



# Island Report

Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values

## Wildlife Overlook Opening in September

**B**HA is excited to announce the soft opening of its Wildlife Overlook on September 3! We will hold a grand opening ceremony with ribbon cutting later in September. The two, new observation decks will allow Bald Head Islanders the opportunity to glimpse wildlife in action around this lagoon. You can sit on the waterbird viewing deck bench and enjoy watching who flies in to roost above the lagoon. And you may even view safely from the platform the alligators, who oversaw the entire construction process.

The Wildlife Overlook is open from dawn to dusk. Two educational signs with information about reptiles and waterbirds will be unveiled at the opening, with additional signage to follow. Some vegetation was planted earlier this past spring, and once Duke Energy replaces their transformer equipment in that area later this year, BHA will plant additional vegetation along that side.



## BHA President's Letter ~ Alan Briggs

My wife and I purchased a lot on Bald Head Island in August of 2001. At that time, we lived in McLean, Virginia, and I worked in DC. I was 58 at that time and was practicing law full-time. We built a home on the lot, and our home opened in 2003.

We rented our BHI home in the summers and visited BHI in the spring and fall until I retired in 2014. Then we sold our home in McLean, bought a home in Carrboro, NC, and since then I have lived in BHI from May through October and Carrboro from November through April each year.

As I "resided" in McLean, VA, from 2001 through 2014, that is where I voted. When we sold our home in McLean and bought a home in Carrboro, NC, I had to get a NC driver's license, so I did that in Carrboro (which is in Orange County, NC), as that is where I was at that time.

When you get a driver's license in North Carolina, you automatically register to vote. I did not really think about whether or not I should register in Orange County or Brunswick County. I just thought I was voting in North Carolina, as that is where I lived.

A few years thereafter, there was a proposed bond issue for improved internet on BHI that was on the Brunswick County

ballot. It failed to pass, with a vote of 80 to 80. I had wanted it to pass because I wanted improved internet on BHI.

That was when I changed my voting "residence" in North

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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](mailto:Fran@BaldHeadAssociation.com) or

Kelsey Callahan, ARC Associate, at [Kelsey@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Kelsey@BaldHeadAssociation.com). For urgent ARC matters, call 910-477-7246.

**Property Owners — Ensure Your Service Providers Comply with Design Guidelines to Prevent Violations**

There is a reason that ARC repeats the message about getting prior approval from ARC before ANY exterior work is done on your property. Too many property owners get stung with violations and fines because their service provider did the work without anyone contacting ARC for prior approval before the work began.

ARC prior approvals are required for any change to the exterior of your home, including landscaping. If you're replacing a roof with the same material, that is considered a "like material," not a change, precluding the requirement to go through ARC. However, if you're changing from a shingle roof to a metal roof or keeping the same metal roof but changing the roof color, this is considered a change, and you must fill out the appropriate ARC application, submit it to ARC prior to your section deadline to be considered for approval and receive approval prior to any work. All ARC applications are available online in fillable format at [BaldHeadAssociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines).

**DON'T ASSUME!** If you hire a service provider, it is the property owner's responsibility to submit the appropriate application and receive approval back from ARC before any work commences. Though BHA holds service provider meetings to help educate vendors on behalf of our members, there is no guarantee that service providers have passed along this information to their workers or that other companies are familiar with the Design Guidelines.

**Here's the kicker.** Remember, the property owner is the responsible party for all violations and possible fines. ARC **always** emails approvals and/or denials to the property owner, so you know if a job can proceed or not. If you didn't receive a written notification about the work, it's likely not approved. See page 29 of the Design Guidelines for a list of application types and the fee schedule. There's an easy link on BHA's home page for the Design Guidelines at [BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com).

**ARC Color & Paint Subcommittee**

Looking at the large increase of ARC submittals shown on the accompanying table, the ARC has created a subcommittee (made up of both Section A and B committee members) to review paint and color application submissions to help facilitate timely responses. Deadlines for submissions will remain the same. Visit [BaldHeadAssociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines) for Section A and B schedules.

Members of this subcommittee are also creating a new and improved suggested color book. These paint color suggestions will give homeowners ideas for their homes based on their location in either the Maritime Forest or on the beach. Though a Paint/Color Application submission is still required, the suggested colors in the book

may help homeowners with their color selections.

