As many of you know, we are already well into a busy Atlantic hurricane season. With Hurricane Isaias expected to impact us early next week, we wanted to remind you of things that you should do to prepare: stay Informed, build an emergency kit, make a family communication plan, and know your evacuation route. For more details on the specifics for hurricane preparation, check out page 2. We would also like to remind our residents to secure any loose items on your property, secure garbage and recycling roll carts and do not put any debris or white goods by the curb over the weekend. If you choose not to evacuate, please DO NOT get out and drive around right after the storm. Give emergency crews time to properly clear roads and to address downed power/cable/telephone lines, etc.

THE LATEST UPDATE FOR THE BURGAW AREA - JULY 31, 2020 AT 2:00 PM

Burgaw, NC is expected to receive a moderate impact from Hurricane Isaias.

The forecast maximum wind for this location has increased since the last forecast advisory by 22 MPH.

Easterly gale force winds should start affecting the area on Monday, August 3rd at 3 PM EDT with storm force winds arriving around 8 PM EDT. The highest wind speeds from Hurricane Isaias should occur near 9 PM EDT when top sustained winds, from the Northeast, could reach 66 MPH with gusts near 80 MPH. Winds should decrease below storm force shortly thereafter.

Sustained winds will fall below gale force after 12 AM EDT and generally be from the North during this period of decreasing winds. Expect gusts above gale force level for several more hours thereafter.

Wind damage from Hurricane Isaias could include some loss of roofing material, gutters and/or awning and loss of vinyl or metal siding.

We encourage our citizens to stay aware by following us on Facebook and our website for important updates. Town staff urges our citizens to sign up with CodeRED Emergency Notifications. This program is free and easy to sign up. You have the options to enter your phone numbers and/or email address to receive critical notifications from the town, such as severe weather alerts, important information, boil water advisories, etc. Sign up today by visiting our website at BurgawNC.gov, click “I want to” menu at the top of the homepage, then click “Sign up for CodeRED Emergency Notifications.” You may contact Town Hall at 259-2151 for questions or assistance.
Our Town Weekly Update

JULY 27 - JULY 31, 2020  •  Page 2

TIPS FOR WEATHERING A HURRICANE

BEFORE
- Check your insurance protection
- Listen for weather advisories
- Repair loose boards, shingles, stutters, etc.
- Make a home inventory
- Stock emergency supplies
- Charge your cell phone
- Fill car with gas
- Program all emergency phone numbers into your mobile device
- Turn your refrigerator to the coldest setting

DURING
- Check on family members and friends
- Keep windows and doors closed at all times
- Stay away from windows
- If flooding begins, turn off electricity
- If advised to evacuate, go as soon as possible

Additional Resources:
National Hurricane Center: nhc.noaa.gov
NC Emergency Management: ncdps.gov/ncem
NC Hurricane Preparedness: nc211.org/hurricane-preparedness

AFTER
- Check to be sure all family members are safe
- Notify your insurance agent as soon as possible of any damage
- Create a list of damaged property and take pictures
- Keep an accurate record of any temporary repairs or expenses
- If there was an evacuation, wait for official notice that it is safe to re-enter your home

An Important Reminder from our Finance Department
In accordance with the Governor’s executive order 124, the Town of Burgaw has not terminated water services and has not charged late fees on utility accounts beginning March 31, 2020. This executive order expired on July 29, 2020; therefore normal operations have resumed as of July 30th. It is advised customers that have accumulated balances during this time contact Town of Burgaw customer service (663-3445) to arrange a payment plan. Late fees will resume on August 16th and service cut-off for non-payment will take place on August 21st.

Public Works Department

- Green team this week worked on the Train Depot, railroad right-of-ways, wells, lift stations, town signs, museum, walking trails and trees along HWY 117.
- Potholes were patched and repaired late last week.
- John, Robert and Ben H repaired a 2 inch waterline on North Bickett and East Bridgers. They also repaired leaks on South Cowan and North Wright.
- We’ve started work on the drainage along West Ashe Street.
- Roland and Jeremy used the vacuum trailer to clean out downtown and storm structures.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Emergency Response # 910-470-0457
On-call person this week is: Charles Hall

REMINDER:
This phone is only answered after hours, 4:30PM - 7:30AM and is for water and sewer emergencies only. Unless Public Works has been giving prior notice we cannot turn your water on due to non-payment shut off.

