



*Bald Head Association*

# Island Report

Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values

President's Letter ~ Judy Porter

## Property Owners — Your Association At Work

There were some interesting highlights at the August monthly BHA Board meeting.

The Socialization, Education and Recreation Committee (SER) reported providing a number of weekly opportunities for exercise and fellowship. New, in the past few weeks, is a Wednesday afternoon Bridge Group that is an outgrowth from this summer's bridge lessons. This group is open to all players. The Community Pot Luck Dinners will start again this month on the third Monday.

The Finance Committee has begun work on the 2019 budget, while our Resource Conservation and Beautification Committee (RCB) announced the completion of the expanded Boat Park. The Strategic Planning & Long Range Projects Committee (SPLRP) is continuing its work toward a Village Historic District and setting goals for 2019.

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) proposed some changes to the review process. These were approved by the BHA Board and will become effective in November. The Sketch Review will be eliminated and be replaced by two newly defined reviews. A Request for Variance Review will be held only if a variance to the Design Guidelines is needed and will have no charge. The Draft Review has a list of required guidelines for



submission and will require the current review fee be payed prior to the review.

The proposed plan for Community Wide Standards was discussed. A number of our members attended the meeting in person and on the phone. There were many good suggestions for clarification and modification to the proposal. This public input was very much appreciated. The subcommittee will carefully consider these suggestions before bringing the Community Wide Standards proposal back to the Board for action at its September meeting.

The BHA Board has adopted some modifications to the Common Area Practices/ Procedures policies. Please remember that any modification to Common Area must have Board approval prior to any modifications being performed.

Your BHA Board discussed apparent confusion as to how members expect that reported violations will be handled. Violations reported to the office are treated as confidential matters and dealt with in executive session. Anyone reporting a violation should know that it will be investigated but should not expect to be told what the Board decision was on any specific matter.

Many of the issues discussed at the August meeting are elaborated upon elsewhere in this edition. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Carrie at [Carrie@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Carrie@BaldHeadAssociation.com) or me at [rporters@bellsouth.net](mailto:rporters@bellsouth.net).



### Vision 2025 Framework for the Future — Goal 4

*By Kit Adcock,  
Village of Bald Head Island*

The 4th goal of *Vision 2025* is attracting permanent residents and increasing engagement of second homeowners.

Previous *Vision 2025* goals might best be described as managing Bald Head Island's growing pains. Topic four from *Vision 2025* targets items that islanders would like more of, which is a surprisingly short list. Most respondents like what Bald Head Island currently offers, though they recognize the need for additional amenities to accommodate a growing population.

Recommendations to attract more permanent residents and to engage second homeowners in community life fell under four general categories.

- Explore ways to continue improving Island medical care options.
- Develop a strategy for managing growth of commercial

activity (seasonally or year-round), consistent with environmental and lifestyle concerns and needs of a growing community, and sufficient to support good living.

*Continued on page 12*

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## ARC Corner

**Property owners:** Doing a renovation project or new construction? Planning some landscaping work? We can help you understand the guidelines that apply to your projects.

We are your resource for all things ARC, including Design Guidelines and necessary ARC approvals. Call 910-457-4676, ext. 22 or email [Karen@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Karen@BaldHeadAssociation.com).

### Review Process Changes — New Construction Draft Review Replaces Sketch Review With an Added Request for Variance Review Process — Effective for Submittals Received After November 1, 2018

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) has reworked the review process for new construction projects, replacing the Sketch Review with a Draft Review and Request for Variance Review. In an effort to improve and streamline these projects, the improved and more robust draft submittal (identifying more specifics than the former Sketch Review) allows ARC members to give better and more meaningful input, helping to expedite the review process.

The new Draft Review submittal requires:

1. The Review Application for New Construction, with the Architectural Questionnaire completed. Include ARC documentation regarding approved variances.
2. Survey — must be sealed by a registered NC surveyor and scaled 1" = 10'.
3. Schematic drawings — including site plan, floor plans and elevations. See updated guidelines for further details.

The three ARC new construction review submittals are:

1. Draft Review
2. Preliminary Review
3. Final Review

ARC has also added the Request for Variance Review to allow property owners to request the approval of a variance prior to investing

in the development of detailed design work. The purpose of this review is to allow property owners to plan their project utilizing the approved variance and, thereby, saving time and money. This submittal must include enough information for ARC to assess the named hardship and impact of the variance on the proposed plan and potential impact on adjacent neighbors. Insufficient submittals will not be placed on the ARC meeting agenda.

In the case of new construction, the review fee continues to include up to three reviews (draft, preliminary and/or final). While the draft review is not required, it is recommended. There will be no review fee for the Request for Variance Review.

These changes are effective for submittals received after November 1, but property owners are encouraged to begin utilizing the updated process immediately.

For any questions, contact Karen Mosteller at 910-457-4676, ext. 22 or [Karen@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Karen@BaldHeadAssociation.com).

**There will be no ARC meetings for Section B in December 2018 and Section A in January 2019.**

### New to BHA?

#### BHA Has A Newly Expanded Boat Park — Now Open

Are you new to Bald Head Association (BHA)? If so, do you know there is a boat storage park on Bald Head Island available to you? Located on Mulch Site Road off of North Bald Head Wynd, this newly expanded Boat Park is now open, with spaces available.

The maximum boat length allowed is 16', and the maximum motor size is 25hp.

Call early, before spaces fill up. Contact Ann VerMeulen at 910-457-4676, ext. 24 or [Ann@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Ann@BaldHeadAssociation.com).



**Don't forget to dump out excess water from containers around your house after heavy rains. Use mosquito larvicide "doughnuts" in low-lying, water-collection areas.**



## Fire Alarms — Are You Covered?

Mother Nature has been active this summer, with many thunderstorms on and around Bald Head Island. August 2018 brought several lightning strikes and power surges to Bald Head Island. One security company received 10 calls on August 13 alone regarding lightning and power surge issues affecting fire and security alarms.

