



Island Report

Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values

Update on BHA Board's 2021 Priorities

At the May BHA Board of Directors meeting, directors provided an update on the 2021 priorities the Board adopted at its annual retreat in February:

1. Wildlife Overlook

Pilings have been installed and the wooden platforms and walkway should begin taking shape shortly. Staff is working with the BHI Conservancy and the Village to develop the educational signage that will be installed at the Overlook closer to completion. Photos on the construction progress are on page 5 in this *Island Report* and also on the website at BaldHeadAssociation.com/wildlife-overlook.

2. Transparency and Engagement

Nominating Committee Chair Tiffany Williams discussed the need to add members to the committee, who will identify candidates to run for the BHA Board in 2022. Those interested should contact Tiffany Williams at tiffany@tiffanysrentals.com.

3. BHA Space Needs

Staff has developed a plan to reconfigure the Association Center to make better use of the space.

4. Finance Issues

The Finance Committee and staff are preparing for the annual audit. The committee met in April to begin an in-depth

review of the reserves study in preparation for the 2022 budget development.

5. ARC

Representatives of BHA and the Harbour Association met to discuss the Harbour's request for BHA to provide ARC services once BHI Limited turns over control of the ARC as of May 31, 2021.

6. Community Wide Standards

After careful deliberation, the Board has determined that a committee of property owners is needed to conduct the property evaluations needed for BHA to enforce its Community Wide Standards. A new Community Wide Standards Committee will be chaired by Debra Drumheller and consists of Terry Steelman, Bob Keiger, Jeff Kenney, Shari Beavers and Trisha Barnard. Committee members were approved at the May Board meeting. Protocols and procedures are being developed now to guide the committee in its work.

7. Supporting and Improving BHA Operations

Preliminary work has been completed on this priority by identifying a consultant to evaluate BHA's operations. Further progress on this priority has been paused until funds for hiring a consultant can be incorporated into the 2022 budget.



Let's All Conserve Water on this Island We Love

On May 21, 2021, Brunswick County issued a Stage I Water Conservation Alert. View the notice at BaldHeadAssociation.com/news. With an increased demand for water during the summer season, conserving water is important for everyone.

Yes, YOU Can Help Conserve Water!

Here are some tips for conserving water:

- Inspect and repair all faulty and defective parts of faucets and toilets. Pay attention to dripping sounds.
- Do not leave faucets running while shaving, brushing teeth, rinsing or preparing food.
- Install water-saving showerheads and other water conservation devices.
- Install water-saving devices in toilets.
- Limit the use of clothes washers and dishwashers and when used, operate fully loaded. Operate dishwashers outside of the peak demand hours of 5:00am to 11:00am, preferably after nightfall.

Do Not Use Your Toilet as a Trash Can

The Village's Public Utilities Department asks property owners and renters to help prevent damaging and costly sewer backups by being careful of what items are flushed. Even though

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Ask ARC before any work begins!

- Planning a renovation project or new construction?
- Wanting to change outdoor lighting or fixtures?
- Thinking about cutting/trimming trees or vegetation?
- Considering any landscape changes?


ARC office — open by appointment only

Email Fran Pagliaro, ARC Coordinator, at Fran@BaldHeadAssociation.com or call Carol Collins, ARC Associate, at 910-477-7246.

Your Success with Architectural Submittals

Fully completed submittals have the best chance for a successful review. You can help prevent delays and surprises if you ensure submittals for ARC are fully completed and received prior to deadline dates.

When you submit your ARC application, do you know which form to fill out and where to find user-friendly checklists? Here is a handy, step-by-step guide:

- Visit BaldHeadAssociation.com.
- Click on “Unified Design Guidelines.” This is a large document, so let it fully open.
- Go to page 29 — “Review Fees for Single Family Residences”
- On page 29, identify the category that best describes your project — new construction, major renovations, minor renovations, demolition, decorative item/other and paint/color. **NOTE:** For landscape changes and tree/vegetation trimming or removal requests, contact ARC (Fran@BaldHeadAssociation.com).
- Locate your project category on pages 14-23 and use the requirement details as a checklist to compile each element.
- Submit the requirements and the fee (check made payable to Bald Head Association) to the ARC two weeks or more before that month’s ARC meeting for your location. **NOTE:** For Section A and B meeting/deadline schedules, visit BaldHeadAssociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines. BHI property areas are listed on each section schedule.
- **Due to current high volume, ARC recommends that property owners submit applications at least two months in advance of the desired start date.**
- **NOTE:** For keyword searches in the Design Guidelines document, click “CTRL F” to open the search bar. 



Looking at Altering Your Landscaping?

Any change to the exterior of your home, including landscaping, must be approved by the ARC. First and most importantly, as you look at the landscaping around your home and consider cutting, trimming and/or planting, make certain the areas you are looking at are **ON YOUR LOT** — not on BHA Common Area (which must be pre-approved by the BHA Board of Directors); not on someone else’s property; and not on SILT (Smith Island Land Trust) lots, which are deemed to remain as is, with no cutting of any kind allowed. Review the Design Guidelines (visit BaldHeadAssociation.com) for all details. Landscape planning details for new construction begins on page 153, landscape change information for existing homes starts on page 155 and clearing/trimming/maintaining details begin on page 156.

