



Town of Beaufort Newsletter

www.beaufortnc.org

June 2020

COVID-19 Phase 2 in Beaufort

On May 22, the State of North Carolina transitioned from Phase 1 COVID-19 recovery to a "modest" Phase 2 that includes:

- Transition from a "stay at home" order in Phase 1 to a "safer at home" recommendation in Phase 2, especially for our most vulnerable citizens;
- Maximum gathering limits of 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors;
- Restaurants, salons and personal care businesses, and pools may open at 50% capacity and with specific requirements established in the Governor's executive order;
- Nightclubs, museums, playgrounds, gyms and fitness studios, and indoor entertainment venues will stay closed.

As I write this, Carteret County is down to one active positive COVID-19 case and that is a tribute to the tremendous work of our medical professionals who have diligently treated, tracked, and traced these cases for months. To get to Phase 3 over the next 4-6 weeks, we need to continue our social distancing, hygiene measures, and use of face masks to protect ourselves and others. We have made great progress in fighting this global pandemic. Let's keep moving forward in re-opening by continuing to use these best practices that are keys to success.

Protect Our Iconic Wild Horses

There was a recent incident on Shackleford Banks where visitors tried to get a "selfie" with



a foal and separated the foal from its Mom. This irresponsible act went viral across the state and is a reminder that we must protect our wild horses from those who would knowingly or unknowingly harm them. By law, we must stay at least 50 feet away from the horses, but the reality is...if they react to us at all, then we are too close. Please enjoy these beautiful and iconic wild horses from afar. If you see someone disturb them, please gather as much information as possible and report your sighting to the Beaufort Police Department at (252) 728-4561 or the Rachel Carson Reserve Site Manager (for the 30 horses in Beaufort) at (252) 838-0886 or email pau-

la.gillikin@ncdenr.gov or after hours at (252) 726-1911, or the National Park Service (for the 115 horses on Shackleford Banks). At (252) 728-2250.

- Mayor Everette S. (Rett) Newton

The Very Best of Beaufort

Beaufort is a generous and caring community, and the Beaufort Wine and Food non-profit has provided substantial contributions throughout Carteret County. Nelson Ow-



ens, President of 13 volunteer board members, Executive Director Christine Garnett, beloved mascot Taylor, and an army of over 150 volunteers have been responsible for donations of \$100,000 to the Carteret County Community College Culinary School, \$50,000 to the Salvation Army in Morehead City for a kitchen that can serve up to 3,600 meals per day, and most recently, \$53,000 to employees that had lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Wine and Food fund-raising events this year have been cancelled but make no mistake, the Beaufort Wine and Food non-profit is a force for

good, will bounce back stronger than ever, and truly represents the very best of Beaufort.



Town Hall

701 Front Street P.O. Box 390 Beaufort, NC 28516 (252) 728-2141

Office Hours

8 a.m. -5 p.m.

Monday-Friday

Please note offices are closed to the public due to Covid-19.

Mayor

Everette S. (Rett) Newton e.newton@beaufortnc.org

Commissioners

Ann Carter
a.carter@beaufortnc.org
John Hagle
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Sharon Harker
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Town Manager

John Day j.day@beaufortnc.org



Newsletter Submissions:

Due June 20, 2020 at 5 p.m. Send to r.johnson@beaufortnc.org

Board of Commissioners

During the May 11, 2020 regular monthly meeting, the Board of Commissioners took the following actions:

- Approved the minutes for the March 30 work session, the April 13 regular meeting, the April 23 special meeting and the April 27 work session.
- Approved a resolution designating applicant's agent required by NC Department of Emergency Services for FEMA 4487-DR-NC.
- Accepted a certificate of sufficiency for the voluntary annexation request for Old Seaport Development, LLC (153 Aqua 10 Road and 103 Aqua 10 Road).
- Approved setting a public hearing on Monday, June 8, 2020 for the voluntary annexation for Old Seaport Development, LLC.
- Approved a revised budget calendar.
- Approved FY 20 budget amendment #12.

