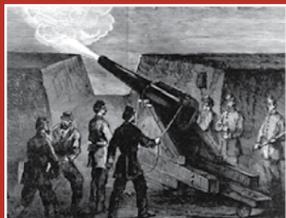


THE Seabrooker

VOL 23 • ISSUE 2 • FEBRUARY, 2020

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BUSINESS TAX REFORM ACT CAUSE FOR CONCERN could dramatically affect town's revenue



FROM TOWN HALL

Joe Cronin

The month of January is typically the busiest time of the year at Seabrook Island Town Hall. Each year, the town issues more than 1,800 business licenses, the majority of which are processed during the annual renewal period in January.

Every person or entity engaged in – or intending to engage in – any calling, business, occupation or profession, in whole or in part within the town limits of Seabrook Island is required to obtain an annual business license and pay an annual fee for the privilege of doing business within the town. A “business” is defined in the town’s Code of Ordinances as any “calling, occupation, profession or activity engaged in with the object of gain, benefit or advantage, either directly or indirectly.”

A license is required for all new businesses (including home occupations, short-term and long-term rental properties and non-resident contractors) prior to operating in the Town of Seabrook Island. A new or updated license is also required when there is a change to an existing business’s ownership or principal place of business.

The annual business license fee is based upon a business’s rate classification (Classes 1 through 8) as well as its gross income from the previous

year. Estimated income is acceptable for new businesses and contractors; provided, however, a license must be updated if actual income exceeds the initial amount upon which the license was based.

The town’s business license year runs from January 1st through December 31st. Renewal notices are mailed to all existing businesses in December of each year. Licenses are considered “late” if not obtained or renewed by February 1st and the business may be subject to a late penalty of five percent (5%) per month, which is in addition to the license fee due. Businesses found guilty of operating without a required license are subject to fines of up to \$500.00 per day for each day the violation occurs.

Funds received from business licenses represent the single largest revenue source for the town. In Fiscal Year 2020, business licenses are expected to generate \$650,000 in total revenue, accounting for 49% of the town’s general fund operating budget. As a result of this stable and predictable revenue source, the town has been able to operate without a property tax millage on residents and property owners since its incorporation in 1987.

Given the importance of business license revenues to the town’s overall financial position, the Town of Seabrook Island is closely following pending South Carolina House Bill H. 4431, also known as the “South Carolina Business License Tax Reform Act.” This bill poses a significant threat to business license collections by municipal and county governments across the

state. If the bill is adopted, the Town of Seabrook Island will be forced to make up for lost business license revenue by increasing taxes and fees on residents, imposing draconian cuts to existing levels of public services, or some combination of the two.

Because the town does not currently levy a property tax, the state’s “millage cap” (SC Code Sec. 6-1-320) currently prohibits the town from imposing a property tax millage to make up for revenue which may be lost as a result of H. 4431. The result will be a dramatic reduction to both the quantity and quality of public services provided by the town to its residents. Specifically, H. 4431 will hinder the town’s ability to invest in infrastructure improvements necessary to improve the town’s resiliency in the face of frequent flooding, king tides, rising sea levels and natural disasters, all of which are critically important for a barrier island community such as ours. These improvements are critical to protecting the life and property of our residents.

In its current form, H. 4431 will effectively pass a significant portion of the local tax burden from businesses – particularly large, out-of-state businesses – to smaller, locally owned businesses, as well as individual residents and property owners. Additionally, H. 4431 will give control of business license classification schedules and a to-be-developed business license “tax portal” to the South Carolina Secretary of State’s Office. The imposition of a state agency into a decidedly local matter will erode our ability to manage our local needs and respond to customers

in a timely and consistent manner.

For these reasons, Mayor John Gregg and members of Seabrook Island Town Council sent a letter to Governor Henry McMaster and members of the South Carolina General Assembly on December 16, 2019, expressing the town’s opposition to H. 4431.

The Mayor and Council understand the concerns which have brought about H. 4431, and the town is committed to working with our fellow cities, the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) and the business community to identify workable solutions that are in the best interest of all parties. In the meantime, Mayor Gregg has tasked Councilmembers Jeri Finke and Barry Goldstein with reviewing the town’s existing business license ordinance to bring it closer in line with the MASC “model ordinance,” to ensure our rates are competitive with neighboring jurisdiction, and to maximize the fairness and efficiency of the town’s licensing process.

If you have any questions about the town’s business license ordinance, or if you need assistance obtaining or renewing a license, please do not hesitate to contact Town Hall at (843) 768-9121. (See SCHB H4431 - page 2) ▲

Annual Meetings February 15

The Seabrook Island Club and SIPOA Annual Meetings will be held February 15 at the SIC’s Atlantic Room. The Club’s meeting will be from 9:00-10:00 am. The SIPOA meeting will begin at 10:30 am.

“The Mike Gorski and Friends 2020 Challenge” for the Backpack Buddies

HE’S BACK ONCE AGAIN and this year he has brought back most of his clients, friends, and fellow business owners to smash last year’s goal of raising \$40,000. This year’s goal is going to be a challenging \$50,000...yes, that’s right, \$50,000 for this great and worthy cause.

Mike Gorski, owner of Island Transportation Services, launched this project 4 years ago to help raise additional funds at the Backpack Buddies Chili Cook-off. Each succeeding year has proven to be more successful in raising funds for this worthy cause. Backpack Buddies serves so many local children in need. He is back once again with his friends from last year. To achieve this lofty goal of \$50,000, Mike needs to secure only 4 more new friends (sponsorships) at \$1,000. His plan is to secure 25 total friends creating \$25,000 in matching monies. He will then ask the residents of the islands to donate which will then be matched by the sponsorship monies dollar-for-dollar. He only needs 4 more sponsorships to help achieve this goal. Please call Mike if he can count on you to be 1 of the 4 needed.

This year, the following companies

have generously committed to the \$1,000 sponsorship: Island Transportation Services, A O Smith, Anonymous-Seabrook Island, Barbara and Vin Lewis, Carolina Girl Promotional Products, Coastal Getaways of SC, Design Gaps, Inc, Dolphin Architects and Builders, Emery and Nick Macpherson Akers Ellis Real Estate, Fipps & Sons Garage, Holy City Construction, Kiawah Cares, Kiawah Partners Townsend and Stephanie Clarkson, Pam Harrington Exclusives, Pelican Development, Pierce Distribution Services Company, S. Bogan Designs, Seabrook Island Real Estate, The Naples Wealth Management Group at Morgan Stanley, Timbers Kiawah, Wells Fargo, and Will Shiver & The Island Company. A great big thank you goes out to these companies for their generous contributions.

The Chili Cook-off benefits Backpack Buddies Seabrook Island and the Backpack Buddies Group of Kiawah Women’s Foundation. The two organizations are both 501(c)(3) nonprofits whose mission is to feed local, hungry, school children on the weekend and during school holidays. These children are supplied breakfast and lunch

Gorski & Friends Challenge Sponsors

- Island Transportation Services
- CFS Promotional Products
- Coastal Getaways of SC
- Emery Macpherson Akers Ellis Real Estate & Rentals
- Fipps & Sons Garage, Inc.
- Holy City Construction
- Kiawah Cares
- Kiawah Partners Townsend & Stephanie Clarkson
- NV Realty Group
- Pam Harrington Exclusives
- Pelican Development
- S. Bogan Designs
- Timbers Kiawah
- Wells Fargo
- Will Shiver The Island Company

by the schools, but often were being left to fend for themselves on the weekends. They are currently feeding over 530 local children each week.

FOR THE RESIDENTS OF KIAWAH, SEABROOK AND JOHNS ISLANDS, because of this year’s lofty goal, we are starting to take donations now. Please keep in mind that the friends are matching your donations dollar-for-dollar. It’s a win-win for both

Backpack Buddies’ programs on the islands. All donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.

Making a resident donation is very easy. Just call or text Mike Gorski at 864-316-3894 and tell him your donation amount. He will provide all of the details for the different ways that you can donate.

Thank you in advance for your support. ▲

THE Seabrooker

Please send correspondence to: TheSeabrooker@yahoo.com

"Communication is the beginning of understanding." The Seabrooker will report regularly on island happenings, as well as newsworthy events that affect property owners and residents. As Seabrooker volunteers with a common objective, we are committed to securing the facts and reporting to you in a forthright, honest and unbiased manner.

Red Ballentine (1924-2006) Fred Bernstein (1924-2010) Co-Founders

Editor: Michael Morris Publisher: Bernstein Lash Marketing Advertising & Layout: Teri B. Lash

THIS MONTH'S SEABROOKER VOLUNTEERS

ARTICLE & PHOTO CREDITS

Faye Albritton	Mike Gorski	Charlie Moore	Steve Penkhus
Chuck Bensonhaver	Emily Horn	Michael Morris	Dr. Jerry Reves
Cathy Coleman	Bob Leggett	Reagan Pasantino	Ruta Smith
Joe Cronin			Marie Wardell

CONTACTING THE SEABROOKER

Please send correspondence and inquiries regarding editorials to TheSeabrooker@yahoo.com or call 843.408.3707

The entry deadline for all items is the 15th of the month. Please limit Cap'n Sams letters to 400 words. Photos should be in high resolution (5"x7" at 200 dpi or more).

FOR ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE CONTACT Teri B. Lash • 843.747.7767 • TLash@BernsteinLash.com

DEATH NOTICES

Notifications can be sent to theseabrooker@yahoo.com



Michael Edgerley Clouse

(1947 - 2019) - Michael Edgerley Clouse passed away at his residence on December 16, 2019. He was born on May 20, 1947 to James and Mary Clouse in Columbus. He attended and graduated from Our Lady of Peace and Bishop Watterson High School. Michael was a well-known Realtor and part owner of Paul May Realty in Clintonville, Ohio.

After selling the company he and his wife moved to Seabrook Island, South Carolina, where he continued his career. Upon his retirement, he moved to Naples, Florida, and lived there until he moved back to Ohio to be close to his son. Michael loved to fish and especially to hunt in an annual hunting trip to Montanna. He is preceded in death by his parents, James and Mary (Edgerley Sheffer) Clouse; wife, Debra; brother, Jack. He is survived by son, Benjamin (Nikki); grandchildren, Aron and Abby Iris; stepfather, Dr. Ed Sheffer; sister, Diane (Edward) Warner; nephews, Seth (Ashley) and Zachary; cousins and many good friends. In celebration of his life at a date to be determined, a memorial service will be held. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to House of Hope, Inc., 825 Dennison Avenue, Columbus (43215) or Ohio Health Hospice. ▲



CAP'N SAM EDISTO

Dear Cap'n Sam,

Below is the "thank you" article for this year from the Mt. Zion Holiday Committee to our island friends. We appreciate so very much what you and "The Seabrooker" do for us each and every year.

Thank you!
Pam Steele

THANK YOU island friends! Once again, with the generosity of your donations to the Mt. Zion Holiday Fund, we were able to bring Christmas magic to 84 boys and girls from 38 families. "What a sight it would have been if only we could have seen" the excitement and joy on their faces as they opened their presents of new coats, clothes, shoes, books and toys on Christmas morning and were able to enjoy a special Christmas dinner.... all made possible because of you. One of the simplest and oldest adages, "sharing is caring;" rings so true and we are so fortunate and so grateful to have such caring island friends!

