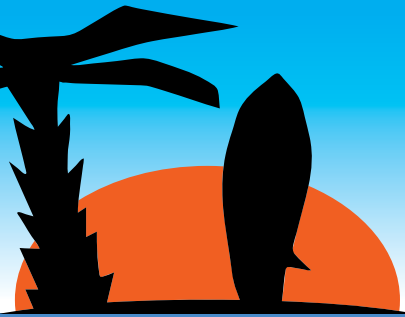


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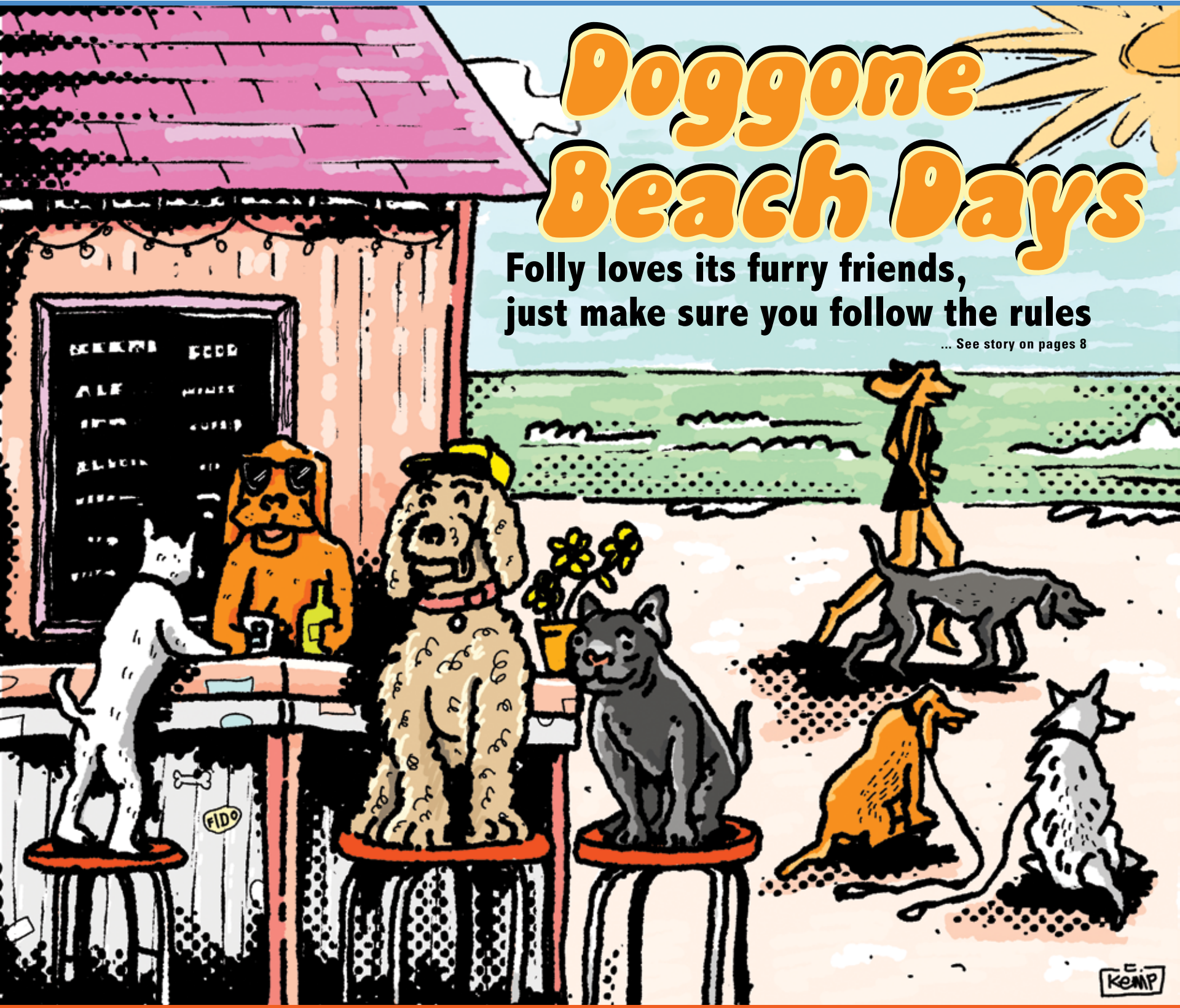
FOLLY BEACH'S NEWSPAPER

ISSUE 05 | VOLUME 19

Doggone Beach Days

Folly loves its furry friends, just make sure you follow the rules

... See story on pages 8



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FROM SHORE TO SEA
How Folly Beach Protects Its Sea Turtles

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RIVERSIDE VIBES
The City's Spring Concert Series continues this month with two more free concerts in the park

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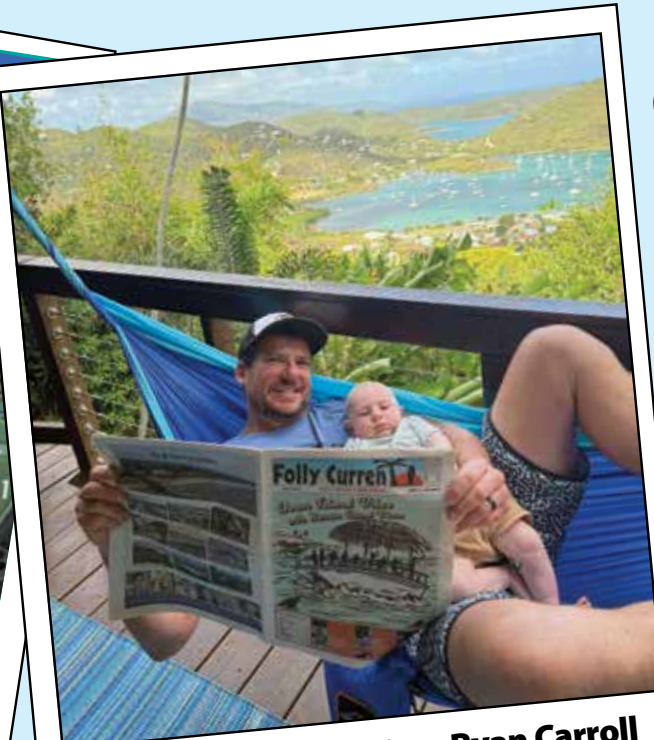
KOKO'S BRINGS A "FOLLYNESIAN" FLAIR TO THE PIER

Oceanfront restaurant launches tropical-inspired concept with live music, familiar favorites, and a playful new vibe

... page 22



Mike & Chris Matese in Dorado, Puerto Rico



Ryan Carroll and Oliver Ryan Carroll in the Virgin Islands

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Ed Laird, Kevin O'Connell and Stephen Unsworth sailing at English Harbor, Antigua



Chip Amos and Janine Mabe in the Sahara Desert, Morocco



Lindsey Chambers at Dr. Pepper Museum in Waco, Texas

THE Folly Current

Folly Beach's Newspaper

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* Cannot win in consecutive months

Rest In Peace

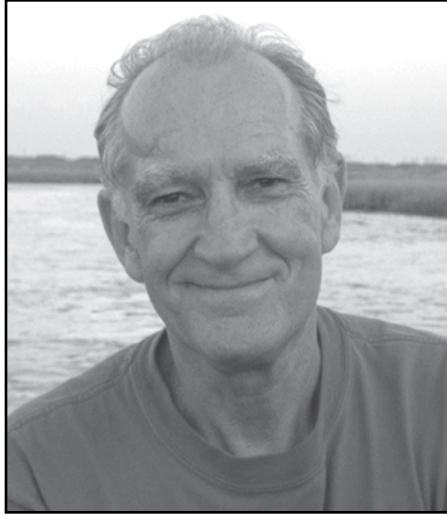
Dr. Richard Leander Beck
1946 - 2026

As we were putting the final touches on the May issue of *The Folly Current* and preparing to send the paper to press, we received the sad news that former Folly Beach mayor Dr. Richard Beck passed away on Monday, April 25, at the age of 79.

Few individuals have left a mark on this island the way Dr. Beck did. From his time with local government to his leadership with Save the Light in preserving the Morris Island Lighthouse, his commitment to Folly Beach was steadfast, ever-present, and deeply felt. Dr. Beck devoted years of service to protecting the character, history, and spirit of the island he called home.

We at *The Folly Current* extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all those whose lives he touched.

Publishing a monthly newspaper comes with two constant challenges: timing and space. In this case, we found ourselves short on both before sending the paper to print. As a result, we regret



that we were unable to include a fuller tribute in this issue.

In our June issue, we plan to dedicate significant space to honoring his life and legacy, one that helped shape Folly Beach in ways that will endure for generations.

— Lorne Chambers, editor

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From Shore to Sea

How Folly Beach Protects Its Sea Turtles

by Hanalei Potempa | Contributing Writer

May 1 marks the beginning of turtle season on Folly Beach, with water temperatures reaching 68–70 degrees Fahrenheit — warm enough for sea turtles to begin coming ashore to lay their nests.

Starting in early May, Folly Beach's Turtle Watch volunteers walk the entire 7.1 miles of shoreline, especially at the beginning of the season, looking for evidence of nesting activity.

Adult sea turtles can weigh up to 300 pounds and stretch around four feet long, leaving easily identifiable tracks in the sand as they move from the water onto shore. If a nest is laid, the nesting body pit can span anywhere from seven to 10 feet wide.

Dave Miller, the permit holder for the Folly Beach Turtle Watch, ensures that all 65 volunteers are properly trained to participate in protection efforts such as nest identification and preservation.

Once volunteers find tracks, they search for eggs to confirm whether a nest has been laid. If so, they mark the area with stakes and orange tape to prevent disturbance.