There were 346,050 cloud-to-ground lightning flashes recorded in North Carolina in 2017. Remember, there is no safe place outside when thunderstorms are in the area. If you hear thunder, you are likely within striking distance of the storm. “When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors” is the slogan to heed.


On August 12, BHA’s Association Center, along with the Village Chapel, were affected by a lightning strike. If you think that a lightning strike or power surge can’t happen to you, think again. Lightning can strike up to 10-12 miles from its source.

BHA encourages property owners to check their fire alarms to ensure they are working properly and, most importantly, that you use a monitoring service. Without a fire alarm system being monitored, there is no notification to Public Safety to respond with assistance. Fires on BHI are especially dangerous, being a barrier island with ocean winds and surrounded by nearby properties. BHA encourages all homeowners to have adequate

power surge protection and battery backup for their fire alarm system in order to prevent danger from fire.

As a homeowner on BHI, you can choose to have your fire alarm monitored by a land line, an Internet phone connection or by cellular network (GSM — Global System Mobile communicator). There are pros and cons to each option, so discuss details with your security provider and insurance carrier. Whichever method you choose to have your fire alarm monitored through, if that system goes down for any reason, your system is not being monitored. There may be a benefit of choosing to have your fire alarm system monitored via a cellular network, simply because historical data shows less system downtime compared with other connections. But note, nothing is guaranteed 100%.

The Village ordinance that requires monitored smoke detectors was established in 1994 and had an amendment in 2008.

Are you a property owner who has not recently visited your BHI property? You may want to inspect your home for any potential damage from lightning strikes and/or power surges — are your fire and security alarms working properly? If your fire alarm has been damaged, notify your security company to have it fixed immediately. Ensure that your smoke alarms are in good working order with new batteries. 

## Alleys — Signatures Needed from All Affected Property Owners

Nearly a dozen communities on BHI have a unique situation because they have alleys. The alleys (with the exception of one community which has recently turned in 100% of required signatures) are currently private easements, with all incurred maintenance costs falling solely on property owners along that alley, even though they are traversed by members of the public daily.


Since January 2018, BHA has been communicating with all affected property owners, seeking to change maintenance responsibilities from property owners to BHI Village. Previous to the merger incorporating Stage II into Bald Head Association, CAMS has attempted for two years to convert these alleys to public easements.

The change of alley status from a private easement to a public easement requires the signatures of ALL affected property owners. Property owners still retain ownership. Some property owners responded quickly, returning the signed documents, and BHA thanks you. BHA is continuing with numerous follow-up letters requesting necessary signatures. If you are a

property owner waiting for action, help spread the word to your neighbors. Nothing can happen until all signatures are received.

Once BHA receives all signatures from a community, the alley changes status from a private easement to a public easement, and BHI Village staff will inspect the alley and take over all maintenance responsibilities. After approximately two additional years of assessment payments — covering paving costs that BHI Village requires — your annual cost of over \$1,500 (for some communities) will become \$0.

The first community alley whose status has changed to a public easement — the only community with 100% signatures received — will be paved in fall 2018. If you are a property owner on an alley and are ready for your alley to be inspected and maintained by BHI Village, help BHA to get the remainder of required signatures.

If you have any questions, contact Ann at Bald Head Association at 910-457-4676, ext. 24 or [Ann@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Ann@BaldHeadAssociation.com). 

**Need a prescription delivered to Bald Head Island?**

**Galloway-Sands Pharmacy in Southport delivers prescriptions to the Island-side ferry landing.**

**Call for details at 910-454-9090.**

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## Storm Water

By Daralyn Spivey,  
BHI Village Clerk

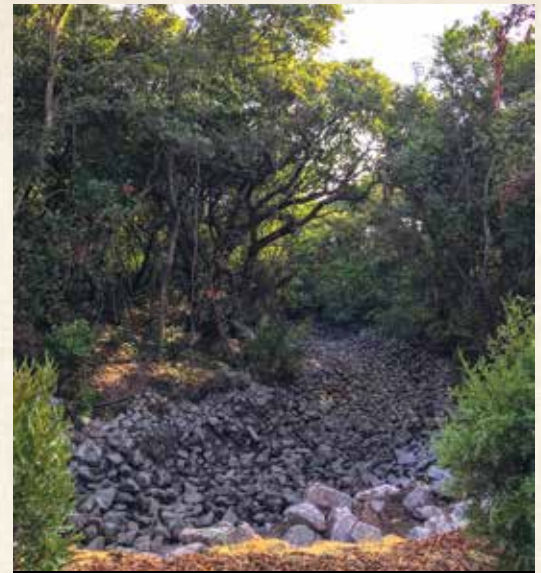
The Creek Outfall (known as “the ditch”) is the only method for evacuating storm water from the Island using gravity. Over the years, millions of gallons of storm water moving through its banks caused significant erosion to the bottom and sides of the ditch.

Several years ago, the Village was permitted by North Carolina regulatory agencies to install a soft geotextile armor to reduce the rate of erosion. Unfortunately, this effort failed. In April 2018, the Village began the process of replacing the soft geotextile tubes with rip-rap. The project was estimated to take 60 days, with a base cost of \$165,000.