Here are the general landscaping concerns: “ARC review and approval is required before the removal of trees 3 inches in diameter measured 48” along the trunk from ground level, tree limbs of 3 inches or more in diameter, clustered growth vegetation 2 square feet or more at ground level, regardless of branching habits or diameter of the branches. Within the understory, ARC approval is also required to remove vegetation 1 inch or greater in diameter measured 48” along the trunk from ground level.”

Some additional important points in the Design Guidelines are covered on page 157: “Removal of Understory and Ground Cover in naturalized areas on existing home sites is prohibited. Do not weed-eat or cut down naturalized areas of understory and ground cover.

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ARC By the Numbers YTD 2021 vs. 2020

	2021	2020
Tree trimming or removal requests:	33	10
Paint and roof color requests:	34	13
Scan/elevation/plan requests:	27	2

Our Gathering Spot*By Alan Briggs*

to make a Village
a Community
it takes a gathering spot

that brings all
together with each other
for a moment

it may be
a hitching post
a coffee shop

a town hall
a town square
where neighbors meet

and say "hello"
and visit
however briefly

a chat
with an old friend
even for a minute

for Bald Head Island
our post office is
our gathering spot

it makes Bald Head Island
a Village
a community

it is the gathering spot
that brings us together
with neighbors

it is the pause where you linger
for a moment and
say "hello" to an old friend

and it is the
warmth and friendliness
of Gina, Cory & Stephen

that ties it all together
in a nice neat package
signed, sealed and delivered.

BHA President's Letter ~ Alan Briggs

Coming Back to Life

Spring has sprung. Life on Bald Head Island is on its way back. Memorial Day happened. The pools are open. It is June. It has been a magnificent May on our little paradise. And now the summer season is almost here. This summer is far different than last. At this time last year, we were just settling in for a long, challenging, pandemic summer. This year we are slowly but surely emerging from the pandemic world.

The BHA Is Coming Back to Life

And for Bald Head Association, it is the same — we are returning. All looks and feels cautiously good. We are not done with the pandemic, but we are pointed in the right direction and are slowly and steadily moving forward.

For the last year, our offices have generally been closed and only open by appointment. Our employees have been working full-time, primarily remotely, except for a skeleton crew so we could be available to our members and others. But now, most staff are back in the office regularly, and our doors are open to all from 9:00am-4:00pm Monday through Friday. Face masks are required for entry.

Our BHA committees are coming back to life. The availability of our Association Center is back for all. Yes, there are new rules — safe distancing and protocols. But that is good. In-person meetings are happening again.

It is not all the same as it was before. No, but it is close. It is good, and life is good. And BHA is back to working more fully face-to-face. There are two things I would like you to do to help us continue progressing.

1. Get Involved with BHA and Participate

We need your help to fully and completely bring BHA back to life and to be able to serve you as well or better than we have in the past. First and foremost, we need you to be back.

We need you to step up and participate in activities BHA's staff and committees are planning in the coming weeks and months. We need you to venture out, when and where you are comfortable, and attend BHA functions that are of interest to you. We need you to help bring BHA and BHI back to life.

2. Let Us Know If Our Communications Are Working for You

As you know, one of our priorities this year is transparency. We want the work we are doing for you to be transparent to you. One of the ways we are seeking to accomplish this is to expand our communications to let you know what you need to know when you need to know it.

Pam Henson is the Communications Associate at Bald Head Association and handles BHA communications. She works very hard on getting to you — our members — any and all information that we think you may want to know. There are three primary communication tools Pam currently uses: **A) BHA's Compass** is a periodic email bulletin sent to all members who have signed up and includes items of news or timeliness that are important to get to you right away. Pam works at all hours of the day and night to see that you get the news you need when you need it.

Pam has important news articles and resource links to help you obtain more in-depth information about these subjects.


B) The Island Report is what you are now reading. This monthly publication has been a long-standing publication mailed to members and published online. It contains in-depth articles and helpful information about BHA activities and other organizations' activities on the Island.

C) The BHA Website — I encourage you to spend some time on the BHA website. It is a treasure trove of helpful information about Bald Head Association and Bald Head Island. Visit BaldHeadAssociation.com.

You may be surprised how much interesting and helpful information you will find on our website. Spend the time exploring various categories, and you will find anything and everything you need to know about BHA and BHI. Don't forget to use the key word search bar at the top of the page for specific topics.

On the home page, there are links to our history, office hours, Board and staff rosters, committee information, the Articles of Incorporation, the bylaws, the Covenants, the Policies, the Community Wide Standards (CWS), the Architectural Design Guidelines and much, much more. If you just spend a little time exploring, you will really appreciate how hard Pam works to give you the information you need.

Then, communicate to us. Let us know if our methods of communication are working for you. If not, let us know how we can improve.

We are back. Life is good. 



Village of BHI Updates

By Carin Faulkner, Village Public Information Officer

Hurricane Season Is Here — Make Sure You Are Ready

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1st to November 30th each year. For North Carolina, the worst storms seem to come later in the season, but now is the time to prepare. According to a 2021 Atlantic hurricane season outlook by The Weather Company, this hurricane season is predicted to be more active than usual. Dr. Todd Crawford, a chief meteorologist at The Weather Company, indicated that 18 named storms, eight hurricanes and three major hurricanes are expected this season. This forecast is above the 30-year average (1991 to 2020) of 14 named storms, seven hurricanes and three major hurricanes. This outlook is based on several factors, including Atlantic Ocean sea-surface temperatures, computer model forecasts and past hurricane seasons exhibiting similar atmospheric conditions.

