

Arts Council

Art Film on Georgia O'Keeffe

Friday, January 7th @ 3:00pm at Town Hall Council Chambers

Ticket Release: Property Owners 12/15 ; Public 12/20

Among the great American artists of the 20th-century, Georgia O'Keeffe stands as one of the most compelling. For nearly a century, O'Keeffe's representations of the beauty of the American landscape were a brave counterpoint to the chaotic images embraced by the art world. Her cityscapes and still lifes filled the canvas with wild energy that gained her a following among the critics as well as the public. Though she has many imitators, none has been able to paint with such intimacy and stark precision. Joan Allen stars as 20th-century painter Georgia O'Keeffe in this Golden Globe- and Emmy-nominated film that follows the artist's tempestuous relationship with Alfred Stieglitz (Jeremy Irons), a New York photographer and art promoter. From 1923 until his death in 1946, Stieglitz worked to promote O'Keeffe and her work. Three years after Stieglitz's death, O'Keeffe moved from New York to her beloved New Mexico, whose stunning vistas and stark landscape configurations had inspired her work since 1929. Feel free to bring your beverage of choice.



Copland House Chamber Music



Tuesday, January 11th @ 7:30pm at Church of Our Saviour

Ticket Release: Property Owners 12/15 ; Public 12/20

World renowned recording pianist and Copland House Executive and Artistic Director Michael Boriskin leads a trio of Copland House musicians as they play the music of Aaron Copland and his American contemporaries. Music from Copland House (MCH) is the acclaimed resident ensemble at Aaron Copland's landmark, longtime New York home, now restored as a unique creative center for American music. MCH has been engaged by some of America's foremost concert venues, including Carnegie Hall and the Library of Congress. The ensemble has recorded the first complete cycle of Copland's chamber music for Arabesque and two releases of Currier and Musto's chamber music for Koch International Classics.

Twin Spirits Film on Robert Schumann

Thursday, January 13th @ 7:30 pm @ Town Hall Council Chambers

Ticket Release: Property Owners 12/27 ; Public 12/30

This innovative theatrical event celebrates the love between 19th-century composer Robert Schumann and his wife, pianist Clara Wieck. Noted musicians and singers perform Schumann's romantic works. Sting, an English musician and singer-songwriter, joined by his wife, Trudie Styler, alternate reading Schumann's and Wieck's love letters. Thespian Derek Jacobi narrates the couple's love story, linking together the letters and lyrics to complete the essential outline of the story. Feel free to bring your beverage of choice.



Planet D Nonet Big Band



Friday, February 4th @ 7:30 pm @ Seabrook Clubhouse

Ticket Release: Property Owners 1/18 ; Public 1/21

Planet D Nonet, "The Little Big Band" from Detroit, blends classic big-band swing, jump blues, and even snippets of avant-garde jazz to make an intoxicating sound uniquely their own. A typical Planet D Nonet performance involves very early jazz from Louis Armstrong or the 1930s classic swing of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Fletcher Henderson, and Benny Carter. Master drummer R.J. Spangler leads the band comprised of some of the best musicians from the Motor City. The Planet D Nonet band can play a swing dance or a concert performance. Whatever they do, they always have a wonderful Detroit twist. The Band is about swing, blues, space-age jazz and classic American songs all served with plenty of good humor with an eye toward turning people onto this music. This event is part of their first ever Southern tour. So get ready to put on your dancing shoes or just sit back and delight in this highly entertaining ensemble.



TOWN NOTES

Town of Kiawah Island Municipal Election 2010

(From Left to right)
Greg Vanderwerker,
Councilmember;
Alan Burnaford,
Councilmember;
Fran Wermuth,
Councilmember;
G. Steven Orban, Mayor;
Charles R. Lipuma,
Councilmember.



