



# WADMALAW

Newsletter - Issue 16

Keep Wadmalaw Beautiful

February 2020

## WADMALAW ISLAND LAND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### Greg Cushing

Environment/Public Works

### Tomas Hainich

### Burrow Hill

Vice Chair

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Rockville Liaison

### Chris Johnson

### Grace Johnson

Secretary

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### Melinda L. Kelly

Zoning/Subdivision

### Leroy Linen

### Bertha Middleton

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Environment/Public Works

### Arthur Rivers

### Jennie Rivers

### Christopher Sosnowski

Communications

### Robert Siedell

Communications

### John Taylor, Jr.

Chair

### Aaron White

Education

## WADMALAW ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

**Bertha Smalls-Middleton**  
Director

## WILPC ELECTS NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

At the December, 2019 meeting of the Wadmalaw Island Planning Committee (WILPC), nine Wadmalaw residents/property owners were elected to three-year terms to fill vacancies created by member term expirations.

They are: Greg Cushing, Tomas Hainich, Burrow Hill, Grace Johnson, Kathie S. Jordan, Leroy Linen, Melinda L. Kelly, Sheila Middleton, and Jennie Rivers. The Committee then elected the following officers for 2020: John Taylor, Jr as Chair, Burrow Hill as Vice Chair and Grace Johnson as Secretary.

The WILPC would like to thank retiring members Bob Cox, Madge Hallett, Michael Johnson, April Long, Kevin Richbourg, Leroy Robinson, and Pam Skinner for their service to WILPC over the past three years.

## “RAISE THE ROOF” AT WICC A BIG SUCCESS



*Dorothy Welch, winner of the “Chili Cook Off” with Gregory Cushing, lead organizer for the successful fundraising event.*

Thanks to everyone who came out and supported the Wadmalaw Island Community Cookout and Chili Cook Off on Saturday, January 18. There was a great turnout and the effort raised over \$3,500 for roof repairs at the Community Center (WICC). Guests also helped our community during the event: 23 people donated blood and numerous donations were received for the Blessing Box located at the WICC. Special thanks to everyone who donated items, cooked food, or gave their time to make this event a huge success!



### WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR ISLAND SIGN?

In late December, the Wadmalaw Island road sign just across Esau Jenkins Bridge disappeared.

Was it stolen, hit by a vehicle and removed? Efforts are already underway way to have SCDOT replace it.

## REGISTRATION IN PROGRESS AT FRIERSON

Registration for the 2020-2021 Montessori program began on January 28 and will continue through February 28, 2020. Wadmalaw residents have first priority. Registration is ONLINE ONLY, but parents may come to Frierson at 6133 Maybank Highway and use the computers there. Contact Eulonda Mitchell McCanick at (843) 559-1182 if you have any questions or need assistance. To register a student in traditional classes, stop by and pick up a registration packet from Mrs. McCanick.

## WADMALAW ISLAND CHURCHES

### Grace Chapel

Chapel of Ease of  
St. John's Church  
Rockville Township  
Services in June, July and  
August at 9:00 AM

### Little Rock Baptist Church

6522 Maybank Highway  
Rev. James Peterson, Pastor  
Services at 11:30 AM  
Bible study and prayer on  
Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

### New Bethlehem Baptist Church

1945 Liberia Road  
Rev. Zachary Williams  
Services at 11:00 AM

### New Jerusalem AME Church

6179 Bears Bluff Road  
Rev. Tony J. Slater, Jr., Pastor  
Services at 10:00 AM

### New St. James Bethel AME Church

5305 Maybank Highway  
Rev. William R. Jones, Pastor  
Services at 10:00 AM

### New Webster United Methodist Church

4755 Bears Bluff Road  
Rev. Pattie E. Gordon, Pastor  
Rev. Tony Richardson, Sr.,  
Associate Pastor  
Services at 10:15 AM

### Rockville Presbyterian Church

2479 Sea Island Yacht Club Road  
Rev. Don Hardman, Pastor  
Services at 10:00 AM

### Salem Baptist Church

5768 Bears Bluff Road  
Rev. Martha Florence Brown,  
Pastor  
Services at 11:00 AM

### Salem Presbyterian Church

5591 Maybank Highway  
Rev. Robert L. Capers, Pastor  
Services at 11:00 AM on 2nd  
and 4th Sundays, 9:30 AM on  
1st and 3rd.

