Director is being hired to serve as the primary liaison/point of contact with Northampton County officials, the participating towns, FestEvents and Tall Ships events committee on all matters pertaining to the Tall Ships / OpSail. The organization will be conducting interviews next week for the Director position.
- **Planning Expansion of Library:**
 - As a follow-up to the 7/28 Town Council Work Session, staff is reviewing possible locations for a future Library and another Council Work Session will be planned. Several locations were discussed during the work session, including the old Meatland building. Staff is talking to the owners regarding the feasibility of this location, as well as several other locations in Town.
- The **Town Council Regular Meeting** will be held on Thursday, 9/8, beginning at 6PM. Agenda items include:
 - Wastewater Treatment Plant Status
 - PSA / Regional Wastewater System Update
 - Northampton County Water Supply Plan – Schedule Public Hearing
 - Ordinance to Grant a Lease of Public Property – Schedule Public Hearing
 - Re-appointment of Building Code Board of Appeals Member
 - Accomack-Northampton Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035
 - Federal Highway Safety Grant
- The **Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority** (ESVBA) will be holding a Public Hearing on 9/14 at 2:00 PM at the Accomack Airport, 29194 Parkway North, Melfa, VA 23410. The meeting was called to hear public comments on the ESVBA Dedicated IP and Transport Pricing (Rates). If you have any questions, please contact the ESVBA office at 757-414-0304.
- Heather would like to remind citizens and organizations that any events being held in Cape Charles must first be approved by the Town. The contact person for events is Recreation / Community Events Coordinator Jen Lewis. Links to the appropriate forms are available under Jen's report on page 4 of this Gazette or on our website at www.capecharles.org. Thank you.

TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA

Smitty Dize, Harbor Master, reported the following:

- Beginning 9/6, the new Harbor office hours will be 8AM – 6PM daily.
 - Smitty would like to thank everyone that attended the **Chesapeake Bay Buyboat Association** Annual Reunion at Cape Charles on 8/5-8/7. It was a great weekend and the Buy Boat captains were very impressed with the number of attendees. The Carb Pot Cork Race and the Boat Docking Contest were great hits as well! We hope to see everybody again next year!
- Follow the **Cape Charles Town Harbor** on Facebook by [clicking here!](#)
- **Save the Date!**
 - The **5th Annual Blessing of the Fleet** has been scheduled for 4/13/2012 to begin at 5:30 PM.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Jeb Brady, Code Official, reported the following:

- **Central Park Project:**
 - A quote has been received to repair the fountain bowl and base.
 - The Town is working with the contractor to resolve the draining problem and awaiting a quote for the repairs.
 - The flag poles, which were donated by Bayshore Concrete, are being installed.



CODE ENFORCEMENT (CONTINUED)

- 28 Erosion & Sedimentation Control inspections, 33 building inspections and 1 zoning clearance were performed in August. 1 residential plan review was completed and 1 Public Utilities Shallow Well permit was issued.
- Jeb continues the site inspections on the New Wastewater Treatment Plant project.
- Jeb reviewed the preliminary site plan for the Harbor Bath House project and is a member of the Harbor Bath House Design-Build Project evaluation committee.
- Jeb attended the Emergency Operations Center meetings at the County offices in preparation for Hurricane Irene and helped the Town prepare for the hurricane. Afterwards, Jeb performed a damage assessment and submitted it to the County. The assessment had to be done within 24 hours of the storm.
- Jeb worked on the Town's chapter of the Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan.

TOWN CLERK

Libby Hume, Town Clerk, reported the following information:

- **Upcoming Meetings:**
 - Tuesday, September 6, 2011:
Planning Commission Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall. [AGENDA](#)
 - Thursday, September 8, 2011:
Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. [AGENDA](#)
 - Tuesday, September 13, 2011:
Town Council Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall. [AGENDA](#)
 - Thursday, September 15, 2011:
Harbor Area Review Board Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Tuesday, September 20, 2011:
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, September 22, 2011:
Town Council Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Thursday, September 29, 2011:
Town Council Special Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Tuesday, October 4, 2011:
Planning Commission Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Thursday, October 13, 2011:
Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall.
 - **The Town offices will be closed on Monday, September 5, 2011 in observance of Labor Day.**
 - **Cape Charles is Looking for a Few Good Volunteers!** The Town is seeking citizens who are interested in volunteering their time in assisting the community on the following Boards:
 - **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.
 - **Planning Commission.** The Planning Commission serves as an advisory body to the Town Council for planning-related matters. Regular sessions are held the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm. Public hearings and work sessions are scheduled on an as-needed basis.
- If you are interested in serving on either the **Historic District Review Board** or **Planning Commission**, 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.**

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tom Bonadeo, Town Planner, reported the following:

- The **Planning Commission** will be holding their regular meeting on 9/6 and are working on a Sign Ordinance with a goal to make it more readable and enforceable. The Commissioners are revising the Intent Statement and reviewing the definitions. A sign matrix and the International Building Code sample ordinance and definitions will be reviewed.
- The **Historic District Review Board** did not meet in August.