The Atlantic hurricane season for 2020 was also predicted to be above normal for storm activity, and this turned out to be correct. A record 30 named storms formed during the 2020 season, 14 of which became hurricanes.

Village officials have already begun preparations, including reviewing the Village's Emergency Management Plan (EMP), ensuring contact information is up-to-date, ensuring equipment is in working condition and that the off-island Emergency Operations Center (EOC) contract is renewed for this year. Village EOC staff are planning for a table-top exercise this month.

Below are two steps you can take now to prepare:

1) Sign up for the Code Red notification system

The Village of Bald Head Island utilizes an emergency notification system in cooperation with Brunswick County known as Code Red. Village of Bald Head Island citizens can register to receive emergency messaging and updates about specific events (i.e., hurricanes and/or tropical storms). This system will be used in addition to the Village's Voice to send important messages via email and text. Registrants can choose which methods of contact they prefer. Messages can be targeted to areas of the Island, so be sure to use your physical address on the Island when you sign up. The Village also uses this service to send messages about utility outages.

You can sign up online by going to the Village's website (<https://villagebhi.org>) — hover your cursor on "Residents and Owners," and under "Sign up For," select "Notifications (CodeRed).

2) Register for BHI property owner re-entry list

If an evacuation of the Island occurs, the re-entry procedure will be determined on several factors, including guidance from the Emergency Operations Team, Mayor and the Public Safety Director. Property owners (with structures on their property) should register with the Village so they can be allowed back on the Island to check their properties after the storm.

During Hurricane Dorian last year, the Village used its Instagram account (@villagebhi) to post photos and videos so that folks could see what the conditions on the Island were before, during and after the storm. Plans are to utilize the Instagram account as well as other social media accounts for future storms.

You can register your property online by going to the Village's website — hover your cursor on "Residents and Owners," and under "Submit A," select "Property Registration."

Here are a few more steps you can take to prepare:

Create an emergency communication plan with your family, friends and neighbors. This plan spells out how everyone will contact each other.

Create an emergency preparation plan for your property to include emptying refrigerators/freezers, securing outdoor furniture, clearing loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts. If you have a "house check" service with a property manager, building contractor or other trusted source, reach out to them to establish communications before, during and after the event passes.

Build an emergency kit. Keep it ready at home, at work and in your golf cart. The [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) website has some ideas on what to include in your kit.

Check your insurance coverage. Damage caused by heavy winds, wind-driven rain and flooding may not be covered by homeowner's insurance policies. Buy flood insurance. Buy golf cart insurance (considered much like an automobile policy).

The NC Department of Insurance has "A Consumer's Guide to

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Wildlife Overlook Progress

Check out more photos at BaldHeadAssociation.com/wildlife-overlook!

- 1st stage of vegetation plantings is completed, with plants/trees being watered to help ensure their longevity.
- 2nd stage of vegetation plantings will be completed once Duke Energy site project is finished.
- Educational signage is in the process, with BHA collaborating with the BHI Conservancy and the Village of BHI.



••• Continued from page 4 (Village of BHI Updates)

Disaster Preparedness” document online, which can help guide you further.

Have an evacuation plan. Know the evacuation routes ahead of time. For permanent residents on the Island, it is critical to have a plan for alternative living arrangements (include medications), which could extend into several weeks in the case of major damage to the Island.

Download an emergency weather app on your phone and purchase a weather radio.

Keep all important documents in a waterproof container to take with you if you evacuate.

Identify the safest place in your home in case of a tornado and/or flooding. For a tornado, this would be a small, interior, windowless room or hallway on the lowest floor.

There are many resources online that provide additional

helpful tips to prepare for hurricanes. If you are new to the Island and have not been through one yet, reach out to your neighbors. They can be very helpful in providing information on how they prepared for the last few storms and what they learned they need to do for the next one. If you have any tips you would like to share, which could be used in future Village communications, please send them to public.information@villagebhi.org.

Check Your Deck!

The corrosive nature of the coastal environment can take a heavy toll on wood and fasteners, and it's important to routinely inspect the condition of your property and take any necessary corrective action. There are many licensed general contractors and home inspectors that would be happy to assist.

In accordance with North Carolina law, the Village inspects

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A blue Club Car golf cart is shown from the front-left side, featuring a tan roof, a black steering wheel, and a black front bumper. The "Club Car" logo is visible on the front grille. The background is a blurred view of a beach and ocean under a blue sky with light clouds.

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Island Time Medical and Wellness

Bald Head Island now has a full-spectrum family practice that offers 24/7/365 access via office visits, house calls, telehealth visits and phone/text/email. Island Time Medical and Wellness is owned by Lou Ann Earnhardt, AGPCNP-BC. The long acronym stands for Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, and she is board certified.

Ms. Earnhardt's clinic model is based on "direct primary care," which accepts memberships for access in lieu of medical insurance. With today's options of telehealth, it doesn't matter where your home base is or how much time you spend on BHI. Ms. Earnhardt explains, "The direct primary care model allows me to take the time needed to treat each of my patients with the care, compassion and devotion to really make a difference in improving my patients' health."

Not a member yet, have an urgent care need or need assistance on a weekend or after hours? You can call the clinic to arrange an appointment, and she'll explain any applicable fees or about becoming a member.

