

SALT & OAKS

WHERE COAST MEETS CANOPY



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2025

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Doug Jones, BHA Executive Director

Another year is drawing to a close, and we are thrilled to bring you the November/December 2025 issue of *Salt & Oaks*. This edition is a testament to the incredible spirit of our community, offering a look at the various activities and subjects that make Bald Head Island so special. From the vibrant life showcased in our “Live” and “Play” sections, which feature the Cape Fear Radio and Southport Winterfest, to the fascinating history of our island in the “Learn” section and the creative culture of our local artists, there is much to explore.

As the BHA staff ramp up training for a new management software, we are ecstatic over the accomplishments this year we have achieved together. The ARC process has been completely overhauled with new internal processes, new talented personnel and a new positive attitude towards supporting growth, while also respecting the intent of our community design guidelines. This could not have been accomplished without the support and partnership of our committee leaders.

As we reflect on all that has been accomplished this year, we are reminded of the vital role our volunteer committees play in our success. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all of our dedicated committee members, whose time, talent, and passion are invaluable. Your commitment is the engine that drives the Bald Head Association (BHA), and the staff and Board of the BHA truly appreciate your participation.

Looking ahead, we invite you to participate in the democratic process of our Association. There will be an election to fill two open Board positions at the upcoming Annual Meeting on Jan. 31, 2026. Our Nominating Committee has been working hard to facilitate the process and BHA staff are hard at work making sure we promote the process and candidates through our publications. Your support and engagement are essential to shaping the future of our community, and we look forward to your participation.

**PHOTO BY
KIMBERLY BANDERA**

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Smith Island Art League
Village Chapel of BHI
Village of BHI

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Editorial Policy

Letters to the Editor and articles written by property owners about BHI issues and experiences are encouraged, subject to the Content Approval guideline as well as the following space guidelines:

(1) The maximum length of a letter for publication in the *Salt & Oaks* will be 250 words. This limit will be strictly enforced. If the article or letter exceeds that length, the contributor may be granted more space by the Communications Manager or Executive Director, if appropriate. (2) Any individual will be limited to one letter every six months. BHA reserves the right to edit letters in the interests of accuracy and civility or to publish a letter as written, followed by a correction by the editor. In the interest of covering diverse topics and opinions, BHA reserves the right to select among submissions for publication. Deadlines are the 25th of the month for the following issue.



LIVE

CAPE FEAR RADIO — OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE

Cape Fear Radio was an idea just waiting to happen.

In July of 2024, a small group of people from Southport and the Town of St. James decided the time was right to launch a radio station dedicated exclusively to Southeast Brunswick County: Bald Head Island, Boiling Spring Lakes, Caswell Beach, Oak Island, St. James, and Southport.

Cape Fear Radio has grown from that small, core group to a team of more than 50 volunteers today, streaming 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As an internet-based station, Cape Fear Radio can be easily accessed by downloading the app from the Apple or Google App Stores, or directly through its website, capefearradio.com. Even though it has a local focus, it can be streamed anywhere in the world. It's a great way for part-time residents of Bald Head Island, as well as permanent residents, to stay in touch with the community.



"I think we're all a little surprised that we've come so far, so fast," said John McIver, one of Cape Fear Radio's co-founders. "The time was right for something like this."

Cape Fear Radio's mission is to help build a stronger sense of community in the region, which is one of the fastest-growing areas in North Carolina. The core of CFR's programming is its extensive library of music spanning a variety of genres and decades, including local musicians. It also offers local news and weather, hand-crafted ads for businesses, features on local personalities and events,

"WE DON'T THINK
THERE'S ANY OTHER
RADIO STATION YOU
NEED OTHER THAN
CAPE FEAR RADIO."

John McIver
Cape Fear Radio

and a physical presence at public events like the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament or the summer concert series in Oak Island's Middleton Park, where the station's signature blue tent can be seen.

As a nonprofit 501(c)(3), Cape Fear Radio invests its revenue from advertising into local nonprofits such as Brunswick Family Assistance and Southport Cares. Its Community Investment Initiative makes quarterly grants to organizations working to build supportive, resilient communities.

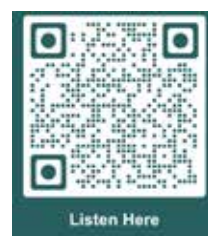
"Part of our mission is to highlight the many nonprofit groups and civic organizations that are the backbone of our communities," said Debbie Little, who manages the station's public service announcements.

In August, listeners tuned into Cape Fear Radio for a total of more than 10,000 hours, a significant milestone for a community-based radio station. The station recently opened its second studio at Crossroads Gathering Place in Oak Island, joining its original studio in The State Port Pilot building in downtown Southport.

Cape Fear Radio's future is focused on growth by expanding its audience, growing its grants program, and providing a platform for local talent and organizations.

"Because of the quality of our music and features, and our mission to give back to the community, we don't think there's any other radio station you need other than Cape Fear Radio," McIver said. "We look forward to growing our listenership, building on the great momentum we already have."

