

The Tides

November 2015
Fall Edition

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Contents

Storm Damage	1
Photos	2
Beach & Groin Study	3
November Town Elections	3
New Town Council Members	3
Town Administrator	3
Trash Pickups	4
Underground Wire	4
Structural Connections	4
Audit	4
Fireworks	5
Christmas Carol Sing	5
Beautification Foundation	5
House Check Program	5
Police After Hours	5
Cats & Raccoons	5
Town's 30 th Anniversary	6
Mayor's Note	6

Storm Damage to our Beaches & Dune System

Since October first we have had a virtually unprecedented amount of Dune and beach erosion and flooding without even a near miss by a hurricane. According to the US Weather Service our tides have average over 2 feet above the already forecast astronomical "King Tides"! Most of the roads on Pawleys were covered with 6 to 18 inches of salt water at almost every high tide over a period of 4 or 5 days during this storm event. At our house we have lost over 6 feet of our dune and other points on the island have lost up to 16 feet as a result of the storms and tides! The Town is currently having an engineering survey of the beaches and dunes being done by Coastal Carolina University. My guess is that this will be the worst dune and beach erosion Pawleys Island has ever experienced without either a direct hit or a near miss of hurricane force winds. There will be a need for emergency measures to protect our island, and we must begin to plan for a significant beach renourishment program. We have met with representatives from FEMA as part of the process to have our beach and dune loss considered for reimbursement as part of the South Carolina Emergency Declaration requested by Governor Haley and declared by the Obama Administration. These meetings are continuing and we will keep you informed as we gather information. We have also again have discussed our Corps of Engineers plan for the south 1/3rd of the island with representative of the Corps. This plan was never funded by the Federal Government and the Town has requested

the Corps to inform us what it would cost the town to have the economics of the plan updated to see if there isn't a way to gain a higher priority for funding by the Congress.

IT IS OUR HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO REBUILD THE DUNES TO THE ROUGH CONFIGURATION THAT EXISTED THE DAY BEFORE THE STORM. PLEASE TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION AS YOU REPAIR OR REPLACE YOUR BOARDWALKS.

Attached to this issue of the Tides are some photos showing the extent of dune loss and beach erosion on Pawleys Island.

We understand that a few houses have also had flood damage. If you have flood damage, and are considering a claim on your Federal Flood Insurance, please give our Town Administrator Ryan Fabbri a call before you go forward. Everybody has a different situation, but generally my personal advice is not to claim a small loss against your Federal Flood Insurance. The Federal Flood Insurance program has a designation called "repetitive loss property" which is defined as two or more losses. This is not a designation you want to have! You can now elect up to a \$10,000 deductible with reasonable premium reductions on your policy, which I have done at my house, and now consider Federal Flood Insurance as catastrophic coverage only.



Beach & Groin Study

In 2014 the town hired coastal science and engineering company to conduct an analysis of beach changes over the last 15 years. We are very fortunate that this study was done last year, as it will provide an engineering base line for FEMA to evaluate the damage caused by the recent storms. The 2014 study showed that, in total, we had less than 1 cubic foot of loss a year since the 1998 groin repair and beach nourishment project. The north end of the island had accreted, but the south end had a sand deficit. The mid island created a new dune line east of the old one after

1998, and since hurricane sandy passed by us, the dune line has eroded back to where it was in about 2003, not to mention the damage of the recent storm. The CSE report states that every groin needs some repair. Their estimate for the repairs is \$234,000.00, plus or minus 50%, and the north jetty is not included in this figure! We will be approaching contractors this fall or winter to get some better idea of how to proceed with repairing our groins.

November Town Election

The scheduled election for Pawleys Mayor and Town Council, held every 2 years, will not be held again this year, as we and the new candidates for the two vacancies on Council are all running unopposed. We hope this means that you and the resident voters

of Pawleys Island are pleased with our stewardship of your island. Our overarching mission has been and will continue to be, to protect and serve our island, and its heritage of gentleness, history and tranquility.

New Council Members

Ashley Carter who graduated from Winyah High School and attended the University of South Carolina. Ashley was married to the late Kit Siau of Georgetown, and he has a daughter Liza young, a son Rob, Jr. and six grandchildren. He has been employed as a Realtor with Pawleys Island realty since 2001, and is also owner of King Industries, Inc. a supplier to the steel industry. Ashley is a current member and past chairman of the Pawleys Underground Wire Committee, and is also a current member of the Pawleys Island Beautification Foundation.

daughter Erin is a professor at Qatar University.