When asked about opening her clinic on BHI, Ms. Earnhardt said, "There's always been a need for a clinic like ours on Bald Head Island. With Covid, many people didn't want to have to go off the Island for care. I decided it was a good time to open up full time." She officially opened on January 5, 2021.


Ms. Earnhardt is a BHI Public Safety volunteer, and she is working to enlist another BHI property owner who is a registered nurse to help at Island Time Medical for the summer.

The office and staff are following Covid safety protocols, and Ms. Earnhardt is working with Brunswick County to offer Covid vaccinations.

The clinic offers additional services, such as IV therapies for hydration, immune boosts or to alleviate hangover symptoms.

Island Time Medical has many fans. Ms. Earnhardt shared a comment from a patient, "You sat here and listened to me." Another testimonial from Michael B., expounded, "What a tremendous benefit having Lou and her team on the Island. I had a severe allergic reaction late on a Sunday afternoon. Lou picked me up, got me to the clinic and immediately took action. Within 10 minutes, my symptoms were on the decline and my vision was clear. Lou got me home and as an added benefit made sure I had a healthy dinner waiting for me when I woke up from my siesta. Medical care the way it should be!"


Island Time Medical is located in Suite 3 at Station 32 (the former fire station), 251 Edward Teach Extension, Bald Head Island, NC. Hours are subject to change for seasons, so call or check the website for updates. Beginning the week of Memorial Day, hours are 10:00am-2:00pm Monday-Friday. The phone number is 910-477-6848. For more information, along with membership details and rates, visit <https://islandtimemedical.com>.

Please note that for all emergencies, call 911. Tell the dispatch operator that you are on Bald Head Island, and Public Safety emergency responders will come to you. 

••• Continued from page 5 (Village of BHI Updates)

any new construction and significant repairs or renovations at the time the work is completed but does not engage in routine, periodic inspections. This responsibility ultimately falls on the property owner, although the Village's building inspector will inspect any property for which a specific complaint is received. To assist our property owners, Village staff has prepared a simple, helpful Citizen's Guide to Deck Safety (<https://villagebhi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Deck-Safety-Flyer-BHI.pdf>). This flyer includes a graphic illustrating typical deck construction, along with illustrations of common problems and other helpful tips.

Additionally, it's important for everyone (property owners and visitors) to be mindful of the number of people gathered on a particular deck or section of deck.

If you have questions or need additional information or assistance, please contact the Village's Development Services Administrator Stephen Boyett at 910-457-9700, ext. 1004 or sboyett@villagebhi.org. 

News and updates, including about the BHI Transportation Authority (BHITA), are posted at:
BaldHeadAssociation.com/news



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Celebrate Summer with the BHI Conservancy

As summer heats up, the Bald Head Island Conservancy is excited to continue our work to fulfill our mission, as we Discover, Learn, Conserve and Preserve. We are thrilled to bring 13 interns to our campus this summer to help us with a full schedule of activities.

All of our tours and programs are back, including camps!

Conservancy Nature Camps offer children ages 5-12 the chance to explore, play and learn during outdoor adventures around Bald Head Island. Campers visit the beach, the forest and the salt marsh, and they meet live animals, play games, make crafts and have fun! Conservancy Camps are offered from 9:00am-12:00pm Monday through Thursday from May 31 through August 5. The cost is \$55/day or \$200/week per camper, and BHI Conservancy members receive a 10% discount. Learn more at bit.ly/BHICcamp.

Weekly Turtle Trot 5Ks are back again this summer!

To help keep our crowds at a safe number, we will continue our staggered start time slots. Remember, pre-registration is required. You can sign up at www.bhic.org/turtle-trots. If you aren't able to make it to the Island, we are still offering our virtual trot. Visit our website to learn more, and there is an option to receive a 2021 trot t-shirt.

Our popular July 4th auction and raffle are back this summer!


Join us on campus on July 2nd from 11:00am-2:00pm for a

special showcase event and some fun celebratory activities.

Turtle Central continues to maintain safe practices for our customers, and we are excited to bring back Turtle Tuesdays on the Front Porch of TC from 4:00-5:30pm — sip, shop and save sea turtles!

The Conservancy will continue to conduct conservation science work for Village-sponsored environmental projects this summer. These include drone flights for vegetation mapping, evening wildlife spotlight surveys (including on the golf course), groundwater well monitoring and nesting shorebird protective postings on beaches. If you have questions or concerns about these activities, please email conservation@bhic.org. If you encounter injured or at-risk wildlife, including nesting or hatching sea turtles, please call our 24-hour Emergency Wildlife Response Hotline at 910-457-0089, option 5, and leave a message. Our staff will respond as soon as possible.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, sea turtle nest excavations will not be advertised to the public again this season to avoid crowds. If you happen to see the Conservancy's Sea Turtle Protection Team on the beach, feel free to stop by and ask what we are doing. You can also become a BHI Conservancy member and join us on one of our nightly Turtle Walks. Become a member at www.bhic.org/become-a-member and then register for a Turtle Walk at bit.ly/BHITurtleWalk. Spaces are limited, so become a member and register early.

Follow us on social media at [@BHIConservancy](https://www.instagram.com/BHIConservancy) to stay updated on all of our summer events and activities this year. 



