

Kiawah Island

DIGEST

The Official Publication of the Kiawah Island Community Association

Inside the Storm: Hurricane Matthew's Impact on Kiawah



As we usher in 2017, it's hard to believe that Kiawah is only several months removed from a hurricane having made landfall. There is much to be thankful for: Matthew arrived at low tide, Kiawah's dunes did their job, most members had evacuated, property damage was minimal and there was no loss of life or serious injury on the island. Once the hurricane passed, work crews were immediately out in force, ensuring safe and quick re-entry to the island.

Tropical storms and hurricanes are a fact of life living on the East Coast, but good fortune has mostly spared Kiawah since Hurricane Hugo ravaged the Lowcountry in 1989. While KICA and other island entities plan for these events, there's nothing that can simulate the real thing and the responsibility of securing a 10,000-acre island; communicating with property owners, guests and employees; coordinating with regional and state emergency management centers; and managing the clean-up once the storm has passed. On Kiawah, emergency management authority rests with the Town of Kiawah Island, and executing on that authority is a collaborative effort.

Just five weeks before Matthew, Tropical Storm Hermine resulted in heavy wind and rain, and served as a good "wet run" for our community's emergency management procedures. Island entities participated in conference calls with the Charleston County

Emergency Management Center and worked through the operational rhythm of an approaching storm. "While Tropical Storm Hermine posed only a minimal threat, it provided a real time event to test emergency plans, affirm roles and responsibilities and, most importantly, to ensure our communications across multiple entities and to the community worked as we hoped they would," said KICA Chief Operating Officer Jimmy Bailey. "In an emergency event, it's critical that the town and KICA communicate with one voice, and that we don't cause confusion with differing or inconsistent messages. There's no doubt in my mind that we collaborated and communicated better during Hurricane Matthew due to the learning opportunity of Tropical Storm Hermine."

After several days of clean up, Hermine became a memory and the end of hurricane season was in sight. Typically, hurricane activity picks up in late August and peaks in September, so it's tempting to think you're out of the woods when October approaches. On Friday, Sept. 30, Tropical Storm Matthew became a hurricane in the southern Caribbean Sea and quickly intensified to Category 5 - one the fastest intensifying storms on record. While we never ignore reports from the tropics, Matthew wasn't yet considered a threat to the Carolinas, and Kiawah was bustling with property owners and visitors who were gearing up for a nice weekend. Temperatures were in the mid to upper 80s with a few scattered clouds.

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Over the weekend, however, the storm made a northward turn and was projected to make an initial landfall over Haiti early in the week. By Monday, Oct. 3, Matthew had the attention of the entire southeastern United States, including emergency preparedness officials in Charleston. KICA staff began to ready the island for the possibility of a significant weather event, while the town activated its Municipal Emergency Operations Center (MEOC) and invited the Emergency Operations Team to participate in a noon Tri-County conference call with various agencies across the region. During that call, Charleston County officials indicated that the region was in the cone of vulnerability and did not expect that forecast to change any time soon. They stated that a worst case scenario would suggest an evacuation order for Wednesday.

While the storm wobbled slowly on a track toward Haiti, KICA preparations continued. Equipment and vehicles were readied and fueled, ponds were at maximum drainage, facilities were prepared, systems readied for shut down, contractors notified to secure job sites, and literally hundreds of check list items were worked round the clock in anticipation of a possible evacuation. KICA also activated its emergency contracts, signaling to our team of road clearing and debris contractors that they were to be on Kiawah immediately following the storm and get to work without delay. Costs for these services are negotiated annually and months in advance of hurricane season. Like insurance, we hope we'll never need them, but the emergency contractors (too many to name) paid off in a big way and are a big reason roads were cleared in such short order.

On **Tuesday, Oct. 4**, the MEOC participated in the noon tri-county conference call. During this call, officials indicated that an evacuation order from Governor Nikki Haley was probable, and that she'd likely close all schools in South Carolina the next day, and until the threat of the storm had passed. Later that afternoon, Governor Haley made it official, stating, "With winds this high and surge this high, this is not something we want to play with. I don't want to sit there and think about fatalities."

While Governor Haley's order was to be activated the following day, Kiawah Mayor Charlie Lipuma issued a statement encouraging people to leave early. "Safety is our greatest concern,"

stated Mayor Lipuma. "I am encouraging property owners to leave prior to the official evacuation time."

By **Wednesday, Oct. 5**, forecasters were predicting a Charleston area landfall as a Category 2 or 3 storm, with wind speeds of up to 100 mph and a 5 to 7-foot storm surge. Mayor Lipuma signed a proclamation placing Kiawah Island under a state of emergency. Town officials also announced plans to relocate its MEOC to a location outside the area (Augusta, Georgia). The reversal of the interstate was activated and hundreds of thousands of coastal residents headed inland.



