



115 U.S. Highway 17 North  
 Surfside Beach, SC 29575  
[www.surfsidebeach.org](http://www.surfsidebeach.org)  
 Phone: 843.913.6111  
 Fax: 843.238.5432

[surfsidebeach.org](http://surfsidebeach.org)



Follow us on  
 Twitter



Become a fan on  
 Facebook

**Inside this issue:**

A Message from Mayor Samples	1&3
Town Purchases Historic Property and Revitalizes Historical Board	2
In Memoriam, Councilman Ralph Magliette	3
2015 and 2016 Events	4
Flood Maps and Community Rating System	5
Exercise Trail	6
2016 General Election	7

**A Message from Mayor Samples**

By all accounts, the summer of 2015 was very, very good for the Town, its residents, and of course, our visitors who help drive our economic engine. We seem to have fixed any controversy about parking along our oceanfront. Volunteers and staff worked to beautify our most heavily trafficked areas. It's amazing what flowers and a few well-maintained plantings can do, especially when coupled with our low-rise, low-impact development along the oceanfront and throughout the Town. These simple additions are consistent with "the Family Beach" brand established long ago.

With the fall came a reminder of why the Town has invested millions of taxpayer dollars in its stormwater drainage system. The system requires personnel and support necessary to keep it operating at maximum efficiency (i.e., keeping the ocean outfalls open so water is able to drain into the ocean) despite the high tides that deposit sand at the outfalls impeding stormwater drainage. Our personnel and system performed remarkably well as the historic rain event of 2015 pummeled South Carolina. Our western neighbors in Horry County may not realize it but they, too, should count their blessings for the work done by the Town of Surfside Beach.

You may have noticed surveyors on Highway 17 Business. This work initiates road improvement plans which will be federally funded under the Grand Strand Area Transportation Study (GSATS) and SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT). SCDOT is managing the planning process. The goal is to improve safety and traffic flow on the frontage roads and Highway 17.

The Town recently acquired property located at 3rd Avenue South and Willow Drive associated with the Ark Plantation. This purchase saves a historically important property and ensures the majestic oaks survive for another generation. More about this inside the newsletter.

(Mayor's Message—Continued on Page 3)

**Upcoming Events**

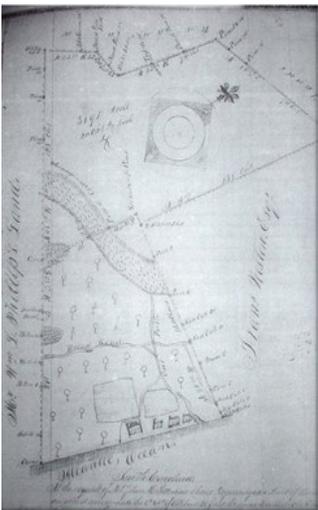
(see page 4)

**Newsletter Distribution Policy**

*Inside Surfside Beach* will continue to be mailed to everyone on our list unless you ask to have your name removed. The Town is, however, trying to conserve resources so you have a choice whether to have the newsletter sent to you by USPS, e-mailed to you or just to view it online. If you prefer to go paperless, let us know by e-mailing us at [newsletter@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:newsletter@surfsidebeach.org) Please include your full name, address and zip code for record purposes. Indicate if you want an e-mail when new publications are issued or prefer to view *Inside Surfside Beach* online.



Site of the Ark Plantation main house. Located on the corner of Willow Drive S. and 3rd Avenue S. in Surfside Beach



Plat of the Ark Plantation Oct. 4 & 5, 1838



## Town Purchases Historic Property and Revitalizes Historical Board

The Town of Surfside Beach recently purchased property associated with the Ark Plantation, which is of historic importance to the community. This beautiful property is located near the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South and Willow Drive South. Three lots were purchased for a total of \$330,000. The purchase was funded by the land acquisition fund, which is derived from a portion of the parking meter revenue.

The Ark Plantation was established in the 1700s, and early records refer to it as a "large indigo plantation." An old plat shows the main house near the ocean and it is believed several slave cabins were located just north of the house. People sought shelter there during the great hurricane of 1893. The main house was eventually converted into an inn and later was used to house beach lifeguards. The house was demolished in the 1960s.

There is an ongoing archaeological dig being conducted on the

property to determine the location of the plantation home and any artifacts associated with that time period.

