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JULY 2017

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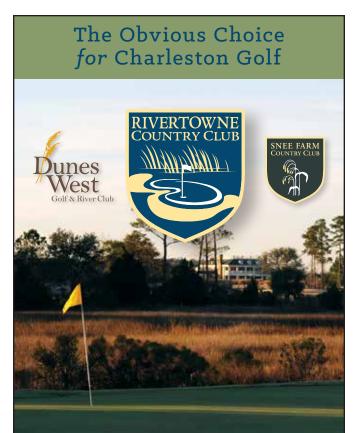


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#### The Great Adventure

Sometimes we have to get outside ourselves to explore what's really going on inside.

I think that's why people go on adventurous quests—hiking rugged or mountainous trails that take months to complete, rock climbing and rappelling down mountains, running marathons, braving white-water rafting and sailing the open seas—all life experiences that prove our mettle and challenge the status quo of our routines. Adventures open our eyes, hearts and minds to different ways of seeing the world, and ourselves. They often lead us to places we never knew were there.

Having done many such adventurous quests when I was younger,

I take a somewhat tamer approach these days. My adventures involve biking along our town's streets or beaches instead of careening down a hilly and narrow wooded path. Walking in favor of running. Taking a two or three-hour drive to experience a sunrise or sunset somewhere else. Exploring a different coastline, visiting a city such as Manhattan or San Francisco and imagining myself living in those places—the landscape, culture and people different from where I am now.

Adventures, imagined or real are always good for the soul.

Our July issue is about the adventurous spirit that lies within each of us. You'll get to know a Mount Pleasant woman who decided to take her love of adventure to explore the ocean's floor; a local mom takes her athletic adventures to a whole new level and two sea-faring guys get to cruise our gorgeous waterways every day and take others with them to discover just how lucky we are to be surrounded by such stunning vistas. A local couple lets us in on how they and their company have been encouraging others to explore and find wonder in what's around them for 25 years.

Usually, when you set out to explore one thing, you end up making all kinds of discoveries—about yourself, about others and about life in general. If we look at life as one vast, great adventure, we can approach each day—no matter how majestic or mundane it begins and ends—as a gift to open and explore.

Helen Keller wrote: "Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all." Perhaps we can take a cue from our adventurous neighbors featured in this issue. They challenge themselves, take risks and embrace their adventurous spirit. Maybe the biggest risk of all is not taking any.

Here's hoping your next great adventure is just around the corner.

Brigitte Surette, Editor Brigitte.Surette@LifestylePubs.com

Send your ideas, comments and questions to brigitte.surette@lifestylepubs.com.

#### COVER PHOTOGRAPHY BY ADAM COLLINS



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# Mt. Pleasant

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Mt. Pleasant

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Discovering Charleston in a Spectacular Way

