

# City Staff Defines Future Priorities

Senior City staff have defined broad priorities for a new strategic plan for City Council and Planning Commission review. The list addresses some complex new issues.

- ✓ The first priority is dune management. Dunes will be planted and walkovers repaired. A new study, with the Army Corps of Engineers, of beach needs and anticipated changes for the next 50 years is proposed.
- ✓ Major emphasis on water infrastructure, which would also involve looking at bonds and water rates. The City's "new" water line was built in 1989. Part of the effort involves building in water redundancy – the City depends on a single line from James Island. Planners will explore accessing an aquifer, or building a second line together with Charleston Water System, which manages the line.



The Folly Beach water tower.

- ✓ Seeking an architect to look at redesigning the interior of City Hall. The space is awkward, and much of it is wasted. Additional staff have been crammed into open areas, there are no conference rooms, windows are only on corridors, and first floor space is wasted on a wide staircase. The technology infrastructure is inadequate.
- ✓ A previous pedestrian path, buffered from cars by a berm, is planned for East and West 2<sup>nd</sup> streets. If the concept works, it might be adapted later for other major streets.

- ✓ A new drainage study, undertaken with the County, to identify priority areas, pipe sizes, ways to manage outflow to the marsh, and other issues anticipated due to climate change. Attention will be paid to existing problem areas: West 9<sup>th</sup>, East 4<sup>th</sup>, and West 3<sup>rd</sup>. City residents pay a \$35 storm drainage County fee to address problems like this.

City Administrator Spencer Wetmore urges Folly residents to pay attention to Council and Planning Commission meetings for developments on the beach and marsh moratoriums, and on the proposed strategic plan. These issues need citizen awareness and participation.

## Progress on Moratorium

On Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Commission will consider adopting beach management proposals which were approved by City Council in December.

Current buildings are grandfathered, but new or replacement buildings would have to be behind a 40' Dune Management Area (DMA) measured from the Permanent Easement Line.

The only improvements allowed in the DMA would be appropriate plantings, sand fencing, beach compatible fill, walkovers and sea walls/revetments. No above-grade structures or new landscaping would be permitted. Existing landscaping is exempt.

New walkovers would have to extend to the toe of the most seaward dune. New seawall would have to be a minimum of 8' NAVDD88 elevation. Seawalls and revetments built in the DMA would have to be covered and the area disturbed for construction raised to 10' NAVDD88 and planted.

Planning Commission Chair LaJuan Kennedy, who will recuse herself from voting because she manages oceanfront property, says the changes are tough, but really mean owners will have to be creative if they replace structures. She thinks these proposals will make it better for all of us, "so let's try it. We can always change it."

The Commission is still working on marsh setbacks and other marsh regulations. Kennedy thinks they will have to distinguish between marsh on the river and inland marsh. She thinks the Commission will define a new marsh setback and require a natural buffer.

# Clubs and Organizations

## Civic Club

The Civic Club met December 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss the club's mission and strategic initiatives, and celebrate the holidays. The Club determined to focus on Folly Beach civic engagement, community service, and civility in 2019. We have begun to plan relevant upcoming goals and priorities to meet the needs of Folly Beach citizens. We encourage all to engage in community service when possible, and please join the Club (membership: \$15 single, \$25 family) to contribute ideas, priorities, and activity suggestions.

At our January meeting, Mayor Tim Goodwin will speak about the City's 2018 accomplishments, as well as 2019 goals and priorities. All are welcome to attend this meeting on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Community Center.

The January meeting is also "Bring A New Member Night." Dues of new members joining the Club at this meeting will be waived for the first year of membership.

***Katherine Houghton (781) 254-2302***  
***[khoughton2259@gmail.com](mailto:khoughton2259@gmail.com)***

## Home and Garden Club

January's Yard of the Month is 1118 East Ashley, owned by Terry and Billy Grooms since 2006. The Grooms had familial ties to Folly; he learned to swim here as a child, and her grandmother lived here. They chose Folly for its peaceful atmosphere, humor and people.

They based their landscaping on symmetry and flow. Beds were designed to easily mow the palisades zoysia grass.