Russ Yarrow
Cape Fear Radio



NATURE NOTES: BHI WILDLIFE

Bald Head Island's forests, marshes, and beaches are alive with an incredible diversity of wildlife. From powerful predators to delicate pollinators, each species plays a role in keeping the Island's ecosystems healthy. In this new series, we will feature wildlife profiles written by Bald Head Island Conservancy staff and interns, offering readers both science-based insight and fresh perspective from those working closely with the Island's environment.

We begin the series with two species that reflect the range of BHI's wildlife: the American Alligator and the Gulf Fritillary Butterfly. The alligator, an iconic yet often misunderstood resident, helps maintain balance in freshwater habitats. The Gulf Fritillary highlights the beauty of migration, pollination, and native plants. Together, they showcase the island's wildlife from apex predator to essential pollinator.

American Alligator

by Shaelynn Grifaldo, Conservation Intern

American alligators are fascinating residents of Bald Head Island and are most often seen basking along the edges of ponds. As top predators, they help keep fish and turtle



AMERICAN ALLIGATOR
PHOTO BY BETSI STEPHEN



GULF FRITILLARY BUTTERFLY
PHOTO BY CYNTHIA CHAN

populations in balance, while also digging “gator holes” that provide water sources for other wildlife during dry spells. On BHI, alligators tend to be most visible during warmer months, while in colder months they enter a state called brumation, where their metabolism slows down and they become much less active. This allows them to survive during periods of lower temperatures and limited food availability.

Gulf Fritillary

by Allison Polinski, Coastal Scientist

Gulf Fritillary butterflies are a common sighting in the late summer and early fall as they fly south to overwinter in warmer regions. Many stop at BHI on their journey south and lay eggs on their larval host plants, passionflowers (*Passiflora*). The caterpillars rely on passionflowers to eat and grow rapidly until they form a chrysalis. The metamorphosis takes a few weeks, and a vibrant orange adult Gulf Fritillary emerges. Adult Gulf Fritillary butterflies feed on nectar and pollinate many flowering plants. Protecting native plants, such as Yellow Passionflower, and creating pollinator gardens can provide essential food and habitat for these beautiful butterflies.

Erratum: In the September/October issue of *Salt & Oaks*, the projected sea level rise was misstated. The correct figure is an average total rise of 0.52 meters from 2020 to 2050 for Wilmington, N.C.



GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY — VOLUNTEER WITH BHA!

Did you know BHA has seven volunteer committees? Each one is made up of your BHI neighbors who give their time and energy to support BHA, fellow property owners, and the Island we all love. Volunteering is a meaningful way to get involved and make a difference on Bald Head Island.

At the start of each year, committee terms end and new members are welcomed. The 2025 committee rosters are available on the BHA website, where you can also learn more about each committee's purpose, Bylaws charge, and 2025 goals. Use the QR code to explore opportunities and, if you're interested in serving, fill out the volunteer application online.

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to all of our dedicated volunteers. Your contributions make a real impact. To celebrate you and volunteers across the Island, all the organizations are hosting a new social event, **It Takes a Village**, following the annual meeting. Mark your calendars for Jan. 31, and stay tuned for more details. We can't wait to gather, celebrate, and show our appreciation.



ISLAND LITTER SWEEP VOLUNTEERS



2025
COMMITTEE
ROSTERS



COMMITTEE
VOLUNTEER
APPLICATION

EDUCATION & RECREATION COMMITTEE: CELEBRATING THE SEASON TOGETHER



COMMUNITY POTLUCK DINNER



The holiday season is upon us, and the Education and Recreation Committee (ER) has a full calendar of festivities to bring neighbors together. On the first Monday of each month, join us for our community potluck dinners for an evening filled with good food, laughter, and friendly games.

As December approaches, we'll gather for the annual tree lighting and caroling, followed by Santa Paws, where pets can pose for portraits by the tree. Don't miss the cookie exchange, a beloved tradition where everyone shares their favorite holiday recipes.

We'll wrap up the year with a Youth Art Contest featuring the iconic Old Baldy Lighthouse as the subject, in any medium.

Looking ahead, the ER Committee is working with entities around the Island on a community social to coincide with the evening of the Annual Meeting. It's our way of recognizing that it truly takes a village to make an island feel like a community. Stay tuned for details. We can't wait to celebrate with you!



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PLAY

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AVERY MASON PHOTOGRAPHY

A FESTIVE WEEK IN SOUTHPORT: WINTERFEST 2025

Southport transforms into a holiday wonderland each December during Winterfest, a weeklong celebration filled with lights, music, parades, and family fun. From Dec. 5-13, the historic waterfront becomes the perfect backdrop for over 20 events that bring neighbors and visitors together in true holiday spirit.

The fun begins Friday, Dec. 5, with the Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting at Whittler's Bench. Carolers, cocoa, and twinkling lights set the stage for days of festivities. Throughout the week, enjoy the Storefront Showcase, where shops deck their windows and compete for the most creative holiday display.

Highlights include the elegant Winterfest Tea, the adorable Pet Photos with Santa, and the toe-tapping Shop-with-a-Cop concert featuring the Back Porch



Rockers. Families will love the Winterfest-ival of Trees, the cookie contest, and children's activities like Santa's Workshop and Supper with Santa's Elves. There's even a showing of *The Polar Express* under the stars at Fort Johnston Garrison Lawn.