Retiring from the town council are Glennie Tarbox and Howard Ward who have together devoted a total of 23 years of service to the Town of Pawleys Island and its property owners:

Howard Ward became a member of our planning commission in July of 2004 and chairman in 2008. Howard was named the Civic Association Man of the Year in 2012 for his many contributions to the island. He was elected to town council in 2013, but, for health reasons decided not to offer in 2015.

Rocky Holliday is President of Holliday and Associates, focusing on management consulting on international business development. Rocky is a native of Georgetown and a graduate of Winyah high school, a graduate of Clemson and holds an MBA from the College of William and Mary. His wife Robin is a board member of the Pawleys Beautification Foundation and she is also active with the Friends of Brookgreen Gardens. Rocky serves on the Pawleys Island Planning Commission. Their

Glennie Tarbox also is from a family with deep roots in Georgetown County. Glennie is the owner of Independent Seafood in Georgetown and he lives on the north end of Pawleys. He has always been active in protecting the island from any development that is inconsistent with the long history of Pawleys as a family beach. Glennie was elected to town council in November of 2003.

Town Administrator

The Town Council is pleased to announce that Ryan Fabbri has been promoted to the new position of Town Administrator and CRS Coordinator for the Town of Pawleys Island. Ryan and his wife Angela moved to the Pawleys community several years ago,

and he came with the town two years ago as assistant administrator. Ryan and Angela have 3 young daughters and a brand new baby son.

Trash Pickups

The next roadside trash pickup will be the Monday and Tuesday after New Year's Day, January 5 and 6. Roadside trash is not collected at any time other than the scheduled pickup dates, and there is a fine for leaving trash on the roadside between the 4 trash pickups. The pickups are for miscellaneous trimmings and refuse you need to dispose of excluding ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, garbage, shingles, asbestos, liquid paint and hazardous

wastes, which will not be accepted at the landfill. Please don't pile loose paper or leaves. They need to be in bags to be picked up.

With the wires going underground council is again asking property owners to use their best efforts to move their trash cans further off the streets. It is ok with Rutledge and will improve our island's appearance.

Underground Wire

Unfortunately we have come to a point where we have had to put off the beginning of construction on the second phase of the Underground Wire Project because we are not getting signed easements returned quickly enough by our property owners. This is also the reason that the project between the two causeways is four months behind schedule. Santee Cooper was late getting the easements prepared and mailed for phase two, and property owners were slow in returning them or giving us the opportunity to discuss any concerns until the last minute. Because of these problems we have divided the project above the north causeway into construction segments so we didn't have to have all the easements to start, but we have to have 100% of the easements in a segment to begin construction. With your cooperation on easements we should be able to move forward around the beginning of November. Please respond to your easement request as soon as possible.

The poles on the South Causeway should come down around January or February and the poles between the causeway before May. The "loop" of multiple power sources over the two causeways will then be operational. Those owners between the two causeways who do not already have their power underground from the street have or will shortly receive a letter regarding the process and timing of their connecting their house to the underground power. All these connections will have to be made before the power can be switched to the underground lines and the poles taken down so these dates are conditioned on those property owners making the underground connection at the house. There will be no disruption of power; both the overhead and the underground will remain energized until all connections to the houses are complete.

Structural Connections

It is very important that you check the structural connections under your house, dock and decks, particularly if you rent. We had a house on Atlantic Avenue where a covered porch deck collapsed a few years ago, with injuries. Another deck went down last year with some injuries. A friend of mine from Columbia was killed last year when a deck railing failed, and he fell to the ground at a beach north of us. Owners really need to get somebody to inspect and re-nail weather exposed structural elements of deck, dock, and porch connections, particularly in houses that are rented out by

the week. Basically parts of any structure built or substantially repaired since Hugo that are exposed to the elements are now suspect if it hasn't been reinforced or re-nailed. This also applies to exposed construction or repairs after December 31, 2003 when the pressure treatment chemicals were required to be changed by law. The new pressure treatments need to be nailed or screwed with hot dip galvanized, stainless steel or ceramic coated fasteners as the chemicals in the lumber will eat up anything else. It took years for installers to figure this out.