Atlantic Construction was able to complete the project quickly, and as a result finished 20 days ahead of schedule. After the



**Pre-construction**



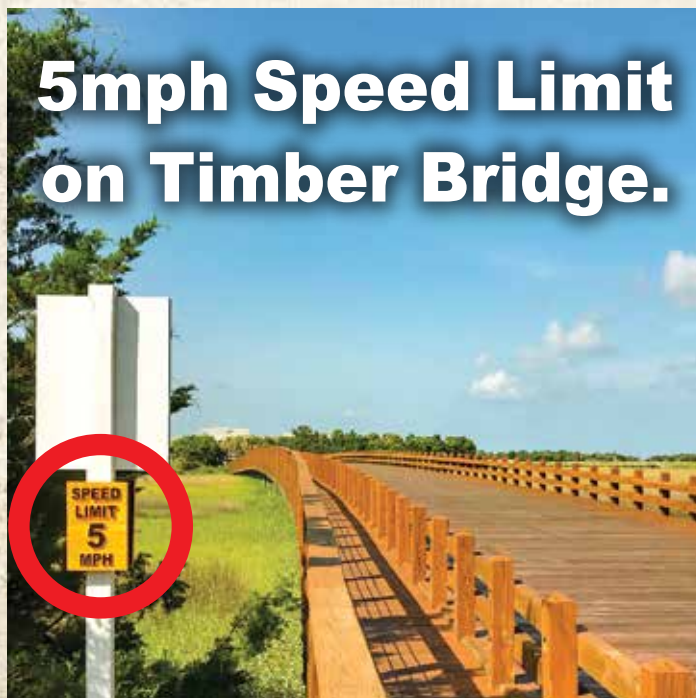
**Post-construction**

installation of rip-rap erosion control, staff from the Village planted the area with native vegetation to enhance the visual aesthetics of the project. With the recent deluge of rainfall, the post-construction ditch has proven most effective with no noticeable signs of erosion.

## Code Red — Emergency Notification Enrollment for Brunswick County

Are you enrolled to receive emergency notifications from Brunswick County? The program named Code Red informs citizens about local emergencies. Once you sign up, you will be notified by your local emergency response team in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts. Examples include: evacuation notices, bio-terrorism alerts,

boil water notices and missing child reports. To sign up, go to [www.BrunswickCountyNC.gov](http://www.BrunswickCountyNC.gov). Hover your cursor over “Departments” at the top and click on “Emergency Services.” Then click on “Emergency Alert Notification Set-Up” on the right-hand side.



## Brunswick County 2019 Tax Reappraisal

Brunswick County is conducting Reappraisals of real estate values throughout the county, which will affect your 2019 tax value. Reappraisal notices of assessed value should be mailed no later than February 2019, though this is subject to change. Tax bills should be received by July/August 2019.

According to Brunswick County’s website, “Reappraisal is a process in which all real estate values are assessed at their market value as of a specific date. The purpose of a Reappraisal is to provide equalization among all types of properties. North Carolina General Statutes require each county to conduct a Reappraisal at least once every eight years. Brunswick County conducts a Reappraisal every four years. The last Reappraisal was effective January 1, 2015.”

For more information, go to [www.BrunswickCountyNC.gov](http://www.BrunswickCountyNC.gov). Hover your cursor over “Departments” at the top and click on “Tax.” Then click on “2019 Reappraisal FAQ” at the top of the list on the left-hand side. For questions, call 910-253-2811.



## Closing Up Homes On BHI — Part I

As summer turns into fall, some BHI property owners' thoughts turn to the preparation of closing up their homes. Here are some topics to help. For additional home closing and weather-related tips, stay tuned for the October *Island Report*.


While you are away, it is important that BHA have the correct information to contact property owners, if necessary. If you have any contact information changes, don't forget to update that information with BHA. Call 910-457-4676, ext. 21 with contact update information.

If you are looking around your house and property and see any limbs and trees that need trimming, you must get prior approval from BHA's Architectural Review Committee (ARC). The same goes for any changes to the ecologically important understory. No landscape changes can be made to Common Area (a buffer zone between a property line and the golf course, for example) without prior BHA Board approval. Make sure the contractor knows the Design Guidelines and Landscape Guidelines — all property owners are responsible for any contractor's work.

Property owners are holding their own in the battle with rats. Though rats are still on BHI and will always be here, BHA urges property owners to continue to be vigilant. Here is information to help prevent potentially expensive repairs from rat damage.

- Seal your homes properly. Seal all exterior openings greater than ¼ in size to exclude mice and rats. Don't forget dryer/bathroom vents, roof vents, roof eaves, roof intersections and where the chimney intersects the roof. Keep doors and windows in good repair and keep them closed. Install heavy gauge sheet metal at the bottom and sides of doors.
- Eliminate gaps around electrical, plumbing and HVAC entry points by covering with sheet metal or sealing with cement mortar. Copper scrub pads can be stuffed in and around pipes, then sealed with foam. Spray foam is only a sealant from moisture and insects; however, it also acts as a "red flag" for your inspection ease. "Gnawed" foam alerts you to any area that access has been attempted.
- Utilize protective measures such as removing debris, trimming trees away from homes (**REMNDR:** Prior approval is required by BHA and the Village for tree trimming over a certain size and removal). Trim tree limbs and tall plants at least one to two feet away from roof, attic vents, eaves and utility lines. Thin ivy and other thick vegetation and leave clearance beneath bushes to prevent harborage for rodents.
- Use materials that are rodent "gnaw-proof" such as sheet

metal, expanded metal, perforated metal, iron grills, hardware screen and cement mortar. Materials having an opening of ¼" or less will exclude both rats and mice.