With sincere and heartfelt thanks,
The Mt Zion Holiday Fund Committee

Dear Cap'n Sam,

I have tried to think of a clever way to begin a letter regarding The Seabrook Island Village program, but the best I can say is THANK YOU! This program is wonderful, and I have utilized its services on a number of occasions. The volunteers are friendly, capable, and they go out of their way to be helpful.

When my sweet husband, Don, was alive he took care of all the little issues that pop up. Now that I plan to stay in the house we built and loved, the SIV program is making that possible. I urge EVERYONE to participate.

Vera Jean Ruff

Tax Reform Act - continued from page 1

South Carolina House Bill 4431

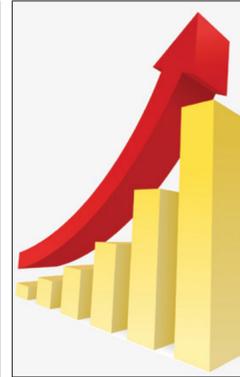
TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 4 TO CHAPTER 1, TITLE 6 SO AS TO PROVIDE BUSINESS LICENSE TAX REFORM, TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE WAY IN WHICH A BUSINESS LICENSE TAX IS COMPUTED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE WAY IN WHICH TO PURCHASE A BUSINESS LICENSE, TO PROVIDE THAT A TAXING JURISDICTION SHALL ADOPT THE LATEST STANDARDIZED BUSINESS LICENSE CLASS SCHEDULE, TO PROVIDE THE WAY IN WHICH A BUSINESS LICENSE OFFICIAL SHALL SERVE NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT OF BUSINESS LICENSE TAX DUE; TO AMEND SECTIONS 4-9-30 AND 5-7-30, RELATING TO THE DESIGNATION OF POWERS IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND THE POWERS CONFERRED UPON MUNICIPALITIES, RESPECTIVELY, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A BUSINESS LICENSE TAX MUST BE GRADUATED ACCORDING TO THE BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME AND THAT A WHOLESALE DELIVERING GOODS IN CERTAIN INSTANCES IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE BUSINESS LICENSE TAX; TO AMEND SECTION 6-1-120, RELATING TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL TAXPAYER INFORMATION, SO AS TO ALLOW THE SHARING OF CERTAIN DATA AND CERTAIN BUSINESS LICENSE TAXES; TO AMEND SECTION 12-4-310, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE'S POWERS AND DUTIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE CERTAIN RECORDS AVAILABLE TO CERTAIN AUTHORITIES LEVYING A TAX BASED ON BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME.



GLASS HALF FULL Perspectives

BOB LEGGETT

IS A MARKET MELT-UP UNDERWAY?



It wasn't that long ago that my Glass Half Full stance seemed pretty bullish because there seemed to be plenty to be concerned about. The S&P 500 had finally reached a new all-time high last August, but the rally ran out of gas and the S&P was once again sliding in October. Investor worries included an inverted yield curve, trade wars, Brexit, disappointing earnings, valuations, recession, election-year politics and central bank policies.

It seemed to me that those were just bricks in a classic "wall of worry" (as in the old market adage Bull Markets Climb a Wall of Worry), so I remained moderately bullish. In my experience, credible warnings of a market correction are important as these worries help keep bullish over-exuberance under wraps. A Market Melt-up may develop if the warning signs are ignored and optimism inflates prices. That seems like a good thing, but it can be overdone.

There is no official "Melt-up" definition. Characteristics include: heavy equity fund inflows, speculative excesses, narrowing market leadership, and exuberant investor sentiment that result in significant market gains that are not punctuated by consolidations or pullbacks. Some high profile examples are 2000, 2007 and 2017. Checking your account values during Melt-ups can be fun, but the aftermath is often painful. The 2001-03 Bear Market was -49% and 2008-09 was -57%. The 2018 experience would be the one to root for as the sharp 2016-17 gains were followed by a 20 month consolidation. The difference between it and the earlier Melt-ups was there was no Recession to cause a deep earnings plunge, so the worst 2018 decline was only about -20%. Still painful,

but not lethal to investment accounts.

In the current episode, the S&P has rallied 17% in a mere 3 months with only one brief pullback that reached -2%. There are signs that investors are beginning to ignore the caution signs, including:

1. Earnings were flat in 2019, but markets are beginning to price in +10% 2020 and 2021 S&P 500 EPS growth estimates. Analysts are counting on a combination of modest revenue growth, well-controlled costs, and continued share buybacks to revive 10% EPS growth rates. It looks more like 5% growth to me - okay but possibly disappointing later in 2020.
2. Stocks are getting expensive. The S&P 500 reached all-time highs above 3300 in January, so the price/earnings ratio on forward estimated

earnings is 18.5x. A super bullish case has to be made to push the P/E above 20x, such as no recession risk, a friendly Fed, low interest rates, and "positive surprise" earnings growth. Obviously, these hopes are the opposite of last year's worries.

3. Sentiment is very bullish, but that is not good news - sentiment measures are contrary indicators (i.e., if everyone is bullish, there may be no buyers left to drive prices higher and vice versa). The VIX (volatility index) at 12 shows extreme complacency, and individual and institutional sentiment surveys are very optimistic.

4. Market momentum measures show stocks are overextended to the upside.

5. One additional signal is that I am beginning to hear the TINA acronym on CNBC (There Is No Alternative to Stocks), in particular in reference to US stocks which have led the Bull Market that began way back in 2009.

Why worry? I believe Mr. Market never gives you exactly what you hope for. I would prefer to see the market's fundamentals catch up with the valuations and to see less-optimistic sentiment measures. However, at this point, market strength will only further encourage the Bulls and may force the PermaBears to give up and buy stocks as well.

Melt-ups are unpredictable. How far and how fast they run cannot be known in advance, but so far there has never been a Melt-up rocket shot that failed to return to earth. Maybe you can ride the rocket and perfectly time parachuting to safety, but that is a very high-risk approach. Investor enthusiasm notwithstanding, I still see the Glass as Half Full rather than overflowing with good news, so I will continue to implement my strategy of reducing my risk-asset exposure as prices rise. ▲

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES
The opinions voiced in this commentary on current economics and markets are my own and not the opinions or positions of any entities or organizations with which I may be affiliated or associated. This column is for general enjoyment and not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual or institution.

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Dr. Plunkett is a passionate, dedicated dentist who strives for excellence by providing the most up to date, evidence-based care available. Dr. Plunkett completed a general practice residency at the Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Hampton, Virginia. He joins us after working in private practice in Washington, DC. During his tenure there he worked with the Department of Surgery at Providence Hospital and Carroll Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Dr. Plunkett has completed training with Progressive Orthodontics, Obstructive Sleep Apnea University and the American Institute of Implant Dentistry. Dr. Plunkett and his family live here on Seabrook Island. He is excited to be closer to family and to see new patients in our practice.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact us at:

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154 Gardeners Circle | Johns Island, SC 29455

Annual Weekend

New Salt Marsh Model Home
February 15th & 16th 12:00PM - 4:00PM



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\$599,000



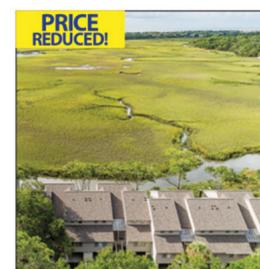
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Seabrook Island
3,874 SF | 3 BR, 4.5 BA
\$1,099,000



FEATURED
2470 Cat Tail Pond Road
Seabrook Island
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\$679,000



PRICE REDUCED!
1209 Creek Watch Trace
Seabrook Island
1,232 SF | 2 BR, 2.5 BA
\$379,000



Pennsylvania Connected Seabrookers to Gather

February 12th • 6PM
Oyster Catcher Community Center

Seabrookers with a link to the Keystone State will get together on Feb. 12 for the second annual "Pennsylvania Connection" party.

The get-together starts at 6 p.m. in Oyster Catcher Community Center. Please bring your beverage of choice and a contribution for the food table.

This is an all-island event, open to anyone who was born or raised in the Keystone State; lived, worked or was educated there; has Pennsylvania friends or relatives, or who wants to fondly reminisce about Penn State football, the Commonwealth's road system, or the incomparable Pennsylvania climate.

If you have questions, contact Kathy Kunkelman, kkunkelman@comcast.net. About 80 Seabrookers attended the first Connection last year.



The Sounds of MOTOWN 2
 a fundraiser for SCOPE 50
 Preserving Civil Rights and the Story of Voting
Live Music, Dancing, Raffle
 Hors D'oeuvres/Cash Bar
 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 6:00PM
SEABROOK ISLAND CLUB
Tickets: \$75
SCOPE50.org
 Mary Whyte & John Reynolds
 johnr9773@aol.com - (843)-768-0434
 3772 Seabrook Island Rd, Seabrook Island, SC 29455

World Affairs Council of Charleston
 A Member of the World Affairs Councils of America



The second is our international business luncheon featuring the local German company KION North America. President & CEO Vincent Halma will be the speaker. **The luncheon will be held at the Halls Signature Events on Wednesday, February 26th at 11:30AM.** Registration is required, and the fee is \$45. KION North America is one of the world's leading manufacturers of industrial trucks and the largest manufacturer of electric forklifts. Mr. Halma will provide an update and history of this fascinating and successful company. KION North America is headquartered in Summerville, SC. <https://waccharleston.org/meetinginfo.php?id=53&ts=1576636339>

Outreach to Area High Schools
 World Affairs Council of Charleston

Academic WorldQuest (AWQ) is a flagship youth education program of the World Affairs Councils of America, the parent organization of the World Affairs Council of Charleston. It is a team game testing high school students' knowledge of international affairs. Four person teams compete by answering multiple choice questions from ten engaging thematic categories.

Several Seabrookers active in WACC are contributing. Robin Girardi, an experienced teacher and AWQ organizer has taken the lead. Many months of planning and implementation now has the program up and running.

Four local high schools have been engaged to mount the competition in the first phase: Academic Magnet High School, Wando High School, R.B. Stall High School, and James Island Charter High School. The competition goes forward until a winning team is determined here in Charleston on March 14, 2020. The winners will go to Washington D.C. to compete against other teams from all around the country.

The Academic WorldQuest format promises to add considerable vigor to high school students' knowledge of international affairs and current events. WACC salutes Robin and her volunteers in leading the way. **Charles Bensonhaver**



Robin Girardi with local student



On Wine

Michael Morris - Vintage Wine



Tasting Red Wine

I want to take you through the fundamentals for tasting wine. I will use red wines as the example because it's a little easier as the contrasts are more pronounced.

The first step obviously, is to pour some wine into a glass. It's important not to put too much in the glass. Leaving room in the glass allows you swirl the wine which allows it to aerate and release its various aromas. The proper amount of space in the glass also allows the glass to capture those aromas. The rule of thumb when pouring is to fill the glass to the level where the glass begins to turn inward.

