A Message from Mayor Childs

Being an ambassador for the town was a key factor in my deciding to run for the mayor’s seat. It’s important for our constituents to understand what the town does for its citizens, businesses, and visitors. Therefore, over the next several issues, my message will focus on the various town departments.

Public Works consists of five small divisions: sanitation (9), streets and drainage (9), grounds (5), facilities, (2) and fleet maintenance (2). The total personnel, including the director and the administrative assistant, is 29.

We often see the Public Works crews collecting trash and working on the town’s streets and other infrastructure. Did you know that public works also maintains the entire fleet of vehicles and equipment? There are 241 pieces: 79 motorized vehicles (cars, trucks, tractors, gators, etc.), and 162 other motorized pieces of equipment including generators, mowers, chainsaws, blowers, and many more. This equipment serves the entire town in every department.

The most common complaints for Public Works are sanitation related. Usually, it is because of a misunderstanding regarding the town’s procedures (i.e. the Moby cart was placed on the wrong side of the street and not emptied, or was placed curbside the wrong day). To view the sanitation schedule please see page 4 or visit www.surfsidebeach.org/sanitation-schedule.

The Public Works Department strives to use existing resources to the maximum extent possible. It provides beach cleaning, recycling, trash collection including on the beach. They build the beach walkovers with seating areas and maintain the beach restrooms, parks, and ball fields. In addition, they have built scenic decks around several of the town’s lakes, installed fountains, and enhanced parks with exercise trails and new playground equipment.

An aggressive road resurfacing program was also initiated in 2011. Since then 13.8 miles have been paved. This year another 4.25 miles will be resurfaced. A street improvement project is (Continued on page 3)
2017 Events at the Family Beach

MAY

Sunday 28, Memorial Day Golf Cart Parade, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Ocean Boulevard
Sunday 28, Memorial Day Cookout, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., Surfside Drive
Sunday 28, Sunday Serenade, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Passive Park
Monday 29, Memorial Day Service, 2:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial

JUNE

Sundays 4, 11, 18, 25, Sunday Serenades, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Passive Park
Tuesdays 20, 27, Hula Show, 7:00 p.m. on the Beach at the Pier
Wednesdays 21, 28, Crafter’s Cove, 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. under the Pier
Sunday 25, Surf’s Up Art Show, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Dick M. Johnson Civic Center

JULY

Sundays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Sunday Serenades, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Passive Park
Tuesday 4, Fourth of July Celebration, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Pier
Tuesdays 11, 18, 25, Hula Show, 7:00 p.m., on the Beach at the Pier
Wednesdays 12, 19, 26, Crafter’s Cove, 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. under the Pier

AUGUST

Tuesday 1, Hula Show, 7:00 p.m. on the Beach at the Pier
Wednesday 2, 9, Crafter’s Cove, 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. under the Pier
Sunday 6, 13, 20, 27, Sunday Serenades, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Passive Park
Monday 7, Beach Luau, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on the Beach at the Pier

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 3, 10, 17, 24, Sunday Serenades, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Passive Park
Saturday 9, Skyhoundz Disc Contest, 10:00 a.m. Martin Field
Saturday 16, SC Sea Grant Beach Sweep, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Pier

OCTOBER

Saturday 7, Surfside Beach Family Festival, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Surfside Drive
Friday 20, Senior Fair, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Surfside Beach Fire Station
Saturday, Halloween Car Show 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Pier

Farmer’s Market—Tuesdays—10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.—Passive Park—May through October

Questions Regarding Events & Recreation

Please contact:
Supervisor Debbie Ellis
Phone 843.650.9548
or by e-mail at dellis@surfsidebeach.org

The 2017 BBQ Festival was a HUGE success.
The BBQ and side dishes were delicious, and the weather was perfect!
Events

On Sunday, May 28th at 1:00 p.m. the Town will hold its 2nd Annual Memorial Day Golf Cart Parade. Last year more than 35 golf carts participated.