"Then we just wait for 60 days or so until they hatch," Miller says. "And so we do that all of May and all of June. And then by July, the early nests in May will start hatching. So when we're walking in May, in June and in July, then not only are we looking for new nests, but we're looking for hatching of the old nests."

When a nest begins to hatch, about 100 hatchlings typically emerge and make their way toward the ocean. Volunteers wait three days before returning to inventory the nest's contents, recording data such as the number of hatched and unhatched eggs and the incubation timeline. This information is entered into a national database.

One key piece of data collected is DNA testing, conducted in partnership with the University of Georgia. This allows researchers to track individual mother turtles and study

nesting patterns over time.

For example, one turtle known as the "Folly faithful" laid 19 nests on Folly Beach over eight years, with an average distance of just 0.3 miles between nests. In contrast, another turtle, nicknamed "the wanderer," laid nine nests over four years ranging from Georgia to North Carolina, with an average distance of 237 miles between nesting sites.

Miller explained that while nesting patterns on Folly are somewhat predictable—most nests are laid by loggerhead turtles—the total number of nests varies each year because turtles only nest every few years.

"I think in 2019 we had 145 nests, and then last year we had 59 and so part of that is normal variation, because the sea turtles don't nest every year. They nest every two, three, maybe four years."

Occasionally, rare events occur. Miller recalled a green turtle nest laid in Garden City, South Carolina, which hatched after about 115 days, a much longer incubation period, with hatchlings emerging on December 23.

"By then it was too cold, so they had to take the hatchlings, and they took a boat out to the Gulf, where there's a lot of seaweed, and they're protected, and there's food for them to eat," Miller says.

The Turtle Watch team is trained to handle unusual situations like this, as well as to assist injured or endangered turtles. One of the biggest modern threats to sea turtle nests is artificial light, Miller noted.

"These creatures evolved before dinosaurs, and well before artificial light, and they are hardwired to go to the light, which, for them, over the millions of years, has been the reflection of the moon and the stars and the clouds over the ocean," Miller says.

Artificial lighting from beachfront homes, hotels, and streetlamps can confuse hatchlings, causing them to move away from



If you see a sea turtle, nesting mother, or hatchlings on Folly Beach, contact Folly Beach Public Safety (FBPS) immediately at 843-588-2433. They will notify the Folly Beach Turtle Watch Program volunteers to monitor the activity

the ocean and toward land.

"It's really sad, because when a nest hatches and there is artificial light affecting that nest, every one of those hatchlings will go in the wrong direction," he says.

To combat this, Folly Beach enforces a "lights out" rule requiring residents and visitors to turn off lights after dark from May through October. Many public lights have also been replaced with turtle-friendly alternatives, such as those on the pier.

In addition to limiting artificial light, beachgoers are encouraged to remove trash and beach equipment and to fill in any holes they dig in the sand, as these can trap both hatchlings and adult turtles.

Miller shared that he has made many fond memories through his work with the Turtle Watch. One standout moment occurred when he received a call about a turtle nesting at around 9 a.m., after he had already completed his beach walk.

He described how the turtle remained

determined despite encountering beachgoers in the water, even bumping into people before continuing onto shore to lay her nest.

"I would think that would cause a turtle to leave," he says. "She was determined, and she kept on crawling. And she crawled up there, and there must have been 50 people watching her, me included, and she laid her nest."

Other memorable experiences include watching hatchlings emerge and instinctively make their way to the ocean, as well as rescuing injured turtles and transporting them to the Sea Turtle Care Center at the aquarium.

Miller emphasized the importance of community involvement during turtle season. If you see a nesting turtle, an unmarked nest, or an injured turtle, call 843-588-2433. Even if you accidentally hook a turtle while fishing, he assures people they won't be in trouble and urges them to call.

On Folly Beach, protecting sea turtles isn't just a responsibility—it's a tradition that brings the community together each summer.



MISTY

Misty is a playful, curious puppy who's just beginning to discover the world around her. She loves chasing toys, exploring new spaces, and soaking up attention from her favorite people. Like any puppy, she's full of energy and excitement, but she also has a sweet, gentle side that makes her an instant favorite. Misty is still learning and growing, so she'll thrive with patience, guidance, and lots of positive experiences.



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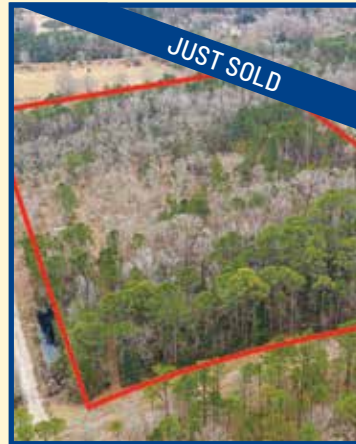


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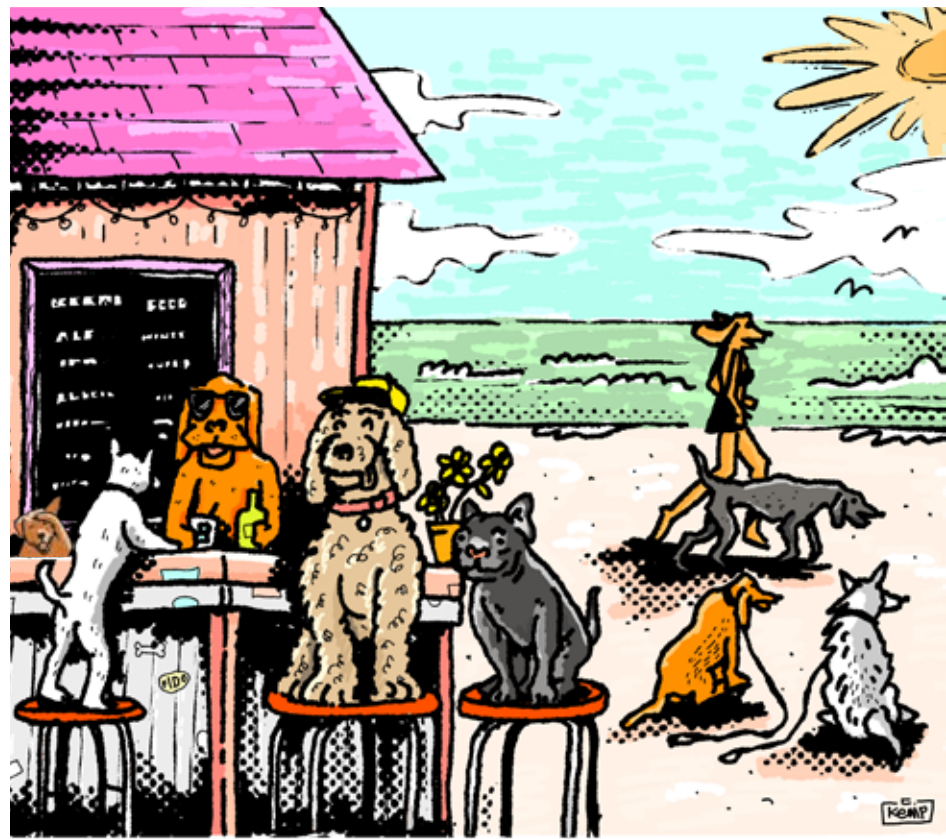
by Matt Poust | Contributing Writer

As calendars flip to May, Folly Beach inches its way toward beach season. Storefronts bolster their staff for the great tourism flock, beach chairs and umbrellas stake claim like territorial flags, boats fill the waterways, and comically bad sunburns become commonplace. A beloved time of year for many. But maybe not for our furry four-legged friends who see it as the time of year they're forced to tuck tail and ride the bench. The annual restriction that bars dogs from the beach during the peak hours of 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. begins May 1. Added foot traffic, the arrival of turtle season, and sweltering heat amounting to less fun in the sun for Fido until Sept. 30.

The warning shots for this year's set of restrictions sounded early as some proposed dog-related ordinance amendments got some residents' hackles up.

Ultimately not adopted by city council during its April 14 meeting, these amendments, presented by Folly Beach Public Safety Chief Andrew Gilreath, aimed to set a standard leash length for dogs on the beach and strengthen proper pet waste disposal requirements.

continued on page 9 ...



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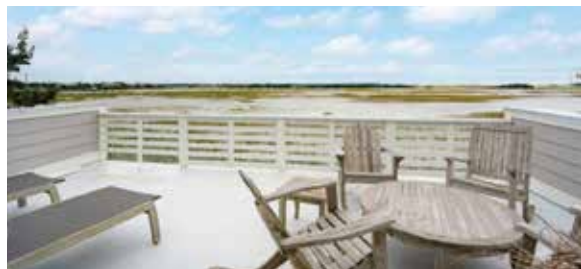
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... continued from page 8

While the disposal proposal—sparked by beach patrol and residents noticing an uptick in green sacks of biohazard garnishing Folly’s protected dunes and access points—seemed amicable enough to most, it was the set leash length that raised the scruff of some dog owners.

As Gilreath explained to council, however, it wasn’t a specified short leash length he was chasing, rather a set standard that would alter the language of the current ordinance, which vaguely states owners must have a leash that keeps their pet “under control.”

This ambiguous language makes a tough-to-enforce law for beach patrol and leaves interpretation to the owner’s discretion. While the “in control” law may mean a five-foot from the hip stroll on the beach to some, it can spell a 30-foot lease of real estate for the Labrador bumrushing bystanders like a slobbering linebacker to others.

Even with this added jurisdictional hoopla hampering hounds during their struggle months, it’s important to remember that Folly is far from anti-canine. Quite the opposite, actually.

It’s still a dog’s world on the beachfront from dusk to dawn, and as long as they avoid the no-go zones at the Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve and Folly Beach Pier, they can strut like a showdog, splash in the surf, and chase the sacred frisbee.