The central bed is adorned with a whimsical monkey fountain. Monkeys abound. Red knockout roses accent little John red bottle brushes, peppers and lilies. Juniper provides grown cover, while purple vine winding the railings and paired palmettos greet guests.

A pervious driveway of crushed concrete and asphalt bisects the zoysia. Tall junipers stand to the left and right, with sweet grass blowing and rosemary pots scenting the area.

Tall palmettos border the left side, with two newly planted orange trees and a surviving guava tree. Aluminum vegetable boxes, assembled by Billy and fertilized with his recommended cotton bur, sustain tomatoes, sweet potatoes and asparagus. An ancient pear tree is on the left.

A fan palm and neon pink little John bottlebrush welcome on the right, where Terry's bed of white peace roses, pale pink Francis Millands, Saint Patricks and Mr. Lincolns cohabit, with Carolina jasmine above. Her secret for success is to cut deep before the cold weather.

Congrats to the Grooms. May their grandchildren make Folly memories in the secret playroom under the stairs.

The garden club will meet Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Community Center at noon. Charleston Florist will be our speaker. Happy 2019! ***Lynn Ray Smalley (843) 588-0093***  
***[9touchstone9@gmail.com](mailto:9touchstone9@gmail.com)***

## Exchange Club

Our Holiday Party is tentatively Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm at Locklears on Little Oak (LoLo's). Our Public Works cook-out, when we show appreciation to our public workers, is being scheduled. The Exchange/FAB Golf Tournament will be held Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>; to learn more about team signups, sponsorships, and volunteering, please contact DJ Rich at [planet\\_follywood@yahoo.com](mailto:planet_follywood@yahoo.com).

Hats off to Angus Smith for being named South Carolina's District 48 Treasurer, and John Merritt Jr. for receiving the National Exchange Club's 2018 Distinguished Secretary Award! A big thanks to members who helped clean up the hut after another big flooding (especially to Matt Gerringer and Greg Marshall for putting in our new door and framework). The club is also in the process of getting new chairs and paver ramps installed by the doors.

***John Merritt Jr 843-847-9823***  
***[fbexchangeclub@gmail.com](mailto:fbexchangeclub@gmail.com)***

## Senior Citizens

Folly Beach Seniors will meet Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11 am in the Community Center. All 55 and older are invited. Our main dish will be ham. All others bring your favorite side dish or dessert. Our speaker will be from S.C. Sea Grant. Thanks to Johnny Carter for our delicious catered Christmas Dinner. We are giving a fruit basket to a Folly Beach shut in. Come to our Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting and help us begin 2019! We wish all a Happy and safe New Year!!!

***Pauline Ray (843) 588-9580***

## Green Team

The Green Team will provide educational workshops, beach sweeps and an energy contest for Folly residents in 2019. Stay tuned for the following opportunities:

- Home Solar Energy info/guest speaker at February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting;
- Home Energy Contest in January/February;
- Community *Spartina* planting in June;
- Possible Storm Drain Mural Project in the Spring.

Contact Folly Green to set up beach sweeps on Folly.

Green Team meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month in Council Chambers at 6 pm.

***Teresa Marshall (828) 553-4670***  
***[teresa.marshall56@hotmail.com](mailto:teresa.marshall56@hotmail.com)***

## Arts and Crafts Guild

The Guild will not meet in January. We will meet again on Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. ***Kerry Hupp (843) 345-8739***  
***[kerryhupp@bellsouth.net](mailto:kerryhupp@bellsouth.net)***

## *From the Desk of the Mayor*

Happy New year! And what a year this is shaping up to be! We will begin the year working on very needed environmental protection legislation in the form of Beach and Marsh Front setbacks.

2018 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of man's first flight out of Earth's orbit to the moon. That's right, for all those old enough to remember that wonderful Christmas Eve transmission from Apollo 8, in lunar orbit, to billions of people around the world, astronauts Jim Lovell, Frank Borman and Bill Anders read the first 11 verses of Genesis and then wished all those of back on the Good Earth a very Merry Christmas.

