

In this issue >>>

- Community Update from the Mayor
- Meet... Sue Hodgins
- About the Planning Board



City of Southport

June 2022 Newsletter

- What is Indigo Plantation, Phase 2?
- Beautification Committee
- City Receives Wellness Grant
- Forestry Committee
- Caswell Avenue Community Garden
- Learning to Co-Exist with Alligators
- A Glimpse of History
- Volunteer Thank you
- Recipes Southport Style
- Events & Upcoming Meetings



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

The month of June with gardenias and magnolias as these white blossoms dot our city with fragrance and beauty. Take a few moments to enjoy Mother Nature's blessings.

The month of June is also full of numbers as we move forward finalizing our city budget for FY 2022–2023. I have called a Special Board of

Aldermen Meeting for Friday, June 3rd at 2pm to further review and to have any questions from board members, answered. There will be no major changes and there will be a Public Hearing on the budget at the June 9th monthly Board of Alderman meeting. This budget is one that is looking towards the future, making sure the city has the personnel to be successful, has the equipment, has policies and projects that are strategic, prioritized, funded, has competitive salaries, and can provide the quality services our citizens request and expect. The budget is an action item and a vote will be taken at the meeting after the public hearing.

The yearly review of the City Manager is due in June and there will be a closed session at the Board of Aldermen Meeting for the board to discuss this personnel evaluation.

Flag Day is June 14th and we honor the Flag and all that it represents for our country and around the world. I want to thank the Lions Club for placing flags on Howe Street and I encourage our citizens to attend the Flag Lowering Ceremony at Waterfront Park sponsored by the City of Southport Police Department in cooperation with several

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

(910) 457-7900 www.cityofsouthport.com



June 2022 Newsletter

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

Continued

Southport Civic Organizations. The Flag Lowering Ceremony began on Memorial Day and was hosted by the Southport Police Department and the Southport Fire and EMS Departments. Memorial Day was commemorated as well and all fallen members of the armed forces were honored including Southport native, Arthur Danvis Harrelson, Jr., US Navy, who was the only member of his High School Class of 1951 who did not return home after the Korean War. I also attended a solemn and inspiring Memoria Day Service at the Bellamy Joyner American Legion Post 213 sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary. It was a moving tribute to those fallen heroes and I salute the Ladies Auxiliary at Post 213.

Summer Market, sponsored by DSI, Downtown Southport Inc., and the City of Southport, takes place every Wednesday morning. And the Summer Concert Series begins Thursday Evening, June 2, at Franklin Square Park. Both are festive weekly events.

On June 2, 1930, Brunswick County Hospital, now J. Arthur Doshier Memorial, opened its doors on this day and is celebrating its 92nd Anniversary. We congratulate the hospital and Smithville Township on this continuing community endeavor.

Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf Hurricane Season begins June 1st. May we have the same season in Southport as we did in 2021—no “Direct Hits.” Regardless, the City of Southport has made the necessary preparations should a “Summer Storm” head up the Cape Fear River.

City Projects: City staff is working on American Rescue Plan Funding. This is an ongoing process. Planning and Development Services and the Planning Board continue their work on Indigo Plantation Phase II. Howe Street is paved and our thanks to Rep. Miller and NCDOT Engineer, Chad Kimes, for their assistance in the completion of this project, especially prior to the beginning of the summer season and prior to July 4th. I also want to thank NCDOT for completing our request for brush removal/landscaping at the traffic triangle across from Famous Subs. Our entry corridor is important and further planning is in process. I want to thank Public Services for the completion of the lattice fence around the pump station on West Bay Street. The gray color matches the pilot tower and this has helped to improve the aesthetic view in that area. City Dock, progress is being made. The city is working with BEMC to replace the lights on the 51 trees on Howe and Moore Streets downtown. These lights are being paid for by a private donor. Paving on Bay Street is scheduled to begin in June and should be completed before July 4th.

Filming continues on “The Problem with Providence” and I am happy to see the film industry working in the Wilmington area, including Southport. For those of us who were here, it was 25 years ago that we watched the parade in the Yacht Basin during the filming of “I Know What You did Last Summer.”

My commitment to Historic Preservation for our city continues and I want to thank the Southport Historical Society for the enjoyable meeting and program on the Garrison Lawn of Fort Johnston to showcase the new pattern for the commemorative bricks purchased by our citizens and great music by the Shanty Singers. The War of 1812 will be commemorated on Tuesday, June 7th by The Commissioner Charles Gause Chapter 433 National Society United States Daughters of 1812 at Deep Point Marina at 2 pm and at the Memorial Marker on Fort Johnston at 3:30 pm. I encourage all those interested to attend.