Historic Preservation Commission

Historic Standards Update: Our consultant has participated in one teleconference and is currently working on the chapters on resiliency and arranging formatting for the new standards document. If all goes accordingly, the consultant will be in Town at the end of June to take photos and gather data and possibly even make a presentation to small groups. Please stay tuned for more information on the development of these new standards.

If you have any questions about Beaufort's Historic District, please contact Kyle Garner, Planning Director, at 252-728-2142 or at k.garner@beaufortnc.org

COVID 19 Utility Hardships

Under Governor Cooper's Executive Order 124, customers experiencing hardship due to COVID 19 are able to make payment arrangements for delinquent balances accrued from March 31 through June 1. Please see the website or email billing@beaufortnc.org for more information.

New Payment Option for Utility Bills and Permits: Web Inquiry and Payment Portal (WIPP)

There is now a new way to check your balance and pay your bill online. From the town website www.beaufortnc.org, select Residents, Pay My Utility Bill, then scroll down and click the link for WIPP. Using your account number and PIN (printed on your bill, you can check your balance, see your last three bills, and pay by debit or credit card, or by echeck. There is a convenience fee of 2.95% for debit/credit, and \$1.05 for e-check. There is not a transaction amount limit, such as the \$175 limit on Official Payments.

To pay an invoice, go to the WIPP page using the instructions above. You will need to have your customer ID and PIN, which is printed on your invoice.

We hope our residents will be pleased with this new service. If you are used to paying through Official Payments, we think you will find WIPP to be a more enhanced service. Please start using WIPP for your online payments, as we will be transitioning away from Official Payments over the next few months. Official Payments will still be the method to use for IVR (over-the-phone) payments. If you have any questions, please email billing@beaufortnc.org.

June Meetings

All meetings will be conducted virtually via Zoom. Please visit the calendar item for the meeting at www.beaufortnc.org.calendar for meeting login information.

6 p.m. June 2—Historic Preservation Commission

6 p.m. June 4—Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

6 p.m. June 8—Board of Commissioners

6 p.m. June 15—Planning Board

4 p.m. June 22—Board of Commissioners Work Session

6 p.m. June 22—Board of Adjustment

Planning Board

The Planning Board met on May 18 via Zoom and discussed the following items:

- Case 20-02 PUD Zoning Amendment: Request to modify the existing PUD for Beau Coast by the creation of a new street cross section (D-2); the modification of lot types and master zoning plan for the Beau Coast development area -Recommended for approval as presented.
- Case 20-03 Preliminary Plat: Beau Coast Phase V: Request to subdivide a 15.45 Acre Tract into 86 Lots (49 Single-Family Lots & 37 Multi-Family Lots). Discussion took place regarding the preservation of a natural buffer between Charles Street residents which the developer said they would look into and get back with a solution Recommended approval as presented.
- Case No. 20-04 Site Plan/Preliminary Plat 511 & 513 Turner Street: Multi-Family project: Request to develop a 3-Unit Townhouse on a ¼ acre (quarter) tract at 511 & 513 Turner Street. This item was heavily discussed as to the impact of stormwater and the overall size and density of the site. The Planning Board voted 4 (for)–3 (opposed) to recommend this item for approval.
- During the month of April, the Inspections Division issued 37 Building Permits, completed 188 Building Inspections with a construction value of around \$1,000,000. If you have any questions about Beaufort's Historic District, please contact Kyle Garner, Planning Director, at 252-728-2142 or at k.garner@beaufortnc.org.

Chat with the Chief

Due to COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings, the April quarterly Chat with the Chief briefing was postponed. The April items will be included in the tentatively scheduled July Chat with the Chief. Once a date is set, details will be announced on the Town website at www.beaufortnc.org.

Message from Police Chief Burdette

"As I reflect on the events of the last three months that have impacted our community, I am humbled by the tremendous support you continue to give us through these unprecedented times. From the donations of food for my staff to the handmade masks that were donated to keep my staff as safe as possible, thank you! Our goal is now and

always will be to serve our community with respect and provide the highest level of service our Beaufort community demands. Stay well and continue to be kind to one another as we move forward."

