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City of Southport

June 2021 Newsletter

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A Community Update from Mayor J.P. Hatem, MD, MPH

June is a month of Flags, Freedom, Fathers, and Foundings.

In Southport, the Lions Club will help us celebrate Flag Day on June 14th, by displaying flags on Howe Street as we continue the presidential

proclamation issued by President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916, establishing National Flag Day.

Southport celebrates Freedom, including Juneteenth, June 19th, 1865 the day when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas with his troops and brought word that the Civil War had ended and slaves in Texas were now free.

Southport remembers the Foundings and discoveries of science, medicine, and cultural icons. June 1st begins the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf Hurricane Season, and the foundation of science and meteorology help to predict these events which allows us to prepare and "brace for impact." The foundation of science and medicine as June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month where worldwide 50 million people are living with Alzheimer's and other dementias, tragic and devastating diseases.

On June 2nd, Southport celebrates the founding in 1930, of Brunswick County Hospital now Dr. J. Arthur Doshier Memorial Hospital.

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Southport City Hall, 1029 N. Howe Street, Southport, NC 28461

(910) 457-7900 www.cityofsouthport.com



June 2021 Newsletter

A Community Update from Mayor J.P. Hatem, MD, MPH

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The Foundings of Cultural Icons, the birth anniversary of Andy Griffith, June 1st, who as Sheriff Andy Taylor was the ultimate protector and provider of wisdom to all of Mayberry and he filmed in Southport in his later years as the attorney "Matlock;" the 95th birth anniversary of Marilyn Monroe; and the debut of Superman in Action Comics on newsstands on June 1, 1938. It is National Iced Tea Month, citizens of Southport enjoy sweet tea the favorite iconic southern beverage.



On June 13th, we celebrate our Fathers, those still with us, those that we hold dear in precious memories, and those men who have a paternal presence in our life.

So proclaim the freedom that Juneteenth represents and continue to do all we can to end prejudice in our country; embrace the science and medicine that helps us mitigate the effects of hurricanes and helps us prevent and treat diseases; enjoy the cultural icons that radiated the beauty of southern life and the beauty of Hollywood and the heroic endeavors of newspaperman Clark Kent, "Truth, Justice, and the American Way." And always remember the blessings of our Fathers and the Father figures in our lives.

Also, remember that the City of Southport is moving forward with projects previously outlined: Roads; Infrastructure; Safety in the Yacht Basin and in our entire city; Historic Preservation from our City Dock, now open, to our city cemeteries, and our waterfront. Added to this list, the completed budget has been submitted to the Local Government Council for review; we are making plans for dredging in the Yacht Basin; reviewing water assets with infrastructure improvements needed with respect to pipes, water supply, to an increase in the cost of water from Brunswick County. The city is improving signage and has done so in the Yacht Basin. This signage will include an emphasis on trucks "URB"—Use Rob Gandy—to speeding in the city limits—SSS—Stop Speeding in Southport, and making sure our visitors and tourists—RTS—Read the Signs. No one should be speeding in Southport. Enjoy the village atmosphere, at a slower less frantic pace. We are blessed, the pandemic is waning, cases are down, immunizations are up, 50% of adults are vaccinated, and MASKS ARE OFF, except in certain places such as hospitals and public transportation and in businesses/ restaurants that may request us to continue to do so. If you have been immunized, your risk is low. At our next Board of Aldermen Meeting, there will be no capacity limitation and no mask/ facial covering required.

A Happy Father's Day to all, our city is open, our economy is robust, the Summer Market will be open in Franklin Square Park and activities abound including Plein Air and the Summer Concert Series. We are blessed in Southport in so many ways, now if we can just avoid any direct hits from hurricanes this season!

Joseph P. Hatem MD, MPH, Mayor City of Southport

June 2021 Newsletter



Meet...Tasha Gaddy, City of Southport Code Enforcement Officer

My name is Tasha Gaddy and I have recently accepted a position as the new Code Enforcement Officer. I have worked for the City full time since August 2016 as the Fire Clerk. Before I became full-time, I was a Firefighter/EMT volunteer for Southport. My day typically consists of field inspections, responding to citizen complaints, and handling any other health or safety code violation. I don't just work in the field though; I do have to do office work as well. In my position, I must be fair and consistent with everyone. I love our small town and I want to make sure it is a clean and safe place to live, visit, and work.

