



July – August 2014

# HARBOUR HEADLINES

## Insurance Rating Changes Force Fire Apparatus Upgrade

- Glenn Rainey, CVFD Fire Chief

Recent changes to the national fire department ratings system is forcing the Colington Volunteer Fire Department to purchase a ladder truck to meet the new requirements. The change mandates that an aerial ladder truck respond to all structure fires due to a change in the minimum building height threshold from 35 feet to 32 feet. The fire department had hoped to start the process of ordering the new ladder truck right away, but recent rejection of a proposed fire tax increase by Dare County commissioners will further delay the proposed purchase. There is a chance of getting the needed funding but this requires a great deal of community support.

Colington firefighters were already planning to replace one of their aging fire engines however the rating change puts greater emphasis on that replacement as the new rating system is now in place. The county has denied the needed tax increase the last two years. If the fire department rating slips due to not having the necessary apparatus, all homeowners face a potential increase in their property insurance premiums. From design to delivery, a new truck process could take as much as 9 months or even longer.

The planned ladder truck would actually be a multipurpose truck known as a Quint in the fire service. It has all of the abilities of a modern pumper plus the necessary ladder truck capacity to better meet the new standards. The department had hoped to take advantage of the almost historic low interest rates and avoid another model year price increase when requesting the funding increase.



That increase would be used to make the annual truck payments and make necessary repairs to the rest of the fleet. The CVFD's fleet of pumpers are 19, 20 and 27 years old. Obviously, technology has improved vastly over the years, as have safety standards. None of the pumpers meet the modern NFPA (National Fire Protection

Association) standard for fire apparatus. The most relied upon pumper is Engine 15. This truck is 20 years old and even lacks shoulder belts in the seatbelt system. It is in need of body repair due to rust and has other mechanical issues. **Continued page 2**

## Summer 2014 Yard Hours

Tuesdays: 11AM - 2PM • Saturdays: 9AM - 2PM

## Important Covenant Changes

Important New Information for Colington Harbour Home Owners – Please visit [www.ColingtonHarbour.net](http://www.ColingtonHarbour.net) to view new proposed covenant revisions. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

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**4-7 pm, Setup in Marina Parking Lot**

ALL ADS AND AD PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN AUG 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SEPT./OCT. 2014 ISSUE OF HARBOUR HEADLINES.

IF THE CHA OFFICE DOES NOT RECEIVE PAYMENT FOR ADS BY THE DUE DATE, THEY WILL NOT BE PRINTED.

**Insurance Rating continued**

For years, the CVFD motto has been “Neighbors Helping Neighbors”. The department desperately needs your help to solve our funding issue so we can continue to offer great public service and maintain our insurance rating so every insured property continues to receive the lowest fire insurance premium possible. Time is a factor too. We expect a full Fire Department Rating inspection in the near future, as our last inspection was in 2005.

The department is asking you to contact your Dare County commissioners that represent the Colington area and ask them to support our funding increase so we can move forward with this vital project. They have indicated they would help us if there was good community support. A simple, short email is all that is required. We hope you'll voice your support for your community fire department!

The email addresses for the commissioners are:

- Robert Woodard woodard@darenc.com
- Max Dutton maxd@darenc.com

If you would like further information about the department's needs, please contact Fire Chief Glenn Rainey (chief15@outlook.com) or Deputy Chief David Phillips (deputychief15@outlook.com)

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# Manager's Report

## Avoiding Conflict with the Neighbors

Can't we all just get along? The key to good relations with your neighbors is communication. It's often the best way to prevent and resolve conflict before it reaches the legal system. You don't have to be friends or spend time together to achieve a peaceful coexistence, but you should try to be a good neighbor and follow these tips:

**Say hello.** At the mailbox, while walking the dog or when you see a moving van arrive, introduce yourself. Learn your neighbors' names and regularly offer a friendly greeting.

**Provide a heads up.** If you're planning a construction project, altering your landscaping or hosting a big party, contact your neighbors beforehand.

**Do unto others.** Treat neighbors as you would like to be treated. Be considerate about noise from vehicles, stereos, pets, etc.

**Know your differences.** Make an effort to understand each other. Differences in age, ethnic background and years in the neighborhood can lead to different expectations or misunderstandings.

**Consider the view.** Keep areas of your property that others can see presentable.

**Appreciate them.** If the neighbors do something you like, let them know. They'll be pleased you noticed, and it'll be easier to talk later if they do something you don't like.

**Stay positive.** Most people don't try to create problems. If a neighbor does something that irritates you, don't assume it was deliberate.

**Talk honestly.** Tolerance is important, but don't let a real irritation go because it seems unimportant or hard to discuss. Let your neighbors know if something they do annoys.

**Be respectful.** Talk directly to your neighbors if there's a problem. Gossiping with others can damage relationships and create trouble.

**Remain calm.** If a neighbor mentions a problem they have with you, thank them for the input. You don't have to agree or justify any behavior. Wait for any anger to subside before responding.

**Listen carefully.** When discussing a problem, try to understand your neighbor's position and why he or she feels that way.

**Take your time.** Take a break to think about what you and your neighbor have discussed. Arrange to finish the conversation at another time.

Have a great Summer, and say "Hi!" to your neighbors in the Harbour – **Cape Management**



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## Colington Volunteer Fire Department

Life Line Screening  
Preventive Health Event -  
July 28, 2014



Colington Volunteer Fire Department is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on 7/28/2014. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners).

