



Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: February 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, 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.



GOVERNOR MCAULIFFE VISITS BAYSHORE CONCRETE

Governor Terry McAuliffe came to Cape Charles on February 4th for a ceremony held at Bayshore Concrete Products and announced the creation of 135 new jobs for the Town and Northampton County.

Bayshore Concrete is planning a \$4M expansion to their operation in Town to allow them to precast larger concrete components and ship to customers for transportation and major infrastructure projects. This expansion will create 135 valuable new jobs for the residents of the Town and Northampton County.

Bayshore Concrete is a subsidiary of Skanska USA and has been the largest employer in Cape Charles since 1961. It was established to produce the concrete components for the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

The announcement concluded with a groundbreaking ceremony.

Please read the [Governor's Press Release](#) for more information.

(Photos provided by Ron West, Eastern Shore Post.)



Pictured from left to right: Chad Saunders (Bayshore Concrete Vice President/General Manager), Chairman Larry LeMond, Salvatore Taddeo (Skanska USA Executive Vice President), Governor McAuliffe, Mayor Dora Sullivan, Aubrey Layne (Secretary of Transportation), and Charles McSwain (Northampton County Economic Development Director)

FROM THE HARBOR MASTER – COLD WEATHER & VESSELS IN THE WATER

January has proven to be very cold! There are several ways to protect your vessel and its engine during these cold temperatures. For the most part in our area, a drop light with a 100 watt bulb in the engine box will be sufficient. But as we saw in January, with temps in the single digits and wind chills below zero you may want to invest in a block heater. These devices mount to your engine block and will essentially keep your whole bilge and engine area warm. You should also make sure you have a good mix of anti-freeze/water if you have coolant pipes under your vessel.

It should be noted that in most cases in cold winter months your electric bill at the harbor will be slightly higher due to cabin heaters, etc. All of our slips come with at least a 30 amp 120 volt marine 3 prong twist locking plug. Most of our slips come with a 50 amp 120/240 volt marine 3 prong twist locking plug. It is important not to overload your extension cord or plug. Most regular extension cords with a 15 to 30 amp adapter are only capable of handling a single heater or block heater. If you have a direct ship to shore 30 amp cord, these will allow a little more current. Boat fires happen more frequently at docks this time of year, due to cold temps. Please check the amps of all your equipment. If your cord is only rated for 15 amps you should not exceed that amount as a precaution.

One other recommendation is a bubbler system, which will keep ice from freezing around your vessel. These devices are typically used in areas further north of Cape Charles where ice is more likely to occur. As we have seen this winter, ice has filled the harbor and it may happen through February and March.

PLANNING AND ZONING OFFICE

As temperatures begin to rise in the coming months, construction is sure to follow. If you are planning a project for your home or property, please stop in or call the Planning and Zoning Office to determine whether your project will require a zoning clearance. Accessory buildings, fences, and additions, to name a few, require zoning clearance prior to construction to ensure that the project meets the zoning requirements for your zoning district. These requirements include setbacks, height restrictions, and materials, among others. When developing your plans and ideas, please reference the [Cape Charles Zoning Ordinance](#) for all of the specific regulations.

For questions, please contact Rob Testerman at 331-3259, ext. 15 or email planner@capecharles.org.



LEGOS @ THE LIBRARY!

Last fall, the Cape Charles Memorial Library began posting flyers announcing our wish of starting a Lego club and asking people to look around their homes for any extra Legos they might have. During December, the local B&B's hosted their annual Cookie Trail from which the Library received several Lego set donations. The Cookie Trail also helped raise a little over \$250 to go towards the purchase of Legos.

After we purchased several generic sets of Legos and received several generous donations of "gently used" Legos we felt we had enough to begin. Finally! After two weeks of contending with Mother Nature, the Cape Charles Memorial Library was thrilled to be able to host its first ever Lego Club. Throughout the afternoon over 25 children plus parents **and** grandparents attended the meeting on February 4th.



Though most of the attendees were familiar to the library, many new friends were welcomed in the upstairs program room. Children ranging in age 4 – 13 attended and enjoyed over an hour of free play. The Lego creations ranged from simple and colorful to detailed and complex. All creations were full of imagination!

With the wonderful support of our community and the excitement of children, our wish has come true!

The next Club meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18th from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Donations are still being accepted.

SPECIAL ELECTION FOR HOUSE OF DELEGATES, 100TH DISTRICT

The Special Election to fill the 100th District House of Delegates seat vacated by newly-elected Senator Lynwood Lewis has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2014.

The 2 candidates running for this office are Robert S. Bloxom, Jr. (R) and Willie C. Randall (D). Willie Randall was previously on the Northampton County Board of Supervisors.

The 100th District includes Accomack and Northampton Counties and a portion of the City of Norfolk.