I am a mother of 3 children, but I am raising a total of 6 children, their ages run from 6 to 20. I love them all to pieces. I also have 3 dogs and a great husband. There is never a dull or quiet moment in our home, we are always busy, but I would not change it for the world. I may not have been born and raised in Southport, but I do call it home. On my days off, I love going to the beach, spending time outside, going on walks, and other places with my family and friends. On rainy days, I mostly spend my time crafting. I love going to the City Pier to go fishing, sitting on the benches and swings to watch the boats pass by, walking around downtown, and eating at the local restaurants. My favorite place in Southport is the Christmas House and the Waterfront Park.

City of Southport Public Services, Code Enforcement

The City of Southport believes everyone should enjoy a safe and healthy environment to live in which enhances their quality of life.

Code Enforcement has the main responsibility of enforcing several divisions within the Southport General Code of Ordinances that promotes the general overall health and welfare of its residents and promote education for responsible citizenship.

Code Enforcement Officer can assist you with the following matters:

Chapter 9: Health/Sanitation Division

The Southport Code of Ordinances addresses health and sanitation matters in Chapter 9 of the city code. The Code Enforcement Officer has several programs that coincide with health and sanitation matters. *continued*

June 2021 Newsletter

City of Southport Development Services, Code Enforcement

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The Board of Alderman of the City of Southport has vested the code enforcement officer the authority to enforce this chapter. Health and Sanitation violations bring safety concerns to the community due to the inhabitation of mice, rats, snakes, or vermin of any kind which is dangerous to the public. The City wants everyone to have a safe environment to live in and to be free from unnecessary health and sanitation matters.



The Code Enforcement officer can assist you with the following matters pertaining to health and sanitation concerns:



- Includes weed control/overgrown lots
- Mosquito Control
- Junk/nuisance vehicles
- Abandoned/Junked Motor Vehicles
- Spring & Fall Clean-ups

Chapter 15: Solid Waste Division

Chapter 15 of the Southport Code of Ordinances deals specifically with Solid Waste. The Code Enforcement Officer has enforcement rights of this code. Solid Waste Violations include, but are not limited to:

- Bulk Items
- Illegal dumping

The City of Southport no longer picks up garbage or yard debris. A Countywide contract is held with Waste Industries Inc. Any refuse placed in front of a residence will result in a citation with a fine. Arrangements must be made with Waste Industries Inc for special pickup of white goods, brown goods, or large amounts of yard debris.

Illegal dumpsites in the City are being monitored by the Code Enforcement Officer and the Southport Police Department. Violators will be fully prosecuted by the law. Any having any information regarding illegal dumping or solid waste violations may call the code enforcement officer at (910) 713-3862.

All complaints must be made in writing so they may be investigated properly. While many people think complaints can be handled with just one visit to the resident, please be aware that all complaints require due process, which may include registered mail and coordination with other departments. These steps take time, so complaints may not be resolved quickly.

June 2021 Newsletter

Meet... Peggy Popelars, President of Downtown Southport, Inc.



Hello. My name is Peggy Popelars and I am the President of Downtown Southport Inc. (DSI). In 2006, several of the board members of the Merchant’s Association met with Randy Jones (Department Director of Tourism for the City of Southport) and discussed partnering to organize a joint non-profit organization. From this grassroots committee, which also consisted of community leaders, Downtown Southport Inc. (DSI) was established. In the beginning, Downtown Southport Inc. (DSI) had a paid part-time Executive Director in order to qualify to be members of “Main Street”, a National organization and to organize the different activities that Downtown Southport Inc. was involved. In 2011, it was realized by the Downtown Southport Board of Directors that there were not enough funds to support a paid position and pursue the Mission of our non-profit. It was at this time that Downtown Southport Inc. (DSI) became a solely volunteer organization. The Board of Directors consists of 11 community and business members as well as a City liaison.

Downtown Southport Inc. (DSI) is a non-profit 501c3 organization. It is dedicated to preserving the heritage and charm of Southport. We encourage and support preservation projects, cultural activities, educational programs, tourism, as well as economic growth in the downtown area, making downtown Southport a vital, vibrant, year-round community for citizens and guests.