The Town would like to double the entries this year and we invite you to join us.

Entry forms are available at Town Hall or contact Debbie Ellis at 843-650-9545 or send an email message to dellis@surfsidebeach.org.

The Farmer’s Market starts Tuesday, May 2nd at the Passive Park (next to the library on Surfside Drive). The market is open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. every Tuesday beginning May 2nd until October, 31st.

Sunday Serenades begin on Sunday, May 28th at the Passive Park from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and continue every Sunday until September 24th. Bring your beach chairs and a picnic lunch to enjoy the music, great weather, and visit with friends.

Mayor’s Message, continued

(Continued from page 1)

planned for this coming winter on 3rd Avenue South from Highway 17 to Poplar Drive to create a safe, walkable, and shopper-friendly district for that part of the C2 Business District.

The Public Works Department initiated a semi-annual drop off program for residents where they can bring their unwanted household hazardous waste and electronic waste (e-waste) to the facility on Sandy Lane for disposal.

The department also has an ambitious stormwater maintenance program with regular schedules to clean and maintain the system at peak capacity. Additionally, the North Side Drainage Project, located in the Myrtle and Magnolia basins, has had one phase completed and more phases will be implemented.

Public Works employees are some of the friendliest people you will ever meet. They are quick to assist residents and visitors, alike. Staff regularly works during town street fairs and festivals so take time to thank these employees and let them know they are appreciated.

It goes without saying that it takes all the departments working together to keep our beautiful town operating successfully.

I hope you’ve learned a little more about Public Works. If you have any other questions, please contact me at 843.913.6330 or call Director John Adair at 843.913.6361.

Robert F. “Bob” Childs, III

Flood Insurance

Flood Insurance—How Important is it?

Every home is vulnerable to flooding. Just an inch of water can cause thousands of dollars worth of damage.

More than half of the dwellings damaged by the October 2016 floods and Hurricane Matthew were located in low-risk areas.

Floods can happen anywhere and anytime. A National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policy protects valuable assets and helps pay for recovery. Properties in moderate- and low-risk areas account for more than 20 percent of the country’s NFIP claims and receive a third of flood-related federal disaster assistance.

NFIP policies cover flood damage that federal disaster assistance and most homeowners insurance policies do not. Depending on the type and amount of coverage, you may receive up to $250,000 for home damage and up to $100,000 for contents. Flood insurance policies go into effect 30 days after purchase.

NFIP payouts are not dependent on state or federal disaster declarations. Floods are the most common natural disaster and usually do not result in a declaration. Policyholders might be eligible to get additional payments up to $30,000 to mitigate a substantially damaged home so it meets local floodplain-management regulations.

www.floodsmart.gov is the site to learn more about any property’s flood risk, estimate an NFIP premium or locate an insurance agent who sells flood insurance. Visit www.ready.gov/floods for flood information and safety tips.

Questions about your flood zone? Call the Planning, Building & Zoning Department at 843-913-6341 or stop by our office at 829 Pine Drive, Surfside Beach, SC 29575 in the Town Hall Complex.
When you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, be sure to check it regularly. Always remain in or near the kitchen when the stovetop or oven is on. Using a timer is a great way to help you remember that food is cooking.

Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop. Oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, dish towels, and even your curtains can quickly catch fire.

When in doubt, call 9-1-1.

But if you have a small grease fire and decide to fight the fire yourself, remember this:

Sliding a lid over the pan will smother the flames. Turn off the burner, and do not take the lid off until the pan is cool to the touch.

If you have an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire, just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire, and then call 9-1-1 from outside the home.

When our swales are filled, there is more risk of stormwater backing up into a home or onto the roads. Hopefully, this article will help you understand the role of the town’s swales in retaining and controlling stormwater.