Next, against a light background (you can use a white sheet of paper) tilt the glass away from you. Examine the color. The color of red wine can range from pale ruby (Pinot Noir, Gamay) to deep purple (Cabernet, Syrah, Merlot). If you see touches of brown, it is a sign that the wine has some age on it. Notice the wine's translucence. If you can see through the wine, it is a sign that it is from a thinner skinned varietal (i.e. Pinot Noir) as well as a wine grown in a cooler climate (think Europe). Darker, less translucent wines come from thicker skinned grapes (Cab, Merlot) and the deeper and darker the color indicates that the wine is from a warmer climate where grapes can ripen further (think California and Australia).

When you swirl the wine, notice the viscosity. Higher viscosity indicates higher alcohol, again leading you to deduce if it is from a cooler or warmer climate. This is where looking at the "legs" of a wine tells you something. The "legs" aren't an

indicator of quality, only an indicator of the amount of alcohol in the wine. The more "legs" and the slower they run down the inside of the glass, the higher the alcohol. This again leads us to learn whether the wine is from a warmer or cooler climate.

Now, stick your nose in the glass. Inhale enough to get a good sense of the wine but not so much that the alcohol in the wine stings your nose. Think about what the wine smells like to you. Do you smell fruit? What kind of fruit? Do you smell earthy or vanilla (oak) notes? I'm not one to get overly verbose on the different aromas, but it's useful to consider them as they can guide you to a specific varietal and its origins. New world wines (US, Australia, South America) tend to be more fruit driven while European wines tend to display more earthy notes.

Finally it's time to take a sip. Hold the wine in your mouth, and if you'd like, you can draw some air in through your lips. While many people view this as the most pretentious aspect of tasting a wine, drawing in some air allows the wine to hit every part of your tongue and mouth where different elements of a wine. The tip of the tongue is where sweetness is perceived; both sides of the tongue are where acidity is noticed and the back of the tongue senses alcohol. Tannins in wines are perceived by the cheeks. The more astringent the wine, the higher the tannins are. The best way to think about tannins is to think about tea. Tea leaves also contain tannins. If you steep a bag of tea for a short time, less tannins are extracted and the tea will be smoother but also lighter in flavor. Steeping the tea longer will extract more of the fla-

vor as well as more of the tannins. The longer steeped tea will give you more of that drying sensation on the inside of your cheeks, that's tannin. When people describe a wine as "balanced", they are saying that none of these qualities in the wine dominate the others. While tannins might be more pronounced in some red wines (they are what allows a wine to age), they should be balanced by the fruit. Tannins and fruit will subside with age. If there is insufficient fruit to accompany the tannins, by the time the tannins mellow, there will be no fruit left.

While assessing the amount of acidity and tannins in a red wine, it is important to remember that these qualities are what make good food pairings. Acidity and tannins help balance any fattiness coming from the food, allowing the flavors of both the food and the wine to be enhanced.

Lastly, swallow the wine. This is where the amount of alcohol in the wine will be noticed. There shouldn't be any burning sensation. When alcohol is overly prevalent, a wine is said to be "hot". Any burning indicates a hot and unbalanced wine. Notice the after-taste receptors perceive the flavors remain in your mouth, the longer the finish a wine is said to have, and a long finish is highly desirable and a sign of a quality wine.

Now that I've taken all the fun out of drinking wine, grab a glass and give it a try. Being able to assess the components in a wine will allow you to understand which qualities you prefer and will also allow you describe what you like. This knowledge will make it easier for a Sommelier or wine shop employee to guide you to new wines that you might enjoy.▲



EXCHANGE CLUB NEWS

Dinner Meeting Minutes 1-15-2020

President Ron Schildge called the meeting to order at Turtle Point on Kiawah Island. Guests and prospective new members were introduced. Jim Bannister gave the invocation and then gave a Fallen Hero Tribute to U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Travis A. Fox, age 25, of Cowpens, SC, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Lance Cpl. Fox was killed October 30, 2004 by enemy action outside of Falljah, Anbar Province, Iraq. Seven other Marines were also killed by the suicide bomber during one of the deadliest days of early fighting during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Members of the Kiawah-Seabrook Exchange Club do not allow our South Carolina fallen heroes to be merely photos and obituaries. U.S. flags with yellow ribbons honoring Lance Cpl. Fox, along with many others, are proudly waving several times yearly

at highly visible locations on Johns, Kiawah, and Seabrook Islands as a high priority of this Club. Well done, Marine Fox! We salute you. May you rest in eternal peace.

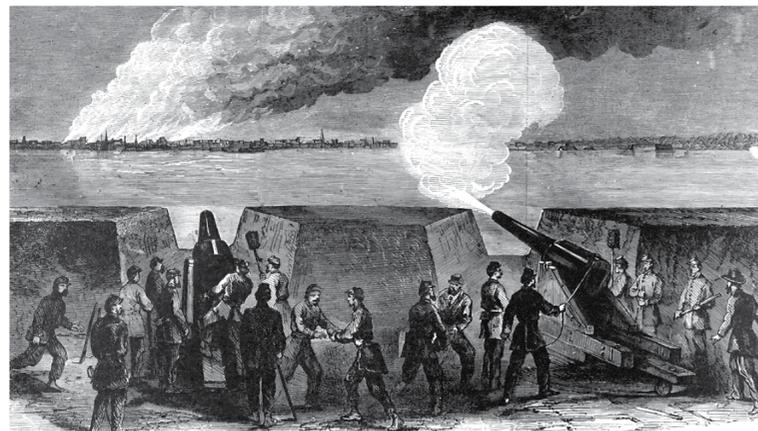
Bob Leggett explained table sponsorships and donations for the Angel Oak Award Banquet.

Ron Schildge introduced the new members and the membership recited the Mission Statement of the Club. The evening's first speaker was Abraham Bill Jenkins. Jenkins was a member of the United States Air Force and a navigator on the B-52 bomber. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal in 1962 and after 20 years of service, retired in 1971. After 20 more years of service as administrator of the Sea Island Comprehensive Health Care Corporation, he retired once again in 1991. He shared his unique perspective on the history of Johns Island. The second guest speaker was Seabrooker John Reynolds. In 1965,

Martin Luther King had called upon young people to journey south to join with local activists and help register black people to vote. This project was called SCOPE (Summer Community Organization for Political Education). John left his job and joined them that summer. He trained at the Penn Center in S.C. Septima Clark, one of the trainers, recommended to Dr. King that John be hired as an SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference) staff member. He subsequently worked with SCLC on various projects until 1971. After receiving degrees from Rhode Island College and Andover Newton Theological school; John served as Interim Pastor and then Pastor of Bethany Baptist Church in Rhode Island from 1997-2008. He organized a reunion of the Scope volunteers to help facilitate change today and now serves as the President of SCOPE50.▲



BATTLE FOR CHARLESTON HARBOR
 SINHG EVENING PROGRAM
 Thursday, February 13 • 7:30PM • Lake House



February's SINHG Evening Program will bring noted historian Dr. Stephen Wise to the Lake House on Thursday evening, February 13th, at 7:30 for a presentation on a key battle for control of Charleston Harbor during the Civil War. Dr. Wise's discussion will focus on what became known as the Siege Of Charleston, as Union and Confederate forces fought for control of Morris Island and Fort Wagner. Although Union forces successfully reduced Fort Wagner to

rubble, Fort Sumter, the harbor and Charleston itself would remain under Confederate control until the end of the war, when William Sherman's forces marched through South Carolina in 1865.

Dr. Wise, who serves as the director of the museum of the U.S. Marine Corps at Parris Island and teaches history at USC Beaufort, has written extensively about the history of the War Between The States in South Carolina, the first state to secede from the Union. His book "The Gate Of Hell: The

Campaign For Charleston Harbor" was named the best book of state history by the South Carolina Historical Society. He is a frequent lecturer and historical adviser for The History Channel, The Discovery Channel and for public television, and has led several SINHG Trips to Morris Island in past years.

All Seabrook Island residents and guests are invited to attend. There is a \$5 charge for non-SINHG members. Pre-registration for the program is available at sinhg.org.▲



BOTOXOXOXOXO

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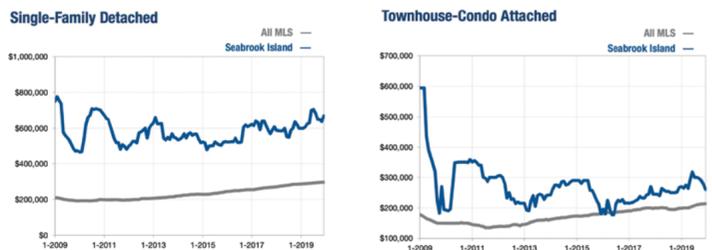
Seabrook Island 2019 REAL ESTATE RESULTS

Area 30

Key Metrics	December			Year to Date		
	2018	2019	Percent Change	2018	2019	Percent Change
New Listings	3	7	+ 133.3%	161	146	- 9.3%
Closed Sales	3	6	+ 100.0%	97	93	- 4.1%
Median Sales Price*	\$460,000	\$748,750	+ 62.8%	\$599,900	\$670,000	+ 11.7%
Average Sales Price*	\$446,333	\$696,250	+ 56.0%	\$708,756	\$717,499	+ 1.2%
Percent of Original List Price Received*	87.0%	88.6%	+ 1.8%	89.6%	90.5%	+ 1.0%
Days on Market Until Sale	61	217	+ 255.7%	158	139	- 12.0%
Inventory of Homes for Sale	88	78	- 11.4%	--	--	--

Key Metrics	December			Year to Date		
	2018	2019	Percent Change	2018	2019	Percent Change
New Listings	7	5	- 28.6%	138	128	- 7.2%
Closed Sales	7	7	0.0%	96	87	- 9.4%
Median Sales Price*	\$305,000	\$145,000	- 52.5%	\$267,500	\$260,000	- 2.8%
Average Sales Price*	\$400,714	\$209,786	- 47.6%	\$323,426	\$305,033	- 5.7%
Percent of Original List Price Received*	90.9%	88.9%	- 2.2%	90.7%	91.8%	+ 1.2%
Days on Market Until Sale	324	103	- 68.2%	170	124	- 27.1%
Inventory of Homes for Sale	70	56	- 20.0%	--	--	--

Historical Median Sales Price Rolling 12-Month Calculation



Source - TRIDENT CHARLESTON ASSOCIATION

All Well for the Alstons A Water Wellness Mission Family



The Alston family of six lived with contaminated water for over 6 years in their Wadmalaw Island trailer. Parents, William and Tosha and their four growing daughters, suffered the physical and financial consequences of dirty water flowing through their pipes for longer than most of us can contemplate. Just one day without clean water is trying; consider over 2,200 such days.

The Alston daughters are active young girls, ranging in age from 4 to 16 years. Kynajia, 16 and Te'ericka, 13, play on their school basketball teams. Samiyah, 10, loves her STEP class, and Zie1 enjoys dance at Friserson Elementary. Active bodies need substantial hydration, a key factor in physical and mental performance. That was not readily available in the Alston home. No one in the family would drink the water because it "tasted bad" and even turned the sinks and toilet brown.

Lead and iron infiltrated their ground water, so long drives to bring home spring water were part of the Alston weekly schedule. Filling and lugging 10 gallon jugs was arduous, but allowed healthy drinking water, as long as it lasted. It did not allow daily showers for 6 people. Tosha noted that issue was the one their girls struggled with the most; showering and brushing teeth in smelly, brown water.