June 2022 Newsletter

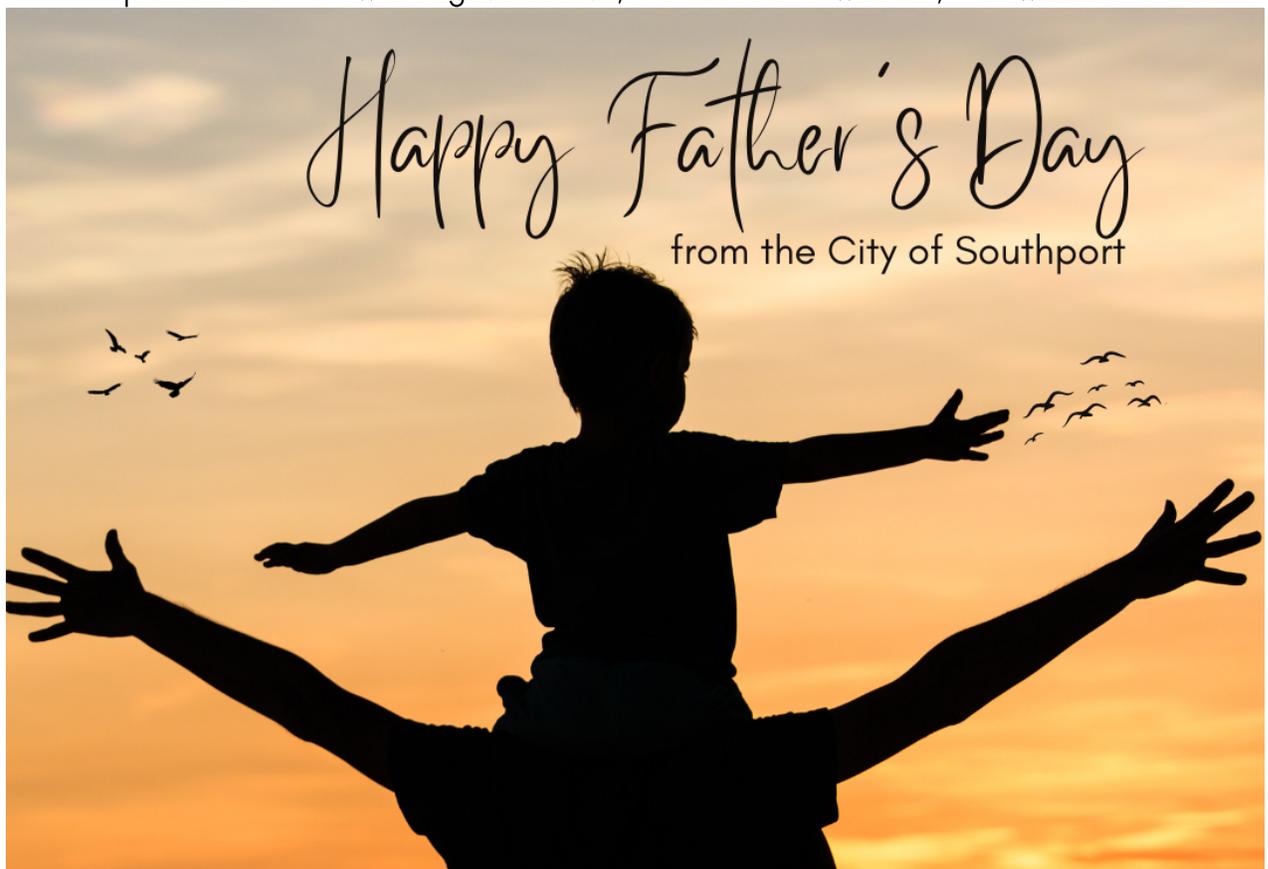
A Community Update from Mayor J.P. Hatem, MD, MPH

Continued

The Celebration of Juneteenth is a tradition in Southport every year. Look on the City Website for details on this celebration of the news that arrived in Texas on June 19, 1865 that "...in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free."

I close with how I began, the glory of nature, the beauty of the gardenias and magnolias as we celebrate in June, National Pollinator Month-how to promote and protect pollinators, bees, birds, and butterflies; National Rivers Month-we proclaim and protect our Cape Fear River; National Ocean Month-to sustain and protect for future generations; National Rose Month-we recognize rose growers and the billions of fresh cut roses sold each year to the delight of so many; and it is National Safety Month-we raise awareness of what it takes to stay safe and prevent injury, this is crucial and is reflected in in our budget and in my policy positions as Mayor.

A Happy Father's Day on June 19th to all fathers as we are with them on this day whether in memory and spirit or in person. And we remember not only our fathers, but the men in our lives that were a father figure who along with our dads, helped to guide, protect, and set an example for us to follow and gave us love, memories and wisdom, that we all cherish.



Find us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/cityofsouthportnc>

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

(910) 457-7900 www.cityofsouthport.com

June 2022 Newsletter

Meet... Sue Hodgin Planning Board Chair



I was elected as Chair of the Planning Board at the March 2022 Meeting, having first been appointed as an In-City Alternate in April 2021 and a full In-City Member in February 2022.

I was living in Raleigh (my hometown), returning there after several years' residence on different areas of the NC coast. I've been involved in management and the regulatory activities of State Government agencies for several decades but retired from full-time State work in 2013 when my husband Don and I moved here. Anybody that's up before sunrise knows I walk our dog... or more appropriately, Pete walks me. After our time 'on the streets', Pete and I are usually in the yard doing morning gardening chores.

When/if we ARE able to have true 'time off' and get away, I love visiting coastal towns... in- or outside North Carolina.

In the Spring, nothing's better than seeing the ibis 'back in town', coming over our creek in the mornings on their way to Dutchman and the marshes to forage for the day, and then watch them headed back to Battery Island late in the afternoons.

I'm a fan of late-day golf cart rides, feeling the River breeze and recognizing by smell what's coming out of the kitchens of the Yacht Basin restaurants. And in the Fall, I enjoy school starting: not because there are any scholars in our home, but because I know our 'found' city will begin to slow down again... 'when the coast is clear', as Buffett sings. Just a few cars on Howe Street is a sight for sore eyes.

One of my most favorite places to visit?? My own back porch, where the colors of our blazing sunsets can take your breath and have you looking forward to the next one.

I enjoy helping my fellow Garden Club members decorate the Garrison for July Fourth and Christmas, emphasizing Southport's history when/however we can. The camaraderie during these projects - and working in City gardens, the Wreath Sale or the Howe Street Planter Boxes - helps me meet new residents and stay connected with friends.

I also participate in the Woman's Club activities and as members of the Friends of the Maritime Museum and the SPT Historical Society, Don and I both enjoy their programs' focus on the not-to-be-missed stories of Southport.

