



Town of Hilton Head Island **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

An Update from Deputy Town Manager Josh Gruber 9/18/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Here's an update on what's happening around Town:

Town Lawsuit Against Beaufort County Filed

The Town of Hilton Head Island filed a lawsuit against Beaufort County in the Beaufort County Court of Common Pleas on Thursday. As we stated previously, we are seeking an injunction to stop Beaufort County from adding a law enforcement service charge and uniform user fee to the tax bill of Hilton Head Island property owners. You can visit our website at wealreadypay.org to learn more about this matter and how you can take action to oppose this fee.

Mitchelville Preservation Project Planning Full Archeological Survey this Year

The Mitchelville Preservation Project plans to conduct a full archeological survey of its entire property tentatively starting in November of this year, thanks to a \$50,000 matching grant the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund recently awarded to Mitchelville. Mitchelville was one of 27 sites and organizations across the country and the only one in South Carolina to receive a grant from this fund, which is part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This exciting for both Mitchelville and the Town of Hilton Head Island. Visit exploremitchelville.org for more information about the grant, Mitchelville's Master Plan and its programming. Executive Director Ahmad Ward gave an update on the project on a weekly Chamber of Commerce call. [Click here](#) to hear his update.

Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue Plans Scavenger Hunt for Fire Prevention Week. Save the Date!

As with many events this year, Fire Prevention Week (October 4-10) will look different. In the past, Fire Rescue staff served pancakes at our Fire Prevention Pancake Breakfast, and visited schools and other facilities to spread the message. This year, in an effort to keep residents distanced and safe, Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue is inviting everyone to participate in the live scavenger hunt beginning October 10th, 2020.

Here's what you will need to do to participate:

- Go to your phone's app store and load the GooseChase app on your smartphone or other mobile device (it's free).
- Choose the Fire Rescue Island Safety Quest.



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We have assembled 30 missions (fire safety, life safety and just for fun) that can be done in your home, your neighborhood, or out in the Hilton Head Island community. The hunt will run from October 10th to October 30th. Each mission is assigned points based on the level of difficulty and you can check your status on the leaderboard at any time. Top winners will win a prize. So load the app on your phone now. At 8 a.m. on October 10th, you will receive a notification to begin.

If you have questions, please contact cindas@hiltonheadislandsc.gov. Happy hunting!

Tax Tips and Reminders for Extension Filers: Returns Due October 15

The South Carolina Department of Revenue (SCDOR) reminds taxpayers who filed for an extension that their Individual Income Tax returns are due October 15. Here are some tips and reminders for those who requested a filing extension.

Tips for extension filers:

- The extension is for filing your return, not for payment. If you have not yet made a payment, you may owe additional interest/penalties.
- File electronically. It's faster, more secure, and more accurate.
- Review available **tax credits** that may apply to you.
- File on time. You may face a penalty if you file after October 15.
- Keep a copy of your tax return for your records.

Community Recognitions

As our local Jewish community prepares to observe the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah, which begins this evening, and Yom Kippur, we offer our warmest wishes for a peaceful new year filled with good health and happiness.

Free COVID-19 Tests in our Community

Hilton Head Hospital and its sister facility, Coastal Carolina Hospital in Hardeeville, offers free COVID-19 drive-thru testing is available from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday thru Friday, at its campus. You do not need an appointment or a physician's order. Your test results typically will be e-mailed within 72 hours to the valid e-mail address you are asked to provide. You can also visit scdhec.gov/covid19testing to find other testing clinics or events near you and what the requirements are for testing at those locations.

COVID-19 Cases in Our Community

For the latest figures on the number of cases of COVID-19 on Hilton Head Island, please visit www.scdhec.gov or the Town's COVID-19 hub page at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19. DHEC maintains the latest data on COVID-19 cases across the state and in our community, and we integrate some of that data on our website. Please be mindful of the following safety measures to protect yourself and others from getting or spreading COVID-19:



Town of Hilton Head Island **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

- Wear a mask in public.
- Distance yourself physically by six feet.
- Avoid group gatherings.
- Wash your hands often.
- Get tested.
- Stay home if you are sick.

That's all for this update. Stay healthy and safe, and enjoy the weekend!