As historical as this live transmission was, it failed to compare to the image that Apollo 8 sent back when on the sixth orbit of the moon, coming around from the dark side into the light, man first witnessed Earth Rise from outer space. The crew took a picture that made the world stand still and take notice. For the first time, everyone on Earth could see our planet floating in the dark vastness of the universe. It showed everyone just how small and vulnerable the place we call home really is, compared to the universe we live in.

After this realization was thrust upon us, we began to make environmental protection a very important part of our lives. So let's all Google Earth Rise, look at that picture for a few moments, and remember that the protection of this place we call home, the protection of the environment, goes far beyond our personal wants and wishes to the preservation of the Good Earth, and the preservation of future generations' ability to call the third rock from the sun home!

Be sure to watch the 2019 meeting notices from City Council, and other committee meetings, to follow closely what is happening in your city. I urge you to take advantage of the many opportunities for you to share your opinions and ideas. If you have questions or comments, let's talk about them. It's one way to get correct information every time. Contact me at [tgoodwin@cityoffollybeach.com](mailto:tgoodwin@cityoffollybeach.com) or (843) 729- 0298.

*Mayor Tim*

## *The Chief's Corner*

I hope you all had very safe and happy holidays. We had a good, and busy, 2018. Look for our second annual department report to come out soon. That said, we are gearing up for 2019 to be even better.

If you have any feedback to help us improve as a department, please feel free to reach out any time.

**Andrew Gilreath (843) 588-7003**  
**[agilreath@cityoffollybeach.com](mailto:agilreath@cityoffollybeach.com)**

## **Folly Beach by the 2018 Numbers**

- ✓ 19,164 Public Safety calls for service.
- ✓ 1,170 building permits and
- ✓ 1,438 inspections.
- ✓ 4.1 million pounds of solid waste and
- ✓ 1.3 million pounds of yard debris.
- ✓ 505 maintenance requests fulfilled.
- ✓ 2.3 million cars crossed the Folly River Bridge.
- ✓ 2,276 checks written.
- ✓ 97,958 e-mails sent.
- ✓ 122 water service transfers and new service.
- ✓ 7,141 court and parking tickets

*Taken from "This Year at City Hall: 2018 in Review," a report which will be mailed to residents soon.*

## **From the City.....**

..... **2019 Golf Cart decals** are available in the City Hall front office. Please bring driver's license, proof of insurance, and SC DMV registration showing a Folly Beach address. If you are over 65, decals are free. All others must pay \$5.

New for 2019: Your golf cart decal is no longer also a parking decal. To avoid confusion with rental golf carts, you must now get a parking decal for your golf cart.

..... **2019 Residential Parking Decal** Every full-time resident is entitled to two parking decals, which let you park free in paid parking areas (beach lots, the Washout, Arctic Ave). This year, you will receive a decal for your golf cart if you intend to use it in paid parking areas, and it counts towards your two decals.

Come to City Hall anytime during business hours to fill out an application, which asks for your vehicle's make, model, and license plate number. Please bring a driver's license with a Folly address or two forms of proof of residency (utility bill, long-term rental agreement, etc.). Property owners who never rent their home may receive one parking decal.

..... **2019 Dog Tags** are available at the Public Safety Dispatch Office. Bring the most recent copy of your dog's rabies information (the form from the vet, not the tag). If you are over 55, your dog tag is free; all those under 55 must pay \$3 in the front office of City Hall prior going to dispatch.

Come see us in City Hall, Monday-Friday 9 am-5 pm. Bring your Driver's License, Golf Cart Insurance, SC DMV Golf Cart Registration, car's license plate number, your dog's rabies paperwork, and money to pay any fees.

For more information, visit [www.cityoffollybeach.com](http://www.cityoffollybeach.com).

# Folly Fun Stuff!

The 6th Annual Bill Murray Look-a-Like **Polar Bear Plunge**, Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>. Costume Contest, Raffle, Kids Crafts, and Live Music. Sign up beachside or in the lobby at the Tides Hotel. Contests will begin at 10 am. Attendees will take the cold plunge at 11 am. \$5 entry fee for anyone 18 years or over. Prizes for Best Kid; Best Girl; Best Guy; Best Team; Best Bill Murray Overall.