Those seeking some off-the-leash controlled chaos for their pooch can find it at The Bark Park off of East Erie Avenue –

just walk toward the FB water tower if their instincts don’t lead the way first.

Rolling into the dog days of summer, it’s vital to remember to keep your dogs hydrated, off any sand-turned-stovetop and away from seaweed and saltwater ingestion. If they didn’t pop a squat before beach time, those lovely green sacks can be found at most access points, along with trash cans for proper disposal of them.

If the heat gets too heavy, shade and

sustenance can be found just a stroll away at a long list of pet-friendly spots on Folly.

All things considered, and doggone rules taken into account, the average beach goer will find that Folly’s pet friendliness is in abundance. Just keep Sparky from acting like a landshark and going full-on Jaws on someone, and keep them off of turtle nests and from destroying some poor kid’s prized sandcastle and everything should be peachy.

Places to Take your Pup (other than the beach)

- **Folly Beach Bark Park:** A fenced-in, off-leash city park, located on the east side of the island by the water tower (near East Erie or East Hudson). It features shade, seating, and water for dogs.

- **Folly River Park:** A shaded, waterfront park on Center Street, perfect for a leashed walk with marsh views.

- **Folly Beach County Park (West End)**
A great spot to enjoy the beach, picnic areas, and scenic, quieter views of the inlet and sunset

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- Jack of Cups (backyard and front patio)
- Loggerheads Beach Grill (back patio)
- LoLo’s (waterfront deck)

- Lost Dog Cafe (on front & side patio)
- LowLife (outdoor patio/open-air seating)
- Pinky’s (back patio, open-air seating)
- Planet Follywood (side and back patio)
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- Rita’s Seaside Grille (outdoor seating area)
- Taco Boy (covered deck)
- Slice of Folly (limited outdoor seating)
- The Washout (outdoor, open-air seating)
- Woody’s Pizza (outdoor patio)

Rules for Dogs on the Beach

• Dogs are not allowed on the beach from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. between May 1 and September 30. Outside of those dates and hours, dogs can be on the beach if they are on a leash and under control. (Oct 1-April 30): *Leashed dogs are allowed on the beach at any time.*

• A leash is required at all times on the beach when dogs are allowed, and pets are never allowed on the Folly Beach Pier.

• Pet waste must be picked up and bags must be disposed off in trash.

• At the Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve on the far east end, no pets are allowed due to sensitive nesting habitat. It is a beautiful place to view the Morris Island Lighthouse, but it is a wildlife preserve, so please leave pups at home for this one.

• **City ordinances are enforced, with fines that can be significant for violations.**

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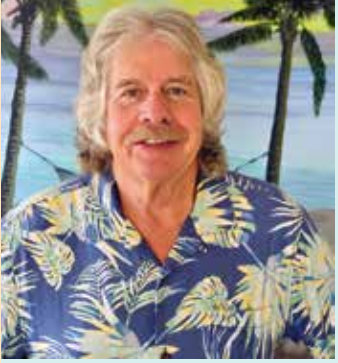
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a suspect aggressively yelling, "Bring yo' ass over here," while grabbing at a female companion. When the officer asked if everything was OK, the suspect quickly turned confrontational, insulting police and refusing commands. Officers attempted to detain him so they could continue investigating, but he pulled away, tensed up, and resisted being handcuffed. Even after arrest, he reportedly bragged about prior jail visits. He was cited for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest, then transported to jail for what was apparently trip number 14.

where an elderly woman was found on the ground and a pit bull was being restrained by the pastor. Witnesses said the dog squeezed through a fence and attacked another dog, biting its head and snout. Several people intervened and separated the animals. The woman suffered a small puncture wound to her hand while trying to break up the fight. EMS transported her for further treatment. The dog's owner provided proof of current rabies vaccination.

before towing, officers found suspected methamphetamine, marijuana, drug paraphernalia, ammunition, a rifle, and a BB gun. The suspect was arrested and transported to jail. What began as a bad windshield became a very bad morning.

**MARCH 31
SUCKER PUNCH ICE CREAM**

Police were told a suspect had sucker-punched another patron inside a Center Street bar, then calmly left the area and was reportedly getting ice cream nearby. Officers located and detained the suspect without incident. During the investigation, police said the suspect showed heavy signs of intoxication, including slurred speech, swaying, and difficulty explaining anything that had happened. The alleged victim had already left and could not be located, but officers determined the suspect's condition and public disturbance warranted arrest for disorderly conduct.

**APRIL 11
DUI AFTER "A FEW BEERS"**

Officers clocked an SUV speeding and repeatedly drifting over lane markers on Folly Road before making a stop near Peas Island. Police said the driver had bloodshot eyes, slurred speech, and smelled strongly of alcohol. He first claimed not to have consumed anything, then later admitted to "a few beers" at a Folly Beach bar. After field sobriety testing, the suspect was arrested for DUI. He later refused to provide a breath sample. Passengers arranged rides home while the vehicle was towed.

**APRIL 15
UBER EXIT ENDS IN PUBLIC INTOXICATION CITATION**

Police and fire personnel were called to assist an intoxicated suspect sitting near Center Street and West Cooper Avenue. Officers said it was the same person they had helped earlier in the day, even arranging an Uber ride home. But the suspect reportedly got out of the Uber before leaving the island, then later admitted to drinking at a local bar. Officers repeatedly tried to help arrange another ride, but the suspect responded with profanity and a middle finger. She was cited for public intoxication, then released to a sober party once friends arrived.

**APRIL 4
A JOINT BEHIND EAR**

A driver speeding 63 mph in a 25 mph zone on East Ashley Avenue drew police attention after weaving across lanes and blasting through a pedestrian-heavy area without slowing. During the stop, officers learned the suspect's license was suspended. They also reported smelling marijuana and spotted a hand-rolled joint tucked behind the suspect's left ear. A vehicle search turned up more marijuana, a digital scale, and an empty bottle of cognac. The passenger and vehicle owner was released, while the suspect was arrested and transported to jail.

**APRIL 11
FENCE-HOPPING BAR RETURN EARNS TRESPASS TICKET**

Officers were called to a Center Street club after a suspect who had already been told to leave allegedly re-entered the property by jumping over a fence. Police detained the suspect, issued a trespass notice, and cited him under city ordinance. Because of his intoxicated condition, he was also given a courtesy ride home. Sometimes the second entrance costs extra.

**April 16
ONE DRINK, 53 MPH, .14 BAC**

A driver who pulled out in front of an officer then accelerated across the bridge at 53 mph caught police attention after crossing the fog line multiple times. During the stop, officers said the suspect had glossy eyes, watery eyes, and signs of impairment. She claimed to have had just "one" drink at dinner. After field sobriety testing, the suspect was arrested for DUI. A later breath test reportedly showed a blood alcohol concentration of 0.14.

**APRIL 6
AN UNHOLY DOG ATTACK**

Officers responded to a reported dog attack behind a church on Center Street,

**APRIL 12
BROKEN WINDSHIELD, METH, GUNS, TOW TRUCK**

Police spotted a vehicle previously warned off the road due to a shattered windshield and stopped it again after seeing it drive away. Officers said the windshield was badly broken, with a towel wedged into the dash area in an apparent attempt to keep it from collapsing further. The car also had other major damage and was ruled unsafe. During an inventory

**APRIL 18
JUST ONE DOGGONE BEER**

Officers stopping a Cadillac for drifting onto the shoulder and traveling well below the speed limit found an open Miller High Life bottle in the back seat and a driver who struggled to answer basic questions. Police said the suspect was stumbling, slurring words, and smelled strongly of alcohol. When asked how much he drank, he reportedly answered, "Just one doggone beer." After field sobriety testing, the suspect was arrested for DUI and later refused chemical testing.

**MARCH 27
SQUATTED TAHOE TOWED AGAIN**

Officers stopped a Chevrolet Tahoe after noticing it was riding in an illegally "squatted" position, with the front end dramatically higher than the rear. A tape-measure check showed the height difference was well beyond what state law allows. The suspect reportedly told officers he had received multiple prior tickets for the same issue, fixed the suspension to get those charges dismissed, then changed it right back afterward. The suspect was cited once again, and the Tahoe was towed from the scene.

**MARCH 28
WRONG WAY, SIX BEERS, DUI**

A late-night traffic stop began after officers saw a vehicle exit the Center Street area, and then head the wrong way down East Arctic Ave, a one-way street. Inside the vehicle were several empty Twisted Tea cans. During the stop, officers noted bloodshot eyes, an odor of alcohol, and unsteady balance. The suspect admitted to drinking six beers, with the last one about 30 minutes earlier. After field sobriety testing, the suspect was arrested for DUI and transported for booking.

**MARCH 28
LOUDMOUTH IN HANDCUFFS**

An officer checking on a couple outside a Center Street business heard

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It's a Marvelous Night for a Moon Dance

Moonlight Mixers return to the Pier

from Staff Reports



Summer nights on Folly Beach are about to get a little livelier. Charleston County Parks & Recreation Commission is bringing back its popular Moonlight Mixers series to the Folly Beach Pier this month, offering five Friday evenings of music, dancing, and coastal views.

The series kicks off Friday, May 1 and continues throughout the summer, with a mix of DJ sets and live performances. DJ Bill Shelton returns to spin beach music and oldies on May 1, July 31, and Sept. 18, while live acts include the Dave Landeo Band on June 5 and Calhoun's Calling on Aug. 21. Each event runs from 7 to 10 p.m., inviting locals and visitors alike to dance under the stars at the "Edge of America."

