

Town Crier

I N C O R P O R A T E D J U N E 3 , 1 9 5 9

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

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Board of Commissioners

Mayor Harkless
 Commissioner Fowler
 Commissioner King
 Commissioner Linden
 Commissioner Seegers
 Commissioner Harrison

**APOLOGY to:
 Rose Ann and Darrel
 Dawson of Bayshore who
 were inadvertently omitted
 from our Newsletter staff
 last time. They have been
 with us for 5 years!**



A special thank you to
 all our
 Volunteers
 for
 delivering the Town
 Crier

We're into Fall, we've survived another hurricane, and it's time for another Newsletter update.

First, let's talk about town finances. Our town is not in terrible shape, nor is it where we would like it to be. Of course, we are all in the position of dealing with frightening National and State shortfalls and other problems. Your town commissioners are working at maintaining a stringent budget. They have postponed nearly all capital expenditures and have been "tight" with money on things that "pop up". The capital expenditures that have been maintained are maintenance equipment and a police vehicle. We also have been approved for a grant for a sidewalk from the center of town to the White Oak Elementary School and that will require some local funding.

Our employee budget has never been frivolous. By having conscientious and efficient personnel, we have been able to maintain the minimum number of people necessary to operate our town, and the commissioners have necessarily held tight on pay raises. With all of that said, our current budget exceeds our income and the additional funding will come from reserves. Unfortunately, our reserves are fairly limited and next year's budget will require a very close look.

On a better note, since David Rief left to go to law school, we have hired a

new Building Inspector/ Zoning Officer. Our new hire is Brandon Hawks and he has stepped right in and is doing an excellent job. Also, with the departure of Jennifer to go full time with her tax work, we hired a new Assistant Clerk, Mary Linda Spencer. She is fitting in nicely. We have sent her for some training in municipal functions, and with her extensive background of experience and knowledge, plus Karen's tutelage, she is doing a great job. She will, no doubt, improve even more over time.

We have one other new person in Gary Harrison, our new commissioner, appointed to fill the void left by Mark Parrish's resignation. Mark's business and family obligations forced him to regretfully give up his commissioner seat. We commend Mark on the work he has done over the years and wish him nothing but success.

Commissioner Harrison was "thrown into the fray" a few weeks after being appointed because, as the new Maintenance Department Commissioner, he was in charge of hurricane debris pickup. He has been commended by the Board for the thorough and professional job he did, and we were fortunate to have him.

One other ongoing item for update is our Fire and EMS departments which are now in the InterLocal Agency (ILA). The new Chief, Kevin Hunter, was a Captain in the Camp Lejeune Fire Depart-

ment, has served as a volunteer for our department, and has 35 years of experience and knowledge. He works well with the people under him, is in the process of reviewing the existing equipment to be able to update our 15 year capital expenditure plan, has had excellent communication and rapport with the County Fire/ EMS Commission and the County Emergency Services Department, has had open, ongoing, positive communication with the ILA Board members, has already saved money on a variety of things and is turning out to be an excellent Chief for all of us.

A side comment: I've heard that there are people commenting that the ILA (i.e., the Fire and EMS Departments, since there are no other ILA services at this time) is costing our town money. This is NOT TRUE! The Fire and EMS taxes are levied and collected by the County and then passed on to the ILA. This year, our residents are actually paying lower taxes for Fire & EMS. Since a tax neutral tax was NOT ADOPTED, residents are still paying the old rate on their new evaluations. The ILA passes on payroll funds to Cedar Point since the Fire & EMS employees are on Cedar Point's State Retirement Plan. When the State Retirement Board gives us final approval, those employees will be shifted to the ILA and we will no longer have that middle step. (continued next page)

F R O M T H E M A Y O R ' S D E S K

(continued from Page 1)

With no other ILA services at this time, the TOWNS PAY THE ILA NOTHING.

I will close by saying I wish you all well and encourage you to attend town meetings, or at least contact me or any of the other Cape Carteret Board members to express any concerns you might have.

Sincerely,
Mayor Harkless

BOAT RAMP ACCESS

If you are holder of a boat ramp pass, you are likely to have used the new day pier that was added to the ramp this spring. We hope that you find it useful as a place to tie up during loading and unloading your boat. As the name implies, it is for daytime use only and it is a violation to tie your boat up overnight. It has come to our attention that there are a few people that are using the ramp without a pass. They drop their boat in and pull their trailer away from the ramp site leaving another person to tend the boat. This is a violation of our policy and violators will be subject to a \$200 fine. Also we have been made aware of pass holders "loaning" their pass to others. This too, is a violation of Town policy, and violators will be ticketed and their pass revoked.