The excitement builds to the weekend with the Light Up the Night Christmas Parade, the Winter Craft Festival, and the always-popular Holiday Tour of Homes. The celebration wraps up in dazzling style on Dec. 13 with the Southport Winterfest Flotilla, as boats strung in lights create a magical show along the waterfront.

With something happening every day, concerts, contests, open houses, and plenty of opportunities to shop local, Winterfest is the perfect reason to spend a joyful week in Southport.

Mark your calendar:
Dec. 5-13, 2025.

Come for the lights, stay for the memories.



SOUTHPORT
WINTERFEST
2025
SCHEDULE

A NEW CHAPTER FOR A CLASSIC COURSE

The Bald Head Island Club is embarking on an exciting new chapter, one that honors the legacy of our beloved golf course while ensuring its playability and beauty for generations to come. Scheduled for 2027, the Club's Golf Course Rejuvenation Project will be led by renowned golf course architect Andrew Green, whose portfolio includes celebrated restorations at Congressional Country Club, Oak Hill, East Lake, and Inverness.

Originally designed by George Cobb in 1974, the Bald Head Island Club course has long been a defining



feature of island life—a place where members and guests experience the Island's natural splendor through the game of golf. After five decades of coastal conditions and evolving play standards, the course is due for a thoughtful rejuvenation. Green's design philosophy emphasizes honoring the course's original character while improving functionality, sustainability, and strategy for the modern player.

The rejuvenation will address critical infrastructure needs such as irrigation, drainage, and greens, while enhancing course quality, aesthetics, and overall playability. The goal is not to reinvent the course, but to restore its spirit, refine its details, and ensure it remains one of the Club's most valuable assets.

Throughout the planning process, the Club has remained committed to transparency and member engagement. As the 2027 project approaches, members can look forward to seeing the vision unfold—protecting the past, elevating the present, and securing the future of golf on Bald Head Island.

Kelsey Joaquin
Marketing Director, The Clubs on BHI



BHI LIFE IN FOCUS

Share Your Island Moments!



PHOTO BY
JANET STOLP



PHOTO BY
LARRY GITTLEMAN

Scan the QR code for tips on how to capture stunning pictures on Bald Head Island.

Email your photos to Kim@BaldHeadAssociation.com. They could be featured in a future issue of *Salt & Oaks*!



AROUND THE ISLAND

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2025:

Thanksgiving Food Drive	11/1/2025-11/21/2025	
Village Chapel Thanksgiving Card Project	11/2/2025	12 p.m.
Community Potluck Dinner	11/3/2025	6 p.m.
Howl at the Moon — “Frost Moon”	11/5/2025	4 p.m.
Village Chapel (Giving Sunday — Food Drive)	11/9/2025	
Project Longevity	11/10/2025	1:30 p.m.
Santa Paws	11/26/2025	10 p.m.
Village Chapel of BHI Thanksgiving Service	11/27/2025	9 a.m.
Smith Island Art League Exhibition	11/28/2025-11/29/2025	10 a.m.
Community Tree Lighting/Caroling	11/29/2025	5 p.m.

December 2025:

Howl at the Moon — “Cold Moon”	12/4/2025	3:30 p.m.
Southport Winterfest	12/5/2025-12/13/2025	
Community Potluck Dinner	12/8/2025	6 p.m.
Project Longevity & Garden Club (Wreaths)	12/9/2025	1:30 p.m.
BHA Cookie Exchange	12/10/2025	2 p.m.
Village Chapel Service	12/24/2025	5 p.m.
Village Chapel Candlelight Service	12/24/2025	7 p.m.
Children’s “Old Baldy” Art Contest	12/29/2025	10 a.m.
New Year’s Eve	12/31/2025	

Ongoing:

Village Chapel Services:	(Traditional Service) Sundays	8:30 a.m.
Mortimer Men’s Fellowship:	Mondays	8:30 a.m.
Knitting Group:	Wednesdays	9:30 a.m.
Yoga Classes:	Mondays & Wednesdays	11:15 a.m.