Advance tickets are \$10, with day-of admission priced at \$15. Children ages 3 and under are admitted free. Organizers recommend purchasing tickets ahead of time, as the mixers have become a staple of Folly's summer calendar.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase on site, including beer, wine, and snacks from Koko's on the Pier, along with additional options at the Gangplank Gift & Tackle Shop near the pier entrance. Outside food and beverages are not permitted, and pets are not allowed. Guests are encouraged to bring chairs for use outside the designated dance floor, as seating is limited.

For more information on the Moonlight Mixers series or to purchase tickets for any of the events, visit www.ccprc.com/event/moonlight-mixer/318.

Riverside Vibes

The City's Spring Concert Series continues this month with two more free concerts in the park

from Staff Reports

The City of Folly Beach's Spring Concert Series rolls into May with two more free waterfront performances at Folly River Park, continuing a seasonal tradition that blends live music, community gathering, and some of the island's best sunset views.

After launching in April with performances by Broken Skyline and Me & Mr. Jones, the concert series returns this month with shows by Southbound 17 on Thursday, May 21, and Pop Rock Cult on Thursday, May 28. Both concerts begin at 6 p.m.

Held at Folly River Park, the series has become a favorite springtime ritual for residents and visitors looking to unwind outdoors with local music and coastal breezes. Guests are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket and enjoy the laid-back atmosphere along the Folly River.

Kicking off the May lineup is Southbound 17, the harmony-driven duo of Lowcountry natives Jack Austen and Katie Bailey. The pair has quickly built a strong following in the Charleston music scene, earning *Charleston City Paper's* "Best Up & Coming Band" honors and back-to-back *Post & Courier's* Charleston Choice Best Band awards in 2024 and 2025.

Known for their blend of rich vocals, rootsy songwriting, and Southern storytelling, Southbound 17 draws inspiration from the landscapes and culture of the Lowcountry. Their EP *Southern Gothic* features five songs steeped in the imagery, mood, and character of coastal South Carolina, mixing modern Americana with regional soul.

The following week brings Pop Rock Cult to the Folly stage on May 28. The four-piece regional club and festival act offers a crowd-pleasing setlist designed to keep audiences engaged across generations and tastes.

With more than 200 songs in rotation, Pop Rock Cult covers everything from classic rock staples to modern pop hits and alternative favorites. That broad catalog has helped the band become a popular booking



Southbound 17 will perform Thursday, May 21 at the Folly River Park

for festivals, parties, and events across the region.

Folly River Park, located at 50 Center Street, provides an ideal backdrop for the performances, with marsh views, open space, and easy walkability from Folly's downtown business district. The park's casual setting has made it a natural home

for community events and family-friendly gatherings.

With free admission and music spanning Americana, rock, pop, and soul, Folly Beach's Spring Concert Series continues to offer a simple formula that works: local bands, fresh air, and a reason to slow down for an evening on the island.

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April was Child Abuse Awareness Month



\$1,000 was given to HALOS and \$1,000 given to Dee Norton Child Advocacy Center. Also, a \$1,000 check was given to Special Olympics.



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Applicants should be high school seniors or current college students in good academic standing.

To apply, contact Mae Holmes at 843-588-9238 or email at maeholmes2@comcast.net.

Deadline to submit is June 30, 2026.



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Civic Club Photo of the Month



"REFLECTIONS" - SPACE X
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHN DOWNS

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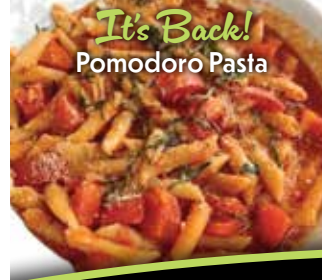
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**FRIDAY, MAY 1**

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Johnny Holliday & The Silver Lining
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Sean Ryan Smith
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhouns Calling
 Koko's: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark; 9-11pm DJ Lotis
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Gator Food Duo
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Thomas Champagne
 Rita's: 6-9pm Gracie
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am Dan & The Donuts
 The Washout: 8-11pm Dan's Tramp Stamp & the Money Bags

SATURDAY, MAY 2

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Folly Bubl e
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Sean Ryan Smith
 The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 Koko's: 1-4pm Seitu; 6:30-9:30pm DJ Jill
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Brandon Simmons; 7-10pm Shane Clark
 LowLife Bar: 8-11pm Lady Jane
 Pinky's: 12-3pm Super Reggae Man; 4-7pm Matt Mackelcan; 8:30-11:30pm See Jane Spin
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Shakin' Martini's
 Rita's: 5-8pm TBD
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am Dan & The Donuts
 The Washout: 8-11pm The Green Thieves Duo

SUNDAY, MAY 3

The Bounty Bar: 9pm The Sunday Sessions
 Coconut Joe's: 1-4pm Shane Clark
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra
 Koko's: 2-5pm Zach Q.
 Loggerhead's: 3-6pm DJ Lotis; 7-10pm Spud Fischer
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Nathan Calhoun Duo
 Planet Follywood: 8-11pm Piano D
 Rita's: 6-9pm Sufferin' Moses
 The Washout: 6pm Reggae with Jah Creation & special guest

MONDAY, MAY 4

The Bounty Bar: 7-9pm Trivia AF
 Chico Feo: 6-10pm Songwriters Soapbox
 The Crab Shack: 6-9pm Jeff Houts
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Jaykob Kendrick
 Planet Follywood: 7pm Bingo
 Rita's: 6-9pm Sufferin' Moses

TUESDAY, MAY 5

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Sam Rae
 Drop In Deli: 7pm-12am Honky Tonk Tuesday
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Kyle Herring
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Rita's: 6-9pm Krystal
 Taco Boy: 2pm-close DJ Miketech; DJ Erin Elyse

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

Chico Feo: 6:30-9pm Johnny Holiday
 Drop In Deli: 7:30-9:30pm Trivia
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Liam Murphy
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Whitney Hanna
 Rita's: 6-9pm Weigh Station
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, MAY 7

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Bender Funk; 10m-1am Karaoke
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Rita's: 6-9pm Super Reggae Man
 The Washout: 7-10pm Live Music

FRIDAY, MAY 8

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Moondog
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Anna Barfield
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 Koko's: 6-9pm Matt Mackelcan
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark; 9pm-12am DJ Lotis
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Robert C
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Todd Mayson Trio
 Rita's: 6-9pm Gracie
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am Pluff Mudd
 Taco Boy: DJ sets
 The Washout: 8-11pm Eddie Bush

SATURDAY, MAY 9

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Jordan Igoe & Friends
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Sean Ryan Smith
 The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 Koko's: 2-5pm Michael Duff Duo; 6-9pm Krystal Duo
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Sean Ryan Smith; 6-9pm Cliff Cody
 LowLife Bar: 8-11pm Folly Bubl e
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Gator Food Duo; 6-9pm Tom Crowley
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am TBD
 Rita's: 5-8pm Lola Grace
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am Pluff Mudd
 Taco Boy: DJ sets
 The Washout: 8-11pm River Mason Band

SUNDAY, MAY 10

The Bounty Bar: 9pm The Sunday Sessions
 Coconut Joe's: 1-4pm Shane Clark
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra
 Koko's: 2-5pm Return of the Mac
 Loggerhead's: 3-6pm DJ Lotis; 7-10pm Spud Fischer
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Liam Murphy
 Planet Follywood: 8-11pm Hope
 Rita's: 9am-12pm Mother's Day Brunch w/ David Sink; 6-9pm Lady Jane
 The Washout: 6pm Reggae with General Top Rankin & special guest

MONDAY, MAY 11

The Bounty Bar: 7-9pm Trivia AF
 Chico Feo: 6-10pm Songwriters Soapbox
 The Crab Shack: 6-9pm Jeff Houts
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Donnie Polk
 Planet Follywood: 7pm Bingo
 Rita's: 6-9pm Sufferin' Moses

TUESDAY, MAY 12

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Sam Rae
 Drop In Deli: 7pm-12am Honky Tonk Tuesday
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Kyle Herring
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Rita's: 6-9pm Sun Dogs

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Chico Feo: 6:30-9pm Johnny Holiday
 The Crab Shack: 6-9pm Shane Clark
 Drop In Deli: 7:30-9:30pm Trivia
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Liam Murphy
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am John Knuckles
 Rita's: 6-9pm Thomas Crowley
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, MAY 14

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Cliff Cody; 10pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 Rita's: 6-9pm Super Reggae Man
 The Washout: 6-9pm April Renee

FRIDAY, MAY 15

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Jeff Caldwell Band
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Jaykob Kendrick
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 Koko's: 6-9pm Eric Vaughn
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark; 9pm-12am DJ Lotis
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Relay Relay
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Laura G
 Rita's: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Taco Boy: DJ sets
 The Washout: 8-11pm Live Music

SATURDAY, MAY 16

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Whitney Hanna Show
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Sean Ryan Smith

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 Koko's: 2-5pm The Bozwell's; 6-9pm Tom Crowley
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Sean Ryan Smith; 6-9pm Cliff Cody
 LowLife Bar: 8-11pm Wild Current
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Super Reggae Man; 6-9pm Krystal Duo
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Longshot Gamble
 Rita's: 5-8pm Kenley Young
 Taco Boy: DJ sets
 The Washout: 8-11pm Shakin' Martini's

SUNDAY, MAY 17

Bounty Bar: 9pm Sunday Sessions
 Coconut Joe's: 1-4pm Shane Clark
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra
 Koko's: 2-5pm Molly D.
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm DJ Lotis; 6-9pm Cliff Cody
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Michael Duff
 Planet Follywood: 8-11pm Piano D
 Rita's: 6-9pm Gracie
 The Washout: 6pm Reggae with Mystic Vibrations

MONDAY, MAY 18

The Bounty Bar: 7-9pm Trivia AF
 Chico Feo: 6-10pm Songwriters Soapbox
 The Crab Shack: 6-9pm Jeff Houts
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Jaykob Kendrick
 Planet Follywood: 7pm Bingo
 Rita's: 6-9pm Sufferin' Moses