Dale Giera, General Contractor

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**BHI references available upon request*

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Old Baldy's Summer Events

By Abby Overton, Communications and Development Coordinator

Celebrate the summer on BHI with the Old Baldy Foundation at some of the most beloved Island traditions, from the Fourth of July Golf Cart Parade, the annual Run for the Light and the National Lighthouse Day celebration! Old Baldy is thrilled for the safe return of our festivities after a year of cancellations and postponements due to the pandemic. Precautions will be in place at all events to further mitigate the spread of COVID-19. You can find detailed information about these events at www.ldbaldy.org or by reaching out to abby@ldbaldy.org.



Photograph by Jerry Waits.

Benjamin Smith

By Hunter Ingram, Educator

A letter sent to the sheriff of New Hanover County in 1827 opens with a very specific and urgent command: take the body of Benjamin Smith into custody before someone else gets their hands on him.

This is a bit of a curious order considering, at this point,

Smith had been dead for a year or more, depending on when it was sent. But in the story of Smith's colorful life, this wrinkle was one of many that defined a complicated man.

The letter, which specifically details the debts owed by the penniless Smith when he died in 1826, illustrates the unceremonious and strange end to the life of someone whose name carried significant recognition — and eventually notoriety — at a formative moment in the Cape Fear and North Carolina's histories.

Smith was a Revolutionary War veteran, North Carolina governor (1810-1811) and owner of multiple Cape Fear plantations run by a robust amount of slave labor. He was the namesake of Smithville, now Southport, and an initial benefactor of the University of North Carolina. Throughout his adult life, he was a staunch politician who lent his voice to decisions at all levels of government, including stints in the North Carolina House of Representatives and the Continental Congress.

But none of that shielded him from bad investments and poor choices that left him in debt to many when he died — at a time

in history when the last form of payment a collector might seek is one's body.

The letter to the sheriff seemingly alludes to such an effort, as Smith's professional and personal debts continued to be sorted out in his final days. The letter is part of the Old Baldy Foundation's permanent collection, one of several documents that detail aspects of Smith's life and that of his family, who were the first owners of the Smith Island Complex, including Bald Head Island.

Smith was the son of Thomas Smith, a branch on one of the most powerful family trees in South Carolina, and Sarah Moore Smith, the daughter of Orton Plantation builder Roger Moore.

He would be the last of his family name to own the Island his ancestor, Thomas Landgrave Smith II, first acquired in 1713.

It briefly left the family during the mid-1700s and became the property of William Dry, the port collector of Brunswick Town, the region's first permanent settlement. But Benjamin Smith's marriage to Dry's daughter, Sarah, brought the land back under his family's name. The couple actually shared a common ancestor — Col. William Rhett, the man responsible for capturing the pirate Stede Bonnet not once but twice.

Having regained the land once owned by his family, it was not long before an opportunity arose to use the quiet patch of wilderness for some good.

In 1789, plans began forming to build a lighthouse at the mouth of Cape Fear that could offer mariners a guiding light to the river's entrance. It was to be initially funded by a tax

Continued on page 19



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BHI Questions? Bald Head Island Transportation

As more people come back to Bald Head Island for the summer, there are always many questions about the ferry, tram, parking and barge. The ferry and tram systems are currently privately owned by BHI Limited, leased by BHI Transportation and regulated by the NC Utilities Commission (NCUC). These systems include the ferries, trams, docks, barge and parking, and BHI Limited has been working with the BHI Transportation Authority (BHITA) toward the possibility of acquiring the assets since 2017. Progress is temporarily on hold while the Local Government Commission (LGC) seeks additional information for its June 16th meeting. Meanwhile, the information in this article details the current situation, which may change in the near future.

Ferries are back to a full capacity of 150 passengers. According to the federal and North Carolina executive orders, **all passengers are still required to wear a “hands free” facial mask/covering at all times on ferries, trams and shuttles whether inside or outside, and to practice social distancing whenever possible.** For timely ferry announcements and schedules, and to make online tram reservations, visit BaldHeadIslandFerry.com. For tram reservations departing Deep Point Marina and going to BHI homes, call 910-457-5003. For tram reservations departing BHI, call 910-457-5006. Call in advance, especially during busy times on BHI (such as rental turnover days). During emergency evacuations, make tram reservations as far in advance as possible.

The Barge

The Barge is available for carrying cargo, vehicles, supplies




and equipment to Bald Head Island. Wind/ weather permitting, the barge runs Monday through Friday, and the last barge off the Island is 4:00pm. For appointments, fees, details and announcements, call 910-457-5205 or visit BHIBarge.com. Barge office hours are 7:30am-2:30pm Monday-Friday. Make reservations as much in advance as possible,

with a minimum of two weeks in advance recommended, especially if returning on the same day.

Keep in mind that barge reservations must be canceled at least 24 hours in advance to avoid being charged the full amount. And only one person is allowed in the vehicle while on the barge, which is a Coast Guard regulation.

Delays and cancellations due to inclement weather such as fog and high winds can affect the barge schedule, so contact the barge office for timely information. If the barge cannot run and your service provider is stuck on Bald Head Island, contact the Dockmaster at 910-457-7380. Make sure that your service provider is aware of all of this information in advance. If the barge cannot run, the internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle driver will have to make arrangements to return to Deep Point on the contractor or passenger ferry and then come back to BHI for the vehicle's return trip the next business day.

