



## Splinter City Disc Golf Course recalls early air base history

Grand opening ceremonies were held in early December for the Splinter City Disc Golf Course, across from Warbird Park on Farrow Parkway, just west of Kings Highway. The 18-hole, par-58 course is free to play, but you'll need to bring your own discs.

Horry County and the City of Myrtle Beach worked together to make the course possible. The county owns the land and prepared the course, while the city provided the equipment and signage.

The course is named after part of the original Myrtle Beach Air Force Base, back when it was known as the Myrtle Beach Army Air Corps. During World War II, a "splinter city" of wooden structures was hastily built on the site to serve the fledgling military base.

Disc golf aficionados can see the course layout and keep up with your score with an app from UDisc. The app is available at <https://udisc.com/courses/splinter-city-dgc-mXj6>.

## Myrtle Beach receives national 'bicycle friendly' designation

The City of Myrtle Beach has been named a bronze-level "Bicycle Friendly Community" by the League of American Bicyclists. The national group announced in December that only 51



communities were recognized as "bicycle friendly" during the fall awards.

Myrtle Beach previously had received an "honorable mention" four years ago, but moved up to the Bronze Award for the next four years.

The city has more than 40 miles of bicycle lanes and paths, along with an active Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.



Sign up for the weekly **Friday Fax** email to receive meetings and agendas for the coming week, along with city-related news and events. Send your email address to [info@cityofmyrtlebeach.com](mailto:info@cityofmyrtlebeach.com). Like and visit our Facebook page, too: [www.facebook.com/myrtlebeachcitygovernment](https://www.facebook.com/myrtlebeachcitygovernment).



<https://www.facebook.com/myrtlebeachcitygovernment>

## Picking up after pets is required by law

The City of Myrtle Beach requires pet owners to pick up after their pets whenever they are off the owner's property. As the sign below says, you must pick up and properly dispose of your pet's waste.

Aside from general cleanliness, especially in our parks and other public spaces, picking up after pets improves the quality of our stormwater drainage system.

Here are a few other pet-related rules. From May 1 through Labor Day each year, dogs are allowed on the beach only before 10:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m.

At all times, dogs must be on a leash of seven feet or shorter. You must pick up after your pet and properly dispose of the waste in a trash receptacle.

Violations of these pet-related rules are misdemeanors, subject to a fine of up to \$500 and/or 30 days in jail, upon conviction.

Please be a responsible pet owner! The city offers free waste bags at many parks and public spaces.



## PROGRESS REPORT Winter 2021

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# PROGRESS

## REPORT

## Fox Simons selected as new Myrtle Beach city manager

Jonathan "Fox" Simons, Jr., became Myrtle Beach's new city manager in early January 2021, succeeding John Pederson. Simons joined the city six years ago and most recently served as deputy city manager.

He was one of three finalists selected by City Council from among 66 applicants for the position. "I am truly humbled and honored to have been chosen," Simons said. Pedersen retired after six years as city manager and 12 as assistant city manager.



New City Manager Fox Simons

Before coming to Myrtle Beach, Simons served as city administrator in Easley, SC, since 2006. Before that, he worked for the City of Greenville in a variety of roles, including budget administrator.

Simons received a master's of public administration from The American University in Washington, D.C., in 1995, and a bachelor of arts from High Point University in 1993. The seven-member City Council makes laws and sets the policy and direction for city government. A professional manager is appointed by Council to oversee day-to-day operations and supervise staff. The City of Myrtle Beach has more than 900 fulltime employees and a current annual budget of \$193.7 million.



## Parking decals are available for 2021-22

New, two-year parking decals are available for vehicles that "live" in the City of Myrtle Beach. Parking decals are offered to personal-use vehicles that are registered inside the city and on which city property taxes have been paid.

Everyone pays for parking, but in different ways. Myrtle Beach counts property taxes paid by in-city vehicles as their payment for parking, whether or not that car ever occupies a paid parking space. Conversely, non-city vehicles pay only when they use one of the paid parking spaces.

City residents may apply for a decal online at [www.cityofmyrtlebeach.com](http://www.cityofmyrtlebeach.com). You'll need the current vehicle registration and its tax receipt.

...see [Apply now for parking, page 3](#)

## Ahoy, matey! Pirate ship offers kids playground fun



Two Myrtle Beach playgrounds received complete makeovers in December. The wooden pirate ship pictured here is docked at Gardens by the Sea on North Ocean Boulevard, south of the cabana section. The new oceanfront play space offers great climbing opportunities, along with a swing, dolphin spring riders and other amenities.

Myrtle Beach's Chapin Park playground also received a full set of new equipment. The new play structures at Chapin Park are similar to the equipment available at the popular Savannah's Playground near The Market Common.



Here are three of the winning designs, as shown on traffic control cabinets. The left artwork is by Suzanne Pritchard and is at the corner of Kings Highway and Harrelson Boulevard. Kenley Blackhurst created the middle design, on display at Harrelson Boulevard and Grissom Parkway. The third design by Staci Smith can be found on Kings Highway at Main Street.

## AARP grant lets local artworks be displayed for safety campaign

Ten winning artworks with safety messages for bicyclists and pedestrians are in place on traffic control cabinets throughout the City of Myrtle Beach. Thanks to a \$10,000 AARP Challenge Grant, the designs were turned into vinyl wraps, which now decorate 10 intersections.

Local artists submitted their original creations in a contest last fall. The winning designs were selected by the Seniors Advisory Committee, with the winners receiving \$250 each, courtesy of the AARP grant. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee then selected the intersections and the text.

