



# TOJI NEWS

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James Island, SC Tel: 843-795-4141; Fax: 843-795-4878

[www.jamesislandsc.us](http://www.jamesislandsc.us)

## IN THIS ISSUE

**Drainage Improvements**

**New Infrastructure Projects**

**Online Work Requests**

**New Town Hall**

**Island Sheriff's Patrol**

**Repair Care Program**

**Pinckney Park Pavilion**

**Hurricane Season**

**Town Market**

**Town Meetings**

**When Do I need a Permit?**

**FOLLOW THE TOWN:**



## James Island Drainage Improvements

After the severe storms during the past few years, many drainage issues have come to light and the Town of James Island has been working to find solutions. Intergovernmental cooperation is very important for drainage on James Island. Most drainage on James Island runs throughout multiple jurisdictions, and so taking a collaborative approach has been fruitful. The Town formed the James Island Stormwater Managers Committee back in 2013, and this body, which consists of Town, County, City and SCDOT representatives, collaborates on addressing problem areas.

Currently, the Town, City and County are all working together on an Island-wide drainage study with help from a consultant. While each jurisdiction has its own projects currently underway, this joint effort would map all basins to better identify and prioritize drainage projects. Other collaborative efforts centered in areas of City and County jurisdiction include drainage studies near Central Park Road and Signal Point Road.

In addition to the Intergovernmental Agreement the Town has with Charleston County for routine maintenance, the Town has contracted with three drainage construction firms who perform drainage repairs and maintenance throughout the Town. This past year, they have completed repairs along Folly Rd, Lynwood Subdivision, Ft. Johnson Rd. and Lighthouse Point. Current projects underway include the Greenhill/Honey Hill Drainage basin, and also projects within the Quail Run and Tallwood neighborhoods. Another ongoing project has been to camera underline drainage lines to identify aging infrastructure that needs to be repaired or replaced. Also, the Town has been securing drainage easements for important links in the James Island drainage system that were never dedicated to the public, allowing our contractors legal access for proper maintenance.



Have a drainage concern in your neighborhood? Notice a ditch being filled in by gravel or debris? Please report any drainage concerns to the Town of James Island Public Works Department, and regardless of jurisdiction we can work to make sure the issue is identified and addressed.

Thank you. Mayor Bill Woolsey

*Slip-lining of an outfall pipe in  
Lighthouse Point*

## Roads, Sidewalks and Intersection Improvements

Another year brings more projects completed to better serve James Island. Some of those include:

**Sterling Drive Improvements** - Drainage and road improvements made to Sterling Drive with grading and graveling.

**Dills Bluff Sidewalk**, Phase I - First leg of sidewalk completed along Dills Bluff Rd. from the intersection of Camp Rd. to Seaside Lane. Phase II, a boardwalk is in permitting and Phase III, a sidewalk from Seaside Lane to Windborn, is in design.

**Santee Street Public Parking Lot**, is a public parking lot located right off Folly Rd. and in walking distance to many great local restaurants.

Traffic Calming Projects were completed in the Centerville and Harbor Woods neighborhoods and include speed humps and new striping/signage. For more information on traffic calming in your neighborhood, contact the Public Works Dept.

**Seaside Lane Sidewalk Project** - A Town-funded project that was awarded matching CTC funds, this sidewalk will connect Dills Bluff Rd to James Island Charter High School. This heavily-traveled road by pedestrians is currently under construction and will be completed in the Fall of 2018.

**Camp and Folly Road Intersection Improvements Project** - In May of 2018, The Folly and Camp Intersection Improvements Project was officially dedicated. This 13.2 million dollar project was funded with half-cent sales tax through the Charleston County Transportation Department, with the Town funding aspects such as the new crosswalks, and soon-to-be installed bus shelter and landscaping. Widening, dedicated turn-lanes, drainage improvements, traffic signal improvements, bike lanes and new sidewalks served the project goal of improving safety and relieving traffic congestion.

**Future Projects** - The recent adoption of the Half-cent sales tax in 2017 has added more funds to Charleston County Transportation projects. On James Island, that means funds to improve the intersections at Riverland Drive and Central Park, Fort Johnson at Secessionville and Fort Johnson at Camp Rd. Also included are bike and pedestrian improvements along Folly Rd. Other Town-funded projects with matching CTC and TST matching funds include Lighthouse Point Sidewalk and Drainage Improvements, Rembert Road Improvements, and Quail Drive Sidewalk.




*Camp/Folly Intersection Improvement Dedication*



*Centerville Traffic Calming Project*

## Did you know?

Within the Town's jurisdiction, our Public Works Department coordinates pothole repairs, drainage activities, road paving projects, overgrowth of vegetation, sidewalk placement and maintenance, street lighting and traffic calming measures. One easy way to report a problem is going online to our website and filling out a Work Order Request Form, and a member from our staff will follow-up with you directly.