Southport is all our town's characters, its specters, the slogans we've heard created or read... times a hundred. It's the burgeoning version of that very sleepy little town that folks encounter totally by chance (or a realtor's ad, or a social media 'Happiest' or 'Best' contest). Once time's taken to learn the rich maritime and commercial fishing history of Southport and the Cape Fear region it's easy to become even more endeared of our waterfront (with visions of vessels far different from those we see these days) and protective of our heritage trees and neighborly side streets. We are all fortunate to call Southport our home and obligated to share in its stewardship.

June 2022 Newsletter

About the Planning Board

By Sue Hodgin, Planning Board Chair

Whether it's concern about a business's parking spaces, a lot on Howe Street, how a business displays its wares, a division of family property into a mini- subdivision, or an application for a 300-acre subdivision, our Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) establishes parameters and sets the PROCESS used by the Planning Board for the review of submissions that come before it, holding the applications accountable to the City's UDO and CAMA Land Use Plan. The process is a series of checks and balances that can include City staff, the Planning Board, the Board of Adjustment, and the Board of Aldermen.

The process begins when Applications are received by City Staff. Staff conducts preliminary reviews, evaluating them against the UDO and applicable City codes. Then Staff presents the applications and a report to the Planning Board.

Typically, review committees are established to gather research for each submittal and to bring the information back to the full Planning Board for consideration and possible action. As part of the fact-finding process, it's important that the applicants also attend and participate in the review committee meetings to provide requested documentation and answer questions regarding the submittal. The review committee meetings are noticed and open for public attendance however, public comment is reserved for the full Planning Board meetings.

This same PROCESS is followed, every time, for every application - so that each one is considered consistently, equally - no one gets preferential treatment.

Planning Board Members don't get a heads-up on what's coming up for review; we take them on as they come. Since I've been on the Board we've looked at very different subjects: several outparcels-expansions at Southport Crossings (from coffee shops to farming supplies - there's variety for you!); the short-term rental ordinance; continual consideration of UDO text amendments - 'tweaks' that improve Southport; and currently, the Indigo Phase 2 development and rezoning. Never a dull moment!

It's a constant goal for me that the Board stay open to discussion and comment but hold fast to PROCESS and our guiding Ordinance. If we do that, we'll know we've done right for the City this year and those beyond.

It's a misconception that we make decisions 'by emotion' or in deference to one particular individual or group. Southport's UDO was extremely well-drafted by a group of individuals with in-depth and varied experiences in planning and municipal administration. We are so lucky to now have a proper UDO and Land Use Plan to keep us on a straight course.

I haven't stopped working since our move in 2013: I still serve as Executive Director and Legislative Liaison of a healthcare-related State licensing board, charged with regulatory oversight of almost 400 businesses, 1100 licensees, and near 400 trainees, all of which must operate within State law and Admin Code/Rule. Having a 20+-year regulatory background - understanding how law and Rule must be consistently applied - only adds to my resolve to see the Southport Planning Board's work be 'by the book'.

June 2022 Newsletter

What is Indigo Plantation, Phase 2?

By Thomas Lloyd, Development Services Director

In partnership with Bald Head Limited, East-West Partners has submitted a PUD Master Development Plan and Rezoning application that would rezone 346.57 acres of undeveloped property adjacent to Smithville Woods, Cades Cove, and Indigo Plantation from R-20 to PUD. A small portion of the property is within our corporate limits, with the majority of it being located within the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction. Since it is split between the two, all of it is within our zoning jurisdiction. The developer has also submitted an annexation application in order to concurrently annex into the City if the Rezoning is approved. The Indigo Project was presented by the developer at a special joint workshop of the Board of Aldermen and Planning Board on March 24th. There was an additional Mayor's Town Hall Community Input meeting on the project on April 4th. Below is a conceptual rendering of the project. A more detailed plan can be found here: <https://cityofsouthport.com/project-indigo-information-and-resources/#toggle-id-10>



Due to the scale of this project, the Planning Board has created five review committees to review the PUD Master Plan and Rezoning Application. These committees are the **Indigo Review Hub Committee**, the **Design/Character Committee**, the **Traffic Committee**, the **Infrastructure Committee**, and the **Environmental Concerns Committee**. The Planning Board Chair assigned volunteers to these subcommittees at the April 21st Planning Board meeting. Staff developed a questionnaire posted on the City website to receive additional citizen input. There are questions that are specific to each subcommittee. Staff has compiled the questions and provided them to the subcommittees and developers. They are also posted online. Staff encourages the public to continue to provide responses. A link to the survey will be posted on the last page of this article. As subcommittee meetings are held and become more overlapping, the full Planning Board will stay informed, and we'll see this process gel into the creation of the Planning Board's recommendations for the Aldermen. Every committee meeting has been advertised and is open to the public. The public is encouraged to attend.

June 2022 Newsletter

What is Indigo Plantation, Phase 2?

Continued

A Planned Unit Development (PUD) is planned and developed as an integral unit, in a single development operation or a programmed series of development operations and according to an approved master development plan. All PUDs require an amendment to the City's zoning map and master development plan approval, followed by the major subdivision approval process. The minimum amount of land required for a PUD district is 9 acres of net buildable area within the corporate limits or 25 acres of net buildable area within the ETJ. This development is 346.57 acres; therefore, it meets the criteria.

The application for a PUD must be accompanied by an application to amend the zoning map (rezoning) to the planned unit development zoning district. The rezoning application should be submitted concurrently with the PUD master development plan. The approval process for a PUD Master Development Plan is the same as a zoning map amendment. The Planning Board shall provide an advisory recommendation on the PUD master development plan and rezoning within 90 days after introducing such petition at a regularly scheduled meeting and submit its recommendation to the Board of Aldermen. In terms of timing, the PUD master development plan must be approved before the zoning map amendment. If the PUD master development plan is approved, it provides the framework for development within the PUD. The master development plan includes the bubble diagram that illustrates the densities in different areas of the PUD, supporting information, and text which specifies the use or uses intended for the property, dimensional standards, and any development standards to be approved concurrently with the application. This could include features like parking, landscaping design guidelines, buffers, and streetscapes. The master development plan must also be prepared by and sealed by a licensed land surveyor, landscape architect, or engineer. A licensed landscape architect from the firm Land Design sealed this plan.