Lengthy drives didn't stop with acquiring spring water. Weekly trips to the laundromat were necessary, too, to assure clean clothing. There are no laundromats on Wadmalaw Island, and it's many miles to reach one.

Expenditures add up quickly when considering the weekly mileage, and the bags of quarters dumped into washers and dryers, due to a lack of pure water in the home.

These precious dollars should be used for the countless other needs of any large family: medical attention, food, clothing, household goods and home repairs, to list a few. This is the resulting ripple affect of contaminated water. Poor water quality generates poor hydration, poor personal hygiene, precious dollars spent to remediate these problems, thus, reduced lifestyle in other areas.

William Alston has a truck repair business, and Tosha does the bookwork. Even with their income, the

\$6500 cost of a new well and filtration system was far outside their budget, so living with dirty water was simply a necessary evil. That was until fifteen year old twin boys worked with Water Wellness Mission to quench the family's thirst for clean water. Kiawah residents Alec and Paulson Evans, students at Charleston College, raised the monies required to install a new well system. Their mission was born out of shock at Alston's situation, and the resulting drive to fix it.

The Alston's beautiful new well is a few weeks old now. It delivers clean, clear water to their home. Four athletic young ladies can now drink all the water they need. Six Alstons now shower in clean water, and wear clean clothes, washed right in their own home. Long drives to springs and laundromats are over, and there are more dollars available for other necessities.

When the fresh water started flowing, Tosha said "I've had my refrigerator for almost 3 years, now, and this is the first time we could make ice, or drink water from it. Now we can! Thank you!"

If you wish to help other Wadmalaw and Johns Island families living with contaminated water, please write a check to: SIHAF (Sea Island Hunger Awareness Foundation, a 501(c)(3) foundation) with WWM noted on the memo line. Mail to SIHAF, P.O.Box 268, Johns Island, SC 29457 OR donate online at fightislandhunger.org

Thank you!
Cathy Coleman



HEALTHY AGING Cardiac Catheterization

What You Need to Know

There are over a million cardiac catheterizations ("cath") performed each year in the U.S. This means it is relatively common and most would agree that the advent of the cath procedure has led to the remarkable improvement in the treatment of ischemic heart disease (coronary artery atherosclerosis - with coronary artery obstruction) over the past 50 years. The procedure is not confined to patients who have coronary artery disease, but is also indicated in virtually all heart diseases at some point. This means that cath is performed for valvular, congenital, arrhythmias, and other cardiac disease. In view of the large number of cath performed each year and the many heart diseases dependent on caths for diagnosis and treatment, it is important to consider this procedure within the context of healthy aging.

What can be learned with catheterization?

Valuable information that is otherwise unobtainable can be determined with a cath. The information includes function of the heart, anatomy/function of the valves, pressures and blood oxygen saturation in the four heart chambers and major vessels, coronary artery anatomy, holes in the heart walls, and structural abnormalities. Additionally, the heart can be biopsied during a catheterization. This wide array of information is essential in making a diagnosis regarding heart disease and determining the extent of the disease process. The cath usually follows a prior test such as echocardiographic study, electrocardiogram, stress test, or computed tomographic (CT) scan. All these other tests are important to the diagnosis but it often is the cath that provides the final, conclusive evidence needed to make a definitive diagnosis.

What is Done? You will meet with your cardiologist before the scheduled procedure to discuss the indication (i.e., reason) for and minimal risks associated with the procedure. At that time instructions will be given including which, if any, of your medications should be discontinued. Other instructions will be provided such as not to eat or drink within 6-8 hours of the procedure. Any other diseases like kidney and diabetes will be discussed including their relationship to the procedure. All allergies to antibiotics and other medications, X-ray dyes, or latex will be elicited. Another adult should accompany the patient to provide safe transportation home.

Before the procedure, you will be asked to remove jewelry, dentures, glasses (sometimes), and hearing aids and go to the bathroom. During the procedure an intravenous catheter will be placed in a peripheral vein in

your hand or arm and electrodes will be placed to monitor the heart electrocardiogram. Blood pressure cuff will be used and the patient will be sedated to lessen anxiety, but most caths are performed with the patient sedated and not under general anesthesia. Local anesthesia is placed in and below the skin at the site of catheter insertion. Paradoxically, the local anesthesia often burns, but it does make the rest of the procedure painless.

Most commonly the femoral artery in the groin is used, but any major artery may be chosen for a left heart catheterization. Right heart catheterizations are less common but involve access to the venous circulation through the femoral vein or another large vein in the neck or chest. Once the catheter sheath is inserted a much smaller catheter is threaded into the artery or vein and the cardiologist will direct it into position using the X-ray equipment in the procedure room, often called the catheterization suite or laboratory. Most often the cath lab is in a hospital, but some are not.

The operator will place the catheter into the proper position to take pictures of the structure of interest. These are all digital images that may be reviewed long after the procedure. Interestingly, since patients are often conscious they may watch the procedure on the large screens in the room. There is virtually no pain or discomfort associated with the procedure, but one can sometimes experience a sensation of warmth when the dye used to visualize anatomy is injected.

After completion of the procedure the catheters are removed and firm pressure is placed on the vessel after removal of the catheter for several minutes. Sometimes a pressure dressing if placed at the site to keep pressure on the vessel and prevent bleeding. The patient is then moved to a recovery area and observed for any complications or continued sedation until time for discharge. This usually takes a few hours. Patients who have groin insertion sites will be instructed to lie flat for hours. Some patients will be admitted to the hospital as part of the plan or because of events during the cath. It is rare that an unplanned hospitalization occurs after cath.

Procedures During the Cath Additional therapeutic or diagnostic procedures may be done as part of the cath. This should be discussed in detail with the cardiologist during the office visit before the cardiac catheterization. The most common procedure added to the cath is percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) to relieve or lessen coronary artery narrowing. This is accomplished by balloon angioplasty (blowing up a tiny balloon on the end of the catheter to open the vessel) and following that with the placement of a wire mesh stent designed to

keep the newly opened vessel patent. If this is contemplated prior to the cath, it should be fully discussed with the patient. This discussion includes the pros and cons of undergoing the PCI versus conservative medical therapy or coronary artery bypass open heart surgery. There are other procedures done during catheterization, but these are less common and need to be fully discussed from a risk-benefit perspective prior to their being performed.

Complications

There risks of cardiac catheterization are low. The incidence of complications is around 2% and most of the common complications are insignificant like a hematoma or bruise at the site of the catheterization. Complications include bleeding from the site of the catheter into the vein or artery with accumulation of a large hematoma or blood collection, allergic reaction to the dye, cardiac arrhythmias, internal blood clots, damage to heart valves or tissue, stroke, and heart attack. As stated, the severe complications are rare.

After the Catheterization

Often the cardiologist will review the finding of the catheterization with the patient and accompanying person immediately after the procedure. A written report should follow in a timely fashion and or be reviewed at a follow-up appointment shortly after the procedure. It is incumbent on the patient to be certain that he/she knows exactly what was found at the cath and what the implications are for continued health. If the cath leads to subsequent treatment, then the options need to be presented by the cardiologist. In today's hyperspecialized world the cardiologist who performed the cath is often not the one who directs the patient's care over the long term. That role is filled by the referring cardiologist who sent the patient to the interventional (cath) cardiologist.

After leaving the procedure facility, be careful to follow all written and oral instructions. Report any bleeding or expanding swelling at the site of the catheter insertion. Watch for any severe pain (chest or otherwise) and report by phone any concerns to the contact person given to the patient upon discharge. The whole reason for the cath was to learn about your heart, to get appropriate diagnoses, and to develop and follow a treatment plan if needed.

The Bottom Line

Heart catheterizations are common procedures, especially as we age. They can give us invaluable information about heart diseases. It is not uncommon for them to result in watchful waiting, but when disease is found that needs treatment - it is the cardiac catheterization that makes diagnosis and treatment possible.▲



Lifestyle Choices and Our Health and Longevity

Steve Penkhus, MD



There is an alarming amount of recent information that indicates maybe this is a good time to consider our lifestyle choices and those of our society. The following is just a very short list of examples of that type of information.

For the first time in decades male life expectancy has decreased rather than increased. Life expectancy in the US is consistently at the low end of industrialized countries in spite of spending twice as much on health care as the average of other countries. Diabetes in adults doubled in 20 years and adult type diabetes in children increased 600% in the same time. Seventy percent of people in the US are overweight or obese which is associated with an ever increasing list of risks.

A report from the New England Journal of Medicine on December 18 projected nearly half of America's adults will be obese within a decade and one fourth severely obese. A recent study in the respected medical journal Lancet looked at diets. It studies 195 countries for 27 years

and concluded 3 diets were likely responsible for eight million deaths in a year: a high sodium diet 3 million deaths, low intake of whole grains 3 million deaths and low fruit diet 2 million deaths.

Another very interesting recent study led by Stanford showed impressive benefits of lifestyle changes. Participants with stable moderate to severe coronary heart disease were divided into two groups. One group underwent bypass surgery or received stents. The other group were prescribed medications and instructed to make lifestyle changes, including regular exercise, a healthy diet and quitting smoking. In the long run they saw no difference between the two groups when it came to major coronary events, such as hospitalizations, heart attacks and death. As impressive as this study is, it seems to make sense to consider lifestyle changes before the onset of coronary heart disease.

One survey found that the average person in the US spent 1600 minutes a week on screen time and less

than 30 minutes a week on exercise. It is felt that three hours of sitting negates 30 minutes of exercise. The CDC reports that over thirty percent of us get less than the recommended seven hours of sleep a night. The average Seabrooker is likely on the good side of the lifestyle choice bell curve, but many of us might benefit from taking a second look at our habits.

Here is a quick review of previously noted guidelines for a healthy lifestyle: diet high in vegetables and fruits (7-13 servings a day depending on needed calories), high in nuts, beans and whole grains and low in sodium and saturated fats; moderate daily exercise thirty minutes five to seven days a week and more if weight loss is needed; restriction of alcohol to one drink a day for women and two for men; sleeping at least 7 hours a night.

There are no quick easy solutions for society as a whole, but all of us might have some ideas. A very short list of examples might be: changes in public policy with education starting in grade school concerning accepted guidelines for diet, exercise, sleep and alcohol; more PE in schools; healthy school diets with less salt, sugar and simple carbohydrates and more grains, fruits and vegetables; aggressive federal and state media campaigns to encourage healthy diets, sleep habits, exercise, relaxation and passing forward smiles and kindness; new labels grading foods for healthy and unhealthy calories; tax incentives for businesses to provide and encourage more healthy work places such as exercise breaks, standing or treadmill desks in offices and meeting rooms, exercise rooms, healthy cafeteria menus; tax incentives for restaurants and grocery stores that promote healthier choices and taxes on the more unhealthy choices; more community parks, walking and cycling paths for recreation and work commutes. Changes don't happen over night, but thinking in terms of how we might make personal changes and how we might encourage societal changes might help with a goal of improved health, quality of life and increased life expectancy.▲

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Birding Between Two Homes



Osprey



Osprey

I know I am one of the lucky ones to call two places home. My primary residence, in Cos Cob, Connecticut, provides me with year round birding among many habitats and ecosystems. Not to be outdone, Seabrook Island allows the same opportunities, albeit among different habitats and ecosystems. Seeing as I spend more time in New England I can expect to see certain birds during different times of year. But when I am here on Seabrook Island, I get tripped up on what I should or should not be seeing. Bar Charts on eBird.org are great resources in helping me determine if the bird I am seeing is really what I identified.

