

William Jameson Paints Kiawah

Come to the Sandcastle on March 26th from 2-4:00 p.m. to watch William Jameson paint a landscape of Kiawah. Jameson is a Charleston native who has led painting workshops in the United States, Mexico, and Europe. He is also the recipient of numerous awards, and his paintings hang in many public and private collections.

The finished painting from March 26th demonstration will be available by silent auction upon completion. Tickets for the demonstration will be available on Monday, March 10th. Tickets are limited, so call or stop by Town Hall early to pick up your tickets.

Tommy Gill Returns

The Tommy Gill & Friends will return for a Jazz Concert on Sunday, March 30, 2008 at 7:00 pm will feature Tommy Gill on piano accompanied by guest artists. This encore performance will be held at Osprey Clubhouse at 7 pm. Tickets for the performance will be available at Town Hall beginning Monday, March 10th. For questions call Town Hall at (843) 768-9166.

2007/08 Arts Council Season Outlook

EVENT	EVENT DATE AND TIME	LOCATION	NUMBER OF TICKETS & AVAILABILITY DATE	NOTES
BILL JAMESON	3/26/2008 WEDNESDAY 2:00 PM	SANDCASTLE	60 3/10/2008	PAINTING DEMONSTRATION BEVERAGES/ COOKIES SERVED
TOMMY GILL & FRIENDS	3/30/2008 SUNDAY, 7:00 PM	OSPREY CLUBHOUSE	200 3/7/2008	ACCOMPANYING PERFORMERS TO BE ANNOUNCED
D'YAN FOREST FRENCH CABARET	5/1/2008 THURSDAY, 7:00 PM	SANDCASTLE	100 4/15/2008	FOLLOW-UP OF 2007 SMASHING PERFORMANCE
CHARLESTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	5/15/2008 THURSDAY, 7 PM	FRESHFIELDS	FREE TO ALL ATTENDEES	SATAX EVENT MANAGED BY THE KIAWAH ISLAND ARTS COUNCIL PUBLICITY BY KRA REAL ESTATE
GULLAH FESTIVAL	TBD	TBD	TBD	CULTURE, STORYTELLING, ARTS, MUSIC
DETROIT WOMEN	TBD	TBD	TBD	JAZZ EVENT UNDER DEVELOPMENT
GULLAH HISTORY EVENT	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Kiawah Island Residents Dance The Night Away To Big Band Classics

The East Beach Conference Center pulsed and rocked February 2, 2008 as the "Women In Music" Big Band, hosted by the Kiawah Island Arts Council, played to a sold-out performance.

The Charleston based all female players paid tribute to some of Big Bands biggest names such as Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, and Tommy Dorsey. The fourteen-piece band conducted by local talent Nancy Clayton, showed this briefly seated crowd two one-hour sets of exhilarating music from the Big Band era. The music tunes heard were classic songs such as "Mack the Knife", "String of Pearls", and "Over the Rainbow." Clayton chose the more up beat arrangement of these songs, which the crowd took full advantage of on the dance floor.

Ann Caldwell In Concert

Acclaimed Jazz singer Ann Caldwell will perform "Gospel Music with a Jazz Influence" at Hebron Zion Presbyterian Church located at 2915 Bohicket Road on Sunday, March 2 at 4:00 p.m. This event is a benefit program and donations are graciously accepted. Admission to the event

Clayton, a Charleston native, has made her name within the Charleston music community. She has been Organist/ Choirmaster for over twenty years at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, and Director of Choral Activities at the Citadel where she teaches and oversees all campus choral groups. She has also been a featured vocalist for the Charleston Symphony Orchestra.

The Kiawah Island Arts Council strives to bring great performances like Women In Music Big Band and other cultural events to the island residents and the public.

To get more information about up-coming events you can visit their website at: www.kiawahisland.org, or contact the Town Hall at (843) 768-9166.

is free to all attendees. Tickets to the event are available at the Church office and Town Hall. For more information, please call the church office at (843) 559-0865.

Jonathan Green Week--March 1-8

A week of events in several art forms celebrating the work of one of the Lowcountry's iconic artists. Inspired by a new painting of Green's called "Seeking", the week's events begin with a gala opening at Gibbes Art Museum, March 1, 6:30 PM, reception and dinner (\$150), and a symposium on southern art on Sunday at the Gibbes, 3:00 PM (\$30.)