## FISHERS OF MEN



Members of Fishers of Men at a recent meeting.

For over 14 years, a group of Christian men from churches on Wadmalaw and Johns Island have been gathering on the second Monday of every month for a meal and fellowship. The ecumenical Lowcountry Fishers of Men started in 2006, when pastors of Wadmalaw's New Jerusalem AME Church and St. John's Parish brought men from their congregations together for their first meeting. Their purpose was to promote unity and cooperation among the various denominations, races and socio-economic groups in our area. In addition, Fishers of Men calls upon its members to witness to the power of Jesus Christ in their own lives by helping others.

Two prominent members of Fishers of Men, Drs. Arthur Booth and Charlie Davis, opened the Barrier Island Free Medical Clinic in the spring of 2008 on Johns Island. It provides free health care for low income, uninsured adults who live or work on the barrier islands or serve in Charleston's downtown hospitality industry. The group's President, Judge Leroy Linen, is a founding and current board member of the BIFMC. Fishers assists the clinic in two ways: seeking out people who qualify for free medical care on the islands; and helping with fundraisers for the clinic on Kiawah Island.

Fishers of Men are passionate about service to others through their outreach programs: Haut Gap Middle School mentoring, and sponsoring their

athletic and academic banquets at St. John's Parish; Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) disaster relief training; Kairos Prison Ministry; Blessing Basket food deliveries; Wellness Patrol -- helping the homeless in downtown Charleston; free firewood deliveries; repairing mission housing and homes on Johns and Wadmalaw Island; and providing financial assistance to many other projects.

Currently, eight churches participate in the monthly rotation of meeting venues. Those from Wadmalaw are: New Jerusalem AME on Bears Bluff Road; Rockville Presbyterian on Sea Island Yacht Club Road; and New St. James Bethel AME on Maybank Highway. Other churches are on Johns Island.

Monthly meetings include a scripture reading with commentary by the host church, an evening meal, and a business session that discusses needs and outreach opportunities. Men 18 and older who are believers in Jesus Christ are eligible for membership without regard to denomination, race, education, profession, occupation, or income.

Their next meeting will be hosted by Holy Spirit Catholic Church and held at St. John's Parish in Walton Hall, 3673 Maybank Highway, Johns Island. It begins at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 10, 2020.

**Wadmalaw** is a non-profit publication distributed to all Wadmalaw postal addresses quarterly (February, May, August and November) supporting **Keep Wadmalaw Beautiful (KWB)**, the **Wadmalaw Island Land Planning Committee (WILPC)**, and the **Wadmalaw Community Center (WICC)**.

For advertising or editorial contributions/suggestions, contact us at:  
P.O. Box 3, Wadmalaw Island, SC 29487 or online at: [wadmalawnews@gmail.com](mailto:wadmalawnews@gmail.com)

## RESIDENT PROFILE: CLAUDIA BOYCE

What an impact Claudia Boyce has had on our Lowcountry! Retiring after 27 years in the medical and pharmaceutical world, Claudia and Ron, her husband of 52 years, moved to Wadmalaw.

Claudia then made a list of 37 things she wanted to do, like piano lessons, book club, bridge club, tutoring, learning to paint, and 33 other interests.

She became a reading partner at Edith Frierson Elementary School. Patricia Miller, a fellow reading partner, learned that Claudia was an artist, and told her that Edith Frierson's principal, Dr. Deborah Cummings, wanted to have a mural painted on the wall of the renovated library. Claudia had never done a mural before. She and Dr. Cummings got together, discussed various ideas, and made sketches. After 380 hours, 50 days and a broken leg, Claudia completed an incredibly beautiful mural depicting scenes from Wadmalaw. Starting at the Essau Jenkins bridge and ending at the shrimp docks, the mural includes the winery, fish hatchery, tea farm, churches, marshes, and creeks. In the middle

of the scene, a lovely portrait of the gentle but committed Edith Frierson is seen sitting in a chair under a live oak, reading to children.