Access to eBird bar charts is available through this link: <https://ebird.org/GuideMe?cmd=changeLocation>. The link allows you to choose any location, by region then select a sub-region. For the purpose of illustration, I chose Charleston County SC. In the case of observing an Osprey, the bar chart bird indicates a widespread presence of the Osprey for the entire year. If I were to pull the same information for Fairfield County where Tod's Point Park (Greenwich), CT, is located, the bar chart shows a very different story. The Osprey is present from late March to early November and then leaves Greenwich and migrates away from the area.

The bar chart is a helpful tool to determine the chances of observing a bird in a certain area during a specified time of year. An added bonus is while on the chart, you can select the bird's name which will then open an extended identification page on eBird.org allowing a deeper dive into the species. This helps with identification and provides range maps with marvelous links to media photos and sounds.

In anticipation of the Seabrook Island Birders evening event featuring the Center for Birds of Prey held on January 22, 2020, I decided to focus my observation on the Bald Eagle while here on the island. I discovered I can observe the Bald Eagle year round both here on Seabrook Island and in Connecticut. But it was while playing golf that I was told the breeding begins here on Seabrook Island in December and January. The bar chart allowed additional discovery of observations submitted by users from the area. It also left me with many questions. The deeper dive, by clicking the bird's name, brought me to ebird.org's page for ID, statistics, range maps and media.

But who am I kidding? I am a novice birder with much to learn. I encourage all to join SIB for evening events, walks, bike rides, movies, backyard birding and more! You will learn about these two birds of prey and other species that call Seabrook Island home.

Just visit our website: SeabrookIslandBirders.org to learn more! ▲

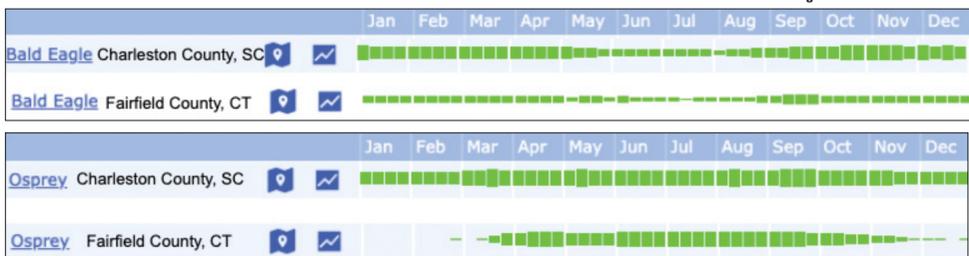
Marie Wardell



Bald Eagle



Bald Eagle



KIDS on Seabrook

Birding On Seabrook



One day while you're playing outside, a bird flutters by and lands on a branch in a nearby tree. Did you see what color it was? How big was it? Have you ever wondered to yourself as you are exploring our beautiful island, "What type of bird is that?" If you have, you're not alone. There are lots of people on Seabrook who share your love of birds, including the Seabrook Island Birders!

The Seabrook Island Birders are a group of bird-loving friends who have frequent outings to find and search for many different types of birds. They do not gossip about the latest fashion trends, but they want to know the latest tweets about Blue Jays. One of the most frequent events these birders have been organizing are bird walks. They get to stretch their legs and take a relaxed walk around their favorite places such as the lake near the Lake House or the golf course. These adventures give them the opportunity to look for unique birds, while also being able to make new friends. But, they do not search for birds just on foot, they also explore on bikes! This activity is called, "biking and birding." You get to zoom around on your bike as you scout for birds along the way. If you find one, you get to stop, look at it, and determine what type of species it is. They can also do birding in your backyard. Birds are everywhere, why can you not try birding in the place you hang out most often? You may have a rare bird right behind you, and you might not even know it.

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You could become a Seabrook Birder today, just sign up to join a birding activity, and you can see the bird bash for yourself! If you are not so sure, do not worry! You can sign up to go on one of their "Introductions to birding," and you can see for yourself if birding is for you.

The Seabrook Island Birders are planning a Youth Walk around the Palmetto Lake on March 14, 2020 from 4PM to 6PM. You can meet at the Lakehouse parking lot, and if you are a kid, you must be accompanied by an adult. You have the chance to be one of the 15 people attending, and it will be free for any Birders Club members and children. If you are a beginner birder, that's fine, please come! Everyone has to start somewhere. Come along and experience the world of birding with fellow friends. You will be provided with binoculars if you do not have your own. The Seabrook Island Birders will teach youngsters of all ages (even in strollers!) and adults about how fun it is to be a birder. It will be a great experience and we would love to see you there! Visit <https://seabrookislandbirders.org/> to register for the Youth Walk and to see what other activities are available for you to learn about birding.

So go outside, look in the trees, search for birds, find what's waiting outside, and explore the world around you! Please email us at the kidsonseabrook@gmail.com, and you can share with us about your experiences as an explorer on the island. What is your favorite bird you have spotted? Please feel free to request our survey, as your children's voices are important to us. (Mr. Morris, on the following page, I have pasted a few images I have taken of birds on the island and in other places near Seabrook. Maybe you can include whichever ones you like below the article. I had too hard of a time picking which one :) They are all favorites of mine -Emily)

You could become a Seabrook Birder today, just sign up to join a birding activity, and you can see the bird bash for yourself! If you are not so sure, do not worry! You can sign up to go on one of their "Introductions to birding," and you can see for yourself if birding is for you.

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Reagan Passantino & Emily Horn



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WTA PREMIER

Volvo Car Open // April 4-12, 2020 // Charleston, South Carolina

The 10 Largest Employers in Charleston



Joint Base Charleston



Boeing

Charleston is vital to South Carolina's economy. After all, every road leads to I-26. But who may you ask is taking advantage of our ideal location? We have compiled a list of ten of the largest employers in our city to give you insider information, courtesy of Charleston County Economic Development.

Ranging from international giants to businesses that started right here, we are proud of how much Charleston has grown + developed over the years.

1/ Joint Base Charleston - 22,000 employees | This U.S. Department of Defense joint base is under the jurisdiction of the United States Air Force 628th Air Base Wing, which supports 90,000+ Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, civilians + more – and it is also Charleston's largest employer.

2/ Medical University of South Carolina - 13,000 employees | Being S.C.'s only academic health science center, nearly 1,500 of MUSC's employees consist of faculty members that serve 3,000+ students in six different colleges. The medical center includes a children's hospital, Hollings Cancer Center, a Level I trauma center, Institute of Psychiatry, 100+ outreach locations across S.C. + S.C.'s only transplant center.

3/ Boeing - 7,000 employees | Not only is Boeing the largest aerospace manufacturer in the U.S., it's also the world's largest aerospace company – serving U.S. and allied government customers in 150+ countries through manufacturing, goods + services. DYK that ~75% of all airplanes in the sky right now were manufactured by Boeing?

4/ Charleston County School District - 6,500 employees | Charleston County School District encompasses 8 districts with a total of 87 schools ranging from kindergarten to high school and serves 50,000+ students. Out of S.C.'s 81 school districts, CCSD ranks 8th for Most Diverse School District, 12th for District with Best Teachers, and 13th for Best School District.

5/ Roper St. Francis - 5,500 employees | With the mission of "healing all people with compassion, faith and excellence," Roper St. Francis Healthcare is Charleston's only

private, not-for-profit hospital system that has an award-winning team of employees, including 800+ doctors.

6/ Charleston County - 2,600 employees | Dating back to 1769, Charleston County is swiftly growing + developing and continues to draw national recognition. Home of 401,000+ residents, the county's mission is to "promote and protect the quality of life in Charleston County by delivery services of value to the community," which is completed through values of trust, commitment, communication, versatility, accountability, teamwork, safety, diversity + customer service excellence.

7/ Trident Health System - 2,500 employees | Employees, physicians + volunteers are how Trident Health fulfills its mission for the care and improvement of human life. This Hospital Corporation of America hospital system is comprised of two acute care hospitals + two freestanding emergency department departments that care for ~375,000 Lowcountry residents each year.

8/ Walmart - 2,300 employees | "Each week, nearly 265 million customers and members visit our more than 11,200 stores under 55 banners in 27 countries and eCommerce websites in 10 countries" – making Walmart the largest retailer in the world. In 2018, the company achieved a revenue of \$500.3 billion, employing over 2.2 million associates worldwide.

9/ College of Charleston - 2,000 employees | Dating back to 1770, the College of Charleston is a nationally recognized public university that serves 11,000+ students in the heart of historic Charleston. The university is home to enthusiastic + dedicated faculty, including 500+ teachers. DYK CoC will be celebrating its 250th birthday this month?

10/ Robert Bosch LLC - 2,000 employees | The Bosch Group – a leading IoT company and global supplier of technology + services – is divided into four business sectors of Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods + Energy and Building Technology. With its slogan of "Invented for Life," Bosch is dedicated to innovation, quality, sustainability + customer satisfaction. ▲

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TOWN HALL MEETING Town Council Meeting December 17, 2019

After the pledge of allegiance, Mayor Gregg called the December 17, 2019, Town Council meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Councilmembers Crane, Finke, Fox and Goldstein, Town Administrator Cronin and Town Clerk Albritton attended the meeting. The Town Clerk confirmed that the meeting was properly posted, and the requirements of the SC Freedom of Information Act were met.

Minutes:
The Town Council Minutes of November 19, 2019, and the Ways & Means Committee Minutes of December 10, 2019, were unanimously approved as written.

Financials:
Mayor Gregg reported that the total fund balance for the period ending November 30, 2019, was \$4,991,927.54, about \$361,146 more than the balance for the same period in 2018 and about \$400,274 more than for the same period in 2017. Unrestricted revenue for November totaled \$24,823.36 and unrestricted revenue for the year, excluding use of transfers from the 2018 year-end general fund balance, was \$1,268,101.35, representing about 66% of the 2019 annual budget. Expenditures for November totaled \$58,910.65 and representing about 56% of the 2019 annual budget. Excess of expenditures over revenues was \$34,087.29 for the month. When transfers from the 2018 year-end general fund balances are excluded, year to date excess of revenues over expenditure was about \$182,965 compared to \$276,594 for the same period in 2018. The reduced excess for the period year-over-year is primarily attributable to expenditures for engineering services associated with drainage improvement proposals for Seabrook Island Road right-of-way and the Town Hall site in 2019.

Community and Government Relations – Mayor Gregg stated that he had asked Councilwoman Finke to follow developments of proposed amendments of the Stafford Act pertaining to federal reimbursement for disaster events. The Mayor had also asked Councilwoman Finke to represent the Town at meetings of the Johns Island Task Force. Councilmember Finke reported that the Johns Island Task Force had already met in December, but she would be attending meetings in the future. She also reported that there had been no further action on the proposed changes to the Stafford Act but that she would monitor what happens with the legislation.