The week ends with a once-in-a-blue-moon concert at Circular Congregational Church 3:30 PM (\$20) that includes the Moving Star Hall singers, an historic singing group from Johns Island, 1920's-style Charleston jazz, and the premiere of a composition by Trevor Weston, based on Gullah themes. Several evenings of poetry and jazz as well as other events are also scheduled. Full details at www.jonathangreenweek.com



TOWN NOTES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF KIAWAH ISLAND

Natural Beauty Equals High Real Estate Value



Since 1988, surveys have asked new buyers of Kiawah property the most important reasons for purchasing at Kiawah. Consistently, the two most important reasons have been "natural beauty" and "the beach".

Also, since 1988, the annual average price of all real estate sold on Kiawah has grown from \$175,000 to 1.4 million in 2006. In 2007 alone, \$369 million worth of property was sold by Kiawah Island Real Estate – the fourth best year in history – despite a soft nationwide real estate market.

The connection between natural beauty, beach, and property value is very clear. Homesites with natural beauty and landscaping, giving them a secluded feeling, consistently sell for more money than comparable sites without these features. The biggest factor in preserving the overall natural beauty of the island was the creation of the 1976 environmentally sensitive master plan, which has been faithfully executed ever since.

The beauty of the beach is the result of at least four key factors. First, from the beginning, ocean front development has observed a 3 dune setback. Second, the Architectural Review Board (ARB) has worked hard to maintain the aesthetics of everything built along the ocean. Third, in 1990, Kiawah Resort Associates (KRA) chose to allow the Ocean Course Golf Course to occupy nearly 4 miles of highly valuable beachfront property. The value

of this decision was transferred back to the value of every property on the island. Finally, Kiawah's beach has been naturally accreting (gaining) sand and growing in size. All of these factors have resulted in a beautiful, stable beach with a uniquely natural feel. Moving inland, Kiawah owners and visitors enjoy a beautiful maritime forest and marsh. Of Kiawah's 10,000 acres, 5,000 is marshland, 305 acres are lakes and ponds, and 123 acres are parks and common land. Night Heron Park, at 21 acres, is a big asset. The landscaping along roads and leisure trails is designed and maintained to provide a natural feel throughout the island. An interconnected lake and pond system and 6 golf courses also add to the natural beauty and habitat. As development has continued over 30 years, much effort has gone into preserving as much of the forest as possible. On main roadways, vegetation screens homes and provides cover for wildlife. There are filtered views of golf courses, marsh, and ponds.

Real estate planning has carefully controlled housing density. Strong efforts are made to draw property lines which avoid major trees. Additionally, front, back, and side setbacks are established to preserve as many trees, shrubs, and natural thickets as possible. Homes are not allowed to cover more than 33% of a lot, and landscaping with natural plants and materials is strongly encouraged.

Every home and property owner can make an important contribution to the island's natural beauty. When clearing a homesite in preparation for building, the ARB asks that side and rear setbacks be preserved. Major trees should be avoided and areas of existing vegetation should be left intact whenever possible. Following construction, owners should minimize the use of sod/pine straw and create as much natural habitat as possible.

By "Designing With Nature" homesites are carefully planned additions to the natural setting. This becomes even more important as more of the island is developed and more of the island's look and feel is determined by developed property. Appropriate native landscaping is essential for maintaining the natural beauty of Kiawah--and the associated high property values.

Finally, for the past 10+ years, the Kiawah Conservancy has been actively preserving homesites and vacant land throughout the island. Twelve sites have been preserved so far with a goal of 40 or more. This is an island-wide effort supported by the Town of Kiawah Island, Kiawah Island Community Association, Kiawah Island Golf Resort, Kiawah Island Development Partners, and individual property owners. Property values have appreciated annually from 3 to 30% since 1988 making Kiawah a leader along the southeast coast without question. Surveys prove that the natural beauty is a major factor in this result.

Council Meeting Highlights

Budget Calendar

Mrs. Rucker presented the Town of Kiawah Island 2008-2009 Budget Calendar and explained that it outlines the entire budget process. The calendar was adopted unanimously.

Environmental Committee

The Town has received 10 GPS collars for the extended bobcat study. The study will begin with trapping on February 11 and is expected to last 2 months. Mr. Lipuma explained that the first annual Bald Eagle survey was conducted by Mr. Eric Rice on January 11, 2008 covering a 21.5 mile range along the Kiawah River. The study yielded two juvenile bald eagles. Piping Plover surveys will be conducted twice a month until March 1; after March 1, surveys will be conducted twice every 10 days until April 15. The Plover numbers are following last year's trend, increasing through December and reaching a plateau in January. This year's surveys has shown a substantial increase in plover use on the western end of Kiawah Island. Mr. Lipuma reported the following wildlife calls including a coyote that was hit and killed; a disoriented Grey Fox which was found dead on arrival; and 5 reported sightings of raccoons with apparent distemper 4 of which were caught and euthanized and the 5th had been hit by a car, but did not have distemper.