Always display your pass on your rear view mirror with the writing to the outside so that it is visible from the front of the vehicle. Trailers are to be backed into the available spaces. The ramp pass barely generates enough revenue to cover the cost of our lease.

On another note, I would like to solicit input from the boating community regarding another idea to improve boat access and use.

Here is what I am proposing: The waterfront parks at the end of the streets in old Cape Carteret and the Bayshore community are there for the use of the town's citizens. I am proposing the installation of mooring posts installed approximately 50 to 100 feet from shore with an accompanying post on the shore. Each post would have a heavy-duty eyelet for installing a mooring line similar to a clothesline reel that could be pulled tight and fastened to a cleat on the shore post. This would allow users to moor their boat on this line 50 to 100 feet from shore and pull the boat in to load and unload passengers and gear. After use, the bow and stern would be attached to the ends of the line and the boat pulled out into the water where it would remain moored until the next time it was used. Interested individuals would lease the mooring posts on a yearly basis. There could be as many as three to four mooring posts per waterfront access.

If you think you might be interested in a mooring post for your boat, please give me a call. Mooring posts in our shallow sound are better suited for shallow draft hulls. If there is sufficient interest, I will bring this before the Board of Commissioners. You may reach me at 393-1317 or 342-0635©.

Finally, in our November meeting we will be discussing some changes to the boat ramp fee structure. You are welcome to attend.

Mike King
Commissioner



FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK

With the holidays quickly approaching, the Cape Carteret police want to ensure that all residents have a safe and enjoyable season. Please keep in mind that this is also a time of increased crime and accidents so it is very important to remain focused on preventing these events before they occur.

Halloween trick or treating will be on Monday, October 31 from 5:00pm to 8:30pm. Please ensure that all small children are accompanied by an adult. For older children who might not be with an adult, ensure they travel in pairs or small groups...never alone. Only go to homes that have their outside lights on. Also, remember that there will still be vehicles traveling the streets so ensure that all trick or treaters remain on the sidewalks or sides of the road and only cross the streets at intersections or corners. Those who will still be out after dark should either be wearing reflective clothing or carrying a flashlight so that they can be seen by drivers. Finally, after your child has returned home, inspect their goodies before you allow them to consume them.

Nationwide, law enforcement receives more reports of robberies and vehicle or residential break-ins during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons than any other time of the year. When shopping, remain alert and aware of what is going on around you at all times. Park in well lighted areas and be sure to lock car doors and close windows. Secure items in the trunk and have keys ready to enter your vehicle as soon as you approach. Always check the interior of your vehicle before getting in. Avoid carrying large amounts of cash and deter pickpockets and purse snatchers by carrying your purse under the arm and keeping wallets in front pockets.

When you are away from home, even if for only a few minutes, ensure all doors and windows are secured and try to make the house appear as if someone is home. Leave some interior lights on and consider leaving a radio or TV on. Don't display gifts where they can be seen from a window or door. If you are going to be gone for a few days, ask a neighbor to watch your home and also stop by the police department to fill out an "out of town" sheet. We will also keep an extra eye on your home and will also have the community watch patrol check it.

Have an enjoyable holiday season, but please stay safe and stay alert.

Chief Miller

HALLOWEEN, MONDAY OCTOBER 31ST

TRICK OR TREATING HOURS ARE 6:00 TO 8:30 PM. BE SAFE AND WEAR COSTUMES THAT CAN BE SEEN AT NIGHT AND ARE FIRE PROOF. SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES NEED TO BE CALLED INTO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AT 393-2183. THOSE NOT WISHING TO PARTICIPATE INDICATE BY TURNING OFF YOUR PORCH LIGHT.



WELCOME
NEW
BUSINESS

Carteret Cafe

1000 WB McLean Drive
Cape Carteret, NC 28584



ANGEL
FOOD
MINISTRIES

Tough times!!!!!!

Angel Food
Ministries has
suspended
its services

***A REMINDER:
IT IS A MATTER OF
LIFE OR DEATH***

***Western Carteret Fire Department will make you a 911 sign for \$20.
Ordinance # 153.12 requires that all houses have a street number on the
physical house or a green EMS sign in their yard. If you have a 911
reflective sign and your mailbox is not on your lot, then you MUST place your
street number on your house.***

“An Ode to Joe”

(Poem submitted by Mrs. Shirley TenHagen)

There's a special man
On my street!
He walks his dog
And watches out for YOUR feet.

A bag in hand
And a shovel too
He picks up
What other dogs do.