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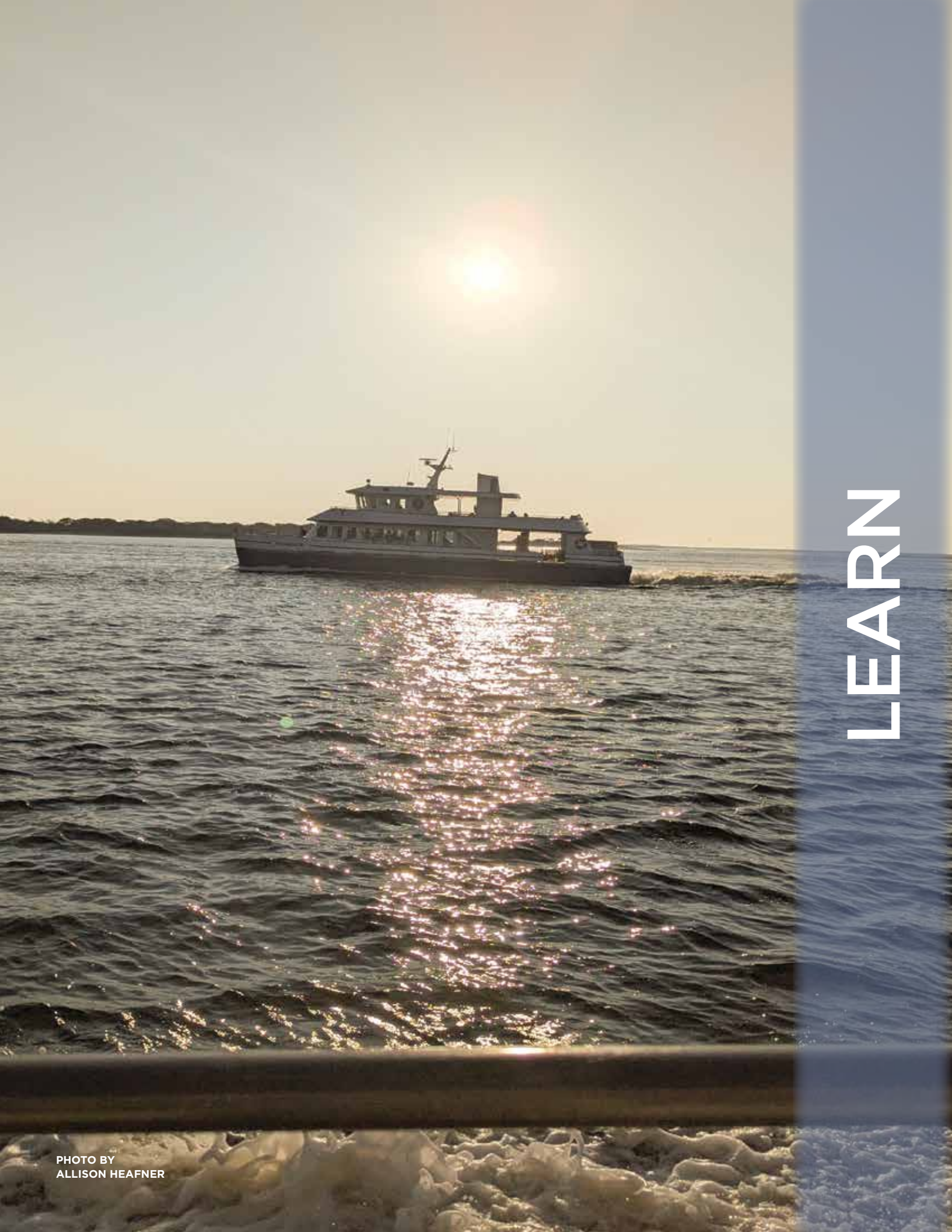
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LEARN

PHOTO BY
ALLISON HEAFNER

THE DEVELOPMENTAL YEARS OF BHI — PART 2

Although Jim Harrington helped develop BHI, Cary, and Southern Shores, he was not born in NC. Indeed, he was born in New Hampshire in 1927.¹ Harrington and his partner at Cambridge Properties, Walter Royal Davis, entered the scene when they bought the developable land of BHI from BIG in 1979 for \$2.5 million.

Cambridge Properties led the development of BHI from 1979-1983. Jim Harrington, supported by a group of individuals such as John Messick, Harvey Ramsey, Herman Sellers, and countless others I am sure that I am unaware of, transformed a handful of houses connected to a golf course with dirt roads, no running power or water, telephone, or accessible marina, into a viable coastal destination. Harrington was instrumental through it all.



MARINA OPENING
PHOTO COURTESY OF OLD BALDY FOUNDATION

He's since proved to be a well-connected visionary with the knack to identify and rely on experts for guidance to devise a viable plan. Harrington promptly identified the largest concern was access to the Island.

When Cambridge took over, the landing was "up the creek", at a dock near the 'gazebo'.² The problem with landing on the creek was that it is quite tidal. At high tide it was fine, however, at low tide one may be required to wade through a couple feet of water to get to land. Indeed, some early Generator Society members recalled favoring plastic liquor bottles over glass because the plastic could float to the shore easier. Harrington allocated \$500k to redesign the marina, plus another \$250k on a dredger.



PREPARATION OF THE MARINA
PHOTO COURTESY OF OLD BALDY FOUNDATION

Harrington commended barge captain Herman Sellers and project manager Harvey Ramsey for being influential to design the barge system. Subsequently, getting people and luggage on/off the ferry was the next challenge. Ramsey designed the gangways, luggage dollies, and the tram system. Those processes remain largely unchanged since conception. Progress into transportation achieved, Harrington turned attention to on-Island infrastructure, such as roads.³

It is likely not widely known that non-utility vehicles remained on Bald Head until 1985. Indeed, Harrington recalled many Generator Society members favored dirt roads and their 4-wheel drive vehicles opposed to golf carts. After "considerable conversations at frequent meetings with home owners" Harrington was able to sway everyone to his side.⁴ Harvey Ramsey credited his background in the US Army Corps of Engineers as inspiration to use mix-in-place asphalt for the roads; a method that is used frequently to build aircraft runways in remote locations. Harrington limited road width to maintain "tunnels" of trees hanging over the road, and to further his cause to become golf carts only. Finally, some momentum for the Island as the roads were being paved and marina being built, yet, there was still no running water, power, telephone service, or a stable governmental system. Follow along in our final article on the developmental years of BHI to find out just how!