On **Thursday, Oct. 6**, Chief Colleen Walz of the St. Johns Fire District (SJFD) informed Kiawah officials that SJFD personnel would ride the streets of Kiawah, Seabrook and the other locations in their service area to look for those who had stayed behind and encourage them to evacuate. She further indicated that SJFD would remove its apparatus and personnel from the island in advance of the storm, most likely Friday afternoon. She stressed that people needed to leave, because once her team and EMS were gone, there'd be no one to respond to emergencies until after the storm. At noon, KICA Security barricaded the incoming lane to Kiawah and evacuated.

Also at noon, the town's MEOC opened in Augusta, Georgia and officials participated in the Tri-County conference call. KICA COO Jimmy Bailey relocated to Augusta with the town, while other

key KICA personnel were strategically positioned in places where they could respond to issues during and after the storm. For example, communications personnel were far enough from the threat of severe weather to secure continuous availability of phone and internet connectivity throughout, ensuring KICA's ability to provide uninterrupted communications to members. Others, such as security leadership and initial assessment teams, were closer to Kiawah for the earliest return. The town had a representative on site at the Charleston County Emergency Operations Center who reported to the MEOC in Augusta, and was available to make resource requests as needed to emergency management officials.

By **Friday, Oct. 7**, most residents had evacuated and the storm was forecast to hit later that afternoon

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Inside the Storm *(Continued From Previous Page)*



and into the evening. Forecasts continued to point toward storm surge as a significant threat. Late that morning, Berkeley Electric Cooperative (BEC) announced that it was evaluating the possibility of cutting power to the island. BEC engineers explained that if the storm surge produced significant flooding and important equipment was submerged, the resultant damage could cause power outages island-wide for 4-6 weeks, whereas a preventive shut down would likely allow them to restore power in about a week. Within a few hours, BEC confirmed its plans to cut power. This decision was made entirely by BEC as they sought to protect their equipment and minimize the chances of extended outages. Neither the town nor KICA has the authority to cut power to the island.

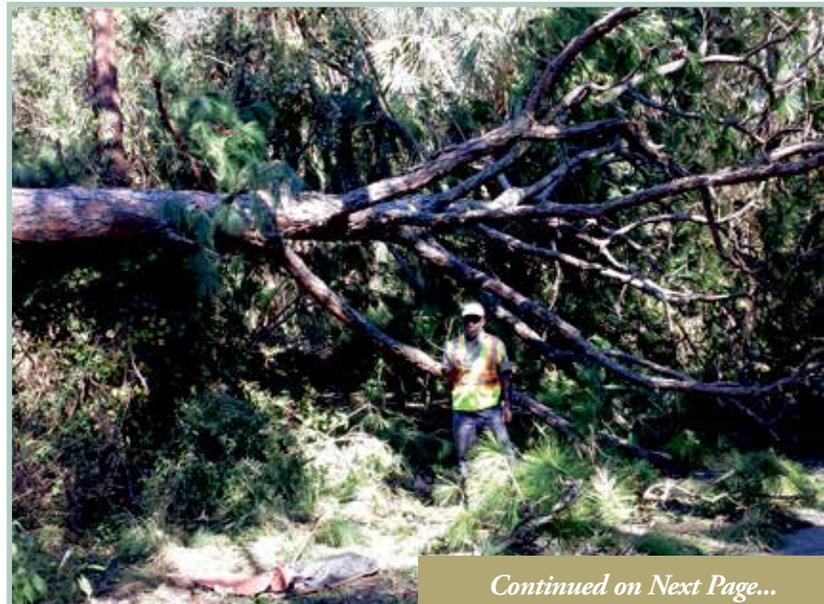
By Friday afternoon, and particularly into the evening, Matthew's winds began to pick up as the storm churned toward the Lowcountry. Fortunately, as the worst of it came ashore early **Saturday morning (Oct. 8)**, Kiawah was experiencing low tide. Still, the storm surge was significant enough to destroy or seriously damage most of the island's beach boardwalks and reshape Kiawah's dune system. While coastal scientists expect the dunes to naturally repair themselves over a period of years, the beach will look and function differently for a while. As an example, boardwalks will need to be rebuilt to the current contours of the dunes, which means there are locations where the only possible solution will be stairs as opposed to the preferred ramps. KICA always defaults to a ramp solution if the dune contours allow, but environmental regulations are strict as to what can and can't be constructed. Again, KICA prefers ramps, but the regulations have served us well as Kiawah's healthy dune system served as a natural shock absorber of the storm and protected the island from damage that could have been much worse.