Stay tuned for additional information. For any questions on ARC submittals, contact Kelsey Callahan at [Kelsey@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Kelsey@BaldHeadAssociation.com) or 910-457-4676, ext. 23.

**ARC Submittal Numbers YTD 2021**

Section A — YTD				Section B — YTD			
2021	2020	2019	2018	2021	2020	2019	2018
114	89	105	103	118	31	43	42
ARC Totals YTD				Interim Reviews YTD			
2021	2020	2019	2018	2021	2020		
190	83	115	109	29	7		

**The Wave**  
By Alan Briggs

I remember the first wave  
our first visit  
we were just driving around  
and someone waved to us

we did not know them  
at least we didn't think we did  
but the driver waved  
as if to say "hello"

it seemed different  
but then someone else  
did the same thing  
so I waved back

and for twenty years  
I have been doing this  
and somewhere along  
the way

it no longer seemed  
different  
it seemed right  
to wave  
it just fits here  
the wave of the hand  
just to say "hello"  
a tradition of Bald Head Island

maybe it is because  
the Scottish drivers  
wave to each other  
or maybe it is because  
the piper wearing kilts  
comes over the dunes  
playing his bagpipe  
while we Howl

and we wave  
to him.

••• Continued from page 1 (BHA President's Letter ~ Alan Briggs)

Carolina from Orange County to Brunswick County. I concluded that my vote really mattered in Brunswick County because local issues specific to BHI were decided by the registered voters who reside on BHI.

The law in North Carolina states:

§ 163-57. Residence defined for registration and voting.

All election officials in determining the residence of a person offering to register or vote, shall be governed by the following rules, so far as they may apply:

(1) *That place shall be considered the residence of a person in which that person's habitation is fixed, and to which, whenever that person is absent, that person has the intention of returning...*

This is consistent with the basic legal definition of "domicile" — a person's domicile is the place to which that person has the intention of returning. According to the Brunswick County Board of Elections, to register to vote in Brunswick County, you must "be a legal resident domiciled in Brunswick County and North Carolina for 30 days by the date of the next general election day."

Most of us who have homes on Bald Head Island fall in the same category as I do. Our BHI home is one of two homes we own and spend some of each year. A few BHI residents live on BHI full time. These we think of as "the lucky ones."

There are just under 2,000 members of Bald Head Association, of which approximately 1,300 own homes and over 600 own lots. While the homes on BHI are owned by varying levels of ownership, some number may be eligible to register to vote in Brunswick County. Some who may be reading this article may not have thought about changing their voter registration location. At the end of the day, voting in Brunswick County may carry more weight than a vote in Charlotte, for example — that's one vote out of 332 currently registered BHI voters in Brunswick County versus one vote out of over 772,000 in Mecklenburg County.

**Those 332 presently registered BHI voters in Brunswick County are the ones who vote on and decide ballot issues for Bald Head Island.** The other BHA members are presumably registered to vote somewhere else.

While I lived in Virginia, I could have changed my legal voting residence to Brunswick County if I met the above legal test of "intending to return" to Bald Head Island. The same was true for me when I lived in Carrboro, NC.

I did not do that and did not change my place of voting either because I did not think about it, had thought about it but concluded it was right for me to keep my voting residence where it was or because I was too lazy to take the time to deal with the issue. It varied over the years which one of those three reasons applied.

I think many of us who consider changing our voting residence from one state to another give consideration to the state income tax considerations such a change would have for us. I am sure there are other considerations, but I suspect that is the primary one.

There are some who believe the property owners who do not vote in Brunswick County

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## Village of BHI Updates

### Preventing Golf Carts from Disappearing

Golf cart disappearances are not always intentional thefts but a matter of mistaken identity. Many golf carts on Bald Head Island look the same, and to the unsuspecting visitor or renter, they can easily end up driving off in the wrong golf cart. Alan May, the Village's Public Safety Director, has reached out to other golf cart communities for ideas on how to prevent this activity from happening. Unfortunately, there aren't any new ideas out there.

Here are a few tips for making it harder for someone to take off with your golf cart:

1. Re-key your golf carts. This will ensure that another golf cart key will not work on your cart and your key will not work on someone else's (in case your renter or visitor takes the key out of the cart like they do with their regular car keys).
2. Purchase a pedal to wheel lock your golf cart(s).
3. Have a hidden kill switch installed.
4. Do something to make your golf cart stand out. This could mean painting it a unique color, naming it (often folks will put the house name on the cart) or placing a special decal or decoration on it. Just make sure that nothing is blocking the view of the driver.
5. Educate your renter/visitor about this issue so that they are prepared to double-check that they are getting into the right cart.
6. Install a GPS. While this won't necessarily prevent a cart from being stolen, it will be helpful in locating it if all else fails.