The Planning Board is required to provide a written recommendation to the Board of Aldermen that addresses plan consistency and other matters deemed appropriate by the Planning Board. However, a comment by the Planning Board that a proposed amendment is inconsistent with the comprehensive plan shall not preclude consideration or approval of the proposed amendment by the Board of Aldermen. It is important to understand that the PUD master site plan and zoning map amendment application are legislative decisions. When speaking of legislative decisions in this context, it is important to note that we are not talking about the State Legislature. In this case, municipal legislative decisions are finalized by the Board of Aldermen as the local Governing Board after an advisory recommendation by the Planning Board. Because legislative decisions have such a significant impact on landowners, neighbors, and the public, state law mandates broad public notice and hearing requirements for these types of decisions. Much like legislative decisions in the General Assembly, broad public discussion and careful deliberation is vital for municipal legislative decisions. Substantial discretion is allowed in legislative decisions, and boards are not under any obligation to approve them if they feel it is not in the public interest or consistent with the land use plan.

As mentioned previously, the Indigo PUD master development plan comprises a tract that equals 346.57 acres. In terms of the density, East-West Partners is proposing 1,542 dwelling units and 80,000 sf of non-residential use. This is an average of 4.1 dwelling units per acre on the total tract. The UDO allows 6 units per acre for PUDs. The PUD Master

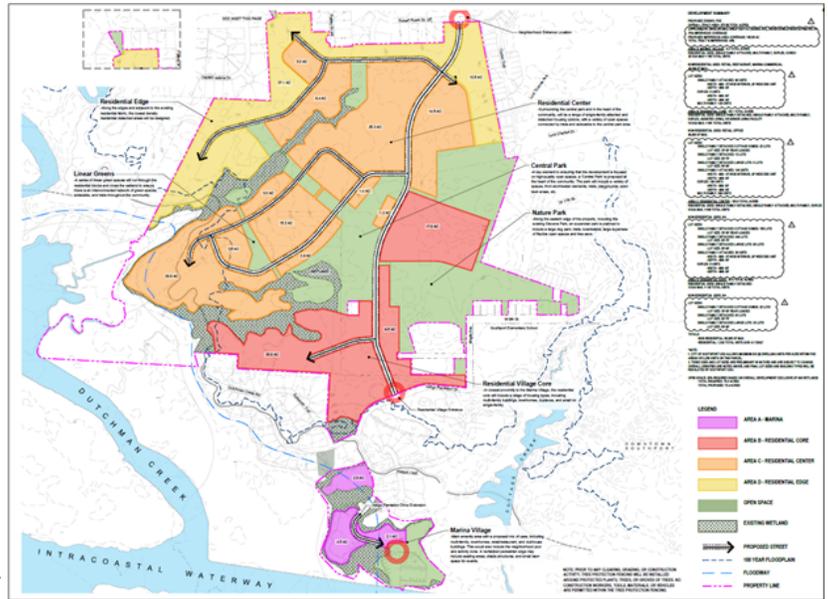
June 2022 Newsletter

What is Indigo Plantation, Phase 2?

Continued

Development Plan's bubble diagram shows the different planned areas of the development and how they will differ in density, allowable uses, and allowable housing types. There are 5 different areas identified on the bubble diagram linked below. A larger copy can be found here: <https://cityofsouthport.com/project-indigo-information-and-resources/#toggle-id-6>

The first area is the Marina Village area. The proposed Marina Village area is 9.4 acres. In terms of residential, the developer proposes a mixture of Single-Family Townhomes, Duplexes, Multi-Family, and Condos in these areas totaling 188 units. This is equal to 20 dwelling units an acre for this portion of the tract. It is important to note that the product types may change, but the total number of units for each area will not change. The developers are also proposing retail, restaurant



and a commercial marina as non-residential uses for a total of 20,000 sf. The second area is the Residential Core area. The proposed Residential Core area is 58.1 acres. This area will be composed of a mixture of single-family detached, single-family attached townhomes, multi-family, duplexes, assisted living, and senior living for a total of 581 units. This equals 10 dwelling units an acre. 60,000 sf of non-residential retail and office uses are also proposed. The third area proposed is the Residential Center area. This area is 105 acres. Proposed residential uses are single-family detached, single-family attached, multi-family, and duplexes. The total amount of proposed units is 630 total units. This equals 6 dwelling units an acre. No non-residential areas are proposed in the Residential Center area. The fourth area is the Residential Edge area. This area consists of 47.6 acres. The proposed uses in this area are single-family detached homes. The proposed units are 143 total units. This equals 3 dwelling units an acre. The last area identified on the PUD master development bubble diagram is open space. In PUDs, 20% of the tract must be Open Space. Designated 404 wetlands are not allowed to be counted in this calculation. East-West Partners is proposing 75.4 acres of Open Space. 75 acres are required. The proposed PUD master development plan shows 39.3 acres for a nature park. The developers propose a dog park, swimming areas, walking trails, and ball fields. They are also proposing 20.9 acres for a Central Park and pocket park. The proposed uses for this area are a playground, docks, shaded areas, greens, and ball courts. The plan also shows 7.6 acres of linear greens. As shown on the plan, the linear greens will be composed of a green trail network. A Development Fiscal Impact Analysis on the General Fund and City Services is being completed by DPF to examine further what the impacts will be if the development were to move forward.

