



TOWN NOTES

The Newsletter of the Town of Kiawah Island

Town of Kiawah Island • 21 Beachwalker Drive Kiawah Island, SC 29455 • 843-768-9166 • www.kiawahisland.org

KIAWAH MUNICIPAL CENTER PROJECT

UPDATE

On May 21st presentations from Liolio Architecture, LS3P and McMillian/Pazdan/Smith Architecture were made to the Municipal Center Committee in a public meeting. The presentations provided concepts of how a new municipal center could look and function. These presentations were part of the RFP process that the Town initiated in March.

After discussion and comments from both the committee and community members in attendance, the Municipal Center Committee recommended selecting the firm LS3P. The recommendation was discussed at the May 25th Ways and Means Committee meeting and presented and approved by Town Council on Tuesday, June 2nd and was approved.

The Municipal Center Committee will begin discussions on contractual agreements and the scope of work with LS3P. The Municipal Center Committee is finalizing the meeting schedule through the end of the year. Once it is confirmed it will be published on the Town website. All meetings will be open to the public.

The Town has photographed the site with a focus on the grand oak. The new Municipal Center Project logo is the silhouette of our grand oak and this logo will accompany the project throughout its completion. In the future, once we have moved into the design phase the Town will create a brochure for the community with conceptual drawings and building specifics.



ABOUT THE ARCHITECT

Founded in 1963, LS3P was named Southeast Design Firm of the Year for 2014 by Engineering News Record (ENR). A design firm with regional roots and a national reach, LS3P operates from its 6 offices in Charleston, Columbia, Greenville and Charlotte, Raleigh and Wilmington, NC, providing architecture, interior architecture, and planning services.

LS3P received 6 First Place Design Awards at the 2015 ASID Carolinas Design Excellence Awards Gala. Award-winning projects included Greystar's corporate headquarters, Le Creuset's boutique retail store, and The Vendue art hotel in Charleston, SC; MeadWestvaco's corporate office suite in Summerville; Center for Advanced Studies at Wando in Mount Pleasant; and Trident Technical College's Nursing and Science Building in North Charleston.

BACKGROUND:

Faced with a growing community, increased services and limited office space and parking, Town Council investigated municipal center expansion options. After trying to work within the confines of the existing building and parking lot, it was determined that on-site building modifications would be limited and would exacerbate the parking problem. Council then began a search for property both on and off island and resources on Kiawah proved to be too expensive.

Council identified a large parcel on Betsy Kerrison Parkway. It proved to be a viable option and solution both economically and in location. The Town goal is to have the new municipal center completed and ready for occupancy by the end of 2016.

For more detailed information on the project visit www.kiawahisland.org | popular links | municipal center project.



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Photo: Shauneen Hutchinson, Kiawah Island Photography Club

Town Office Closings

Friday, July 3rd - Independence Day

Monday, September 7th- Labor Day

Town Notices

The annual invoices for solid waste collection will be mailed in mid-July. If you have questions regarding your bill, please contact Kathryn McLerren at 843-768-5109.

For missed garbage pick-up, call Kathy Evans at 843-768-9166

Solid Waste Change Notices:

July

No change in service

August

No change in service

September

Brown Trash/Hazardous Waste-Friday, September 4th.

Labor Day Service Change: Monday's trash will be collected on Tuesday, September 8th. All other days will be moved forward to the next day.

Twice per week collection service ends after September 11th.

Biweekly E-Blasts

To be added to the Towns e-blast list email your name and preferred email address to kevans@kiawahisland.org

2015 Disaster Awareness Day



On June 11, the Town of Kiawah and Seabrook Island held the 18th Annual Disaster Awareness Day at the

Seabrook Island Club. It was the first year this event was held on Seabrook.

Disaster Awareness Day presentations were excellent sources of information. Among them were Cathy Haynes, Chief of Operations at Charleston County Emergency Management Department, St. Johns Fire Department, The Salvation Army, and Dr. Steven Jaume from College of Charleston Department Of Geology and Environmental Geosciences.

Vendors such as Berkeley Electric, Charleston County Project Impact, Coastal Applied Systems, Kiawah Island Utility, Phillips and Jordan, SC Highway Patrol, SC Light- ing Protection, SC Dept. of Health & Environmental Control and Transworld Electric were also in attendance.