Mayor G. Steven Orban and wife, Ginny Orban

Town Election

The Town of Kiawah Island held its biennial municipal election on December 7, 2010. G. Steven Orban was elected Mayor as a write-in candidate with 308 votes. Of the five candidates for four Town Council positions, the following were elected: Charles R. Lipuma (incumbent), Fran Wermuth, Greg VanDerwerker, and Alan Burnaford (incumbent). The Mayor and Council will serve from December 2010 to December 2012.

Although only approximately 37% of the Town's 1408 registered electors voted either in person or by absentee ballot, it appears that this was the highest voter turnout in Kiawah's history of municipal elections.

The Town extends its appreciation to all those who voted on election day, and special thanks to the Municipal Election Commission, the poll workers, representatives of the Charleston County Board of Elections and Voter Registration, and the employees of St. Johns Fire District Fire Station #4 on Sora Rail Road (where the election was held).

The Mayor and Town Council Members serve without compensation. For certified election results go to www.kiawahisland.org. The Town of Kiawah Island was issued its certificate of incorporation under the Mayor-Council form of government on September 13, 1988.

Mayor's Message:

I am humbled and gratified by the faith in me evidenced by the election on December 7th. I pledge to do the best I can to build genuine trust and respect among the leaders of the various entities active on this Island and between Kiawah and the larger community. I believe my eight years of experience as a council member will serve me well as Mayor. I want to hear from the community about their concerns and then, along with the Council, make the best possible decisions based on facts, sound analysis, and with adequate time and opportunity to consider all relevant issues and viewpoints.

We must work closely with KICA as we jointly govern the Island. We also need to work with Kiawah Development Partners and Kiawah Island Golf Resort so that they may be successful in their recreational, development and resort businesses. I look forward to working with the new Town Council as well as the Town's excellent professional staff, our wonderful volunteers, and the larger Johns Island community.

And now a word about Bill Wert: I have served on the Council with Bill for the past eight years, and consider him a friend. I want to commend him for the energy and commitment he has shown and for his leadership on so many issues of interest to Kiawah. He and I have not always agreed, but I have great respect for his service to the Town. I wish him and former councilman Harry McHugh the best.

Best wishes for a happy and successful 2011.

Steve Orban, Mayor

Town Notices

Town Hall Closed – January 3 Observation of New Years
Environmental Meeting, TBD
Town Council Meeting, January 4 at 2:00 pm
Planning Commission Meeting, January 5 at 3:00 pm
Arts Council Meeting, January 6 at 3:00 pm

Town Hall Closed - January 17th Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Board of Zoning and Appeals - January 24 at 4:00 pm
Public Safety Meeting, January 18 at 3:00 pm
Ad Hoc Recycling Meeting, January 21 at 1:00 pm
Ways & Means Meeting, January 25 at 9:00 am

Meeting Highlights

Town Assistant Wildlife Biologist

After discussion about the concern over retaining the Town's Assistant Wildlife Biologist. After a motion and second to retain the Town's second Biologist. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Second Reading Ordinance 2010-6 Outdoor Grilling Ordinance Council unanimously approved the second reading of this ordinance which amends Article 15, Section 15-105 of the Town's Municipal Code prohibiting outdoor cooking on or near multi-family structures except ones built after January 1, 2007 which meets specific fire and building codes. See www.kiawahisland.org to read the entire ordinance.

Second Reading Ordinance 2010-10

Comprehensive Plan Council unanimously approved the second reading of this ordinance which amends Article 12, Zoning, of the Town's Municipal Code by updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan as required by law. See www.kiawahisland.org to read entire ordinance.

New Business:

Resolution 2010-2

Council unanimously approved this resolution, which expresses the Town's support for the I-526 Extension "along any route with an interchange on Johns Island determined most reasonable" by Charleston County and the State Department of Transportation, "recognizing that the I-526 Extension does not replace but supplements the need for a cross-island limited access road on Johns Island." Councilman Burnaford noted that the Town of Seabrook Island had recently passed a similar resolution. See www.kiawahisland.org to read entire ordinance.