- Install professional bait stations. If you choose to install exterior bait stations and traps, contact a professional exterminator. Rat poison not dispensed and monitored by professionals is not recommended. Pellet bait in particular is strongly discouraged because it is highly toxic and can be removed by rats and dropped in open areas accessible to children, pets and other wildlife.
- Frequent visual home inspections have averted substantial damage. This may be a challenge for many property owners during the off season or during the high season if the home is rented continually. However, it is especially important to have your home inspected regularly. If you can't get to the Island in the coming months, it is highly recommended that you consider asking a neighbor or hiring a contractor or individual to inspect your home at least once a month for signs of intrusion. As with so many things, early detection is key.
- Close up holes on the underside of your home. Several contractors report that rats can enter homes with ease through the underpinning because it is often overlooked.
- If no one is in the home for an extended amount of time, remove non-perishable food items from your pantry.
- Rats will be looking for water — particularly where HVAC condensation lines enter the home. Redirect HVAC condensation lines draining directly under and next to structures. Attach soaker/irrigation hoses to the ends of redirected lines with a PVC connector/adaptor, preventing puddles which attract all types of wildlife to drink, including rodents.
- Remove all dead palm fronds and eliminate clutter and debris from your property. (**REMINER:** If a contractor does this work for you, s/he must remove the debris. If it's a DIY project, the Village of BHI will remove the yard debris for you. Contact the Department of Public Works at 910-457-5422 to request a pick up.)
- Remove dog droppings daily and feed pets away from vegetation and harborage areas. Do not allow food to sit out overnight.
- Remove ripe and fallen fruits and nuts and elevate stored items at least 18" off of the ground. 

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## Revised Flood Insurance Preliminary Rate Map — Effective August 28, 2018

The revised flood insurance preliminary rate map has been approved by the Village of Bald Head Island and Brunswick County. The new flood map is effective August 28, 2018, so check with your insurance agent to update your homeowners' insurance policy. With updated technology, property owners on BHI should see significantly reduced insurance rates.


This is the first update in nine years, and some property owners may see a decrease in classification as well as base flood elevation, depending on your location.

For information and to view the current and preliminary flood maps for BHI, contact Stephen Boyett at the Village of BHI, located at 106 Lighthouse Wynd, Bald Head Island. For questions, call Stephen at 910-457-6255.

To view the current and preliminary flood maps for BHI online, visit the Flood Risk Information System (FRIS) through Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at [fris.nc.gov](http://fris.nc.gov). Click on the map of North Carolina or select North Carolina in the drop-down box. Click "OK" in the pop-up information box. Select Brunswick County on the map or in the drop-down box.

1. Click on "Effective" link in upper right hand corner and drop down to "Preliminary."
2. Click on "Search" magnifying tool in upper left hand corner. Drop down menu will appear.
3. Click in "Address" box and type in street address. (Be sure to include Bald Head Island, NC.)
4. Browse through Flood Information, Risk Information, Financial Vulnerability, etc.

This link is on the BHA website ([www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com)) "News" page. 

## Did You Know? Why Is Golf Cart Registration Required?

*By Kit Adcock, Village of Bald Head Island*

All Bald Head Island golf carts are required to carry insurance. This is the primary registration requirement. There are also size and weight limitations, as well as safety features (lights, seat belts and mirrors) that are verified at the initial registration inspection. People have died falling from carts, and others have suffered serious, lifelong injuries. Meeting recommended standards and having current insurance provides some measure of protection for the cart's occupants and its homeowner.

There is another reason to register carts. While on vacation, few people carry identification. When drivers are injured and are unable to share personal information, first responders are unable to contact family to make timely medical decisions. Being able to link a cart to a home facilitates contacts for emergencies, especially when time is of the essence.


Many of the Island's carts look similar. Occasionally, carts "go missing." Registration numbers are key to recovering this property. After police reports are filed, Public Safety Officers (and Facebook friends) search for such carts while on patrol, hopefully finding them quickly and intact.

During 2017, more than 2,500 golf carts were registered on Bald Head Island. For 2018, registration opened on November 30, 2017, with a deadline of January 31. Only first-time cart registrations must be done in person at Public Safety. All others

can be updated online. So why, by July 30, 2018, with such an easy process, only 1,600 of the 2,500 carts registered in 2017 were registered?

Road safety, and thus golf cart safety, is a high priority for Village Council. No one wants to add more rules, more red tape, more hassles or more costs for anyone. The current process is fast and inexpensive. But if compliance continues to remain poor, procedures will have to be changed. Fines may be added if registration renewals are not completed within a reasonable time. The timing of registration coincides with Public Safety's — and the Island's — slow season. Making stops for expired registrations during the summer months precludes our officers from other duties that keep all of us safe. Yet summer is when our roads are most heavily traveled by inexperienced drivers and the risks of injury-related cart interactions are highest.

Through golf cart registration, we commit to each other's safety. When so many people fail to register, it's a choice, not an oversight. Remember, insuring your cart and meeting Village cart safety requirements benefits you if an accident occurs with your cart. Please, help us help you. **Register today!**


To register, go to [www.villagebhi.org](http://www.villagebhi.org), hover on "Resident Services and Resources," then hover on "Services." Select "Golf Cart Registration." 

## Excess Rainfall and Snakes

Public Safety recently reported two confirmed venomous snake sightings — cottonmouth snakes — in early August within a two-week period. With the excess rainfall on BHI in late July and early August, snakes may be seeking higher ground. And previously, copperhead sightings have been reported on BHI.

Remember to be careful and be aware of your surroundings at all

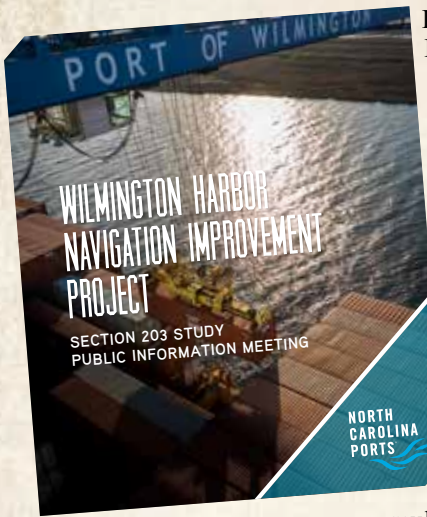
times. At night, always use a flashlight to illuminate where you are walking.

