



Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: January 12, 2017

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, or by regular mail to 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310.

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.



Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous 2017!

Serge R. Proto

THIRD ANNUAL DROPPING OF THE CRAB POT

The Town of Cape Charles hosted the third annual Dropping of the Crab Pot on December 31, 2016 at 10:00 PM on Mason Avenue. It was a great evening with over 600 residents and visitors attending.

We've been asked "Why 10 p.m.?" By dropping the Crab Pot at 10 p.m., we can hold an event that can be celebrated by adults and children alike, allowing for a fun, family event. For those attendees without children, they were able to continue on to Kelly's Gingernut Pub or the Oyster Farm Seafood Eatery for the countdown to midnight.

Thank you to Ms. Miriam Elton and her staff for opening Brown Dog Ice Cream to serve her wonderful ice cream, hot chocolate and coffee which were great additions to the evening! Festive hats and tiaras were distributed along with a variety of noise makers to help ring in the New Year!

A great effort by everyone involved made this New Year's event one to remember by all who attended. Thank you also to the Master of Ceremonies, Mayor George Proto, for leading the countdown, Barry and Barron Downing for helping us drop the crab pot, Jen Lewis for organizing the event and the biggest shout out goes to our Public Works crew who always makes sure everything goes off without a hitch!

It was a great event to bring in 2017!





LIVE CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

Over the next few weeks, the Public Works Department will be picking up discarded Christmas trees. Please remove all ornaments, lights, garland, etc. and place the trees on the curb for pick up. The trees will be composted or chipped for mulch.

If you have any questions, please contact Public Works Foreman John Lockwood at 757-331-1410.

Thank you!

TEMPORARY DISCONTINUANCE OF WATER SERVICE FOR UNOCCUPIED HOMES

The Town has a number of out-of-town property owners who use their Cape Charles houses as second homes. With the freezing temperatures during the winter months, property owners may opt to have their water service temporarily disconnected as a safeguard to freezing pipes and potential water leaks which could cause severe property damage.



Many of the newer homes in Town and some of the older, remodeled homes, have interior water shut-off valves installed. If your home has a shut-off-valve, we urge you to shut off the water to your home if you are planning to be away for any length of time during the winter months. We also recommend draining the lines to any exterior faucets to prevent them from freezing.

If your home does not have an interior shut-off valve, you can contact the Utility Billing Department at 757-331-6901 to arrange to have your water service temporarily discontinued while you are away. There is a \$25 fee for discontinuing the service and a \$25 fee for reactivating the service. This is a small price to pay for the ease of mind that your pipes will not freeze and burst. (Town Code § 70-45)

Please note that unless you have an interior water shut-off valve, it is unlawful for any person to turn the water service off at the street. There have been several instances where homeowners have attempted to turn off the water at the street and have damaged the valves which can cause serious leaks in the system. In order for the damages to be repaired, the water must be shut off for the entire street/block until the repairs can be made. The cost of repairs may be charged to the property owner causing the damage.

THE TOWN OF CAPE CHARLES URGES RESIDENTS TO SIGN-UP TO RECEIVE LOCAL ALERTS

Cape Charles Residents Can Now Receive Real Time Public Safety Messages Through Nixle

The Town of Cape Charles has partnered with Nixle to implement its Community Notification System to alert residents in real-time for localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories via text, email, web, social media and the Nixle Mobile App. The service is secure, reliable and easy to use.

If you haven't already done so, we urge you sign up to receive these alerts.

As a resident, there are several simple ways to register:

1. Text "23310" or "CAPECHARLES" to 888777 from your mobile phone.
2. Go to www.capecharles.org and sign up via the Nixle Widget.



Once registered, residents will receive a confirmation text to their mobile device.

PREPARE FOR WINTER DRIVING



Most drivers understand the importance of keeping their vehicle in good mechanical condition at any time of year. When winter comes, the condition of your vehicle is even more important than at other times of year.

This means that brakes, wipers/wiper fluid, brake lights, tires, mirrors, headlights and running lights, tire pressure, turn signals, oil, etc. should all be checked at appropriate intervals.