Twelve years ago, on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, the first "Feeding of the Multitude" took place. The Braintrust of this most ambitious event was Claudia, along with Rectors and parishioners from 28 churches on Johns Island and Wadmalaw. Starting out as a grand meal and fellowship, over the years this event added music, a clothes closet, a health clinic, home improvement advice, help for residents with smoke detectors and car seats from the fire department, advice from Pet Helpers on food and neutering pets, and Prayer Teams for anyone in need of a spiritual boost. Pastor Martha Brown of Salem Baptist Church stated what a blessing it is for our community to gather in the spirit of sharing, thanksgiving and love rather than only in the wake of tragedy or sadness.

Our thanks to Claudia and all of the other people like her who make this little piece of paradise such a wonderful and caring community.



Latarsha Nesbitt,  
Pastor Mary  
Stoney, and  
Claudia Boyce at  
"Feeding of the  
Multitude."



Mural of Edith  
Frierson in the  
new library at our  
island elementary  
school.



Feeding the Multitude dinner at  
St. Johns Parish Church

Jason Yandle Photography

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## UPDATE ON WILPC ISSUES

### Bears Bluff Proposed Mine Operating Permit Application I-002231

Applicant - Perfect Island LLC

TMS# 197000094

Permit Application I-002231 DHEC Public Comment has been extended to **February 28, 2020**. Comments should be based on concerns residents expressed at the DHEC public comment meeting at the Wadmalaw Island Community Center May 14, 2019.

Send comments and letters to the DHEC Section Manager:  
Joe Koon - DHEC-BLWM, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201  
or email Joe at koonjm@dhec.sc.gov

### Bolt Treehouse Update

**ZREZ-07-19-00103: Request to rezone TMS 151-00-00-095 from Agricultural Preservation (AG-15) to Planned Development, PD-171, Bolt PD, for Short-Term Rentals and Special Events (34.70 acres at 6539, 6543, 6555 and 6569 Maybank Highway)**

This request for Planned Development has been withdrawn.

The county, revoked their STR permits, on 11/13/19

Bolt Tree Farm, LLC have filed an administrative appeal requesting the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) to reverse the decision made by the county, revoking their STR permits

The Court heard the Bolt's motion for an injunction regarding the revocation of their STR permits.

The ruling of the Court, which is a preliminary decision while the case is pending, is that the revocation is 'stayed' until the Charleston County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) rules on the appeal of the revocation.

The BZA meeting will be held February 24th, at 4pm in county council chambers. It will be open to the public. If you write a letter and are in support of the revocation, specifically state you "support county's administrative decision to revoke the Bolt Tree Farm, LLC STR Permits". The Zoning and Planning Department will accept comments to be included in the BZA packet until noon January 28, 2020.

Email comments should be sent to Jenny Werking at JWerking@charlestoncounty.org.

Address letters as "Dear Members of the Board of Zoning Appeals". Reference BZA-12-19-00369 Bolt Tree Farm, LLC.

Written correspondence should be mailed to: Ms. Jenny Werking  
Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building, 4045 Bridge View Drive,  
Suite A103, North Charleston, SC 29405-7464



## REAL ESTATE SALES (NOV. 1, 2019 - DEC. 31, 2019)

Vacant Land	Acres	Date Sold	Price
0 Slim Road	5.27	1/08/2019	\$ 70,000
6038 Admiral Blake Lane	3.67	11/15/2019	\$150,000
0 Samuel Gibbs Road	4.51	11/22/2019	\$130,000
0 Maybank Highway	5.0	11/27/2019	\$ 65,000
Residences	Acres	Date Sold	Price
14680 Bears Bluff Road	0.92	2/20/2019	\$385,000
2780 Anchor Watch Drive	3.03	12/30/2019	\$739,000

## WRITERS WANTED

Would you like to write for *Wadmalaw*? Do you have a topic you would like to see in a future issue? If so, please contact us at wadmalawnews@gmail.com or write to us at *Wadmalaw*, Box 3, Wadmalaw Island, SC 29487

**EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE OF WADMALAW ARE:**

Stuart McDaniel	April Long	Robert Siedell	John Shannon
Barbara Dotterer	Sarah McDaniel	Kevin Richbourg	
Gregory Cushing	Huger Sinkler	Sister Rutledge	



Residents join performers in learning a dance at the successful annual WICC Fall Festival

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## THE LAST REMAINING TOMATO FARM

Racket Hall is the last remaining commercial tomato farm on Wadmalaw Island.

