FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Dear Citizens of Surfside Beach:

THE SURFSIDE BEACH CLEAN CITY/BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE IS NO MORE!

In a letter to Council dated January 21, 1999 and signed Acting Chairman, Bill Hornsby, and the Committee's remaining members, Becky Bolick, Dudley Wells and Elmer Hoeltge, Council was asked to consider dissolution of this Committee. Citing the difficulty in recruiting members, the recent resignation of Past President, Rebecca Jowers, and the ill health of present members as their reasons, the members expressed regrets at arriving at this decision.

The Clean City Committee, as developed by "Keep America Beautiful, Inc.", was established by Town Council in August of 1984, with original members Ray Cleary, Jim Daniels, Joyce Galbraith, Bill Hockenberry, Rebecca Jowers, Bill LaGue and G.D. Yarborough, who is a Lifetime Member. Purpose of the Committee was to improve the physical quality of community life; dispose of loose refuse and litter, which would help to provide a clean environment; and educate the public in the proper handling of solid waste and litter in Surfside Beach.

Over the years other citizens have served dutifully, including Ginny Townsend, Barbara O'Neill, Jesse Taylor, Betsy Moore, Bill and Kathy Goddard, Kate Wilson and Tulip Fusco. These fine people served the Town well, selecting prize-winning yards and businesses on a quarterly basis, and awarding Certificates of Appreciation and "Yard/Business of the Month" signs for winners to display on their property. Special awards for "Best Christmas Decoration" had residents scrambling to show their "creative sides" and vying for the honor.

Council and I granted the request of these caring citizens, but with sincere regret. This dedicated group has persevered over the years and worked hard to keep residents interested in making Surfside Beach the beautiful little Town that it is. We will miss their warm and friendly visits and our trips with them to the winners' homes/businesses to present the awards...

and not always during the most pleasant weather. Many thanks, dear friends from all of us, for your efforts on behalf of the Town of Surfside Beach.

The Committee is now disbanded, but if there are seven (7) of you out there who feel this is a Board that is important to the Town and would be willing to serve on the committee, please contact Town Administrator, Neil Ferguson, and the Clean City/ Beautification Committee will be "back in business as a s a p".

Remember, your presence is always welcome at Town Council Meetings... 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. See you there?

Sincerely,

Dick M. Johnson, Mayor

PUBLIC WORKS

LAKE SPRAYING

Spring is a beautiful time of year. Trees come alive with leaves and flowers are blooming in an array of colors. Unfortunately, algae begins to form on our area lakes, which demands immediate attention. In an attempt to combat the problem, the Street Department will begin lake spraying with an algaecide treatment in mid April. Local residents that live beside a lake will be notified by door hangars that the lake is being treated. While algaecide does not harm fish or other small animals and aquatic mammals, it does turn your grass and other chlorophyll plants brown. During the time of spraying you will be advised via door hanger not to water your lawn from the lake water for at least 24 hours after treatment. If you have any questions, contact Jan Lewis at Town Hall.

DRAINAGE DITCHES

Cleaning and clearing of debris and overgrown vegetation is performed to maintain the drainage system in Surfside Beach. Public Works keeps the ditches on rights of way clear for water to pass freely during the Spring rains. Throwing grass clippings and other yard debris into the ditches will stop this flow and break down the system and will even increase standing water on and around properties. While we cannot control the amount of rain that falls, and there will naturally be some high water areas, you can help us keep Surfside Beach's drainage free of material that could back up the sys-
tem by bagging yard debris. Bagged yard debris is picked up every Wednesday.

**3RD AVENUE SOUTH WALKOVER**

The walkover at the 3rd Avenue South swash was reconstructed in January. Certainly, this adds not only a convenience to our many beach enthusiasts who enjoy walking along the shore, but also to the charm of that area. Take time to stroll along the beach and use the facilities that the Town brings to our citizens and tourists.

**OCEAN BOULEVARD BEAUTIFICATION**

49 new Palmettos now grace the north and south ends of Ocean Boulevard as part of the Town's Boulevard Beautification Program. 51 additional Palmettos are on order and they, along with flowering shrubs, will be added to enhance the corridor to complete the project. "Hats Off" to Public Works Director, Bobby Radford, and his very capable Street Department crew in providing the "manpower" for the job.

**VEHICLE MAINTENANCE DIVISION**

With the new underground fuel storage tank that was completed in December, the Maintenance Division is responsible for collecting the reports that ultimately go to DHEC each month. A Computer, rather than the employee having to dip the tank, now generates these reports. The readings show gallons used, what remains in the tank and other pertinent information necessary to run a safe and efficient underground system.