¹ "Jim Harrington, NC Government, Business Executive, dies at age 92." Accessed via the OBF Subject Files found via Oldbaldy.org

² Harrington Oral History Interview, OBF, Subject Files

³ Harrington, BHI Newsletter, 1980.

⁴ Harrington Oral History Interview, OBF, Subject

Part 2; Jake Grossman
Educator and Collections Coordinator
Old Baldy Foundation



WINTER WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

As our area begins to experience colder temperatures, the Village of Bald Head Island encourages islanders to start their winter preparedness efforts. Whether you are a long-time resident or new to the Island, these tips can help keep you safe during the colder months.

Stay Informed

- Register for the Village's emergency notification system CodeRed. Sign up via your phone by texting BHI to 99411.
- Remain alert for updates from the National Weather Service Wilmington Office (NWS-Wilmington) at weather.gov/ilm. You can find the latest weather briefing at weather.gov/ilm/briefing and winter weather information at weather.gov/ilm/winter.
- **Have multiple ways to get weather information** (local news and radio stations, NOAA weather radios, National Weather Service, emergency alert notifications, etc.)
- Sign up for Duke Energy Progress alerts at www.duke-energy.com/outages/alerts and report outages by calling (800) 419-6356.

Fire Prevention & Heat Safety Tips

Most deaths that occur during winter storms are not a direct result of the weather. Instead, people die from home fires and carbon monoxide poisoning while using alternative ways to heat or power their homes. Take time to safeguard your home against these dangers and ensure the well-being of your family, pets, and property.

- Check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Always plug space heaters directly into wall outlets, and make sure the cords and plugs aren't damaged or frayed. **DON'T** use an extension cord or power strip.
- Place space heaters on a solid, flat surface and keep them at least three feet from other items. Turn them off when leaving the room or sleeping.
- **NEVER** use a stove, oven, or charcoal grill to heat your home.
- Operate generators outdoors, away from doors and windows to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Keep all heat sources—including fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, portable heaters, or candles—at least three feet away from anything that can burn.



- Inspect holiday lights each year before you use them. Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires. Turn off all holiday lights before going to bed or leaving your home.
- Water natural Christmas trees daily or keep their tree stands filled with water. Get rid of the tree if it dries out.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected each year by a professional.

Protect Water Systems from Freezing Temperatures

Your pipes are at risk of freezing any time temperatures drop below 32°F or 0°C. Prevent costly pipe damage this winter by taking precautions to protect household and irrigation water systems from freezing.

- Insulate pipes in unheated areas of your home and crawl spaces.
- Seal any gaps and cracks in your home's exterior (such as crawl spaces) to prevent cold drafts from reaching your pipes.
- Disconnect water hoses from outdoor spigots and turn off irrigation systems.
- Open doors to cabinets below your sinks to help warmer air circulate around plumbing at night.
- Allow a small amount of water to drip from your faucets. Running water, even at a trickle, helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- Always be aware of the main water shut-off valve location for your home in case you should experience a burst pipe and need to turn off your water. Contact Village Utilities if you need assistance (910) 457-9700 ext, 1000.



Carin Faulkner

Village Public Information Officer, Village of BHI



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- Vincent, Owner, Bald Head Island

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CULTURE

PAINTING BY
PRUDY WEAVER

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CELEBRATING CREATIVITY: THE SMITH ISLAND ART LEAGUE

Smith Island Art League president Prudy Weaver took a circuitous route to painting Bald Head Island. After careers in retail, interior design, real estate, and contracting, she paused to care for her mother. Searching for an activity they could share, the two enrolled in a watercolor class, and Prudy discovered a passion that would carry her forward. She now paints in oils and has been part of the Bald Head Island community since her family built a vacation home here in 1997.

Founded in 1993 by six artists, including current member Nancy Giacci, the Smith Island Art League has grown to 22 property owners who work in a wide variety of mediums. From jewelry and textiles to pottery, wood, photography, and painting, the artists draw inspiration from Bald Head Island's natural beauty and sense of place.

Annual shows on Memorial Day, one summer weekend, and Thanksgiving showcase their work, with a portion of proceeds supporting local nonprofits. This year's Thanksgiving show will be held Nov. 28-29, featuring work

"I NEVER IMAGINED A
WATERCOLOR CLASS
WITH MY MOTHER
WOULD LEAD ME TO
DISCOVER A LIFELONG
PASSION — AND A
HOME ON BALD HEAD
ISLAND TO INSPIRE IT."