The Schaffer family, who have farmed tomatoes on our sea islands for three generations, currently plant 150 acres of their 450-acre property on Racket Hall. The planting begins in March and April, and the harvest season spans the month of June and on into July.

Once these round, slicing, grape and cherry tomatoes are ready to pick, they are washed, packed and trucked off the island. Distribution ranges throughout the Eastern United States.

Many local restaurants and farmers markets also enjoy the Racket Hall home-grown crops.



Frederick's daughter, Grace (age 10), helps her dad in the field and has her own booth selling Racket Hall seasonal vegetables at the Sea Island Farmers Market!



Frederick Schaffer along with his father Jimmy (not pictured) are currently preparing the ground before planting.

## TREE PLANTING WORKSHOP TO BE HELD SATURDAY MARCH 7TH



A workshop for Wadmalaw residents who are interested in learning how best to plant trees will be held on Saturday, March 7th at the Wadmalaw Island Community Center (WICC), 5605 Katy Hill Road, from 10:30 in the morning until 12 noon. The event is sponsored by Keep Wadmalaw Beautiful (KWB), an official affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, and is one of many similar events being held across South Carolina during the month of March.

The workshop will be led by Ms. Kelly Megeath, owner and operator of Garden Elegance, a local Charleston County landscape, garden design and maintenance company. Ms Megeath, is a Wadmalaw resident and her work has been featured in **Southern Living Magazine**. She will address the fundamentals of choosing the appropriate tree species, proper planting and how to successfully nurture trees on Wadmalaw. The seminar will be followed by a demonstration tree planting on the WICC grounds. Everyone is invited and there is no admission fee.

The workshop will be led by Ms. Kelly Megeath, owner and operator of Garden Elegance, a local Charleston County landscape, garden design and maintenance company. Ms Megeath, is a Wadmalaw resident and her work has been featured in **Southern Living Magazine**. She will address the fundamentals of choosing the appropriate tree species, proper planting and how to successfully nurture trees on Wadmalaw. The seminar will be followed by a demonstration tree planting on the WICC grounds. Everyone is invited and there is no admission fee.

### Support our WADMALAW newsletter

If you would like to see the continued publishing of this newsletter, please make a contribution by sending a check to **Wadmalaw News**, P.O. Box 3, Wadmalaw Island, SC 29487

### ADVERTISING IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Advertise Your Business in **Wadmalaw** and support our island newsletter. Business Rates \$25/issue or \$80 for 4 issues. Personal Classified ads are also available. Rates are \$10 for up to 25 words. Contact our advertising coordinator at 314-703-2053

## A HEALTHY WADMALAW PROPERTY MARKET



Huger Sinkler II

In a recent interview, local realtor Huger Sinkler II, of Holcombe Fair & Lane, noted that the last five years have seen a sustained recuperation from the depths of the 2008 recession. Between 2015 and 2019, the average number of residential properties sold was 25, while the average number of vacant land sales was 30. This compares with an average of 12 and 8 in the post-recession years (2008-2013). Sinkler added that,

between 2015 and 2019, the average number of days on the market for Wadmalaw residential properties was 118; and for vacant land, 280 days. In terms of total value, the volume of sales for residential properties on Wadmalaw for the last five years was \$73,984,527 and \$48,281,816 for vacant land

In Sinkler's opinion, Wadmalaw appeals to a diversity of buyers. Whether relocating to the area for the first time, or a resident seeking to escape suburbia, Wadmalaw offers people an authentic Lowcountry lifestyle that is not far from downtown. Locals are choosing Wadmalaw both for recreational and permanent residences.

A native Charlestonian, Sinkler began his career in real estate in 1996, the same year he graduated from the College of Charleston. Over the past 24 years, he has developed a broad base of knowledge and experience in both residential and undeveloped land sales.

Sinkler's connection to Wadmalaw goes back to 1950, when his grandparents bought a farm there. He spent a lot of time on the island as a child, and still does today. Having grown up in the Island's woods and waterways, he has a deep connection to the rural landscape of the Lowcountry. As a realtor, he specializes in helping clients buy or sell special properties, including horse farms, waterfront tracts, conservation property, and hunting and recreational land. He has consistently been the leader in land sales on the Sea Islands of Johns and Wadmalaw for the last 15 years.

