



# Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: April 14, 2014

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.



## 2014 IS AN ELECTION YEAR!

On May 6, 2014, the Town of Cape Charles will hold elections for the positions of Mayor and 3 Town Council seats. Two candidates are running for Mayor – George Proto and Frank Wendell, and 6 candidates are running for Council – Chris Bannon, Deborah Bender, Charles "Sambo" Brown, David Gay, Lenora Mitchell and Joan Natali.

If you will be out of Town on the date of the election, the Virginia Absentee Ballot Application Form is available at the Town Hall. Please note that this is an application which needs to be completed to order a ballot to be delivered to you. **It is not the actual ballot.** The deadline for receipt of your application by the Northampton County Registrar's Office is April 29, 2014 by 5:00 PM.

## CANDIDATE FORUMS

Two Candidate Forums have been scheduled:

The first forum, sponsored by the Citizens for a Better Eastern Shore, is scheduled for Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00PM at the Palace Theatre. The second forum, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cape Charles, is scheduled for Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 PM also at the Palace Theatre. The moderator for both forums will be Wayne Bell, a current member and former president of the Cape Charles Rotary Club.

These two forums will be complementary to each other, and between them, all voting residents of Cape Charles should have an opportunity to meet all of the candidates at a neutral venue.

This will be the first such forum to be hosted by the Cape Charles Rotary Club. Rotary Clubs are not permitted to take positions on any political issues, much less support any particular political candidates. However, as community service organizations, Rotary Clubs throughout the United States often sponsor candidates' forums. Such forums are held in an effort to help educate their communities relative to the issues involved and regarding the candidates themselves, and to allow as many voters as possible to meet the candidates, hear them answer questions, and compare and contrast all of the candidates in an unbiased setting.

The Cape Charles Rotary Club is dedicated to improving the communities of Cape Charles and the Eastern Shore by being involved in service projects which benefit those communities. Members of the Rotary Club also urge everyone to apply the following four tests to the things they say and do, and the club will charge the candidates who participate in their forum, as well as those in the audience, to also apply these tests to their remarks at the forum. 1) Is it the truth? 2) Is it fair to all concerned? 3) Will it build goodwill and better friendships? 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

All residents of Cape Charles are encouraged to attend one or both of the forums being offered.

*(Excerpts taken from the Cape Charles Rotary Club Press Release.)*

## A REMINDER FROM THE TOWN PLANNER RE: CAMPAIGN SIGNAGE

It's election time in Cape Charles, and with elections come campaign signs. As you are placing your signs for your favorite candidates, please keep in mind the following zoning regulations regarding campaign signs: Political signs can be no larger than 4 square feet in size, shall be removed within 7 days after the election, and cannot be placed in any public right-of-way, including VDOT's right-of-ways, or obstruct traffic visibility. Additionally, it is unlawful to tack signs on trees planted along any street. Campaign signs found in public right-of-ways or tacked to trees will be removed and held at the police department for 30 days, should the owner wish to retrieve them.

### FROM THE CAPE CHARLES MEMORIAL LIBRARY



The Cape Charles Memorial Library offers numerous programs for children including Preschool Storytime which we have offered for many years. In March we added a Toddler Storytime to our selection of programs for children. In part, this was in response to a request from a mom new to the Town. She had tried bringing her toddler to our Preschool Storytime, but it had not worked out. Babies and toddlers have a much shorter attention span than 3 to 5 year olds but we had never had enough children to do 2 storytimes. Now, with our new facility and growing population of young families, we can offer programs for children of both ages.

### SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

The Town of Cape Charles will be sponsoring a Spring Clean-Up Day on April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Items to be picked up will include metal, appliances, car tires and household items. Items that **will not** be picked up are paint, motor oil or construction debris. Please do not place any brush on the curb for this pick up as there are already scheduled times for brush pick up.

All items must be placed at the curb before 7:00 AM on Monday, April 28, and Tuesday, April 29.

Please keep items separated for easy pick up per category.

Please call Public Works Foreman Pete Leontieff at 757-331-3259, ext. 16, with any questions regarding the Town's Spring Clean-Up.

**NOTE:** The [2014 ESVA Household Hazardous Waste Collection](#) is Saturday, May 10, at the Birdsnest Convenience Center located at 9005 Birdsnest Drive in Birdsnest for all Northampton County residents. Disposal of the first 50 pounds are free. Additional waste will cost \$1.00 per pound.

### FROM THE HARBOR MASTER – VIRGINIA'S WORKING WATERFRONTS

On February 26, Harbor Master Smitty Dize attended a Virginia Working Waterfront Seminar at the Eastern Shore Community College. The focus was on how to preserve our working waterfronts and revitalize our industries that utilize these waterfronts.

Over the years, several waterfront communities have changed from waterfront communities with commercial industry into waterfront communities that have changed or added zoning regulations that prohibit or make it extremely difficult to utilize waterfront property for commercial or aquaculture industry.