The two-man crew of this Division maintains all of the vehicles used by the Town. This is an important area of work in that all departments, including Fire, Police, Sanitation, etc., need to be in top running order at all times. The down time of one vehicle can make an impact on whether moby carts are emptied on time, a police car fails to perform when necessary, or a fire truck is ready to roll on the next emergency. The employees handling this area take advantage of new techniques and education made available to them so as to be able to handle most situations that occur.

**SANITATION DIVISION**

During the winter months, the eight-man Sanitation Crew collected over 930 tons of garbage waste and 162.29 tons of yard debris. Over 70 tons of recyclables were collected. The Sanitation Department works long hours in all kinds of weather. In the event a truck is down or an employee is unable to work due to illness, the collection schedule may be interrupted. The Department appreciates your patience when this occurs.

The Sanitation Crew empties beach cans and commercial dumpsters as well as residential moby carts and yard debris. At times your moby cart may not be emptied. This may be due to what is found in it. Only household garbage that is not recyclable should be placed in the cart. Other items such as paint cans, rocks, yard waste and other non-garbage debris will not be emptied. This should be disposed of in accordance with town ordinances. If you have questions regarding acceptable disposal, please contact Town Hall. Remember, if you have yard debris to be picked up on Wednesday, or other items such as metal, etc. to be picked up on Thursday, you must call Town Hall to inform them of the items and your address. This helps the Division keep the Town free of litter that is at the curbside.

Dumpsters that are located behind/inside area businesses are there for the use of that business. These are not for public use. The owner/operator of the establishment pays for the dumpster and its maintenance. It is very upsetting for the proprietor to go to his dumpster and find it full of household items, wood, and other large debris. Do not use a local business dumpster for personal use. Put your items curbside for pickup.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

The winter months provide a good opportunity for training in the Police Department. Keeping that thought in mind, six of our officers have been sent to several different classes. Officer Tony Huff attended a Datamaster Class at the Police Academy. The Police Department has eleven officers that are certified Datamaster operators. This means that if you like to drink and drive, you should stay out of Surfside Beach. Since the first of the year, 7 DUl drivers have been charged. The first DUl charge could cost on the average $9,000, so it pays NOT to drink and drive.

Corporal Kaye Long attended a re-certification class on analyzing and identifying drugs. Officers Miller, Huff and Brantly attended a Crime to Court class. The Department has a new Reserve Officer. Robert Tihasek attended a reserve officers' class and is now a fully certified Reserve Officer. He will be assigned again to the beach as a parking meter attendant. As a certified Reserve Officer, Officer Tihasek will be able to write State Uniformed Traffic tickets, tickets for speeding, handicapped parking, and make arrests on sight.

The Department has hired a new Dispatcher, Sharon Fitzpatrick. Sharon was working as an intern from Coastal Carolina University and decided to take a position with our Department. Sharon is doing a fine job and is continuing with her studies. There is still a need for a part-time dispatcher with our Department with a starting salary of $8 an hour, no benefits.

During the winter months frontage road has become a huge problem. It seems that with all the new traffic in the area the drivers are ignoring the yield and stop signs. This same problem is happening all over Town. Stop signs will have a white painted stripe on the road next to the sign. Hopefully, this will help remind drivers that they should stop and not just slow down and then run through the sign. The Police Department will be stepping up enforcement on the signs. One stop sign ticket will cost you $174 and four points. Your insurance company will most likely raise your insurance for the next three
years. State law will not allow a stop sign ticket to be reduced, so PLEASE, stop at all stop signs.

Please remember to BUCKLE UP!!

BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

The past three months have been very busy in the Building and Zoning Department, especially with new construction along Business 17. The Piggly Wiggly has plans to open at the end of March. We also have issued building permits for a new medical facility and a pharmacy on 15th Avenue North, and Bi-Lo is under construction at the end of Melody Lane.

As spring approaches, many property owners will be hiring contractors to perform maintenance, repairs and additions to their homes. The following is a list of DOs and DON'Ts that may help you with your contractor selections:

- Do some preliminary homework.
- Do get referrals.
- Don't be reluctant to ask questions.
- Do find a contractor with whom you can communicate.
- Don't hire a contractor with whom you're not comfortable.
- Do visit job sites to look at recent work.
- Do allow flexibility in your construction schedule (sometimes the most reputable contractors are in great demand).
- Do find a contractor who is comfortable with special arrangements if you intend to do some of the work yourself.
- Do make sure the contractor has a permit and is properly licensed.
- Don't give any up front money.
- Do follow your instincts.

As always, the Building Department is available if you have any questions about a contractor, permits, property setbacks or zoning. Don't hesitate to call us at 238-5531.

A REMINDER TO BUSINESS OWNERS: If your business is having a special event and you plan to advertise with banners, portable signs or use a tent, a Zoning Compliance Permit is required. This can be done Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 12 Noon.