MAYOR'S CORNER –

Charles R. Lipuma

To say the last two months have been unprecedented might be an understatement. In April Tumiko Rucker, our Town Administrator submitted her resignation. A month later, Ken Gunnells, our Town Treasurer, submitted his resignation. Currently we have a search firm, The Mercer Group from Atlanta, undertaking a search for replacements.

Further, in May, an allegation was made to Town Council by one or more employees of improper financial transactions in violation of the Town's policies. An independent accounting firm, Dixon Hughes Goodman Forensics, is conducting an investigation of any improprieties.

Once complete the findings will be reviewed by Town Council. Should any improper actions be substantiated, the Town will take appropriate action and communicate to the public both findings and actions taken or to be taken. The next communication regarding the investigation will be distributed via e-blast and will be available in the Quarter 4 Town Notes.

On a happier note the East End Beach Restoration Project has been successfully completed on time and on budget. All should feel



free to drive or bicycle down to the Ocean Course Club House and walk the restored beach. It is an incredible vista.

The Municipal Project is also moving ahead nicely. After reviewing renderings from three architectural firms, LS3P was selected. Following executing a contract with LS3P, the Municipal Center Committee (MCC) will be off and running. The public is encouraged to attend the MCC meetings and comment.

2015 HURRICANE SEASON

The Town of Kiawah Island would like to remind residents that the hurricane season began June 1 and continues through Nov. 30. Planning ahead can reduce the chances of injury or major property damage.

The Town has prepared updated 2015 Disaster Preparedness Packets that are available at Town Hall. They contain Hurricane and Earthquake guides, Flooding information, Animal Friendly Hotel Lists, Emergency Numbers magnet and more. Stop by and get yours today!

If you are not signed up for CodeRED please sign up by going to www.kiawahisland.org | Disaster Awareness | CodeRED.

CodeRED is a high-speed web-based emergency and mass notification system used by the Town in emergency and evacuation situations.

EVACUATION ZONES: **Kiawah/Seabrook Island is ZONE A**

If, and when, a mandatory evacuation is issued, local authorities will announce evacuations for the county by predesignated zones.

EVACUATION ROUTE:

Evacuees from Kiawah/Seabrook Islands will take Road S-20 (Bohicket/Main Rd.) to US 17. Then take US 17 south to SC 64 to Walterboro, then to North Augusta.



TRAFFIC CONCERNS

Everything about summer on Kiawah is great - well, maybe not the traffic. Increasing development activity and a growing reputation as a terrific tourist destination has brought more vehicular and pedestrian traffic to the island. Residents have expressed concerns about excessive speed. Another seasonal concern are pedestrians and bikers who often times stray off the leisure trails and paths. Residents please remind your family and guests of the designated paths and to stop before crossing intersections

Reducing speeds on our roads is a main concern of the Town's Public Safety Committee. Responding to residents' concerns, the Public Safety Committee recently devoted part of their meeting to hear from Town, KICA and County public safety personnel about the changes they are seeing and the actions they are taking.

The Town and KICA have different responsibilities for managing our roads and controlling traffic speeds, but work closely together to coordinate their efforts. Behind the main gate, KICA is solely responsible for road design, pedestrian paths and speed limits. Over the past couple years, KICA has reduced speed limits on a number of streets. KICA also maintains and manages the primary bike paths and evaluates their design and signage continually to increase their safety and keep pedestrians and bikes away from traffic. In areas where construction activity is particularly high, KICA has established parking restrictions to keep roads from being congested with a mix of vehicles and pedestrians.

The Town has primary responsibility for enforcing speed limits on all of Kiawah's roads. The Town provides full time sheriff deputy coverage on the island with the aim of having two officers on the island and two at Freshfields at all hours of the day. The Town is working continually with its deputies to stress the importance of enforcing speed limits and deputies are writing more citations as a result.

KICA Traffic Studies 2014 to 2015

15%↑ cars through the main gate
 10%↑ cars through the Vanderhorst gate
 20%↑ Trucks /Commercial traffic
 2%↑ projected annual increase

When the Town gets calls from residents they will direct the deputies to concentrate their presence at those problem areas. If a resident is experiencing a chronic speeding problem on their street or neighborhood, call Rusty Lameo at 843-768-5111.