### Work Order Request Form

Please fill out all the information below.

Name

Address

Phone Number

Email

What is the best way to reach you?  
☐ Phone  
☐ Email

What type of problem are you experiencing?  
☐ Pothole  
☐ Drainage  
☐ Road paving  
☐ Overgrowth of Vegetation  
☐ Sidewalk repair  
☐ Street Lighting  
☐ Traffic Calming

Please give a description of the issue, including location.

[www.jamesislandsc.us/work-order-request](http://www.jamesislandsc.us/work-order-request)



## New Town Hall and Community Building

The long-awaited goal of the Town has finally come to fruition: a space to call our own.

With certainty that the Town's existence would no longer be challenged, it was time to take root. Officials wanted a Town Hall its residents could be proud of and also one that would make financial sense. Throughout several community workshops, the reoccurring theme voiced by the public was to have a space that was welcoming, embraced the low country charm, and that could function as a multi-purpose community building. The admin part of the facility houses all of Town staff, two conferences rooms, and a flex space that will be utilized by the Island Sheriff's Patrol deputies. The stand-alone building with attached screened-in porch will double as the Council Chambers and host an array of other boards, committees and Island-wide agencies. Need a gathering room for your next HOA meeting or civic club? Contact Town Hall for scheduling.



Join us for a Public Open House! Thursday, August 30th from 6-8 pm. Come tour the new facilities and enjoy an evening of celebration with local food and live music.

**Town Hall Facts:** The building, located at 1122 Dills Bluff Rd., is approximately 6,000 square feet, and has a shared overflow parking lot with First Baptist Church of James Island. The total project cost was \$4 million, which included \$2.7 in hard costs, \$500,000 in land costs, and the remainder in soft costs such as design fees, IT/AV, & FF&E. The project was financed through a Lease-Purchase Revenue Bond, which will be defeased early in the spring of 2019. The building was designed by Liollo Architects, built by Blanchard Construction, and took roughly two and half years from initial design until construction was completed in late July of 2018.



## Island Sheriff's Patrol Expansion

A recent shooting death on James Island prompted Town officials to take swift action by increasing the budget used to fund additional deputies within the Town by \$100,000. Deputies note that while James Island does not have a serious crime problem, there is trend of vehicle break-ins and most times, cars are unlocked. Weekly crime reports can be found on the Town website, and if residents have concerns such as speeding, they can call Town Code Enforcement. Anything that is non-emergency but needs immediate attention, residents are asked to call consolidated dispatch at 843-743-7200.

## Repair Care Program & Helping Hands

Critical-needs home repair is a growing concern on James Island, as residents on fixed-incomes strive to age in place. The partnership between the Town and Sea Island Habitat for Humanity has helped families stay in their homes through new roofing projects, door and window weatherization, and handicap ramp installations.

Need assistance, or know of someone who could use a hand? Find our application online or contact Town Hall. Do you know someone who could use an extra hand with their yardwork? The Helping Hands committee of James Island Pride offers assistance in outdoor maintenance to those who are unable to care for their yards. Volunteers are always welcome so if you're a boyscout troop, church youth group, or just looking to lend a hand, we could use your help!



Habitat's Peter Mathias, Councilman Leonard Blank and Mayor Bill Woolsey pictured with new roof recipient Mrs. Anthony.

## Pinckney Park Pavilion Coming in 2019

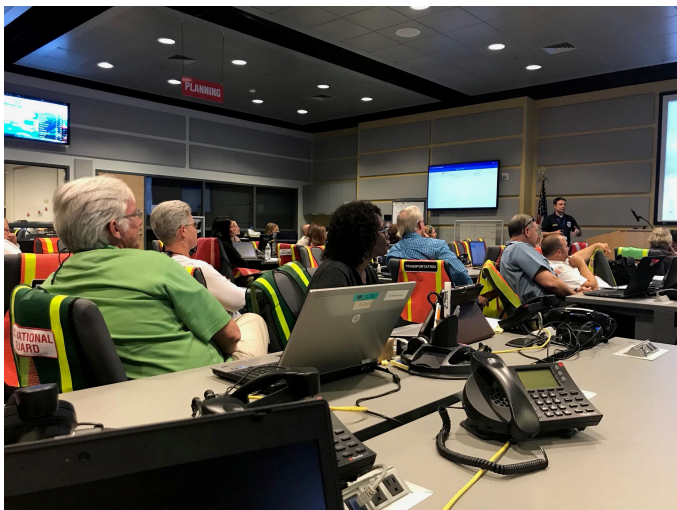
Phase II of Pinckney Park is scheduled to be underway in late Spring of 2019, and will include a picnic shelter with attached restrooms. Also included in this phase are additional trails that will run to the marsh. The playground, which was installed in 2017, has been a huge hit and covered space for picnics along with public restrooms will be a much-needed addition.