The Surfside Beach Historical Board has been revitalized to include leadership by those who have a vested interest in the Town's history. There are many ideas for improving the land, including historical markers and creating spaces that the public would enjoy.

The new mission of the Historical Board will include seeking grants to fund research, projects and educational venues; researching the newly-purchased property and making the information available through cultural

events; contacting universities and other institutions for advice on indigenous flora and fauna; creating a park area at the property; and hosting multiple Heritage Days with period costumes and demonstrations.

Meeting dates are the first Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Martin Park Clubhouse on Lakeside Drive near 7th Avenue South. Membership is all-inclusive and the public is strongly encouraged to attend and participate.

The Town history will be posted on the website in the near future.

\*\*\*\*\*



Ark Plantation House

## Mayor's Message (continued)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued new updated flood maps for the Town. These maps do not take effect immediately. We are told by FEMA the maps will go into effect about May of 2016. Generally, many areas of the Town that are in what FEMA calls "Special Flood Hazard Areas" (i.e., AE/VE zones) will no longer fall into that category but, instead, will be categorized in a lower risk grouping (the X zone). If you have questions, please contact our Plan-

ning, Building, and Zoning Department. More about this inside the newsletter.

The Town follows a "pay as you go" approach. We have no debt. We do not finance our operations and have not financed or borrowed for capital projects since the 1990s. This philosophy, I believe, has served us very well. We do maintain sufficient reserves to meet ongoing and planned/projected requirements such as periodic beach renourishment. The ser-

vices provided and the quality of life here in Surfside Beach are unparalleled. We thank you--residents, businesses, and visitors--who all share in making "pay as you go" feasible for the Town of Surfside Beach.

Remember Town Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month (except December) at 6:30 pm in Chambers at the Town Hall Complex. The public is always welcome.

Doug Samples

*"Generally, many areas of the Town that are in what FEMA calls "Special Flood Hazard Areas" (i.e. AE/VE zones), will no longer fall into that category but, instead, will be categorized in a lower risk grouping (the X zone)"*

## In Memoriam, Councilman Ralph Magliette

We are saddened to report that Surfside Beach Town Council member Ralph Magliette passed away on October 30, 2015. His many friends and acquaintances knew a hard-working, intelligent, selfless and caring person who made "loving kindness" a priority.

In addition to his dedicated service as a member of town council, Ralph worked tirelessly in the community at large to help those in need, particularly with South Strand Helping Hand. Specifically, as councilman, he supported

the business community, the senior citizens community and the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful committee. He could be seen daily walking about the Town, keeping an eye on things.

Ralph loved Surfside Beach, frequently calling it "a little gem." He will be sorely missed.



Ralph Magliette

March 9, 1954—October 30, 2015



*Christmas Tree Lighting  
Thursday, Dec. 3, 2015  
7:00 p.m. at Town Hall*



*Christmas Parade  
Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015  
2:00 p.m. at Ocean Blvd.*



*Breakfast with Santa  
Saturday, Dec. 19, 2015  
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.  
at the Golden Egg*

## Questions regarding Events & Recreation

For more information regarding events and classes please contact Debbie Ellis at 843-650-9548 or by e-mail at [dellis@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:dellis@surfsidebeach.org).

## 2016 Events at the Family Beach

### FEBRUARY

26<sup>th</sup> – **Senior Dance** – Friday – 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. – Civic Center

### MARCH

5<sup>th</sup> – **BBQ Festival** – Saturday – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Surfside Drive  
26<sup>th</sup> – **Easter Egg Hunt** – Saturday – 2:00 p.m. – Huckabee Complex  
February 15<sup>th</sup> – March 15<sup>th</sup> – **Taste of Surfside Beach**

### APRIL

16<sup>th</sup> – **Pet Fair** – Saturday – 9:00 a.m. – Surfside Beach Dog Park

### MAY

29<sup>th</sup> – **Blessing of the Beach** – Sunday – 7:00 a.m. – Surfside Pier  
29<sup>th</sup> – **Memorial Day Cookout** – Sunday – 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Surfside Drive  
29<sup>th</sup> – **Sunday Serenades** – Sunday – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Passive Park  
30<sup>th</sup> – **Memorial Day Service** – Monday – 2:30 p.m. – Veterans Memorial