Congratulations to the 10 winning artists: Suzanne Pritchard, Joe DiSabatino, Ana Sanchez, Kenley Blackhurst, Natasha Cannaday, Marci Hogue, Staci Smith, Sarah Shawver, Karl Tubalkain and Azeri Householder.



## Grey Street to receive street and stormwater work, thanks to CDBG

Residents of Grey Street, off Mr. Joe White Avenue, soon will see welcome neighborhood improvements. Thanks to funding from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the city will install drainage pipes to enclose the stormwater ditches shown above.

The work also will include construction of curb-and-gutter street edges and new sidewalks. Street lighting in the neighborhood will be evaluated, too. Look for the improvement project to begin this winter.

## Work is underway on the city's new Arts & Innovation District downtown

Multiple projects are underway in Myrtle Beach's new Arts & Innovation District, with even more on the drawing board. The transformation is occurring between Main Street and Ninth Avenue North and includes Nance Plaza.

Work is wrapping up on a new brew pub, along with residential units upstairs, fronting on Nance Plaza. Both are scheduled to open in early 2021.



Nance Plaza is getting a makeover and expansion, too. As pictured above, construction is underway on a stage for live performances on the plaza's Ninth Avenue side. The plaza itself is being extended between buildings to provide connectivity to the interior parking area.

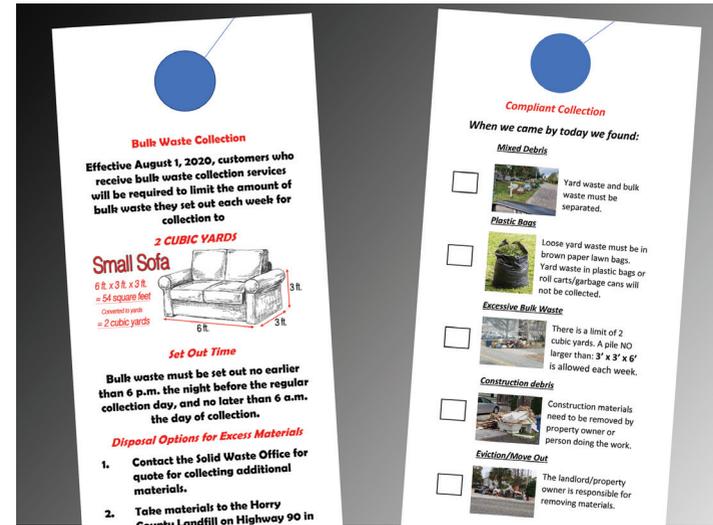
Nance Plaza received a \$4,500 Placemaking Grant from the National Association of Realtors to help with the transformation. The grant will fund additional seating and landscaping.

On Main Street, false fronts have been removed from three buildings that will become the performing arts center. Coastal Carolina University will use the former Broadway Theater and adjacent



buildings as a performing arts facility.

Plans call for a 300-seat theater on Main Street, with the exterior façades restored to their original look. Construction is expected to begin in July 2021 and be complete in July 2022.



## Here's a refresher on new solid waste rules and requirements

Recent changes to the solid waste ordinance are designed to encourage customer compliance, improve community appearance and deter illegal dumping.

Lids on solid waste containers must close completely, and no additional garbage may be placed beside or on top of the pelican. If you regularly have more garbage than will fit, you will be required to pay for an additional pelican.

Bulky junk is limited to two cubic yards per week. Any more than two cubic yards weekly will not be collected. However, the amount of yard waste is not limited. Violations of these requirements will result in one of the hang tags shown above as a first response.

- Materials must be set out no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the day before and no later than 6:00 a.m. on the day of collection.
- Roll carts must be pulled back to the residential structure by 11:00 p.m. on the day of collection.
- Roll carts may not be left at the curb throughout the week.
- Customers will pay a separate charge for call-back services.
- Ineligible material must be removed from the right-of-way within 48 hours of the day of collection.
- Yard waste (limbs) must be sized no larger than four inches in diameter or four feet in length.

## Paper (not plastic) bags required for curbside yard waste pickup

Leaves, clippings and other loose yard waste must be placed in paper bags for curbside pickup in Myrtle Beach.

Horry County's Solid Waste Authority is only accepting yard waste in paper bags so that it can be composted, which saves valuable space in the landfill.

Home stores carry paper yard waste bags just for this purpose. You can still put limbs by the curb for residential pickup, but leaves, etc., must be in paper bags.



## Apply now for new city parking decals

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If you prefer, you may apply in person at the parking office on the first floor of the Pavilion Parking Garage, corner of Kings Highway and Ninth Avenue North. Again, you'll need the vehicle registration and property tax receipt.

The new decals are valid through December 2022. If you trade cars or have your windshield replaced, be sure to remove the parking decal, or else you'll be charged \$20 for a replacement. The paid parking season returns March 1.



City Council wants to hear from you. Email all of the Council members directly at [dearcitycouncil@cityofmyrtlebeach.com](mailto:dearcitycouncil@cityofmyrtlebeach.com).

## Quick ways to pay your city utility bill

Need to make a utility payment in a hurry? See the Online Services page on the city's web site for the IVR Customer Portal. It allows one-time payments without creating a user account.

Already have a user account or want to create one? Then use the Utility E-Services method. Or, call 844-571-2888 and use the free pay-by-phone feature, 24-hours a day.

We also offer handy drop-off boxes and a drive-through window at the City Services Building, 921 North Oak Street.

For convenience, we also offer paperless and automatic draft payment options.

## Would you like to serve on a board?

To be considered for appointment by City Council to one of Myrtle Beach's many volunteer boards, commissions and committees, send a letter of interest and a résumé or biography to the City Clerk, PO Box 2468, Myrtle Beach, SC 29578, or bring them to City Hall during regular hours.