



Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: November 14, 2014

We hope that you will enjoy reading the Cape Charles Gazette which is the electronic newsletter published from time to time 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.



Happy Thanksgiving

CAPE CHARLES CITIZENS' DAY – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2014, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. AT THE CAPE CHARLES CIVIC CENTER

The Town will be holding quarterly Citizens' Day meetings at the Civic Center to give the citizens an opportunity to meet with the Mayor and various Department Heads and find out what is done in each department and who to contact if an issue arises. The first meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, November 15, 2014, beginning at 10:00 AM.

For the first meeting, the represented departments will be Finance, Recreation, Clerk and Library. Come meet Treasurer Deborah Pocock and learn about the finance department; Recreation/Community Events Coordinator Jen Lewis will be introducing her winter calendar of events and activities; Town Clerk Libby Hume will have information regarding the Gazette and e-Notifications; and Librarian Ann Rutledge will have information about the Library and upcoming events.

A light breakfast will also be served.

We hope you will be able to join us for the inaugural Citizens' Day meeting!

CITIZEN COMMITTEE FORMED TO REVIEW RULES RE: DOGS ON THE BEACH DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS



Mayor Proto has formed a committee to review the current Town regulations concerning dogs on the public beach. The current ordinance prohibits dogs on the beach from 9 am to 9 pm, April 1 through Labor Day. This has proved difficult to enforce and resulted in regular complaints from non-dog owners and dog owners alike. At the same time many people enjoy the company of their pets and would like the opportunity to take them to the beach without violating town ordinances. The objective of this committee is to respect the views of those who would prefer there be no dogs while providing opportunity for dog owners to be with their pets on the beach during the season. Recommendations, particularly relative to enforcement, will be brought to Town Council for consideration.

The Town asked for volunteers to serve on this committee with representation of both dog owners and those not owning dogs to ensure diversity of opinion. Many thanks to those who volunteered – Beth Davis, Miriam Elton, George Ferguson, Sue Panek and Debbie Pocock. Recreation / Community Events Coordinator Jen Lewis is the staff liaison for this committee and she will be contacting the members to schedule the first meeting.

More information will be provided as the committee begins meeting to discuss various issues.

MEET THE NEWEST STAFF MEMBERS!



POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Thomas Potts joined the Cape Charles Police Department as the Town's newest officer on September 22, 2014.

Thomas is a graduate of Northampton High School and comes to the Town with over 20 years of law enforcement experience with Northampton County and the Towns of Exmore and Eastville.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Brent Mears joined the Public Works Department as a Maintenance Technician on October 1, 2014.

Brent is also a graduate of Northampton High School and has worked previously in the construction industry.

Please join us in welcoming Officer Potts and Brent Mears to the Town!



HOLIDAYS AT THE HARBOR



The Holidays are fast approaching! Cape Charles Town Harbor is celebrating the holidays with a number of important dates and events for everyone to enjoy during the November/December Holiday Season.

November 27: Closed for Thanksgiving Day.

December 6: Starting at 4:30 pm.

- 4:30 - Cape Charles Yacht Club will be serving refreshments by the Bath House prior to the Lighted Boat Parade.
- 5:20 – 3rd Annual Lighted Boat Parade. Upon return, the Harbor will be illuminated and the Golf Cart Parade will take Santa to Central Park for the Grand Illumination.

December 24 – 25: Closed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

December 31: 10:00 pm. Inaugural Dropping of the Crab Pot & Fire Works celebrating New Year's (Greenland time). Location to be determined in the Harbor.

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) for further updates.

We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and we look forward to celebrating with you in bringing in the New Year!



Photo from 2013 Lighted Boat Parade.

NEW ROOTS YOUTH GARDEN SELLS PIES TO FUND YOUTH GARDEN PROGRAMS



This mini-me gardener has been with the program since she was 3, now you will find her on the hunt for cherry tomatoes and we are lucky if any of them actually make it to the Farm Stand to sell!

If you are like most, you enjoy the welcoming site of the New Roots Youth Garden (NRYG) as you come into town. You can't help but smile when you see the beautiful white picket fence on your left hand side and almost every Thursday you can see many little *gardeners in training* in action! The NRYG is located at the corner of Fig Street and Randolph Avenue in Cape Charles. The vision of the Garden is to cultivate healthy children, families and community through outdoor experiential learning and the profound act of connecting people with food from seed to table. This vision is realized through our fall, spring and summer Open Garden Clubs where children from 5-13 participate each week in a Get-Fit activity, hands-on gardening project and experimental garden activity. During the summer months they run their own Farm Stand, building skills such as growing, harvesting, to sales, marketing and customer service. One of the club favorite highlights is hearing the excitement of the children as they select their own harvest to take home....hey, if they grow it they just might EAT it!

