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REVOLUTION TO RECREATION



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Kim Jaeger and Bret Graves in the Galápagos Islands

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Mapping Folly's Future

Residents are invited to help guide the City's next Comprehensive Plan through an open house and online survey

from Staff Reports

The City of Folly Beach is asking residents to help shape the community's future as it begins work on updating its Comprehensive Plan, the document that will guide growth, development and policy decisions over the coming decade and beyond.

The city will host a public open house on Monday, Aug. 3, in Council Chambers at City Hall, where residents can learn about the planning process and share their ideas. State law requires municipalities to update their comprehensive plans every 10 years. Folly Beach's current plan was adopted in 2015 and last reviewed in 2021.

The update will address a wide range of topics, including housing, transportation, economic development, resiliency, land use and quality of life. Officials say public participation will play a key role in establishing the community's vision and priorities for the years ahead.

"The Comp Plan update is coming at a perfect time as the community is already reexamining other important issues such as short-term rentals, infrastructure and integrating new technologies," City Administrator Aaron Pope said.

The planning effort is being led with assistance from the Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG).

Residents who cannot attend the open house will also have an opportunity to participate through an online survey, expected to be released in early July. The survey will gather feedback on community priorities, concerns and ideas to help guide the updated plan.

More information, including details on the survey and open house, will be available through the City of Folly Beach as the planning process moves forward.

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As the United States prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary, communities across the country are reflecting on the meaning of service, sacrifice, and freedom. While parades, fireworks, and flag ceremonies honor those who have worn the nation's uniform, organizations on the South Carolina coast are reminding the public that supporting veterans extends well beyond patriotic holidays.

On Folly Beach, that support begins in the water.

Founded in 2015 by combat veterans and surfers, Warrior Surf Foundation has built its mission around an unconventional form of therapy. Through surfing, paired with yoga, wellness coaching, and peer support, the nonprofit helps veterans, active-duty service members, and their families navigate the often difficult transition from military to civilian life.

The organization offers its evidence-based programming at no cost to participants. Since its founding, Warrior Surf Foundation has worked with more than 1,100 veterans and family members and has provided more than 3,000 surf, yoga, and wellness sessions each year. According to the foundation, 80 percent of participants report reduced anxiety and depression after completing the program.

The foundation's signature 12-week program combines surf instruction with wellness education rooted in resiliency, mindfulness, and positive psychology. Rather than focusing solely on learning to surf, participants develop practical tools designed to support long-term mental health while building relationships with fellow veterans who understand the challenges of life after service.

That emphasis on community is one reason Warrior Surf Foundation has become a trusted partner for organizations that work with veterans throughout South Carolina.

One of those partners is Vantage Point Foundation, a Charleston-based nonprofit that helps veterans and their families navigate the transition to civilian life through coaching, mentorship, and community support.

"Our organization has partnered with [Warrior Surf] both formally and informally for about a decade," said Mark Holyfield, executive director of Vantage Point Foundation. "I've sent plenty of veterans over to them, and they've sent folks to us."

Holyfield said Warrior Surf Foundation succeeds because it combines physical

One Wave at a Time

Warrior Surf Foundation helps veterans heal mentally and physically after military service

by Liv Dennis | Contributing Writer



activity with shared experiences among veterans facing similar challenges.

"Warrior Surf, kind of the genius behind it, is that it gets veterans using their bodies again in a way that's challenging but also safe and gives them a common goal," he said. "They're doing it alongside other people."

For many participants, surfing is unfamiliar territory. Holyfield said that becomes part of the program's strength.

"Everybody kind of starts from the same place," he said. "It's a challenge. They're starting at the same place, but then they look to their left and their right, and they're surrounded by people that are with them doing a very similar thing and struggling through it and overcoming obstacles."

That shared experience helps replace isolation with connection, something both organizations view as essential to a successful transition.

Warrior Surf Foundation approaches that goal through experiential learning. Along with surf therapy and wellness sessions, graduates of the program can return as mentors for future participants, strengthening the network of veterans supporting one another long after the 12-week program ends.

Holyfield believes one of the biggest misconceptions people have is assuming

veterans need to be sheltered from challenges.

"I think people feel like they need to coddle veterans," he said. "I think that's a problem. That's why I love Warrior Surf. Right out of the gate, they're going to challenge them. By challenging them, veterans will step into their potential."

He also praised the foundation's deliberate approach to mental health.

"They have mental health professionals working behind the scenes and making sure everything is done deliberately and therapeutically," Holyfield said. "I think that's very important as well."

While surfing provides the setting, Holyfield said the real transformation comes from reminding veterans they are not facing life's obstacles alone.

"They still have potential," he said. "They have the means to overcome their obstacles, and they have a tribe around them to do it with them. They don't have to do it alone."

That sense of belonging extends beyond the surf sessions themselves. Warrior Surf Foundation hosts community events throughout the year, bringing together veterans, volunteers, families, and supporters while helping participants remain connected after completing the program.

As communities prepare to commemorate America's 250th birthday, Holyfield hopes people will remember that honoring military service is more than displaying a flag or attending a ceremony each July.

"A great way to do it is by supporting organizations like Warrior Surf and other programmatically oriented organizations," he said. "With an organization like Warrior Surf, you know exactly what they're doing, and there's a program you can see from start to finish."

Programs that provide consistent opportunities for healing, he said, create lasting change not only for veterans but for the communities that welcome them home.

As Independence Day celebrations unfold across the Lowcountry, Warrior Surf Foundation offers another perspective on patriotism. It is measured not only by remembering military service but also by investing in those who continue to carry its weight long after they leave the military. On Folly Beach, that commitment is found one wave, one challenge, and one veteran at a time.

Warrior Surf Foundation is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit. For more information about programs or how you can help, email info@warriorsurf.org or visit www.warriorsurf.org.



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Summertime, and the Livin' is Easy ...

“The Porgy House: A Cottage on an Island in a Culture” examines the birth of the acclaimed American opera on Folly Beach

by Regina Anderson | Contributing Writer

Joe, that's George Gershwin! exclaimed Abe Dumas to his brother in 1934 at “a fine Folly Beach home,” where they'd just had dinner and wine and saw “two baby grand pianos there and scores of sheet music all over the place, just in disarray”.

The Porgy House, sometimes referred to as “Follywood” by its first owners, the authors DuBose and Dorothy Heyward, is still located at 712 West Ashley Ave. and is the subject of a new small exhibit in the Folly Beach Community Center.

Presented by the Folly Beach Historical Society “The Porgy House: A Cottage on an Island in a Culture” examines the birth of the acclaimed American opera, Porgy and Bess, from the original novel “Porgy” to the first production of Porgy and Bess to be performed in Charleston, 35 years after it was written and after it had played countless times nationally and internationally.

In his 1996 oral history by the Jewish Heritage Collection at the College of Charleston, Dumas

recalls meeting Gershwin on the beach and later driving (he had a car!) him around to African American churches to hear gospel music and experience some of the local Gullah Geechee culture of the Lowcountry. The unique sounds and cadences of that culture can be found in every production of Porgy and Bess.

The Heywards had insisted that Gershwin spend time in Charleston and Folly to get a feel for the people they wanted to portray in the piece and to experience the laid-back lifestyle of the beach. Gershwin stayed in a cottage on the now underwater upper West Arctic Ave. but the libretto and music for Porgy and Bess was a Heyward/Gershwin collaboration written on Folly Beach 92 years ago in that salmon-colored house, inside of which today it still feels like the 1930's.

Gershwin's cousin, the painter Henry Botkin, accompanied him to Folly in 1934 and made several paintings and sketches depicting Folly Beach and Gershwin's time here. The Gibbes Museum of Art has a number of them,

depicting both Folly and Charleston. The Charleston Museum has the actual piano which Gershwin rented for use on Folly on display and the South Carolina Historical Society has several photographs of the house from that period (loaned for this exhibit).