TUESDAY, MAY 19

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Sam Rae
 Drop In Deli: 7pm-12am Honky Tonk Tuesday
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Kyle Herring
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Rita's: 6-9pm Hollyn Belle

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

Chico Feo: 6:30-9pm Johnny Holiday
 Drop In Deli: 7:30-9:30pm Trivia
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Liam Murphy
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Whitney Hanna
 Rita's: 6-9pm Members of Easy Honey
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, MAY 21

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 Folly River Park: 6-8pm Spring Concert Series with Southbound 17
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Bender Funk; 10pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 Rita's: 6-9pm Super Reggae Man
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

FRIDAY, MAY 22

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Mike Martin & The Beautiful Mess
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Liam Murphy
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 Koko's: 6-9pm Nick Horn
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Matt Mackelcan
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Dan Marsh
 Rita's: 6-9pm Derek Cribb
 Taco Boy: DJ sets
 The Washout: 8-11pm Dan's Tramp Stamp & teh Money Bags

SATURDAY, MAY 23

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Mike Martin & The Beautiful Mess
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Doug Walters
 The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 Koko's: 2-5pm Nathan Calhoun; 6-9pm Krystal Duo
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Dakota Muckey; 7-10pm Shane Clark
 LowLife Bar: 8-11pm TBD
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Gator Food Duo; 6-9pm Tom Crowley
 Planet Follywood: 8pm-12am Louis D
 Rita's: 12-3pm DJ Dougie; 6-9pm George Fox
 Taco Boy: DJ sets
 The Washout: 8-11pm The Green Thieves

SUNDAY, MAY 24

Bounty Bar: 9pm Sunday Sessions
 Coconut Joe's: 1-4pm Shane Clark
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra

Koko's: 2-5pm Liam Murphy
 Loggerhead's: 3-6pm DJ Lotis; 7-10pm Spud Fischer
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Zach Q.
 Planet Follywood: 8pm-12am Hope
 Rita's: 6-9pm Lola Grace
 The Washout: 6pm Reggae with Jah Creation

MONDAY, MAY 25

The Bounty Bar: 7-9pm Trivia AF
 Chico Feo: 6-10pm Songwriters Soapbox
 Coconut Joe's: 2-5pm Sean Ryan Smith
 The Crab Shack: 6-9pm Jeff Houts
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Donnie Polk
 Planet Follywood: 7pm Bingo
 Rita's: 6-9pm Sufferin' Moses

TUESDAY, MAY 26

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Sam Rae
 Drop In Deli: 7pm-12am Honky Tonk Tuesday
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Kyle Herring
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Rita's: 6-9pm Shakin' Martini's

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

Chico Feo: 6:30-9pm Johnny Holiday
 The Crab Shack: 6-9pm Shane Clark
 Drop In Deli: 7:30-9:30pm Trivia
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Liam Murphy
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Johnny Knuckles
 Rita's: 6-9pm Krystal
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, MAY 28

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 Folly River Park: 6-8pm Spring Concert Series: Pop Rock Cult
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Bender Funk; 10pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 Rita's: 6-9pm Super Reggae Man
 The Washout: 7-10pm Eddie Bush

FRIDAY, MAY 29

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Unity Gain
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Anna Barfield
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 Koko's: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Danny May
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am WC
 Rita's: 5-8pm George Fox
 Taco Boy: DJ sets
 The Washout: 8-11pm Live Music

SATURDAY, MAY 30

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Wax Monkey
 Coconut Joe's: 5:30-8:30pm Sean Ryan Smith
 The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 Koko's: 2-5pm Bubba Bryant; 6-9pm Matt Mackelcan
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Dakota Muckey; 7-10pm Shane Clark
 LowLife Bar: 8-11pm TBD
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Super Reggae Man; 6-9pm Relay Relay
 Planet Follywood: 8pm-12am TBD
 Rita's: 12-3pm Jerry Feels Good; 6-9pm Hollifield
 Taco Boy: DJ sets
 The Washout: 8-11pm Live Music

SUNDAY, MAY 31

Bounty Bar: 9pm Sunday Sessions
 Coconut Joe's: 1-4pm Shane Clark
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra
 Koko's: 2-5pm Molly D.
 Loggerhead's: 3-6pm DJ Lotis; 7-10pm Spud Fischer
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Liam Murphy
 Planet Follywood: 8pm-12am Piano D
 Rita's: 6-9pm Jack Triebold
 The Washout: 6pm Reggae w/ General Top Rankin

THE FOLLY BUZZ IS FREE LISTING FOR NIGHTLIFE ON FOLLY BEACH. PLEASE SUBMIT ALL HAPPENINGS TO: INFO@FOLLYCURRENT.COM BY THE 25TH OF THE MONTH



May is a Great Time to be on the Water

Along with the usual suspects, summer species have now joined the fray

from Staff Reports

It's an excellent time to get out on the water. Local waterways are full of baitfish, and gamefish are feeding aggressively. With all the summer species now present alongside the usual favorites, anglers have plenty of choices. If you haven't started fishing yet, now is the perfect opportunity.

When going after redfish, live bait is especially effective. Menhaden is a top option, whether used whole or cut. Many anglers are finding success by casting chunks of menhaden beneath docks. Be sure to use enough weight to keep your bait on the bottom so it stays in place and avoids snags. Split shot weights are a good option since they can be easily adjusted by adding or removing them as needed.

Early mornings offer great topwater action for trout. Lures like the Heddon Super Spook Jr. in silver hues perform well, though chartreuse and black is another strong choice. Try changing your retrieve speed as you move the lure across shell beds and grassy shorelines. When a fish hits, reel in the slack before lifting your rod. After the surface

bite slows down, switching to a suspended twitch bait can help keep the action going.

Sharks are also active, with species such as bonnetheads, sharpnose, and blacktips commonly found in the area. You may spot their fins as they hunt along riverbanks or search for food near drop-offs in harbors and inlets. Effective bait options include blue crab, cut bait, and live shrimp. Using 7/0 circle hooks is recommended. Set your rods in holders and be ready for a strong, sudden strike!

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Koko's Brings a "Follynesian" Flair to the Pier

Oceanfront restaurant launches tropical-inspired concept with live music, familiar favorites, and a playful new vibe

from Staff Reports

Koko's on the Pier, the newly reimagined restaurant at the oceanfront space formerly home to Pier 101, officially opened March 25 and is now preparing for a public launch celebration, which as of press time, is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 9.

The new concept blends tropical flair, updated menu offerings, and colorful branding with the familiar views and laid-back spirit that made the location a favorite for locals and visitors.

For those who loved Pier 101, much of the appeal remains the same: waves rolling beneath the pier, panoramic beach views, and one of the more unique dining settings in the Lowcountry. But operators say Koko's is meant to reflect the next chapter of Folly Beach.

"The transition to Koko's was really about evolution — honoring what people have always loved about this location while aligning the experience to better reflect Folly Beach today," said Phil Owens, general manager of Tides Folly Beach Hotel. "We saw an opportunity to create something more vibrant, more fun, and more aligned with the energy of both our out-of-town guests and the local community."

Owned and operated through the Tides Folly Beach family of hospitality concepts, Koko's joins nearby sister venues, including Pinky's on the Beach and Roasted Coffee + Shop.

While the name and motif may be a nod to the Hawaiian Islands, it's actually rooted in Folly lore. Operators say the concept draws inspiration from Kokomo's Lounge, a 1950s-era watering hole once associated with servicemen visiting the island for rest and relaxation. At Koko's, that vintage spirit has been reworked into what staff jokingly call a "Follynesian" experience, part beach bar, part tiki hideaway, part family restaurant.

"It's bright, energetic, and playful," says



Halee Brinson, food and beverage director at Tides. "The vibe is relaxed but intentional, with a focus on fresh flavors, shareable moments, and a setting that really celebrates being right on the ocean."

Inside, the restaurant has been refreshed with colorful décor, tiki touches, and bold branding meant to feel lively and approachable. Outside, the views remain the star attraction.

The menu keeps some holdovers from Pier 101 that longtime guests may appreciate, including po' boys, fried shrimp, and the restaurant's classic she crab soup. But much of the lineup has shifted toward tropical comfort food and shareable plates.

Among the new offerings are Folly Fire Shrimp tossed in a sweet-and-spicy tiki sauce, jerk chicken sandwiches topped with pineapple and pepper jack cheese, teriyaki rice bowls, and BBQ nachos layered over

wonton chips.

Brinson says early favorites are already emerging.

"The Surf Platters and Teriyaki Rice Bowls are emerging as guest favorites," she says. "But as of now, the BBQ wonton nachos reign supreme."

The cocktail menu leans beachy and playful, with drinks like Tropic Like It's Hot, made with jalapeño-infused tequila, watermelon, and pineapple, or the Welcome to Koko-Mo, a rum-based throwback to the old Kokomo name. Drinks are also available in souvenir "Koko-nut" cups.

Guests visiting the pier can also stop by the outdoor tiki bar, grab a beverage, and continue strolling the pier.

Management says the response since opening has been strong, with curiosity from locals and enthusiasm from returning visitors.

"The response has been incredibly encouraging," says Owens. "We're seeing a mix of returning guests who are excited about the transformation and new faces discovering the space for the first time. That blend is exactly what we were hoping for."

According to Cameron Ross, general manager of Koko's, the goal is to create a place that feels like a getaway, even for residents just down the road.

"When someone walks into Koko's, we want them to immediately feel like they're on vacation — even if they live five minutes away," says Ross. "It's all about great hospitality, a fun atmosphere, and making sure every guest feels taken care of without anything feeling too formal."