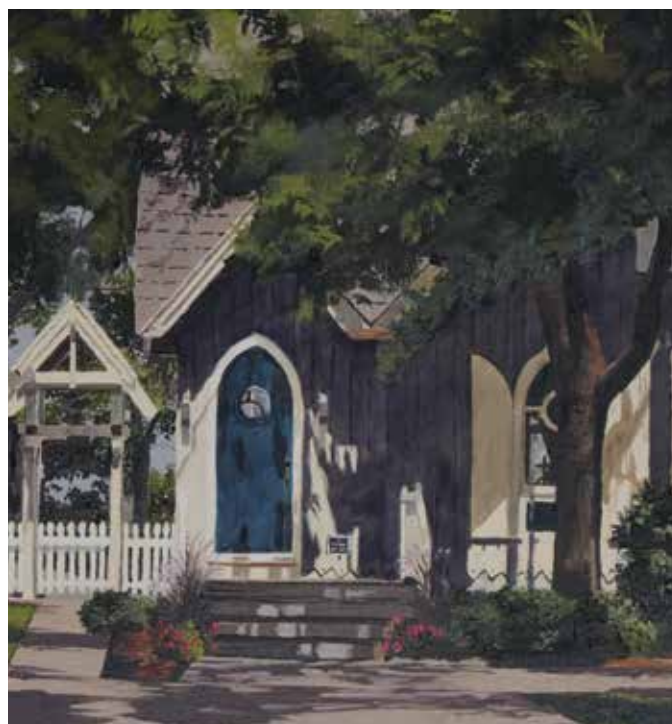
Prudy Weaver
President,
Smith Island Art League

by 11 members. It is a wonderful opportunity to find unique gifts, souvenirs of Bald Head Island, and one-of-a-kind pieces for your home.

You can also view Prudy's work at Room Service, located on Maritime Way, Bald Head Island.



CHANGING SKY
PAINTING BY PRUDY WEAVER



THE CHAPEL
PAINTING BY PRUDY WEAVER

SHARING THE SEASON: THE VILLAGE CHAPEL'S SPIRIT OF GIVING

As the holiday season approaches, The Village Chapel's Outreach Committee is once again putting compassion into motion. To date, 244 bicycles have been collected for refurbishment and distribution to children this Christmas. If you have a bike to contribute, please drop it off at the recycle bin labeled *bikes*. Every donation helps make a child's holiday a little brighter and a lot more joyful.

In the same spirit of generosity, the Chapel invites the community to take part in its expanding Outreach and Programming initiatives this fall. From Giving Sunday to the Angel Tree project, each event offers a meaningful way to connect, give back, and celebrate the true heart of the season.

Nov. 2: Giving Sunday - Join us from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bald Head Association Building. We're excited to once again support Brunswick County's StreetReach program this Thanksgiving by making handmade cards. Each card includes a food gift card, bringing hope and a warm message during the holiday season.

Oct. 15 - Nov. 15: Angel Tree - Help bring joy to local families this Christmas.



The Chapel will continue offering two Sunday Services: Traditional at 8:30 a.m. and Contemporary at 10 a.m.

Dec. 24. - Christmas Eve Services at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
5 p.m.: Jeanne Gregory from Trinity UMC will lead a live Nativity. All children are invited to participate—no speaking parts, just arrive by 4:45 p.m. to be part of the roles.

7 p.m.: Communion and Candlelight service led by Reverend Ken Chester with beautiful music by the Chapel choir.

This vital program serves Brunswick County residents living at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

Each year, thanks to the generosity of our community, Brunswick Family Assistance provides holiday gifts for children (ages 16 and under) and seniors (ages 60 and over). Every participating household also receives a food basket and a frozen turkey, ensuring that no one is left without a meal during the holidays—even if they don't have members in those age groups.

As a private nonprofit, BFA depends on the compassion and support of our community, people like you. Your involvement can make a real difference this holiday season.

Here's how you can help:

- Adopt a family, child, or senior to provide them with gifts and joy.
- Make a monetary donation to BFA

Every act of kindness brings hope to our neighbors in need. Thank you for your continued support of BFA and for helping make Christmas brighter for those who need it most.



GENERATOR SOCIETY CHARTER

The object we are showcasing is a Generator Society charter or official certificate of membership. This charter was donated to the Old Baldy Foundation by Ginny Wester Reeves in 2024. The document distinguished Generator Society Members for enduring “inconvenience and privation in exchange for the privilege of being married to Bald Head.” Ginny is the descendant of the first president of the Generator Society Membership, Dr. Thad Wester. The framed charters were presented to 16 families at a cookout held in the Spring of 1980. The cookout was originally scheduled to be held at the Point, yet, inclement weather pushed the gathering to the original Inn. Dr. Thad Wester showcased “another chapter in his unending roles of versatility” by cooking jambalaya for the 100 person gathering. The gathering also included an awards ceremony hosted by member Bill Byrne. The Harper family brought home the “First Disaster Award”, whereas the German Shepard of the Thomas’ claimed the coveted “Raccoon Preservation Award” for “efforts to control the exploding raccoon population.” The OBF



sincerely thanks Ginny Wester Reeves for donating this cherished artifact. It provides a tangible glimpse into the hardships the Society went through, such as the Easter Weekend Fire of 1975. As well as the humorous ways they memorialized those events, as shown by the cheeky “First Disaster Award”, given to the Harpers whose house was the scene of the fire. In addition, the charter displays some pretty solid calligraphy likely penned by one of the Westers.