Despite all of these efforts, traffic will continue to be a concern. Residents account for a significant share of the traffic warnings and fines that our deputies write so everyone needs slow down and do their part.

KIAWAH'S DISASTER PLAN

In 2013 the Town of Kiawah Island began a project to develop a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to enable the Town to respond effectively to any future disaster or emergency. Through a series of thirty meetings that included discussions with fourteen agencies, contractors, and organizations within the Town, the planning process has been comprehensive in soliciting input and participation from all entities that have a stake in the Town's plan. The resulting Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan guides the Town in coordinating response and recovery efforts with these various entities. This plan addresses the many threats that could impact our community, including:

- FIRES • TORNADOES • LIGHTNING • HURRICANES
- FLOODS • EARTHQUAKES • TSUNAMIS • TERRORISM

One of the main focuses of the plan is the coordination of emergency response and recovery activities between the Town, KICA, Kiawah Island Golf Resort, Kiawah Partners, Freshfields, St. John's Fire Department, and other entities. Recently the Town has executed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with many of the private entities operating on Kiawah to further delineate roles and responsibilities during emergency or disaster events. The Town has conducted training and exercise activities to practice implementing the plan so that the Town's staff, officials, and other Kiawah entities are ready to implement the plan when needed. Last year the Town conducted three training sessions on the Town's plan. This year the Town has completed one training session with another exercise planned for July.

As the Town plans and prepares for emergencies and disasters, all residents are encouraged to make their personal preparations as well. Effective response and recovery from these events requires preparedness from our entire community. Please refer to the Town's website and the Emergency Preparedness Guide that is available for download on

WWW.KIAWAHISLAND.ORG | DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

EAST END BEACH RESTORATION PROJECT COMPLETED



The eastern end of Kiawah's beach experienced moderate to severe erosion over the last 2 years. The Town of Kiawah Island, in conjunction with Coastal Science and Engineering, developed a project to mitigate this erosion and obtained the necessary State and Federal permits to conduct this work. The project was put out for bid and Lake Moultrie Construction Company/Ashridge Inc. was selected to complete the project at a cost of \$538,000.

The project began on May 18 and was completed on June 11. Work was conducted using land-based equipment, including excavators, bulldozers, and off-road dump trucks. The project went very smoothly and took 20 working days to complete. The existing tidal inlet at the eastern end of the Ocean Course driving range was closed with a sand berm and a new inlet was excavated further to the east. A total of 100,000 cubic yards of sand was excavated from the new inlet and from the nearby intertidal beach. This sand was used to build the sand berm and to renourish erosional sections of beach adjacent to the Ocean Course driving range. These areas will be further renourished naturally, as wave action pushes sand from nearshore shoals into the area. If you missed the informational video sent out by e-blast, you may view it at www.kiawahisland.org | popular links | biweekly email notices.



SEABROOK INLET RELOCATION PROJECT COMPLETED

Seabrook Island's Inlet Relocation Project began on May 18 as was completed in mid-June. The project, funded by the Seabrook POA, relocated Captain Sam's inlet, on the west end of Kiawah, approximately ½ mile to the east of its current location. The existing inlet was closed off by building a 2,250 foot long sand berm. Work was conducted using land-based equipment, including bulldozers, excavators, and off-road trucks.

The new inlet is currently deep and straight, but will quickly assume a more natural shape and orientation. It will also begin migrating to the west toward Seabrook at a rate of approximately 100-200 feet a year. While a considerable amount of foraging and nesting habitat for shorebirds was lost during this project, it will slowly be created as the inlet shifts westward.



Dolphin activity at the inlet appeared to decrease during construction, but will likely increase in the future as the new inlet assumes a more natural orientation. If you missed the informational video sent out by the e-blast, you may view it at www.kiawahisland.org | popular links | biweekly email notices.