Wadmalaw is admired for its beauty and tranquility. This is a result of the land use and zoning plan formulated in 1987, and the permanent protection by conservation easements on over 30 percent of the island. The land use ordinance was produced in part by the Wadmalaw Island Land Planning Committee, of which Huger was a member for 12 years. Sinkler believes that due to the conservation ethic on Wadmalaw, the island will retain its rural, protected, and peaceful character.

### NEW & RENOVATION CONSTRUCTION - Commercial and Residential



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# WILPC MINUTES SUMMARY - 4th Quarter 2019

## OCTOBER

### Zoning:

Pam Skinner gave a powerpoint overview of how the WILPC works with Charleston County Zoning, the Planning Commission, County Council and ZLDR. (See wilpc.org for the power point) The hot issues on Wadmalaw at the moment are the Bolt Planned Development and the proposed Mining operation. Also in the background is the American Timberlands property, but there hasn't been any news about the American Timberlands mitigation bank. Important dates for upcoming meetings regarding the Bolt PD are the County Council Meetings on October 8 at 6:00 p.m., October 17 and October 22. She gave a brief history of the Wadmalaw Plan which was made a binding plan in 1990.

Mike Regan summed up the history of the Bolt PD. There were multiple times that the Bolt Tree Houses could have been stopped but the different departments of the County didn't stop it because they were told that it was not for commercial purposes, only for friends and family. He gave the time line of events that have led us to today.

### Guest Speaker – Betsy LaForce, Coastal Conservation League:

Betsy gave the reasons why CCL is against the Bolt PD. The CCL is concerned about unintended consequences of the PD. The PD runs with the land and could change years down the road. Wadmalaw is the least appropriate place for a PD. She reiterated that it is important for everyone to come to the Charleston County Council public hearing on October 8 at 6:00 p.m. They want to hear from Wadmalaw citizens. She said that we should get organized and figure out who is going to speak, don't repeat the same thing, only speak about the issue at hand – the re-zoning. Be there to stand up when council asks who is there to oppose. She had a packet of information that would also be on the website. She said the CCL is there to help with advocacy efforts.

## NOVEMBER:

### Zoning:

Pam Skinner gave an update on the Bolt PD and reported that Chairman Summey sent a letter to the Conservation Bank about preserving Wadmalaw in perpetuity after the County Council meeting.

Pam attended a meeting of the newly formed Sea Island Conservation Initiative. Several conservation groups and the Center for Heirs Property for John's Island and Wadmalaw attended. Bruce Binney from the Lowcountry Land Trust said that the group is in the beginning stages and will strategize about how to enhance protections for the islands. This will be pro-active instead of re-active. Pam said that 38% of Wadmalaw Island is under conservation easement. There were supportive comments from the audience.

### Education:

Aaron White reported that the Charleston County School Board has proposed to eliminate the partial magnet program for 5th grade at Haut Gap. Community involvement is needed. There is a John's Island proposal for a new elementary school as well. Aaron encouraged the community to attend the School Board meeting on November 18 or contact your representative.

## DECEMBER:

### Zoning:

Pam Skinner reported the Bolt Farm short term rental permit has been revoked. They have until February 13, 2020 to file an appeal.

County staff is very open to changing the Ag-15 public notice policy so that WILPC would be notified for things that could get administratively approved.

There is a new code enforcement officer for the short term rentals.

There is no update on the mining operation. January 15 is the deadline to comment. It hasn't cleared the Water Bureau yet. Please continue to write and include Margie Bright Matthews and Robert Brown. The mining act hasn't been updated since about 1999.

### Guest Speaker –

#### Mike McShain, SC Conservation Bank Chairman:

A new initiative is being planned to preserve the Sea Islands. Charleston County Chairman Summey has asked Mr. McShain to review how the County Greenbelt Program and the SC Conservation Bank and other conservation groups can work together to preserve the sea islands. This initiative would enhance the Wadmalaw Plan and hopefully replicate the Wadmalaw Plan in other parts of the state. It is in the initial phase and Anna Johnson, our representative, has been involved as well. County Council has some champions on the council now who are committed to help (a direct result of the citizens of Wadmalaw showing up for the Bolt Farm PD council meeting). Mr. McShain will be updating as the group gets up and going. The SC Conservation Bank is now a permanent state agency that will be on an annual appropriations funding schedule. Gov. McMaster is a conservationist. They will be taking actions about developmental pressures on the sea islands.