We are blessed to have many loyal supporters for the NRYG, the Cape Charles Rotary, Northampton Extension Office (4-H), Town of Cape Charles and the United Way of Lower Eastern Shore (please keep us in mind as you make your yearly donation) and apply for a variety of grants. One core piece of support that is essential to our ability to continue this program is our fundraising projects.

The NRYG is now running their annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale Fundraiser. As in past years, the group is using local ingredients to make absolutely delicious pies, created in the kitchen of Amy B Catering with Chef Amy Brandt at the helm, so you know they are yummy!

Support NRYG's annual pie sale by placing your order for a Mocha Pecan Pie or a Sweet Potato Cheesecake Pie at www.nryg.webs.com/pie-orders. 100% of the proceeds from this sale go to supporting the programs and operations of the NRYG. If you want to help the Garden but will not be in town to get the pie, don't worry- we will deliver it to a needy family for you! Please, place your order today – the order deadline is Monday, November 17th!

There is nothing better than hearing a child say "Do I get to take ALL of those tomatoes home with me?" or "Are there any more brussels sprouts?" shares Tammy Holloway, President, NRYG. Please take a moment to order a pie and help us make a difference in a child's life!

Fall Garden Club is over for the season, however the children will come back one more time on December 11th, from 4-5pm to harvest their collards, broccoli and cauliflower. All children between the ages of 5 and 13 are welcome. Children younger than 5 need a guardian to participate (Adults, we welcome your participation, too!)

For more information contact us at newrootseyouthgarden@gmail.com or call 757-414-7188. **Adult volunteers** are always welcome. Check out New Roots Youth Garden on Facebook (www.facebook.com/newrootseyouthgarden). Like our page to receive updates, pictures, and reminders about Garden activities. See you in the garden!



Article provided by Tammy Holloway, NRYG

REMEMBER TO "FREEZE THE GREASE" THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



Over the next few weeks, many households will be cooking more than usual as they prepare to host family members for the holidays. That's why the Department of Public Utilities is asking residents to avoid sending fats, oils, and grease (FOG) down the drain.

Any FOG that enters the plumbing system, whether through your kitchen sink or bathroom toilet, can thicken and block pipes, causing sewage to back up into homes. Proper disposal can save you an inconvenient (and expensive) visit from your plumber.

Here are some simple tips to protect your home from nasty sewer back-ups and save you money this holiday season:

- Store any used oil in a can and freeze it for reuse (make sure to strain out any food particles first). Oil can be kept for up to six months and reused for up to six hours of fry time.
- Pour used oil in a can and place it in the fridge. After the grease hardens, plop the can in the trash.

And remember, turkey grease isn't the only thing you have to be mindful of this holiday season. Many other foods, like salad dressings, butter, ice cream and even baked goods contain large amounts of FOG that can wreak havoc on your sewer system. So be sure to dispose of these foods in the trash as well.

Courtesy of the City of Virginia Beach

TURKEY FRYING

Turkey frying is becoming an increasingly popular way to prepare the main course for that special Thanksgiving meal. However, what most people do not realize is the dangers that come with turkey frying. Turkey fryers use a substantial quantity of cooking oil at very high temperatures and pose a significant danger that hot oil will be released at some point during the cooking process. Some important points to consider should you choose to fry a turkey this holiday season.

- Hot oil may splash or spill at any point during the cooking process. The fryers are very unstable and could tip very easily. Any contact between the hot oil and skin could result in serious injury or death.
- In deep frying, oil is heated to temperatures of 350° Fahrenheit or more. Cooking oil is combustible, and if it is heated beyond its cooking temperature, its vapors can ignite. Always have a thermometer handy for checking the temperature of the oil. Even if the unit has temperature controls, they can fail.
- Propane-fired turkey fryers are designed for outdoor use and should be used away from the house. A deck is not a safe area for use as generally most decks are made of combustible materials.
- Always make sure the turkey is completely thawed. Sticking a partially frozen turkey in hot grease greatly increases the potential for fire.
- Never leave the fryer unattended while it is on.
- Always follow proper instructions on the fryer as to not overfill more than is needed. Most fires start because of overfilling.
- Please [click here](#) for a video showing how NOT to fry a turkey.



Please be aware of the possible dangers and keep your family and home safe during the holidays.