Ross said repeat visits have been one of the best early signs.

"People have been really excited about the change," he said. "There's a lot of curiosity at first, and then once

they experience it, they tend to come back with friends."

That community focus is especially important on Folly Beach, where locals often keep a close eye on beloved institutions and changing businesses.

"Owning a spot on Folly means being part of the community," says Ross. "We're proud of what we've built and excited to keep growing with the Folly Beach community."

Koko's on the Pier official launch celebration is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 9, with steel pan music from 1-4 p.m., hula performances from 5:30-6 p.m., live music throughout the evening, and food-and-drink specials throughout the day. For more information, call (843) 633-0246 or visit www.kokosfollybeach.com.

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FACES OF FOLLY

INTERVIEWS BY
PAT "WIGGY" HIBAN

A Friend to Fur and Feather

Pet Helper's Carol Linville loves all of Folly's inhabitants

I met Carol Linville through Shauna Shackleton, Pet Helpers CFO and Folly resident. Carol's name often comes up in local conversations about animal rescues, with many recommending her immediately. After months of texting, we finally met at Center Street Coffee for a 90-minute conversation about her experiences as a respected figure in Folly.

FOLLY CURRENT: Where were you born and how long have you been tied to Folly Beach?

CAROL LINVILLE: I was born in Patterson, N.J., and my family moved to Florida when I was an infant. At 28, I relocated to Charleston on January 17, 1974. Bob, whom I met in Ft. Lauderdale, moved here for a General Manager role at a Chevy dealership. I left my job as Administrative Assistant with the Broward County Commission, rented out my house, and followed him, though I wanted to be cautious since we weren't engaged yet.

In 1975, we bought our first fixer-upper at 512 East Ashley and moved in. Meanwhile, Bob and I ran Linville Car Center on Folly Rd. We invested in several Folly rental properties, balancing daytime work at the Car Center with evenings and weekends spent renovating. By 1983, we'd phased out of the car business. In 1985, we relocated to Tabby Drive, where we've lived since. We became active in local clubs and Bob participated in city government.

I managed a three-month volunteer renovation project for the old City Hall and Police Department, overseeing both interior and exterior painting, as well as the installation of new ceilings and other improvements. In 1990, I initiated the Folly Christmas Parade and coordinated fundraising efforts for planting Palmetto trees on Center Street. Additionally, in collaboration with volunteer firefighter John Barringer, I helped construct the first animal kennel for Folly's animals. On a personal note, I experienced the loss of Bob on October 31, 2018, which marked a significant change in my life.

I currently own a rental triplex on the island, leased to three long-term Folly residents, and I intend to keep it as long-term rental housing for as long as I own it.

Pet Helpers was established in 1978 at 808 Folly Road, with Bob constructing the initial shelter room and cages. In 1992, we acquired the house located across from our current site, undertaking a six-month renovation that enabled us to accommodate over 130 animals. A decade later, we launched a Capital Campaign to secure land across the street and raise funds, complemented by a \$2.8 million bank loan. This allowed us to construct the Pet Helpers Shelter and Spay Clinic, which opened in 2008 and serves as our present location.

We currently have 27 paid staff members and face monthly expenses of \$200,000. Our shelter is overflowing with dogs and cats; cases of animal abandonment and owner surrenders have doubled, creating a crisis even more severe than when I began this work 48 years ago. We urgently need foster families, adopters, and additional donations to support every animal that comes through our doors. On challenging days—and there are many—I remind myself that my single small effort to rescue a few cats' years ago has now resulted in saving over 57,000 animals, including cats, dogs, rabbits, gerbils, several pet rats, and more!

FC: What do you love about Folly Beach?

CL: The animals are the highlight! This island is incredibly welcoming to both dogs and cats, and there's an amazing sense of community here. We truly embrace visitors—including their dogs—on vacation! I also have a fondness for our local deer, raccoons, opossums, squirrels, and birds. I'm always on call with Public Safety to help any injured or abandoned animal and have collected many rescue stories over the years.

Of course, I greatly appreciate our residents as well. They provide strong support, volunteer generously, and even include Pet Helpers in their estate plans, helping us build our Endowment for Pet Helpers' future. Our annual Oyster Roast and Fur Ball Gala are also well-supported events. To be honest, Pat, I'm especially excited about the Salty Snout Showdown!! Saturday September 12th at the Washout and hosted by famed TV star Bam Margera and his influential

wife Dannii Marie!!! They have already been so generous to us and now they are teaming up with our Folly Beach family. It's going to be a fantastic celebration of Folly culture with a fun dog contest for local pups!

FC: Share a story you are fond of about Folly.

CL: Here's a Hurricane Hugo story. My husband, Bob, became Mayor of Folly after two unsuccessful attempts at council. He was finally elected to the Council in 1988 and then won the mayoral race in 1989. I served as Bob's campaign manager through 14 elections ... there was always a runoff! Talk about persistence! Compared to those days, today's campaigns are much calmer. Anyway, just three weeks into his term as mayor, Hurricane Hugo struck. Bob ordered an evacuation of the island. We headed to Pet Helpers, sheltering behind the metal building there.

At 7 p.m., we got into our truck and Bob drove back to Folly to ensure everyone had left. As he turned around at the end of Tabby Drive, I heard a high-pitched *meow*. Since my own cats were all safe, I realized it must be a cat that had been left behind. After a quick search, I spotted our neighbor's kitten, Teeny Weeny. I scooped her up and put little TW in the cab with us. Our neighbor had been out of town, and their caretaker must not have been able to find the kitten before leaving.

As the storm intensified, we returned to James Island and spent the night with 45 cats in a small office. Around midnight, a reporter named Richard arrived after being stranded; he joined us and got his story. The next morning, Bob, Richard, and I headed to Folly, where the damage was overwhelming.

For two months, Bob worked in the streets while I managed the Folly Hugo Relief Center and Pet Helpers shelter, operating seven days a week. We had no power or water for three weeks, and the east end of Folly was without utilities for several months. Working 18-hour days, we assisted residents and businesses in recovery, losing 30 pounds between us. I also raised \$100,000 for Hugo relief for underinsured residents.



FC: What issue are you most concerned about in our community today?

CL: We are seeing fewer raccoons and squirrels, but more deer and injured shore birds—many underweight or caught on fishhooks. Last year, I helped remove a hook from a tern with the help of an officer, then held the bird until it could be taken to the vet. That tern was fortunate to survive.

FC: If you were responsible for overseeing this matter, what steps would you take to address the issue?

CL: I propose buying vacant lots that can't be built on or sold, encouraging owners to donate them to the city in their wills in exchange for waived taxes. This would increase open space and help wildlife thrive, making our community more beautiful.

Some unused lots have already become parks, like those donated on 5th East, and I hope similar projects continue. Years ago, I purchased two lots across from my home to preserve them for wildlife rather than build. My focus is on improving our world—whether by supporting long-term housing, helping animals, or inspiring others to act.

Pat "Wiggy" Hiban interviews a different "Face of Folly" for this column each month. If you have an idea of someone you think Pat should chat with, please send suggestions to editor@follycurrent.com.

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Folly Summers

Remembering those magical summers of my youth



FOLLY FIELD NOTES

BY WEATHERLY MEADORS

Summer is right around the corner and we've all been dreaming of those long, lazy, sunlit evenings. My friends have been putting together a summer bucket list - it's full of beaches, boats, grilling, and of course where to hide from the midday heat. All this future planning has me thinking backwards to some of our favorite things to do growing up on James Island.

As kids we were outside from sunup to sundown and into the night; these were the days when a neighborhood-wide game of Manhunt or Kick the Can was the hot (pun intended) after-dinner activity. There was

a loose system in the mornings. Breakfast, pack sandwiches in the cooler, pack the boat, wait an hour for Dad/uncles to do whatever is it that Dads and uncles do when kids are full of excited energy and Moms had already lived 3 lives, then pile into the boat and head to an island. It took a few trips to get everyone over, but once we were there it was total freedom.

One of the first questions people ask is "but what do you DO on that little strip of sand all day?!". That's easy to answer: everything and nothing! We went crabbing, caught shrimp, ran up the beach to see who would drift fastest back to the boats, took naps, and found beach treasures. When we got older there was usually a competition to see how quickly Dad/uncles could throw us off the tube. They were pros.

I was a bit of a nature nerd from the start. There was a small creek that formed a lagoon in the middle of our favorite island. Some years the entrance was blocked by sand at low tide and critters would become trapped inside - my favorite. One



day we found a few juvenile blacktip sharks, maybe a foot long. They were completely mesmerizing. Many sharks need to keep moving to push water over their gills and they were quickly running out of available space in the tidepools. We felt like absolute super heroes running across the beach with sharks in hand to get them back into the main creeks. I'm not sure I've seen such small sharks in a tidepool since that day!

Another frequent question people ask is "how long will we be gone"? I've never had a good answer for that other than "until it feels like the right time to go back". Time freedom

is very underrated! Afternoon thunderstorms usually decided when the day was done. Those slow, unplanned summer days that are so characteristic of the Lowcountry helped shape a lifelong love of the natural world. Next month we'll explore tidepools, and in the meantime, it's never too early to start that summer bucket list.

Found something and want to know more about it? Send a photo to saltmarshadventure@gmail.com for help identifying and a chance to be in the next Creature Feature!

With Earth Month behind us, the Folly Association of Business wants to take a moment to **celebrate one of our own. Vanessa Oltman's dedication to keeping our island clean** - for our residents, our wildlife, and our visitors - is nothing short of extraordinary. And we're not the only ones who've noticed. Last month at the South Carolina Aquarium's Volunteer Appreciation Night, **Vanessa was honored with "The Ripple Effect" award**, recognizing her outstanding contributions to environmental conservation. V, thank you for leading our Litter Committee with such heart and giving so generously of your own time. **Folly is better because of you.**



Turtle season starts now: May marks the beginning of sea turtle nesting season on Folly Beach. As businesses and community members, we have a role to play - not just in following the guidelines ourselves, but in sharing them with our visitors. **Let people know not only what the rules are, but why we care so deeply about protecting these incredible creatures.** Find everything you need at VisitFolly.com.