Don't try to get those last few miles from a set of tires. Make certain that tread depth is above the minimum recommendation for your vehicle. To provide maximum visibility, headlights, taillights, mirrors, windshield and all windows should be kept clean at all times - all year round. When clearing snow/ice off your vehicle, don't take shortcuts.

When you are approaching a curve or intersection, start braking early to avoid sliding into another lane or into the intersection should you need to stop. If your vehicle is equipped with ABS, a steady, firm pressure on the brake pedal is suggested. Without ABS on your vehicle, use the "squeeze braking" technique. This is where you gradually increase pedal pressure until you reach the point where the vehicle almost starts slipping.

Winter driving conditions accentuate every mechanical problem and driver mistake. Increase your following distance by adding a second or two to your vehicle's current recommended following distance. Scan farther ahead than usual to allow you time to respond to problems. Use your low-beam headlights and running lights any time there is reduced visibility or when you are using your windshield wipers. If you are familiar with the road or route, use this to your advantage to anticipate upcoming hills or curves. Otherwise, extra caution is necessary to react to the unexpected.

When you are driving on an icy road, there is no such thing as a safe speed. On icy roads, four wheel drive vehicles will skid/slide just as easily as any other vehicle.

Key points

- Before freezing weather arrives, have your vehicle serviced and inspected.
- Get an earlier start so that you will have time to clear ice and snow from your vehicle.
- Accelerate and apply brakes gradually to avoid skidding and maintain steering control.
- Start by going no faster than half the posted speed limit. If you encounter extremely slippery conditions, cut your speed in half again.
- Plan as though you will have to come to a complete stop at every intersection and make sure you have time to get completely through the intersection before you begin to cross.
- Suggested emergency equipment: flashlight, blanket, flares/reflectors, spare tire, shovel, sand, cell phone and emergency numbers, water.

Information courtesy of Virginia Municipal League Insurance Programs



LIBRARY BOARD VACANCY

The Town currently has a vacancy on the Library Board. The Library Board currently meets monthly on the second Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

If you live in the Town and are interested in serving on this board, 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 vacancy.



SIGN UP FOR THE GAZETTE & E-NOTIFICATIONS!

The Cape Charles Gazette is available 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 Town's 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.

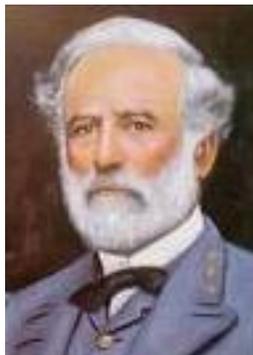
We hope you are enjoying our site and we welcome your comments! We look forward to hearing from you!

Please send comments to info@capecharles.org.

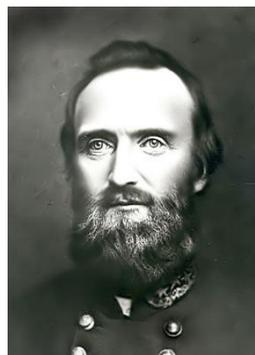


UPCOMING MEETINGS & NOTICES

- **Friday, January 13, 2017:**
Town Offices closed for Lee-Jackson Day.
- **Monday, January 16, 2017:**
Town Offices closed for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.
Town Council Executive Session, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center. [AGENDA](#)
- **Tuesday, January 17, 2017:**
Historic District Review Board Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center. [AGENDA](#)
- **Wednesday, January 18, 2017:**
Historic District Review Board Work Session, 4:00 PM at Town Hall. [AGENDA](#)
- **Thursday, January 19, 2017:**
Town Council Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center. [AGENDA](#)
- **Tuesday, January 24, 2017:**
Mayor's Office Hours, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM at the Civic Center.
- **Thursday, February 2, 2017:**
Town Council Work Session, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center. (*tentative*)
- **Tuesday, February 7, 2017:**
Planning Commission Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
- **Tuesday, February 14, 2017:**
Mayor's Office Hours, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM at the Civic Center.
- **Thursday, February 16, 2017:**
Town Council Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
- **Monday, February 20, 2017:**
Town Offices closed for Presidents' Day.
- **Tuesday, February 21, 2017:**
Historic District Review Board Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.
- **Tuesday, February 28, 2017:**
Mayor's Office Hours, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM at the Civic Center.