Current Employment Opportunity

Maintenance Worker I: Must have valid NC Driver’s License and be able to operate various field equipment such as lawnmowers, etc. Must be able to perform tasks in the maintenance and repair of town streets, buildings, landscaping and water/wastewater system. Salary starting at $27,351, depending on experience. Excellent benefit package. Qualified applicants may pick up applications and a detailed job description at the Town of Burgaw Municipal Building located at 109 N. Walker St, Burgaw NC or download from town website at www.burgawnc.gov. Please return completed applications and resumes to Kimberly Rivenbark at 109 N. Walker Street, Burgaw, NC 28425 or krivenbark@burgawnc.gov. Position open until filled. Previous applicants need not to apply. EOE

EOE
Planning Department

- Spending a great deal of my time working on the Unified Development Ordinance rewrite (reviewed Chapter 5-8 with the Manager and Town Attorney yesterday in preparation of taking them to the Planning Board 8.20.20)
- Completed the annual surveys required to be submitted to the State Statistician Wednesday.
- Working with the manager, public works and WithersRavenel on a submittal of a community development block grant application for infrastructure. We will need to submit a pre-application on August 14th. The request will be for a 2 million dollar sewer grant to repair pump stations and reduce inflow and infiltration into them.
- Worked with the permit technician on code enforcement.
- Working with other departments preparing for the storm. Public Works is helping me with picking up illegal off premise signs in the right of way. Everyone can call me about their signs.
- Answered zoning questions on two homes being developed in the floodplain requiring them to be elevated.
- Reviewing a recombination plat combining two lots into one on Peterson Hill Avenue.
- Fielding questions on the zoning of property from real estate agents, buyers and sellers.

Parks & Recreation Department

- This week our department worked to make improvements to our local parks & playgrounds. New ADA ramps were installed at Rotary Park along with new gravel around the fire pit. We also worked to get extra play cushion spread out around the playground areas. Harrell Park received new landscaping around the tennis court areas which includes new border, mulch, and liriope plants.
- Repairs to the Burgaw Community House are underway. We are working with the contactor to get the walls and benches painted over the next couple of weeks. If you are interested in renting the Burgaw Community House, please contact the Parks & Recreation or visit us at burgawnc.gov.
- Don’t forget to join us on August 8th at the Burgaw Train Depot for our Back-To-School Give Away. Our department is excited to partner with the New Legacy Foundation in order to assist with this event. Special thanks to the Local Government Federal Credit Union for the $500 sponsorship for this event. We hope to see everyone on August 8th!

Staff Spotlight

Stephanie Moore
Permitting Technician

Job Duties: Issue building and zoning permits, code enforcement, community development training, front staff of planning and zoning department

How long have you worked for the Town? 8 months

What do you love most about working with the Town? I love the environment and being able to serve the residents and visitors of Burgaw

Fun Fact about me: Mother of 3 wonderful boys
**Police Department**

- On Monday, we met with representatives from the sheriff’s office, the prison, and Surf City PD to discuss the 2020 Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. This year’s run will be August 15th on Hwy 17 in Hampstead. Burgaw PD will have representatives running as well as support staff.

- Captain Fuller attended a two day class conducted by Cape Fear Community College on the Laws of Mass Gathering.

- As we prepare for Hurricane Isaias, please secure all items that can become airborne with high wind, have shelf stable meals, and make plans for and check on your loved ones, they will appreciate it.

- Cram the Cruiser is going well. We have received great support from our community and those who are concerned for our children and their education. Please help get the word out to any children or families that may benefit from receiving a book bag with school supplies.

**Inspectors Department**

- Cape Fear Community College is working on revisions to their designs for their welding and diesel mechanic education building.

- Heritage place has had their final inspections with only minor discrepancies.

- We have approved electrical up fits for Pender County at the Burgaw Elementary School. The up fits are for using the site as a shelter.

- The Pender County courthouse renovations are on track and I will be meeting next week with the designers for interior doors and safety requirements.

- Auto Zone is open while they complete site work and addition of a new accessible door since the one at the delivery area could not meet accessibility as drawn.

- Fat Daddy’s Pizza has all of their finals scheduled and I anticipate approvals and an issuance of their Certificate of Occupancy.

- Our fire station renovation completion is being held up due to a delay of windows ordered months ago. COVID-19 has created back log on orders.

- Parks and Recreation up-fits to the old EMS building are being tweaked for the final time and actual prints for review are expected Monday.

- We continue to do “Live-Remote” inspections for occupied dwellings. These are done using Apple’s Face Time and Galaxy’s Duo Apps between the contractor and the Building Inspector while COVID-19 restrictions are in place.