Some of Downtown Southport’s projects include: (1) Partnering with the City with funding, creation and printing of the City Walking Maps, (2) Southport Kiosk / Wayfinding Signs, (3) Co-sponsoring the Spring Festival with the City and Kiwanis Club, (4) Co-sponsoring the Concerts in the Park with the City as well as businesses, (5) Co-sponsoring the Winterfest activities with the City, (6) Contributed to the 4th of July Naturalization Ceremony, (7) Donated to the John N Smith Preservation and Restoration project, (8) Major contributor of the City of Southport Weather Tower Preservation, *continued*



Local Farm Fresh Fruits and Vegetables • Baked Goods
Flowers and Herbs • Local Arts and Crafts

2021 Southport Summer Market

Wednesdays
8 am - 1 pm
June 2 - September 29

Franklin Square Park
Corner of Howe & E. West Streets



910.279.4616 • DowntownSouthport.com



June 2021 Newsletter

Meet... Peggy Popelars, President of Downtown Southport, Inc.

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(9) Sponsored Community Shred Events, (10) Designed and funded signage for the Nash Street Restrooms as well as the cupola, (11) Also donated to several other non-profit organizations such as the Wooden Boat Show, Southport-Oak Island Interchurch Fellowship Pantry, Coastal Water Watch Education Project, Military Appreciation Day, Southport Garden Club Planters Project, Shop Local Project, Friends of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport building project, Southport Beautification Wreath Project, and new ornaments for the Winterfest Christmas Tree.

My husband and I retired and moved to Southport in 2003. I previously lived in Charleston, South Carolina where I worked at Roper St. Francis Hospital as Service Line Director of Ancillary Services (Laboratory, Radiology, Pharmacy, Respiratory Therapy). After moving to Southport and taking Miss Susie Carson's Southport history class, I pursued volunteering at the Southport Visitor's Center and have been a volunteer there since 2003. I have also been volunteering as president of Downtown Southport Inc. (DSI) since 2007. Since I had a hospital career background, I decided to run for Trustee at J. Arthur Doshier Hospital. I was elected and served on the Board for 6 years. I am also a volunteer Usher at Sacred Heart Catholic Church since 2003.

My first visit to Southport made quite an impression on me. It was 1997 and the guy I was dating (now my husband) asked me to go with him to Southport, North Carolina where he had purchased a lot on Dutchman's Creek with plans to build a house there one day. We walked around town for a while then had lunch at one of the waterfront restaurants. I clearly remember sitting there, enjoying the relaxing pace, looking over the water and realizing that the stress and pressures of my typical everyday life just seemed to float away. I did not realize that a place like this really existed. Time went by and we visited Southport on numerous occasions. On one of those occasions, he asked me "Do you think you could live here for the rest of your life"? That's when this story began !!!!



June 2021 Newsletter

Southport Beautification Committee



These are just a few of the areas that the Southport Beautification Committee has as ongoing projects. We have around 20 locations throughout the town that are monitored and maintained regularly by a designated steward. Currently, we have several spots that require a steward. If you are interested in participating in keeping our city beautiful by taking on a spot, contact Lynne Geiman at Scarlet517@hotmail.com for more information.

Join other volunteers Saturday, June 5th at 9 am for weeding, pruning, and other gardening delights. Let's beautify our parks, waterfront, and other areas. No need to bring tools, just your energy, and good intentions. We meet at the old jail annex at Nash and Rhett streets.

1. Once again, we thank South Brunswick High School Honor students for their continued help each month.
2. Ken Geiman and Jim Lightbourne gave the benches at Kaziah Park a much-needed coat of stain.
3. Southport Beautification volunteer, Susan Burgess, enhances the kiosk at the Visitor's Center at Fort Johnston during the monthly cleanup.
4. Kate Singley and Karen Mosteller work with several other Beautification volunteers at the old courthouse, the future home of the Up Your Arts center.
5. Volunteers cleaned out the old courthouse shrub beds with other Beautification members.

June 2021 Newsletter



Southport Forestry Committee The Incredible Longleaf Pine

The incredible Longleaf Pine can grow to 120 feet tall at maturity and can live to be 300 years old or more. It can withstand droughts, insects, buffer hurricane force winds, and withstand fires. Not only that, the tree can absorb floodwaters and

sequester 10,000 tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere in its roots per acre of forest. This incredible tree is probably in your neighborhood, or your backyard here in Southport.

The Longleaf Pine is identified by its' thick, scaly, orange-brown bark, its' lustrous 8"-17" long needles, and the large pinecones that grow up to 8" long. Found throughout the southeastern states, the Longleaf Pine was once the most ecologically and commercially important tree in the South. These pine forests have decreased from approximately 90 million acres in the early 1800s to a fraction of that number today. The Longleaf Pine is a key source of wood fiber products for industry but through over-deforestation, lack of conservation practices as well as a reduction in prescribed burns critical for Longleaf Pine forests to thrive, the trees are at risk.