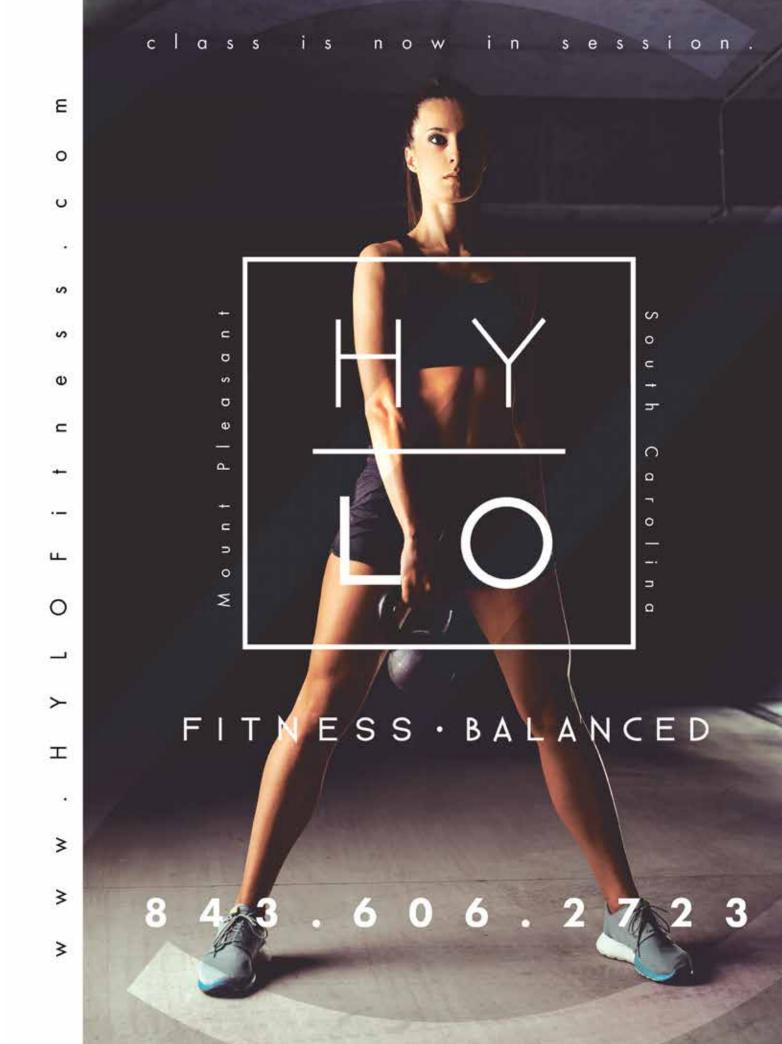


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### Embrace Deep

### Summer

uly is Deep Summer.

J School is out and kids' thoughts have not yet turned to fall. Our pools and beaches overflow with young children and families. Mt Pleasant's sport facilities are busy with programs in full swing. The humidity is up. Way up. Morning temperatures move quickly into the 90+

range. And the sun is so intense it hurts. It is unmistakably summer.

I love the Lowcountry this time of year. We come alive in the summer. It is hot but this is an outdoor culture. Boats on the water, families at the beach, kids on the ball field, cookouts on the grill. It is a time to embrace being outdoors.

My impression of summer comes from childhood. Summer was a time of no responsibilities, endless daylight, way too much time at the pool and endlessly riding bikes around my small town getting into no small degree of mischief. It was carefree, unscheduled, unscripted and absolutely wonderful. Summer went on forever.

Now there is a job that goes year round and the inescapable responsibilities of adulthood that never burdened my 10-year

old self. I am a grown up now but I still view summer the same way. Summer is a time to be carefree. To play more golf, to take vacation, to sip drinks by the pool and to slow life down.

Up north summer is very much a defined season, Memorial Day to Labor Day. Fall and the deep freeze of winter is never very far away in people's mind so it is play while you can. The Lowcountry's year-round warm weather removes the urgency of getting out while you can but summer is still summer.

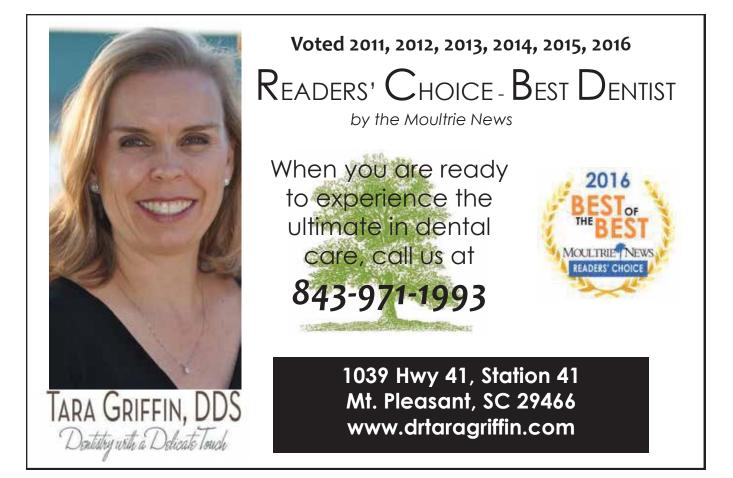
So here we are in Deep Summer. The hot, hot month of July lies before us. This time next month rumors of school beginning will rumble among our youth. We will be clearly past Summer's halfway mark with Labor Day just over the horizon and another summer will begin slipping from our grasp.

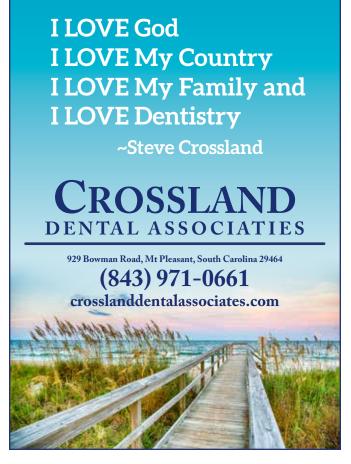
So get out there and enjoy July - the undeniable month of summer. Embrace Deep Summer while you can savoring the relaxed attitude that will all too quickly give way to fall.

Bill Northrop, Publisher Bill.Northrop@LifestylePubs.com











## Good Times

A Pig Roast at Dunes West Golf and River Club was held on a recent Saturday evening for club members. At the well-attended event, both floors of the clubhouse were used to accommodate the turnout. Adults with their families including kids and grandkids of all ages participated.