By Carin Faulkner, Village Public Information Officer



### Cook Smart — Do Not Let “FOG” Clog the Drains

When byproducts of cooking such as residual fats, used cooking oils and grease (FOG) are disposed of improperly, it can cause sewer equipment failures or line blockages that often result in a sewer spill. These are costly events to clean up, are dangerous for public health and can degrade the water quality in our public waters.

When FOG makes it down the drain, it solidifies, reducing and preventing water flow in drains and sewer pipes. This does not happen all at once; it happens gradually, as the particles accumulate to form a large mass. Sewer systems are not designed nor equipped to treat the FOG that builds up inside of sewer system pipes.

There are steps that residents and guests can take to avoid the build-up of FOG in the utility system. Cooled cooking grease or fat can be poured into a milk carton, frozen juice container or other non-recyclable container and placed in the refrigerator to harden. Once hardened, the container can be disposed of in the household trash. For cooking oil that may not harden in the refrigerator, an alternative is soaking up the oil with disposable towels, newspapers or cat litter before disposing in the trash. Excess oil and grease should be wiped from dirty dishes, pans and utensils with a disposable towel before washing. Greasy towels can be safely disposed of in the trash.

Please do your part to help prevent unnecessary equipment failures, blockages and sewer spills. 

**Don't forget to recycle!**  
**Find information on where to go and what items can be recycled on BHI by visiting [www.VillageBHI.org](http://www.VillageBHI.org).**

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## Community Wide Standards (CWS)

Let's review the background of the Community Wide Standards (CWS). Bald Head Island is a unique and special Island where human development is joined in harmony with natural beauty — a balance that has drawn most property owners to the Island. Bald Head Association's vision for the Island is to promote "A community working together to cultivate a unique quality of life and to preserve the ageless appeal of Bald Head Island for generations to come."

To that end, BHA is charged with the effective management of Covenants, Design Guidelines and Common Areas. The Covenants provide that all property owners maintain and preserve their lots and all structures on them in a clean, neat, slightly and attractive condition and provide for the removal of trash and refuse from their homes, all in conformity with the Community Wide Standards and all in order to assist in maintaining the aesthetics of the Island and the property values of the owners.

The CWS' guiding principle explains that it is the intent and purpose of the Association to ensure development and maintenance of the Bald Head Island complex as an exclusive residential community of the highest quality and at the same time to endeavor to retain the natural, unspoiled beauty of the Island.

In July 2021, the CWS Committee members — BHA members whose homes are located from one end of the Island to the other — began evaluating properties to identify homes that don't meet CWS compliance standards. For the evaluations, committee members use BHA land, public roads and/or public beach accesses to view properties. No committee member will trespass or enter another owner's property without permission. Six members divided into three teams and split up BHI in areas to cover. Using the evaluation checklist, members noted all

••• Continued from page 3 (BHA President's Letter ~ Alan Briggs)

are "disenfranchised" or are "taxed without representation." Some imply or infer that there is something "unfair" about that situation. I don't think those characterizations are appropriate.

At least for me, that was not the case. When I was a homeowner on BHI but not a voter in Brunswick County, it was by choice. For the last five or so years, I have been a registered voter in Brunswick County and have been part of that small group that carries the voting responsibility for BHI.

If you are a property owner who fits the legal requirement, could change your voter registration to Brunswick County and it is right for you to change your voting residence to Brunswick County, I encourage you to do so. For those who choose not to do so for the reasons that are right for you, I understand. I was there.

However, all of us owe a debt of thanks to the 332 members who are currently registered to vote on BHI. They are the ones who have stepped up to the plate and assumed the awesome legal responsibility to vote in Brunswick County and make the decisions that impact each and every one of us.

Thanks. 

violations, using accompanying photographs. As a first step, each team selected the four homes most in need of attention, and all members then viewed all of those properties. Note that if a property is within a sub-association, BHA will contact the president of that sub-association first. Letters were sent to the owners of 11 property owners in August, asking them to work with BHA to bring their homes into compliance. Owners were asked to provide BHA with a compliance plan within 90 days. If the plan is approved, the homeowners will have an additional 150 days to complete the work.