The Longleaf Pine ecosystem has hundreds of plants, birds, and animals across the South that require a habitat of pine savannahs and woodlands for their very survival. Due to the reduction in Longleaf Pines, many species are under threat of extinction. However, there is hope. For example, in Boiling Springs Lakes NC, the Longleaf Pine woodlands were found to be home to one of 27 federally endangered species, including the Red-cockaded woodpecker. Cutting of the Longleaf Pine for development is illegal in areas where the woodpeckers are found to be living. The small woodpeckers require the Longleaf Pine to make their nests by excavating a hole in the trunk of a living tree 60 years or older. The woodpeckers live in clusters, work together to make their nests, and must have a foraging area of around 75 acres to survive. The Longleaf Pine has saved the Red-cockaded woodpecker and the woodpecker has saved the pine!

The Nature Conservancy, the Longleaf Alliance, government agencies such as the
continued



June 2021 Newsletter

Southport Forestry Committee

The Incredible Longleaf Pine

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US Forest Service and other conservation groups are working to save the trees from extinction. Locally, our new UDO protects conifer trees that are over 12 inches in diameter, and a permit from the City is required for them to be cut when necessary.

When you look up at the Longleaf Pine, remember that they are a critical link to the health of our natural world and to our overall health as well. For more information on how you may help, you may contact longleafalliance.org or The Nature Conservancy.



Southport Animal Control

Alligator Awareness

Southport APS receives many calls regarding alligator sightings this time of year. Here are some quick facts and resources to help residents learn to co-exist with our local wildlife.

American alligators occur naturally in North Carolina and coastal NC is considered the northern extent of their range. May and June is typical mating season for alligators, so many are on the move now as they seek mates.

Alligators are usually quite shy and secretive. Seeing an alligator for the first time may be scary, but simply seeing one is generally not cause for concern. The best option is to simply leave the alligator alone and it will typically move on within a few hours. To ensure that alligators do not hang around and become a problem, refrain from feeding them. It is unlawful in North Carolina to intentionally feed or harass an alligator.

An alligator will not be moved from an area simply due to its size or proximity to public areas. The safest and best course of action is to simply leave the alligator alone and allow it to move on its own. If an alligator is blocking a roadway or causing an immediate threat, NC Wildlife or their agents may intervene for safety concerns.

NC Wildlife Resources has excellent information on co-existing with alligators: Wildlife Hotline at 1-800-662-7137 with any questions concerning wildlife in NC.

<https://www.ncwildlife.org/News/wildlife-resources-commission-provides-tips-to-coexist-with-alligators>

June 2021 Newsletter

A Glimpse of History: Local Pirate History and Bonnet's Creek



Bonnet's Creek, whose creek bed begins at the Cape Fear River and runs along the northern boundary of Taylor Field, is rich with pirate history. This part of the Cape Fear was a favorite meeting place for pirates, including the notorious Blackbeard and Mary Anne Blythe the woman buccaneer.

The pirate Stede Bonnet, for whom the creek is named, grounded his ship in the creek to make necessary repairs. Known as the "Gentleman Pirate," Bonnet plundered vessels along the entire east coast during 1717-1718.

On September 27, 1718, Colonel William Rhett captured the so-called "Gentleman Pirate" Stede Bonnet, after a six-hour battle near the headland of the Cape Fear River.

He was born in 1688 in Barbados. Orphaned at a young age, Bonnet inherited property, including a sizable plantation, held by a guardian until he reached majority. In 1709 Bonnet married Mary Allamby, daughter of a wealthy planter. By 1715 the couple was living in the Parish of St. Michael, where Bonnet held the rank of major in the militia. In 1717 Major Bonnet gave up his life among the Barbadian planter elite, deserting his family to become a pirate.