First performed in Boston and New York in 1935 the opera has been staged all over the world and in 1959 was made into a movie starring Sidney Poitier and Dorothy Dandridge. However, due to the ongoing segregation of audiences in Charleston the opera was not performed where it was written until 1970. For that production famed NY director Ella Gerber directed a local cast of 120 non-professionals, all but two African Americans. Porgy was portrayed by Reuben Wright and Bess by Dr. Annette McKenzie Anderson. The Folly Beach Historical Society exhibit includes the program for and original photographs of that production. A documentary by Lauren Waring Douglas entitled “When Porgy Came Home” is in the works about that 1970 production, clips of which were just shown at Spoleto. Spoleto also hosted a production in 2016, with visual designs by artist Jonathan Green, himself of Gullah descent.

The Charleston Stage has hosted three productions of the play “Gershwin at Folly” by



Julian Wiles. The musical production explores that time period on Folly Beach and the birth of the opera created by Heyward and Gershwin – several scenes set at the “Folly Beach Pavilion”. Recently a class from the American College of Building Arts has measured, drawn and documented the Porgy House and some of their findings are in the exhibit. In fact the Historical Society's exhibit's title comes from their project. The house is currently owned by the Glick family.

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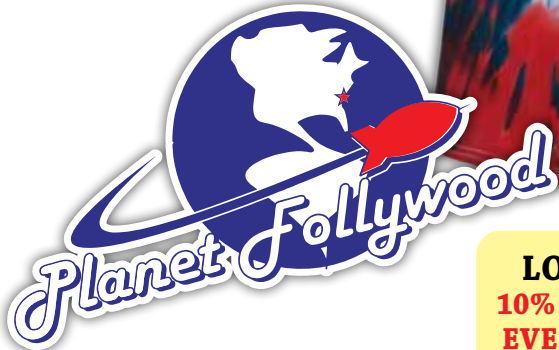
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Own a Piece of American History

For more than two centuries, Cole Island has played a remarkable role in the nation's story

by Lorne Chambers | Editor

Own an island off the South Carolina coast has long been the stuff of fantasy. But Cole Island, a 300-acre secluded island between Folly Beach and Kiawah, offers something money rarely can. That's the chance to become the steward of a place where some of the most consequential chapters of American history unfolded. Now, for the first time in decades, that opportunity is on the market.

Unlike most Folly Beach properties, Cole Island's value isn't measured only in its square footage or waterfront views. It's measured in the stories embedded within its marshes and earthen fortifications—stories of revolution, war, freedom, and preservation.

As America celebrates its 250th birthday this year, few places in the Lowcountry illustrate the nation's journey quite like this quiet island tucked between the Stono River and the Atlantic Ocean.

During the Revolutionary War, British forces bypassed the city's primary defenses, slipping through Stono Inlet and marching over land to capture Charleston in 1780. This lesson wasn't lost on military planners the next time around. During the War of 1812, Fort Palmetto was constructed on the strategically located Cole Island to ensure history would not repeat itself.

When civil war erupted a half-century later, Confederate leaders once again recognized the island's geographic importance. Nine defensive batteries were built across Cole Island to guard Charleston's "back door" and prevent Union forces from encircling the city from the southwest. Today, many of those earthworks remain visible, slowly disappearing beneath palmettos, live oaks, and marsh grass.

The island also played a role in one of the Civil War's most celebrated stories.

Before his daring escape to freedom aboard the CSS Planter, an enslaved Robert Smalls helped remove artillery from Cole Island as Confederate forces abandoned the position.

Smalls took over the Planter, sailed it past Confederate defenses, and surrendered the vessel, its cargo, and fellow enslaved passengers to the Union blockade on May 13, 1862. Smalls also provided valuable intelligence that Cole Island had been vacated. Within days, Union troops occupied the island, establishing an important foothold that they would hold for the remainder of the war.

Just over a year later, another chapter unfolded when members of the famed 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry camped on Cole Island while awaiting transport to Folly Island before their assault on Fort Wagner. The heroic attack was later immortalized in the film *Glory*, which garnered Denzel Washington his first Oscar win.

THE CARETAKERS OF THE ISLAND



Mike (top) and George (below) building the dock on Cole Island in the mid to late 1990s

Yet for all of its historical significance, Cole Island has remained largely untouched due to the careful stewardship of its private owners.

For the past three decades, that responsibility has rested with Charleston natives Mike and

George Buero, twin brothers who purchased the island on their 58th birthday in 1994 after spending much of their childhood there.

"Our fathers began spending their summers on Cole Island as children after World War II," said Matt Buero, Mike's son and one of three current owners. "They were helping their uncle with his commercial fishing business alongside their grandfather and cousins. That was the beginning of their lifelong love for Cole Island."

When the previous owners, the Sable family, decided to sell, they approached the twins.

"It was a childhood dream come true for them," Matt said. "On our fathers' 58th birthday, our family became the new caretakers of Cole Island."

The island became far more than an investment.

The twins, both military veterans who later became Boeing 747 flight engineers, devoted decades to maintaining docks, cabins, and walking trails, and to preserving the island's fragile ecosystem while researching and documenting its history. George passed away in December 2024, leaving Mike and the next generation of the family to continue that work.

"The responsibilities of owning a property this size with ecological and historical significance of this magnitude are overwhelming," said Carmen Conley, George's daughter and founding director of the Cole Island Foundation. "We really don't know how our fathers were able to sustain it for over three decades."

She credits not only her father and uncle but also an extended network of family and friends who helped maintain the island while carefully protecting its sensitive landscape.

"Our fathers shared their historical bounty with interested local organizations," she said. "We've tried to build on that through research and greater access."

Some of the family's favorite memories have little to do with military history.

Marketing Director Marti Buero Merrell recalls hearing childhood stories about the twins checking fish traps in the middle of the night using lanterns because flashlights weren't yet common.

Her favorite tale came after a hurricane unexpectedly swept across the island.

"Our fathers raised homing pigeons," she said. "The morning after the storm, they tied a note to one of the pigeons that simply read, 'All is well! Don't call the Coast Guard!'"

Those family stories exist alongside discoveries that continue to deepen the island's historical significance.

Merrell recently found a letter written from Cole Island by Col. Robert Gould Shaw, commander of the 54th Massachusetts, played by Matthew Broderick in *Glory*. The letter was to his wife Annie on July 17, 1863, the day before he was killed leading his regiment at Fort Wagner, which was on Morris Island.

"In the movie *Glory*, there's a scene where he hands someone a bundle of papers before going into battle," she said. "That letter would have been in those papers. I can't imagine how Annie felt reading it, knowing her husband was not coming home."

Matt Buero is equally captivated by the ordinary objects left behind.

"A clay pipe, a harmonica reed plate, and a golden uniform button," he said. "These items were left behind by battle-weary soldiers who enjoyed a smoke while their buddy played the harmonica, knowing they could die the next day."

continued on page 11 ...

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... continued from page 10

THE FUTURE & LEGACY OF COLE ISLAND



George and Mike Buero on Cole Island in the late 1940s

Now, after more than 30 years of stewardship, the family believes it is time for someone else to write the island's next chapter.

"There is never a perfect time to part with a place as special as Cole Island," Conley said. "But after many years of stewardship, we believe this is the right time for the island's next chapter."

That next chapter officially began last month when the family listed Cole Island for sale. Folly Beach Realtor Carrie Rosen of Changing Tides Realty is marketing the property, which includes approximately 300 acres of highland and marsh, maintained walking trails, a dock,

and two rustic cabins. The asking price is \$6.5 million, but the family hopes prospective buyers will recognize that they are inheriting far more than a private island.

"Our hope is that Cole Island remains a place where its history, natural beauty, and cultural significance are respected and preserved," she said. "Whether its future involves conservation, thoughtful private ownership, educational initiatives, or another compatible vision, we hope the next stewards will appreciate the island's unique character and carry its legacy forward for future generations."

That vision mirrors the dream Mike and George carried for decades. They imagined sharing Cole Island's history through walking tours, educational programming, and careful public access. During their ownership, the family established marked trails, historical markers, a website documenting the island's past, and, more recently, the Cole Island Foundation to encourage additional historical and environmental research.

"Cole Island wants to reclaim its spotlight in history," Merrell said. "Many people don't realize history recognizes Cole Island as Charleston's back gatekeeper."