## Gracie's Hope

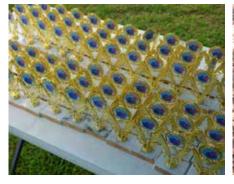
The inaugural Gracie's Hope 5K run was recently held in Laurel Hill County Park off US 41 in honor of Gracie Benjamin, age 17, who was killed in a reckless driving incident in December 2015. More than 200 runners participated and \$7,000 was raised on behalf of several local charities.







Kara Griffin, Kristy Varvaro, Margo Quigley







Frances Dechenes and Steven Marsh enjoy a prerace snack







Lettie Lundy, Bailey Champ, Nick Richardson, Lucy Johnson



Merridee Hays



Alyssa Schmieder, Pam Benjamin (Gracie's mom), Susan Higgins









"Adventure makes things richer and opens up a world you didn't know existed..."

# Coastal Expeditions: Kayaking, Paddling and Exploring One Adventure at a Time

KARI & CHRIS CROLLEY -- A PASSION FOR THE OUTDOORS ARTICLE SYDNEY HERWIG | PHOTOGRAPHY ADAM COLLINS

Nestled away from the hustle and bustle of the restaurants on Shem Creek lies Coastal Expeditions, which credits itself as Charleston's original outfitter, and is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Family-owned and managed by Kari and Chris Crolley, Coastal Expeditions offers kayak and paddleboard rentals, boat tours, a ferry to Bulls Island, and more, with the mission to take people to beautiful places to experience meaningful things and promote the outdoor living culture in Charleston.

#### Water & Woods (CONTINUED)

"We hold the door open for people's opportunity to be wowed by nature--when they see a dolphin swim right beside their paddleboard, they get it," Chris Crolley says.

In addition to the Mount Pleasant flagship location, they have since expanded to include outposts on both Isle of Palms and Folly Beach, with each outpost being geographically positioned to serve a variety of areas and families so they can all "get their water on."

Being located in different areas also exposes the guides and those on the tours to various ecosystems depending on the outpost they set off from.

"We've been kayaking in Charleston since before it was cool and are so pleased to see so many folks doing it now," he says.

They've paired with the South Carolina Outdoor Education Program, (SCOEP), and so far, over 3,000 middle school students have gone kayaking at no charge to the schools.

"It gives kids exposure to incredible ecosystems and really makes an impression."

Kari Crolley, who has a horticulture background, came into Coastal Expeditions on the marketing side once she met her husband. The two were married in 2012 and now have a daughter, Olivia, who is 3, and Chris' son, Graham, who is 20.

"It's where my passion was. I wanted people to know what we're doing here. Never in a million years did I think I'd be sitting at a kayak company," she says. For Chris Crolley, who has a background in studio art and pursued this at College of Charleston, his connection with nature began at a young age, but it wasn't until Hurricane Hugo that he was deeply affected by the culture and the community of Charleston.

"There's a lot of passion and meaning with this for me. It's more than kayaks and boats to us," he says, "We take our fun seriously," Kari Crolley adds with a laugh.

The couple credit a lot of what Coastal Expeditions is able to do to their 27 guides, schedulers and boat captains.

"They're the heart of this. Ninety-nine percent of the value we offer are the guides and everyone who works here," Kari Crolley says.

"We're not a punch your ticket kind of place."

Tour sizes are small and individualized. It's obvious there's a purpose behind what they do more than just taking people out on "a ride," but rather they offer high-integrity, guided outdoor experiences.

"We use kayaks and paddleboards to get to places with meaning. Adventure makes things richer and opens up a world you didn't know existed and we miss out on too much," she says.

Coastal Expeditions gives everyone this opportunity. Their motto is: "You really haven't seen Charleston until it's by water."

#### "We hold the door open for people's opportunity to be wowed by nature..."



a million years did I think I'd be sitting at a kayak company," she says.

coastalexpeditions.com





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# ALLISON STONE LIFE ON THE WATER

always swore that after living on a boat, I would never have anything to do with life on the water," Allison Stone says.

But as most coastal dwellers understand, the ocean has a way of pushing one out and then pulling one back in.

Stone grew up in Mount Pleasant. She spent her preschool years in the Old Village, her elementary years at Mount Pleasant Academy and attended middle

school at Moultrie Middle. She worked as a waitress throughout high school (Academic Magnet School in Charleston), and through her undergrad years, at "The Wreck" on Shem Creek. In 2011, she completed her Bachelor's in Geology at the College of Charleston.