SEA TURTLE NESTING SEASON

Sea turtle nesting season officially began on May 1 and Kiawah's volunteer program began their daily nesting patrols on May 11. Turtle patrol volunteers will be on the beach daily until October. As of June 18, there were 124 nests on our beach. Kiawah has averaged 192 nests per season over the last 20 years and this year is shaping up to be an above average year for nesting. Remember:

- All sea turtles are protected by the U.S. Endangered Species Act and it is against the law to harass, handle, or disturb them in any way.
- Never shine lights, take flash photography, or approach nesting females at night. Lights out on the beach during the nesting season (May-October)
- Observe the activities of the Turtle Patrol on the beach, but do not interfere
- Do not pick up or handle any turtle hatchlings



FIRST BOBCAT KITTENS OF 2015



On May 19, Town Biologists Jim Jordan and Aaron Given found the first bobcat kitten of the season in a den near Duneside Villas. The den contained one 10-day old male kitten. He is the offspring of Bobcat 450.

Bobcat 450 was captured on March 3, 2015 near Beachwalker County Park as part of the Town's ongoing Bobcat GPS project. This study, supported by the Kiawah Conservancy, began in 2007 and is the longest continuous GPS project on bobcats in the world. A total of 64 bobcats have been fitted with GPS collars as part of this study.

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT

WWW.WILDLIFEATKIAWAH.COM/BOBCATGPS.HTML.



Bobcat 450

This 2 year old female (15 lbs, 12 oz) was captured near Beachwalker County Park on March 3. She was also collared during 2014 (Bobcat 200) and is the offspring of Bobcat 350 from 2014. She was born in late March 2013 in the dunes near WindsweptVillas.

ALLIGATOR RESEARCH PROJECT

The Town of Kiawah Island has partnered with the Kiawah Conservancy to conduct an alligator research project on Kiawah Island. The budget for the 1st year of the project is \$13,493 and the Town's Environmental Committee contributed \$5,000 to the project, with the Kiawah Conservancy funding the remaining costs.

The project is under the direction of Dr. Louis Guillette, a professor at MUSC and the Hollings Marine Laboratory. The project will take several years to complete and approximately 40-50 alligators will be captured each year. A variety of samples are taken from captured alligators and then the alligators are marked and released. Town Biologists and staff from the KICA Lakes Department are assisting with the field work for this project. 25 alligators have been captured so far.

The project's main objective is to assess the levels and effects of environmental contaminants on Kiawah's alligator population. In addition, genetic samples will be analyzed to look at gene flow between barrier island alligator populations. Dr. Guillette is simultaneously conducting similar research at the Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center (Georgetown, SC), Bear Island WMA (Green Pond, SC), and the Kennedy Space Station (Cape Canaveral, FL). Genetic analyses will also help determine a more accurate estimate of alligator numbers on Kiawah Island.



TOWN OF KIAWAH Arts & CULTURAL EVENTS

The Town of Kiawah Island Arts Council works to enhance community appreciation and involvement in the visual and performing arts within the Town of Kiawah Island and its environs by providing a diversity of planned programs. All events are open to public and complimentary tickets for most events are available at the Visitors Center at Kiawah Island Town Hall and online on a first come first serve basis. Ticket release dates are two weeks prior to the event date. Kiawah Island property owners have a 3 day lead time prior to the public release date except for Cultural Events. For more information on events call 843-768-9166 or email Stephanie Braswell at sbraswell@kiawahisland.org.

July

Look for the 2015-2016 Arts & Cultural Events Season Calendar in August

Piano Bar in the Demonstration Garden in Night Heron Park

Thursday, July 9 @ 6-8pm ~ Gary Pecorella

Thursday, July 16 @ 6-8pm ~ The Lowhills

Thursday, July 23 @ 6-8pm ~ The Joy Project

No Tickets or Registration Required

Join us for these three evening of music at the Naturally Kiawah Demonstration Garden in Night Heron Park. Bring your own seating and libations. Parking will be available near the Garden. Presented by the Kiawah Conservancy in cooperation with the Town of Kiawah Island Arts Council.