Source: NFPA <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/causes/cooking/turkey-fryers>

CAPE CHARLES COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE – PUBLIC INPUT SESSIONS SCHEDULED

The current Cape Charles Comprehensive Plan was adopted by the Town Council in 2009. Section 15.2-2230 of the Code of Virginia states that "At least once every five years the comprehensive plan shall be reviewed by the local planning commission to determine whether it is advisable to amend the plan." The Town Council approved working with the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (ANPDC) for the comprehensive plan update.

In preparation for the update process with the ANPDC, the Cape Charles Planning Commission began their preliminary review of the plan in October 2013 to identify areas that needed to be updated. The Commissioners worked for several months and submitted their recommendations to the ANPDC in March 2014.

In April 2014, the Cape Charles Planning Commission began their Comprehensive Plan meetings with Ms. Elaine Meil, Executive Director of the ANPDC and have been meeting regularly on the fourth Mondays of each month. Information regarding the [Comprehensive Plan meetings](#) can be found at www.capecharles.org under the Planning and Zoning Department.

At their October 27, 2014 meeting, the Commissioners set the following timeline to include two Public Input Meetings:

- Saturday, November 22, 2014 – Public Input Meeting, 10:00 AM at the Civic Center.
- Tuesday, December 2, 2014 – Public Input Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
- Tuesday, January 6, 2015 – Comprehensive Plan Meeting to review and discuss public input received, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
- Monday, January 12, 2015 – Regular Meeting to continue review and set date for public hearing.

The Comprehensive Plan is a document that outlines community goals in terms of development, transportation, utilities, land use, recreation and housing. Your input is important so we hope that you will be able to attend one of the Public Input Meetings.

PLACEMENT OF SIGNS IN CAPE CHARLES

When placing signs, including business signs, political signs, and real estate signs, it is important to remember not to place them within the VDOT right of way. Doing so is a violation of the Town Zoning ordinance, in addition to being against VDOT regulations. VDOT is authorized to remove any sign within their right of way, and impose a \$100 fine to the sign owner. In Cape Charles, Bay Avenue, Monroe Avenue and Peach Street each have a 100 foot right of way – to find out where VDOT property ends and your property begins, measure 50 feet from the centerline of the road. All other roads in Cape Charles have a 70 foot right of way, meaning your property begins 35 feet away from the centerline of the road.

BEST WISHES TO TOWN PLANNER ROB TESTERMAN

Today is Rob Testerman's last day as Town Planner. Rob joined the Cape Charles staff in May 2013 and stepped right into the position of Town Planner. During his tenure with the Town, Rob was appointed as the Town's Zoning Administrator and has been the staff liaison for the Planning Commission, Historic District Review Board, Wetlands & Coastal Dune Board, Harbor Area Review Board and Board of Zoning Appeals. He has also been involved in a number of projects:

- Sign Ordinance (§ 4.1 of the Cape Charles Zoning Ordinance).
- Harbor District regulations.
- Historic Town Entrance Overlay language was drafted and submitted to Northampton County for possible inclusion in their Zoning Ordinance.
- The Cape Charles Zoning Map was updated.
- Bayshore Concrete Products' Technology Zone application.
- Comprehensive Plan Review.
- Parking Studies.
- The Shanty's expansion.
- Eastern Shore of Virginia Waterman's Memorial
- Numerous Historic District Review Board applications.
- Wetlands & Coastal Dune Board applications.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredge planning.



Rob is leaving us for the position of Director of Planning and Development with the City of Kitty Hawk, NC. This is a great opportunity for him and his family. Rob states that he's wanted to live on the Outer Banks of NC since he was a little boy.

Please join us in wishing Rob the best in his future endeavors!

UPCOMING MEETINGS & NOTICES

- Saturday, November 15, 2014:
Cape Charles Citizen's Day starting at 10:00 AM at the Cape Charles Civic Center. [FLYER](#)
 - Thursday, November 20, 2014:
Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Civic Center. [AGENDA](#)
 - Saturday, November 22, 2014:
Planning Commission Public Input Meeting re: Comprehensive Plan Modifications starting at 10:00 AM at the Civic Center.
 - Tuesday, November 25, 2014:
Mayor's Office Hours from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the Civic Center.
 - **Wednesday, November 26, 2014: Town Offices closing at noon for Thanksgiving holiday.**
 - **Thursday, November 27, 2014 – Friday, November 28, 2014: Town Offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday.**
 - Tuesday, December 2, 2014:
Planning Commission Public Input Meeting re: Comprehensive Plan Modifications starting at 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
 - Thursday, December 4, 2014:
Town Council Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
 - Tuesday, December 9, 2014:
Mayor's Office Hours, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM at the Civic Center.
 - Thursday, December 11, 2014:
Town Council Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
 - Tuesday, December 16, 2014:
Historic District Review Board Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
 - Thursday, December 18, 2014:
Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
 - Tuesday, December 23, 2014:
Mayor's Office Hours, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the Civic Center (*tentative*).
 - **Wednesday, December 24, 2014: Town Offices closing at noon for Christmas holiday.**
 - **Thursday, December 25, 2014 – Friday, December 26, 2014: Town Offices closed for Christmas holiday.**
 - **Thursday, January 1, 2015, & Friday, January 2, 2015: Town Offices closed for New Year's holiday.**
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If I Were Mayor