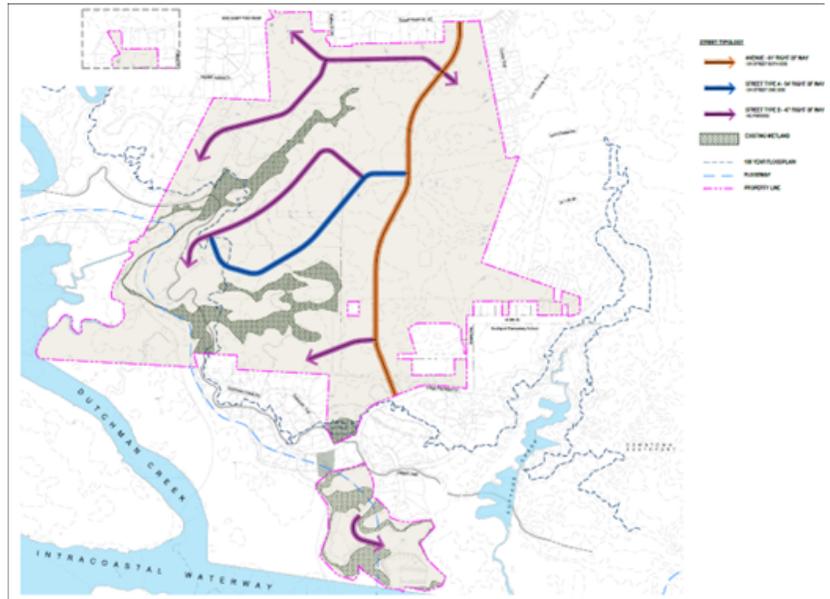
June 2022 Newsletter

What is Indigo Plantation, Phase 2?

Continued

The neighborhood's primary entrance is proposed to be off Robert Ruark Dr. There will also be an additional village entrance off Indigo Plantation D on 9th street. See the link below: <https://cityofsouthport.com/project-indigo-information-and-resources/#toggle-id-6>

For water and sewer, the City has communicated to the developer that it would be in their best interest to receive service from Brunswick County. The City does not have the excess capacity to serve this project, but the City is open to looping the project into the City's waterlines with an emergency valve for emergencies. For streets, three different types of ROWs are proposed. It can be found in more detail at the link below: <https://cityofsouthport.com/project-indigo-information-and-resources/#toggle-id-6>



The first is the avenue Street. The avenue street is a 61 ft ROW with sidewalks and on-street parking on both sides of the street. The second street type is A-1. A-1 streets will be composed of 54 ft ROWs and will be located adjacent to park spaces where alley-loaded lots are designed to provide visitor parking. Street type A-2 is a 49 ft ROW with ribbon curb and ditch/swale sections along the road. The last street type is Type B. Type B is a 47' ROW and is what the developer envisions as the typical street section in the community where front-loaded lots exist. There will also be 20 ft alleys for the rear entry areas. All street types

will have pedestrian sidewalks on both sides. In the same format as early 20th-century villages and neighborhoods oriented towards pedestrian walkability, these street types are akin to traditional neighborhood street designs. Private street networks often become dilapidated due to improperly funded Property Owner Association agreements, which may result in a request for the City to assume ownership and responsibility of substandard roadways down the road. The City is also working on an infrastructure impact analysis with WithersRavenel to estimate the impacts on the City's existing infrastructure. The City is implementing both of those projects now. The City will share the results of these analyses as they are completed.

Do you have questions or comments about Indigo?



Scan the QR Code for
Project Indigo
Information and
Resources found on the
city website, including a
form to send your
questions and comments
to the planning board.

June 2022 Newsletter

Beautification Committee

Next Clean-up will be: June 4, 2022



Spring is a busy time for the Beautification Committee. The weather was beautiful and the turnout of volunteers to help keep our city of Southport looking beautiful was excellent. After reviewing the list of work to do during the morning, our crew of volunteers was off to different areas around the city. Southport Beautification Day, Saturday, May 7th was off to a quick start.

One large group headed over to the Community Center to continue the gardening work of pulling weeds and adding new flowers around the building. The historical monuments on the Garrison House lawn were also tended to. Being the center of many City activities and an attraction for tourists, we always try to keep the Community Center and the monuments on the Garrison House lawn looking their best. Come and sit in the rocking chairs on the Community Center deck under the shade of oaks or the Adirondack chairs on the Garrison House lawn and enjoy our City's salubrious breezes.

Volunteers hopped down to Kingsley Street Park and took quick care of the beautiful gardens there. Many bags of mulch were spread to hold down the weeds and keep the park looking beautiful. This is another favorite area whose views are enjoyed by all.

Then over at the Fire Substation on East Nash Street, more volunteers cleaned up the garden dedicated to Southport Fire Chief Ormond Leggett. While a small garden, it's an area passed by many daily while going to the Post Office or walking to Franklin Square Park and it's important that we honor the memory of Chief Leggett. Our volunteers keep it looking great.

The Roundabout and surrounding triangle gardens on East Moore Street and Ferry Road saw a lot of activity. Old plants have been removed with an eye toward keeping the drought-tolerant plants in place while also adding new ones. *continued*



June 2022 Newsletter

Beautification Committee

continued



Large amounts of old leaves and weeds were removed and bagged up. And many yards of mulch was spread. It was much work, but our large group of volunteers were up to the task. We'd also like to give a shoutout and a Thank You! to the City's Public Services Department crew for helping with the water for the irrigation set up on the Roundabout. The Old Jailhouse, (no, not the really OLD Brunswick County Jailhouse) had a group of volunteers removing debris and sorting things out. While it seemed that the Jailhouse

did an equally good job of storing humidity, our volunteers worked through it and improved the ability of the Jailhouse to be used for storage by various city organizations.