Arts Council

Mr. Lipuma stated that the Arts Council had hosted four truly outstanding events in 2008, and announced the upcoming performances. Mr. Lipuma reported that he received a phone

Palmetto Pride Honors 2008 Grant Recipients

PalmettoPride is the state's anti-litter and beautification organization dedicated to reducing litter and promoting beautification. Palmetto Pride has adopted a 4-pronged approach to reducing litter: education, enforcement, awareness and pickup.

The PalmettoPride Grants Program awards grants, on a competitive basis, to entities to initiate programs that comply with PalmettoPride's four-pronged approach to litter eradication.

The Town of Kiawah Island was one of those municipalities to receive grants from Palmetto Pride in 2008 receiving a \$4000 grant for beautification projects and a \$1700 grant for litter eradication.

call from the Charleston County Public Library asking for a donation to help them host a live, simulcast performance from the New York Met. Mr. Lipuma explained that Charleston is one of the few locations in the country where they are permitting this simulcast. Mr. Lipuma stated that he directed the Charleston County Library to write a letter to Mayor Wert with their request.

Sea Island Issues

Mr. Burnaford stated that he and Mr. Roger Warren, Kiawah Island Golf Resort, attended a County Council meeting to discuss access for the future PGA event. The PGA is projected to contribute \$75 Million to the local economy. Mr. Burnaford reported that during this meeting, Mr. Warren informed County Council that the Resort employs 1600 workers; 250 of which are on work-visas. Mr. Warren explained that the Resort advertises those 250 jobs locally, but is unable to fill them locally. Mr. Burnaford stated that this highlighted Kiawah's contribution to the County's workforce to the County Council's attention

Town Administrator's Report

Mrs. Rucker also stated that the Disaster Task Force, comprised of members from KICA, the Resort, and Island Developers, met on January 22 to discuss its progress and remaining obstacles. The group will host another round table discussion to address those obstacles with the decision makers of each entity. The annual Hurricane Awareness Day will be held on June 5th at the Sandcastle. Mrs. Rucker went on

to say that A-Services Group, LLC which was awarded the Beach Patrol Contract last month, assumed their responsibilities on February 1st. Mrs. Rucker reported that she attended the South Carolina City and County Managers meeting where a major focus was the go-green initiatives throughout the state. Mrs. Rucker reiterated that the Town had already established a "go-green" policy and are continuing to expand the initiative. Mrs. Rucker reminded attendees that the Town is currently in the middle of the business license season and any person conducting business on-island is required to obtain a business license by February 28, 2008. Mrs. Rucker stated that the Association of Public Treasurers' has decided to hold there semiannual board meeting in Charleston moving SC up on their list for a host site of the 2010 national conference.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Wert explained that distemper is nature's way of controlling the animal population and while it may be ugly, it is something that happens naturally. Mayor Wert warned people to stay away from any animal that had symptoms of distemper. Mayor Wert also explained that as of now, the Town has not given up on possible mitigation sites needed for the Parkway and Bikepath construction. He stated that on Thursday, February 7, 2008 KICA is having a meet the candidates night at East Beach Conference Center. Mayor Wert wished the Chinese residents of Kiawah Island a Happy New Year on the 7th of February.

State Accommodations Application Availability

The Town of Kiawah Island State Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee will meet Wednesday, March 26, 2008 to consider new applications for funding for fiscal year 2008-2009. To be considered, the completed application must be received by the Town Treasurer by noon on **March 13, 2008**.

As stated in the law, any money in the Tourism-related Fund must be spent on tourism-related expenditures. For detailed information regarding how state accommodations tax funds can be spent, please refer to the Department of Revenue's official advisory opinion contained in **SC REVENUE RULING #98-22**. This information is available from the Town Treasurer. For more information contact the

Town Treasurer, H. Kenneth Gunnells at (843) 768-9166 or visit the Town's website at www.kiawahisland.org.

Brown Trash Day will be held on Friday, March 7th. Residents should place all Brown Trash on the curb or call Town Hall at 768-9166 with questions.