Tidal Trails Agreement

Tidal Trails submitted a request to continue their franchise agreement with the Town. This request was reviewed by the Ways and Means Committee and their recommendation is to continue the franchise for one year. After a motion and second, the recommendation was approved unanimously.

Island Beach Services – Beach Franchise Renewal

Mayor Wert stated that the Beach Services Franchise Agreement expires December 31, 2010 and Island Beach Services has submitted a request to continue their franchise agreement with the Town; however, another party has requested to bid on the Beach Franchise Agreement. The Ways and Means Committee recommended that the Town seek competitive bids for the non-exclusive Beach Franchise Agreement. Mayor Wert made a motion that the Town accept competitive bids for the non-exclusive Beach Franchise Agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Burnaford. The motion failed with a 1-4 vote. After extensive discussion,

and clarification by the Town attorney, it was motioned and seconded to renew the franchise agreement with Island Beach services with the same terms and franchise fee of \$50,000 or 8.5% of gross income. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote.

Coastal Hydro Power Contract Renewal

The Town has an agreement with Coastal Hydropower for the cleaning of the exterior building and windows which expires December 31st. The Ways and Means Committee recommends the renewal of the Coastal Hydropower Agreement. After a motion and second; Council approved extension of the agreement for one year without an increase.

Committee Reports:

Arts Council

Mr. Lipuma commented on the recent Holiday Strings Concert hosted by the Arts Council, and noted that there were over 900 in attendance. He also announced that "The Gift of the Magi" will be presented on December 12th. The Seabrook Island Club Board has reviewed the Arts Council's request and agreed allow the use of the ballroom at no cost. He commented that this is a great opportunity to expand the field of venues.

Public Safety

Mr. Orban announced a small project being completed at the base of the bridge on Kiawah Island Parkway to protect the river bank from erosion. Three Oaks will complete the work under a \$50,000 contract, which includes installing gabions and adding fill and plantings on the slope.

Environmental Committee

Mr. McHugh commented that Kiawah is recognized as an "environmental gem" along the Sea Islands on the East Coast; it has achieved this reputation through the combined efforts of the Town, KICA, the Conservancy and the Resort. Mr. McHugh stated that the Town also has the opportunity to complete a reptile study in conjunction with the College of Charleston.

Johns Island Roads

Mr. Burnaford thanked Paul Roberts, the Town's roads consultant for what he has done. He said that, in his opinion, the issue of a greenway across Johns Island is not a dead one, stating the majority of people on Kiawah and Seabrook are in favor of such a road. He added that Johns Islanders demonstrated their support in a 60-40 vote

Town Administrator's Report:

The Planning Commission asked that the Town Administrator provide updates of the goals and objectives outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. Mrs. Rucker will produce a Comprehensive Plan report card. Mrs. Rucker stated that the Town received a recommendation from the County Department of Parks & Recreation

Commission for the Town's Greenbelt Project. A Council Retreat has been scheduled for January 2011.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Wert stated that the Council Retreat is held every two years after an election to give the new Council an opportunity to set policy, discuss strategic issues, start the budget process, and give the staff direction on major budget issues if there should be any. He asked that everyone remember Pearl Harbor Day and Election Day for the Town of Kiawah, and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Council Member Comments:

Each Council Member wished residents a Happy Holiday Season.

Personnel Matters

Council motioned and seconded to approve the 2011 salaries as presented and discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.

Conservancy Presentation



As a supporter of the Conservancy's mission, the Town of Kiawah Island unanimously approved a \$100,000 contribution to the Conservancy at its November 2nd meeting. These funds were granted for the use of operations and buying debt that creates more cash flow to allow the Conservancy to expand its efforts. Mr. Wert presented a check for \$100,000 to the Kiawah Island Natural Habitat Conservancy and the check was accepted by Executive Director, Donna Wyndam. The Town has worked with the Conservancy over the years on a number of projects including partnership on the Bobcat GPS study. The study is in its 5th year and has been very successful.