## Wadmalaw ONLINE

Wadmalaw Isl. Land Planning Committee website:

[www.wilpc.org](http://www.wilpc.org)

Community Center Facebook:

Wadmalaw Island Community Center

WILPC Email address: [comments@wilpc.org](mailto:comments@wilpc.org)

Wadmalaw News: [wadmalawnews@gmail.com](mailto:wadmalawnews@gmail.com)



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## JOHN'S ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY'S FREE PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES!

FEBRUARY 2020

**Baby Garten** (ages 0-24 months, with Adult)  
Mondays, February 3, 10, and 24 at 10:30 a.m.

**Family Storytime** (all ages, with Adult)  
Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 at 10:30 a.m.

**Book-a-Librarian** (Adults) Throughout February  
Have a technology question? Want to be able to download the library's media on your devices? Call (843) 559-1945 to make an appointment for a 30-minute one-on-one session.

**African American History StoryWalk** Throughout February  
Celebrate African American History Month by completing the StoryWalk book trail in the library's portico.

**American Dreamers Assistance** Throughout February  
Want to practice speaking English or learn about the free databases to improve your English Language skills? Book a library staff member to spend an hour helping you. Call (843) 559-1945 and ask for the Reference Desk to book a time.

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Quiere practicar su ingles? Desea obtener más información sobre como ~ Desea preparar para su GED? ¿Quieres trabajar en las preguntas para la Prueba de Ciudadanía? Reserva un miembro del personal de la biblioteca para pasar una hora ayudándote. Llama a (843) 559-1945 y reserve un miembro de la biblioteca.

**AARP Free Income Tax Prep** - Saturdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Receive free income tax preparation and electronic filing assistance from AARP volunteers. Must bring current picture ID and SS card, and SS cards of any dependents. First come, first served, with the last person called at 1:00 p.m. Assistance in Spanish available.

**Knit and Purl: A Casual Knitting Group** (Adults) Saturday, February 1 and 15 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Bring your own materials. All skill levels welcome.

**Ancestry Programs by the International African American Museum**  
Saturday, February 1 from 3:00-6:00 p.m.

The IAAM Center for Family History will present 2 seminars:

- 1) Finding your ancestors in Freedmen's Bureau Records
  - 2) Documenting your USCT Veteran Ancestors
- Cosponsored by the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission.

**Y Girls Code** (Grades 3-8) Monday February 3, 10, & 24 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.  
Learn to code in a fun, friendly atmosphere. Join a sisterhood of girls who use technology to solve real-life problems. Weekly attendance is important.

**Working with Windows** Tuesday, February 4 at 10:30 a.m. Learn to work with Windows and Microsoft Office. Must have experience using a mouse and keyboard. Registration required: In person, by phone (843) 805-6885 or email: techteam@ccpl.org

**Haiku Workshop** Thursday, February 6 from 10:00-11:30 a.m.  
An informal sharing and discussion. Bring at least 3 poems if you have them.

**Anime for Adults** Saturday February 8 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. Join Ms. Tama for "Alice & Zoroku." Thursday February 13 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. "Natsume Yujim Cho"

**Random Acts of Kindness** February 10-14 All Day  
Visit the Children's Desk to for activities, and spread kindness all week long!

**Census 2020: Make Sure You Count!** Monday, February 10 at 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 18 at 10:30 a.m. Representatives from the US Census Bureau answer questions.

**Creating and Organizing Files** Tuesday, February 11 at 10:30 a.m.  
Learn how to save and organize information. Experience using a mouse and keyboard needed. Registration requested in person, by phone (843) 805-6885 or email: techteam@ccpl.org

**Johns Island Regional Library - 3531 Maybank Hwy, John's Island, SC 29455**  
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## REMEMBERING WADMALAW HISTORY *Island Memories*



*Townsend's General Store*

As a child, I spent my summers on Wadmalaw Island and mainly on Brigger Hill Road. Many of you remember the famous "Bo Hog Tree" on the corner of Brigger Hill and Maybank! We spent a lot of time in the Village of Rockville, where my moma, Mary Leslie Townsend, and her four brothers, Charlie, Harry, Tom and Billy, were born and raised.