Learn how to distinguish between venomous and non-venomous snakes. Don't try to move and do not kill any snake. Snakes are beneficial to the ecosystem on BHI. If you have a concern about snakes, contact Public Safety at 910-457-5252. 

**Brunswick Nuclear Plant Siren Test: Wednesday, October 10, 2018**  
**Between 10:00am and 11:00am for 5-30 seconds**



## NC State Ports Authority Undertakes Study of Channel



In August, the NC State Ports Authority held an informational meeting to announce it has begun a feasibility study of “potential improvements to the federal channels that access the Port of Wilmington.”

Vessel operation modifications, channel widening/deepening, bend softening and beneficial use of dredged material are all alternatives that will be considered during the

multi-year study. The purpose

is to evaluate modifications to the federal channel that will allow the Wilmington Port to “accommodate larger, more fully laden

deep draft vessels.” The channel is currently authorized to a depth of 42’ (+/- 2’). Ports Authority staff acknowledged at the informational meeting that they were intending to increase the authorized depth to as much as 55’ over time.

Under the authority of the Water Resources Development Act, a non-federal interest may conduct such a study and submit it to the Secretary of the Army. The study is being funded by Ports Authority operating revenues and is expected to be completed in spring 2019. After review by the Secretary of the Army, the US Army Corps of Engineers is expected to undertake an Environmental Impact Study. Congressional authorization for construction is planned for spring 2021.

Bald Head Association and the Village of BHI are keenly aware of the study and Village Council representatives have asked to be part of the planning process to ensure Bald Head Island’s interests are considered. Watch for information as it becomes available through the *Island Report* and BHA’s weekly email.

To read more about the study, visit: [ncports.com/about-the-ports/section-203-wilmington-harbor-improvements-project/](http://ncports.com/about-the-ports/section-203-wilmington-harbor-improvements-project/).

## Are You An Artisan?

The BHI Artisans are seeking new members. Members must be a BHI property owner or resident and must make their own items to sell. Dues are incurred only when something needs to be purchased, such as advertising or a banner. If artisans are under 18 years of age, they must be accompanied by a parent or

responsible adult. The BHI Artisans have shows and sales in the Generator Society Hall at the Association Center throughout the year. If you are a craftsperson and would like more information, contact Sally Klippel at [sallyklippel@gmail.com](mailto:sallyklippel@gmail.com).

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## Make A Wish Volunteer Award Recipient — Jeannie Rodbell

By Pam Henson, BHA Communications Associate

Some on Bald Head Island may know Jeannie Rodbell through her part-time work at the BHI Chapel. Did you know about her major involvement with the Make A Wish Foundation — Eastern NC? She just won the Eastern North Carolina chapter’s Volunteer of the Year Award, which encompasses 49 counties. That’s something to celebrate.

Jeannie is also a Wish Champion, meaning she has raised enough money to fulfill one wish, which is \$7,500 minimum per year. A Wish Champion for two years, she says “The best thing is to help others.”

She also serves on their Advisory Council, whose purpose is to help get the word out to local communities. Jeannie alone represents Brunswick County on the Advisory Council. She has helped organize fundraising events such as “Wish Upon A Chef,” which raised \$150,000 in one night in Wilmington last November.

Not juggling enough, Jeannie is also a Wish Granter, working with recipient kids and their families on making the wish come true with paperwork, logistics-handling and planning. One of her favorite parts of volunteering is the “Wish Delivery Party,” when she officially “grants a wish” to a child. Jeannie has helped over 50 children get their wish. She tells the children, “I’m your fairy godmother, here to grant your wish,” says Jeannie. How magical.

Do you know what Make A Wish Foundation actually does? They help children who have a life-altering or critical illness achieve their wish. A grandchild of Jeannie’s spent the first year

of his life in the hospital. She saw the care and loving attention by hospital volunteers and decided that she wanted to help children herself, to give back.

One year, Jeannie helped a boy’s wish of wanting to come to Bald Head Island come true. A family member was getting married on BHI, and the child’s wish was to come to BHI for the wedding. (*Sprinkle star dust here.*)

“It takes a lot of money to make this magic happen for the children,” says Jeannie.

There are 355 children in 49 counties pending a wish (pending funds). The goal is to fund \$3 million of wishes in 2019. The Eastern NC Make A Wish Foundation has been going strong for 30 years, granting wishes to over 3,000 children. On average in the US, a wish is granted every 34 minutes. Want to help with Make A Wish Foundation’s Eastern NC chapter — as a volunteer or with donations? Contact Jeannie at 301-908-8348 or visit [eastnc.wish.org](http://eastnc.wish.org).

“It’s priceless work,” says Jeannie. “It’s like having 50 grandkids to love and hug and spoil.”



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24 HR ALARM MONITORING

## Identify This Creature on BHI

This creature was photographed on June 19, 2018. It was perched on the dog water bowl, laying eggs in the water, beside the door to the post office on Bald Head Island. Do you know what it is?

It is a female *Antheraea polyphemus* (polyphemus moth). The eye spots give it its name — from the Greek myth of the Cyclops Polyphemus.

As a caterpillar, it can eat 86,000 times its weight at emergence in a little less than two months. It lives as an adult for just less than one week.

Do you have an interesting creature you have photographed on Bald Head Island that you would like help identifying? Email [Pam@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Pam@BaldHeadAssociation.com).







# Old Baldy— Historic Happy Hour

By Abby Sachs

In 2005, the Old Baldy Foundation reached out to members of the Generator Society to preserve their memories for perpetuity. Consequentially, the Old Baldy Foundation’s archive includes a collection of written and oral histories from the 19 families who pioneered life on Bald Head Island.