BEACH RENOURISHMENT PROJECT

The third and final phase of the Myrtle Beach Shore Protection Project was completed in January of 1999. The project encompassed 7.7 miles of shoreline, beginning at the southern end of the Myrtle Beach State Park in Horry County and extending south into Georgetown County. The project placed over 1.7 million cubic yards of sand on the beach. The sand was placed to match the naturally occurring beach profile. The width of the beach has increased between 75 to 120 linear feet.

Cost of the Project, $14,851,000, was shared by the Federal Government with 65%; State of South Carolina 17.5%; local governments 17.5%. The Surfside Beach commitment of $728,000 was funded from Accommodations and Hospitality Fund fees.

While the Corps of Engineers does not recommend establishing an artificial dune line, the Town is placing material, when available, in front of private property. Also, in the future, beachgrass and sand fencing will be replaced.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ATHLETICS

The Surfside Beach Recreation Department has an ongoing athletic program available. Basketball season began in January and ended the middle of February. The successful season showed the Tigers, coached by Sammy Truett, winning the 11-13 League and the Heat, coached by Jeff Davis, winning the 14-16 League.

Baseball/Softball season begins with registration at the end of February. As usual, there was a large turnout. Practice began on March 15th. Opening Day for the season will be held at the H. Blue Huckabee Complex on April 10th at 11:00 a.m. with the first regular season game being played on April 12th.

T-Ball (ages 6-7) and 8-Ball (Age 8) registration for TOWN RESIDENTS ONLY is scheduled for Saturday, May 8 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Regular registration for NON RESIDENTS will commence on Saturday, May 15th at 11:00 a.m. Ages for boys will be as of August 1st, and girls' ages will be as of June 1st.

Pre-Majors and Majors (ages 15-18) registration will be held on Monday, May 17 between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.

PARKS

The beginning of baseball/softball season always signals the time for preparation. Every inch of play area has to be kept at safe and functional levels including the irrigation system, electrical systems, buildings, fences, turf and infields. These must be checked and rechecked. Weed and insect inhibitors must be applied on time, and all surrounding areas receive attention before the first ball is thrown out. We strive to keep the fields and play areas of athletic and passive facilities safe and clean for everyone to enjoy, and continue to plan for all area improvements.

*Welcome Aboard* to Robert Riley, our new Recreation Aide-Parks and Grounds.

RESTROOMS

The public restrooms were reopened in March. Located at beach areas and public parks, the facilities were painted and maintenance performed to ensure proper function. The Town is pleased to be able to provide these service areas in an effort to make a more enjoyable day while you visit the beach or one of our many parks. However, it is everyone's responsibility to help us keep the restrooms clean and free of vandalism.

DICK M. JOHNSON CIVIC CENTER

The Town and its residents ended the year with the marvelous annual Christmas Parade! I hope everyone was able
EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER
SPRING 1999

Our "hats are off" to Recreation Aide, Debbie Ellis, for being selected as "Employee of the Quarter - Spring 1999". Debbie was initially hired as a part-time Recreation Aide in 1996. Not one to "rest on her laurels", Debbie's dedication and work ethic lead to her promotion to the full-time position of "Recreation Aide - Athletics". As such, she assists in all aspects of Athletics - adult programs, special events, preparation/cleaning of parks and restrooms, and coordination of employee meals during crisis situations, such as hurricanes, when the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) is activated and employees are called in to work through the emergency situation.

Debbie is a popular employee with her peers, as well as the public. Congratulations, Debbie Ellis, on your award, as well as your positive and pleasant attitude. Debbie, husband Wes, and family reside in Surfside Beach.

DEBBIE ELLIS
Recreation Aide - Athletics

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<td>IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIRE / POLICE / RESCUE SQUAD ............................................... 911</td>
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<td>Police / Fire (non-emergency) ........................................... 238-2314 / 238-2621 / 238-2811</td>
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<td>Time Warner Cable (Trouble Call Line) .................................. 651-6699</td>
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<td>Town Hall ........................................................................... 238-2590</td>
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<td>Recreation Complex, Glenns Bay Road .................................... 650-4131</td>
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<td>FAX .................................................................................. 238-5432</td>
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<td>Animal Control ...................................................................... 238-2621</td>
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<td>Grand Strand Water &amp; Sewer Authority .................................... 448-1686</td>
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| TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULES |
| Town Council, 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. / Planning and Zoning Commission, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 3:00 p.m. |
| Zoning Board of Appeals, 1st Thursday of each month, 2:00 p.m. / Municipal Court, 10:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays |
| Clean City / Beautification Committee, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 10:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. |

All meetings are held in the Town Council / Court Chambers located on the South End of Town Hall and are open to the public. We welcome all interested residents to attend.

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Surfside Beach, SC 29575
Surfside Beach
117 US Highway 17 North
Town of Surfside Beach