## Community Watch Crime Report

- 100 block Sir Chandler Drive - Loud party
- 300 block Sir Chandler Drive - Noise disturbance and loud car
- 400 block Harbour View Drive - Fireworks
- 1100 block Harbour View Drive - Larceny of money
- Broadbay Drive - Large loud party
- 100 block Eagle Drive - Careless and reckless white pickup truck
- 200 block Eagle Drive - Loud music
- 200 block Sandpiper Drive - Barking dog
- 400 block Colington Drive - Noise Disturbance, barking dog
- Colington Marina - Suspicious vehicle, checked out OK
- A used syringe was found at the billboard by the gate.

***These are very dangerous! Please report any syringe seen in open public areas***

This is the time of year for loud music, parties and fireworks! Lock your cars and houses. CALL the Dare County Sheriff's Office to investigate suspicious activity. (252) 473 3444, or 911 IF AN EMERGENCY!

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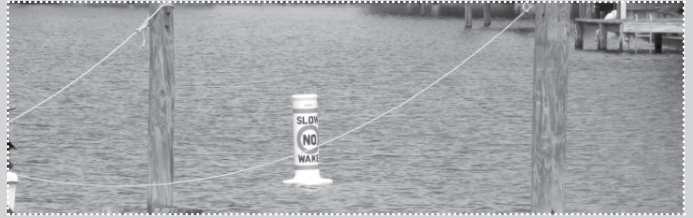
Colington Harbour is a unique community with canals that allow water access to the Albemarle Sound. Our residents use the canals for boating, swimming, fishing and crabbing. Our canals are a valuable asset and need to be cared for and kept clean.

There are occasional reports of people abusing the canals by putting yard clippings, brush, fish carcasses and believe it or not, dog waste in the canals. Please help maintain the water quality of our canals by using them for their intended use and not for a convenient dumping spot. Everyone in the community can help by informing others of the importance of keeping the canals clean and usable



If you observe someone misusing the canals let them know how important it is to maintain our water quality and let the Association know of anyone dumping anything into the canals. Everyone can help make a difference so that everyone may enjoy the water amenities of our community. *Thank you!*

## No Wake Zone



Colington Harbour resident, Dave Hope, and volunteers have donated and installed a couple of no wake buoys in a few of the canals. We would like to remind everyone Colington Harbour's canals are all no wake zones.

## June Garden of the Month!

Please visit our web site [www.ColingtonHarbour.net](http://www.ColingtonHarbour.net) to read this article in it's entirety by Beth Knight Brown. Congratulations to **Ann Williams** of 242 Roanoke Drive on her fantastic garden!



Photo: Sue Colter

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## Colington Fire Department

### Play it Safe with Flammables

It looks as though Mother Nature has finally relinquished her hold and will be letting some of that nice weather come our way. As temperatures begin to rise and our lawns and gardens once again need attention, countless gardeners will begin hauling out their lawnmowers and rototillers. To ensure that this summer's yard chores will be free of accidents, a few timely precautions should be observed.

**Equipment Safety** Be cautious when fueling and using power mowers. Never refuel garden tractors, lawnmowers, rototillers, etc. while the motor is running. Always fill gas-powered equipment outside, never inside the garage, and never in the presence of a source of ignition such as open flame, a lit cigarette, etc. Remember that gasoline and petroleum product vapors are heavier than air and will seek lower levels.

**General Rules** Never store flammable liquids such as lawnmower fuel, Coleman fuel, charcoal lighter fluids, etc. in glass or breakable containers. If plastic containers are used, make sure they are approved for the storage of flammable liquids. Otherwise, use metal flammable liquid containers, preferably safety cans. Storing flammable liquids within the residence (including the garage) is not recommended. If, however, it is necessary, it should be limited to the garage only, and should be limited in quantities not to exceed those necessary for normal use (lawnmowers, etc.)

**Open Burning** The laws covering open burning are very strict. Permits are required for all open burning, even in barrels, and can be obtained by calling the Colington Fire Station at 441-6234. A site visit may be required to ensure proper safety precautions are taken. Burning must take place between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Currently, only limbs (less than 6 inches in diameter), yard clippings and small piles of brush may be burned. No construction debris, lumber or household trash may be burned. A small camp fire or burn barrel is allowed for social gatherings and similar purposes but may require a permit. Those types of fires may not be subject to the time restrictions. The permit issuer will let you know at the time the permit is written. All fires must be attended until completely out. Also, be a good neighbor and try to pick days when the wind helps keep smoke away from others. All open burning may be denied or permits revoked due to weather conditions. Open burning regulations may not apply when the container is designed for burning or cooking and has a chimney or smoke stack.

**If An Emergency Occurs** Dial 9-1-1 to report all emergencies. Be sure to give as much information as possible so the call taker can send the correct type of help. Never hang up until you are told to do so by the call taker. Is your address clearly marked? Having large, contrasting numbers on your home and at the street may make a difference in getting help promptly. Perhaps you have noticed your neighbors have a reflective address sign on their mailbox. Your fire department offers these signs for only

A native of Richmond, Virginia, Jennifer and her husband, Jay Sylvia, relocated in the late 80's to enjoy the Outer Banks lifestyle. They have been Colington Harbour residents for 15 years and enjoy boating, fishing, water sports and watching the sunsets with their two sons.

Jennifer has over 25 years of experience in marketing, advertising and real estate. She likes the gratification she gets when helping her clients achieve their real estate goals.

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**And Finally** The Colington Fire Department would like to say Thank You to everyone that made our 2014 Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner a huge success. Over 230 people enjoyed the meal prepared by the fire department Support Group. Money collected during all of our fund raisers goes toward purchasing new equipment and station upgrades and repairs. Also, we're on the web! Check us out at [www.colingtonfd.com](http://www.colingtonfd.com).

Also, congratulations to **Firefighter of the Year Mike Allison** and **Volunteer of the Year Frank Hendricks!** Both men were recognized at the department's annual awards banquet in March.

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