The jewel of this collection is an original manuscript narrating the history of the Generator Society written by Bill Berne. Unfortunately,

this manuscript was never published. Berne’s jocular narrative describes life on Bald Head Island in the 1970s as “Robinson Crusoe, The Swiss Family Robinson and Tom Sawyer all rolled into one.” Tragedies like Bald Head Island’s first fire are recounted alongside jovial moments like the Cunningham’s washing machine falling into the river. From nude roof parties to Earl Congdon sleeping through a water spout, the manuscript is a treasure-trove of memories meant for the Island community to enjoy.

Join the Old Baldy Foundation on Wednesday, September 26, from 5:30-7:00pm for an Historic Happy Hour exploring the Generator Society collection. Foundation staff will broadcast several oral histories, and there will be select readings of Berne’s manuscript. Ephemera such as an original Generator Society patch, society membership certificate and photographs will be on display. Beer, wine and light snacks will be available throughout the program. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit [oldbaldy.org](http://oldbaldy.org) or call 910-448-1472.



Original Generator Society Certificate.



Generator Society Reunion of 1993. Pictured are the Congdon, Crowell, Wester and Cosgrove Families.



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## BHI Vendor Tractor Trailer Cab Slides Off Barge

A SpartanNash tractor trailer cab slid off of the barge, hanging partially in the water on its way from Bald Head Island to Deep Point Marina.

The incident occurred on July 30, 2018. The driver was able to get out of the cab in time, and the US Coast Guard accompanied the barge to Deep Point Marina.

J&J Boat Services helped with in-water efforts, along with personnel from Edwards Crane, to raise the cab back onto the barge. Thank you to all who assisted to ensure a safe outcome — Captain Rusty, Bald Head Island Maintenance, Deep Point dock personnel, US Coast Guard, J&J Boat Services, Edwards Crane, Yaupon Service Center and many more.



## BHA Violations Process Clarified

So, you've informed BHA that the family renting the house across the street is crossing the dune to get to the beach. Or, you reported that your neighbor recently installed outdoor patio lighting. Even worse, a vendor cut a large amount of vegetation from an adjacent property, and the pile of debris still remains on the street. If you have reported a potential violation such as the ones above, or others, and you haven't seen progress yet, don't despair! Rest assured, all potential violations that are reported to the BHA staff or Board are considered anonymous and are followed up on and resolved either at the staff level or directly with the Board. But, often it just takes time to get through the established process — the average time is 3–4 months. And, since Board policy dictates that staff maintains the confidentiality of the offending property owner, we don't relay the outcome of the issue to the one who reported it.

As a matter of protocol, here is the current process generally followed when a potential violation is reported:

1. Covenants Compliance Agent Julie Starcher receives all violations and logs them into her database.
2. Julie then goes to the site of the infraction to investigate firsthand, refraining from trespassing while documenting the violation with photographs.
3. Property owners receive a standard written letter from Julie explaining the infraction and providing the standard 30 days to "cure" (or resolve) the violation.

4. At the 30-day mark, Julie visits the property again to determine whether or not the violation was cured. If it was, no further action is necessary. If it was not, Julie notifies the property owner in writing that the violation was not cured and the issue will be considered by the BHA Board of Directors at its next meeting.
5. At that meeting, the Board will provide direction to staff on how to proceed — generally directing staff to send a letter to the property owner, giving him/her a certain period of time to cure the violation or fines will begin to accrue thereafter.
6. If after the Board-designated time period the violation is still not cured, staff sends a certified letter to the property owner, along with an invoice for the fine levied by the Board. In the letter, staff requests that the property owner notify staff of when the violation is resolved so the fining can conclude and the final invoice for the total fine is sent to the property owner.

BHA works to ensure that this process is fair and consistent among all property owners. However, there are variations of this process, depending on whether the property owner requests an extension of the cure period or if there are other extenuating circumstances being considered.

Questions about the process can be emailed to Julie Starcher at [Julie@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Julie@BaldHeadAssociation.com), or she can be reached at 910-457-4676, ext. 23.

## BHI Ferry Transportation Authority Update

The BHI Ferry Transportation Authority met in mid-August, with seven out of the 11 members in attendance. Finance Director Deb Straub reported that she is working with Dixon Hughes on the audit of the 2017/2018 financials.

The first 15 minutes of the meeting was held in open session and was spent introducing three representatives of HMS Consulting, out of Seattle, WA. HMS staff are observing and collecting information for the overall assessment of the ferry system for bond feasibility and the valuing of assets.

The remainder of the two-hour meeting was held in closed session.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am at the Southport Community Building. Bald Head Association encourages property owners to attend meetings to ask questions and voice their opinions, especially in these initial stages of development.



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*Continued from page 1 (Vision 2025 Framework for the Future — Goal 4)*

- Work with Bald Head Island Conservancy and the Island's clubs to develop safe activities for teens.
- Develop programs to encourage Island-wide emphasis on active, healthy living and environmentally sensitive use of our natural environment.

One of the first questions Island residents are typically asked by visitors is how medical emergencies are handled. These concerns are not limited to retirees or those with special needs. At one point or another, many of us will experience some kind of medical emergency while at Bald Head Island. Routine medical care and physical therapy require a trip off Island.

As the permanent population increases, additional on-Island services throughout the year may be sought from Doshier Hospital. Improved broadband may allow for levels and types of medical care via technology that were unimaginable only a few years ago, such as virtual online appointments. In addition to ensuring quality and consistent 24-hour-a-day emergency medical response, leadership is focusing on education to prevent injuries, to limit medical calls for sickness and underlying health issues.