Jake Grossman

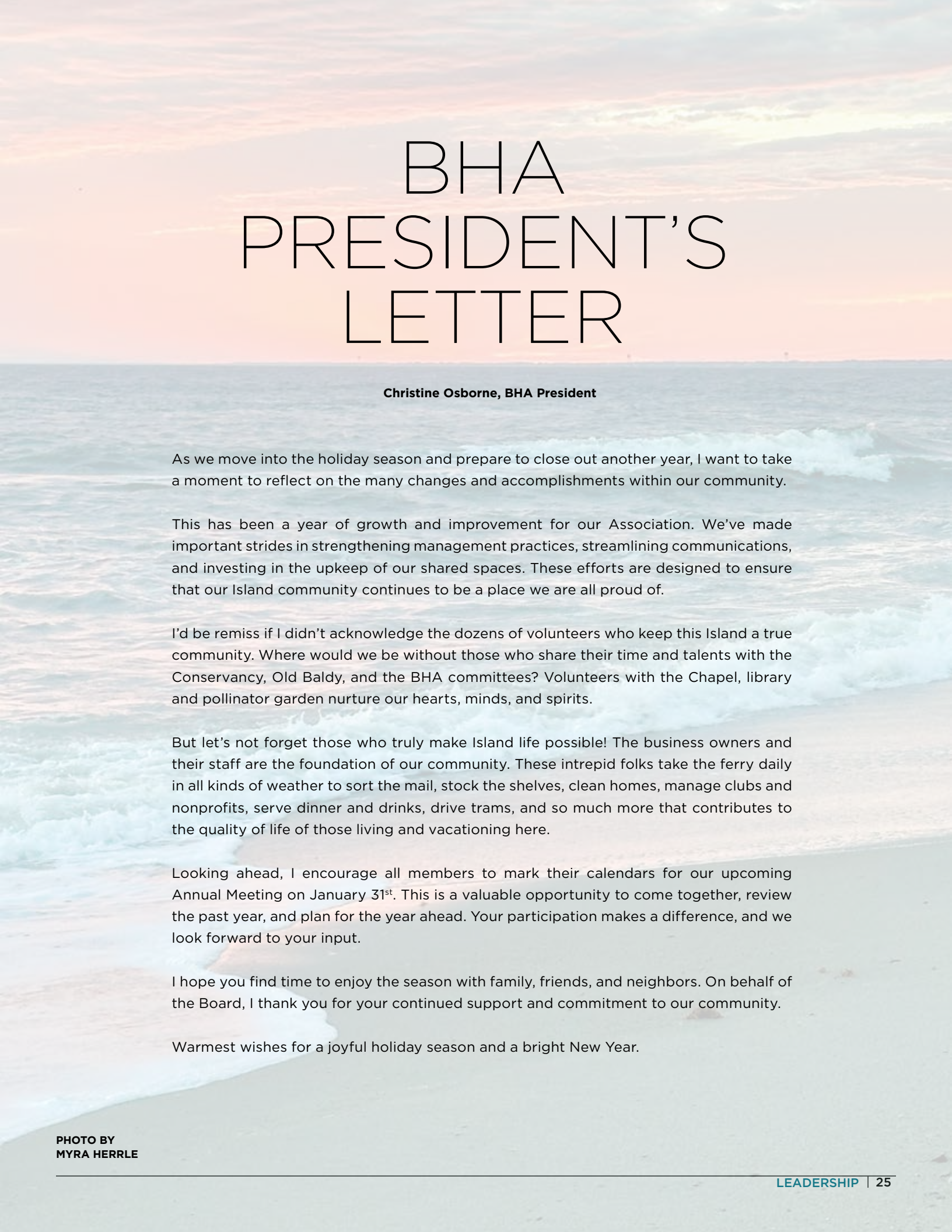
Educator and Collections Coordinator
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LET US BUILD YOUR BHI DREAM HOME

LEADERSHIP

PHOTO BY
AVERY MASON PHOTOGRAPHY



BHA PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Christine Osborne, BHA President

As we move into the holiday season and prepare to close out another year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many changes and accomplishments within our community.

This has been a year of growth and improvement for our Association. We've made important strides in strengthening management practices, streamlining communications, and investing in the upkeep of our shared spaces. These efforts are designed to ensure that our Island community continues to be a place we are all proud of.

I'd be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the dozens of volunteers who keep this Island a true community. Where would we be without those who share their time and talents with the Conservancy, Old Baldy, and the BHA committees? Volunteers with the Chapel, library and pollinator garden nurture our hearts, minds, and spirits.

But let's not forget those who truly make Island life possible! The business owners and their staff are the foundation of our community. These intrepid folks take the ferry daily in all kinds of weather to sort the mail, stock the shelves, clean homes, manage clubs and nonprofits, serve dinner and drinks, drive trams, and so much more that contributes to the quality of life of those living and vacationing here.

Looking ahead, I encourage all members to mark their calendars for our upcoming Annual Meeting on January 31st. This is a valuable opportunity to come together, review the past year, and plan for the year ahead. Your participation makes a difference, and we look forward to your input.

