

TOWN CRIER

This is the 4th issue of what will be a periodic communication to the citizens of Cape Charles. John Burdiss is solely responsible for the content.

Topics addressed in this issue (August 15, 2007) are:

1. Cape Charles Committee on Children and Youth (CCCCY or 4CY)
2. Notable agenda items at the 8/14/07 council meeting
3. Prospective new town manager
4. There he goes again!
5. Constituents are invited

It's all about the kids!

Kudos and a big thank you for the excellent work by 4CY as reported to the Council by Chuck Little, committee member. The initial report dated 8/11/07 was authored Roberta Newman, Chair and it lists 17 committee members (all volunteers – thank you) including Jimmy Marvel the Town's newly hired Recreation Coordinator. The actual report is 11 pages long, so I won't attempt to recite its full content here; however I can email you a copy upon request.

Suffice it to say, the report is comprehensive and it offers excellent foundational bases upon which to build a long-term program for children and youth. Here's a quick list of a couple of key areas in the report:

The Seven Developmental Needs of Adolescence

As children enter adolescence and are subject to the influences in the world beyond their home and family (school, the media, the community, peers, etc.), they need support for seven developmental needs during their out-of-school hours:

- 1) The Need for Physical Activity
- 2) The Need for Competence and Achievement
- 3) The Need for Self-Definition
- 4) The Need for Creative Expression
- 5) The Need for Positive Social Interaction
- 6) The Need for Structure and Clear Limits
- 7) The Need for Meaningful Participation

The report also listed “**The 40 Developmental Assets**” that are considered essential “building blocks of healthy development that help young people grow up healthy, caring, and responsible.” I encourage you to read the full report and offer your assistance to this important effort. Thanks to all of you working in this area and I pledge to be responsive in fiscal means within the Town's budget and by other means that will aid 4CY continue from its excellent start. Thanks again!

NOTE: August 16 - Birdie's Bayside Mini-Golf will have its second match play tournament at 7:00 p.m. on August 16. Our first tournament was an outrageous success and 32 players and a horde of spectators had two hours of great fun and over \$400.00 was raised for Birdie's Kids Fund. Tournament fee is \$20.00 and includes golf, beer and wine. Play is limited to the first 32 to sign up but spectators are also welcome. Beer and wine is available for spectators for a \$2.00 donation to Birdie's

Kids Fund. To sign up, email us at golf@birdies-minigolf.com with name, phone and number of players or go to our sign up page at http://www.birdies-minigolf.com/birdies_cup2.html .

Notable agenda items at the August 14, 2007 meeting of Town Council

- Expand Historic Review Board from 5 to 7 members. Burdiss yes. Motion failed. 4 to 3; Mayor broke the tie.
- Increase Occupancy Tax to fund tourism initiatives. Burdiss yes. Motion passed unanimously.
- Schedule public hearing to address Harbor District and related issues; set for August 30th at 7 PM. Burdiss yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Prospective new town manager

Interviews are being conducted by the Mayor and the four non-employee members of council. We have had the pleasure of being presented with several excellent candidates from a very strong group of applicants. A decision is expected in the very near future.

There he goes again!

Last night former Councilman Veber again alleged that this council has failed to consider or has hidden from the public an "agreement" in estimating the funds the Town needs for water and sewer projects. Mr. Veber knows or he should know that the annexation "agreement" is extremely complex and that it is subject to various interpretations. He also knows or should know that the "agreement" could result in litigation to resolve when and in what amount(s) the developer will actually pay.

In a highly unusual response to Mr. Veber's continued theme during public comments, Mayor Sullivan and Councilman Evans advised Mr. Veber – and the public – that current Council is well aware of the numerous and complex issues contained in the "agreement". Further, facing the enormous funding needs, we will be guided by the best interests of the Town.

Again I challenge Mr. Veber to more succinctly state his concerns so that our citizens who have allegedly been kept in the dark will know exactly how they have purportedly been harmed. The annexation "agreement" was in place: long before Mr. Veber was elected; during his entire term; and it is available for the public to view at any time.

You are invited!

Please join me at my office – 117 Mason Ave., Suite E (next to Kelly's Pub) from 5:15 – 6:15 PM on Tuesday, August 21st. Come, voice opinions, ask questions and learn more about what your Town government and your Council are doing to honor our duty to you by always striving to serve the best interests of the Town with each action we take. Your responses and/or inquiries to anything in the Town Crier or about "Town" business are welcome at johnburdiss@baycrk.net