Improvements to current protocols and services are always welcome and considered. Thursday morning first-responder training is open to all homeowners. In the summer months in particular, extra hands are always welcome and needed. Those who are on-Island seasonally are welcome to participate, including young adults. In the meantime, the medical facilities available at the newly opened Public Safety Complex await an enterprising resident nurse practitioner or physician assistant to set up a temporary office.

The second goal is a bit more challenging. Most survey respondents love the natural beauty and tranquility of Bald Head Island. They also enjoy the benefits of a year-round, well-stocked grocery; a hardware store that offers anything a handyman or handywoman might want; and a range of dining experiences, mostly in peak season. We've got multiple choices of skilled service providers to manage just about anything that needs doing around the house — yard or cart. There are a broad array of organized activities and sports, plus plenty to do "naturally." Life on BHI is good! Only one commercial activity was frequently listed in the *Vision 2025* surveys — more dining options.

Commercial growth is limited by two factors — land that is zoned for commercial use and "accepted uses" in the Village zoning ordinances. There are only a few parcels of commercially zoned land available on the Island. It is up to the Planning Board and Village Council to be judicious in approving types of businesses for these parcels that are not already in the ordinances. As an example, in 2017 both bodies approved an addition to the permitted uses for a veterinary clinic with day care and boarding. As a "dog-friendly" Island, this use fits with the goal of supporting good living in a growing community and accommodates lifestyle concerns. Land has already been purchased for this particular purpose.

The third goal deals with teenagers. Although the recommendation is for the Conservancy and the Island's clubs to develop programs for teens, all Island entities and islanders have projects that might appeal to this demographic. Should you have any ideas for short-term projects that might address this need, please let me know or share them with your favorite Island entity. In fact, if you have a teen, please ask him or her to share their ideas.

Here is an example. This summer, Old Baldy, in collaboration with Bald Head Association, began an archiving project of Old Baldy's documents, files and historical records. Everyone of any age who worked on it, even for a brief period, immensely enjoyed the added bits of Island knowledge they acquired. With teens' expertise and agility with technology, their skills are in high demand. Projects like this foster a greater sense of Island engagement and build personal connections to other islanders.

The last goal is a tribute to the changing demographics and habits among the next generations. In addition to being more technically savvy, something the Island's recent broadband installation complements, the priorities of fitness and more healthy living are a wonderful fit for this unique Island.

The feature that was most often highlighted in survey responses is the natural beauty of the Island. The Conservancy offers formal programs and classes that showcase Bald Head's habitats and wildlife. Their Turtle Trots attract large groups of islanders and visitors of all ages. The recently formed Creek Geeks meet regularly to kayak/canoe the creeks together, often engaging in collaborations to remove trash or to promote oyster beds. A running group for teens was formed this summer. Many of these activities are free, employing technology to bring individuals with common interests together. Ultimately, they build bonds among the participants and to this special place.

Many studies demonstrate that connections among people increase longevity and that the longer the term of those connections, the greater life benefits accrue. The term "eco-therapy" embodies the favorable psychological benefits of being exposed to nature, and additional advantages result from being in close proximity to the ocean.

The ties that bind us to Bald Head Island and to each other are the unique experiences of awe with nature that we share. It is the promise of those experiences that draw us here. It is the incredible seconds when nature offers of glimpse of her diversity and beauty that compel us to stay to await more. This Island, as it is, is the best thing to offer.



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## Looking To Get Involved on Bald Head Island?

There are many BHA-sponsored activities to get involved with — from fitness to fellowship to food and more. All listed events are open to everyone. Some have nominal fees, and some are free. Most events are held in Generator Society Hall at the Association Center, located at 111 Lighthouse Wynd. For specific information, visit BHA's online calendar at [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com) under the "Events" menu.

**Yoga** is held on Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:45am-1:00pm.

**Pilates** is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:45am-11:45am.

**Knitting and Needlepoint Work** meets every Wednesday, 9:30am-11:30am.

**The BHI Book Club** meets at 10:00am. The books selected for September and October are:

September 10, 2018 *The Great Alone*  
By Kristin Hannah

October 8, 2018 *Everything I Never Told You*  
By Celeste Ng

**Bridge Club** meets every Wednesday except the first Wednesday of the month, 1:30pm-4:00pm.

**Community Pot Luck Dinners** are returning, starting September 17, 6:00pm-8:30pm. They are held on the third Monday of the month.

### Thad Wester Fishing School October 5-7, 2018

Do you want to learn how to fish or just love fishing? Do you have children who want to learn about fishing? The 36<sup>th</sup> annual Thad Wester Fishing School will be held October 5-7, 2018.

The BHI Conservancy's Fishing School began in 1983 and is named after its first dean and founding BHI Conservancy member, Thad Wester. Along with fishing, educational topics include fish identification; where to fish on BHI; hooks, bait and bait rigging; releasing and conservation; surf rods and reels; weights, lines and casting; fishing with kids; and fishing safety.

Events include a Friday evening social and Saturday evening fish fry with awards.

Steve Montgomery, instructor, commented, "I have a ton of passion for the parent/child partner involvement in Thad Wester's Fishing School. I think that was a part of his original intent. It's so much more than just fishing. What a gift that I've been a part of that."

For more information and to register, visit [www.bhic.org/fishing-school](http://www.bhic.org/fishing-school).



### Who Do I Call? BHI Road Medians

Do you have a question or concern about road medians on Bald Head Island? If so, contact Jeff Griffin, Assistant Village Manager at the Village of BHI, at 910-457-9700, ext. 1003 or [jgriffin@villagebhi.org](mailto:jgriffin@villagebhi.org).

**Card Making Class** meets the first Monday of the month, 2:00pm-5:00pm. All materials are provided.

Check the Bald Head Association website periodically for upcoming events at [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com).