Elsewhere on the island, docks along the Kiawah River were destroyed or seriously damaged, including KICA's dock at Rhett's Bluff. A dock builder has been hired to make initial repairs to Rhett's Bluff so that convenient and safe boat launch activity can resume. In addition to repairing the community dock at Rhett's Bluff, a collaborative effort among property owners has been established to accelerate the repairs to private docks.

All across the island, there were downed trees and significant debris. KICA's emergency contractors and others, including those hired by the town, were among the first to return to the island on the **afternoon of Oct. 8**, and work began immediately to open the roadways. KICA's full complement of land management personnel, supported by more than 50 contract employees hired for debris work, were out in force on **Sunday, Oct. 9**, and worked 11-hour shifts throughout the week. Remarkably, less than 48 hours after the winds died down, all 59 miles of KICA-owned roads were open for traffic by the time Mayor Lipuma authorized re-entry to the island at noon on **Monday, Oct. 10**.

After weeks of clean up and evaluation, KICA estimated its recovery costs would total approximately \$1.3 million. While a lot of money, it's considerably less than original estimates, which were between \$2 and \$3 million. It's expected that property owners will be assessed approximately \$300 per improved property, as KICA reserves are not slated for storm repairs. No one likes unexpected expenses, and we've worked hard to minimize the amount of money needed for Hurricane Matthew clean up and recovery.

Some have understandably asked why a storm reserve is not maintained. There are philosophical and practical reasons why KICA has historically chosen not to reserve for significant storm damage. First, some believe that storms should be paid for by those who are here at the time of an event. Right or



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Inside the Storm *(Continued From Previous Page)*

wrong, some believe that if you are lucky enough to be here during a time without a major storm, then you shouldn't have to pay for those who aren't as lucky. (Nearly 30 years ago, KICA assessed each property owner \$988 for Hurricane Hugo, and there hasn't been a major storm assessment since.) Second, how much do you set aside? It's a nearly impossible question to answer as you don't know when the storms will come, their severity, etc. Finally, there is nothing that ensures the money will be spent just on storms. Well-meaning boards could continuously fund a storm reserve for years, only to have a future board see a different use for that stockpile of cash. Finally, insurance is either not available or cost prohibitive on infrastructure such as boardwalks, roads, bridges and docks. Further, community associations are not eligible to apply for FEMA aid which means most costs to restore our private community must be borne by our members. KICA participates in a nation-wide lobbying effort to change FEMA regulations, which is beginning to get the attention of members of Congress.

As we continue our recovery efforts, we proudly reflect back on the extraordinary job done by our entire team. The most visible were those in the field - such as security and land management team members, and there were many behind the scenes heroes, too. KICA's phone lines were forwarded to Senior Member Services Representative Nancy Root's home since we didn't have power on the island. She cheerfully responded to member inquiries as if she were sitting at her desk, and communicated relevant information to personnel in the field. Recreation Director Kay Narmour and her team made sure that law enforcement, land management staff, and others working to restore the island had lunches. Our engineering team worked to assess infrastructure, our communications team continually disseminated timely information, and many, many others focused on Kiawah before dealing with their own personal property. We also want to thank the Town of Kiawah Island, and Town Administrator Stephanie Tillerson in particular, for being an extraordinary partner before, during and after the storm, and working collaboratively toward a common goal like never before.



Message From the Chair: Guiding Principles



Dear fellow members,

KICA continues to work hard on the Hurricane Matthew recovery and repair cost estimates. I encourage you to read the update on pages 1-4 of this issue of the Digest. Many thanks for the extraordinary positive feedback received on communications during Hurricane Matthew and the subsequent clean-up.

I appreciate these opportunities to communicate with the community. In my first *Digest* letter, I covered

several of the key initiatives I anticipate the board will invest time on in 2016-17. In the second, I summarized the responsibilities of the principle organizations on the island (Maze of K's). This month, the topic is KICA's Strategic Plan (the "plan").

Similar to many businesses and nonprofits, KICA has a strategic plan that provides guiding principles for the management team and board. The plan has been around for many years and every board reviews it annually to determine if updates or modifications are appropriate. Given the importance of the plan to the board, KICA management and the community at large, I thought it will be useful to provide some highlights. **The complete plan is on the KICA website (kica.us/about/governing-documents); what follows is a summary.**

The plan consists of a vision, mission statement and a series of objectives and steps for their accomplishment.

The Vision: *"Kiawah is a special place for creating emotional connections for its members and guests."* How those connections are made depends on each member's personal preferences. The beach is a big draw for many. Others may be attracted to the island because of its stellar views, world class golf courses, connection to nature, ability to host family gatherings, proximity to Charleston, friendships and more. It is likely that several of these, maybe all of them, first attracted you to Kiawah.