General Robert E. Lee



General Stonewall Jackson



Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Town offices will be closed on Friday, January 13, 2017, in observance of Lee-Jackson Day, and Monday, January 16, 2017, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



THE FRIENDS OF THE CAPE CHARLES MEMORIAL LIBRARY
 REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY FOR
AFTERNOON TEA
 WITH 4 UNIQUE TEAS, 3 SWEET AND 3 SAVORY PROVISIONS
 CAPE CHARLES CIVIC CENTER, 500 TAZEWELL AVE, CAPE CHARLES



November 14
 3:00 –
 4:30 p.m.

“Romancing the Stone”: New Ravenna is America’s premier designer and manufacturer of stone and glass mosaic tiles. Come hear how they do it and see some of their exquisite creations! Megan Lawson and Cean Irminger, designer, will tell us the history of the company and explain the process.



February 13
 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

“Fish Leather, the Story”: Moonrise Jewelry has developed new and exciting jewelry using fish leather, which comes from Iceland. Learn how fish leather is made and transformed into jewelry.



April 10
 3:00 –
 4:30 p.m.

Virginia’s Eastern Shore has a host of beautiful Native Plants. Join Dot Field, Natural Areas Research Coordinator of the VA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation Division of Natural Heritage to discover these beautiful plants.

December 12
 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.



“A Hog Island Christmas” The Barrier Islands Center gives you a view of what Christmas was like on Hog Island.

Hear the Cheriton Bell Ringers play for you!



Bay Storage

MARCH 13
 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.



“A Russian Tea” Jone Gittinger is opening Dacha, a Russian Tea Room, on Mason Avenue. She will treat us to a genuine Russian Tea. Learn about Russia and the traditions for tea there.

GIFT BASKET RAFFLE

Cost: \$22, cash, check, or credit card.
 \$120 for entire series

Events are from 3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. AT EACH EVENT

Seating is limited. For reservations call 757-695-4192



May 15
 4:00 –
 5:30 p.m.

“Our Mother, Ourselves” Join us for a Mother-Daughter Tea! Mothers, Step-mothers, Godmothers, Mothers, Aunts... come for a very special final tea... Join Carol Hale and Linda Zaremski as they tell us how they found Carol’s family and what it means to her.

www.friendscapecharleslibrary.com Facebook: Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library Email: Friends.CC.Memorial.Library@gmail.com

COMPUTER TUTOR FALL/WINTER SCHEDULE
ONE – ON – ONE Training on:
iPhone/iPad, Android Phone/Tablet, Windows Computer Software

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19
 SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10
 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8
 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

THURSDAY, MARCH 16
 SATURDAY, MARCH 18

One Hour Sessions Scheduled
 between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.
 By appointment only.
 Call 757-695-4192

Sessions to be held at the Cape Charles Memorial Library, 201 Mason Ave, Cape Charles

UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- 2/13/17: [Afternoon Tea "Fish Leather, the Story,"](#) 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM, Civic Center
- Save the Dates!
 - 3/13/17: [Afternoon Tea "A Russian Tea,"](#) 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM, Civic Center
 - 4/10/17: [Afternoon Tea – Beautiful Native Plants,](#) 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM, Civic Center
 - 4/28/17: 10th Annual Blessing of the Fleet, 6:00 PM, Cape Charles Harbor
 - 5/15/17: [Afternoon Tea "Our Mother, Ourselves,"](#) 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM, Civic Center

If you have any events in the town of Cape Charles that you would like to add to the listing of upcoming events, please submit the details via email to Gazette@capecharles.org. Feel free to submit photos or flyers for inclusion on CapeCharlesbytheBay.com Thank you!

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

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
Email: gazette@capecharles.org
www.capecharles.org