In an effort to help all property owners, BHA will share the most frequent CWS violations so that you can check if your own home needs attention in that area. From this first round, the most frequent violation is paint — chipping, peeling and fading — and visible mold on the paint. If your home needs help with exterior painting or pressure washing, service providers are listed on BHA's website at [BaldHeadAssociation.com/island-service-providers](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com/island-service-providers). Note that the list is not an endorsement of nor referral for service providers by BHA; this is a list of service providers who have worked on BHI or requested to be added to the list. Property owners should exercise their own due diligence in the selection of service providers.

Evaluation coverage to canvass BHI neighborhood by neighborhood will continue on an ongoing basis. If you use a property management company, pass this important information along to your representative. For any questions regarding CWS, contact Carol Collins at [CarolC@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:CarolC@BaldHeadAssociation.com). 



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## Essential Voting Details

As of August 24, 2021, there are 332 people registered to vote in BHI elections. If you live on Bald Head Island full-time or part-time, you may want to review the voting requirements and determine where you want to exercise your voting rights.

According to the Brunswick County Board of Elections, to register to vote in Brunswick County, you must “be a legal resident domiciled in Brunswick County and North Carolina for 30 days by the date of the next general election day.”

Here are some important voting details. You can request and submit absentee ballots right now, either from downloading the form from the website or by calling the elections office. You can request an absentee ballot at any time. Absentee ballots are available October 1 and will be mailed on that date to those who have previously submitted requests.

Residency deadline is October 3, 2021. Voter registration deadline is October 8. Election Day is November 2, and polls are open 6:30am-7:30pm. As long as you’re in line by 7:30pm, you can still vote. For the full list of voting dates, visit [www.brunswickcountync.gov/elections](http://www.brunswickcountync.gov/elections). Select “Municipal Election,” then “2021 Election Calendar.”

The “One-stop” absentee voting process for 2021 is Thursday, October 14 through Saturday, October 30. Hours are 8:30am-5:00pm Monday-Friday, and on the final Saturday, October 30, hours are 8:00am-3:00pm.

For questions, call the Brunswick County Board of Elections at 910-253-2620. Office hours are 8:30am-5:00pm Monday-Friday, and the website is [www.brunswickcountync.gov/elections](http://www.brunswickcountync.gov/elections). 

## Address Bollard Visibility Is Not Just for Looks — It’s ESSENTIAL!



Can you see the house address in this photo? Here is a true story to illustrate the importance of clearly visible address bollard and numbers. A couple years ago, a tram driver noticed smoke coming from a house on BHI.

Thankfully, because the address bollard was clearly visible, the tram driver called 911 with the house’s address, and Public Safety personnel responded immediately. The exterior fire was caught early and extinguished by Public Safety personnel. Fast response time helped prevent

severe damage to the home.

Now consider that same situation if the address bollard had not been clearly visible.

The visibility of your address bollard could mean the difference of essential seconds in emergency response time. Public Safety personnel need to be able to see your address bollard — both day and night — in order to respond to an emergency.

Tram drivers also need to be able to see your address bollard

*Continued on page 15*



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## The History of Fishing School

This October, the Bald Head Island Conservancy will once again host its 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Thad Wester Fishing School. The BHI Conservancy’s Fishing School began all the way back in 1983.

To this day, the program continues to generate great enthusiasm for fishing, from beginners and seasoned pros alike. In 2003 at the conclusion of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Fishing School, the Conservancy’s first president, Thad Wester, was recognized for founding and facilitating the school. The program was officially named the Thad Wester Fishing School in his honor. John May, who helped run the school in more recent years, reflected on the program, saying:

“ Fishing has always been a serious interest for Sheila and me and was a major attraction for us when we bought our home on Bald Head Island. On our first summer as full-time residents, we attended the Fishing School, which was run by its founder, Thad Wester, and supported by several experienced Island residents.

Thad ‘retired’ from running the Fishing School in about 2010, and I was fortunate to be asked to step in and manage the school. I was happy to do this and enjoyed considerable help from a number of skilled fishermen, from the Conservancy’s staff and from Sheila, who managed all of the details from food to awards.

While learning fishing skills is the principal motivation for attending the school, it was also a powerful venue for social interaction, both for children as well as adults. It was not unusual for some to attend more than once and in one case, three times.