The Town's History Commission recently dedicated a Historical Marker at the park site to honor the Simeon Pinckney homestead. Born a slave, he was enlisted in the 3rd S.C. Infantry and later purchased the then twenty acres for \$350. Make sure to visit the marker to learn more. The Town's other park, Dock Street Park at the end of Patterson Ave, is also currently undergoing improvements with new site furnishings through the funding assistance of a PARD grant.



*Rendering of new Picnic Shelter and restroom facilities*

## Hurricane Season is Upon Us



*Town Officials and Staff attending emergency management training at the Charleston County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).*

The past several hurricane seasons have been very active, with the 1,000 year flood and then Hurricanes Matthew and Irma. This season running to November 30th is expected to also bring many named storms, so officials are urging all residents and businesses to be prepared. During an event, information specific to James Island will be shared on the Town's website, Town News email distribution list, Facebook and Twitter. We also strongly recommend signing up for the Charleston County Citizen Notification System through Everbridge. A link to that, as well as the 2018 Hurricane Preparedness Guide, is available on our website under Emergency Preparedness.

Residents are always urged to evacuate early when possible and remember - all evacuation orders are now mandatory. If an evacuation order is issued, everyone on James Island must take SC 171 (Folly Rd) to US 17 (Savannah Hwy). Evacuees will then travel on US 17 to I-526 to the reversed lanes of I-26. One benefit to early evacuation (leaving before the order is issued) is that residents can choose their own route.

The Town and the City of Charleston have been partnering together for the past several years on issuing sandbags at the JI Youth Soccer Club Fields. If used during a storm event, residents are asked to return them to the place of pick-up because they are considered contaminated and need to be properly disposed of in order to receive FEMA reimbursement.



## The Town Market



Located at the JIYSC fields at 871 Fort Johnson Rd., the Town-sponsored Farmer's Market

is a great family-freindly activity for your Saturday mornings. Come shop locally, with a variety of handmade goods, fresh produce, delicious food, lively music and fun activities for the kids! New additions this year include yoga and horseback rides. Check out the Town Market on facebook to keep updated with the latest news and events. Also coming soon are outdoor Movies at the Market.



*Fresh fruits, veggies, crafts and more available weekly at the Town Market*

## Contacts

**Location:** 1122 Dills Bluff Rd,  
James Island, SC 29412

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 12240,  
James Island, SC 29422

**Telephone and Fax:**  
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Darren "Troy" Mullinax,  
Joshua Stokes

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[info@jamesislandsc.us](mailto:info@jamesislandsc.us)*





## 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, 1122 Dills Bluff Road unless the public is notified otherwise.

**To receive weekly updates on Town meetings and events, email [info@jamesislandsc.us](mailto:info@jamesislandsc.us) and request to be added to the Town News email list.**

**1122 Dills Bluff Rd**

**James Island, SC 29412**

**PHONE: 795-4141**

**FAX: 795-4878**

**Mayor**

**Bill Woolsey**

**Mayor Pro Tem**

**Leonard Blank**

**Members of Council**

**Garrett Milliken**

**Darren "Troy" Mullinax**

**Joshua Stokes**

**Visit us at**

**[www.jamesislandsc.us](http://www.jamesislandsc.us) and  
on Facebook and Twitter**



**TOWN OF JAMES ISLAND**

**P.O. Box 12240**

**James Island, SC 29422**

## When do I need a permit?

Residents and Contractors often have questions on when a Zoning and/or Building Permit is needed when doing remodels and renovations. It's important to remember that if you're not altering the footprint of your home, a zoning permit isn't required. However, if you're adding on a room or an accessory structure such as a swimming pool or shed over 120 sf, then a zoning permit would be required to ensure proper use and setback requirements are met. After zoning permit approval, you need a building permit which is required for anyone intending to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure. When in doubt, call Town Hall and our Planning or Building Department can help guide you through the process. Here are some quick facts: Grand Tree Removal Permit - To remove or excessively prune a tree over 24" in diameter, a tree permit is required unless it is an exempt species. Visit our website for more information.

Home Occupation Permit - To operate a home office, a home occupation permit and business license are required. There are many occupations not allowed in residential zoning districts, so check with Town Hall to make sure it's allowed.

Fence - Generally, privacy fences do not need permits if they are no higher than 4 ft. in the front yard and 6 ft. in the side and backyards. There are some special circumstances, so contact the Planning Department if you have any questions regarding requirements.