## September

Labor Day	9/3/2018
BHA Office Closed	9/3/2018
Card Class	9/5/2018 2pm
ARC-A Meeting	9/7/2018 9am
Book Club	9/10/2018 10am
VBHI — Transportation Meeting	9/12/2018 10am
Bridge Club	9/12/2018 1:30-4pm
Men's Bible Study	9/14/2018 8am
BHA Board Meeting	9/14/2018 2pm
Pot Luck Dinner	9/17/2018 6pm
Ladies Bible Study	9/18/2018 10:15am
Employee Appreciation Day	9/19/2018 11am
Bridge Club	9/19/2018 1:30-4pm
ARC-B Meeting	9/21/2018 9am
VBHI — Work Session	9/21/2018 9:30am
Village Council Meeting	9/21/2018 2:30pm
Howl at the Moon ("Harvest Moon")	9/24/2018 7pm
Bridge Club	9/26/2018 1:30-4pm
Men's Bible Study	9/28/2018 8am

## SAVE THE DATE in October:

Ladies Bible Study	10/2/2018 10:15am
Card Class	10/3/2018 2pm
ARC-A Meeting	10/5/2018 9am
"Pink" Fashion Show	10/6/2018 12pm
Roast & Toast on the Coast	10/5/2018 – 10/7/2018
Columbus Day	10/8/2018
Book Club	10/8/2018 10am
Ladies Bible Study	10/9/2018 10:15am
VBHI — Transportation Meeting	10/10/2018 10am
Brunswick Nuclear Plant Siren Test	10/10/2018 10-11am
Bridge Club	10/10/2018 1:30-4pm
Men's Bible Study	10/12/2018 8am
BHA Board Meeting	10/12/2018 2pm
Pot Luck Dinner	10/15/2018 6pm
Bridge Club	10/17/2018 1:30-4pm
ARC-B Meeting	10/19/2018 9am
VBHI — Work Session	10/19/2018 9:30am
Village Council Meeting	10/19/2018 2:30pm
SOIF Hunger Walk "Crop"	10/21/2018 10am
Ladies Bible Study	10/23/2018 10:15am
Howl at the Moon ("Hunter's Moon")	10/24/2018 7pm
Bridge Club	10/24/2018 1:30-4pm
Men's Bible Study	10/26/2018 8am
Litter Sweep	10/27/2018 11am
Trail of Terror	10/27/2018 7:30pm
Halloween	10/31/2018
Bridge Club	10/31/2018 1:30-4pm

Check out our "Events" tab at:  
[www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com)





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# September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:30am & 10am <b>Rev. Dr. Garrett Albertson</b> <i>Methodist</i>	3 <b>Labor Day</b>  <b>BHA Office Closed</b>	4 <b>Pilates</b> 10:45am (AC)	5 <b>Yoga</b> 11:45am (AC) <b>Card Making Class</b> 2:00pm (AC)	6 <b>Pilates</b> 10:45am (AC)	7 <b>ARC — A Mtg.</b> 9am (AC/B) <b>ARC - B Submission Deadline</b>	8
9 8:30am <b>Rev. Dr. Winston Charles</b> <i>Episcopalian</i>	10 <b>Book Club</b> 10:00am (AC) <b>Yoga</b> 11:45am (AC)	11 <b>Pilates</b> 10:45am (AC)	12 <b>VBHI — Transportation</b> 10am (PSC) <b>Yoga</b> 11:45am (AC) <b>Bridge Club</b> 1:30pm (AC)	13 <b>Pilates</b> 10:45am (AC)	14 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 8am (AC) <b>BHA Meeting</b> 2pm (AC/B)	15
16 8:30am <b>Rev. Dr. Alice Kunka</b> <i>Methodist</i>	17 <b>Yoga</b> 11:45am (AC) <b>Pot Luck Dinner</b> 6pm (AC)	18 <b>Pilates</b> 10:45am (AC) <b>Ladies Bible Study</b> 10:15am (VC)	19 <b>Employee Appreciation Day</b> 11am (OB) <b>Yoga</b> 11:45am (AC) <b>Bridge Club</b> 1:30pm (AC)	20 <b>Pilates</b> 10:45am (AC)	21 <b>ARC - A Submission Deadline</b> <b>ARC — B Mtg.</b> 9am (AC/B) <b>VBHI Council Work Session</b> 9:30am (PSC) <b>VBHI Council Mtg</b> 2:30pm (PSC)	22
23 8:30am <b>Col. Michael Charles</b> <i>Inter-denominational</i>	24 <b>Yoga</b> 11:45am (AC) <b>Howl at the Moon</b> 7:00pm (Access 39)	25 <b>Pilates</b> 10:45am (AC)	26 <b>Yoga</b> 11:45am (AC) <b>Bridge Club</b> 1:30pm (AC)	27 <b>Pilates</b> 10:45am (AC)	28 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 8am (AC)	29
30 8:30am <b>Rev. Rebecca Husband-Maynard</b> <i>Baptist</i>						



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BHIC (BHI Conservancy)  
Club (BHI Club)  
Creek Access (CA)  
Maritime Market Forest Pavilion (MMFP)  
OB (Old Baldy)  
PSC (Public Safety Complex)  
RAC (Riverside Adventure Courtyard)  
VC (Village Chapel)

### Standing Events:

- Alcoholics Anonymous — Monday & Friday, 12-1pm, Berne Room at the Association Center. Contact John B. at 336-671-8858 or [sober.1.day.at.a.time@gmail.com](mailto:sober.1.day.at.a.time@gmail.com) for more information.
- Knitting & Needlepoint Work — A group of knitting and other needlepoint enthusiasts meets every Wednesday in the Association Center, 9:30-11:30am.



*Bald Head Association*

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