Ways & Means – No Report
Planning Commission – No Report
Board of Zoning Appeals – No Report

Reports of Ad Hoc Committees:
Development Standards Advisory Group – Councilman Crane, who is chairman, reported that this group has been working with Paul LeBlanc, from PLB Planning Group, to revise the Town's Development Standards Ordinance. He stated that the group had two meetings in October and two in November and had reviewed eight articles and completed the first draft on seven of the articles. There is a total of 26 articles being proposed and at least 3 appendices. Their next meetings will take place on January 15 and 16.

Citizens/Guests Presentations, Comments:

• Presentation of FY 2018 Annual Audit – Erik Glaser, Glaser + Company – Mr. Glaser reported that there were no adjustments to be made following his audit. He also stated that there were appropriations from the previous fiscal year to help with the 2018 roadway and drainage projects but none of those funds had to be used because enough revenue was received in 2018 to make those improvements. The financial health of the Town is very strong. The Town's liquid assets are very viable, and reserves have been set aside to be used in case of emergencies, such as hurricanes and other disasters, and demonstrates the Town's good stewardship of their funds. The Town has no liabilities and its only significant obligation is its fractional percentage share of the SC Retirement Systems underfunded position. The Town made improvements to the roadway drainage, as well as improvements at the Town Hall, but the Town's liquid cash position still went up. The auditor stated that he was giving the Town an "unqualified" report which is the highest level of assurance provided by a CPA.

Reports of Standing Committees, Commissions, Boards:

Public Safety/Club Long Range Planning Committee – Councilman Crane

Public Safety Committee – Councilman Crane reported that the Public Safety Committee met Tuesday, December 9. The members reviewed content for the emergency preparedness section of the website that will be based on a flyer that had been prepared for CERT. The Committee also discussed the next Disaster Recovery Council meeting, which will be held in early January and will be based on a hurricane scenario. The next meeting for the Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Monday, January 13, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

Public Relations/Communications – Mayor Gregg stated that he had asked Councilwoman Fox to consider channels through which the Town could advertise opportunities for residents to serve on Town boards and commissions and had also asked her to follow action by the Seabrook Island Property Owners Association regarding their reduction of funding for the Seabrooker. Councilwoman Fox reported that she is working on avenues to advertise opportunities for residents to serve on Town boards and commissions. Councilwoman Fox also stated that she had attended a SIPOA board meeting recently where she learned that SIPOA would begin publishing a monthly newsletter, "CURRENTS", which will be available online and in paper format. The

SIPOA contribution to the Seabrooker will remain, from January through June, at \$1,000 a month for a full page. At the end of the first six months of the year, SIPOA will evaluate the effectiveness of the newsletter and will decide at that time whether to continue with the full page in the Seabrooker.

Mayor Gregg explained that the Town currently purchases space in the Seabrooker for the "From Town Hall" column. On a rotating basis, Councilmembers, the Mayor and the Town Administrator write monthly articles about current happenings and the articles seem to be well received by the community. If the Property Owners Association should cut their funding of the Seabrooker, the continuation of the newspaper could be affected.

Special Projects/Beach Administration – Mayor Gregg had previously asked Councilman Goldstein to review proposals to address ponding along Seabrook Island Road and at the Town Hall site and for proposals for increasing the roadway level of Seabrook Island Road and advise Town Council of his analysis of benefits and costs for those proposals. Councilman Goldstein stated that he was still in the process of gathering and analyzing the information. Mayor Gregg stated that pending business license reform legislation could severely impact the Town's business license revenue and the Town's budgeted revenue which would make it important for the Town to take a very analytical approach to commitments we make for spending on proposed projects to address ponding.

Reappointment of Ed Maher for a full term that will expire November 2021 – Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination of Ed Maher for another term on the Public Safety Committee that will expire November 2021. Councilwoman Finke seconded the nomination and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Reappointment of Ed Maher for a full term that will expire November 2021 – Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination of Ed Maher for another term on the Public Safety Committee that will expire November 2021. Councilwoman Finke seconded the nomination and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Reappointment of Elizabeth Murphy for a full term that will expire November 2021 – Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination of Elizabeth Murphy for another term on the Public Safety Committee that will expire November 2021. Councilwoman Finke seconded the nomination and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Town Attorney – Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination for reappointment of Stephen L. Brown as the Town Attorney. Councilwoman Finke seconded the nomination and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Town Clerk & Treasurer – Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination for reappointment of Faye Albritton as Town Clerk & Treasurer. Councilwoman Finke seconded the nomination and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Zoning Administrator – Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination for reappointment of Joe Cronin as Zoning Administrator. Councilwoman Finke seconded the nomination and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Resolution 2019-20: A resolution authorizing the temporary discharge of firearms by the Seabrook Island Property Owners Association (SIPOA), within the Town of Seabrook Island, for the purpose of thinning the deer herd. Town Administrator Cronin explained that the Town's ordinances prohibit the discharge of firearms within the Town limits but an exception can be granted, by resolution, for thinning the deer herd as part of a wildlife management program. SIPOA is asking to remove up to 50 deer between January 3 and March 1, 2020, and the thinning is to be done by certified marksmen and will take place on SIPOA property between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Heather Paton, the Executive Director, has verified by email that it is not their policy to remove pickab deer. Councilman Crane made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-20 to allow SIPOA to discharge firearms within Town limits on SIPOA property in order to thin the deer herd. Councilwoman Finke seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Request to authorize the Mayor to negotiate and enter into a contract with Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC, for financial auditing services – Town Administrator Cronin stated that the Town, along with the Utility Commission, had jointly advertised an RFP for financial auditing services and had received five bids. A panel had narrowed the applicants down to three. After interviews with the three applicants, Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC, was the unanimous choice. The RFP had asked for a one-year term (2019 audit) and would allow for four one-year renewals. The cost for the first year for the Town is \$15,000 and is well below the amount budgeted. Council-

Crane made a motion to approve the nomination of Jim Newton for the remainder of Cathy Patterson's term on the Planning Commission that will expire December 2020. Councilman Goldstein seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Board of Zoning Appeals:
Appointment of Janet Gorski for the completion of a term that will expire December 2022 – Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination of Janet Gorski for the remainder of Richard Finkelstein's term that will expire December 2022. Councilwoman Finke seconded the nomination and the vote to approve was unanimous.

DSO Advisory Group:
Appointment of Bob Driscoll as a resident for the duration of the Group – Mayor Gregg explained that Bob Driscoll had previously served on the DSO Advisory Group as a member of the Planning Commission. Although his term on the Planning Commission has expired, Mr. Driscoll would like to remain a member of the DSO Advisory Group as a resident until the project is completed. Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination of Bob Driscoll to the Development Standards Ordinance Advisory Group as a resident for the duration of the project. Councilwoman Finke seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Public Safety Committee:
Reappointment of Frank Farfone for a full term that will expire November 2021 – Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the nomination of Frank Farfone for another term on the Public Safety Committee that will expire November 2021. Councilwoman Finke seconded the nomination and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Request to approve the second amendment to the Beach Patrol Services Contract between the Town of Seabrook Island and Island Beach Services, LLC – Town Administrator Cronin stated that this is the second and final amendment to the original agreement with Island Beach Services. The price of the contract will go up by approximately 2% due to a slight increase in man hours – from 3,600 in 2019 to 3,664 in 2020. Beach patrol for the weekend days in March has been eliminated and they will be working every day in September. The Town Administrator has also gotten a proposal for Island Beach Services to empty trash cans that would be installed on the beach at some of the boardwalks. Island Beach Services would be responsible for emptying the trash cans from April 1 through September 30. During the peak beach season, Memorial Day through Labor Day, they would empty the trash cans 5 times weekly; and, during the less busy season of April 1 through May 24 and September 8 through September 30, they would empty them 3 times weekly for a total cost of \$5,570. If Council approves, this agreement could also be incorporated into the second amendment to their original contract. Councilman Crane made a motion to approve the second amendment of the Island Beach Services, LLC, contract in the amount of \$132,404. Councilwoman Finke seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous. Councilman Crane made a motion to also amend the beach patrol agreement further, to add in trash collection services, for an additional cost of \$5,570. Councilwoman Finke seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous. Councilman Crane asked if the Town Administrator knew which days would be included in the five days weekly that trash would be picked up since there would be more trash on the weekend days. Councilman Goldstein also asked if trash could be picked up on additional days, if the need should arise. The Town Administrator said he would verify which days were included and if additional trash pickup days could be added, if necessary, before the contract is executed. He also commented that the 2020 budget for beach patrol services is \$150,000 and, even though the amount for trash collection was slightly over the budgeted amount of \$5,000 for that line item, the total for the Island Beach Services contract would still be below the total budgeted for both services. The vote to approve the motion to add trash collection services to the amended beach patrol contract was unanimous.

Request to approve the 2020 Meeting Schedule for Town Council and the Ways & Means Committee – Town Administrator Cronin explained that, as discussed previously, Town Council meetings will remain on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at 2:30 p.m., but will deviate in November and December because of the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. In 2020, the Ways & Means Committee will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, rather than the third Tuesday, and will begin at 1:00 p.m., rather than the usual 2:30 p.m. Councilman Crane moved to approve the meeting schedule for Town Council and the Ways & Means Committee. Councilmember Finke seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

The Town Administrator then recognized Heather Springs and informed Council that Heather was leaving the Town of Seabrook Island and going to work full-time as the Business License and Permit Clerk for the City of Folly Beach and that Thursday would be her last day working for the Town. Heather's focus short-term rental units licensed has been getting short-term rental units licensed. The number of rental units licensed has increased from 300 to about 500.

Freshfields Senior Living Facility Encroachment Permit Update – Town Administrator Cronin reported that the Settlement Agreement, pertaining to the Encroachment Permit for the Freshfields Senior Living Facility, has been approved by Circuit Court and is in effect. In November, a meeting was held involving the Town, Atlantic Partners, the developer, contractor, Kiawah Islands and the Town's traffic consultant to discuss the next steps toward beginning construction of the facility. A formal document, that was needed to secure financing and close on the property, was issued by the Town on November 22, 2019, showing that the Town has finalized and granted the Encroachment Permit.

Update on the Community Rating System (CRS) Classification – Town Administrator Cronin stated that he had received confirmation from Charleston County that they had completed a Community Rating System application and review process and that the Town of Seabrook Island received 2,653 credit

points. This equates to the Town having a preliminary classification of 5, which equates to a 25% reduction of National Flood Insurance Premium (NFIP) flood insurance rates. The effective date will be May 1, 2020.

Town Hall Holiday Schedule – The Town Administrator reported that the Town Hall is scheduled to be closed Wednesday through Friday, December 25 through December 27, to observe the Christmas holiday and will likely close early on Christmas Eve. The Town Hall will also be closed on New Year's Day.

Plastics Ban Ordinance – The plastics ban ordinance is scheduled to go into effect on January 1, 2020. Hand delivered notification has been made about a month ago to the primary entities in the Town limits that will be affected, primarily restaurants, the Club, POA facilities, the Lake House and Camp St. Christopher. Information has been posted on the Town's website and a letter containing information about the plastics ban will be given out to anyone purchasing a business license. The business license renewals will begin in January as the Town's business license year runs like the calendar year.