### JUNE

16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> – **Movies After Dark** – Thursday – 9:00 p.m. – Martin Field  
5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> – **Sunday Serenades** – 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – Passive Park

### JULY

4<sup>th</sup> – **Fourth of July Celebration** – Monday – 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. – Surfside Pier  
14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> – **Movies After Dark** – Thursday – 9:00 p.m. – Martin Field  
11<sup>th</sup> – **Kids Fair** – Monday – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Fuller Park  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> – **Sunday Serenades** – 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – Passive Park

### AUGUST

4<sup>th</sup> – **Movies After Dark** – Thursday – 9:00 p.m. – Martin Field  
8<sup>th</sup> – **Beach Luau** – Monday – 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – Surfside Pier  
7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> – **Sunday Serenades** – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Passive Park

### SEPTEMBER

10<sup>th</sup> – **Skyhoundz Disc Contest** – Saturday – 10:00 a.m. – Martin Field  
17<sup>th</sup> – **S. C. Sea Grant Beach Sweep** – Saturday – 9:00 a.m. – Surfside Pier  
4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> – **Sunday Serenades** – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Passive Park

### OCTOBER

1<sup>st</sup> – **Surfside Beach Family Festival** – Saturday – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Surfside Drive  
29<sup>th</sup> – **Halloween Rod Run Car Show** – Saturday – 10:00 a.m. – Pier

### NOVEMBER

11<sup>th</sup> – **Veterans Day Service** – Friday – 2:00 p.m. – Veterans Memorial  
24<sup>th</sup> – **Turkey Trot** – Thursday – 8:00 a.m. – Surfside Pier Parking Lot

### DECEMBER

1<sup>st</sup> – **Christmas Tree Lighting** – Thursday – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall  
10<sup>th</sup> – **Christmas Parade** – Saturday – 2:00 p.m. – Ocean Boulevard  
17<sup>th</sup> – **Breakfast with Santa** – Saturday – 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – Golden Egg

**Sunday Serenades** – Sundays 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Passive Park – **May** – **September**  
**Farmer's Market** – Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Harrison Park – **May** – **October**

## Flood Maps and Community Rating System

Preliminary updated FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Maps) have been released by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). Many properties are no longer in an area of special flood hazard. Most areas of special flood hazard within the Town have been reduced; the LiMWA line (Limit of Moderate Wave Action) has been expanded to include areas adjacent to stormwater drainage ponds.

The map can be viewed at [www/surfsidebeach.org](http://www.surfsidebeach.org) under the main tab "Floodplain Resources." For personalized assistance, residents and property owners may contact the town's Planning, Building and Zoning Department.

The updated FIRM is preliminary and will not

become effective until sometime in 2016. The intervening year is intended to allow time for community coordination, appeals, and compliance. Two public information sessions were offered on October 20, 2015 to respond to questions and concerns. Attendance was light and no concerns were expressed.

FEMA also recently released the Town's preliminary CRS (Community Rating System) designation. This rating impacts individual flood insurance premium rates by allowing a discount, based on the CRS rating of the municipality. The Town of Surfside Beach had been at a 9 level and has earned a new rating of 5. This 4-point leap from 9 to 5 was achieved by voluntary actions of the

Town to engage in floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) requirements.

The new CRS rating is preliminary and goes into effect sometime in 2016. It is projected to reduce property owners' flood insurance premiums by 10 percent if they are outside flood zone, and up to 25 percent if they are in the flood zone.

The following information can be obtained from the Planning, Building and Zoning Department:

- Flood Map determinations and an explanation of risk to flooding,
- Copies of Elevation Certificates (ECs), if available,
- Copies of Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs),

- Requirements for construction in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA),

- Substantial damage determinations.

Please contact the Director of Planning, Building and Zoning or the Building Official at (843) 913-6341 for more information.



## Did You Know?

• **Website:** The Town of Surfside Beach launched a newly designed, user friendly website in late summer 2015. Please visit our new website at [www.surfsidebeach.org](http://www.surfsidebeach.org).

• **Mobile App:** Coming in December users of iPhones will be able to download the "Town of Surfside Beach" mobile app from their App Store and Android users from their Google Play Store.

• **Planning, Building and Zoning Department:** P, B & Z has moved their offices to the west side of the Civic Center building across the parking lot from Town Hall. Phone numbers remain the same.

• **Golf Carts:** State law requires that golf carts be operated only by a licensed driver.