For her, the island still has something to say. There are more stories to tell.

As America reflects on the events that shaped the nation's first 250 years, Cole Island stands as a reminder that history isn't always found inside museums or behind velvet ropes. Sometimes, the stories that helped shape this nation are lost to time. And then sometimes they are right there, just beyond the marshgrass.





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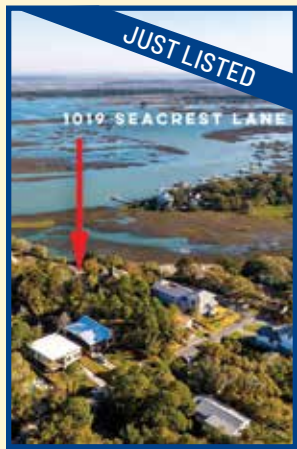
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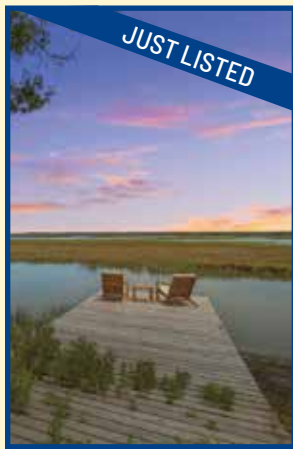
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the driver operating a vehicle with improper tags and no valid driver's license. Police also reported discovering open containers of alcohol inside the vehicle, adding to the list of violations before the driver was taken into custody.

**MAY 30
VEHICLE BREAK-IN**

A beach trip ended on a sour note for one visitor who returned to a Jeep parked in the gravel lot behind Rita's on East Arctic Avenue to find someone had broken into the vehicle. Several personal items were reported stolen sometime Saturday evening. Officers documented the theft, and detectives are continuing the investigation.

**JUNE 1
HOT TUB HOPPING**

Four people found themselves cooling their heels instead of relaxing in a hot tub after officers responded to the Waters Edge Inn. According to the report, the group had entered a hot tub area secured by a locked gate. One individual was issued a city summons and served with a trespass notice, while the others were warned. The soak came to an abrupt end.

**JUNE 2
HEAVY FOOT ON EAST ASHLEY**

A morning traffic stop on East Ashley Avenue turned into more than just a speeding ticket. Police clocked a driver traveling 53 mph in a 25 mph zone while pedestrians were nearby. The driver was arrested following the stop, reminding motorists that speed limits on Folly's busy streets aren't merely suggestions.

**JUNE 4
WARRANT ENDS TRAFFIC STOP**

What began as a routine traffic stop on West Hudson Avenue quickly changed course when officers discovered the driver was wanted on an outstanding Dorchester County warrant. The individual was taken into custody without incident and turned over through the normal judicial process.

**JUNE 7
BARROOM DISTURBANCE**

A night out at a local bar ended in handcuffs

after staff flagged down officers about an intoxicated patron causing a disturbance. Police said the man repeatedly tried to re-enter the business after being escorted out and became increasingly confrontational with officers. Once at the detention center, officers reportedly discovered a folded dollar bill containing a white powdery substance that field-tested positive for cocaine, leading to additional charges.

**JUNE 8
CAUSEWAY DUI ARREST**

A driver never made it far onto the Folly Beach causeway after officers observed the vehicle speeding, drifting onto the shoulder, and failing to maintain its lane. Police stopped the vehicle near Oak Island Drive and arrested the driver on suspicion of driving under the influence following the investigation.

**JUNE 13
TRAFFIC STOP ENDS WITH TOW**

A late-night drive through Folly Beach proved costly after officers stopped a vehicle near Center Street and East Erie Avenue for multiple traffic violations. Police issued citations, had the vehicle towed from the scene, and cleared the call shortly after midnight. Sometimes the trip off the island takes a little longer than expected.

**JUNE 15
HARASSING CALLS**

Not every police response begins face to face. Officers investigated after dispatch received repeated unwanted communications from the same individual. The incident was documented, the appropriate reports were completed, and the case was closed.

**JUNE 17
TRAFFIC STOP UNCOVERS AMMUNITION**

A routine traffic stop on West Erie Avenue uncovered much more than suspended tags. Police determined the driver had no insurance before towing the vehicle. During an inventory search, officers located rifle ammunition inside. A passenger, who was prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition because of a prior felony conviction, was arrested, while the driver was cited for the traffic violations and released.



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**WEDNESDAY, JULY 1**

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 Johnny Knuckles
 Rita's: 6-9pm Kenley Young
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, JULY 2

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 KoKo's: 5-8pm Sam McCoy Steel Pans
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Bender Funk; 10m-1am Karaoke
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Bubba Bryant
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Rita's: 6-9pm Super Reggae Man
 The Washout: 7-10pm Malin Wagnon Duo

FRIDAY, JULY 3

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Mike Martin & the Beautiful Mess
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 KoKo's: 12-3pm Liam Murphy; 4-7pm Return of the Mac; 8-10pm DJ Ede
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Shane Clark
 Pinky's: 12-3pm Tom Crowley Duo; 4-7pm Danny May; 8pm-12am DJ Ede
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Thomas Champagne Band
 Rita's: 6-9pm TBD
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 8-11pm Dan's Tramp Stamp & The Money Bags

SATURDAY, JULY 4

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Mike Martin & the Beautiful Mess
 The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 Koko's: 12-3pm Johnny Holliday; 4-7pm Krystal Trio; 8-11pm Clark on Sax
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Dacota Muckey; 7-10pm Shane Clark
 Pinky's: 12-3pm Bender Funk Trio; 4-7pm Bubba Trio; 8pm-12am DJ Saan
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Dan Marsh
 Rita's: 6-9pm Lola Grace
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 5-11pm Outlaw Country Fest

SUNDAY, JULY 5

The Bounty Bar: 9pm The Sunday Sessions
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra
 KoKo's: 2-5pm Seitu; 6-9pm Molly D.
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm DJ Lotis
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy Trio
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Robert C., 6-9pm Tom Crowley
 Planet Follywood: 8-11pm Hope
 Rita's: 12-3pm Johnny Knuckles; 6-9pm Jerry Feels Good
 The Washout: 6-9pm Reggae

MONDAY, JULY 6

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 David Sink

TUESDAY, JULY 7

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 and Friends

Wednesday, JULY 8

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 Weigh Station
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, JULY 9

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 KoKo's: 5-8pm Sam McCoy Steel Pan
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Bender Funk; 10pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Molly D.
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 Rita's: 6-9pm Super Reggae Man
 The Washout: 7-10pm Dan's Tramp Stamp Duo

FRIDAY, JULY 10

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Jeff Caldwell Band
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 KoKo's: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark; 9-11pm DJ Lotis
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Danny May
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Todd Mayson Trio
 Rita's: 6-9pm Gracie
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 8-11pm Malin Wagnon & Friends

SATURDAY, JULY 11

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Unity Gain
 The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 KoKo's: 2-5pm Nathan Calhoun Duo; 6-9pm Eric Vaughn
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Brandon Simmons; 7-10pm Shane Clark
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Super Reggae Man; 5-8pm Liam Murphy; 8:30-11:30pm DJ Eclipse
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Riley & Hollyn Belle
 Rita's: 6-9pm George Fox
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 8-11pm Johnny Holliday & The Silver Lining

SUNDAY, JULY 12

Bounty Bar: 9pm Sunday Sessions
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra
 KoKo's: 2-5pm Seitu; 6-9pm Tom Crowley
 Loggerhead's: 3-6pm DJ Lotis; 7-10pm Spud Fisher
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy Trio
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Bender Funk Duo; 6-9pm Matt Mackelcan
 Planet Follywood: 8-11pm Piano D
 Rita's: 6-9pm Jack Triebold
 The Washout: 6-9pm Reggae

MONDAY, JULY 13

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, JULY 14

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 Hard Molasses

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

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 Johnny Knuckles
 Rita's: 6-9pm Sean Smith
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, JULY 16