Mount Pleasant is a town that Stone knows and loves.

"We moved to Mount Pleasant from Maine in '92. I lived off a dock on my dad's sail boat with my mother, father, and older brother for a year."

"It was unconformable," Stone remembers, "But you grow up over the bridge, on the beach, on the boat... life on the water really sinks into your psyche."

Today, 27-year old Stone works as hydrographic senior survey technician on board the NOAA ship, the Thomas Jefferson.

NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, has a proud purpose: To enrich life through science.

"Our reach goes from the surface of the sun to the depths of the ocean floor as we work to keep citizens informed of the changing environment around them," Stone says.

As a hydrographic survey technician, Stone's primary responsibility is to report data on the whereabouts of sandbars. As time passes and natural disasters occur, Stone has the amazing opportunity to track and discover the forever changing ocean floor.

CONTINUED >

#### ARTICLE DEBORAH SLEDZIONA | PHOTOGRAPHY LINDSAY FAIR

## ". . .LIFE ON THE WATER REALLY SINKS INTO YOUR PSYCHE."

"After Hurricane Sandy, we responded to Delaware Bay and Cape May. We discovered that the sandbars had shifted and were starting to form dangerous situations."

Stone remembers being inspired at an early age to pursue her adventurous career path; it began during career day at school.

"There was one parent who seemed to be truly happy. She didn't work directly with NOAA, but she worked on the water."

Her career path was pretty much set in stone by the time she was in sixth grade.

"My class had a snorkeling trip. We counted fish, collected artifacts, and that's what really set me off," Stone says. "Living on the Thomas Jefferson is cool in



the sense that, in a dorky way, you are a turtle and you travel with your home. Every sailor is enamored with sunsets and sunrises. And the stars shine so brightly."

Stone believes in following one's dreams. Taking adventures. But home will always be part of her adventure.

"Every day I think about home in some form or another... it wasn't until I got a job on the ship that I realized how beautiful this town [Mount Pleasant] is. When I returned, I asked myself, 'How did I not notice this for so long?" she says, smiling.

"Mount Pleasant is so special and unique; although it is changing quickly, the underlying personality will always be a small, friendly town."

#### NOAA FACTS:

• The NOAA Thomas Jefferson is a hydrographic survey vessel that maps the ocean. It has a cruising speed of 11 knots, range of 19,200 nautical miles and an endurance of 45 days.

• It was launched in February of 1991, delivered to Navy in January of 1992 and transferred to NOAA in March of 2003.

• NOAA provides data, tools & services that support coastal economies & their contributions to the national economy.

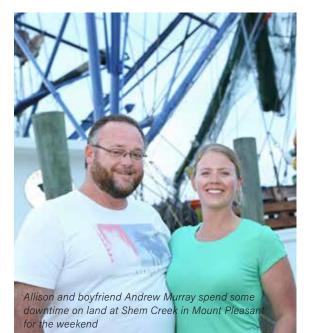
• Programs such as NOAA's National Marine Sanctuaries & the National Estuarine Research Reserve System enable communities to come together to study, discuss & find solutions to a broad range of pressing problems in specific regions around the nation.

• Our world ocean produces over half of the world's oxygen; covers 70% of the Earth's surface, produces \$282 billion in goods & services and provides vital food & medicinal sources.

Sources: NOAA & Office of Marine & Aviation Operations



The Stone Family at their home on Shem Creek, from L to R; Annie, family dog, Gracie, Allison and Graham.





# APTAIN DAVID YATES INTRODUCES DBA-HOP ON A BOAT ANYWHERE

#### Uber for Boats Sets Sail ARTICLE SYDNEY HERWIG | PHOTOGRAPHY WILLIAM QUARLES

C aptain David Yates has spent his whole life on the water. "Welcome to my office," he says as he points to his boat filled with friends unwinding after a day at sea.

Yates began fishing when he was just three years old and later began competing in trout tournaments, learning much of what he knew from his father, David Yates Sr, who was a legendary Charleston trout fisherman.

Up until 2000, Yates was involved in the family construction business, but he and his brother, Jeff, shut it down and both obtained Captain's licenses to pursue their own charter companies.

It's been 17 years now since Yates has established Yates Sea Charters, offering everything from deep-sea fishing charters to getaway rides for brides and grooms. His brother's charter business is TyJo Knot.

It was last summer when Yates discovered Uber, "I just thought it was so cool that you could open it up and have the rides waiting right there. I immediately thought, we need this for boats," Yates says.