• **Tree Cutting and Trimming:** In an effort to preserve our beautiful trees, Town Council has recently raised the fines for trimming or cutting trees without a permit.

They are:

- \$500 for removing limbs over 4" in diameter without approval.
- \$500 for removing unprotected trees without a permit.

- fine for removing protected or specimen trees without a permit \$500 per 4" caliper for each tree.

- \$10,000 for removing landmark trees.

- \$500 for failure to obtain a permit prior to trimming or cutting.

Contact the Planning, Building and Zoning Department for more information.

## Passive Park Exercise Trail

What a nice walk in the park, totally shaded, with the opportunity to exercise along the meandering quarter mile of paved pathways. The live oak trees are a beautiful setting for the five exercise stations spread out in the Surfside Beach Passive Park Exercise Trail. Its convenient location on Surfside Drive and Willow Drive N. is next to the Library and the Dog Parks. Parking is plentiful. Recently, Public Works completed the walkway "loop" to make it a contiguous lap.

The "Life Trail Advanced Wellness" exercise units, manufactured by Playfield Systems, are sturdy and easy to use, with instruction graphics and health benefits presented at each station. The five stations have a variety of exercises:

- Lower body warmup and cycling up to 5'7" height.
- Shoulder, triceps and torso stretches (wheel chair accessible).
- Upper body stretch and strengthening.
- Pushup and squat exercises.

- Lower body cycling (adjustable 5'8" and taller) and stair climber.

Exercise is very healthy for people of all ages, especially seniors. The benefits of exercise have been known since antiquity. Marcus Cicero around 65 BC stated: "It is exercise alone that supports the spirits and keeps the mind in vigor." Physical exercise benefits all the body. It contributes positively to healthy weight, healthy bone density, muscle strength and joint mobility. Exercise promotes physiological well-being, reduces surgical risks, and strengthens the immune system, cardiovascular system, brain function and helps sleep quality.

Walking is considered by most to be the best overall exercise. Walking more can lengthen your life. According to the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, "A brisk 20-minute daily walk can reduce your risk of early death by 16-30 percent."

So come on down to the exercise trail located at Passive Park, a healthy resource in Surfside Beach

available to residents and visitors.

Walk and exercise at your convenience, enjoy the scenery and fresh air . . . "Life is a gift, enjoy!"

\*\*\*\*\*

*"The live oak trees are a beautiful setting for the 5 exercise stations spread out in the Surfside Beach Passive Park Exercise Trail."*



Upper Body Warmup for Wheelchair Users



Lower Body Warmup Station



Pushup Exercise Station

## 2016 General Election

The Town of Surfside Beach will have a General Election on April 5, 2016. This takes place in every even-numbered year for the purpose of electing Town officials. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. It is a nonpartisan election and no reference to party affiliation will be placed on the ballot.

Offices included in this election for the term beginning May 10, 2016, and ending May 12, 2020, are Mayor (1 seat) and Town Council (3 seats). Also, a special election is being held at the same time for the late councilmember Magliette's term that expires on May 8, 2018. Citizens desiring to be candidates for any of the offices must file with the Town Clerk at Town Hall, 115 US Highway 17 Business, Surfside Beach.

**Candidate Filing:** Candidate filing opens on January 11, 2016 and closes on January 15, 2016. Those interested may come by between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily by walk in or appointment with the

Town Clerk. Evening appointments are available if prescheduled. Pursuant to Town Code 5-31(2), all candidates are required to appear in person to file a Statement of Candidacy and must provide the following at the time of filing:

- Voter Registration Card and Proof of Age (candidates must be at least 18 years old).
- Proof of residency for at least 30 days.
- Filing fee of \$50 for Mayor, or \$25 for Town Council (cash or check).

Absentee Ballots must be requested from the Horry County Elections office, 843-913-5440 (no later than Friday, March 4, 2016).

**Poll Workers Needed:** Town residency is preferred, but not required and you must be a registered elector in Horry or Georgetown County. You must also be available for mandatory training (tentatively scheduled for March 30, 2016) and also from 6:15 a.m. to after 7:00 p.m. on April 5 and April 19, 2016 (April 19 is design-

nated for any runoff election, if necessary).

\*\*\*\*\*



For additional information, please contact Debra Herrmann, Town Clerk at 843-913-6333, [dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org) or visit [www.surfsidebeach.org/electionscomm.html](http://www.surfsidebeach.org/electionscomm.html).