Fishing school has been a key part of our life on Bald Head Island, and we’re confident that it will continue to serve both its educational and social mission well into the future.

”

*By Emily Eldridge, Marketing and Communications Specialist*



The BHI Conservancy is looking forward to hosting the Fishing School again this year. We are excited to have the opportunity to provide participants with the chance to discover and learn more about the world around them through fishing. It is our hope that the BHI Conservancy will continue to foster discovery and learning through the Thad Wester Fishing School for many years to come.

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## BHI Questions? Fire Alarms

Mother Nature has been active this summer, with many thunderstorms on and around Bald Head Island. Lightning can be awe-inspiring to watch from a distance but not so much when it's in your immediate area. Though we know to move indoors for safety during a thunderstorm, there can be additional consequences from storms. Lightning strikes and power fluctuations can also affect home fire and security alarms, sometimes causing false and faulty alarms. False and faulty alarms are responded to by the Public Safety Department. YTD 2021, Public Safety personnel have responded to 62 false alarms and 12 faulty alarms.

BHA encourages property owners to check their fire alarms to ensure they are working properly and, most importantly, that a monitoring service is used (which is required by Village Ordinance). 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). Whichever method you choose, 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%. There are pros and cons to each option, so discuss details with your security provider and insurance carrier.

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? Ensure that your fire and security alarms are working properly — contact your security company. Also, ensure that your smoke alarms are in good working order with new batteries.

Remember, there is no safe place outside when thunderstorms are in the area. Lightning can strike up to 10-12 miles from its source. If you hear thunder, you are likely within striking distance of the storm. “When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors” is the slogan to heed. 



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# Old Baldy Foundation Gears Up to Help Share Legacy of the U.S. Life-Saving Service

By Hunter Ingram, Educator

Imagine for a moment it's a cold, stormy night on Bald Head Island at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The wind is whipping up an obstructed sheet of rain and sand, making it virtually impossible to see in front of your face, let alone hundreds of yards out over the dark water. But there in the distance, you recognize something. You focus your eyes hoping to get a better glimpse to confirm your suspicion. It's a ship sitting sturdy in the choppy waters, lodged in the sand on Frying Pan Shoals just off the Island.

In this moment, what do you do?

This was a frequent question placed in front of the surfmen and keepers who staffed the Cape Fear Life-saving Station on Bald Head Island starting in 1883. A branch of the federally managed U.S. Life-Saving Service, the station on Bald Head Island continued the tradition of surfmen placed in coastal areas to assist those who found themselves stranded or in distress on the water.

Those in peril off the Island were likely at the mercy of Frying Pan Shoals, the treacherously shallow sandbar that stretches off the coast more than 30 miles. It was easy to run afoul of the shoals, even with two lighthouses on the Island guiding your way. Old Baldy, then standing for nearly a century, and the

cast-iron Cape Fear Light Station, still in its infancy, were there to prevent people from running aground. They often got the glory for successful voyages, but it was the surfmen on the ground ready to spring into action when even the bright lights failed to chart a path to safety.

On this particularly stormy night, a surfman has been doing patrols of the beach for hours, braving the weather to walk miles on the beach to ensure no place goes unpatrolled. He's in heavy rain gear and a uniform, all made heavier when it's sopping wet.

These surfmen identified dangers and assessed the best course of action in minutes, rowing surfboats out to rescue sailors and

*Continued on page 19*



PROTECTED BY



Jeremy D. Downey

# WOLF

SECURITY SOLUTIONS

- Security Alarm Services
- Fire Alarm Services
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## BHA Common Area

BHA owns and manages Common Area on Bald Head Island, with the intention of helping protect its natural uniqueness through the management of approved tree and limb removal. BHA's Common Area is a mixture of both improved and unimproved.

Its improved Common Area includes the Association Center at 111 Lighthouse Wynd, the BHA Community Garden and Dog Park (managed by the Village of BHI) at North Bald Head Wynd across from Timbercreek, the BHA Boat Park on Mulch Site Road off of North Bald Head Wynd, the Wildlife Overlook on Stede Bonnet Wynd and significant portions of the master walkway in Cape Fear Station.