The Mission: *"The Kiawah Island Community Association exists to preserve and enhance the quality of life and property values of its members. This includes taking the leadership role in insuring that Kiawah Island remains a beautiful, safe, well-maintained and friendly community."*

Key Objectives: The plan details four key objectives:

Creating Kiawah Memories and Experiences

Some of the key elements include: enhancing the spirit of community and volunteerism; maintaining infrastructure, facilities and landscaping at a high standard; providing world-class service to our members and guests; and organizing programs and activities that build a sense of community.

Stewarding the Island's Natural Resources

The beach, maritime forest, abundant wildlife and natural environment are incredibly important to what makes Kiawah such a unique place. KICA supports efforts to insure an appropriate balance between development and environmental considerations by using native plantings throughout the island, eliminating undesirable plant species; protecting the beach, marsh and other "nature-rich" experiences on the island; and promoting green practices.

Providing Outstanding Amenities and Services

KICA, with member input and involvement, provides recreational, educational, wellness, social and service opportunities consistent with a premiere upscale community. The association provides wide-ranging opportunities that reflect and appeal to the diversity of interests, ages and lifestyles of our member population.

Preserving the Kiawah Experience for Future Generations

Future planning is critically important to ensure Kiawah remains the very special place it is. Achievement of this objective includes: continuously evaluating trends, opportunities and evolving approaches to achieving our community's objectives; working collaboratively and cooperatively with the Town of Kiawah Island, Kiawah Partners and Kiawah Island Golf Resort for the benefit of KICA's members; working with Kiawah Partners to effect a smooth transition of responsibilities as their development activities are completed; and ensuring that community standards and covenant compliance is enforced. KICA keeps in touch with many other similar communities to benchmark best practices and insure that Kiawah is keeping pace with market changes.

Values That Sustain Us

The plan concludes with a discussion of the **Values That Sustain Us**. Attributes like **integrity, mutual respect, customer service and a spirit of generosity** are ingrained in KICA's culture. Proper stewardship of the association's financial resources and the island's natural resources are essential to the long-term enhancement of property values. **Communication** with our members, including the majority with a primary residence elsewhere, must be outstanding and continuously improved.

The plan is a living document. Many of the principles, goals and objectives it contains are constants; others change and evolve over time. If any member has suggestions or ideas on the plan, please send us a note or email us at execoffice@kica.us.

Sincerely,

Bruce Stemerman
Chair, KICA Board of Directors

January 2017

Community Calendar

WINTER HOURS - Sandcastle: Monday-Friday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Saturday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sunday - 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 HAPPY NEW YEAR	02 KICA Office Closed 3 p.m. Opera Lite	03 10 a.m. Charleston County Bookmobile 10 a.m. Kiawah Women's Group Newcomer's Coffee (Java Java)	04	05	06	07
08 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Quentin Baxter Saxophonist (Turtle Point Clubhouse)	09 9 a.m. Photography Club 9:30 a.m. Kiawah Island Garden Club 1 p.m. KICA Board Meeting 3 p.m. Opera Lite	10 1 p.m. Beginning Mahjong Lessons	11 10 a.m. Kiawah Residents Art Guild 4 p.m. Our World Course - The Authoritarian Personality in the Modern World	12 10 a.m. A Beginning Painting Journey 12:30 p.m. Sea Islands Parkinson's Support Group - Care Partners Meeting (Church of Our Saviour) 3 p.m. Our World: Doctors Without Borders - A Personal Perspective	13 3 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Art Film Series (Sandcastle)	14 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Fred Hersch Trio (Seabrook Island House)
15	16 9 a.m. Photography Club 3 p.m. Opera Lite	17 10 a.m. Charleston County Bookmobile 1 p.m. Beginning Mahjong Lessons 1 p.m. Kiawah Women's Group Gibbes Museum Tour 4 p.m. Conservation Matters	18 4 p.m. Our World Course - The Authoritarian Personality in the Modern World	19 8:30 a.m. Java with Jimmy 10 a.m. A Beginning Painting Journey 3 p.m. Our World 5 p.m. Sea Islands Parkinson's Support Group 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Hello Pops: A Tribute to Louis Armstrong (East Beach Conference Center)	20 11:30 a.m. Presidential Inauguration Party	21 9 a.m. Cars and Coffee 6 p.m. Rock and Roll Sock Hop
22 4 p.m. Arts Council Presents: The King's Counterpoint (Church of Our Saviour)	23 9 a.m. Photography Club 3 p.m. Opera Lite	24 1 p.m. Beginning Mahjong Lessons	25 4 p.m. Our World Course - The Authoritarian Personality in the Modern World 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Bill Charlap Trio (East Beach Conference Center)	26 10 a.m. A Beginning Painting Journey 3 p.m. Our World: Slavery Issues in SC 6 p.m. Trivia Night at the Sandcastle	27 3 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Art Film Series (Sandcastle)	28
29 4 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Simone Porter, Violinist with Accompanist (Church of Our Saviour)	30 9 a.m. Photography Club 3 p.m. Opera Lite	31 1 p.m. Beginning Mahjong Lessons				

