



TOJI NEWS

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FOLLOW THE TOWN:



Rethink Folly Road

The Town of James Island is working with the City of Charleston, Charleston County, and the City of Folly Beach to improve Folly Road. Mayor Woolsey is Chairman of the steering committee and Charleston City Councilwoman Kathleen Wilson is Vice Chairman. The goal is to make Folly Road safer for pedestrians and bicyclists—to make it a place to stop and shop rather than just pass through.

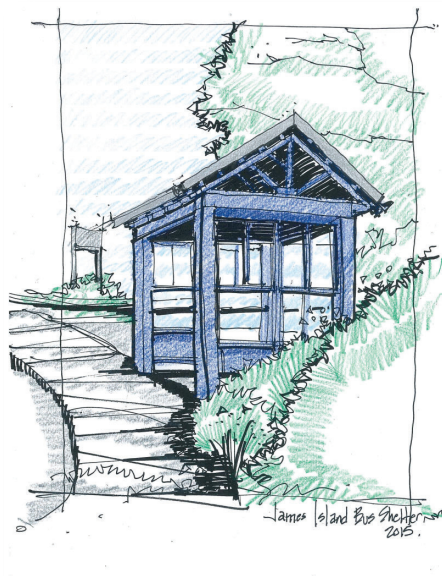
The Camp and Folly intersection improvement long preceded Rethink Folly Road, but it has always included sidewalks and bike lanes. It also includes a widening so that traffic moves more rapidly through the Camp and Folly intersections. Drainage is part of that project as well, increasing the capacity of pipes under Folly Road to reduce flooding. The Town saw an opportunity with Walgreens redeveloping to incorporate a bus pullout into the intersection improvement plans, and we will be installing a bus shelter at this location. The projected completion date is scheduled for early 2018.

The Town has developed plans to complete the sidewalks on the west side of Folly from Camp Road to Ellis Creek. The Town has applied to the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments for a grant using complete streets funding along with a match of hospitality funds. The Town is looking to provide off-street parking to help with the existing problem along Santee Street.

The Town participated in a meeting with Charleston County and the City of Charleston regarding priorities for the newly passed ½ cent sales tax on James Island. Completing sidewalks from Camp Road to George Griffith Road on the west side of Folly should start soon.

Mayor Woolsey explained, “the recent deaths of two pedestrians on Folly Road makes pedestrian improvements a priority.” Other intersection improvements are in the works as a part of the recently passed ½ cent sales tax referendum. The Charleston

County Transportation Department in conjunction with the Town of James Island, City of Charleston and SCDOT are currently evaluating those projects to include the intersections of Central Park at Riverland Drive, Secessionville Rd at Ft Johnson Rd, and Camp Rd at Ft Johnson Rd.



Rendering of a new bus shelter to be installed at the Camp/Folly Intersection

TOWN EVENTS

Offers Family and Community Fun!

The Town of James Island understands the importance of bringing a community together and look forward to celebrating events to do just that.

National Night Out, sponsored by Town's Neighborhood Council is promoted by Councilman Darren Mullinax, the committee's liaison, and in partnership with the Island Sheriff's Patrol, Sergeant Shawn James. This annual event is held the first Tuesday of August and promotes police and community partnerships and neighborhood comradery.

Lights-On Afterschool, is sponsored by the Town's Children Commission and promoted by Councilman Joshua Stokes, and the Kaleidoscope Afterschool Program. Lights On is a nationwide event that celebrates afterschool programs and its important role in the lives of children, families and communities. This event is held every year around Halloween, so come dressed in your costume and enjoy the seasonal activities this event has to offer.

Community Clean-up, is sponsored by the James Island Pride Committee and promoted by Councilman Garrett Milliken in an effort to help keep our beautiful Island litter-free. Partnering with Adopt-A-Highway every quarter, folks gather at Town Hall and enjoy a delicious meal after they spend the morning picking up trash in this feel-good and worthwhile cause. The next Community Clean-up is scheduled for September.

The Art Auction, is led by Chairwoman Katherine Williams and the Arts Committee and every year seeks to raise funds to help offset the cost of supplies for our local art teachers. Every February, local artists donate wonderful pieces to the highest bidders, and local students showcase their art as well with winners selected from each school.

Upcoming events include Arbor Day Recognition, Christmas Tree Lighting, Annual Easter Egg Roll, and much more. Watch for information about these and other events by logging onto to the Town's website: www.jamesislandsc.us, Facebook, and Twitter.



(pictured left to right) Town Clerk Frances Simmons, Lt. Rita Zelinsky, Island Sheriff's Patrol Sgt. Shawn James, DSS Official Jackie Adams and other members of the Sheriff's Department pose at an Adoption Event sponsored by the Town and held at James Island County Park.