If, however, your service provider missed the barge for another reason, such as being late, he/she has to report to Contractor Services. This affects the ICE daily permit, parking and arrangements to return to Deep Point on the contractor or passenger ferry. **Remember that no ICE vehicles can be parked at a residence overnight.**

Fun fact: the BHI barge can hold up to 137 long tons, or 306,880 pounds. 


New to BHA? Online Resources and Answers to FAQs

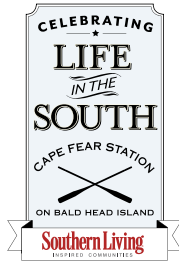
If you're new to BHA, you probably have lots of questions. You may have a lot on Bald Head Island and are considering building. What is the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) process, when are the meetings and deadlines, where are the applications and how long is the project approval valid? (Here's the answer to the last question: project approval by the ARC is valid for 24 months from the date of approval.) The Design Guidelines has all these answers and much more. Visit BHA's website (BaldHeadAssociation.com) for the Design Guidelines, as well as many resources and much more. The online Design Guidelines document is easily searchable by key word by clicking “CTRL + F” to open the search bar.

Looking for upcoming events on BHI? Visit our events calendar on the website. Want to see how the Wildlife Overlook construction is progressing? Visit the website and select “About BHA,” then “Wildlife Overlook.” Or, you can simply use the search function at the top, right of the website and type in your key word(s).

Want to check out our new online map for “Operation Re-Forest — We Forest” and Honor Tree locations? Select “About BHA,” then “Operation Re-Forest — We Forest and Honor Trees” on the website. Our service provider list is a handy way to start looking for your next contractor. Click on “Life on BHI,” then “Island Service Providers.”

There are many frequently asked questions, not only from new property owners but also those who have been on BHI for a long time, that can be answered accurately and fully somewhere on BHA's website. Keep in mind that there is a lot of partial or dated information, and downright misinformation, that can be found from non-credible sources. When in doubt, go to the source for answers. For BHA-related questions, visit BaldHeadAssociation.com, and for municipality-related questions, visit <https://villagebhi.org>.

Remember, BHA is here to help YOU, our members. Please let us know if we've helped you and how we can do more to assist. 



Designed to Inspire

CAPE FEAR STATION on Bald Head Island

Known for its natural beauty and exceptional architecture, Bald Head Island is unlike any other coastal town. Recently, in the island's premier neighborhood of Cape Fear Station, a vibrant new neighborhood was awarded *Southern Living* Inspired Community of the Year.

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Cape Fear Station's land plan fosters belonging and connection among neighbors. With the beach and Shoals Club nearby, the ocean is always calling kids to meet up for a splash. The Common, a park located directly across the street from the neighborhood, plays host to games of catch and community events alike.

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••• Continued from page 2 (Looking at Altering Your Landscaping?)

As a barrier island, understory and ground cover are critical elements to control erosion and protect birds and other wildlife.” BHA constantly reinforces the importance of keeping understory (the “scrubby stuff”) in landscapes. An area of cleared understory takes out good-quality soils, which weakens a tree’s ability to protect a home and removes vital wind protection. Therefore, a natural landscape should be maintained.

BHA recognizes that there are a few historical properties or special circumstances for using mowers and/or weed-eaters. However, with the goal of retaining a natural landscape, using these tools throughout an entire lot and/or for indiscriminately trimming all vegetative growth are counter to the intent of BHA’s landscape guidelines. ARC manages the trimming and removal of vegetation (including understory) with a required approval process before any work begins.

Mulch and Pine Straw

Spring brings thoughts of adding fresh mulch or pine straw to your landscaping. Their benefits include reducing water needs for plants, controlling erosion, cooling soil temperatures and reducing weeds.

On page 155, the Design Guidelines state, “The use of mulch or pine straw must be limited to defined beds. The definition of a defined bed is the manipulation or disturbance of the native ground plane in order to create a spatial relationship within a defined area for non-native and/or indigenous plantings. Utilizing mulch and pine straw as general ground cover is not allowed except on new construction projects temporarily until the damaged vegetation is restored. Existing homes should maintain the surrounding landscaping in a naturalized manner that reflects their specific BHI ecological environment — the


creek side marsh, the open dunes or the Maritime Evergreen Forest.”

There is no ARC approval needed for freshening up current mulch beds, and adding mulch is considered soil remediation. If you were proposing a unique landscape design or changing the existing landscape and mulch was part of the plan, it would need to be included with a landscape plan submittal to the ARC. Mulch is available at no cost on Bald Head Island at the Mulch Site, located across from Timbercreek on North Bald Head Wynd.

BHA-managed Drip-line Communities


If you live in a BHA-managed drip-line community (Keeper’s Landing, Surfman’s Walk and Sumner’s Crescent), all landscaping is handled through Bald Head Association’s facilitator, Pam Rainey, using a pre-approved vendor. Contact Pam at 910-457-4676, ext. 24 or PamR@BaldHeadAssociation.com.

Service Providers

If you use a service provider for your landscaping, don’t forget to verify that the business owner and all of their workers know and strictly follow the Design Guidelines for ARC approvals before any work begins. The property owner — *not the service contractor* — is ultimately responsible for any incurred fines. And thank you for reminding them of BHI’s no litter policy and to secure items on all golf carts and vehicles. 