There always seemed to be so much to do... crabbing, fishing, swimming, shrimping and bogging in the pluff mud with cousins and friends like Bennie Washington and Annie Heyward, who sadly passed just a few months ago. Porter Middleton use to let us ride his horse, Frank! We always enjoyed going to my grandfather Julius Townsend's general store where he sold just about everything...paint, kerosene, corn, chicken feed, rope, clothes, tennis shoes, a few groceries, and our favorite, penny candy!! Just down the road was my Uncle Tom's filling station where people liked to gather and catch up on the Island news! Preston King had the popular grocery store near the Village, and Harry Jenkins had a small store right in the heart of the Village. There were other vendors on the Island... Willie Potter and Shine Brown would sell the freshest vegetables and seafood, delivering right to your front door! These small stores and vendors were so essential to the Islanders, as many had a hard time getting to town.

Wadmalaw Island is a very special place to live, a paradise that has not succumbed to the fate of many other sea islands! Can't say that the Island has stood still, but it is moving at a glacier speed, and that is a GOOD thing! *As told by Sister Rutledge.*

## KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR THIS FIRETRUCK

Rhett Hanckel is the custodian for the Sunny Hanckel family firetruck, better known on Wadmalaw as the official firetruck of the annual July 4th Rockville parade.

In 1930, this model AA truck was purchased by the Mt. Pleasant Fire Department and then moved to the McClellanville Department. In shambles by 1967, it was acquired by Rhett Hanckel's father, Sunny. Restored to running condition, it became known as the Coburg Dairy Fire Truck from West Ashley. Wadmalaw Island became home to this antique treasure almost twenty years ago. It had been totally refurbished by Rhett, his sons Rhett and Greg, and his good friend and inspiration, David Maybank.

Not only is this vintage firetruck used to put out small brush fires, it also brings a lot of joy to others. Rhett and his truck host parties for children, who get to spray the hoses and ring the fire bell. He uses it for weddings and other social events, Camp Happy Days Wadmalaw Teen Weekend, and of course, the Rockville parade.

Thank you, Wadmalaw resident Rhett Hanckel. You spread cheer and happiness, and make people smile!



*Rhett Hanckel with his model AA truck*

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# WADMALAW NEWS

P. O. Box 3

Wadmalaw Island, SC 29487

Email: wadmalawnews@gmail.com



Do you know someone who throws trash on Wadmalaw roads?  
Please help us **KEEP WADMALAW BEAUTIFUL.**



## Come to the KWB All-Brigades Lunch

**Sunday, February 9th**  
**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

Wadmalaw Island  
Community Center  
5605 Katy Hill Road

**Meet brigade members  
and other brigades**

**Get a KWB progress update  
on eliminating litter on  
Wadmalaw and upcoming  
plans for 2020**

### **Cost: \$10/person**

Includes meal and iced tea  
or lemonade (BYOB)  
To attend or for more  
information contact a (your)  
brigade leader:

**B14** - Michelle Sinkler  
843-412-8583

**B15** - Fred Holland  
843-860-4494

**B16** - Stuart McDaniel  
843-906-1006

**B17** - Maria Riva  
316-650-6163

**B18** - Robert Siedell  
843-566-5702

**B19** - Pat Kohler  
843-559-1270

**B20** -Bette Mueller-Roemer  
843-708-8441

**B23** Patti Ruth  
843-296-1544

## 5th Annual **ART** IN THE BARN!



### **2020 Tentative Artists:**

Kareem Shakoor - Jewelry • Lloyd Mandel - Woodturning  
Wadmalaw Wild Ties - Feather Bow Ties & Jewelry  
Bette Mueller-Romer - Pottery & Handmade Books  
Jeff Kopish - Paintings • MOJO Fine Arts - Watercolor  
Murhelic Woodworks - Cutting Boards • Beth Williams - Pastels  
Keller Lee - Glass Bow ties & Jewelry  
Melinda Kelly - Local Farm and Wildflower Photographer  
~ **Food Truck - Two Fat Olives • Band - TBA ~**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28 11AM - 6PM**  
**& SUNDAY, MARCH 29 NOON - 4PM**  
**1556 Tacky Point Road**

*Hope to see y'all there!!*