He then began developing the idea for HOBA: Hop on a Boat Anywhere by first sitting down with a lawyer who liked his idea and encouraged him to move forward with it. He then sought out an app developer, Tim Barrett, who couldn't believe the idea didn't exist yet. HOBA has since come to fruition and has been operating in Charleston since March.

And it seems to be the perfect market for the app—with so many restaurants accessible by water and so many parties and events happening off-shore, people without a boat can sometimes feel left out of these experiences.





"I'm preying on the 80% of people here who don't have a boat. I want them to feel like one of us. We want to see people in the water. We're their outlet for that," Yates says.

HOBA can take you from point A to point B, on rides around the harbor, taxi out to private beaches and Yates has even had bachelor and bachelorette parties. The opportunities are endless.

"I had one mom book me for a few hours so the kids could go tubing. That's something they probably wouldn't have been able to do if it weren't HOBA," Yates says.

Like Uber, when you pull up the app, you can see who's available near you. You can also schedule a ride ahead of time.

#### **TO FIND A RIDE:**

1. Download the app and open to view the green boat icons. This is where available boat rides are located.

2. Peruse boats for hourly rates and occupancy.

3. Request a ride. Users will receive a private text from the captain and can negotiate the rate and plan the pick-up point.

CONTINUED >



"You can be booked in a minute and a half," Yates says.

Currently, there are approximately 70 different captains on the app. A HOBA captain must have a Captain's license and a 6-pack minimum, which allows at least six people to be on board for rides.

Yates' hopes for the app are for people to get excited about it and share it with their friends. "It really is such a cool, unique experience," he says.

Just in time for summer adventures.

Download the HOBA app by visiting: **hobarides.com**. **Yates Sea Charters** 1312 Bluebird Drive

Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 843.568.2521 charlestonfunfishing.com/yates-sea-charters.php

"IT REALLY IS SUCH A COOL, UNIQUE EXPERIENCE...WE WANT TO SEE PEOPLE IN THE WATER. WE'RE THEIR OUTLET FOR THAT."





















# OM Sallng Charters

Discovering Charleston in a Spectacular Way ARTICLE DEBORAH SLEDZIONA | PHOTOGRAPHY ADAM COLLINS

William Wordsworth wrote, "The ocean is a mighty harmonist." Imagine: The gentle knocks of the waves on a boat, the wind as it whistles through the dewy air, the sun on the horizon as it reflects off the ocean and the faint sounds of thunder rumbling in a midsummer sky.

The ocean has a mysterious way of luring us in and leaving us yearning to explore. Naturally, when Captain Banff Luther of Om Sailing Charters set out on a journey to simplify his life, the sea is where he began.

**OM SAILING CHARTERS** 

O Sau

24 Patriots Point Road Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 843.209.5280 omsailingcharters.com CONTINUED >

"...WHEN YOU ARE MEDITATING IT BRINGS ABOUT A CALM, AND THAT'S WHAT THE BOAT DOES FOR EVERYONE... YOU LOSE ALL THE WORRIES OF THE WORLD."

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Hailing from Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Luther has over twenty-five years of boating experience and has been living on cruising sailboats for over sixteen years.

Five years ago, Luther established Om Sailing Charters in Mount Pleasant. Yoga inspired, the name "Om" was born.

"The idea is that when you are meditating it brings about a calm, and that's what the boat does for everyone... you lose all the worries of the world," Luther explains.

Every day, Luther shares his love for the sea with locals and tourists alike.

The boat comes equipped with four staterooms (bedrooms), four heads (bathrooms), and a beautiful lounging area in the salon. The Om is a Leopard 43 Sailing Catamaran, which separates her from the competition. Catamarans are stable and do not heel (lean or tip under the influence of the wind on sails) like mono hulls, making it the perfect boat for guests to feel comfortable and safe.

The cockpit is equally as large as the interior salon. Shaded with a hard top and a cockpit table, the roomy interior easily sits six for a light picnic or full meal.

"The bow is where most spend their time sitting on the cushions over the netting, providing space for laying in the sun and feeling the breeze. It's an incredible experience since you feel the air rushing from below you and the water occasionally splashing," Luther says.

Guests can sail to the Battery, the Charleston harbor, Sullivan's Island, Fort Sumter, Fort Johnson and James Island. Each cruise introduces them to iconic landmarks in a way that allows them to view and experience them as never before.



Leatherback turtles, dolphins, and diving pelicans are regular sightings.