- Chief Burdette

Thanks to you and our local vendors

OLDE BEAUFORT FARMERS' MARKET

is back in business on the courthouse square!

At this time we urge all to follow our safety precautions for the benefit of everyone. Free masks made by our volunteer team are available if you need one.

The market is a source of fresh, locally grown and produced food available in a safe, open air venue under the grounding oaks of the courthouse square.









We are open from 9 until 1 every Saturday. You can enjoy walking through the market or you can pre-purchase from our vendors whose info is on our website:

oldebeaufortfarmersmarket.org.



shopping local!



Video of the NOAA/Town Supported Marine Debris Cleanup Released

"Beaufort is striving to be a NC Clean Water Coastal Community, and in many ways we are leading the state in efforts to clean up our waterways. Working closely with NOAA, NC Coastal Reserves, Duke Marine Lab, and TowBoatUS, the Town of Beaufort (shortly after Hurricane Florence) removed 120,000 pounds of debris, 11 derelict vessels, 34 illegal moorings, and 7 car tires. This is an excellent video demonstrating the extensive teamwork required for this massive effort.

We have continued the momentum from this marine debris project by expanding our jurisdiction, strengthening our navigable waterways ordinance, working with UNC-IMS to identify and measure toxins in our waterways, and becoming the first municipality in the state to endorse and embrace the NC Marine Debris Action Plan. We are serious about cleaning up our amazing coastal ecosystem!" Visit https://www.beaufortnc.org/ news to watch a video about the

marine debris cleanup project.

- Mayor Newton

Beaufort Town Flags

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Beaufort 3' x 5' flag (\$70) and 12" x 18" garden flags (\$25) are for sale at Ace Hardware, 1511 Live Oak; Cousins Bed & Breakfast, 305 Turner; and First Citizens Bank, 1501 Live Oak. All proceeds benefit the community through the Beaufort Woman's Club.

BERUFORT Picture

The Beaufort Picture Show is pleased to announce that we will be offering outdoor screenings of movies this summer, consistent with restrictions on outdoor gathering, and weather permitting -- look for an announcement about a 4th

of July kick-off of our

BeauShow Al Fresco

series on our website

(www.beaufortpictureshow.org)!

Tickets: beaufortpictureshow.org

Films shown at The Mill Space

1362 Lennoxville Rd. Beaufort



The Writers' Exchange Beaufort NC

The Writers' Exchange Beaufort NC is now Zoom-zooming! Jan Parker, Trish Sheppard, and Allison Daniel host the online critique meetings every 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6 – 9 pm. All writers and poets are welcome to join this free and open disciplined critique, no matter the level of expertise. You may request an invitation through email: thewritersXchange@aol.com and receive an email hyperlink invitation on the day we meet. Also, please join us on Facebook. Happy trails until we can socially cluster again, and keep on writing!

BEAUFORT Historical Association

HONORING MOLLY WILLIS AND ANN CARTER

While the traditional Old Homes Tour will not take place this year, there will be special recognitions for the Old Homes Tour Honorary Chairs as well as the 12 wonderful homeowners who have been planning since last year to have their homes showcased as part of this special fundraiser that raises essential funds for the Beaufort Historical Association.

"It's very hard to not have the tour this year, but it's even harder right now to imagine having this very large event in Beaufort," Patricia Suggs, Executive Director of the Beaufort Historical Association said. "While the Association would love to host this traditional tour, especially in our 60th anniversary, the safety and well-

being of attendees is the number one priority. Postponing this year hopefully will help us treasure what we have in this town even more."

This year's Old Homes Tour Honorary Chairs are longtime residents and sisters, Molly Willis and Ann Carter. They have been and continue to be leaders in the community as well as at the Beaufort Historic Site. "Ann Carter and Molly Willis are two of those treasures that have been instrumental in the growth of the tourism in the Town of Beaufort, as well as both of them always seeking to do the right thing for our visitors and residents," Suggs said.