Once again, it was a fantastic morning made even better by the many Southport community volunteers who are interested in keeping Southport looking beautiful. We are so very thankful for their time.

We know many are very interested in Southport keeping its charm. Have you helped? Our next Southport Beautification Workday is on Saturday, June 4th at 9 am. We meet next to the Old Jail. Come and join us.



June 2022 Newsletter

City of Southport Receives Wellness Grant



The League's Health Benefits Trust was designed by local governments, for local governments. This self-insured, member-governed health insurance goes above and beyond for its members, and offers benefits to meet the specific needs of cities, towns, counties and other governing bodies.

Wellness Grants for 2022

The Health Benefits Trust has made available more than \$100,000 in Wellness and EAP Grants to HBT members.

Wellness grants are intended to promote health and wellness for employees and work toward reducing medical claims and insurance costs for pool members. Groups that participate in our medical program are eligible to apply for grants to assist them with health fairs, wellness programs, EAP programs, educational classes, fitness activities, fitness equipment, nutritional programs, etc. for their employees up to a maximum of \$2,500 per fiscal year.

Groups can apply twice a year, receiving up to two wellness grants or they can apply for one wellness grant and one EAP grant.

Questions and Answers about the Wellness Grant by Teresa Parker



- How much did we apply for? *Grants are awarded up to \$2,500.00*
- How much did we receive? *\$2,500.00*
- When did you begin the process of applying? *February 2022*
- When were we awarded the grant? *Received the check, May 16, 2022*
- What was the process like? *I completed an application for the Wellness Grant and with the help of Chad Huff, Allegacy Benefits Solutions we were able to receive the grant.*
- What is the Employee Assistance Program? *The EAP helps employees and family members understand what options are available for nearly any work/life issue or problem that may arise and how to effectively resolve the issues as clinically appropriate.*

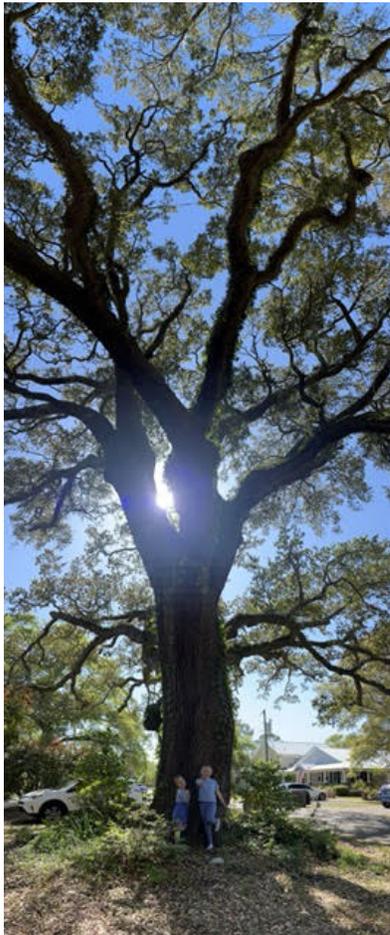
June 2022 Newsletter



Southport Forestry Committee

Discover the Trees of Southport

If you missed Southport's Arbor Day celebration—including readings of Theodore Roosevelt's inspirational 1907 Arbor Day Proclamation (<https://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Blog/Item/Arbor%20Day%20is%20Here>) and Southport's own 2022 Arbor Day proclamation, as well as ice cream—keep it in mind for next year on the last Friday in April. This year you also missed the introduction of "Discover the Trees of Southport," a self-guided walking tour that celebrates Southport's beautiful canopy of trees.



This guide is a personal compilation of Forestry Committee members' favorite trees and shady spots in Southport. It is a walk primarily located within the historic district and includes trees, mostly but not exclusively live oaks, that we consider significant for their age, size, beauty, or history. It takes an hour or less to complete and includes some interactive questions and an opportunity to try calculating the ages of some of the larger trees. We also invite you to take your picture with your favorite tree and post it on social media with the hashtag #TRESSOFSOUTHPORTNC for possible inclusion in the City of Southport monthly newsletter or on the Forestry Committee web page.

You can take the tour at any time using the printed brochure, which can be found at the Fort Johnston Visitors' Center, Maritime Museum, Old Jail, Harper Library, and in the information display next to the cannon Thor on West Moore Street. Visitors to Southport can also ask their hosts at lodgings around town if they have any available.



QR code for the online Discover the Trees of Southport self-guided walking tour.

In addition, we are excited to announce that there is an electronic version of the tour that you can access on your cell phone on the Forestry Committee page. The e-version includes photos for help in recognizing the tour stops, as well as additional photos, information, and anecdotes that may interest you along the walk. The electronic version of the walking tour will be updated as new developments occur.



June 2022 Newsletter

Caswell Avenue Community Garden

Artichokes!



We are often blown away by what some of our gardeners are planting. Sure, sure, there are the perennial favorites like beans, lettuces, and tomatoes but often a gardener will introduce something that we don't often see. Artichokes! As the story goes, it was kind of a whim to see what would happen. The plants grew BIG and no one had first hand knowledge about their growth habit or how to care for them. Fortunately, providence stepped in and we have harvested bunches of artichokes. Yummy! We even let a few bloom and go to seed. The flower is absolutely gorgeous and now it's clear to see that the artichoke is of the thistle family.

Mushrooms, grapes and sunflowers are also new crops for our garden. Fingers crossed that they do as well as the artichokes!

We had a decent turnout at our table at NatureFest and at our Open House last month. We chatted about the garden and gathered names of folks who wouldn't otherwise have access to fresh produce. Our Share Garden Team does a wonderful job keeping that going, supplemented by all the other gardeners who add to the bounty from their personal gardens.