Recurring Events at the Sandcastle

- Sandcastle Bible Study - Mondays at 8:30 a.m.
- Women's Community Bible Study - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
- Sandcastle Bridge - Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
- Weight Watchers - Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
- Ladies Mahjong - Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Association Fitness Classes Offered

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Yoga | Water Aerobics |
| Zumba | Body Sculpt |
| Strength and Stretch | Assorted Cardio Classes |

**View class times and descriptions at kica.us (Facilities/Fitness Center).
Please note that all fitness classes are complimentary to members.

- KICA Paddlesports Program - www.tidaltrailskiawah.com -

KICA (Sandcastle)
843-768-3875
kica.us (Events)

Kiawah Cares
843-768-9194
kiawahcares.org

Kiawah Island Golf Resort
843-768-2121
kiawahresort.com

Freshfields Village
843-768-6491
freshfieldsvillage.com

Town of Kiawah Island
843-768-9166
kiawahisland.org

February 2017

Community Calendar

WINTER HOURS - Sandcastle: Monday-Friday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Saturday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sunday - 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			01 4 p.m. The Authoritarian Personality in the Modern World	02 10 a.m. A Beginning Painting Journey 3 p.m. Our World: Angela Mack, Renovations to the Gibbes Museum	03 KICA Board Open House 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Liquid Pleasure Supershow (East Beach Conference Center)	04
05	06 9 a.m. Photography Club 1 p.m. Sandcastle Book Club 3 p.m. Opera Lite 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Judy Carmichael's Jazz Inspired (East Beach Conference Center)	07 10 a.m. Kiawah Women's Group Newcomer's Coffee (Java Java) 1 p.m. Mahjong Lessons 2 p.m. Town Council 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Judy Carmichael's Jazz Inspired (East Beach Conference Center)	08 9 a.m. Art Guild Workshop 10 a.m. Kiawah Residents Art Guild 4 p.m. Our World Course: The Beatles and Transformation of Modern Music 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Judy Carmichael's Jazz Inspired (East Beach Conference Center)	09 9 a.m. Art Guild Workshop 10 a.m. A Beginning Painting Journey 3 p.m. Our World: Brian Hicks (Post and Courier), A Charleston Perspective	10 9 a.m. Art Guild Workshop 3 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Art Film Series (Sandcastle)	11
12	13 9 a.m. Photography Club 9:30 a.m. Kiawah Island Garden Club 3 p.m. Opera Lite 6 p.m. Book of Love: Chapter 1 - Music for the Mind	14 1 p.m. Mahjong Lessons 2 p.m. Public Safety Committee 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Moranz Entertainment Sinatra's Come Fly With Me (Seabrook Island House)	15 4 p.m. Our World Course: The Beatles and Transformation of Modern Music	16 Time TBD Conservation Matters: Ports Authority 10 a.m. A Beginning Painting Journey 2:30 p.m. Sea Islands Parkinson's Support Group (Church of Our Saviour)	17 9:30 a.m. Sweetgrass Basket Weaving Class	18 9 a.m. Cars and Coffee 9:30 a.m. Sweetgrass Basket Weaving Class
19 4 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Charleston Southern University Young Artist Contest (Church of Our Saviour)	20 9 a.m. Photography Club 3 p.m. Opera Lite 4 p.m. Board of Zoning Appeals 7:30 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Quentin Baxter Presents...Regina Carter, Violinist (Turtle Point Clubhouse)	21 10 a.m. Charleston County Bookmobile 2 p.m. Kiawah Women's Group - Spa Day at the Sandcastle	22 4 p.m. Our World Course: The Beatles and Transformation of Modern Music	23 10 a.m. A Beginning Painting Journey 3 p.m. Our World: Roger Warren, Kiawah Island Golf Resort	24 3 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Art Film Series (Sandcastle)	25
26 4 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Seraph Brass Quintet (Church of Our Saviour)	27 9 a.m. Photography Club 3 p.m. Opera Lite	28	<p><i>Planning a romantic night out with your sweetheart? Take the Kiawah Shuttle Service and travel in luxury! Book today at 843-768-5566.</i></p>			

Recurring Events at the Sandcastle

- Sandcastle Bible Study - Mondays at 8:30 a.m.
- Women's Community Bible Study - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
- Sandcastle Bridge - Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
- Weight Watchers - Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
- Ladies Mahjong - Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Association Fitness Classes Offered

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Yoga | Water Aerobics |
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***View class times and descriptions at kica.us (Facilities/Fitness Center).
Please note that all fitness classes are complimentary to members.*

- KICA Paddlesports Program - www.tidaltrailskiawah.com -

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kiawahresort.com

Freshfields Village
843-768-6491
freshfieldsvillage.com

Town of Kiawah Island
843-768-9166
kiawahisland.org

What's Happening this Winter on Kiawah?