Essay & Drawing Contest



Students are invited to explain what they would do as Mayor
to make their Town a great place to live!

- Grades 4th – 7th should type a 200-500 word essay
- Grades 2nd – 3rd should type or write a 100-250 word essay
- 1st grade, Kindergarten & Preschool should submit a drawing of the Mayor



Entries are due to Recreation Coordinator Jen Lewis no later than November 21st.
The Mayor will present awards to the top two finalists in each grade at the Cape
Charles Civic Center on December 5th at 10 a.m.



Town of Cape Charles Recreation Department 2014/2015 Winter Programs

All programs will take place at the Cape Charles Civic Center, 500 Tazewell Ave unless otherwise noted.
For more information on these programs, please visit www.capecharles.org or call Jen Lewis at 757-331-3259 x18.

Arts & Crafts

4:00 PM

- Dec 3 - Christmas Craft
- Dec 10 - Christmas Craft
- Dec 17 - Christmas Craft
- Jan 7 - Latch Hook
- Jan 14 - Latch Hook
- Jan 21 - Latch Hook
- Jan 28 - Latch Hook
- Feb 4 - Craft
- Feb 11 - Craft
- Feb 18 - Craft
- Feb 25 - Craft



Adult Book Club

5:30 PM

- Dec 1 - The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion
- Dec 15 - The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion
- Jan 5 - The Husband's Secret
- Jan 26 - The Husband's Secret
- Feb 2 - Water for Elephants
- Feb 23 - Water for Elephants

Mommy & Me

10:30 AM

- Dec 9
- Jan 13
- Jan 27
- Feb 10
- Feb 24



Line Dancing

7:00 PM

\$5 per person

- Dec 1
- Dec 15
- Jan 5
- Jan 26
- Feb 2
- Feb 23



Cornhole

7:00 PM

Cape Charles Fire House

\$20 Registration per person & \$5 weekly fee. 3 person teams.

Dec 4 & Dec 11

Scrapbooking

10:30 AM

- Dec 1
- Dec 8
- Dec 15
- Jan 5
- Jan 12
- Jan 26
- Feb 2
- Feb 9
- Feb 23



Bingo

10:30 AM

\$1 fee or bring item worth \$1

- Dec 5
- Dec 19
- Jan 9
- Jan 23
- Feb 6
- Feb 20

Christmas Crafts

6:00 PM

Drop off the kids & shop local tonight!

Dec 12

Christmas

Caroling

6:00 PM

Town Wide

Dec 19





The Town offices will be closing at noon on Wednesday, November 26, 2014, and will be closed on Thursday, November 27, 2014, and Friday, November 28, 2014, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

SIGN UP FOR THE GAZETTE & E-NOTIFICATIONS!

The Cape Charles Gazette is now available only by subscribing to [e-Notifications](#). With [e-Notifications](#) you can sign up to get the Gazette and regular updates on Agendas & Minutes, Alerts, Bids, Calendar Items, Job Postings and other News & Information.

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 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- 11/29/14: [Cape Charles Historical Society Oyster Roast](#), 5:00 PM
- 12/5/14: [19th Annual Holiday Tasting Tour](#)
- 12/6/14: [Santa Train](#), 9:00 AM
- 12/6/14: Lighted Boat Parade (5:15 PM), Golf Cart Parade from the Harbor to Center Park and Grand Illumination (7:00 PM)
- 12/13/14: [Cape Charles Volunteer Fire Company's ToolMania](#), 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- 12/31/14: Inaugural Dropping of the Crab Pot, 10:00 PM at the Town Harbor.
- Save the Date:
 - 4/24/14: 8th Annual Blessing of the Fleet
 - 7/31/15 – 8/2/15: Clam Slam 2015 & 5th Annual Boat Docking Contest

For more information regarding events, please visit our website and take a look at the [Calendar](#)!

You can also visit www.CapeCharlesbytheBay.com for other events in the Town!

We welcome your feedback. Please send your comments to 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