State of the Beach Address Featuring Dr. Kana on March 11 in Council Chambers at 2:00 pm

Contribution to the Charleston Symphony Orchestra



Mayor Wert presented a \$50,000.00 contribution to Mr. Leo Fishman Charleston Symphony Orchestra Chairman of the Board. Mayor Wert stated that this agenda item brings joy and music to his heart and that the Charleston Symphony Orchestra is a major contributor to the Town of Kiawah Island, the community of Charleston, and the entire sea islands. Mayor Wert noted that this is an annual contribution to the Charleston Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Fishman stated that every year non-profit performing arts organizations have a difficult time with revenues. He also expressed his gratitude by stating that when large gifts like those from the Town of Kiawah Island are for one year, it really helps the organizations. However, when they are multi-year, as the Town of Kiawah Island has donated, it shows a sincere recognition of the problems the organizations face and a sincere desire to help the Charleston Symphony Orchestra in a very realistic way.

Insuring And Protecting Your Coastal Home

Purchasing homeowners' insurance in a coastal region can be very difficult and confusing. In every case, it should start with educating yourself on the multiple components of a well structured insurance program. Below are some ideas, thoughts, facts, and questions you should ponder.

- What all does my insurance or risk management program cover and what are the limitations? Most insurance programs provide inadequate coverage.
- Every coastal home owner needs a traditional flood insurance policy which will insure a home up to \$250,000. A home owner can purchase excess or extra flood insurance for homes with a value in excess of \$250,000. If you own a home valued in excess of \$250,000, you should consider an excess flood insurance policy.
- Does my homeowners' insurance policy have wind insurance included or do I have a stand alone wind insurance policy? Regardless, you need this type of insurance. Most damage done to a home during a hurricane or tropical storm is due to very powerful wind.
- Earthquake insurance. Kiawah Island is in an earthquake / seismic zone. All home owners on Kiawah Island or in the surrounding area should consider earthquake insurance. Check and see if your current program includes earthquake insurance.
- Are the contents in my home insured correctly? How much contents coverage do I need? Many home's contents are underinsured and many over over insured.
- You should have all "high valued" collectibles insured on a scheduled personal property policy – NOT the homeowners' policy. For example:

art, jewelry, wine, antiques. A scheduled personal property policy has NO deductible unlike a homeowners' policy. Homeowners' insurance policies are very limited, when it comes to insuring high valued collectibles.

- A coastal home needs to be built out of the very best material to sustain the wear and tear that occurs from being in a coastal region. For example, concrete block, stone, steel beams, and rock.
 - The more protective devices you have on or in your home, the better. For example, hurricane shutters, highest grade impact glass, central station burglar and fire alarm system, in home sprinkler system.
 - If you own an existing home and want to upgrade, consider the following: impact glass / windows, hurricane shutters, security alarm system, or a home entertainment system.
- Most coastal home owners are paying too much for their homeowners' insurance program. Are you?

Written by David W. Dixon, a licensed independent insurance specialist in luxury homeowners insurance and risk management services he can be reached at 901.321.1174 or davidd@lpinsurance.com.

New Homes Under Review by the ARB

101 Pleasant Valley
262 Governors Drive

The above homesites have been presented to the ARB for conceptual review, the first of three reviews by the ARB prior to approval. Call 843-768-3419 for more information.

2007 Municipal Court Report

For all of 2007, the Town of Kiawah Island Municipal Court handled 205 traffic, criminal misdemeanor and town ordinance cases, down significantly from 284 in 2006, due entirely to a decline in traffic-related volumes. There were 359 cases in 2005; 303 cases in 2004 and 185 in 2003. For the second year in a row, there were just over 50 town ordinance violations, due primarily to improved administrative and court procedures involving business license violations. In addition, there was another drop in underage alcohol possession charges, which we prosecute under our ordinances rather than under the state criminal code. There were 4 criminal misdemeanor cases, the same as last year, involving disorderly conduct; marijuana possession; and criminal domestic violence. The town collected \$18,835 in fines and assessments.

The Charleston County Sheriff's Deputies reported 213 traffic contacts during 2007, down significantly from the 348 contacts in 2006. This year,

nearly 60% of all contacts resulted in a citation being issued while the remaining received a written warning. The Court has already and will continue to schedule additional sessions each month to make it easier for Deputies to appear to prosecute traffic violations.

The Court has begun a study to determine whether it should re-arrange its dockets to create a monthly "quality of life session", modeled after the highly acclaimed City of Charleston Livability Court. For information on this innovative judicial initiative go to: <http://www.charlestoncity.info/dept/content.aspx?nid=703>.

For more information on the TOKI Municipal Court's jurisdiction, case types and volumes, statistical trends and "Court Jottings", visit the Town's website at www.kiawahisland.org and click on "Municipal Court" under "Town Government." Gregory Brown.