For more information or to make reservations for events at the Sandcastle, please contact the Sandcastle Community Center at sandcastle@kica.us or at 843-768-3875.

Our World Lecture Series

Thursdays at 3 p.m.

Our World is a complimentary educational lecture series produced by KICA that provides members with presentations by local experts on a wide variety of subjects. A light selection of wine and cheese will be provided and members are encouraged to interact with speakers following their discussions.

- **Jan. 12** - Christopher Day, *Doctors Without Borders - A Personal Perspective*
- **Jan. 19** - Dawn Davis, *South Carolina National Parks*
- **Jan. 26** - Nic Butler, *Slavery Issues in South Carolina*
- **Feb. 2** - Angela Mack, *Renovation to the Gibbes Museum*
- **Feb. 9** - Brian Hicks (Post and Courier), *A Charleston Perspective*
- **Feb. 23 (Tentative)** - Roger Warren, *Kiawah Island Golf Resort*

A Beginning Painting Journey

Thursdays, Jan. 12 - March 2 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Taught by accomplished Seabrook Island artist Patricia Huff, A Beginning Painting Journey will introduce you to the entire process of making an oil painting. Students will practice drawing basics, value studies, composition, color mixing, oil application, painting production and much more!

The emphasis of this class will be "first things first," meaning that students will be given a broad basis for understanding the many facets and skills needed in painting. Contact the Sandcastle for additional information, including curriculum and materials list. Cost is \$350, plus additional materials.

Rock and Roll Sock Hop

Saturday, Jan. 21 from 6 - 9 p.m.

Get your dancing shoes on and head to the Sandcastle for a night of fun. You can dance the night away on a black and

white checkered dance floor to all your favorites spun by DJ Jay Smith. Gourmet Bay Catering will serve up diner and drive-in classics, alongside an open bar. Decade dress is encouraged. Cost is \$40 per member or \$50 per guest. RSVP by Tuesday, Jan. 10 to attend.

Trivia Night at the Sandcastle

Thursday, Jan. 26 at 6 p.m.

Enjoy an evening of fun and competition with your friends and neighbors. Come with a team or join one there. BYOB. Music provided by Glenn Brown on the Clavinova. Entry fee is \$10 cash and goes towards the winning purse. RSVP by Jan. 25.

Our World Special Presentations

For these courses, please RSVP to Madeline Kaye at applevalley54@yahoo.com. There is a fee of \$60 per course, payable to the College of Charleston

The Authoritarian Personality in the Modern World

Jan. 11, 18, 25 and Feb. 1 from 4-5:30 p.m.

This course, taught by College of Charleston Faculty Advisor Brian Ganaway, Ph.D., explores whether authoritarian leaders represent a deviation from the historical norm, or whether they are a common response to change and crisis. Each week will discuss a key figure, including Napoleon Bonaparte, Francisco Franco, Joseph Stalin and Mao Zedong.

The Beatles and the Transformation of Modern Music

Feb. 8, 15, 22 and March 1 from 4-5:30 p.m.

The second course, taught by College of Charleston Music Professor Blake Stevens, Ph.D., explores how the Beatles creatively adapted ideas from the classical tradition and avant-garde composers, forever transforming the possibilities of popular music.



KICA and KIGR Use Creative Timing to Address Drainage and Restoration Projects

Story Highlights

Work underway on KICA drainage system under Cougar Point

Repair work coincides with Cougar Point renovation.

KICA's drainage system beneath the Cougar Point Golf Course is some of the oldest infrastructure on the island, having been installed by the Kuwaitis in the 1970s. It's about to get an upgrade.

The timing of this work was coordinated with the Kiawah Island Golf Resort, which closed the Cougar Point Golf Course for renovations just after Thanksgiving. With Gary Player consulting, course renovations include:

- Re-grassing the greens, tees, and fairways with Paspalum (the same highly acclaimed salt-tolerant grass that the resort has on its other four golf courses);
- Laser leveling all tee boxes including the practice range;
- Rebuilding all bunkers;
- Updating the irrigation throughout the golf course; and
- Rebuilding existing bulkheads.

The infrastructure is an important part of the large Beachwalker drainage basin (West Beach, portions of East Beach and Settlement), which discharges to the Kiawah River at an outlet on Beachwalker Drive. This drainage basin encompasses 38 ponds. KICA will use the spin-casting technique to repair large pipes within the system. Spin-casting is the latest in culvert rehabilitation technology for medium- to large-diameter storm water infrastructure, using a structural mortar applied centrifugally to attain a uniform thickness around the interior of compromised pipes.