BHA’s Finance Committee and Reserves Study

On April 28, 2021, BHA’s Finance Committee met to start discussing the 2022 budget. The majority of the meeting focused on incorporating the information from the Reserves Study that was done in 2020. The purpose of the study was to understand better the condition of the \$3 million in assets that are owned or managed by BHA, and how their replacement relates to the annual budget in the coming years. The committee drilled down on specific items, especially those assets expected to be replaced soon.

BHA strives to maintain areas to extend the life of the assets as needed — replacing boards, cleaning and painting. After the meeting, BHA staff inspected some of the assets to re-evaluate their current condition and future needs. This information will be shared with the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors, and will be considered as part of the 2022 budgeting process. More information will be forthcoming as the individual assets are examined further and future expenses allocated. Contact Denise Eidal (Denise@BaldHeadAssociation.com) or Carrie Moffett (Carrie@BaldHeadAssociation.com) with questions. 

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TIDBITS:

(Noun) a small and particularly interesting item of information.



Thank you to all of our volunteer Tree Keepers for helping water newly planted trees from last November's "Operation Re-Forest — We Forest"! In this photo at left, volunteers Kim and Mark Scagnelli use the watering tank that fits perfectly on a golf cart to help with mobile watering. Want to volunteer? Email Kay Menk at kgmenk@gmail.com.

We're starting to get back to fun activities post-Covid lockdown! At right, the monthly card-making class helps people meet and make friends. It's held the first Wednesday of each month at the Association Center. Yoga classes started back at the Association Center in late May. For information, visit BaldHeadAssociation.com/calendar-bha.



Have Fun, Be Safe, Act Responsibly! Tell Your Guests & Renters.

Now that the busy summer season has begun, let's review some important safety and courtesy tips to help everyone on BHI.

- **Come to a complete stop at all STOP signs.** Not only is it the law and enforced by the Public Safety Department, it's also for everyone's safety. Too many times, people have been airlifted off Bald Head Island due to injuries sustained as a result of someone not stopping at a STOP sign.
- **Pick up your dog waste everywhere on BHI and dispose of it properly** — this includes the beach, roads and trails, parks, an empty lot, the Dog Park (on North Bald Head Wynd near Timbercreek), etc. If you see that a dog waste bag receptacle is empty, send a Citizen Service Request to the Village of BHI on their website at villagebhi.org.
- **Do not leave valuables in unattended golf carts and take golf cart keys with you**, to prevent accidental or other golf cart disappearances.
- **All foot traffic should FACE oncoming traffic. Bicyclers should ride single-file WITH traffic.** Bicyclers should pull to the side when safe to do so to allow gas-powered vehicles to pass. Safety helmets are required for those 16 years and younger and are encouraged for everyone.
- **You must be a licensed driver to drive a golf cart.** Follow all NC traffic laws, including the speed limit of 18mph (unless otherwise posted). Do not drive with a child on your lap. **ALWAYS** let emergency vehicles, trams and gas-powered vehicles pass when safe to do so. Pass foot traffic and bicyclers with caution, especially around blind curves. Park with **ALL 4 TIRES** off of the roadway and only in designated areas. **NEVER** block 911 emergency beach accesses.

Village Council Candidate Filing for 2021 — July 2-July 16

If you're interested in running for one of the Village Council open seats, July 2-July 16 is the time to file. All new Village Councilors now serve 4-year terms. Three terms expire in 2021, for J. Andrew Sayre, Scott Gardner and Emily Hill. For more information, visit www.brunswickcountync.gov/elections.

••• Continued from page 1 (Let's All Conserve Water on this Island We Love)

a product may be labeled disposable or biodegradable, it does not mean that it is designed to be flushed down the toilet.

Please inform guests and renters that these items should be placed in the trash — **NOT** flushed down the toilet:

1. Facial tissues
2. Gum
3. Cigarette butts
4. All feminine sanitary products
5. Bandages
6. Paper towels
7. Disposable diapers
8. Baby wipes
9. Hazardous chemicals
10. Grease





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••• Continued from page 11 (Benjamin Smith)

on ships coming in and out of the river, but it needed a home.

Smith offered up a deal. He would donate 10 acres of land on the southwestern corner of the Island on which it could be built. But his generosity came with a big caveat. Smith kept livestock and built his Sea Castle home on the Island, with all intentions of keeping it private. So, if you weren't the lighthouse keeper or his family, you weren't allowed on the Island.

The donation would, perhaps, be Smith's greatest contribution to Bald Head Island, as it kickstarted a lighthouse history on the Island that would span three towers, countless safely guided vessels and a dependable light in the darkest of nights.

But Smith's story ends with a whimper, considering the robust life that preceded it. Although he had been a force in politics and society, Smith soon retreated to Brunswick County, where he died alone with barely anything to his name but a bad reputation.

His body was buried in secret to evade the men looking for final payment and wasn't dug up and buried with Sarah at Brunswick Town until decades later. Today, he is also remembered with a marker at the Old Smithville Burying Ground in Southport.

Even in death, the letter describing the struggle over ownership of Smith's body proves his story continued well after he was gone. His legacy loomed large, no matter how it ended.

His ownership of Smith Island would be divided up in order to settle his debts. In life, he had squandered not only his money, he also lost the very land his ancestors had acquired and his wife's family had returned to him.

Still, Smith's contribution of the property on which Bald Head Island's first lighthouse was built in 1794 cannot be understated. Nor can his selling of the land for the Island's second lighthouse, Old Baldy.