Improving Connectivity

Creating safe, pedestrian and bicycle friendly paths are an important way the Town is improving the quality of life for its residents. This past year, the Town with funding assistance from County Sales Tax, completed the Fort Johnson Sidewalk connector project along Camp and Dills Bluff Rd. Currently, Phase I of the Dills Bluff sidewalk project that will connect existing sidewalk to Seaside Lane is under construction and expected to be complete by December. Phase II, which will include a boardwalk, is in the permitting stage, and Phase III is under design. The goal is to ultimately connect Dills Bluff Rd to the new sidewalk on Harbor View Rd. The Town is also in the permitting stage for the Seaside Lane sidewalk project, and the Lighthouse Blvd Phase I sidewalk project. Completing sidewalk infill projects along sections of Folly Rd are also under design.



New boardwalk and combination gravel pathway planned for Dills Bluff Rd.

Town Welcomes New Businesses

The Town of James Island appreciates and welcomes new businesses. The Town's Planning and Zoning, as well as Building Services departments strives to help entrepreneurs navigate the process while at the same time ensuring neighboring property owners' interests are protected. Some of the new businesses welcomed to the Island this past year include:

Black Magic Café, located at 1130 Folly Road, is casual dining and specializes in breakfasts, creative burgers, salads, wraps, specialty coffee and teas.

Hen and the Goat, the restaurant, located at 869 Folly Road, is a handcrafted sandwich shop serving sandwiches, salads, deli case items and much more.

Master's Studios of Self Defense, located at 1238-F Camp Road, is a professional martial arts studio.

Pelican's Snoball, Pelican's SnoBalls located at 769 Folly Road offers a wide variety of cool and exciting Snoball flavors in a family-oriented setting. Parties and events are also offered.

Holy Nails and Spa, located at 793 Folly Road, offers manicure, pedicure and a variety of nail and beauty services.

Sermet's Restaurant, located at 1622 Highland Avenue, serves new style cuisine that co-owner Chef, Sermet Aslan calls "Southiterranean".



A crowd gathers at the Town's Ribbon-Cutting for new restaurant Hen & the Goat.

New Town Hall Groundbreaking



Photo credit: Meredith Poston

The Town of James Island officially broke ground on its new space in July. Investing in its own facilities not only made financial sense, but also will serve to provide a more functional space for its staff and residents. With southern vernacular weaved throughout from the porch to the metal roof, the local firm of Liollo Architects designed a Town Hall everyone can be proud of. The Council Chambers is in a separate attached building so it can function as meeting space for the community and various committees, while the office space and two conference rooms are housed in the main building. The Town settled on a site that is close to its current office space, but also one that boasts natural beauty. The site along Dills Bluff Rd, near the intersection of Camp Rd, features many beautiful live oak trees, and a very large, unique magnolia tree. Blanchard Construction is bringing this project to completion, with a move-in date set for the spring of 2018.

Flooding, Drainage, and What you Need to Know

Even if your property is not within a flood zone, all areas within the Lowcountry are still at risk for flooding. If you are planning on remodeling or doing any work to your home, check with Building Services to make sure your new construction is up to code. Purchasing flood insurance, even if flood insurance is not required for your property, is a great idea since homeowners insurance does not cover flooding. Flood insurance is available through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Visit FloodSmart.gov or contact your insurance agent for more details. Keeping the island's ditches free and clear is crucially important in helping stormwater runoff get to where it needs to go, and reducing the risk of flooding. In order to ensure your ditches are routinely maintained, the Town is working to secure drainage easements where they do not exist and working with property owners to accomplish this task. The main thing a homeowner can do is make sure not to pile leaves and other debris in the roadside ditches, and not build structures or install large plantings within existing drainage easements. Contact the Town to request a ditch cleaning or report dumping violations before a storm occurs.



New valve installed by the Town on Sea Aire Dr helps prevent tidal waters coming into the neighborhood

Pinckney Park is Open, and Phase II Underway

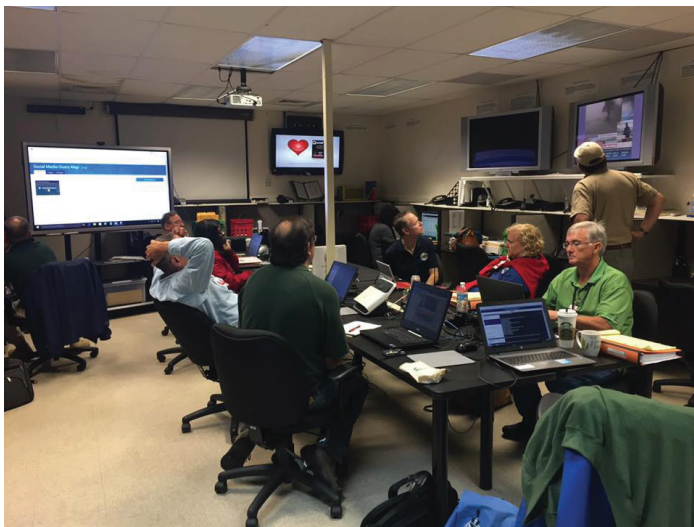
This past May, the Town proudly opened its newest park for residents and visitors to enjoy, located at 461 Fort Johnson Rd, just before the entrance to the DNR facilities. The Town purchased the land in 2015 with Charleston County ½-cent sales tax Greenbelt Funds, money set aside to preserve land in the low country. Hussey Gay Bell Engineers began working on the Master Plan, and with a great deal of input from neighboring residents it was approved in 2016 and construction of Phase I was underway. The park boasts a natural setting with walking trails and a playground. The playground features a Hoopla swing that can be enjoyed by children with or without disabilities. Phase II will include a screened-in picnic shelter and restrooms.