Letter Regarding Proposed Business License Legislation – The Town Administrator reported that the letter to the municipalities in Beaufort County, joining in their effort to oppose SC H4431, is ready to be signed by the Mayor and Council so that it can be mailed.

Town Council Members – See Above

Utility Commission: Chairman Morawski reported that the Utility Commission's net income for the month of November was \$10,872, bringing the year to date total to \$183,035. The Sewer operation showed a loss of \$10,454 through November. The Commission adopted the 2020 budget with operational expenditures estimated to be \$2,708,691 (excluding depreciation), a 2.8% increase over the 2019 budget. Debt Service for 2020 will be \$781,694, a decrease of 1.6% from 2019. Capital expenditures are estimated at \$605,000, reflecting new costs for sewer line rehabilitation and engineering of additional effluent retention capability. The Commission approved a \$2.70 million increase for sewer service to meet its financial needs.

Petitions Received, Referred or Disposed of: None

Ordinances for First Reading: None

Ordinances for Second Reading:

• Ordinance 2019-12, An ordinance amending the Town Code for the Town of Seabrook Island, South Carolina; Chapter 32, Waters and Beaches; Article II, Beachfront Management; Division 1, Generally; Section 32-20, Plan Adoption; so as to adopt an updated Comprehensive Beach Management Plan for the Town of Seabrook Island – Mayor Gregg stated that this ordinance pertains to the Town's adoption of its updated Comprehensive Beach Management Plan which was prepared for the Town by Coastal Science & Engineering. Councilman Crane made a motion for approval for second reading of Ordinance 2019-12 for adoption of the Town's Beachfront Management Plan. Councilwoman Finke seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Miscellaneous Business: None

Citizens Comments:

A question was asked about how the beach patrol were held accountable while they were on the beach. The Town Administrator remarked about different instances where the beach patrol might not actually be present on the beach at all times during the day. Councilwoman Finke also explained that Town Council had previously discussed having a Councilmember take a more active part in communicating the Town's expectations of the beach patrol. Since one of Councilwoman Finke's areas of responsibility is "beach administration", she would likely take part in the orientation that the Town Administrator has been conducting with the beach patrol before beginning their season each year.

Mayor Gregg responded to a question about when construction on the Senior Living Facility would begin. He stated that construction would not start until the left-hand turn lane has been constructed and that work likely begin in the first quarter of 2020. Work on the left-hand turn lane will be done only at night and should take about three months to complete.

In response to a question about the Town Hall garage, Mayor Gregg stated that an amount has been budgeted for the construction of a garage that would house the Town's vehicles, but the Town does not have specific architectural plans or bids yet for construction. The Town has estimates from ESP Associates for work they have recommended for the Town Hall area to help with the ponding issues, but no decision has been made yet about these projects.

In response to a question regarding the buffer area on Old Drake Drive, near the Club's maintenance facility and the Utility Commission, the Mayor explained that the Utility Commissioners were independently elected and that the Town cannot mandate them to do anything.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. ▲



A Very Happy New Year to everyone. The Seabrook Island Photography Club Leadership Team has put together an exciting fun-filled year including field trips, presentations from local professional photographers, social activities and a schedule designed to further our photographic skills, to explore, learn, excite, and to

entertain. We traditionally meet on the third Thursday of each month, but have set aside additional dates for extra activities (please see Schedule below).

Our first meeting will be February 20th when Kevin Holliday will present a talk on Vision: A World Created Not Captured. Kevin is an internationally acclaimed black and white photographer from Daniel Island who has an extraordinary understanding of light, transforming what his heart and soul sees into stunning works of art. Look for more on Kevin's work at: <https://www.kevinhollidayphoto.com> Kevin's presentation on the 20th is open to island residents and visitors without charge. Please join us. ▲

Seabrook Island Photography Club Presents

Kevin Holliday

Professional Photographer

February 20th, 2020 • The Lake House • 6:30 pm



SIPC is proud and excited to have Kevin Holliday with us next month. Kevin is an internationally acclaimed photographer who 'shoots from his heart and soul', creating stunning photos in black and white. His focus is on architecture, landscape and long-exposure minimalism.

Please join us for an enlightening presentation by this South Carolina's Professional Photographer of the Year (2017). Admission is free and open to the public.

For more information, please visit here. And learn more about Kevin Holliday Photography at: <https://www.kevinhollidayphoto.com/about>



Schedule for 2020

- February 20th** - Kevin Holliday Presentation (described above)
- March Field Trip** - (date and theme TBD)
- March 19th** - Member Presentations of their Lifetime Favorite Images by three club members with discussion on subject selection and technical considerations.
- April 16th** - Kenny McKeithen (local professional photographer) on low light and panoramic photography
- May** - Afternoon Class on Flash Photography by Bill Nelson (date TBD)
- May 21st** - Early evening photo shoot at Magnolia Cemetery, followed by dinner in Charleston
- June 18th** - Beach party/bonfire with chili dogs and potluck dishes
- July and August** - No meetings
- September** - Field trip with specific theme (date, time and subject TBD)
- September 17th** - Professional photographer presentation (TBD)
- October** - Afternoon Class on Basic Imaging by Bill Nelson (date TBD)
- October 15th** - Evening photo shoot and dinner
- November 19th** - Kate Silva, Kate Silva Photography - Post Processing
- December 17th** - Christmas Party with member sharing of 2020 favorite images



SIPOA

Administrative News from the Seabrook Island Property Owners Association

AGENDA

1. Introduction & Welcoming Remarks Guy Gimson, President
2. Appointment of Parliamentarian, Shawn Willis - Nelson Mullins.....Guy Gimson
3. Introduction of Audit Partner from Elliott Davis, LLC.....Guy Gimson
4. Introduction of Committee Chairpersons.....Guy Gimson
5. Roll Call & Certification of Proxies & Members in Attendance Dennis Pescitelli, Secretary
6. Presentation of CandidatesGuy Gimson
7. Treasurer's Report & Presentation of 2020 Budget..... Warren Weber, Treasurer
8. Executive Director's Report..... Heather Paton
9. President's ReportGuy Gimson
10. Presentations to Outgoing Board Members..... Dan Kortvelesy, Vice President
11. Questions & Answers.....Guy Gimson
12. Adjournment

2020 ANNUAL MEETING



FEBRUARY 15, 2020

SEABROOK ISLAND CLUB ATLANTIC ROOM • 10:30AM

SAVE THE DATE: 33rd ANNUAL ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

Friday, February 14, 2020 – 2:00PM – 5:00PM
Meet the Artists Reception – 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM (Refreshments served)
Saturday, February 15, 2020 – 10:30AM – 5:00PM



Artists who would like to display their Arts & Crafts are required to register in advance. Registration information is available at the Lake House, SIPOA Administration Office, on the website at: <https://sipoadmin.org/art-show-sign-up-form/>, and via QR code. Return completed forms to the Lake House on or before February 6, 2020.



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Guy Gimson
2019 President
SIPOA Board of Directors

Did someone say that 2020 is an Election Year? It's also a Leap Year, so you can get a jump on the voting season by casting your ballot in the SIPOA Board and Nominating Committee elections. Vote now please!

We may not have the cachet that goes with a Senate seat (it's close), but SIPOA has the responsibility of taking care of much of the local stuff – beaches, boardwalks, roads and drains, our lovely environment, the ever-popular Lake House – the list goes on and on. So please vote early (not often!) so that we get the Board we deserve, one that represents the interests of the entire Seabrook Island community.

We have 6 (six) candidates running for 4 (four) three-year Board positions this year. All the candidates are well qualified and have presented themselves to the community and at "Meet the Candidates" events. Their biographical data has been featured in Tidelines. They are (in alphabetical order): Chuck Cross, John Kinne, Ian Millar, Joe Penny, John Sesody, and Rich Siegel. You can vote for up to four of them; please take the time to read up on their background and positions and vote for those that you think will do the best job for the community. All this information is in Tidelines, as well as in the election package you received either via snail mail or electronically. The responsibility of a Board member is to set policy for the entire SIPOA organization; whether or not you know a particular candidate, please vote for all those you judge worthy of the responsibility.

There are also 3 (three) candidates running for the Nominating Commit-

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Heather Paton
hpaton@sipoa.org

Operations & Maintenance:
Work on the kayak launch will be starting in the next 4-8 weeks. The stormwater pipe lining project is in progress and will continue for about 6 months. In January each year, SIPOA maintenance staff concentrates on taking down the holiday lights, and completing our annual palm tree trimming work.

Administration:
Volunteers have assembled the mailout for the 2020 Annual Meeting. About 30% of our owners still receive paper packets. We encourage them to join the other 70% in voting electronically so SIPOA can continue to reduce costs for materials, postage, and labor.

Lake House:
Activity is always brisk in January as people work on New Year's fitness resolutions. The Lake House has also added some new spa services. We have a second massage therapist starting this month for weekend appointments.

Safety & Security:
January is our highest volume month for commercial access pass renewals. We have a designated commercial access officer and an assistant, who are working to process renewals, verify business and drivers' licenses, registrations, and insurance for each driver or company that purchases a contractor barcode. Norred is conducting training programs for the other officers on various work-related topics including CPR, report writing, customer service, and SLED training updates. We've compiled some eye-opening statistics on gate-traffic activity that we'll present next month. ▲

ARC ACTIVITY - DECEMBER

New Homes:

- Applications Pending = 12
- New Homes Approved, not yet started = 6
- New Homes Under Construction = 18
- Completed YTD = 11

Repair & Maintenance Projects:

- Maintenance Projects Approved by staff in December = 38
- Total YTD = 718

Enforcement Actions in December = 6

Enforcement Actions YTD = 93



Johns Island Farmers Market was temporarily closed but will return as Sea Island Farmers Market this month



The Johns Island Farmers Market will reopen as Sea Island Farmers Market with same hours, same location, same vendors. You may have spotted the somber Instagram post over the holidays: "Johns Island Farmers Market permanently closed for business."

But that isn't the whole story — the Johns Island Farmers Market (JIFM) may no longer exist in name, but it exists. The market's longtime, loyal vendors have come together to continue the year-round market, and, if all goes to plan, starting Sat. Feb. 1 at 9:30 a.m., the market will reopen as the Sea Island Farmers Market. Same time, same place, same mission. "We're just hoping for a new sign out front," jokes Two Fat Cooks co-owner Eric Rogers.

Rogers and partner Kristy Bialas have unofficially taken over as the new market operators. They've run their Two Fat Cooks baked goods stall at JIFM for years, and they say when they heard rumblings that market co-founders Frasier Block and Blue Laughters were ready to close up shop, they stepped up. "We couldn't let something like that disappear," says Bialas.

While we were unable to reach either of the founders for comment, the devoted vendors say there is no bad blood — people, understandably, may want to move on after a while. It's not easy work; the market that only closes two Saturdays a year after all.

Ashley Horry, who owns the seven-acre organic Kindwood Farms with her husband Matt in Walterboro, says that she and the other 30+ vendors have "poured our heart and soul" into the market. "This is our whole thing ... We decided we wanted to keep it going, [Block and Laughters] instilled such an awesome market for the area, people come out if it's freezing or raining."