The Eastern Shore has done a good job over the years in preserving working waterfronts in several communities such as Tangier Island, Saxis and Cape Charles on the bayside and Chincoteague, Wachapreague and Oyster on the seaside, just to name a few. Former Virginia Marine Resources Commissioner Bill Pruitt touched on the fact that Tangier Island was actually better today than it was when he was growing up.

The Cape Charles Town Harbor hosts a number of vessels from neighboring towns and states for various commercial seasons with the spring crabbing season being the most popular. The Town Harbor is also home to many commercial charter fishing and for-hire vessels, sport fishing and recreational vessels. The U.S. Coast Guard, Bay Coast Railroad, and Bayshore Concrete Products also call the Cape Charles Harbor home. And coming soon will be the Cape Charles Yacht Center!

Over the past several years, the Town of Cape Charles, with funding assistance from the Virginia Port Authority Aid to Local Ports Program and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Boating Infrastructure Grant, has continued to strive to make our commercial waterfront one that the citizens can be proud of and all boaters can appreciate.

## URBAN CHICKENS COMMUNITY SURVEY

Based on the direction of Town Council, Planning staff and the Planning Commission are currently studying the feasibility of an ordinance that would allow the keeping of chickens inside Town limits. Please participate in the [Urban Chickens Community Survey](#), to allow staff, the Planning Commission and Town Council to better gauge the level of community interest and other details on this subject. The information compiled from this survey will be shared with the Planning Commission and Town Council to supplement the research thus far.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



## MEET DEBBIE POCOCK, TOWN TREASURER

Debbie Pocock joined the Town staff as the Treasurer on April 7, 2014.

Debbie spent her holidays and part of every summer in Cape Charles and Smith Beach visiting relatives. At age 16, her family moved to Eastville, where her father, John Humphrey, served as County Planner and Zoning Administrator. She left the shore after graduating from Northampton Sr. High to spend 4 years in the Army as an Interrogator, and met her husband, Doug, at Ft. Riley, KS. They lived in Ohio and Virginia Beach for the next 29 years. Debbie volunteered for various organizations, earned an accounting degree, and was busy raising 3 daughters before entering the workforce again. Most recently, she was the Assistant Controller at Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, and Accounting Supervisor at the U.S. Coast Guard Finance Center in Chesapeake, VA.

She and her husband have been dreaming of moving back to the Shore for years and are blessed to finally be able to take the plunge no later than next Spring! She plans on doing a little farming and giving her family somewhere peaceful and beautiful to come visit, hoping that they may find a way to move here permanently as well so that her 5 grandchildren can grow up on the Shore!

Please stop in a meet Debbie and welcome her to the Town!

## 2014 GOLF CART DECALS

The 2014 Town of Cape Charles Golf Cart Decals are available and must be displayed on golf carts driven on public roads within the Town of Cape Charles by April 15, 2014. The decals are good through April 15, 2015.

Golf carts must pass a safety inspection at least once yearly. The safety inspection station must be approved by the Town of Cape Charles. Please click the appropriate link below for more information.

[2014 Golf Cart Registration Form](#) / [2014 Golf Cart Inspection Form](#)



## 2013 & 2014 BUSINESS LICENSES

**2013 Business, Professional & Occupational License Tax** is due to the Town of Cape Charles by April 15, 2014 based on gross receipts and the tax rate applicable to each business.

Rates:

- Contractor = .0016 (\$1.60 per thousand)
- Financial / Real Estate = .0058 (\$5.80 per thousand)
- Professional = .0058 (\$5.80 per thousand)
- Retail = .0020 (\$2.00 per thousand)
- Repair / Personal / Business Service = .0036 (\$3.60 per thousand)

2014 Business, Professional & Occupational License Tax forms are now available in the Finance Department. Please contact 757-331-3259 x14 or email [utilityclerk@capecharles.org](mailto:utilityclerk@capecharles.org) for any business license questions.

## CAPE CHARLES FISHING PIER

The Cape Charles Fishing Pier is temporarily closed for renovations/repairs as a result of damages caused by Hurricane Sandy. The Town has been awaiting approval from FEMA before the permanent repairs could be made. The work will be starting soon and we are hopeful that the construction will be completed by the end of May.

We apologize for any inconvenience this closure may cause.

For questions, please contact Dave Fauber at 331-3259, ext. 17.

## NEW SIDEWALKS BEING INSTALLED

New sidewalks are being installed along Fig Street to Heritage Acres to allow safer passage for the residents of Heritage Acres into the Town. This project has been on the Town's list of projects for some time and we are happy to see it coming to fruition!

## VACANCIES ON TOWN BOARDS

The Town currently has vacancies on the Board of Zoning Appeals, Building Code Board of Appeals, Harbor Area Review Board and Wetlands/Coastal Dunes Board. If you live in the Town and are interested in serving on any of these boards, please complete the [Application for Boards and Commission](#) and return it to Town Clerk Libby Hume at 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310 or email it to [clerk@capecharles.org](mailto:clerk@capecharles.org). Once applications are collected, interviews will be scheduled with the Town Council to fill the vacancies.