These efforts shone a light for all the history on the Island that would follow.



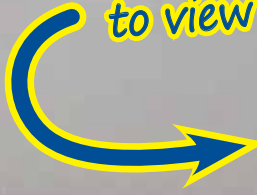
If you missed BHA's Special Meeting

on May 4, 2021,

the recording is on the website at:

*BaldHeadAssociation.com/
board-meeting-agendas.*

Scan this QR code with your phone app
to view BHA's events calendar!



June 2021

ARC-A Meeting	6/4/2021	10am
Island Litter Sweep	6/5/2021	10am
World Oceans Day	6/8/2021	
BHA Board Meeting	6/11/2021	11am
Old Baldy's Historic Happy Hour	6/11/2021	5pm
Old Baldy's NC Marketplace	6/13/2021	12pm
NC Sea Turtle Week	6/13/2021-6/19/2021	
World Sea Turtle Day	6/16/2021	
BHI Transportation Authority (BHITA) Meeting	6/16/2021	9:15am
ARC-B Meeting	6/18/2021	10am
Village Council Meeting	6/18/2021	10am
Juneteenth	6/19/2021	
Father's Day	6/20/2021	

Save the Date in July:

ARC-A Meeting	7/1/2021	10am
BHI Artisans Show & Sale	7/3/2021	10am
BHI Conservancy Golf Cart Raffle Ends	7/3/2021	7pm
BHI Conservancy Silent Auction Ends	7/3/2021	8pm
Independence Day	7/4/2021	
Old Baldy's 4 th of July Golf Cart Parade	7/4/2021	11am
BHA Office Closed	7/5/2021	
BHA Board Meeting	7/9/2021	11am
SIAL Art Show & Sale	7/10/2021-7/11/2021	10am
ARC-B Meeting	7/16/2021	10am
Village Council Meeting	7/16/2021	10am
BHI Transportation Authority (BHITA) Meeting	7/21/2021	9:15am

Around the corner in 2021:

Old Baldy's Annual Duck Race	8/7/2021	9am
Run for the Light & National Lighthouse Festival	8/8/2021	5pm
BHI Artisans Show & Sale	9/4/2021	10am
SIAL Art Show & Sale	9/5/2021-9/6/2021	10am
Labor Day	9/6/2021	
BHA Office Closed	9/6/2021	

Ongoing:

Village Chapel Services: (Additional details at villagechapelofbaldheadisland.org)	Sundays	8:30am & 10am
AA Virtual Meetings: (Zoom Group: #3909737348, P/C: 217739, Email: sober.1day.at.a.time@gmail.com)	Mondays & Thursdays	8am



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ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION & GOLF CART RAFFLE

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The Bald Head Island Conservancy is ready for an exciting, busy summer season. While we continue to adapt to our new normal, we are proud to resume two of our most popular activities:

THE JULY 4TH SILENT AUCTION + GOLF CART RAFFLE

We hope you celebrate with us again with '**JUST KEEP SWIMMING**': A fun mix of online and in person Silent Auction and Golf Cart Raffle festivities.

We are thankful for our staff and wonderful supporters, who have helped us to JUST KEEP SWIMMING this past year as we work even harder to fulfill our mission as **We Discover, Learn, Conserve, and Preserve.**

GOLF CART RAFFLE



We are thrilled to announce a new and exciting Golf Cart Raffle opportunity, with your chance to win a GEM e2S two passenger cart ideal for BHI! The GEMs are total electric powered plug in and zero emission vehicles, so they greatly contribute to the efforts in lowering the Carbon Footprint attributed to transportation.

Purchase your tickets online with a chance to win this White 2015 GEM e2S, valued at \$15,000. The cart will also feature a heater, canvas doors, stake back short bed, dark gray seats, full wheel covers and a front bumper. You do not need to be on the island to win. The golf cart can be shipped off island.

Golf Cart Raffle Tickets are \$50 for one or \$500 for twelve.
Tickets are now available online at:

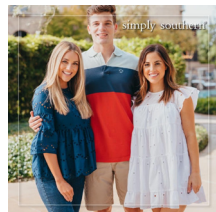
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SILENT AUCTION

Our July 4th silent auction will be held online, though you can also join us on July 2nd from 11AM - 2PM on the Conservancy campus for our showcase event as well as some special July 4th activities! We have a variety of unique items to bid on this year. Please join us in person and from afar with your chance to win:



HALF DAY FISHING W/CAPT. JERRY WAITS!

We're grateful to so many island businesses and supporters who donate items and experiences to our auction, including a guided fishing trip with island legend Jerry Waits of **In the Loop Guide Service.**

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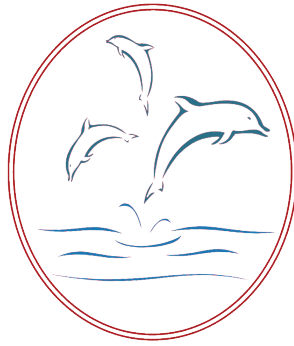
Experience the salt marsh at sunset with Conservancy Executive Director Chris Shank as your guide. This is the perfect opportunity for a family to discover all of the unique animals and plants that live in the salt marsh while getting a one-on-one experience with our Executive Director. This is one of the many Conservancy Adventures available to bid on!



For more information on our Silent Auction please visit:

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Stay tuned to our website and social media for the announcement of the official auction start date.



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