"It's amazing how much life is in the harbor with as many people who are out there--sailing, boating, enjoying our waterways. I lived on a sail boat for two years in North Carolina, and during the second year, I took a trip to the Bahamas," Luther reveals. "On my way south, I found Charleston."

Luther never takes for granted the remarkable beauty of the city that inspired him to set anchor in Mount Pleasant and the people who make the city so unique.

"We live in a very special town that really supports local businesses and entrepreneurs."

Pack a lunch or dinner. Bring along a few sundries and wine and discover Charleston the way that it was always meant to be seen; on the water.



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# SIOBHAN MAIZE

#### A MOUNT PLEASANT MOTHER, ADVENTURER, ATHLETE AND EARLY RISER

ARTICLE MARIE MARTIN PHOTOGRAPHY WILLIAM QUARLES

Like most mothers, Siobhan Maize's days begin early.

But, for this Mount Pleasant mother of two daughters, Alexis, 11, and Katherine, 13, the mornings aren't just about getting the kids ready and making breakfast.

Maize, an avid endurance athlete, started running marathons in her mid-twenties and since then has completed 18 of them, along with two Ironman's, two half-Ironman's, the Swim Around Key West, Lowcountry Splash, several 50k and 50-mile ultra-marathons, and a number of century bike rides. She also checked the 55-mile Comrades Marathon in South Africa, off her bucket list,

as well as her most recent, the Boston Marathon this past April.

She's actually taking a break, but that break doesn't mean that she isn't working out. Maize swims, bikes and runs each week and lately, more strength training has been added to the list. An early riser, she believes her schedule has much to do with her success as an athlete.

"I need to be home when my kids wake up, so I get up early, before my family. That's when I carve out time for my workouts," she says.

Of course, her children are a big motivator. She wants to show her kids that being healthy and fit makes for a happy life.

"I don't want them to think I'm doing this because I want to look good," she says. "I'm doing this because I want to show them that it is important for women to be strong too."

Maize went to high school in the DC area and then to the University of South Carolina where she met her husband, John Maize Jr., M.D., a local dermatologist. She ran her first 5k in graduate school.

"I wasn't athletic as a kid," she says. "After graduate school, I wanted to run a marathon and then I just got hooked and wanted to try longer distances. I fell in love with triathlons after I had my second daughter. That's when I signed up for the James Island Sprint Series and the Kiawah Island Triathlon." CONTINUED >

For marathon & triathlon advice, call Siobhan at Blue Sky Endurance

725 Coleman Blvd. Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 843.800.5330 **blueskyendurance.com** 

-









Maize has lived in Mount Pleasant for 14 years. She currently works parttime at Blue Sky Endurance, a triathlon clothing and gear store, located off Coleman Boulevard. She enjoys sharing her experiences with others, especially people new to the sport.

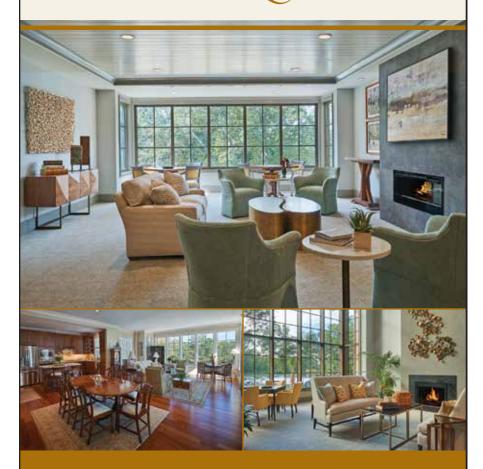
Her husband says, "She has a true desire to help others figure out how to set and meet their own athletic goals - whether they're first timers or seasoned veterans."

As a busy working mom, Maize finds solace in her training. "It is so peaceful to wake up before everyone else," she says. "I love it. I see shooting stars and the moon is so beautiful."

Maize says that it's that sense of adventure and time alone that makes endurance training so enticing. "There is nothing that compares to that instant gratification I have after a workout."



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THE QUAY

# Your NEICHBORHOODS

#### FOCUS ON THE OLD VILLAGE

Taking a stroll in Mount Pleasant's Old Village is like visiting a different era. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973, it's obvious why so many choose to call the Old Village, one of Mount Pleasant's oldest waterfront communities, home. Historic Pitt Street was featured in the movie, *The Notebook*, and brings tourists each year to visit its tony shops, restaurants, eateries and hotspots. Harkening back to a time when life was lived at a much slower pace, residents are within walking distance to its shops, green spaces and nearby Shem Creek. Recognized for its stunning 18th & 19th century architectural style, beautiful parks, breathtaking harbor views, tree-lined, quiet streets and close proximity to Sullivan's Island, it's one of Mount Pleasant's most treasured neighborhoods.