New Homes Under Review by the ARB

165 Kiawah Island Club
27 Ocean Course

The above homesites have been presented to the ARB for conceptual review, the first of three reviews by the ARB prior to approval. Call 843-768-3419 for more information.

Get Involved! - Call for Committee Volunteers

The Town of Kiawah Island has the following committees: Arts Council, Board of Zoning Appeals, Environmental Committee, Municipal Election Commission, Planning Commission, Public Safety Committee, Town Council, SATAX Committee and Ways and Means Committee. All Town committees are comprised of gracious volunteers and their dedication and hard work is greatly appreciated. If you are interested in joining or learning more about any of the Town Committees, please contact Lakesha Shannon at 843-768-9166. (The Town will contact you to discuss availability of committee assignments and availability.)

Arts Council: The Arts Council is responsible for working 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. They work to develop relationships with arts organizations, plan; implement an arts calendar and inform the community of planned events.

BZA: The BZA has three main purposes: 1) To hear and decide zoning appeals when it is alleged by the appellant that an administrative official has made an error (Administrative Review); 2) To hear and decide applications for variance from the requirements of zoning regulations (Variances); and 3) To permit uses by special exception, subject to the terms and conditions for those uses as identified in the zoning regulations (Special Exceptions). Members serve a three year term.

Environmental Committee: The Environmental Committee's primary objectives are to study and report on environmental issues such as alligator/fauna control, monitor health and population of birds and animals (bobcat, deer, fox, raccoon), make recommendations to Town Council on ways to improve the quality of environmental services and the cost effectiveness of such services.

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission's primary objectives are to approve plats and make recommendations to the Town Council on planned development, zoning district and map amendments, zoning text amendments, and comprehensive plan updates. Members serve a four year term.

Public Safety Committee: The Public Safety Committee meets quarterly and is responsible for assisting the Town in meeting its state-mandated responsibilities with regard to maintaining order and law enforcement and to initiate and consider proposals and methods to upgrade and improve public safety on the Island and to manage our beach safety.

State Accommodations Tax Committee (SATAX): The Accommodations Tax Committee meets annually to consider SATAX applications and make recommendations to the Ways and Means Committee on how the Town's tourism-related funding should be allocated during the following budget year.

All committee meetings are open to the public. The committee descriptions and schedules are available online except for SATAX at www.kiawahisland.org.

Wildlife Update

2011 Bobcat GPS Study

The 5th year of the Kiawah Island Bobcat GPS Study being conducted by the Town of Kiawah Island (TOKI), in partnership with the Kiawah Conservancy, is underway. The first bobcat of the season was collared on the River Course on December 8. 7 more bobcats will be captured during the coming months and fitted with GPS collars. Each collar will collect thousands of GPS locations over the next 2 years. Visit www.wildlifeatkiawah.com for updates on our trapping success and to view data from our collared bobcats. Bobcats play a major role in regulating the deer population on Kiawah. They also act as an excellent "umbrella species" (protection of bobcats and their habitat also benefits many other species). A healthy bobcat population is necessary to maintain the current ecological balance on Kiawah Island. Information from this study will help researchers determine detailed bobcat habitat usage patterns, their response to development, and continue to aid in habitat conservation efforts on Kiawah Island.



Bird Banding

Town Biologists recently completed our second fall migration bird banding season. A total of 27 banding sessions were conducted at the Captain Sams banding station between August and November. We had a very good season with 910 birds banded and 157 recaptures of birds previously banded. A total of 54 different species of birds were caught in our nets this fall. Yellow-rumped warblers (238), Common Yellowthroats (194), Gray Catbirds (110), Painted Buntings (52), Prairie Warblers (37), and American Redstarts (37) were the top 6 species captured. Eleven of our recaptures were migratory birds that were banded either last fall or winter. These birds breed in the northern regions of North America and migrate through or winter on Kiawah. The fact that these birds returned is a good indicator of the high-quality habitat present on this portion of the island. For more detailed information on the bird banding program, please visit www.wildlifeatkiawah.com.