The spin-casting method achieves two important factors: it avoids costly and time-consuming excavation, and provides a long-term service life. Before employing this method, KICA engineers visited communities where it has been in use, and were impressed with what they saw.

KICA will also spot-excavate ponds along the course to open drainage flow, as well as lower the overall pond levels in the drainage basin to facilitate the project.

The course is slated to reopen in October 2017.

KICA's \$1.5 million drainage work began in early December when final DHEC and Army Corp of Engineers permits were secured, and is scheduled to be completed in May. When contractors are working in the area, members will see aqua dams put in place in the ponds, which will then be dewatered to complete the work. KICA's work will occur during regular construction hours, and there will be some noise from pumps and vacuum trucks removing sediment from the pipes. (KIGR has a permit for Sunday work.) We appreciate your patience as this important work is underway.

DIGEST CONTRIBUTORS

FRANCES BOYD - MEMBER VOLUNTEER
 VIRGINIA CHAPEL - MEMBER VOLUNTEER
 BILL HINDMAN - MEMBER VOLUNTEER
 SHAUNEEN HUTCHINSON - MEMBER VOLUNTEER
 SUE SCHAFFER - FEATURE REPORTER
 DEB STEWART - MEMBER VOLUNTEER

STAFF PRODUCTION TEAM

DOUG REYNOLDS - COMMUNICATIONS/EDITOR
 TAMMY McADORY - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DIGEST MISSION STATEMENT

KIAWAH ISLAND DIGEST IS AN OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TOOL OF THE KIAWAH ISLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION. ITS MISSION IS TO

ACCURATELY AND EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE INFORMATION TO THE MEMBERSHIP IN A BALANCED AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER.

STATEMENT OF EDITORIAL POLICY

KICA WILL ENDEAVOR TO REPORT SIGNIFICANT ISLAND NEWS AS WELL AS INFORMATIONAL TOPICS, PROGRAMS AND EVENTS OF INTEREST TO ITS MEMBERS. KICA MAY FROM TIME TO TIME PUBLISH EDITORIALS IN SUPPORT OF ITS STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES. MEMBER SUGGESTIONS ON CONTENT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL TO COMMUNICATIONS@KICA.US

What is Operation Round Up?

Contributed By KICA Member Wendy Kulick

We all know how generous Kiawah property owners are. We support so many charitable entities, it would be difficult to name them all. One charitable contribution many of us make is to *Operation Round Up* every time we pay our Berkeley Electric Cooperative (BEC) bill. If you're not sure (1) what *Operation Round Up* is or (2) if you are participating in this program, you're not alone!

Fortunately, there's an easy way to tell if you're participating. Look at your last three BEC bills. Was the amount you paid each month an even dollar amount, like \$175, or were there varying amounts of cents each month, i.e., \$175.34, \$158.61 or \$187.07? If it's an even dollar amount, you are participating in *Operation Round Up*. This means each month, BEC "rounds up" your bill to the nearest dollar. The difference between your actual bill and the next dollar goes into a separate fund, administered by the Berkeley Electric Trust, a 501(c)3 which provides grants to BEC members who cannot afford a critical need. It could be repairing a roof, installing a wheel chair ramp, or repairing/installing an HVAC system.

I have served on the Berkeley Electric Trust Board of Directors for the past year-and-a-half. It has been a privilege to work with our less fortunate neighbors on Johns and Wadmalaw islands, as well as in Ravenel and Hollywood. One of the most positive aspects of the trust program is the accountability required of those BEC members who are approved for a grant. The maximum amount the trust will award is \$3,000 a year; if a BEC member receives an award, he/she must wait three years before applying again. Once a project is approved, the BEC member must provide a certified check, made payable to the contractor who performed the work, for the amount between the \$3,000 the trust will provide and the total cost of the work. Once the necessary work has been completed, the contractor will receive checks from both the trust and the BEC member.

If you have any questions about the program and your participation in it, please contact me via e-mail (wkulick@bellsouth.net) or phone (843-768-7466). I'm happy to share additional information with you about this valuable program.

Book of Love Showcases Music for a Good Cause



Join Kiawah Cares, Communities In Schools and the Companion Foundation for a special Valentines evening of music, children and community. The inaugural Book of Love – Chapter 1: Music for the Mind will be hosted on Monday, Feb. 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Sandcastle.

The event will feature live musical performances by Haut Gap students who participate in Music for Life - a privately funded music program, led by Lee Jones and Jonathan Woodard. Music for Life partners with CIS to give student the gift of music.

These students will be joined by other Haut Gap students, Charleston area youth symphony students, and local area musicians for an inspirational and impactful evening of music and celebration.