Molly and Ann moved to Beaufort in 1944 as children. Their

mother was a teacher at the old St. Paul's School and their father worked at the Duke Marine Lab. For the greater years of their childhood, they lived in a three-story Victorian home that was passed through the mother's side of the family. The home sat on Front Street where today one can find the Inlet Inn. "My Great Uncle Charles ran the Dey Fish Factory, and he was the one that built the Victorian house on Front Street," Ann said. "When he died, my grandfather got it and my grandmother changed it to apartments during the war, and then we moved back in there. They called it the Dey House."

In that decade Beaufort's main commerce was the fishing industry, and when the fishing fleets would come in, the small seaport town would come to life. The sisters said that when the fleets arrived a certain smell would take over the town when the factory was cooking the fish. Locals lived with the smell and called it "the smell of money," because it meant all

the boats were in and needed supplies for the Town Board of Commissioners three their crew members.

Molly said one of their favorite things about growing up in Beaufort was swimming with friends across Taylors Creek and how quaint the community was. "The small town feel of knowing everyone and everyone knowing you...we would go in groups to the beach, swimming and dancing each weekend at the old Teen Club on Pollock Street," she said. "They would play oldies music and my favorite dances were what they called the bebop and slow dancing." The Police Department is housed in the Teen Club building now. The two eventually married and went their separate ways. Molly moved with her husband, Jimmy, to several different towns while he was in the Air Force, and Ann lived in Kinston for a time with hers. However, the two found themselves migrating back to Beaufort.

Sisters Molly Willis (left) and Ann Carter (right) are the 2020 **Old Homes Tour** Honorary Chairs.

> Kinston, and it was a totally dead town," Ann said. "In the 1970s, all that changed thanks to an urban renewal grant acguired by the town to redo the waterfront. The boardwalk and the marina were both built through this project. The town became full of life. It was remarkable to see the change. A lot of locals did not like it. but to me, it was exciting and inspiring to see."

> "At this time Mother, Margaret Arrington, and some of the locals were in charge of a design committee to help oversee the plan for the new downtown area. Their work helped the residents see the value of their wonderful old houses and the need for them to be preserved," Ann said.

"Through their efforts, the Architectural Review Committee was started for the town which eventually turned into the Historic Commission.'

After Ann moved back to Beaufort, she quickly became immersed in the community once more. She has since served on

times, served on the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment, was Mayor for two terms, a volunteer nurse at the Broad Street Clinic, a member of the Rachel Carson Advisory Group, a Friend of the Maritime Museum, and a member of the Beaufort Historical Association, where she is a volunteer. She was the Association's Volunteer of the Year in 1987.

"My sister Ann was the one who got me involved with the Beaufort Historic Site," Molly said. "She had been volunteering there for some time leading tours and such. Then I started there, and I can still remember when old Grayden Paul used to do tours on the Double-Decker bus. He would make me jump off the bus and point to the "hanging tree" at the Courthouse where one hanging took place in Beaufort."

Over 30 years later, you can still find Mol-"I came back to visit Mother when I was in ly dedicating her time to the Beaufort His-

toric Site. She volunteered for many years then become a part of the staff. You can find her leading site tours and telling the stories of her favorite place, the Old Jail. Molly said her favorite thing about the tour is the people. "You meet so many different people," she said. "You get to meet so many people from everywhere, and I like getting to meet people who are from different places and even countries."

Both sisters said they feel honored to be selected as the Honorary Chairs of the Old Homes Tour. "We are the ones that are honored to have had these two sisters so involved over the years," Patricia Suggs said. "From Ann

Carter's special caramel cakes to Molly's humor that makes us laugh every day at the Beaufort Historic Site, we have been truly blessed to have them as part of our

On the Association's website, beauforthistoricsite.org, there will be information about the homes that were going to be featured, as well as, ways to make donations in honor of the homeowners and Molly Willis and Ann Carter.

"The spirit of kindness and giving has been amazing, and we thank everyone for understanding the need at this time to consider the safety of our residents as well as all the guests that normally visit in June," Suggs said. "We are in a constant state of daily changes and decisions, so please keep in touch through our website, our Facebook page and our Instagram

To make a donation visit beauforthistoricsite.org or call 252-728-5225.