#### FAST FACTS ABOUT THE OLD VILLAGE

• Jacob Motte, Charleston City Treasurer, built a house on a property in 1759 and the 67-acre plantation was called Mount Pleasant. James Hibben purchased the plantation in 1803 and renovated the home. It still stands in the Old Village and is the oldest building in Mount Pleasant, known as the Hibben House.

• Wealthy Charlestonians summered in the Village and many of the original homes, which date back to the post-civil war era, remain.

• The Village's historic districts is comprised of 30 blocks bound by the Charleston Harbor, Shem Creek, Royal Avenue and McCants Drive.

• The Pitt Street Pharmacy on Pitt Street opened its doors 80 years ago. Many residents consider it the "heart" of their main street.

• The Post House, an Inn, tavern and upscale restaurant also located on Pitt Street, was originally built by German immigrants in 1888.

• The Pitt Street Bridge built in 1898 offers spectacular views of the Charleston harbor and is a hotspot for walking, running, biking, fishing, dog-walking, people-watching and water activities.

• Mount Pleasant Academy, a public elementary school located on Center Street in the Old Village, was awarded the National Blue Ribbon of Excellence and The Palmetto Gold School for Academic Achievement.

• Alhambra Hall, which overlooks the Charleston Harbor was a former Ferry Terminal, and now serves as a popular spot for weddings and other events.

• Sales prices of lots and homes in the Old Village/Old Mt. Pleasant range from \$300K to over \$3M.

- Old Mount Pleasant units built as of 2015: 1558; total units approved is 1703.\*
- Old Village Landing units built as of 2015: 95; total units approved is 113.\*

\*TOMP 2016 Demographics Report Website: oldvillagedistrict.com.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BRIGITTE SURETTE

# July

#### JULY 1, 4-11 PM

## THE INDEPENDENCE CRAWL: AMERICAN OUTLAW EDITION DOWNTOWN CHARLESTON

A portion of the proceeds from this event will benefit the Palmetto Warrior Foundation. Visit **www.facebook.com/HolyCityCrawlers/** for more info.

#### JULY 2

#### ST ANDREWS-MIDDLETON ALUMNI RIDE PATRIOTS POINT PATRIOTS POINT

St. Andrews-Middleton Alumni Boat Ride! Bring in Independence Day with your fellow alumni! Boarding begins at 8:00pm, and we will be leaving the dock promptly at 8:30pm. For more information, email us at stamhshomecoming@gmail.com.

#### JULY 4, 7 PM-11 PM

#### UNCLE SAM JAM MOUNT PLEASANT PIER

Dance to live music from the Recollections at the Mount Pleasant Pier! Watch the area's best fireworks displays! Admission will be \$10 on-site, if available.

#### JULY 4, 7:30 AM-10:30 AM I'ON CLUB FIRECRACKER 5K RUN/WALK THE I'ON CLUB

The 2nd Annual I'On Club Firecracker 5K Run/Walk through the roads & trails of the I'On neighborhood--all ages! This year also includes a special "Re-Enabled Athletes" Course: a shorter 1.5 mile course for people of all physical abilities, both able-bodied and those recovering from injury. All proceeds benefit the I Got Legs campaign, helping to re-enable athletes post-injury.

#### JULY 4, FROM 7 PM - 10 PM

#### SEA STARS & STRIPES

#### SOUTH CAROLINA AQUARIUM

Join the Aquarium for some tasty American fare, the Aquarium experience, and an amazing view of the fireworks show over the Charleston Harbor. The celebration kicks-off at 7:00 p.m. on July 4th and wraps up after the fireworks show.

\$60 adult / \$55 member adult

\$30 children / \$25 member children

Children two and under are free

#### JULY 4, FROM 4-10 PM

#### 4TH OF JULY BLAST AT PATRIOT'S POINT MT PLEASANT

Enjoy a professional fireworks display and shore side party with a beach music band. Watch the fireworks on the USS Yorktown! VIP tickets available for \$110, general admission is \$40. For more info visit **patriotspoint.org** or call 843.884.2727.

# JULY 10-20, 9:30 AM TO 1:30 PM fashion camp

#### MOUNT PLEASANT TOWNE CENTRE

Fashion Camp Counselors will share the secrets of beauty, the art of accessorizing, designing, and developing a personal style. It's like a fashion week in Paris, a day in Hollywood and an elegant party all rolled into one. For girls age 6-14. Cost: \$65/day. Sponsored locally by Roper St. Francis Mount Pleasant Hospital. Email: kherrman@bayerproperties for more info.