I hope you find time to enjoy the season with family, friends, and neighbors. On behalf of the Board, I thank you for your continued support and commitment to our community.

Warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season and a bright New Year.

BHA ANNUAL REPORT PACKETS, ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING

Each January, BHA members gather to elect two new board members, review proposed changes to governing documents, and hear updates on the Association’s work over the past year. The Annual Meeting also includes reports from other Island entities such as BHI Limited, the Village, the Clubs, the Old Baldy Foundation, the Village Chapel, the Conservancy, and the Public Service Auxiliary. The 2026 Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, Jan. 31, at 9:00 a.m., both in person and online.

In late December, members will receive the 2025 Annual Report Packet, which includes meeting materials and online voting instructions. Your voter registration ID will appear on the front cover. For voter ID questions, contact Diane Mesaris at (910) 457-4676, ext. 121. For other questions, reach Doug Jones at Doug@BaldHeadAssociation.com or ext. 126.

BUSINESS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2025:

Election Day	11/4/2025	
ARC-A Meeting	11/7/2025	9:30 a.m.
Veteran’s Day	11/11/2025	
BHA Board Meeting	11/20/2025	8:30 a.m.
ARC-B Meeting	11/21/2025	9:30 a.m.
Village Council Meeting	11/21/2025	10 a.m.
Thanksgiving (BHA Offices Closed)	11/27-28/2025	

December 2025:

ARC-A Meeting	12/5/2025	9:30 a.m.
Village Council Meeting	12/12/2025	10 a.m.
BHA Board Meeting	12/19/2025	8:30 a.m.
Christmas (BHA Offices Closed)	12/24-25/2025	

Around the Corner in 2026:

New Year’s Day (BHA Offices Closed)	1/1/2026	
ARC-B Meeting	1/16/2026	9:30 a.m.
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (BHA Offices Closed)	1/19/2026	
BHA Board Meeting	1/30/2026	8:30 a.m.
BHA Annual Meeting	1/31/2026	9 a.m.

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HOLIDAY DECORATIONS



For upcoming holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, some property owners may be wondering about exterior decorations on Bald Head Island and what is compliant with the Design Guidelines.

Here are some important points to be aware of for any outdoor decorations you are considering. Visit www.BaldHeadAssociation.com for the Design Guidelines. "Decorative Items" are on page 38.

All exterior decorative items such as planters, statuary, water features, feeders, wind chimes, birdbaths and other ornamental items and structures must be harmonious with the community aesthetic, site, home and surrounding environment.

All exterior decorative items (including temporary holiday decorations) must be constructed of natural and organic materials and blend seamlessly within the

home and landscape design. Colors should complement the natural surroundings. Holiday novelty decorations like blowups and items that are inconsistent with this guideline are not allowed. See additional information under Lighting. These exterior decorative items must be few in number and consistent with the general subdued and natural character of the Bald Head Island conservation consciousness.

Regarding exterior holiday lighting specifically, here is the guideline (on page 43 of the Design Guidelines):

Holiday lighting is permitted from Nov. 15 to Jan. 15 only. Moderation is recommended. No holiday or string lighting is to be used for exterior decoration any other time during the year, including clear or white lights, nor is it permitted to be used to illuminate any exterior steps, porches, arbors, structures, etc. any other time of year.





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RECIPE COURTESY OF JAZZMINE TORRES
BHI CLUB PASTRY CHEF



Recipes Here

PHOTO BY
EVA WALTON

HOLIDAYTINI RECIPE

2 1/2 ounces Teq Cafe
2 coco mint creamer
chocolate syrup around the glass



RECIPE COURTESY OF
CAPE FEAR DISTILLERY

HOLIDAY PACKAGES ON BHI

Are you sending holiday packages to Bald Head Island this year? To help prevent delays and confusion, check out the Village of BHI's website. The website explains how to address packages if you have a BHI post office box or not and following package label instructions will greatly assist staff in getting packages to recipients in a precise and timely manner. You can also learn about package delivery logistics and timing, for planning purposes. The Island Package Center (IPC) & Post Office accepts US Postal Service (USPS), FedEx, UPS, and DHL packages.

All details can be found at <https://villagebhi.org>. Hover on "Departments & Services," select "Island Package Center & Post Office," then click on "Inbound Packages" or, simply type "package" into the upper-right search bar and select "Inbound Packages."

If you're reading this, add a happy "Cool Yule" greeting to the hardworking IPC staff, and tell them BHA sent you!

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Cape Fear Distillery
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islandeventrentals.net

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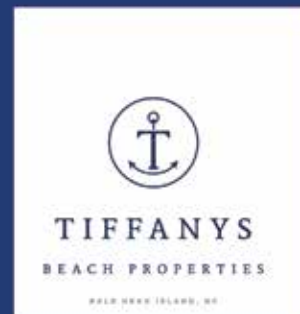
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JOIN BHA AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING ON SATURDAY, JAN. 31, 2026

It will be held in-person, online via Zoom
and also recorded. Hear updates from fellow
BHI organizations!

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