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 KoKo's: 5-8pm Sam McCoy Steel Pans
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Bender Funk; 10pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Bubba Bryant
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 Rita's: 6-9pm Super Reggae Man
 The Washout: 7-10pm Johnny Holliday

FRIDAY, JULY 17

The Bounty Bar: 9:30pm River Mason
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 KoKo's: 6-9pm Johnny Holliday Duo
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark; 9-11pm DJ Lotis
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Stono
 Rita's: 6-9pm Lady Jane
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 8-11pm Shakin' Martini's

SATURDAY, JULY 18

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Forty Mile Detour
 The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 KoKo's: 2-5pm Bubba Bryant; 6-9pm Tom Crowley
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Dacota Muckey; 7-10pm Shane Clark
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Nathan Calhoun Duo; 5-8pm Matt Mackelcan; 8:30-11:30pm Jill the DJ
 Planet Follywood: 8pm-12am Longshot Gamble
 Rita's: 6-9pm Gene and Rylie
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 8-11pm Dan's Tramp Stamp & The Money Bags

SUNDAY, JULY 19

Bounty Bar: 9pm Sunday Sessions
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra
 KoKo's: 2-5pm Seitu; 6-9pm Molly D.
 Loggerhead's: 3-6pm DJ Lotis; 7-10pm Spud Fischer
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy Trio
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Robert C.; 6-9pm Michael Duff
 Planet Follywood: 8pm-12am Hope
 Rita's: 6-9pm Sun Dogs
 The Washout: 6-9pm Reggae

MONDAY, JULY 20

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, JULY 21

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Sam Rae
 Drop In Deli: 7pm-12am Honky Tonk Tuesday
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Krystal and Friends
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Rita's: 6-9pm Easy Honey

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

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 Hollyn Belle
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, JULY 23

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 KoKo's: 5-8pm Sam McCoy Steel Pans
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Bender Funk; 10pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Pinky's: 6-9pm The Bozwell's
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 Rita's: 6-9pm Thomas Champagne
 The Washout: 7-10pm Malin Wagnon Duo

FRIDAY, JULY 24

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Schema
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 KoKo's: 6-9pm Matt Mackelcan
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark; 9-11pm DJ Lotis
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Tom Crowley

Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am TBA
 Rita's: 6-9pm Thomas Champagne
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 8-11pm Eddie Bush

SATURDAY, JULY 25

The Bounty Bar: 10pm The Whitney Hanna Show
 The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Live Music
 KoKo's: 2-5pm The Bozwell's; 6-9pm Liam Murphy
 Loggerhead's: 2-5pm Dacota Muckey; 7-10pm Shane Clark
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Super Reggae Man; 5-8pm Bubba Bryant; 8:30-11:30pm DJ Discreet
 Planet Follywood: 8-11pm Wild Current
 Rita's: 6-9pm TBD
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 8-11pm The Green Thieves

SUNDAY, JULY 26

Bounty Bar: 9pm Sunday Sessions
 The Crab Shack: 1-3pm Dave Grunstra
 KoKo's: 2-5pm Seitu; 6-9pm Michael Duff
 Loggerhead's: 3-6pm DJ Lotis; 7-10pm Spud Fischer
 LowLife Bar: 6-9pm Liam Murphy Trio
 Pinky's: 1-4pm Liam Murphy; 6-9pm The Bozwell's
 Planet Follywood: 8pm-12am Piano D
 Rita's: 5-8pm David Sink
 The Washout: 6-9pm Reggae

MONDAY, JULY 27

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, JULY 28

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 Dereck Cribb

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

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 Weigh Station
 The Washout: 6-9pm Live Music

THURSDAY, JULY 30

The Crab Shack: 7-10pm Island Duo
 Drop In Deli: 10pm-1am Stratton + Friends
 KoKo's: 5-8pm Sam McCoy Steel Pans
 Loggerhead's: 7-10pm Bender Funk; 10pm-1am Karaoke
 LowLife Bar: 8-10pm Weigh Station
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Bubba Bryant
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-1am Karaoke
 Rita's: 6-9pm Gracie
 The Washout: 7-10pm Johnny Holliday

FRIDAY, JULY 31

The Bounty Bar: 10pm Big Stoner Creek
 The Crab Shack: 8-11pm Calhoun's Calling
 KoKo's: 6-9pm Return of the Mack
 Loggerhead's: 6-9pm Shane Clark
 Pinky's: 6-9pm Eric Vaughn
 Planet Follywood: 9pm-12am Macelyn Batton
 Rita's: 6-9pm Gracie
 Sand Dollar: 9:30pm-1am TBD
 Taco Boy: 7pm until DJ Miketech & Erin Elyse
 The Washout: 8-11pm Live Music

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Folly Beach to celebrate America's 250th with an Independence Day fireworks spectacular

from Staff Reports

The Folly Association of Business (FAB), in partnership with the City of Folly Beach, invites res-idents and visitors to celebrate America's 250th Birthday with a spectacular Independence Day Fireworks Celebration on Saturday, July 4, 2026. The fireworks display will begin at 9:00 p.m. and launch from the west side of Folly Beach, just a few blocks from the Folly Beach Pier. Spectators can enjoy the show from locations along the beach, throughout Center Street, and from many areas across the island.

As the nation commemorates 250 years of independence, Folly Beach will come together for an evening of community, patriotism, and celebration on the Edge of America. Families, friends, and visitors are encouraged to bring beach chairs, gather along the shoreline, and enjoy one of the Lowcountry's most anticipated Fourth of July traditions.

Attendees are encouraged to celebrate responsibly and help preserve the natural beauty of Folly Beach by properly disposing of trash, respecting wildlife, and following all local beach regulations. Visitors should plan to arrive early and expect increased traffic throughout the day and into the evening.

The Folly Beach July 4th Fireworks Celebration is free and open to the public.
For additional information, visit www.VisitFolly.com.

A Flag That Tells Folly's Story

Local artist Jim Rocco is honoring Folly, one star at a time

by Hanalei Potempa | Contributing Writer

A flag sculpture standing on Folly Beach is more than a patriotic display. Built from reclaimed pieces of the island's history, local artist Jim Rocco's latest creation honors the people, places, and events that shaped Folly into the community it is today.

"The Spirit of Folly really is honoring the people, the events, the places, that make Folly what it is today," Rocco says.

Constructed from metal and reclaimed materials, the sculpture is designed to stand for generations while preserving pieces of Folly's past. Each element carries its own story, transforming the American flag into a tribute to the island's history and the community members who helped protect it.

Rocco has called Charleston home since moving here in 1978 and purchased a house on the east end of Folly Beach in 1983.

His commitment to preserving the island extends well beyond art. In 2008 when Rocco saw commercial development plans for seven lots at Center Street and East Indian Avenue, he feared the proposed residential parking lots and retail stores would change the character of Folly Beach. He and his brother ultimately bought everyone out to preserve the property, which is now known as Folly River Park. A plaque at the park honors "the people who love the Spirit of Folly."

That same philosophy inspired the flag sculpture.

To symbolize the people, places, and events that shaped Folly's character, Rocco used reclaimed materials representing different chapters of the island's history to create each of the flag's 16 stars.

One star is made with Civil War bullets representing the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts, the first all-volunteer African American fighting infantry. Another incorporates a makeup kit honoring Marlene Estridge, considered the "face of Folly" since becoming the city's clerk in 1961. Another is made from bricks sourced from



the Morris Island Lighthouse.

"Each star tells a story of a particular part of Folly history," Rocco says.

Rocco wanted to use as many materials as possible that came directly from Folly Beach. The wooden planks forming the flag's stripes were crafted from lumber that washed onto his property after Hurricane Hugo, possibly from the old Folly Marina.

Beyond preserving history, Rocco said the sculpture represents unity.

Rocco emphasized that creating a flag was a way to demonstrate unity and community in Folly and across the nation, symbolizing the "common ground" that brings people together.

"We've never been as divisive as a country as we are now over the last couple of years, and what's the one thing to bring us together? — Our love for the flag," he says.

Not only do the reclaimed materials preserve memories of Folly's past, but they are durable enough to ensure the sculpture stands for generations to come. Rocco hopes future generations will remember where they came from and appreciate the community spirit that built the island.