Later phases are set to provide an outdoor classroom and boardwalk overlooking the marsh and a tributary of Parrott Creek. If you are interested in donating to the Adopt-A-Tree Program at Pinckney Park, please visit www.jamesislandsc.us/pinckney-park to download the application.



*New playground at Pinckney Park
Photo credit: Meredith Poston*

Hurricane Matthew Wrap-up and a Look Ahead at Hurricane Season



Town Officials and Staff operating from Greenwood County EOC offices during Hurricane Matthew.

In October of 2016, Hurricane Matthew ravaged the East Coast, hovering over South Carolina and dumping large amounts of rain on already saturated soils. There was a great deal of damage to parts of the low country and the midlands, and fortunately, James Island fared better than other parts of the state. As part of the Town's Emergency Operations Plan, staff and officials evacuated to Greenwood, SC where they were able to operate from the Greenwood County Emergency Management offices and fielded resident phone calls, coordinated efforts and participated in daily updates with both Charleston County and the State EMD. Power outages and fallen tree limbs were the major concerns upon return. Months before the storm, the Town had renewed its agreement with Charleston County who manages the debris removal contracts. For this upcoming storm season, the Town will be looking into the effectiveness of sand bag deployment and assisting in locating additional debris transfer sites on James Island. The Town urges all residents to sign up for the Charleston County Citizen Alert Notification System, and download a copy of the 2017 Charleston County Hurricane Guide. Information on both can be found on the Town's website at: <http://www.jamesislandsc.us/emergency-preparedness>.

The Town Market



This summer, the Town collaborated with Alexandra Purro of Nano Farms and the James Island Youth

Soccer Club (JIYSC) to bring you the Town Market. Located on the JIYSC fields at 871 Fort Johnson Rd., this year-round market will be open every Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm. Come shop locally, with a variety of handmade goods, fresh produce, delicious food, lively music and fun activities for the kids! Make the Town Market your new Saturday family-friendly activity.



Fresh fruits, veggies, eggs and more available at the Town Market



Congratulations to the Gaylards, Lynwood Yard of the Month winners

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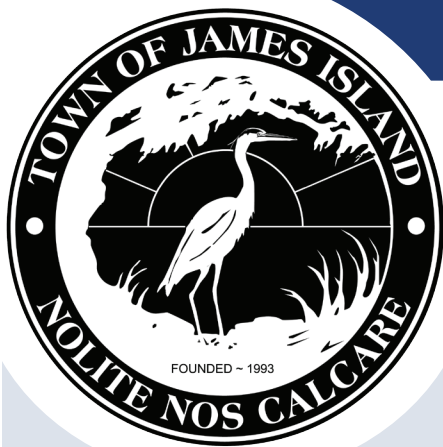
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you informed!*

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at www.jamesislandsc.us

We also are on Facebook
and Twitter





TOWN OF JAMES ISLAND MEETINGS

Town Council meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Planning Commission meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm.

Board of Zoning Appeals meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Neighborhood Council meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Arts Committee meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Children's Commission meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 pm.

James Island Pride meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm.

History Commission meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm.

Meetings are held at Town Hall, 1238-B Camp Road unless the public is notified otherwise.

To receive weekly updates on Town meetings and events, email info@jamesislandsc.us and request to be added to the Town News email list.

**1238-B Camp Road
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James Island, SC 29412**

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**Mayor
Bill Woolsey**

**Mayor Pro Tem
Leonard Blank**

**Members of Council
Garrett Milliken
Darren "Troy" Mullinax
Joshua Stokes**

**Visit us at
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on Facebook and Twitter**



**TOWN OF JAMES ISLAND
P.O. Box 12240
James Island, SC 29412**

Did Someone Say Moratorium?

The recent closing of a local theater and plans to build an apartment complex in its place spurred much debate and discussion about a development moratorium on James Island. At the regular biannual meeting of the Intergovernmental Council chaired by James Island Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem Leonard Blank, local elected officials from all jurisdictions centered their discussion on a moratorium and moving forward with a cohesive plan for James Island. While the Town of James Island already limits density in commercial areas to four units to per acre, it was important to show solidarity and support the City's efforts in taking a hard look at their land use plan for areas within its jurisdiction on James Island. Both the City of Charleston and Town of James Island passed apartment moratoriums for James Island and staff from both municipalities and County representatives as well have been working on proposed changes to present their respective Councils later this year. The Town's moratorium does not restrict redevelopment consistent with the Folly Road Overlay Corridor, and the Town will continue to promote positive redevelopment that serves to improve pedestrian safety and public transit for the island, while limiting high-density housing.