Audit

The town again received a clean opinion from our auditors on our financial statement for the year ending December 31, 2013

Fireworks

As all of us property owners know, a spreading fire is a constant concern on Pawleys because of how close most of our houses are to each other. Recent state law changes required that we change our ordinance, but we still have one, and it will cost \$50 to \$250 if someone is caught

shooting off fireworks on the island. We ask all of our property owners to call the town police number in the phone book to report fireworks being shot off on the island, with a general idea of where they are. The Pawleys Police Department will follow up.

Christmas Carol Sing

The annual Carol Sing will be on Friday, December 11th at the Pawleys Park. Singing will begin at 5:45 and we are usually done by 6:15. All owners and their families and guests are invited, and we particularly appreciate having

young children for the caroling. We invite residents and property owners in attendance to come by our home after the Carol Sing to enjoy a holiday gathering.

Beautification Foundation

Please don't forget that your gifts and memorials to the Foundation help to continue to maintain a pleasant Pawleys vista. The Beautification Foundation is responsible for maintaining four properties on our island, the Nature Park, Myrtle Avenue and the triangle at the South Causeway, Birds Nest Park, and the entrance to the public parking area at the south end. Tax-deductible

memorials or recognitions may be made to the Pawleys Island Beautification Foundation, P.O. Box 2712, Pawleys Island, SC 29585. A bequest in your will, or through the direction of funds in your retirement plan, is also a wonderful way to remember Pawleys Island, and to help continue the work of the Beautification Foundation in perpetuity.

House Check Program

The off-season random checking of unoccupied houses by our police department began in September and continues until Easter. If we have your telephone number, or know which rental agency you use, we will inform you or the

agent of any problems found. If you are a permanent resident, please inform the police department if you will be away from the island, and they will maintain a check on the house during your absence.

Police After Hours Phone Number

The weekend and after hours number to reach the police department is **843-237-3008**. Please keep this number where you can access it if you need help. The number will ring at the Georgetown County Radio dispatch

center, and they will radio our on duty police officer to respond to your call.

Cats & Raccoons

Until the tourists return, any property owner who feels that they have a cat problem in their area please contact Diane at Town Hall (843) 237-1698. She will make arrangements to have traps placed in the area, and those cats trapped, which have not been already spayed or neutered, will be, and they will be returned to the island. Our cat population appears to be under control and we want to keep it that way.

property owners have had damage (me included) from raccoons eating their way into houses and nesting, tearing up walls, attics and air conditioning ducts in the process. We found that the law treats wild animal trapping differently from cats, so the town can't trap raccoons. We have the names of local exterminators who are licensed and have the equipment to locate and remove raccoons. (I just had one trapped in early August). Call town hall (843) 237-1698 for their contact information.

The Council discussed a raccoon program, as some

Town's 30th Anniversary

The Town of Pawleys Island's 30th anniversary was August 27th! I believe that the rear view mirror has, for the most part, showed incorporation to be a great decision for our residents and property owners. This is one of the very few governments where the folks are elected by the resident voters to non-paying jobs of Mayor and Town

Council. Our council is also unique in that we commit a great deal of attention to the issues of the nonresident owners, as well as to the issues of the residents, to maintain our island in a way that lives up to its history and culture.

Final Notes

Your Pawleys Island is a community which has some of the best folks in the world as owners and residents. It has been and should continue to be, the place that when you cross the causeway your blood pressure goes down. It has been and should continue to be, the place where succeeding generations of children and grandchildren learn to love what we love, and why we love it. With your continuing commitment and support of the Town, your Pawleys Island will continue to be that place!

We cordially invite you to any Town Council meeting on the second Monday of each month in the Pawleys Island Chapel. We provide time at the beginning of the meeting for anyone to speak for up to three minutes to express a concern, or just simply to speak to council. If I can be of further service please don't hesitate to call me at my home office 237-8005, or at my home, 237-2053. Any of your Council members would be happy to sit down with you to discuss your interests or concerns.

The summer season is behind us, the cold weather has just arrived, meaning that the holiday season is approaching and it is a wonderful time to return to the beach. When making your plans, particularly remember that the Nights of a Thousand Candles will be at Brookgreen Gardens again this year for the first 3 weekends in December and it is worth the trip with your family just to attend for an evening. See more information at www.brookgreen.org.

We look forward to seeing you soon on Pawleys. Have a safe and Blessed Holiday Season!