### HOLIDAY TRASH SERVICE

Reminder: The holiday trash service/collection schedule for the remainder of 2015 is as follows:

**Thursday, December 24th / Christmas Eve**  
 Scheduled Commercial Collection  
 Town Wide Recyclables Collection  
 Scheduled Residential Yard Debris Collection  
 Public Work Offices Closed

**Friday, December 25th / Christmas**  
 No Commercial Collection  
 No Residential Yard Debris Collection  
 Public Work Offices Closed

**Thursday, December 31st / New Year's Eve**  
 Scheduled Commercial Collection  
 Town Wide Recyclables Collection  
 Scheduled Residential Yard Debris Collection  
 Public Work Offices Closed

**Friday, January 1st / New Year's Day (2016)**  
 Normal Commercial Collection  
 Normal Friday Yard Debris Collection  
 Public Work Offices Closed

Contact the Public Works Department at 843-913-6360 or e-mail [publicworks@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:publicworks@surfsidebeach.org).

The 2016 Sanitation Schedule will be posted on our website at [www.surfsidebeach.org/public-works](http://www.surfsidebeach.org/public-works).

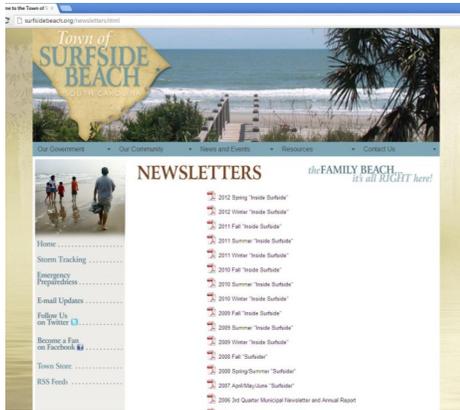
# Inside SURFSIDE BEACH

Volume 23, Issue 1



PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MYRTLE BEACH SC  
PERMIT NO 281

Please deliver to addressee or current occupant.



"Inside Surfside Beach" is also published on the Town website at [www.surfsidebeach.org](http://www.surfsidebeach.org).

## Contact Information

### Department Contacts

843.913.6111 Town Hall—Main Number  
[town@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:town@surfsidebeach.org)  
843.913.6111 Town Administrator, Micki Fellner  
843.913.6337 Court, Municipal Judge Chris Arakas  
[arakasc@horrycounty.org](mailto:arakasc@horrycounty.org)  
843.913.6336 Finance Director, Diana King  
[dking@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:dking@surfsidebeach.org)  
843.913.6369 Fire Department, Chief Kevin Otte  
[kotte@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:kotte@surfsidebeach.org)  
843.913.6354 Planning, Building & Zoning, Director Sabrina Morris  
[smorris@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:smorris@surfsidebeach.org)  
843.913.6351 Police Department, Chief Rodney Keziah  
[rkeziah@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:rkeziah@surfsidebeach.org)  
843.913.6361 Public Works, Director John Adair  
[jadair@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:jadair@surfsidebeach.org)  
843.650.9548 Recreation & Events, Supervisor Debbie Ellis  
[dellis@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:dellis@surfsidebeach.org)

### EMERGENCY CALLS—Dial 9-1-1

US Mail: Town of Surfside Beach  
115 U.S. Highway 17 North  
Surfside Beach, SC 29575

Web: [surfsidebeach.org](http://surfsidebeach.org)

 Follow us on  
Twitter

 Become a fan on  
Facebook

### Town Council

Douglas F. Samples, Mayor  
[DougSamples@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:DougSamples@surfsidebeach.org)

David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tem  
[DPellegrino@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:DPellegrino@surfsidebeach.org)

Robert F. Childs, Town Council  
[BChilds@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:BChilds@surfsidebeach.org)

Mark L. Johnson, Town Council  
[MarkJohnson@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:MarkJohnson@surfsidebeach.org)

Mary M. Mabry, Town Council  
[MaryBethMabry@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:MaryBethMabry@surfsidebeach.org)

Randle M. Stevens, Town Council  
[RandleStevens@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:RandleStevens@surfsidebeach.org)

**Town Clerk**  
Debra Herrmann, CMC  
843.913.6333  
[dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org](mailto:dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org)