Thanks to all who joined us at Koko's on the Pier for our April networking social. Events like this help to connect the people who power our community because when Folly's businesses connect, the whole island wins.

Grow with us! FAB is focused on growing businesses while building community. If you'd like to be part of what we bring to Folly Beach, we'd love to have you. **Learn more at JoinFAB.org.**



Our May meeting is on Thursday, May 14 at Tides. Kick things off at the cocktail mixer in Pinky's at 6:00 PM, followed by the meeting at 6:30 PM in the 2nd-floor ballroom. With no meetings in June, July, or August, this is your last chance to connect before summer, so don't miss it!

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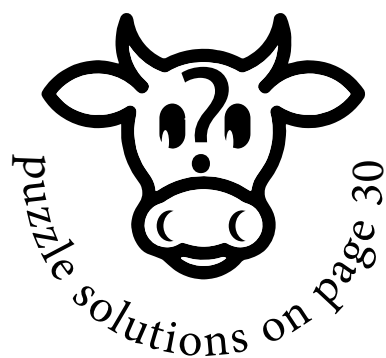
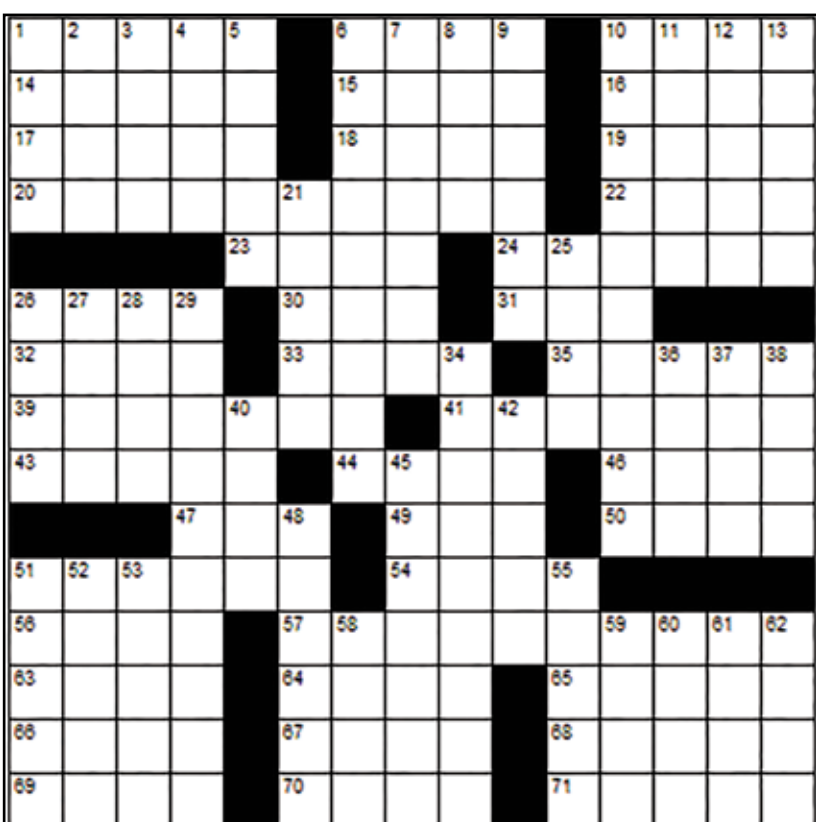
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TRIVIA

1. DUETS

What pop star sang a duet with Madonna of her 1989 hit "Like a Prayer" at Coachella last month?

2. FAMOUS FAMILIES

Taylor Dearden, who plays Dr. Mel King on the hit HBO show The Pitt, is the daughter of what famous actor?

3. DISNEY

What was the name of the kingdom in Disney's Frozen?

4. MUSIC

Who had a massive ice sculpture built last month in the parking lot of the Bond Hotel in the middle of downtown Toronto as part of a stunt to announce the release of his new album, Iceman?

5. COMICBOOKS

What fictional metal is used to make Captain America's shield?

6. TELEVISION

What was the name of the coffee shop in Friends where the group often hung out?

7. SEQUELS

Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman are teaming up again to make a sequel to what 1998 cult favorite?

8. SPORTS

What city just welcomed hundreds of thousands of people for the 2026 NFL Draft?

ACROSS

- 1. Lieu
- 6. Cheat
- 10. Type of fruit
- 14. Adhesive
- 15. Arm bone
- 16. Person, place or thing
- 17. Malicious burning
- 18. Matted cotton for stuffing
- 19. Puts on
- 20. Daughter of a step-parent
- 22. Border
- 23. Rewrite
- 24. Compensate for
- 26. Probabilities
- 30. Flowery verse
- 31. Born, in bios
- 32. Half-moon tide
- 33. Former Italian currency
- 35. Diner
- 39. Give one's approval to
- 41. When to retire
- 43. Not fresh
- 44. Back talk
- 46. A Great Lake
- 47. Possibilities
- 49. Fate

DOWN

- 50. Jerk
- 51. Flail
- 54. Got bigger
- 56. Miami basketball team
- 57. Drunk
- 63. Hindu princess
- 64. After-bath wear
- 65. Ceasefire
- 66. Therefore
- 67. Ripped
- 68. Sorceress
- 69. Anagram of "Need"
- 70. Three-handed card game
- 71. Hell

ACROSS

- 12. Thrust
- 13. A picture-in-picture
- 21. Graven images
- 25. Provide food
- 26. Anagram of "Nose"
- 27. Depression
- 28. Baby's first word
- 29. Plundering
- 34. Like a sponge or towel
- 36. Anagram of "Riot"
- 37. Arab ruler
- 38. Raise a stink
- 40. Referees
- 42. Aromatic compound
- 45. Arithmetic
- 48. Tees and polos
- 51. Half of six
- 52. Discovered
- 53. Scope
- 55. Sorceress
- 58. Cozy spot
- 59. Diva's solo
- 60. Feces
- 61. Behold, in old Rome
- 62. D D D



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**All programs, apart from outdoor concerts, require RSVP to hodonnell@follybeach.gov due to space and/or supply limitations. www.cityoffollybeach.com for more info.

• **Free Exercise Classes** at The Folly Beach Community Center. RSVP required.

– **Wednesdays: Movement & Mobility** 9-9:45am; Cardio Circuit 10-11am; Select Wednesdays (May 6 and 13th): Restorative Yoga Meditation 1:30-2:30pm.

– **Thursdays: Sip & Soles Walking Group** 8:30-9:45am; Seated Yoga 1:30-2:30pm.

• **Spring Concert Series at Folly River Park:**
– May 21st 6-8pm Southbound 17
– May 28th 6-8pm Pop Rock Cult

• **Bill Walsh Hurricane Weather Talk** at Community Center: May 26th 6-7pm. RSVP required.

Folly Beach Book Club: Read and discuss New York Times Best Seller "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi. Tuesday, May 26th 2:30-3:30pm. The Folly Beach Library, 55 Center St.

Folly Beach Community Yoga Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-11am. Bring your own mat. Donation based class. Folly River Park. For more information, contact Jenifer Mahanes on Facebook: Folly Beach Community Yoga.

Civic Club Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Community Center, 55 Center St. For more information, go to www.follycivicclub.org.

Design Review Board Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6pm. City Hall, 21 Center St. www.cityoffollybeach.com for more info.

Exchange Club Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Contact EXC on Facebook or Billy Grooms at bgrooms@gmail.com for more info.

• Next Meeting is the Annual Membership Drive with Bingo, Burgers, & Dogs. Thursday, May 21st 6pm at the Hut.

Folly Association of Business (FAB) FAB's next meeting will be Thursday, May 14th at Tides Hotel. There will be a cocktail mixer in the Pinky's Bar at 6pm followed by the meeting upstairs at 6:30pm. For more information, email secretary4FAB@gmail.com or visit JoinFAB.org.

Home & Garden Club Meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month Sept. through May at 12pm. Folly Beach Community Center, 55 Center St. For more info, contact Pauline Ray, Garden Club President.

• The FB Garden Club is looking for jewelry to sell. If you have any jewelry sitting around, please contact Charlotte Culpepper at (843) 908-5858 or charculpepper@yahoo.com.

Mahjong at the Library Open play sessions for all levels on Fridays from 10am-12pm. No signup needed. Folly Beach Library and Community Center, 55 Center St.

Planning Commission Meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 7pm. City Hall, 21 Center St. www.cityoffollybeach.com for more info.

Save the Light Meets the 1st Monday at 6pm every month. For more information, call: 633-0099, www.savethelight.org.

Senior Citizens Club 55 and over are invited. Meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 11am. Contact Pauline Ray at 588-9580.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Cast Off Fishing Tournament: Prizes in multiple categories. No pre-registration required. Register on site the morning of each tournament. Fee: 12 for ages 13 and up; \$9 for members of the military, \$9 for youth and seniors, \$5 for fishing pass holders. Saturday, May 16th, 6m-2pm. Folly Beach Pier.

Take A Kid Fishing, presented by the Folly Beach Anglers: 15th annual Jerry Pierce Memorial Fishing Tournament. Saturday, June 6th 9am-1pm, kids ages 4-16. Event

is free, pre-registration not required. First come, first served- 300 kid limit. Trophies and prizes in multiple categories. Folly Beach Fishing Pier.

Family Movie Night Held the 4th Sunday of the month at 5 pm. Folly Beach Baptist Church, 77 Center St. 588-9414.