Instead of capturing a vessel, Bonnet launched his pirating career in the way in which he was accustomed to doing business—he purchased and armed a ship and hired a crew, offering wages. The novice pirate and his crew sailed the *Revenge* to the shipping lanes off of the North American coast and began plundering vessels. Blackbeard, in league with Bonnet for a time, captured the ship that he would name *Queen Anne's Revenge* while commanding Bonnet's *Revenge*. The two pirates joined forces again in March 1718, and Bonnet was aboard the *Queen Anne's Revenge* during Blackbeard's weeklong blockade of Charleston. Following Blackbeard's grounding of the *Queen Anne's Revenge*, Bonnet went to Bath to secure a pardon from Gov. Charles Eden after which he renamed his ship the *Royal James*. Bonnet, however, immediately returned to piracy, taking over a dozen prizes along the east coast that summer. Bonnet, like many pirates of the age, knew that the Cape Fear estuary offered safe places in which to rest and to careen and repair ships. In August 1718, expecting lengthy repairs, Bonnet established a base near modern Southport. Responding to piratical threat to South Carolina, Gov. Robert Johnson, knowing of Eden's liberal pardoning of pirates, sent

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June 2021 Newsletter

A Glimpse of History: Bonnet's Creek and Local Pirate History *continued from previous page*

Col. William Rhett to the region in search of pirates. He spotted Bonnet's vessels at dusk on September 26 and a fierce battle ensued at daybreak. Bonnet and his surviving crew surrendered after about six hours. The fight was the largest and bloodiest of pirate conflicts in the colony's waters. All but three of the captured crew were executed in South Carolina on November 8. Bonnet, who escaped, was recaptured and tried. He was hanged in Charleston on December 10, 1718, ending the "Golden Age of Piracy" in North Carolina.



<https://www.ncdcr.gov/blog/2015/09/27/a-pirates-life-was-his-stede-bonnets>

UP YOUR ARTS
PRESENTS

June 18~19
Friday & Saturday

Outdoor Painting
Live Music
Artist Awards
A Wet Paint Sale

PLEIN AIR FESTIVAL

Original Artwork by Rena Powell, Recipient of the 2019 People's Choice Award

Southport City Hall, 1029 N. Howe Street, Southport, NC 28461

(910) 457-7900 www.cityofsouthport.com

June 2021 Newsletter

Recipes Southport Style

Everything is better with Duke's Mayonnaise

With a recipe that hasn't changed since 1917, Duke's Mayonnaise is the secret to great food.

Only, it's not such a great secret anymore...

Ever since Eugenia Duke began spreading her homemade mayonnaise on sandwiches in 1917, people have been spreading the word about her legendary mayonnaise, and they're still talking about it 100 years later. Whether it's on sandwiches, in potato salad, or even in a chocolate cake, Duke's is the secret to great food.

Nothing says "I love you" quite like chocolate mayonnaise cake. The addition of mayonnaise keeps this cake incredibly moist. Serve it for Valentine's Day, anniversary dinner, or a special birthday celebration! This southern delicacy never disappoints!

Don't believe us? Try one of our delicious recipes and then we'll talk.

<https://www.dukesmayo.com/recipes/>

Supermoist Chocolate Cake

Classic Southport Cooking,
Recipes and Reminiscences by
Lewis J. Hardee, Jr.

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons baking cocoa
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup mayonnaise (Use DUKE'S to be authentic!)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract



In a large mixing bowl, combine flour, sugar, cocoa, and baking soda. Add water, mayonnaise, and vanilla. Beat at medium speed until thoroughly combined. Pour into a greased 9-inch square or 11x7x2-inch baking pan. Bake in a preheated 350° oven for 30 to 35 minutes or until cake tests done when a cake tester or toothpick comes out clean. Cool completely.

Frost if desired with your favorite chocolate icing.



[Click for](#)

Calendar of Events

<https://www.nc4thofjuly.com/events>



June 2021 Newsletter

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

Forestry Committee
2nd Tuesday of each month
June 8, 5 p.m. - (ITMH)

Park & Recreation Board
2nd Tuesday of each month
June 8, 6:30 p.m. - (ITMH)

ABC Board
2nd Wednesday of each month
June 9, 6:30 p.m. - (ITMH)

Board of Aldermen
2nd Thursday of each month
June 10, 6 p.m. - (SCB)

Planning & Zoning Board
3rd Thursday of each month
June 17, 6 p.m. - (SCB)

Beautification Committee
3rd Monday of each month
June 21, 5 p.m. - (ITMH)

Zoning Board of Adjustments
4th Tuesday of each month
June 22, 4:30 p.m. - (SCB)

City meetings are open to the public.

The City of Southport does not discriminate based on disability. If you need an auxiliary aid or service or other accommodation to attend or fully participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk's office as far in advance of the meeting as is possible so that your request can be considered.

Southport Community Building (SCB)
223 East Bay Street

Indian Trail Meeting Hall (ITMH)
110 West Moore Street