Questions, contact 843.913.6360 or email jadair@surfsidebeach.org
Committee Corner

Stormwater

Surfside Beach’s Stormwater Committee of volunteers and our town Public Works Department work to educate the public and make improvements to our lakes and streams, which flow through Surfside Beach out to the ocean. Our excellent beach water quality is a result of collective efforts of residents, tourists, and town management to keep our waters as clean as possible.

Our beach water is tested by State DHEC personnel and could result in swimming advisories or prohibitions, if water quality deteriorates. What washes from our sidewalks, lawns and roadways go into our water system and eventually out to the beach.

This message in this article is very simple... DON’T FEED THE GEESE!

The pretty geese with the white mark on their heads used to visit Surfside Beach for a week in the spring and in the fall on their way to and from Canada. Because they found; continue to find food sources here, (and people feed them), and they have few, if any, natural enemies, some of the geese stay here and hatch more young each year. These geese we see year round are now designated “resident” Canadian geese by our government. They are not protected as migratory Canadian geese.

Some estimates are that each goose produces over a pound of poop per day—creating a mess on our sidewalks, streets, athletic fields, and lawns. Runoff washes into our streams and lakes and flows into our ocean where thousands enjoy swimming.

Surfside Beach does not allow shooting geese, but the town does allow “shooing them” off your property and roads. Our federal government now encourages “discouraging” the geese from staying. How to “discourage” will be in another issue.

For now let’s share the message with our neighbors and tourists who are unaware of the goose problem.

Don’t feed the waterfowl.
They foul our water.

Tents on the Beach

At the April 25, 2017 regular Town Council meeting, Town Council approved Ordinance #17-0842 that will allow 10 x 10 tents on the town’s beach this summer; however, tents are NOT allowed from 8th Avenue South southward to Melody Lane. Beginning January 1, 2018, shading devices are restricted to umbrellas not larger than nine (9) feet in diameter and tents no larger than 31 inches in height and 38 inches in depth, commonly referred to as “baby tents.”

This was a difficult decision for the town, as the Family Beach we understand the importance of shade for youngsters and the elderly. However, after two years of slow emergency response times, the ban had to be placed into effect.

For more information, visit www.surfsidebeach.org/beaches-2

Senior Citizens

The Ralph Magliette Senior Citizens Committee encourages you to take advantage of the many exercise options in the town.

A walk on the beach; sidewalks, or quiet streets is not only beneficial, but you will get to enjoy viewing your neighbor’s gardens, landscaping, and nature’s splendor as you stroll.

The W.O. Martin Park on Lakeside Drive has Bocce Ball, shuffleboard, and horse shoes. The baseball field is across the bridge, if you want to pick up a game.

Fuller Park on Surfside Drive has a playground and tennis courts. On the other side of the block is the town’s Veterans Memorial and Passive Park, which has exercise stations designed for senior citizens in addition to a walking trail.

Multiple classes are held at the Dick M. Johnson Civic Center that would be fun. Contact Events Supervisor Debbie Ellis at 843.650.9548 or dellis@surfsidebeach.org for information.

Exercise Benefits

1. Reduces body fat
2. Increases lifespan
3. Oxygenates body
4. Strengthens muscles
5. Manages chronic pain
6. Works off viruses
7. Reduces diabetes risk
8. Strengthens heart
9. Clears arteries
10. Boosts mood
11. Maintains mobility
12. Improves memory
13. Improves coordination
14. Strengthens bones
15. Improves complexion
16. Detoxifies body
17. Decreases stress
18. Boosts immune system
19. Lowers blood pressure
20. Reduces cancer risk
Inside SURFSIDE BEACH

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Please deliver to addressee or current occupant.

Newsletter Distribution Policy

In an effort to save tax dollars, “Inside Surfside Beach” will be posted on the website three times a year (i.e., January, May and September). It can be viewed at www.surfsidebeach.org.

If you would like an email notification when a new issue is posted to the website or if you require a paper copy please contact the Town Clerk at Phone: 843.913.6333 or Email: dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org

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