Folly Art Village Wednesdays from 5-9pm at The Washout, 41 Center St.

Folly Family Storytime Mondays 10:30-11am. Read stories and sing songs. Ages 0-5. Folly Beach Library and Community Center, 55 Center St.

Plant Bingo: Play bingo! Win plants! Saturday, May 9th 11am-12pm. Limited seats available, register in advanced. The Folly Beach Library, 55 Center St.

A Very Curious Art & Tea Gathering: Don't be late for this very important date! Children ages 6-10 will enjoy imaginative art projects inspired by the classic take of Alive in Wonderland, then gather for a charming tea party with light refreshments. Saturday, May 23rd 11am-1pm. Limited seating, reserve in advanced. The Folly Beach Library, 55 Center St.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Beach Yoga Check with Serenity Tree Yoga and Folly Beach Island Yoga for weekly schedule.

Folly Beach Recreation

Pickleball: 8-10 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 2-4p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday at Pirates Cove, 510 E. Erie Ave.

Tennis: 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday; 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Wednesday, Friday. Registration required. Pirates Cove, 510 E. Erie Ave.

Soccer: 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday. Registration required. Folly River Park, 60 Center St.

Open Water Swimming Meet Up 9 a.m. every Sunday. Meet at the Pier next to the showers.

OUTDOOR

Folly Beach Run Club Human and dog runners of all levels welcome! Meets Saturdays 10am on the beach at 2E. Run at your own pace.

Join the Folly Beach Community Garden Calling all gardeners! 4X8 Vego (non-toxic) garden bins with custom mesh cover system to keep out deer and pests. Only \$100 annually, starting Sept. 1. Folly Beach residents, restaurants, & businesses. 24 Michigan Ave. Call or text 908-642-3467 or email sechdama@aol.com.

Lighthouse Inlet Bird Walk Friday, May 8 from 8:30-10:30am. Focusing on incredibly diverse northeast end of Folly Island– the Heritage Preserve that protects maritime forest, beach, dune, and marsh habitats for wildlife. Fee: \$12, ages 12 and up. www.ccprc.com for tickets and more info. Lighthouse Inlet Preserve.

Lowcountry Street Grocery Find the bus "Nell" popping up on Center St. at Folly Beach Baptist Church every Tuesday from 11am-4pm. Bring your own bags. For more info, contact the Folly Beach Civic Club.

Music on the Pier– Moonlight Mixers: Enjoy 5 Friday nights of dancing and music this summer! Fee: \$10. Music starts at 7pm. May 1, June 5, July 31, Aug. 21, Sept. 18.

Shark Tooth Sleuthing: Spring is a great time to explore the beach. Join a naturalist to search for shark teeth and other beach artifacts. Ages 9 and up. Fee: \$12. Monday, May 11, 9:30-11:30am. Folly Beach County Park. www.ccprc.com for more info.

Wheel to Surf: The unique event provides individuals with disabilities an opportunity to experience surfing! Ages 4 and up. Free event, registration required. Morning and afternoon sessions available, Saturday, May 16th 8:30am-1pm. Folly Beach County Park www.ccprc.com for more info.

RELIGIOUS

Christian Meditation Group Meets every Monday at 8:30am. Father Kelly Hall, 105 West Hudson Ave.

Evening Sermon Series – Jesus Lives! 4 nights beginning Sunday, may 24th, ending Wednesday, May 27th at 7pm. Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Faith Formation Meets every Wednesday at 7 pm. Our Lady of Good Counsel, 106 E. Erie Ave. 588-2336.

Folly Beach Methodist Church Worship times: Adult Sunday school at 9am / Worship Service at 10am. All are welcome. Come as you are. Nursery and children's Sunday school is provided during worship service. 118 W. Indian Ave., 588-9174.
• National Day of Prayer: Thursday, May 7th at 6pm at the Folly River Park.

Girlfriends Bible Study Meets every Tuesday at 9:30am & 6:30pm. Folly Beach Baptist Church, 77 Center St. 588-9414.

Mary's Rosary Guild Meets the 1st & 3rd Fridays at 10am. Our Lady of Good Counsel, 106 E. Erie Ave. 588-2336.

Men's Bible Study Meets Mondays at 7pm. Folly Beach Baptist Church, 77 Center St. 588-9414.

Parent + Child Mother's Day Dedication. Sunday, May 10th 11am. Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Pray at the Pier, presented by Folly Beach Baptist Church: Meets on the 2nd Thursday every month at 6pm to pray for the government and nation.

Recovery in Christ Biblically based; seeks God concerning our habits, hurts, & hang-ups. Meets Thursdays at 6 pm. Folly Beach Baptist Church, 77 Center St.

Revelations Bible Study Every Thursday at 6:30pm. All are welcome. Bring your Bible. Folly Beach Methodist Church, 118 W. Indian Ave., 588-9174.

Soup Ministry Every Monday at 12pm. Meets in the Fellowship Hall. Folly Beach Baptist Church, 77 Center St. 588-9414.

Women's Bible Study Meets on Tuesdays at 9:30 am & 6:30 pm. Folly Beach Baptist Church. 77 Center St. 588-9414.

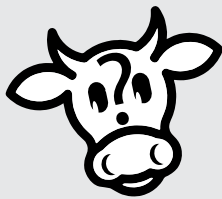
Women's Guild Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Our Lady of Good Counsel, Father Kelly Hall, 106 E. Erie Ave. 588-2336.

** Please check with the individual clubs, groups, and events for updates, as some of these events may have changed.*

**If you have an idea for programming by the City of Folly Beach, please contact City of Folly Beach Community Coordinator Heather O'Donnell at hodonnell@follybeach.org.*

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

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7	2	4	1	5	3	9	8	6
9	8	5	7	4	6	1	3	2
3	1	6	8	9	2	4	5	7

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Sabrina Carpenter
2. Bryan Cranston
3. Arendelle
4. Drake
5. Vibranium
6. Central Perk
7. Practical Magic
8. Pittsburgh

Folly Association of Business's Litter Buster of the Month

Events on the Edge, LLC
follybeachweddings@gmail.com | (843) 580-1976



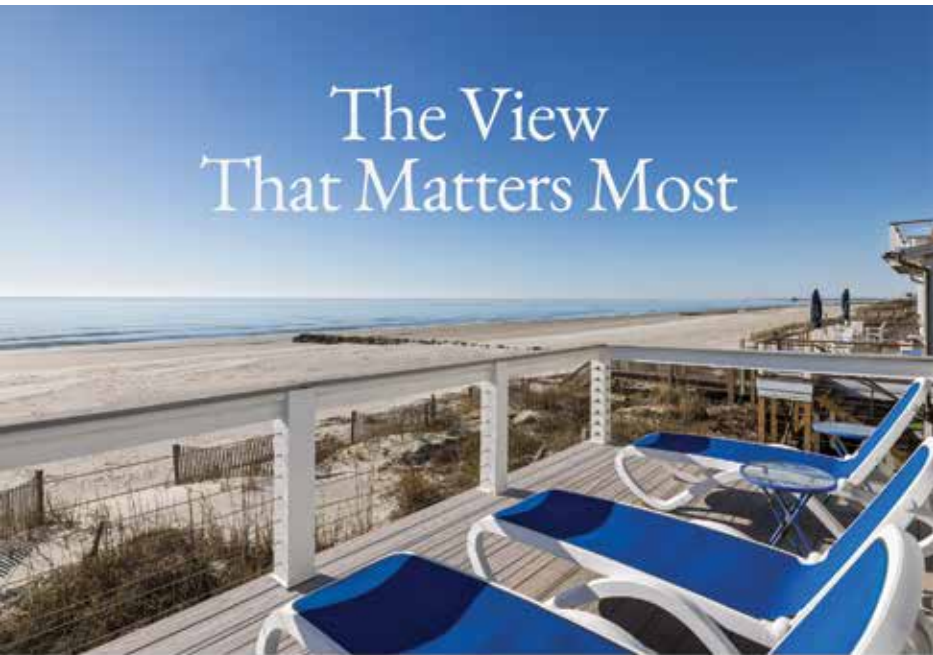
Events on the Edge is an events company based on Folly Beach that runs Folly beaches off-season large-scale events, special displays, and weddings. We are dedicated stewards to the environment with any event or display that we manage.

We coordinate beach sweeps after fireworks displays, street cleaners after large street closures and general stewardship by always leaving an event space better than how we found it! We are truly honored to be selected for this award! Don't hesitate to reach out to us for any vacation or event needs!

— Kelly Travers, owner Events on The Edge, LLC



FAB's Litter Committee is made up of Folly Beach business owners who volunteer their time to help devise solutions to litter-related problems both on the beach and within the business district. This committee collaborates with city entities and the Folly Green Team on actionable strategies to address these problems. They also help fund the signage that the Green Team places at beach walkovers to remind visitors to dispose of litter properly. As our mascot Toby the Turtle says, "Don't Trash Where We Splash!" If you would like to sponsor a walkover, please email Vanessa at jvolt243@gmail.com.



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LOWCOUNTRY LOCAL FIRST

18th Annual

CHEF'S POTLUCK

Sunday, May 17, 4-7 PM
HOLY CITY BREWING

Indulge in one of the Lowcountry's most anticipated culinary events! The 18th Annual Chef's Potluck brings together 20+ of the city's most talented chefs, partnering with local farmers, fishermen, and ranchers to craft an unforgettable tasting experience. Hosted at the stunning marsh-side Porter Room at Holy City Brewing, this event is a true celebration of the freshest local ingredients the Lowcountry has to offer. Kids 12 and under are free.



TICKETS:



HOLY CITY THE PORTER ROOM



The Post and Courier
palate charleston magazine
CITY PAPER

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