BOATING SAFETY COURSE OFFERED BY COAST GUARD AUXILIARY UNIT, FLOTILLA 12-02

A **Boating Skills and Seamanship Course** will be offered at the **Cape Charles Coast Guard Station** in March of 2014. This course will meet the Virginia requirement for boating safety education laid down by the General Assembly in 2009. As of the summer of 2014, anyone 45 or younger, operating a recreational vessel with a powerplant of 10 HP or higher in the State of Virginia is required to complete such a course. In addition, the course will meet the requirement for anyone from the age of 14 and up to operate a personal watercraft (PWC) in the state. The cost for the class is \$35 which covers the cost of the book. If you have a book from a previous class, you can use that book as well.

The class schedule is as follows:

- Saturday, March 1: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Lunch Break, and 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, March 5: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Saturday, March 8: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Lunch Break, and 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, March 12: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

The exam will be held on Wednesday, March 19, from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM.

For additional information, please contact Ron West at 757-678-0124 or email at rwest@esva.net.

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. To declare candidacy, several forms must be completed and submitted to the Northampton County Registrar's office located at 16404 Courthouse Road in Eastville by March 4, 2014.

Candidacy Requirements for individuals seeking to run for office may be found at the [Virginia State Board of Elections](http://www.vsb.state.va.us) website. Step-by-step instructions and the applicable forms can be found on this website. You can also contact the Registrar's office at 757-678-0480.



MEET WAYNE HODGSON, POLICE OFFICER

Please join us in welcoming our newest police officer, Wayne Hodgson. Wayne joined the Cape Charles Police Department on January 27, 2014.

Wayne graduated from Nandua High School in Onley and previously worked for the Northampton County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy and the Town of Exmore Police Department.

SIGN UP FOR THE GAZETTE & E-NOTIFICATIONS!

As announced last month, the Town's website, www.capecharles.org, has a new look! Staff is still working to get as much information on the website as possible. 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.

The new website allows citizens 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. Over the next couple of months, the Gazette will no longer be emailed to recipients since many of the subscribers are not able to receive the Gazette due to Spam blockers, etc. With e-Notifications, you control the information you receive and can cancel the notifications at any time.

We hope you enjoy the new site and we welcome your comments! Please send comments to info@capecharles.org.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PUBLIC HEARING RE: PROPOSED ZONING CODE MARCH 11, 2014, 7:00 PM AT NORTHAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL

The Northampton County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing to review and consider a proposed Zoning Code (text and map) on Tuesday, March 11, 2014, at 7:00 PM in the Northampton High School Auditorium located at 16041 Courthouse Road, Eastville, VA.

The proposed changes are intended to streamline the process enabling uses and changes of use. The proposed zoning includes a broader variety of uses within zoning districts while maintaining commonly held performance standards to protect the value of property. The Board of Supervisors will consider suggested changes through the public hearing process including any Planning Commission recommendations.

Currently there are 27 districts including Planned Unit Development. These have been consolidated and redefined into 15 proposed districts. Details about the specific district for your property may be found in Article II of the full document text. Each district has a list of allowable uses with density and setback requirements. Generally these specifications are more liberal than the existing zoning ordinances. The following overlay districts have been removed: Historic Preservation District, Airport Protection District, and US 13 Corridor District.

[Click here](#) to review the full text of the proposed zoning code (text and map). The information is also available for review in the Cape Charles Town Clerk's office located at 2 Plum Street and at the Cape Charles Memorial Library located at 201 Mason Avenue.

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. Once applications are collected, interviews will be scheduled with the Town Council to fill the vacancies.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & NOTICES

- [Monday, February 17, 2014:](#)
Town Offices closed in observance of Presidents' Day
- [Tuesday, February 18, 2014:](#)
Historic District Review Board Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall. [AGENDA](#)
- [Thursday, February 20, 2014:](#)
Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. [AGENDA](#)
- [Thursday, February 27, 2014:](#)
Town Council Budget Work Session starting at 3:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- [Tuesday, March 4, 2014:](#)
Planning Commission Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- [Thursday, March 6, 2014:](#)
Town Council Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- [Thursday, March 13, 2014:](#)
Town Council Budget Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- [Tuesday, March 18, 2014:](#)
Historic District Review Board Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
- [Thursday, March 20, 2014:](#)
Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The regular Department Reports are included in the [Town Council Regular Meeting Agenda Packet](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- 2/22: **Tidewater Guitar Orchestra**, 8:00 PM at the Palace Theatre. Call 331-2787 for ticket information.
- 3/1: **"Some Like It Hot,"** 11:00 AM at the Palace Theatre. Includes lunch, bubbly and a guest speaker, along with a showing of the film. Call 331-2787 for ticket information.
- Save the Date:
 - 4/25/14-4/26/14: 7th Annual Blessing of the Fleet
 - 6/14/14-6/15/14: Tall Ships at Cape Charles
 - 7/4/14: July 4th Fireworks and Celebration
 - 8/1/14-8/3/14: Clam Slam 2014

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