When other owners don't care
About what their dogs do
Joe really does
And for shame on you!

He deserves a pleasant walk
With his dog, and not work
Day after day doing
The job that YOU shirk!

Ordinance #91-06





WWW.TOWNOFCAPECARTERET.COM

**TOWN OF CAPE
CARTERET**

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This newsletter was prepared by:
Mary Linda Spencer, Assistant Town Clerk

Town Hall will be closed on the following days:
Friday, November 11—Veteran’s Day
Thursday & Friday, November 24 & 25—Thanksgiving
Friday & Monday, December 23 & 26—Christmas Holidays
Monday, January 2, 2012 — New Year’s Day

<u>Board of Commissioners Meeting Dates</u>	
<u>Work Session</u>	<u>Regular Meeting</u>
Meets at 7:00 PM	
November 14	November 21
December 12	December 19
January 9, 2012	January 16

<u>Planning Board Meeting Dates</u>
Meets at 7:30 PM
November 1
December 6
January 3

F R O M T H E C L E R K ’ S D E S K

Happy autumn to all,

I am very excited to welcome Mary Linda Spencer as the Finance Officer and Deputy Clerk of Cape Carteret. She is a joy to have in the office.

I want to thank the property owners that have paid their property taxes. I would like to remind everyone else that the 2011 taxes become delinquent on January 6, 2012.

Hurricane Irene caused a lot of debris damage and everyone did a great job of getting the yard debris out so the contractor could pick it up. We are working on filing for a reimbursement. Hurricane Irene has cost the town \$134,407.08, not counting town labor. Buddy is working on ordering street signs and will replace them as soon as possible.

The Board of Commissioners approved the annexation of Quailwood Village and they will become part of the town on June 1, 2012. The 2010 Census count has brought the town’s population up to 1924 people.

Since our last meeting, the Board appointed Gary Harrison from Star Hill North II as Mark Parrish’s replacement. Until the New Year, enjoy the holidays and be safe.

Karen M. Zornes, CMC

Leaf Pick Up
The Town of Cape Carteret will continue to have a leaf and limbs pick up every other month

Leaves and limbs must be in separate piles or they will not be picked up.

Limbs cannot be larger than six feet long or six inches in diameter. No trees will be picked up. PLEASE DO NOT MIX MATERIALS IN THE YARD DEBRIS. We will not pick up trash, water or soda bottles, flower pots, etc..... If these items are in the yard debris pile it will not be picked up and you may be subject to a \$50 fine.

If you lease or rent your property, it is your responsibility to notify your tenants of this schedule.

Anyone putting leaves or limbs out other than on the scheduled dates shall be charged a minimum fee of \$50.00. The property owner is responsible for this fee regardless of who occupies the premises.

Schedule: The maintenance crew will only pick up the debris on your street once. If you put it out after it has been picked up, a notice for you to remove it will be sent. PLEASE put the debris out the weekend before the pickup.

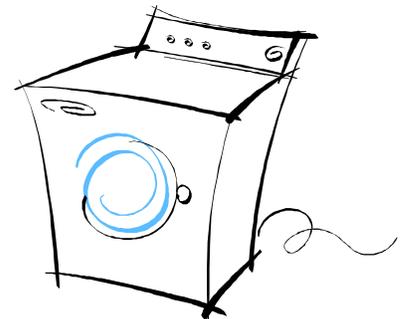
	PUT OUT	PICK UP by TOWN	
NOV 2011	November 12 & 13	November 14-18	
JAN 2012	January 14 & 15	January 16-20	
MAR	March 10 & 11	March 12-16	
MAY	May 5 & 6	May 7-11	
JULY	July 7 & 8	July 9-13	
SEPT	Sept 8 & 9	Sept 10-14	
NOV	Nov 3 & 4	Nov 5-9	

REMEMBER: THE WEBSITE ALWAYS HAS THE SCHEDULE POSTED UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.

WWW.TOWNOFCAPECARTERET.COM

AND, HEADS UP: LARGE SCALE PICK UP WILL BE IN APRIL.

Dates will be in the next newsletter.



Effective July 1st, 2011

Computer equipment and televisions are banned from disposal in NC landfills, as required by the North Carolina Electronics Recycling Session Law 2010-67. This includes TV's, laptops, desktops, monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, and other electronics as defined in the law.

Contact WASTE INDUSTRIES at the phone # listed on your bill or visit them at www.wasteindustries.com for information on recycling options....



- NO**
- Televisions
 - Laptops
 - Desktops
 - Monitors
 - Printers
 - Scanners
 - Keyboard
 - Other Electronics