"Everybody loves Folly, but who do we thank?," Rocco says. "The hardworking people who made this place special."

Among those people, Rocco believes former Mayor Richard Beck deserves special recognition for his dedication to protecting Folly Beach from overdevelopment before his recent passing.

"We all got to chip in, like, like Richard Beck, we all got to chip in a little bit, maybe take a little less to keep the island special," Rocco says.

The Folly flag is not Rocco's first public sculpture, and he says it won't be his last. He previously created another flag honoring Jimmy's Crew, recognizing Folly Beach Public Works employees, and hopes to create similar flag sculptures for other communities in the future, possibly even Myrtle Beach.

With America marking its 250th anniversary this year, Rocco hopes the sculpture will stand as both a celebration of the nation and a tribute to Folly Beach. Built from pieces of the island's past, the flag serves as a reminder that the country's history is made up of countless local stories—and that preserving those stories is just as important as celebrating them.

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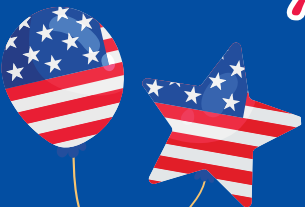


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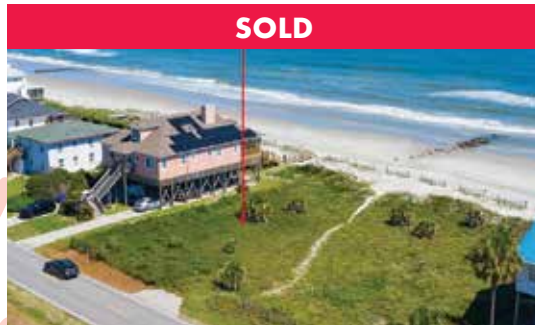
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 PHOTOGRAPHY BY LISA SOUTHWORTH

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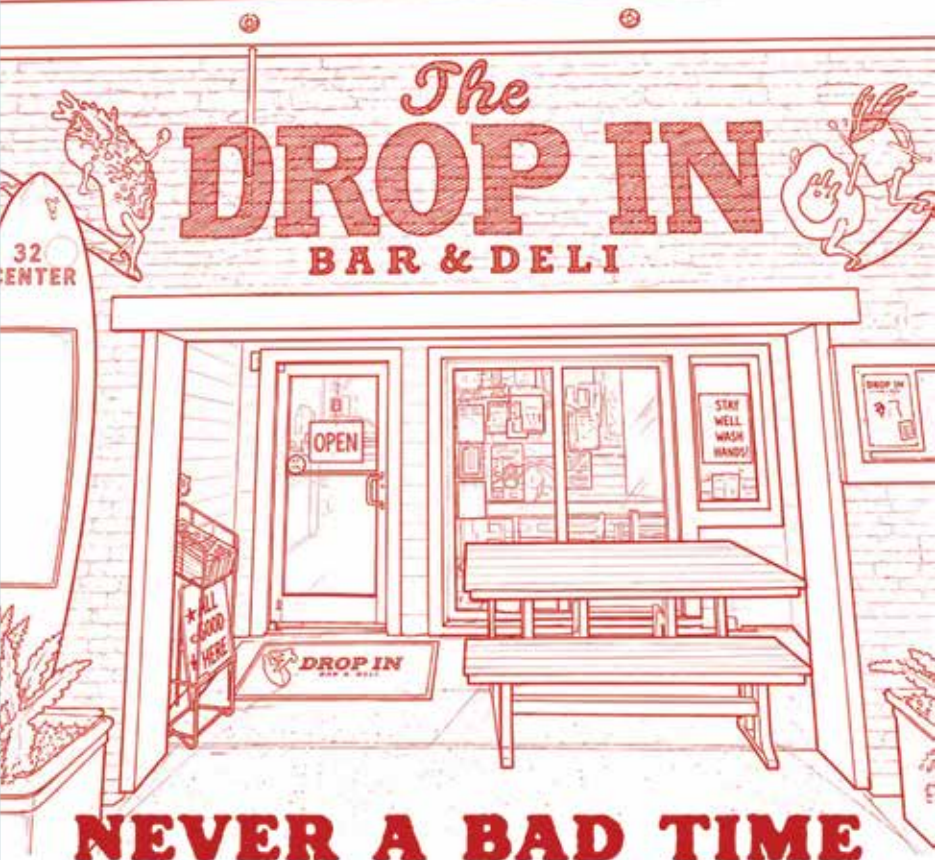


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Ice Cream and the American Dream

3 Gulls Creamery opens just in time for the Fourth of July 4th, offering 44 flavors of hand-scooped ice cream, soft serve, loaded shakes, creative hot dogs, and more

by Lorne Chambers | Editor

Nearly 50 years ago, Bob Marley first sang about three little birds. Half a century later, the song remains a summertime soundtrack, especially in beach towns like Folly. And while “Three Little Birds” may be a beach-day staple, here on the South Carolina coast, three little gulls feel a bit more appropriate.

Enter 3 Gulls Creamery, the island’s newest spot for two other beach-day staples: ice cream and hot dogs.

The family-owned business, which recently opened at 105 East Huron Avenue, is the second location for the Fogle family, who have owned the original 3 Gulls Creamery on Edisto Island for five-and-a-half years. Before that, the Fogles ran two pharmacies, each equipped with an old-fashioned soda fountain counter.

It’s a different kind of medicine, but ice cream has its own special healing qualities, especially on a hot July day at the beach. So, Rusty Fogle says ice business felt like a logical next step. And Folly Beach was the logical next place to open a 3 Gulls Creamery.

“We felt like Folly had a good base of vacationers, and we’ve always liked Folly,” said Rusty. “Folly has always been one of our favorite places.”

After spending the last couple of years searching for just the right location on Folly Beach, they found it in a commercial space beneath the Vera Hotel on East Huron Avenue, tucked behind the Circle K gas station. The family began work on the space last September and spent months preparing it before welcoming customers this summer.

The “3 Gulls” in the name aren’t just a catchy nod to the coast. They’re a tribute to Rusty and Tavia Fogle’s three daughters—Becca, Mary, and Elie—who each play an active role in the family’s business. What began as a small family venture on Edisto has become a true family operation, with everyone pitching in to



help shape the new Folly Beach location.

In addition to working in the shop, each daughter has left her own mark. Several of the shop’s specialty hot dogs bear their names, reflecting both their personalities and the collaborative spirit that has become part of the creamery’s identity. From serving customers to helping develop menu ideas and creating a welcoming atmosphere, Rusty says the business has always been a family effort.

The shop offers 44 flavors of Hershey’s hand-scooped ice cream, as well as soft-serve, over-the-top stuffed shakes, brownie sundaes, banana splits, floats, and milkshakes made with any flavor on the menu. There are vegan and dairy-free options as well.

While it’s the long glass case filled with ice cream that you first notice when you walk in the door, don’t sleep on 3 Gulls’ creative hot dog concoctions. There’s even a Folly Beach Dog on the menu, which includes chili, pimento cheese, onion, and relish. You can also find chicken salad sandwiches, nostalgic candy, classic ice cream novelties, like Push-ups and

Astro Pops, and other beach-friendly treats at 3 Gulls.

Also, 3 Gulls is embracing the nation’s 250th birthday with a few patriotic promotions this month. In addition to offering \$2.50 soft-serve cake cones Friday through Sunday during Independence Day weekend, the shop is giving away \$250 on July 4. Visitors can register in-store through 7:30 p.m. on Independence Day, with drawings scheduled for 8 p.m. Prizes include a \$250 grand prize, a \$50 second-place prize, and a \$25 third-place prize.

With America celebrating its 250th birthday this month, the timing couldn’t be better. Ice cream may be the quintessential way to cool off on a hot summer day, but it’s hard to think of anything more American than a hot dog fresh off the grill. At 3 Gulls, visitors can enjoy both in one stop.

3 Gulls Creamery is located at 105 E. Huron Ave. (Behind Circle K). For more information, call (843) 633-0011 or visit www.3gullsc Creamery.com.

