

Media Release



bluffton
HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

Note: Change of venue for August 7 – Dr. Larry Rowland’s lecture. It will be held at Town Hall’s Auditorium, located at 20 Bridge Street, NOT the Rotary Community Center as originally indicated.

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August 1, 2017

For more information:

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The Bluffton Historical Preservation Society, in Conjunction with the Town of Bluffton,
Hosts Year-Long Lecture Series

The Bluffton Historical Preservation Society/Heyward House, which is the official Welcome Center for the Town of Bluffton, is hosting a lecture series. The first lecture, held June 12, featured Annelore Harrell and her stories about “Growing up in Bluffton as Summer People.” The year-long series will feature lectures and discussions every other month, and will generally be held the second Monday of the designated month from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the locations designated below. All lectures are open to the public. The Bluffton Historical Preservation Society (BHPS) will use the \$5 admission fee to help fund the preservation and digitization of documents, photos, maps, family histories and books. The Society plans to use these historic components to document Bluffton’s history in a compilation known as the Caldwell Collection.

The lecture series is as follows:

- **August 7, 2017/Town Hall Auditorium (20 Bridge Street)**
Speaker: Professor Dr. Larry Rowland, Local Historian & USCB Professor Emeritus
Topic: America’s Lost Century: 16th Century Spanish & French Adventures in the American Southeast.
- October 9, 2017/Rotary Community Center:
Speakers: Emmett McCracken & Jacob Martin
Topic: What it was Like to be a Kid in the Late Fifties and Early Sixties in Bluffton
- December 11, 2017/Rotary Community Center:
Speaker: David Lauderdale, Local Opinion Column Contributor, *Island Packet*
Topic: Lowcountry Life & Times in Beaufort County

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- February 19, 2018/Rotary Community Center:
Speaker: Air Force General Lloyd “Fig” Newton, Retired four-star general, Commander, Air Education & Training Command, first African-American pilot in the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and Ridgeland-native. Newton is also the founder/promoter of the new Polaris Tech Charter School in Jasper County.
Topic: Military Stories
- April 9, 2018/Town Hall:
Speaker: Jonathan Haupt, Executive Director, Pat Conroy Literary Center
Topic: Pat Conroy Literary Center and the legacy of Pat Conroy as a student, teacher and mentor.
- June 11, 2018/Town Hall:
Speaker: Jeff Fulgham, Bluffton native, historian and author of, “The Bluffton Expedition: The Burning of Bluffton, SC, During the Civil War”
Topic: The Burning of Bluffton

“To keep Bluffton’s history alive, we must tell and preserve the stories of those who contributed to what Bluffton is today,” Mayor Lisa Sulka said. “The Town is pleased to give the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society a place for these stories to be told. Please come and enjoy the tales of our town’s culture and characters. I promise these lectures will make you laugh and smile and you will leave proud you are a part of Bluffton’s current chapter.”

BHPS Executive Director Anthony Barrett said this lecture series has an “open-mic” format.

“The Society’s lecture series is geared to gather stories from the region’s academia, local personalities and other local folks who have contributed to our rich cultural history through their personal stories and current or former positions. Our speakers will cover topics from the antebellum era, civil war and the early settlements of the Lowcountry. We will mix those stories with personal anecdotes of people’s experiences of not only Bluffton but from their lives elsewhere. We are excited to present this wide-ranging lecture series to Bluffton’s greater community.”

For more information about Bluffton’s Historical Preservation Society’s lecture series, please call 843-757-6293. Town Hall is located at 20 Bridge Street and the Rotary Community Center is located at 11 Recreation Court within Oscar Frazier Park (located in the Bluffton Park neighborhood.)