The market has a lease with Charleston Collegiate School, which owns the property where the Saturday market is located. Rogers and Bialas say they're just waiting for paperwork to get finished up to reopen the market under its new name — the old lease officially ends Jan. 31.

"It will look very similar to what it was before," say Rogers. "Same vendors — we've all been out there quite a few years."

If they hadn't taken the helm, Rogers and Bialas say someone else would have. "The other vendors have all been kicking in," they say. "It's very vendor-driven — on a good week at the existing market there would be up to 30-40+ vendors."

The two say they've gotten advice from their friends at the Pour House

Sunday Brunch Farmers Market, another, albeit smaller, year-round affair. Although they have experience working a market, Rogers admits that running such an enterprise is an entirely different beast — "There are a zillion things we don't know." But they already have a tried and true location, with tons of shade trees and support from the school, which often hosts Saturday events that help funnel crowds to the market. Plus supportive vendors who are hungry to get back in business.

"If this had happened in the summer ... there are a number of other markets the vendors could go to," says Rogers. "But most of the other markets will be shutting down [after the holidays]. It wasn't just the market closing but in January too — there's nowhere to go. We had to do something."

Over the years, and in the past couple of years especially, JIFM set themselves apart from competitors with their truth and transparency campaign. Knowing that vendors aren't always clear about where their produce comes from, Laughters and Block made it their mission to visit every farm, having each vendor label their produce with name of farmer and city of origin.

"Frasier, she had a vision of a market that was different, that was true and transparent," says Horry. "She wanted to make sure there was no mislabeling."

With years under their belt on Johns Island, Rogers and Bialas will be the first to tell you how important that mission is to them. But for now, they say they'll have to put the frequent farm visits on the back burner.

"They did a tremendous amount of research," says Rogers. "We will strive for it in theory ... as we get along one of the policies that they had and we'll have everyone has to have signage." Say for instance one area farm is helping out a midlands farmer by selling their apples for them — that's OK, as long as the origin story is clear to buyers.

What won't fly? If someone brings in cheap, grocery store tomatoes and sells them for pennies but proclaims they're locally grown — that hurts farms like Kindwood, whose specially grafted heirloom tomatoes carry a higher price. "Unfair competition degrades everyone's product," says Rogers.

You can keep up to date with the progress of the Sea Island Farmers Market by following their newly designed website, Instagram, and Facebook pages.

"We are going to have a really good year," says Rogers. "Ideally if anyone notices changes, it will be for the better." ▲

Source: Charleston City Paper Photo: Ruta Smith



Brenda Tilson February's Artist of the Month

In February, the Seabrook Island Artist Guild will showcase one of its long-time active members, Brenda Tilson. Brenda's paintings will be on display in the front hall of the Lake House during the month of February.

Juried Member of the Pastel Society of America 2016
A longtime SIAG active member and exhibitor, Brenda holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati College of Design, Architecture and Art. She also has a BA in Art Education from Fairmont State College. In addition to having been selected as a Juried Member of the Pastel Society of America in 2016, she is also a member of the Piedmont Pastel Society, Charlotte, North Carolina. Her display will consist of architectural drawings. ▲



"Master" Coastal Landscape Painter Sergio Roffo

Returns to Seabrook Artist Guild Meeting for Demo and Workshop



The Seabrook Island Artist Guild will again welcome one of the country's premier coastal landscape painters. He will be the demo artist at the February 18th meeting at 2:00 pm at the Lakehouse and he will hold a two-day workshop on February 20-21. The two-day workshop will be held at the Oyster Catcher Community Center from 9 am to 4 pm.

Sergio Roffo, an elected "Fellow" member of both the American Society of Marine Artists and the Guild of Boston Artists, holds the honor of being one of the youngest artists to be designated a "Copley Master" by the Copley Society of Boston.

Mr. Roffo has been inspired by the work of American traditional painters such as Inness & Bierstadt, among others and his representations of coastal landscapes reveal a luminous, master-



ful feeling. Upon viewing his art, you will discover a precise sense of value and atmospheric perspective that conveys a relaxed sense of calmness; a characteristic that defines and informs all of his works. A serious artist, Roffo continually strives to capture the elusive essence that is Nature. He describes his mission as "trying to convey to the viewer the spirituality and sacredness of my work, indicating the harmony of nature through color and light". Roffo offers that "As artists, our creative goals will never be accomplished. We will always be students of nature, because nature does it so beautifully. We live each day passionately; others only dream of!" Mr. Roffo's captivating depictions of the New England landscape have been included in a variety of museum exhibitions and have earned him many awards, including two prestigious "Grumbacher

Gold Medals" and the "Yankee Sagen-dorph Award"; presented by Yankee Magazine. In 1994, Mr. Roffo was the winner of the Massachusetts Duck Stamp, winning on his first attempt, where others spend years trying. He has also been selected for inclusion in numerous publications and featured several times in American Art Collector Magazine. His work is included in many private and publicly owned collections.

The Workshop
This workshop is a rare opportunity to paint Seabrook's stunning vistas with an American Society of Marine Artists "Fellow". Sergio's goal is to ensure that students are prepared ahead of time to properly observe, evaluate and then create art.

The workshop fee will be \$195 for Art Guild members and \$225 for non-members. The workshop series is open to artists of all levels in oils only and a material list will be available. Register by contacting Bob Lefevre at 843-768-3284 or e-mail him at rodory@gmail.com. Don't delay as space is limited and the sign-up deadline is Feb 4th, 2020.

To learn more about the artist guild, its events and membership visit the website at www.seabrookislandartistguild.com ▲

CHORALIERS VALENTINE'S CONCERT

With guest soloist
February 13th • 5PM • Church of Our Saviour, Betsy Kerrison Parkway



2019 Choraliers

"Chansons D'Amour (ra da da da da)
Play encore
Here in my heart (ra da da da da)
more and more....."

Adoramus Te, America the Beautiful, Shenandoah, Let There Be Music, Make Your Own Kind of Music, Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes, My Wild Irish Rose, In The Good Old Summer Time, Let Me Call You Sweetheart, Whiffenpoof Song, The Longest Time, The Rose et al

All beautifully done a capella



SEADOGS ANNUAL MEETING

February 4th • 6PM • Live Oak Hall

The Seabrook Island advocacy group for owners and their dogs, announced today that the Annual Meeting will occur on February 4, 2020 starting at 6PM in the Live Oak Hall at the Lake House. On this year's agenda, the officers will provide an annual review of 2019 for the SEADOGS organization.

In the second half of the meeting, we will be honored to have special guest, Ric Sommons, the owner of Dolittle's pet supply. Ric will share his thoughts on pet food and the current state of the pet food market. He has simple advice on how a few minor changes to your dog's diet can improve the dog's health and welfare. Dolittle's has been a part of the Charleston community since 1994. Ric has years of experience reviewing, researching and selling quality pet food. We are excited to hear his views on the very important and timely issues in pet food.

All Seabrook Island residents are invited to attend the meeting. Also, we are always looking for new members, so please join us to hear about the good work SEADOGS does for the Seabrook Island community. As usual, SEADOGS will be collecting donations for a charitable organization in the community. This year, we will be helping Meals on Wheels with the purchase of pet food that is distributed to pet owners in need. If you would like to make a donation, you will be able to do so at the meeting.

The meeting is held during dinnertime, so we will have a potluck meal. If you can, please bring either an appetizer, main dish or dessert. SEADOGS will provide the drinks.

For more information on the event or about the SEADOGS, contact Mitch Pulver at mjpulv@yahoo.com.

SEABROOK STITCHERS

Lake House

Mondays 11AM-1PM

For more information, contact Denise Doyon dendoyon@gmail.com



SEABROOK ISLAND RUNNING GROUP

Calling all runners!

There is a running group forming on Seabrook Island. The goal is to get runners of all levels together for running and socializing.

Group Run • Saturdays at 8:00AM

- We will meet in front of the Lake House. Any distance/level welcome.
- As the days get longer, we will schedule evening runs.
- For more information on all future events, runs, and socials, please join our SI Running Group Facebook page. For questions, please call or text Isabel at 912-399-1793.



MONDAY MORNING BRIDGE

Welcomes New Members!

Please join us for Monday Morning Bridge.

You do not need to bring a partner.

For more information or to register, please contact

Ilse Calcagno at 843-768-0317.

Ilse Calc



Photo courtesy of Seabrook Resident, Glen Cox



SEABROOK ISLAND
Real Estate

Natural Oceanfront Living Near Historic Charleston

If you are looking to purchase a new home, cottage, villa or homesite, or list your property on Seabrook Island, contact the local experts at Seabrook Island Real Estate. We list and sell more real estate on Seabrook Island than all other companies combined. Contact one of our expert Realtors today.

SeabrookIslandRealEstate.com | 843.768.2560



Salt Marsh - \$995K+ / \$695K+
Marsh view | New Townhomes | 4 BR



2432 Golf Oak Park - \$829,000
Golf view | 4 BR | 3.5 BA



1908 Marsh Oak Ln - \$664,500
Marsh/River view | Bohicket Marina | 3 BR



1732 Live Oak Park - \$489,000
Marsh/River view | Fiddler's Cove | 3 BR



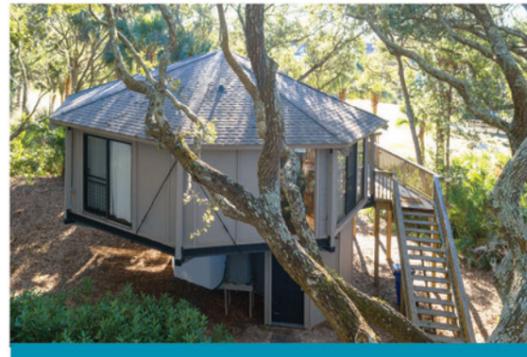
546 Cobby Creek - \$410,000
Golf/Marsh view | Tarpon Pond | 4 BR



1345 Pelican Watch Villa - \$274,000
Beachfront | 1 BR | 2 BA



1239 Creek Warch- \$225,000
Marsh view | 2 BD | 2.5 BA



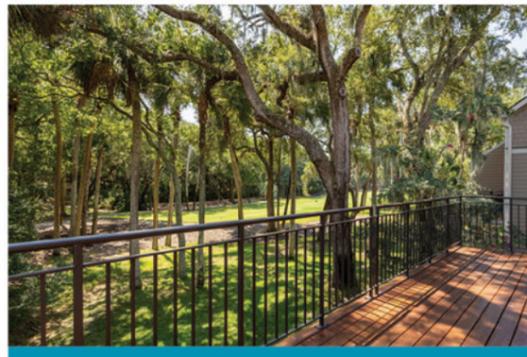
6 Dune Crest Trace - \$210,000
Golf/Lagoon view | 2 BD | 2 BA



2455 Cat Tail Pond - \$199,900
Marsh view | 0.44 ac



1622 Live Oak Park - \$179,900
Tennis view | Courtside | 2 BR | 2 BA



199 High Hammock Villa - \$177,000
Golf view | 1 BR | 2 BA



Lot-B9 Seabrook Village Dr - \$129,000
Lake view | 0.14 ac