## RECYCLING FACILITIES



**Northampton County** provides several **Recycling Facilities** that accept plastic, glass, newspaper, cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, waste oil and batteries. Waste oil and batteries are also collected. Large or bulky household items occasionally needing disposal by a resident will also be accepted and transported to a disposal site.

There are 5 locations throughout the County. The closest location to the Town is in Bayview at 22564 Bayview Circle.

The hours of operation are Monday – Saturday 7:30 AM – 6 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).

## CARDBOARD RECYCLING DUMPSTER

A **cardboard recycling dumpster** is located in the west parking lot beside the old Fresh Pride Grocery Store on Mason Avenue. All cardboard boxes must be broken down and placed through the slot in the front of the dumpster. Please do not place any items other than cardboard into this dumpster.

If you need pick up services, please contact Pete Leontieff in the Public Works Department to make arrangements. There is a \$25 fee for pick up.



## SIGN UP FOR THE GAZETTE & E-NOTIFICATIONS!

As announced over the last several months, this edition of the Cape Charles Gazette will be the last issue that is emailed to subscribers. The Town's new website, [www.capecharles.org](http://www.capecharles.org), allows subscribers to sign up for [e-Notifications](#) to get regular updates on Agendas & Minutes, Alerts, Bids, Calendar Items, Job Postings and other News & Information, including the **Cape Charles Gazette**. **To keep getting the Gazette, please sign up!**

With e-Notifications, you control the information you receive and can cancel the notifications at any time.

We encourage you to browse the new website and if there is something that you would like to see added to the site, please submit your comments in writing by sending us an email at [info@capecharles.org](mailto:info@capecharles.org) or send a note to the Town Clerk at 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310, and we'll see what we can do to get your requested information online.

We hope you are enjoying our new site and we welcome your comments! We look forward to hearing from you!

Please send comments to [info@capecharles.org](mailto:info@capecharles.org).

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & NOTICES

- Tuesday, April 15, 2014:  
**Historic District Review Board Meeting** has been cancelled since there are no applications to review this month.
- Thursday, April 24, 2014:  
**Town Council Public Hearing** starting at 6:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. [Public Hearing Ad & Information](#)  
**Town Council Regular Meeting** immediately following Public Hearing. (Please check the website on April 21 for the link to the agenda.)
- Monday, April 28, 2014:  
**Planning Commission Meeting** with the A-NPDC regarding the Comprehensive Plan Update, starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- Thursday, May 1, 2014:  
**Town Council Budget Work Session** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- Monday, May 5, 2014:  
**Planning Commission Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- Thursday, May 15, 2014:  
**Town Council Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- Tuesday, May 20, 2014:  
**Historic District Review Board Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- [Eastern Shore Heritage Trail](#) – Cape Charles Museum and Other Museums in the Eastern Shore Museum Network.
- 4/25/14: [7<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of the Fleet](#), 5:30 PM at the Town Harbor.
- 4/26/14: [Low Country Shrimp Boil](#), 5:00 PM at the Cape Charles Museum.
- 4/27/14: [New Roots Youth Garden Blessing of the Worms](#), 1:30 PM at the New Roots Youth Garden. Rain date 5/4/14.
- 4/29/14: Cape Charles Candidates' Forum, 7:00 PM at the Palace Theatre. Sponsored by the Citizens for a Better Eastern Shore.
- 5/4/14: Cape Charles Candidates' Forum, 3:00 PM at the Palace Theatre. Sponsored by the Cape Charles Rotary Club.
- 5/6/14: Election Day. Cast your vote at Trinity United Methodist Church, 109 Plum Street, Cape Charles.
- Save the Date:
  - 5/17/14: Crabby Blues Festival
  - 5/29/14 – 6/2/14: Schooner Virginia will be at the Cape Charles Harbor.
  - 5/31/14 – 6/1/14: [Bike MS – Virginia's Ocean to Bay Ride](#)
  - 5/31/14: Benefit By the Bay
  - 6/7/14: Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library Book Sale, 10AM – 2PM
  - 6/14/14-6/15/14: Tall Ships at Cape Charles
  - 6/21/14: Great Bay Run
  - 7/4/14: July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks and Celebration
  - 7/5/14: Cape Charles Volunteer Fire Company Seafood Festival
  - 7/12/14: Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library Book Sale, 10AM – 2PM
  - 7/12/14: Summer Love – Cape Charles Community Band Fundraiser
  - 8/1/14-8/3/14: Clam Slam 2014
  - 8/9/14: Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library Book Sale, 10AM – 2PM
  - 10/11/14: Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library Book Sale, 10AM – 2PM

For more information regarding these events, please visit our website and take a look at the Calendar!

We welcome your feedback. Please send your comments to [gazette@capecharles.org](mailto:gazette@capecharles.org).

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  
2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310  
[www.capecharles.org](http://www.capecharles.org)