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A Life Committed to Service

City Councilmember Skip Fink on the promise of America

When I started this column, I told myself I would not include politicians. I was afraid their stories would be self-serving and too biased in their opinions. I agreed to break that rule because I thought that for America's 250th Birthday, it was important to feature a true American hero. I couldn't think of anyone better than City Councilmember Skip Fink, who I know personally.

FOLLY CURRENT: Where were you born and how did you end up on Folly Beach?

SKIP FINK: I was born in St. Petersburg, Florida, and grew up in a military family that moved frequently throughout my father's career. I first became familiar with the Charleston area while serving as a Marine Corps squadron commander in Beaufort during the 1980s. My wife of 53 years, Sam, and I purchased our home on Folly Beach in 2012, and we've been fortunate to call it home ever since. We live on the west side on West Beach Court.

FC: What do you like best about living on Folly Beach?

SF: I love that Folly allows me to be as active or as laid back as I want to be. It's a unique community where residents, businesses, and visitors all have a stake in what happens here, and people genuinely care about the island's future. I like having the ability to be a force of change in my surroundings.

FC: Tell me a favorite Folly Beach story or memory.

SF: One of my favorite memories is of neighbors coming together before a hurricane, when we know the power may go out. Everyone starts cooking food from their freezers, sharing meals, and helping one another prepare. Those moments remind me that Folly is more than a beach town; it's a true community.

FC: Tell me about your military career and what would you like children today to know about military service?

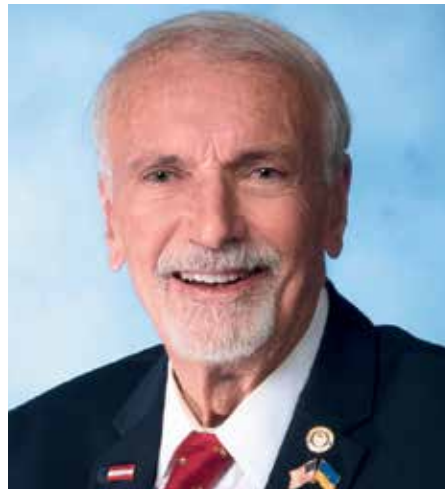
SF: I served 25 years on active duty in the United States Marine Corps, retiring as a Colonel after graduating from the University of Florida. My career included service in the Vietnam and Gulf Wars, stations in Japan, Belgium and many other countries. I have done aviation command and control assignments, NATO staff work, recruiting duty, and command positions including at the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort.

I want young people to understand that today's military offers far more than traditional combat roles. There are opportunities in technology, cybersecurity, aviation, communications, medicine, and countless other fields that provide valuable experience and skills. Military service teaches discipline, teamwork, and leadership while creating opportunities that can last a lifetime.

FC: What would you like people to know about America on its 250th anniversary and what are your hopes for the next 250?

SF: I believe the United States remains the greatest experiment in freedom and democracy the world has ever seen. While we are not perfect and still have work to do, we continue to offer tremendous opportunities to those willing to work hard and contribute. I think it's important to remember how fortunate we are to live in a country where we can freely express our opinions and shape our future.

I hope America continues to lead through freedom, compassion, and opportunity. I want us to remain a nation that helps others, values democratic principles, and serves as an example for the world. Most importantly, I hope future generations continue to respect one another and work together despite their differences.



FC: What message would you like to leave people with on the 250th anniversary?

SF: Life is like a 3-legged stool. The legs being faith, family, and community. If any one of those is neglected, it's difficult to maintain perspective and stay grounded, the stool wobbles and falls. I encourage everyone to stay always engaged in all 3. Let's listen to one another and remember that we all share a responsibility to leave



our communities and our country better than we found them. I hope that when we disagree, we do so agreeably, with mutual respect and civility. Praying for another 250 years of our democracy!

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.

GIVEAWAY TIME!!!

We're giving away \$250 on July 4th to Celebrate America's 250th Birthday!

Stop by 3 Gulls Creamery to register by July 4th at 7:30pm!
Drawing will be at 8pm on July 4th!



★ 1ST PLACE \$250 ★

★ 2ND PLACE \$50 ★

★ 3RD PLACE \$25 ★

RULES

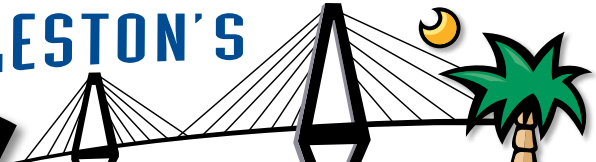
1. *No purchase necessary
2. Only one entry per day, per person
3. *Do not have to be present to win
4. Last time to register is 7:30pm July 4, 2026
5. Drawing will be 8pm
6. First draw will be 3rd place (\$25), 2nd draw for 2nd place (\$50) and 3rd draw for 1st place (\$250)
7. No employee of 3 Gulls can register




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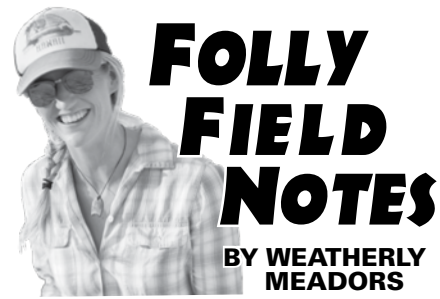
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The Coast Before Us

The barrier islands of today bear little resemblance to the ancient maritime forests that greeted early settlers

We spend a decent amount of time outside, far from the crowds and out of sight of many of the signs of modern life. It's easy to wonder how different the islands looked 250 years ago, or further back to when the first European settlers arrived in Charleston. I like to imagine that the big landmarks—where the barrier islands sat in relation to the harbor—were generally the same, but with a big dose of wild.

If you've ever tried to walk through the marsh, you know it's inhospitable at best. The grass can be sharp, mud sucks at your feet, oysters threaten any exposed skin, and the bugs are relentless. Getting to one of the hammock islands set back in the marsh doesn't make the going any easier. The underbrush is full of vines and prickly vegetation. Our islands are snake-y and spider-y (the 8-legged inhabitants alone are enough to keep me on the water and beach during the warmer months), and the mosquitoes treat bug spray like hot sauce. It wouldn't have been easy going for the early settlers. But how much has the landscape itself changed in the last few hundred years?

Imagine it's 1776: you're stepping off the boat and making your way into an untouched maritime forest. You're surrounded by enormous live oaks creating a cathedral-like canopy that offers protection from storms and blocks nearly all direct sunlight from filtering down. Magnolia trees offer flashes of white flowers. The middle height of the forest offers a surprisingly long view as medium-sized trees don't have enough light to thrive. The understory is filled with shade-loving shrubs like red bay, yaupon holly, and wax myrtle, while saw palmettos dot the forest floor. A thick layer of pine needles and leaves on the ground add to the silence. No boat engines, no lawn mowers, no roads or houses breaking up the land. Only wind, leaves rustling, birds calling, and the inevitable hum of insects.

Late succession maritime forests are hard to come by these days. It is said that the Lowcountry was once filled with oaks as large as the Angel Oak. Many of these enormous trees were cut to build ships (and other framing endeavors), and it takes generations for young oaks to reach that size. The best "nearby" example I can think

of for this today is part of the Turkey Walk Trail on Bulls Island or Hunting Island State Park. As you round a corner, you enter a stretch of forest that feels still, the undergrowth disappears, and everything opens as you walk up and down hills that are ancient sand dunes.

Today, many barrier island maritime forests are dominated by faster-growing pines. The smaller canopies allow more light through and more growth on the forest floor, creating the plant (and animal!) community we have today. The next time you're walking the road to Lighthouse Inlet, look into the forest. Picture towering oaks and more open forest. Our coastline is in a constant state of



change, and imagining the landscape as it came before us helps us appreciate—and protect—what we have today.

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!

The Temp is not the Only Thing Hot in July

This month is fantastic for fishing because abundance of species that are biting



July can be one of the most productive months of the year for fishing. The combination of year-round targets like redfish and trout with summer seasonal species like sharks, ladyfish, and spanish mackerel makes for an incredibly active fishery. Anglers can expect plenty of action across all tides.