Our garden is located on Caswell Avenue behind the Southport Campus of Brunswick Community College. Come by and see us!



Find us on

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/483761655007537>



June 30th - July 4th

Scan the QR Code or
[Click here for a complete
Calendar of Events.](#)



June 2022 Newsletter

Learning to Co-Exist with Alligators

Kate Marshall, Animal Protective Services

ALLIGATORS IN SOUTHPORT

- Springtime in Southport means warmer weather and the potential of some unexpected visitors - alligators.
- The City of Southport Animal Protective Services is starting to receive more calls this time of year about alligators on the move.
- Alligators tend to be more active and visible during spring and summer because they're moving to breed or relocate to a new habitat.

PREVENTING CONFLICTS

- The mere presence of an alligator does not qualify it as a nuisance, even if it's located in an unexpected place. Most alligators, if left alone, will move on. They pose no notable threat.
- It's important that residents not panic if they see an alligator. Never approach an alligator for any reason. Give the alligator lots of space to move out of the area.
- Make sure your children are not left unattended outdoors and always keep pets on a leash will help ensure their safety.

RELOCATION FACTS

- Alligators are not routinely relocated due to their size. The process of trapping and relocating an alligator can be hazardous for everyone, including the alligator.
- Situations that require immediate action such as if one becomes trapped in a swimming pool or wanders into a public road and refuses to move, will be considered.
- North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission regulates the movement and handling of alligators. Only an authorized agent can legally remove an alligator.
- If you feel action needs to be taken regarding an alligator, you can contact Animal Protective Services at 910-477-1486 or N.C. Wildlife Helpline toll-free at 866-318-2401.



June 2022 Newsletter

A Glimpse of History:

Bald Head Island

from www.ncpedia.org/bald-head, by David Stick

Bald Head is the southernmost part of a complex of sandy islands and marshland at the mouth of the Cape Fear River known as Smith Island. Fixing the precise location of Bald Head is difficult. Some North Carolinians apply the name to an entire island, while others use it to refer to only a small part of that island. Those who have studied the area and its history generally use the name Bald Head Island to refer to the part of the Smith Island complex that extends from Cape Fear on the east to the Cape Fear River on the west, with the Atlantic Ocean stretching away to the south. They reserve the name Bald Head for the area near the river on which Bald Head Lighthouse is located.



Photograph from <https://www.baldheadisland.com/about/bald-head-island-history>.

Initially, the island complex was shown on maps as Cape Island or Cape Fear Island, and even earlier it was said to have been known as Cedar Island. In time, all of the land in the area located east of the Cape Fear River was claimed by Landgrave Thomas Smith, a South Carolina merchant who perfected his title in 1713 with a grant from the North Carolina authorities. Within a few years, cartographers were showing the name on their maps as Landgrave Thomas Smith's Island, leading in time to the current name of Smith Island. Bald Head itself was a large sand hill on the southwest part of the island from which Cape Fear River pilots could get an early view of oceangoing vessels heading toward the mouth of the river. It appeared as "Barren Head" on the 1733 Mosely map, but by the time the Collet map was published in 1770, it was shown as Bald Head.

By then, maritime traffic had become so heavy that there was a clamor to build North Carolina's first lighthouse at Bald Head. In 1784 the General Assembly levied a special six-pence-per-ton duty on all vessels entering the Cape Fear River, with the proceeds to go toward building a lighthouse. Five years later, before the lighthouse was completed, the U.S. government took over responsibility for the "establishment and support of light-houses, beacons, buoys, and public piers," with the expenses to come from the federal treasury. The lighthouse at Bald Head, begun by the state and finished by the federal government, was first lighted in 1795, but the structure was built so close to the Cape Fear River that it was threatened by erosion and had to be abandoned 15 years later. A second Bald Head Lighthouse was built in 1818, this time well back from the water; it remains the oldest standing lighthouse in North Carolina. The first Cape Fear Lifesaving Station was built on

June 2022 Newsletter

A Glimpse of History:

Bald Head Island

continued



The lighthouse on Bald Head Island, late 1980s. Photograph by Tim Buchman.

the East Beach near the lighthouse in 1882, and for the next half-century, crewmen from the isolated shore station participated in many rescues of shipwrecked mariners.

Efforts to develop Bald Head Island as a tourist destination began as early as 1916, when Thomas Frank Boyd paid \$45,000 for the entire Smith Island complex, consisting of Bald Head Island, Middle Island, Bluff Island, and assorted patches of migratory marshland. Calling his development Palmetto Island, Boyd built a long pier (to accommodate river steamers) and a combination pavilion and hotel. He subsequently lost this entire property for nonpayment of taxes during the Depression. In 1938 title to the complex was acquired by

Frank O. Sherrill, who retained ownership for three decades and periodically talked of development plans. His 1960 plan to build a resort city for 60,000 people in the process of dredging up virtually all of the Smith Island marshland-never got past the talking stage, although there was considerable public uproar over the prospect of the destruction of Bald Head's unique natural resources.

When a newly formed company called Carolina Cape Fear Corporation announced in 1970 that it had acquired the Sherrill property for development purposes, spokesman William R. Henderson was careful to emphasize that it planned to proceed in a "very responsible manner," with special emphasis on protecting the ecology and environment of the island. The project failed, but two subsequent owners-first Walter R. Davis and then the family of George P. Mitchell-proceeded with the carefully planned development of Smith Island. The owners have worked closely with the state of North Carolina, federal agencies, and environmental groups to protect and preserve most of Smith Island's approximately 17,000 acres-habitat for an amazing number of plant and animal species, many of them threatened or endangered.