Get on Your Feet | Wednesday, July 15, 2015 | 7:30pm

East Beach Conference Center

Tickets Available Now

Long-time Charleston entertainers Brad and Jennifer Moran are producing an all-new summer show, "Get On Your Feet!" featuring the biggest hits of rock, pop and country. This high-energy musical revue stars a professional cast performing their version of hits from Billy Joel, Bruce Springsteen, Elvis Presley, The Beach Boys, Celine Dion, Darius Rucker and many more. Vocalists include Omar Lopez Cepero (soon to be seen in a Broadway show about the life of Gloria Estefan); Michael Minor (featured vocalist and ventriloquist on international cruise lines); Garrett Graham (lead singer in "Lost In the Fifties" with the Platters in Branson, Mo.); Malia Davis (Elphaba in the Universal Studios Production of "Wicked" as well as playing the role of Evita in the national tour of "Evita"); and Tiffany Parker. The cast also includes dancers Tiffany Carpenzano, Shannon Howard, Monica Fabunan, and Jessica Altman. The live band onstage will be led by Eddie Wilson (former musical director for Tony Orlando).

E-TICKETS VIA www.kiawahisland.org/special-events

PRINT YOUR
E-TICKET
WHENEVER, WHEREVER

- Next to each event description, there will be a link "[Click here to print tickets](#)". Enter your name and email address. To add a guest you will enter your guests name by clicking "[Add Guest.](#)" Finish by clicking the "[Register](#)" button. Each registrant is allowed two tickets unless the event is at Holy Spirit Catholic Church where you may have four tickets.
- Upon completing your registration, the system will show a pop up screen that will display your tickets to print. If you have pop up blocker on your computer you will need to disable that function to allow the ticket screen to generate. In addition, a confirmation email is sent that will contain a link where you can reprint your tickets in the event you misplace them or if you did not receive the pop up ticket screen.
- If you accidentally delete or do not receive your email confirmation, please call Stephanie or Jan at 843-768-9166 as we have the ability to resend ticket links. The Arts and Cultural Events programs are becoming increasingly popular each year so make sure you have a season planner and take notice of ticket release dates. As always, please call Jan at 843-768-9166 if you are unable to attend an event you have tickets for. Those on the waiting list will be notified as tickets become available.



FRESHFIELDS VILLAGE

For more information call 843.768.6491 or visit
www.freshfieldsvillage.com/events



FARMER'S MARKET

Mondays through August
31 (4:00 to 8:00 pm)

Pick from the freshest produce and local crafts all summer long at the weekly Farmer's Market. The market features local certified organic produce, fresh local seafood, packaged and prepared food including jams, jellies, pecans, olive oils, sweets, handmade pasta, and more. Expect to see many Lowcountry crafts including Sweetgrass Baskets.



MUSIC ON THE GREEN

Fridays through September 4 (6:00 to 9:00 pm)

Enjoy the sweet sounds of summer during the Music on the Green Concert Series. This free, family friendly outdoor concert series takes place every Friday evening and features top acts from around the Southeast of all genres. Food and beverages are available from local vendors or guests can bring their own picnics.

July 3 – Swingin' Richards
July 10 – Three Sheets Island Band
July 17 – Chris Crosby Band
July 24 – Groove Train
July 31 – Louie D. Project
August 7 – Coconut Groove Band
August 14 – Travis Allison Band
August 21 – Shem Creek Boogie Band
August 28 – Shrimp City Slim
September 4 – Palmetto Soul



STARLIGHT CINEMA

Wednesdays through September 2 (8:30 pm)

Experience the silver screen under a moonlit South Carolina sky during the Starlight Cinema Series. Guests can bring a blanket, chair, and picnic and enjoy a free family outdoor movie including hot new releases and their favorite classics.

July 1 – Dolphin Tale 2
July 8 – Earth to Echo
July 15 – Boxtrolls
July 22 – Planes – Fire & Rescue
July 29 – Jungle Book
August 5 – Paddington
August 12 – Into the Woods
August 19 – Cinderella (2015)
August 26 – Strange Magic
September 2 – Jurassic Park



CARS & COFFEE

July 18 (9:00 – 11:00 am)
August 15 (9:00 – 11:00 am)
September 19 (9:00 – 11:00 am)

Calling all car enthusiasts! Arrive in your favorite ride and join us for Cars and Coffee at Freshfields Village. The free event will feature antiques, classics, exotics, concepts and any other cool cars. Coffee and other refreshments available for purchase by Java Java Coffee House.