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PLANNING DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED)

- The draft **VDOT 2035 Regional Long Range Transportation Plan** is nearing completion. Long term Cape Charles projects have been included but, obviously, money will be an issue. In the VDOT 6-year plan, only a minimal amount of money was approved, which is probably not enough to complete 1 of the 3 projects.
- Tom is also working on the following:
 - Rewriting the Cape Charles portion of the **Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Eastern Shore**. Tom met with the ANPDC and the plan has been revised with current information.
 - Zoning compliance reviews and enforcements.
 - Tom attended a class sponsored by NOAA and the ANPDC on **Inundation Mapping**. There is new data for the shore, which is close to becoming available, called LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data, which is the most accurate form of elevation data available created by laser measurements from an airplane at 3 meter intervals. While the most accurate, you can imagine looking down from the air and trying to get an accurate line of sight to the ground through trees, etc. The data is being "cleaned up" by the scientists and should be available later this fall. Cape Charles is part of an initial project to use the data for inundation mapping of the shore.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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

- Jen held several **Fun Days for Kids** through July and August where the kids played volleyball and soccer, tie-dyed shirts, played on the playground and participated in a lot of other activities. There was an average of 10 kids per day and the Cape Charles Christian School Summer Camp attendees joined in for quite a few of the days as well.
- **Movie Nights** continued to draw a large crowd. We saw more kids this summer than any other summer so far!
- **Arts and Crafts** were just as busy and will resume afternoon hours once school starts.
- The **Annual Eastern Shore Birding and Wildlife Festival** ticket sales are up from this time last year. We hope that this will continue to bring people into the Town of Cape Charles!
- Upcoming events for September and October include the last Harbor Party of the season, the **Fall Festival**, the **Eastern Shore Birding and Wildlife Festival**, **CBES Between the Waters Bike Tour**, and **Trunk or Treating**.
- Jen has been asked to participate in **Northampton County Day** at the High School on 10/1. She will be giving away free skateboard / bicycle helmets and safety information.
- Spay the Shore will be making a visit to Cape Charles on 10/5 from 8AM – 4PM.
- The activities at Central Park and the beachfront are picking up! If you are interested in holding an event at either facility, please complete the appropriate Use of Facility application and submit it to [Jen Lewis!](#) [Use of Facility Application – Central Park](#) / [Use of Facility Application – Other Areas](#).
 - If you are interested in holding your event at the Cape Charles Harbor, please complete the [Use of Facility Application – Cape Charles Harbor](#) and submit it to [Harbor Master Smitty Dize](#).

CAPE CHARLES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Ann Rutledge, Library Manager, reported the following:

- During the month of August, a total of 25 children and caregivers attended the **Toddler/Preschool Storytime** which is held on Thursdays at 10:30 AM.
- The **2011 Summer Reading Program – Amazing Tales at Your Library** continued through the month with 76 children signed up to read books this summer! Included as part of the program, were Wednesday morning **Arts & Crafts** with Jen Lewis and Thursday morning **Storytime**. Wednesday **Movie Nights** continued through 8/10.
- Our special programs for the month were:
 - **Your Backyard with the Virginia Living Museum** on 8/2 which featured fascinating creatures that could be found in your backyard.
 - **Amazing Tales Magic Show** presented by **Magician Mike Klee**. Mike Klee's high energy program taught the children that books and reading can be fun and exciting.
- The Library served a total of 124 parents and children in our programs this month. A special thank you to the **Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library** for funding all the special programs!
- 9/3 is the birthday of **Roald Dahl**, children's book author, and we will be celebrating with a display of his books and some additional activities.
- **Banned Book Week** is 9/24 – 10/1. Stop by the Library to see what books have been banned.
- September is also **Library Sign-Up Month**, so if you don't have a library card, come by the Library today!
- For additional information about Library programs and library-related information, check out the Cape Charles Memorial Library on Facebook by [clicking here!](#)
- The Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library also has a Facebook page. You can follow them by [clicking here](#).



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PUBLIC UTILITIES / PUBLIC WORKS

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

- The **Public Works Department** worked diligently before Hurricane Irene to secure all Town property to ensure the safety of our citizens. They worked throughout the storm cleaning downed trees and debris that posed a safety hazard and they've been working extremely hard this week in their efforts to clean up all the remaining debris and get the Town back in shape for the upcoming Labor Day holiday weekend. A huge thank you to the entire Public Works staff!

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

- The law enforcement statistics for the month of August:
 - 28 calls for service within Cape Charles were received.
 - 18 calls for service outside of Cape Charles were received.
 - 0 felony arrests, 3 misdemeanor arrests and 0 DUI arrests were made.
 - 19 traffic summonses and 11 traffic warnings were issued.
 - 5 parking tickets were issued.
 - 4 calls were received to assist Fire & Rescue.
 - 9 calls were received to assist the Northampton County Sheriff's Office.
 - 6 calls were received to assist the Virginia State Police.
 - 2 calls were received to assist other Local Police.
- Please join us in welcoming Officer Charles Graham who joined the Cape Charles Police Dept. on 8/23. He comes to the Town with many years of law enforcement experience. Officer Graham recently completed 4 hours of Fire Range Qualification.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Jo Anna Leatherwood, Treasurer, reported the following:

- The budget for fiscal year 2012 has been approved and passed by the Town Council. This was accomplished without a real estate tax rate increase. Since there is no change in the property assessments for this tax year, the amount of your real estate taxes will be the same as last year unless you have made improvements to your property. If you would like to make payments on your 2011 real estate taxes to avoid the full debt in December, you can begin making them at any time. This advance payment feature is only available for real estate taxes.

**Thank you all for helping to make this summer and
all the activities such a success!**

UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- **Cape Charles 125th Anniversary Celebration Final Weekend:** 9/3-9/4. [SCHEDULE OF EVENTS](#)
- **Chamber of Commerce Harbor Party:** 9/3 at the Cape Charles Harbor, 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM. [PRESS RELEASE](#)
- **Cape Charles Annual Fall Festival:** 9/24. More details to come.
- **Annual Birding & Wildlife Festival:** 10/7-10/9. Please see www.esvafestivals.org or call 757-571-1081 for more information.
- **19th Annual CBES Between the Waters Bike Tour:** 10/22. Departs from Cape Charles. Please [click here](#) for specific information.
- **Trunk or Treating:** 10/29. More details to come.
- **Holiday Progressive Dinner Tour:** 12/2. More details to come.

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

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