Guest emcee for the evening will be popular local personality Tom Crawford. Guests will enjoy savory bites and refreshing beverages as they enjoy this unique performance. The goal of the fundraiser is to support and expand music and art opportunities at Haut Gap Middle School, and aide in Kiawah Cares' desired expansion of cultural programs such at other schools such as St. Johns High School.

Book of Love



Chapter 1: Music for the Mind

Tickets are \$100 per person, are limited to 100 guests and may be purchased online at the CIS website, cischarleston.org (located under the Events tab). Tickets include concert, hor d'oeuvres and adult beverages. Cocktail attire, please

This is sure to be an inspirational evening of music and celebration supporting the future of our Johns Island youth!

Town Elects New Mayor, Town Council



The Town of Kiawah Island's new mayor Craig Weaver and town council members John H. Koach, Diana L. Mezzanotte, Chris Widuch and John R. Wilson were sworn in Friday, Dec. 9 at Town Hall.

Mayor Weaver said, "I am excited at the opportunity to lead the Town during the next two years and very cognizant of the

responsibility that this entails. I cannot thank the residents of Kiawah enough for their support and will work hard to ensure that the Town government is always working on behalf of the community."

For more information on the town, visit kiawahisland.org.

New Kiawah-Seabrook Directory in Development

The 2017-18 Kiawah-Seabrook Exchange Club Handbook (and directory) will go to print in a few short months. The club would like to be sure your printed information is accurate. Please review your personal listing and send corrections to ks-exchangeclub@outlook.com. Copies of the handbook are available at the KICA offices, the Sandcastle and at Kiawah Town Hall.

If you are aware of owners who have left the area, or are a new property owner whose information is not yet included, you may notify the club via email as well. This information will help keep the handbook current. You do not need to be a member of the club to be included in the directory.

The handbook is also popular for commercial use. The club would like members to thank their advertisers and let them know you saw their listing in the handbook. If there is a business you'd like to see included, you may send the contact information by email. And, if you're a business owner, contact the club for advertising information.

The handbook isn't only convenient for contacting neighbors. Advertising proceeds provide funds for grants to a range of local charities. Total annual grants have been in excess of \$100,000.

For more information visit ks-exchangeclub.com.

Preparations Continue for 2017 Annual Meeting

KICA has begun preparations for its 2017 Annual Meeting. The following are preliminary key dates. More detailed information will be published in future issues of *Digest*. For questions, contact holly.newman@kica.us.

Jan. 5, 2017 by 4 p.m. - Advisory motions are due.

Jan. 6 by 5 p.m. - Official date of record. No adjustments to property status regarding annual meeting votes will be made following this date.

Jan. 24 - Annual meeting packets are mailed to the membership.

Feb. 3 - KICA Board Open House.

Feb. 24 by 5 p.m. - Voting deadline.

March 3 (Friday), 2 p.m. - Annual Meeting at the Sandcastle.

***The above dates are tentative and subject to change.*



Kiawah Island

DIGEST

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Kiawah Real Estate Trends: Third Quarter 2016

Property Type	Sales Price - Third Quarter 2016				Sales Price - Third Quarter 2015				Quarterly Change	
	#	High	Low	Average	#	High	Low	Average	#	Price
Homes										
\$1 million and below	6	935,000	525,000	864,667	12	990,000	495,000	770,696	-50%	12%
\$1 - 2.5 million	18	2,493,405	1,040,000	1,557,406	24	2,500,000	1,020,000	1,469,972	-25%	6%
\$2.5 million and above	3	17,150,000	3,000,000	7,716,667	11	5,200,000	2,650,000	3,229,364	-73%	139%
Lots										
\$1 million and below	13	895,000	200,000	449,269	14	800,000	168,000	416,082	-7%	8%
\$1 - 2 million	3	1,800,000	1,100,000	1,466,667	5	1,610,000	1,100,000	1,227,000	-40%	20%
\$2 million and above	1	2,850,000	2,850,000	2,850,000	1	3,850,000	3,850,000	3,850,000	0%	-26%
Cottages/Villas										
1 bedroom	7	290,000	220,000	250,786	6	450,000	192,000	272,583	17%	-8%
2 bedroom	10	756,000	337,500	476,576	6	799,500	336,000	479,250	67%	-1%
3 bedroom and above	14	1,150,000	585,000	690,357	11	1,670,000	410,000	691,359	27%	0%

Note: This report is a summary of all sales transactions on Kiawah Island from all sources. This information was compiled by Kiawah Island Real Estate for the exclusive non-commercial use of Kiawah Island Digest. While it is believed to be accurate, a lag in reporting recent sales closings may occur due to the nature of obtaining this data from multiple sources.