Fishing for redfish has been fantastic. While the massive schools have broken up, you can still find pods of 10 to 20 fish patrolling the water. Setting up a scent trail and offering an easy meal is a guaranteed recipe for success. We typically fish cracked blue crab or live mullet on the

bottom, using just enough weight to hold it stationary. Rig these up with 3/0 circle hooks and a heavy leader, and hold on!

As for trout, popping corks paired with live bait are the way to go. Lately, we've been relying on mud minnows, as pesky baitfish will steal live shrimp right off your hook in seconds. Choose a popping cork that is easy to cast and highly visible. Oval corks carry more weight and cast farther, while orange stands out much better than green or yellow when there is a chop on the water. Cast your rig into areas with good current, and you'll be on the trout in no time.

Spanish mackerel are also plentiful right now and are best targeted at first light. If you spot a school busting bait on the surface, toss a reflective casting jig and reel it rapidly through the frenzy. Be sure to maneuver your boat gradually around the perimeter of the school, as motoring directly through them will spook the fish and send them deep. If you know the mackerel are around but aren't showing on top, try trolling Clark Spoons at varying depths and speeds until you find the sweet spot. See you on the water!



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HAPPY SUMMER FROM THE FOLLY ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS!

Summer is officially in full swing on Folly Beach, and with it comes sunshine, visitors, sea turtles, and some of our favorite island traditions. While you're enjoying everything Folly has to offer, please remember that construction projects are still underway throughout the island. For updates, information, or questions regarding construction, please visit CityofFollyBeach.com.



One of the biggest highlights of the season is **Folly Beach's annual Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration**, which this year commemorates America's 250th anniversary! The fireworks will launch from the west side of the island at **9 PM on July 4**. As one of Folly's most beloved traditions, this event depends on community support. Volunteers are needed to assist with setup, fence lines and tents, post-show debris removal, and beach cleanup efforts the following morning. If you'd

like to donate a few hours of your time and help make this community event a success, please email FAB29439@gmail.com for more information.

It's Turtle Nesting Season! Every summer, our shoreline becomes home to nesting sea turtles and, soon, hundreds of hatchlings making their journey to the ocean. We encourage residents and visitors alike to help protect these incredible animals. Please visit visitfolly.com/birding-wildlife.

Thank you for helping keep our beaches safe for nesting sea turtles and their hatchlings, and **special thanks to the incredible volunteers** who tirelessly work each season to monitor and protect Folly's nests.



FOLLY ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS

FOLLY BEACH, SC

FAB is currently enjoying its summer break and will resume regular meetings in September. If you own or operate a Folly Beach business, we invite you to join us on **Thursday, September 10**, at Tides Folly Beach. Networking begins with a social happy hour at Pinky's at 6 PM, followed by the meeting at 6:30 PM.

FOLLY ASSOCIATION of BUSINESS MEMBER DIRECTORY

ACCOMMODATIONS

- Beachside Bed & Breakfast
- Carolina One - Vacation Rentals
- Dunes Properties - Vacation Rentals
- Folly Vacations
- Tides Hotel
- Water's Edge Inn

FOOD & BEVERAGE

- Chico Feo
- Drop In Bar & Deli
- Loggerhead's Beach Grill
- Planet Follywood
- Revelry Brewing
- Rita's Seaside Grille
- Taco Boy
- The Washout
- Woody's Pizza

NON-PROFIT

- Coastal Family Foundation
- Pet Helpers

SHOP & PLAY

- Blue Ridge Woodcrafters
- Head Homey Vibes
- iSMASH
- The Raine & Grace Co.
- Shop the Lowcountry.com

MEDIA/ MARKETING

- Folly Current
- Little Dog Agency

REAL ESTATE/ INSURANCE/ ACCOUNTING/ LAW

- Carolina One – Alex Hunter
- Dunes Properties
- Elton Culpepper Realtor
- Insurance Solutions
- Law Office of Nick Thomas
- Pat Hibban Real Estate

SERVICES

- 3 Mouse Pals
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- Access Temporary Fence
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- Elko Coastal Consulting
- Events on the Edge
- Faloha
- Folly Beach Dentistry
- Folly Bus
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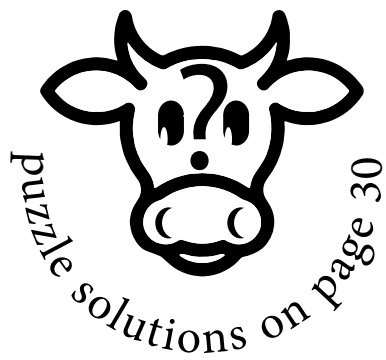
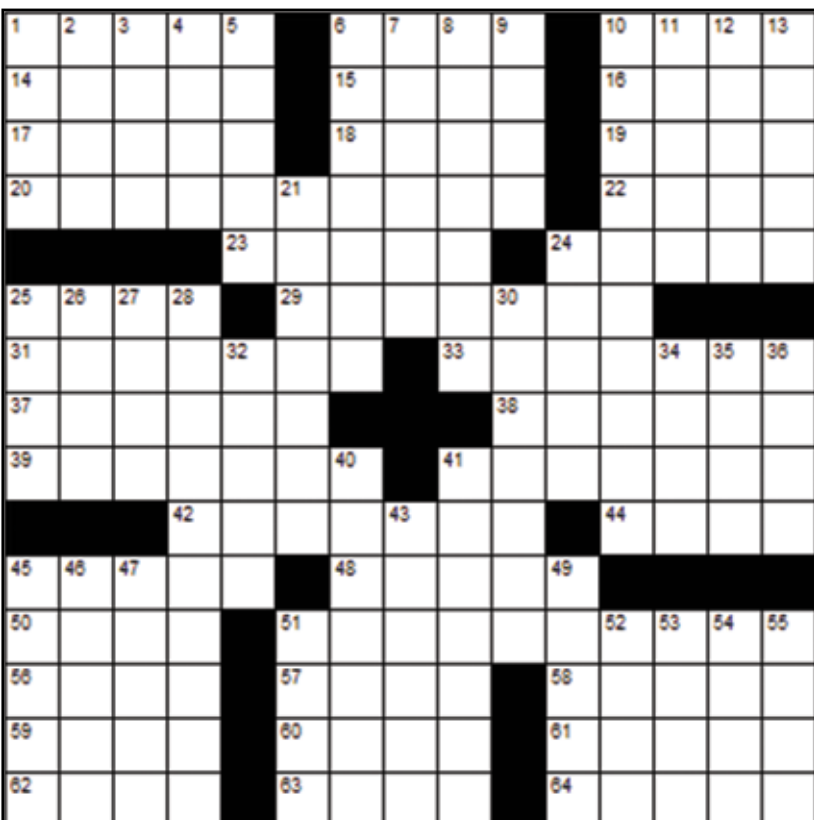
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TRIVIA

1. BROADWAY

Which show won for best new musical at last month's Tony Awards?

2. SPORTS

The 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup is underway, with 104 matches being played over five and a half weeks in stadiums across the United States, Canada and Mexico. Where will the final be played on July 19?

3. SPACE TRAVEL

The new crews selected for NASA's Artemis missions will be wearing body-suits designed by which company?

4. MEDIA

What respected newsman was fired from his longtime 60 Minutes gig last month after openly criticizing his new bosses?

5. CANDY

After recently getting rid of Brown M&Ms, what other color is now being discontinued following government pressure over concerns about the health risks from the dyes used?

6. ANIMALS

What kind of animal was Gracie, who escaped a West Texas Ranch last month and was on the loose for 2 weeks before she was discovered about four miles from her home?

7. TELEVISION

What's the name of the new HBO seven-episode history series created by and starring Larry David?

8. LITERATURE

An avid reader and literacy advocate, what famous pop star is opening The Manifesto Library, dedicated to Banned and Censored Books, inside Portugal's famed bookstore Livraria Lello?

