Town of Hilton Head Island
TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

An Update from Town Manager Steve Riley
6/22/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Congratulations to Webb Simpson, Winner of the RBC Heritage
Congratulations to Webb Simpson, winner of the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing. And thank you to the PGA Tour, and tournament director Steve Wilmot, his staff, volunteers and other supporters who helped to make this a successful and safe tournament for all involved.

Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue Releases 2019 Annual Report
Our Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue has released its 2019 Annual Report. This 50-page report gives a comprehensive overview of the department's accomplishments. Our firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, dispatchers and others do an amazing job taking care of our residents and visitors. Here are some highlights from this report:

Last year, they responded to 7,864 calls for service – the highest in the history of this department. This included 5,514 EMS calls and 2,350 fire/service calls.

The department's survival rate on a five-year rolling average is 55 percent for bystander-witnessed, shockable cardiac arrest patients. 55 percent places Fire Rescue among the best Fire and EMS agencies in the country for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest survival.

The most common type of EMS calls responded to are falls. Sometimes these patients have serious injuries and others times they're not injured. Some have an underlying medical problem that causes the fall and simply need help getting back into a sitting or standing position.

For the second year in a row, we saw a decline in opioid overdoses on Hilton Head compared to the alarming peak we had in 2017.

Here some notable achievements Fire Rescue staff made:
- Accumulated over 43,000 hours of training, including drills, search and rescue, hazmat, officer development, driver operator and other activities.
- Conducted 3,246 fire inspections including building and business license permit inspections, complaint follow ups, hydrant and alarm system repairs, burn permits and other activities.
- Delivered 286 public education programs, taught 590 students CPR, AED and First Aid, and conducted 76 CPR, AED and First Aid classes.
- Investigated 24 fires.

- The E911 Center answered 97% of all phone calls in five seconds or less. Our dispatchers handled over 77,000 calls in 2019.
- Managed the public safety evacuation for Hurricane Dorian.
- Implemented a new patient care reporting system.
- Implemented PulsePoint Respond App. App users who have indicated they are trained in CPR and are willing to assist in case of an emergency are notified if someone nearby is in cardiac arrest and CPR is needed.

You can view or download our annual report in its entirety at hiltonheadislandsc.gov/publications/reports/FireRescueAnnualReport.pdf

And always, call 911 for emergencies. Our non-emergency number at Fire Rescue Headquarters is 843-682-5100.

Stay Protected with Safety Precautions
It will take action by everyone – residents and visitors – to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Even though business are open, people are visiting and many of us are going about our daily activities, we have to careful. There is still a significant risk of being exposed to the COVID-19 virus in a public setting in any community. We, along with CDC and S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, are asking everyone to please protect yourself and others by following these precautions:

- Maintain physical distance by staying at least 6 feet away from others.
- Wear a cloth mask that covers your nose and mouth while in public.
- Avoid touching frequently touched items.
- Regularly wash your hands.
- Monitor for symptoms and stay home when sick.

For the latest update on COVID-19 cases in South Carolina and in Beaufort County, and mobile testing locations, visit SCDHEC.gov.

COVID-19 Testing Event on June 29th
A COVID-19 Drive-Thru Testing Event will be held in our community on Monday, June 29th, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue Training Center, 75 Dillon Road.
- Anyone can participate.
- The test is free.
- No appointment is required.
- No doctor's order is required.
- This is only a test for the virus.
- This is not a test for COVID-19 antibodies.

- This will be a nasal swab.
- This is not a rapid test. Results are expected to be returned in 2 to 4 days.
- You will receive phone call with test results.
- There are no prerequisites for the test such as having symptoms.
- Multiple persons within a vehicle may be tested.
- This testing event is hosted jointly by the Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue, Hilton Head Hospital, the Volunteers In Medicine Clinic and SCDHEC.
- For dates and locations of other mobile pop-up clinics, visit the SCDHEC website at www.scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-mobile-pop-clinics

Cross Island Parkway Update

Currently the toll for the Cross Island Parkway (CIP) is set to expire in 2021. There are some rumors circulating that this parkway, which is owned by the S.C. Department of Transportation, had been paid for. This is not the case. Tolls were lifted in March in line with decreasing traffic volumes and public health measures that were taken in response to COVID-19. Toll collection resumed last Friday after vehicle counts indicated traffic volumes had returned to normal.

Toll collectors will wear gloves and masks while interacting with the public. Frequent CIP are encouraged to apply for a "Palmetto Pass" at www.crossislandparkway.com. This method is an easy way to avoid to contact in a toll booth and reduces toll rates for frequent users. The Cross Island Parkway was opened in 1998 and is one of two toll roads in South Carolina. The toll is $1.25 per vehicle and provides a time-saving alternative to the William Hilton Parkway.

Breeze Trolley Service Resumes

The Breeze Trolley resumes service today. The service is free this season and has the same route and stops as last year. Palmetto Breeze is taking extra safety precaution for riders including frequent cleaning and disinfecting of the trolleys, clear plexiglass modesty panels beside the trolley driver, "one-way" boarding and exiting procedures (with passengers boarding in front and exiting through the rear door), social distancing while riding, hand sanitizer, and encouraging passengers to wear facial coverings. The service runs 1 p.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and 1 p.m. to Midnight, Fridays and Saturdays. More information can be found at www.breezetrolley.com.

Town Council Meeting – June 23

The Town Council will have a virtual Special Meeting at 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 23. The meeting agenda is available on our website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov. You can submit public comments on agenda items electronically via our Open Town Hall portal at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/opentownhall/. The portal will close two hours prior to the start of the meeting. The public may view the meeting on the Town's Public Meeting

Facebook page (www.facebook.com/TownofHiltonHeadIslandMeetings/) and the Town's website (www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov).

Town Council Intergovernmental Meeting – June 24
The Town Council Intergovernmental Committee will have a virtual Special Meeting at 10 a.m., Wednesday, June 24, to hear your comments and feedback on various matters affecting the Hilton Head Island community. The meeting agenda is available on our website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov. You can submit public comments on agenda items electronically via our Open Town Hall portal at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/opentownhall/. All comments will be provided to the committee for review and made a part of the official record.

If you wish to speak by phone at the meeting, you may sign up by calling 843-341-4700. The public comment period on Open Town Hall and the sign up period for public comment participation by phone will close at Noon on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. You can view the meeting on the Town's website (www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov) or the Town's Public Meeting Facebook page (www.facebook.com/TownofHiltonHeadIslandMeetings/).

Stay Up-to-Date With Town Government
Visit our website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov and sign up for our e-subscription service. On the sign-up page, choose topics you are most interested in receiving information about. If you have already signed up for this service, we encourage you to go to your subscription page and update your selections. This is something you will need to do because as a self-service portal we do not have access to privacy information to update the service for you.

Ways to Give
For a list of very worthy organizations and initiatives that need your support as they continue to help individuals in our community, visit the Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber Commerce at www.hiltonheadchamber.org/covid-19/ .These organizations are assisting with rent, food and other needs.