#### JULY 11, 6:30-7:30 PM

READ ANYTHING BOOK CLUB MOUNT PLEASANT LIBRARYT

Read and share whatever books you enjoy with other Charleston book lovers. Call 843.849-6161 for more info.

#### JULY 13, 4-6 PM

### LIFESTYLE MANAGEMENT FOR TOTAL WELLBEING SEMINAR & NETWORKING HAPPY HOUR

#### MOUNT PLEASANT WATERFRONT PARK COOPER RIVER ROOM

The Charleston Healthy Business Challenge is a FREE collaborative program designed to help businesses and organizations improve the overall health and well-being of their employees. Email Dr. Susan Johnson at susan@chbchallenge.com or visit **www.chbchallenge.com** for more information.

#### JULY 13, 6-8 PM

#### PAWS ON THE PATIO

#### BURTON'S GRILL, MOUNT PLEASANT TOWN CENTRE

Bring your four-legged friends and enjoy an exclusive happy hour on the patio at Burtons Grill to benefit Charleston Animal Society. \$25 per person covers two drink tickets, plus an appetizer buffet. Fidos, of course, are free!

\$10 per person will be donated to the Charleston Animal Society.

#### JULY 15, RACE BEGINS AT 8 AM

#### IOP BEACH RUN

#### ISLE OF PALMS

Race day registration & packet pickup 7:00am at the Windjammer -Front Beach 5K/10K Run 8:00am 5K Walk 8:00am Youth Fun Runs 9:00am Awards for 5K &10K Following Youth Fun Runs at the Windjammer



#### **ARTICLE MAYOR LINDA PAGE**

Adventure: "An undertaking of uncertain outcome which may involve danger or unknown risk, perhaps an enterprise involving chance, fortune, or luck." To me, adventure is any exciting or remarkable experience.

Growing up on Sullivan's Island, I was often an unsupervised adventurer. Morning adventures were based on the tides; low tide brought wonders in from the tidal pools—slimy, oyster shells laden with jetties; stone crabs creviced deep in the rocks which I'd coax out and snap off a claw for a seafood lunch and other mornings, there'd be stranded fish or minnows which I'd trap and release into Breach Inlet.

I was a fish rescuer. Retirees fished the inlet every day and they called me "The Aggravator." They'd catch a spot tail bass, flounder or mullet, place them in their croaker sacks and lay them on the sand. Once they turned their attention to the next hit on the surf rods, daring little Linda Page would spring into action and sneak fish with gasping gills out of the sacks, race up the beach and release them. Many mornings of my youth were spent running along the shoreline. Various characters—Mr. Carl or Mr. Bellansano—fished every day, and nearly every day, each threatened to tell my parents what a menace I was.

At high tide, the beach was off limits. Our home, located next to the old rifle range on the island, brought plenty of adventure. I'd gather buckets full of civil war bullets or hunt and trap horned toads that I thought could spit blood out of their eyes if angered. Depending on the season, I foraged blackberries, sour grass or wild asparagus.

There were old military forts and batteries to explore and we'd enter their dark interiors, usually on a dare and without the benefit of a flashlight. Kids on the island knew you could easily slide past a half-closed gate or hop a worn-down fence and climb to the man-made hilltops to slide down on cardboard boxes. What great adventures we had!

Sullivan's Island had scrubby old trees within sparse woods. When we moved to the mainland of Mount Pleasant, I discovered lush woods, full of trees that needed to be climbed and hidden forts that needed to be built. My Dad had a shop on Coleman Boulevard that was heated with coal and the coal pile was my "gold." I pretended to be a pirate like Anne Bonny, declaring the bounty as mine. I played glorious games with the kids whose parents owned Cockcroft's Barbecue and we'd play Pirates (my favorite) as well as Cowboys and Indians. I recall being cast as the hapless settler often; captured and tied to the stake in the barbecue pit.

The adventures I have now—trips on a C-17 with Joint Base Charleston, road trips north to pick out the best items for resale here in the big red barn and the weekly adventures of seeking solutions to the many issues that face my beloved Mount Pleasant and her residents—are all exciting and remarkable.

When I was elected Mayor, I heard from the outgoing Mayor Billy Swails that he had cleaned out the office and it was all mine. When I opened the door for the first time, I smiled, finding a large Jolly Roger flag strung across the back wall. He and some fellow council members were responsible, believing that there were now "pirates in the palace."

> I hope your life is full of adventure, because it's important to not just live...but to create a life.



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