**LET’S TALK – CPR**

Join us for our next open, honest, transparent sharing, conversation about Community, Policing, and Race Relations. This Forum is being sponsored by Pender County Law Enforcement, Town of Burgaw Police Department and concerned citizens. Our desire is that the sharing and listening we do with each other will lead to better understanding, harmony and unity with our neighbors and community. This first forum went well and our next one is scheduled for **Thursday, August 13, 2020** at the Burgaw Community House from 5:30-7:00 pm. To reserve your seat (number limited because of COVID-19) please call one of the following persons as soon as possible:

- Sheriff Alan Cutler – 910-259-1212
- Chief Jim Hock, Burgaw Police Dept. – 910-259-4924
- Bishop James Malloy – 910-540-7299
- Karen Malloy – 919-740-7802

The Burgaw Police Department’s “Cram the Cruiser” school supply program is in progress. Any donations of school supplies such as notebooks, pencils, crayons, lunchboxes, loose leaf paper, etc. can be dropped off at the police department or town hall. Applications to receive supplies can be picked up at the Burgaw Police Department or town hall, as well. All applications must be completed and returned no later than August 7th, 2020. Book bags, filled with the school supplies, will be distributed beginning August 11th. For more information, contact Burgaw Police Department at 910-259-4924.
A Wilmington Hotel Fire with a Burgaw Connection—Part Three

Early in the morning of August 10, 1910, the Rock Springs Hotel on Chestnut Street in Wilmington was destroyed by fire. Everyone escaped the fire with the exception of 19 year old Edward Cromwell. He was found dead, laying on the floor of his room. All evidence pointed to JC Holly, the Rock Springs Hotel proprietor and parental guardian of Edward. Holly was arrested and charged with arson and murder and sentenced to death by electrocution on Friday February 3, 1911 at 3:33pm by a New Hanover County Jury.

But an electrocution would not be held on April 1, 1911 as previously arranged. An appeal was filed and JC Holly was granted a new trial which began in April 1912. Several new witnesses were summoned to testify and witnesses that testified at the first trial gave evidence that was not stated previously. At this second trial, the defense cross examined witnesses in a manner to discredit them and to show that the evidence collected and presented in the first trial was circumstantial. New testimony was presented by a new witness that stated that Holly had told them after the fire that Edward had dropped a lamp on the bed, spilling kerosene all over the bedding the day before. The Defense also presented witness testimony that Edward was a troublesome teen who would purposely create disturbances within the hotel, tried to run away once to which Holly stopped him and brought him back, and that the witness had never seen Holly treat Edward cruelly. The Defense also called a medical expert that countered all evidence presented by the prosecution's medical expert. There were also a number of character witnesses called on to testify on behalf of Holly.

Following the conclusion of the second trial, the jury was out for several days and nights. The result of trial two – a mistrial. The paperwork was filed by the defense requesting a new trial to be held outside of New Hanover County. The reason being: “That the above entitled criminal action has been twice tried in New Hanover County; that each trial required about four hundred jurors to be passed upon before a jury could be selected; that the majority of the jurors subpoenaed had formed and expressed and opinion that prohibited them from qualifying as impartial jurors; that the two trials have been reported in detail by both of the local papers to such an extent that the majority, if not all, of the population of New Hanover County have formed opinions that would disqualify them from serving as jurors in said case, and that since the last trial of the above entitled case both of the local papers have published said case, more or less in detail, thereby keeping said case fresh in the minds of the public.” In late July 1912, the case was removed from New Hanover County and moved to Burgaw. Burgaw attorneys protested the decision to move the case to Burgaw due to an already congested docket. After a hearing discussing both the reasons to move the trial as well as those not to move the trial, it was decided by the court that the trial would be moved to Burgaw to be heard on the September 1912 docket.

So Holly was remained to jail to await a third trial. A trial that would be in Burgaw with a fresh jury pool comprised of Pender County citizens. With over 30 articles published with full details of the trials in the Wilmington Morning Star newspaper, how much of an influence did that have on this new jury? Would they come to the same conclusion as the first trial? That Holly was guilty of the murder of Edward Cromwell and should be sentenced to death, or did they have a different take on the same evidence that was presented at the first two trials? Read the conclusion in next week’s “Historical Feature”.

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HI STORI CAL FEATURE OF THE WEEK

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The following public hearings will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 5:30 PM (or thereabout) during the regular Board of Commissioners Meeting at the Historic Train Depot, located at 115 S. Dickerson Street in Burgaw, NC.

All interested parties are invited to attend, written and oral comments are welcome.

Public Hearing #1 Consideration of Unified Development Ordinance Text Amendments recommended by the Planning Board on February 25, 2020 related to changes to the NC General Statutes amended in 2019. Visit BurgawNC.gov for details related to the proposed amendments.

Public Hearing #2 Consideration of Unified Development Ordinance Text Amendments recommended by the Planning Board on June 18, 2020 related to items, including renumbering and re-lettering sections, to complete mandated changes by the NC General Statutes amended in 2019, address temporary signage changes mandated by Supreme Court case Reed vs. Town of Gilbert Arizona, as well as amendments enabling disaster preparedness planning and disaster response. Visit BurgawNC.gov for details related to the proposed amendments.

Public Hearing #3 Consideration of Unified Development Ordinance Text Amendments recommended by the Planning Board on July 16, 2020 related to utilities. Visit BurgawNC.gov for details related to the proposed amendments.