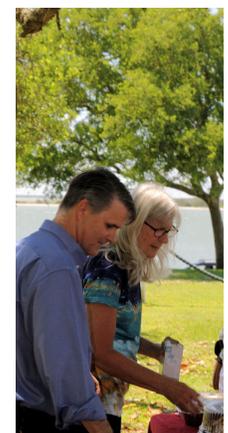


Image from Bald Head Association

June 2022 Newsletter

Fort Johnston Museum and Visitor's Center Volunteer Thank You Picnic

Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do at the Fort Johnston Museum and Visitor's Center. To show our appreciation for this wonderful group of individuals we gathered on the Garrison lawn on May 17th for a picnic, good conversation, and beautiful weather!



Photos taken by Al Biassotti.

June 2022 Newsletter



FRANKLIN SQUARE PARK THURSDAYS, 6-8 P.M.

June 2 - **Back Porch Rockers** (*Classic Rock/Blues*)
Sponsor: Doshier Hospital (92nd Anniversary)

June 9 - **Salty Dawgs** (*Rock/Country/Pop/Blues*)
Sponsor: Southport Realty

June 16 - **Brunswick Big Band** (*Big Band*)
Sponsor: NC Maritime Museum at Southport

June 23 - **Zilches** (*60s Psychedelic/Classic Rock*)
Sponsor: Coastal Cottage

July 7 - **Christina Martinez Band** (*Americana*)
Sponsor: Moore Street Oyster Bar

July 14 - **Carolina Line Band** (*Bluegrass*)
Sponsor: Boo and Roo's

July 21 - **Parlay** (*Classic Rock*)
Sponsor: Hamilton Realty Group

July 28 - **Chance Union** (*Rock/Pop/Country*)
Sponsor: Oliver's on the Cape Fear

Sponsored by the City of Southport Department of Parks and Recreation, with the support of Brunswick County Parks and Recreation, The City of Southport Department of Tourism and by Downtown Southport, Inc., with the support of local businesses.



June 2022 Newsletter

HONEY PECAN FRIED CHICKEN

This decadent Honey Pecan Fried Chicken is simple enough for a weeknight meal yet, special enough for entertaining. The pecan honey glaze takes it to another level of deliciousness.

Prep Time: 20 minutes, Cook Time: 20 minutes, Resting time: 5 minutes, Servings: 4

Ingredients

2/3 cup roughly chopped pecans toasted
4 6 oz boneless skinless chicken breasts
1 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup cornstarch
1 1/2 tsp seasoned salt
1 tsp black pepper
1 tsp granulated garlic or garlic powder
1 tsp smoked paprika
1/2 tsp onion powder
1/8 tsp cayenne
1 cup buttermilk
2 large eggs
6 Tbsp salted butter divided
6 Tbsp olive or vegetable oil divided
1/2 cup honey



Instructions

- Preheat oven to 350°F. Spread pecans in a single layer on a baking sheet. Toast for 6–8 minutes or until fragrant. Set aside.
- Place chicken pieces between 2 large pieces of plastic wrap. Use the smooth side of a meat mallet to pound to equal thickness, about 1/3–1/2 inch thick.
- In a shallow bowl, use a whisk to sift together flour, cornstarch, seasoned salt, pepper, garlic, paprika, onion powder and cayenne.
- In a separate shallow bowl, whisk together buttermilk and eggs.
- Season chicken pieces lightly with salt and pepper on both sides, eyeball the amount. Dredge in flour, then into buttermilk, then back into flour. Have nearby a pan, place each piece on pan. Chill for 30 minutes up to 1 hour.
- To cook: Heat 3 Tbsp oil and 1 Tbsp butter in a large 12 inch skillet over medium-high heat. Cook chicken pieces in two batches for 4–5 minutes per side or until juices run clear. Repeat, 3 Tbsp oil and 1 Tbsp butter into the skillet, to cook second batch of chicken pieces. Remove to a platter or a pan fitted with a rack, and keep warm. (Cooking in batches allows for even cooking and not crowding the pan)
- To the skillet add remaining 4 Tbsp butter and honey. Cook stirring for 1 minute scraping any brown bits from bottom of pan. Add pecans, cook another minute or just until nuts are coated.
- Drizzle chicken evenly pieces with honey pecan sauce and serve immediately.

<https://www.melissassouthernstylekitchen.com/honey-pecan-fried-chicken/>



June 2022 Newsletter



AT A GLANCE



UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

ABC Board
2nd Wednesday of each month
June 8, 6:30 pm - (ITMH)

Board of Aldermen
2nd Thursday of each month
June 9, 6 pm - (SCB)

Forestry Committee
2nd Tuesday of each month
June 14, 5 pm - (ITMH)

Park & Recreation Board
2nd Tuesday of each month
June 14, 6:30 pm - (ITMH)

Planning & Zoning Board
3rd Thursday of each month
June 16, 6 pm - (SCB)

Beautification Committee
3rd Monday of each month
June 20, 5 pm - (ITMH)

Board of Adjustments
4th Tuesday of each month
June 28, 4:30 pm - (ITMH)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Southport Summer Market
Every Wednesday
June 1-29, 9a-2p,
Franklin Square Park

"This is Our Town"
June 4, 9 am-noon
Old Jail Annex, Rhett St.
Beautification Committee volunteer cleanup

Summer Concert Series
June 2, 6-8 pm
Back Porch Rockers (*Classic Rock/Blues*)
Franklin Square Park

Summer Concert Series
June 9, 6-8 pm
Salty Dawgs (*Rock/Country/Pop/Blues*)
Franklin Square Park

Summer Concert Series
June 16, 6-8 pm
Brunswick Big Band (*Big Band*)
Franklin Square Park

Summer Concert Series
June 23, 6-8 pm
Zilches (*60s Psychedelic/Classic Rock*)
Franklin Square Park

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 as 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

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

(910) 457-7900 www.cityofsouthport.com