The two-day food celebration **Taste of Folly** starts Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 7-10 pm with a cocktail competition upstairs at the Tides Hotel. Folly restaurants will offer signature cocktails. You can sample them and vote for \$20. On Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup> from 10 am-4 pm on Center Street, Folly restaurants will offer free samples. There will be a chili cook-off, a hot dog eating contest, cooking demonstrations (including a kids' area cooking demo), an oyster-shucking contest, the Server Olympics competition, and live music. Admission is \$5 (free to residents who show a driver's license with a Folly address, and kids 12 and under).



**Folly Beach Baptist Church** is starting a 12-week bible study, "The 12 Women of the Bible," on Tuesdays starting January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 am or 6:30 pm (repeated Thursdays at 9:30 am). The confidential Recovery in Christ support group meets Thursdays at 6 pm. All programs are in the Fellowship Hall.



## FOLLY BEACH LIBRARY

We have Storytime and a craft on Mondays at 10:30 am **except Monday, January 21<sup>th</sup>, when we will be closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.** Our After-School STEAM Club will meet on Mondays at 3:30 pm. On Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> we will be open from 10 am-2 pm. The Folly Beach Book Club will meet on Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm to discuss "A Piece of the World" by Christina Baker Kline. Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> the Fossil Club will meet at 6 pm. For more information on any of these programs, give us a call or check out the library's web page [www.ccpl.org](http://www.ccpl.org).

**Mary Bushkar (843) 588-2001**  
[bushkarm@ccpl.org](mailto:bushkarm@ccpl.org)

## COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS ON FOLLY

843-795-4386 or [www.charlestoncountyparks.com](http://www.charlestoncountyparks.com) to register or for info.

**Seabirding at Folly Beach Pier Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> - 8:30-10 am.**

Targets include grebes, loons, gulls, terns, etc. Paid chaperone required for ages 15 and under. Meet at Folly Beach Pier entrance. Age 12 and up. Fee: \$6

***The Sandspur is free to Folly Beach (29439) post office box holders, and is available free at City Hall and the Library. It can be found online at [www.cityoffollybeach.com](http://www.cityoffollybeach.com), and at the Folly Beach Civic Club's Facebook page. Subscriptions cost \$15 a year to be mailed within the U.S., and are popular with former residents and friends and family of current residents. To subscribe, send a \$15 check for "Folly Beach Civic Club" to Marlene Estridge in City Hall (PO Box 48, Folly Beach SC 29439). The City of Folly Beach helps pay for printing **The Sandspur**.***

## *★ The Sandspur*

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or Comcast channel 195

## LIBRARY HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY 10-6      WEDNESDAY 12-8  
FRIDAY 10-6      2<sup>nd</sup> SATURDAY 10-2  
**CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup>**

## CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

### Council Chambers

7 <sup>th</sup> Planning Commission	7pm
8 <sup>th</sup> Council meeting	7pm
14 <sup>th</sup> Design Review Board	6pm
22 <sup>th</sup> Parks and Recreation Board	6pm

### Clubs, Organizations & Committees

2 <sup>nd</sup> Save the Light	7pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> Senior Citizens	11am
Folly Green Team	6pm
Exchange Club Board	7pm
10 <sup>th</sup> Folly Association of Business	6pm
15 <sup>th</sup> Civic Club	7pm
17 <sup>th</sup> Exchange Club	7pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> Garden Club	noon

### Library

7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>st</sup> Story Time, craft	10:30am
7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>st</sup> STEAM Club	3:30pm
9 <sup>th</sup> Book Club:	2:30pm
<i>A Piece of the World</i>	
12 <sup>th</sup> Open Saturday	10am-2pm
16 <sup>th</sup> Fossil Club	6pm

### Recycling

14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>

### Volunteer Fire Fighters

8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	6pm
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### Special Events

1 <sup>st</sup> New Year's Day	
1 <sup>st</sup> Polar Bear Plunge	11am
7 <sup>th</sup> Orthodox Christmas	
15 <sup>th</sup> Seabirding at Folly Pier	8:30am
18 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> Taste of Folly	
21 <sup>st</sup> Martin Luther King Jr. Day	