ACROSS

- 1. Courtroom event
- 6. Footwear
- 10. Steals
- 14. Door pivot
- 15. Luau souvenirs
- 16. Way out
- 17. Group of eight
- 18. L L L L
- 19. What a grape grows on
- 20. Regroup (Br. sp.)
- 22. Border
- 23. Empower
- 24. Variety (plant or animal)
- 25. Ballet attire
- 29. Unbeatable foe
- 31. In pieces
- 33. Not analog
- 37. Automatic response
- 38. Moving
- 39. Lands and wealth
- 41. Foolish
- 42. Physical checkup
- 44. Greek god of love
- 45. Major organ
- 48. Sofa
- 50. Any minute
- 51. Charitableness
- 56. Enticement
- 57. Cain's brother
- 58. Leg bone
- 59. One single time
- 60. Renown
- 61. Short light metallic sound
- 62. Marsh plant
- 63. Social group
- 64. Guest inviters
- 25. Empty weight
- 26. Applications
- 27. Clump of hair
- 28. Not grieved for
- 30. Alike
- 32. Discourage
- 34. Stratum
- 35. As well as
- 36. Not more
- 40. Auxiliary news story
- 41. Ripple
- 43. Hollywood industry
- 45. Work hard
- 46. Fatuous
- 47. Express
- 49. Nick
- 51. Handled hook
- 52. Storage site
- 53. Nile bird
- 54. Hue
- 55. Long-haired wild oxen
- 1. Norse god
- 2. Oriental grain
- 3. Put ____ words
- 4. Food thickener
- 5. Shelf
- 6. Thin
- 7. Lighter than air gas
- 8. Oil-rich seed
- 9. Being
- 10. Two-sided
- 11. Any compound of oxygen
- 12. Pig out
- 13. Horse
- 21. Took over
- 24. Racist



For more information, visit www.follybeachexchangeclub.com
The Hut, 206 W. Indian Ave.

Folly Association of Business (FAB)
FAB meetings are on a break for the summer. Enjoy the 4th of July Fireworks Show at 9pm and celebrate America's 250th year!

Home & Garden Club
4th Wednesday of each month (September–May), noon.
Folly Beach Community Center, 55 Center St.

The club is currently accepting jewelry donations for fundraising efforts that support community gardens and beautification projects.

Mahjong at the Library
Fridays, 10 a.m.–Noon. Open play for all skill levels.
Folly Beach Library, 55 Center St., (843) 588-2001

Planning Commission
1st Monday of each month, 7 p.m.
City Hall, 97 Center St. Visit www.cityoffollybeach.com for more information.

Senior Citizens Club
For adults 55 and older.
1st Thursday of each month, 11 a.m.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Big Bang Boom with Chuck Folds
July 7, 3-4 p.m., ages 3-11, Folly Beach Library, 55 Center St. (843) 588-2001

Family Movie Night
4th Sunday of each month, 5 p.m.
Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Folly Art Village
Wednesdays, 5–9 p.m.
The Washout, 41 Center St.

Folly Family Fun Concert
July 2, 6-8pm

- feat. The Donuts Band (& ice cream)
- Folly River Park
- Folly Family Fun Movie Night**
July 16, 6-8pm
- feat Wizard of Oz (& popcorn & snacks)
- Folly River Park

Folly Family Storytime
Mondays, 10:30–11 a.m., ages 0–5.
Folly Beach Library, 55 Center St., (843) 588-2001

What's Under Your Feet
July 28, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Folly Beach Library, 55 Center St., (843) 588-2001

HEALTH & WELLNESS

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

Folly Beach Recreation Pickleball
• Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday: 8–10 a.m.
• Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 2–4 p.m.
• Pirates Cove, 510 E. Erie Ave.

Tennis
• Tuesday & Thursday: 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
• Wednesday & Friday: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
• Registration required.

Soccer
• Saturdays, 9 a.m.–Noon.
• Registration required.
• Folly River Park.

Folly Beach Community Yoga
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10–11 a.m., donation-based class. Bring your own mat.
Folly River Park, 83 Center St.

Starlight Yoga
Thursday, July 9, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Fee: \$12 (\$14 day of), ages 10 & up

Open Water Swimming Meet-Up
Sundays, 9 a.m.
Meet at the Folly Beach Pier.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Folly Beach Fireworks
July 4, 9pm. Shot from 3rd block West.

Folly Beach Run Club
Saturdays, 10 a.m. Meet at 2nd East Beach Access. All runners and dogs welcome.

Folly Beach Community Garden
Garden plots available for residents, businesses, and restaurants.
24 Michigan Ave.

Lighthouse Inlet Bird Walk
July 10, 7:30-9:30 a.m. \$12, ages 12+
Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve.
For more information, visit www.ccprc.com

Lowcountry Street Grocery –Nell Bus
Tuesdays, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
Folly Beach Baptist Church, 77 Center St.

Music on the Pier – Moonlight Mixers
Music begins at 7 p.m.
• July 31 – DJ Bill Shelton
• August 21 – Calhoun's Calling
• September 18 – DJ Bill Shelton
For more information, visit www.ccprc.com.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES & STUDY GROUPS

Christian Meditation Group
Mondays, 8:30 a.m.
Father Kelly Hall.

Faith Formation
Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Folly Beach Methodist Church
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Worship Service: 10 a.m.

Girlfriends Bible Study
Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Mary's Rosary Guild
1st and 3rd Fridays, 10 a.m.
Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Men's Bible Study
Mondays, 7 p.m.
Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Pray at the Pier
2nd Thursday of each month, 6 p.m.
Presented by Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Recovery in Christ
Thursdays, 6 p.m.
Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Revelation Bible Study
Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
Folly Beach Methodist Church.

Soup Ministry
Mondays, Noon.
Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Women's Bible Study
Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Folly Beach Baptist Church.

Women's Guild
1st Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m.
Our Lady of Good Counsel.

** 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.*

CLUBS, CLASSES, SUPPORT GROUPS, & WORKSHOPS

City of Folly Beach Programs: Free Exercise Classes at the Community Center
• Wednesdays: **Move to Thrive** (9-9:45 a.m.) Cardio Circuit (10–11 a.m.)
• Select Wednesdays, July 1, 15, 29, Aug. 5, 12: **Restorative Yoga** (1:30–2:30 p.m.)
• Thursdays: **Sip & Soles Walking Group** (8:30–9:45 a.m.), Seated Yoga (12:30-1:30 p.m.)

Intergenerational Swing Dance Lessons & Social – July 2, 4-5pm
• at the Folly Beach Community Center

Nature Themed Collaged Box Workshop – July 23, 6-7:30pm
• taught by Samantha at the Folly Beach Community Center
• RSVP required: hodonnell@follybeach.gov by July 17)

Concert in the Park: Pop Rock Cult – July 30, 6-8pm
• Folly River Park

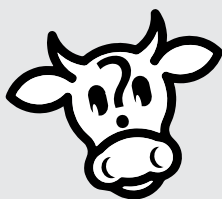
Civic Club
3rd Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m.
Folly Beach Community Center, 55 Center St.

Design Review Board
3rd Monday of each month, 6 p.m.
City Hall, 21 Center St.

Exchange Club
3rd Thursday of each month, 7pm.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Schmigadoon!
2. New Jersey
3. Prada
4. Scott Pelley
5. BLUE
6. Giraffe
7. Life, Larry and the Pursuit of Unhappiness
8. Dua Lipa

Folly Association of Business's Litter Buster of the Month

Located in the adorable vintage trailer on Center Street, Surfer Betty Surf Shack has built its brand around sustainability. The charming shop is home to a curated collection of artisan-made gifts and wares, including Surfer Betty's own line of reef-safe hair and body products. The shop also recently introduced refillable packaging as another step toward reducing waste and keeping plastics out of the ocean.



"We believe that it is our duty to protect the ocean by leaving no trace and by making sure we are using and creating products that are reef-safe, including hair, body and sunscreen," said the Betties. Their hair care line—created by a cosmetologist and a chemist—is specifically crafted for people who love the ocean and outdoor adventures, combining clean beauty with eco-conscious formulas that help protect the places they cherish.

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.

Surfer Betty Surf Shack | 27 Center St.



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