On unimproved Common Area, such as along the golf course, BHA manages tree trimming and removal requests. Properties along the fairway were originally purchased at a premium, and

BHA has a history of working with owners to maintain a view to the golf course. If your property is located along the fairway, you most certainly have a buffer of Common Area between your lot and the golf course. (Quick fact: only 4 properties along the golf course do not have a Common Area buffer.) If you would like to modify or obtain a view to the golf course, contact Pam Rainey at [PamR@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:PamR@BaldHeadAssociation.com).

BHA also owns the Common Area within the three drip-line communities it manages in Cape Fear Station (Keeper's Landing, Surfman's Walk and Sumner's Crescent).

There are additional parks on Bald Head Island that are under the jurisdiction of the Village of BHI, not Bald Head Association, such as The Commons in Cape Fear Station, Whale Head Park, Marina Park and the Creek Access. 



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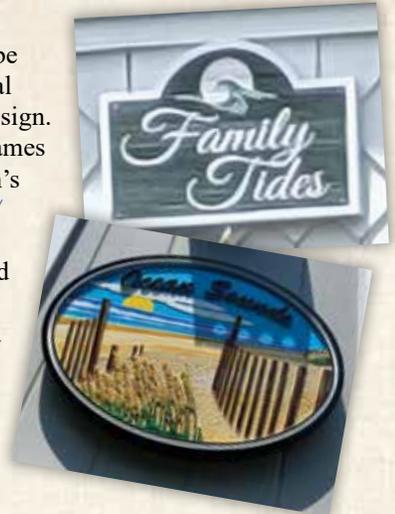
## What's in a Name?

By Carol Collins, Administrative Associate

As I ride around the Island, house names always catch my attention. Sometimes the sentiment is heart-warming, sometimes the pun is clever. Sometimes I just don't get it! House signs vary in color and style.

the Design Guidelines at [BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com) and be sure that you have ARC approval before creating and hanging the sign. By the way, many BHI house names are listed on BHI Transportation's tram reservation website (<http://baldheadislandferry.com/tram>).

Shakespeare's Juliet asked and answered the question, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." Next time you are riding around, stop and smell the roses — or read some house signs. 🌍



Some have a family name, and some have nicknames. Some give the coordinates of the home's location. Some must be inside jokes.

Did you know that there are Design Guidelines that regulate the size and color of house signs? If you are thinking of adding a sign to your home (or replacing one), check out page 137 of

••• Continued from page 8 (Address Bollard Visibility Is Not Just for Looks — It's ESSENTIAL!)

both day and night to be able to deliver passengers correctly. And don't forget that renters and house guests rely on address bollards to find the correct house.

Public Safety personnel, tram drivers, renters and house guests cannot find your home if the address bollard:

- is missing
- is not visible at night because of faded, reflective paint
- is not visible due to YES/NO trash pickup sign obstruction

- is not visible day or night because of surrounding vegetation or decorations
- is missing some or all of the address numbers

Bollard construction and installation must comply with BHA Design Guidelines, so choose a service provider who complies with these guidelines (visit [BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com), click on "Life on BHI," then "Island Service Providers"). 🌍

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# TIDBITS:

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

## Breakfast with BHA

BHA held its first online “Breakfast with BHA” on Wednesday, July 28, 2021. This online meeting series is intended to help keep our membership updated on a quarterly basis, with the opportunity to ask Board members questions. For the series kickoff event held in July, the BHA Board of Directors shared updates on its “7 Priorities for 2021.” To watch the recorded meeting, visit [BaldHeadAssociation.com/about-bha](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com/about-bha).

Bald Head Association intends to hold another Breakfast with BHA in November. Stay tuned for more details.

## Village Council Candidate Forum

BHA will be sponsoring a Village Council Candidate Forum on Monday, October 11. It will be held in the Generator Society Hall at BHA’s Association Center (111 Lighthouse Wynd, Bald Head Island). The event will be in-person, barring any changes due to COVID safety protocols. It will also be livestreamed and recorded. Time and details will be forthcoming.

The League of Women Voters of the Lower Cape Fear will manage the event, as well as collect and organize questions for the candidates prior to the event, using a unique and private email address. The event will be moderated, and more details will be forthcoming. BHA will ask members for topics of interest to discuss at the forum, so stay tuned.

Make sure that you are signed up for *BHA’s Compass* email bulletin, to receive timely updates and handy links. Visit BHA’s home page at [BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com) and select “Sign me up for *BHA’s Compass*” for the online form.

## Live Oak Honor Trees — Online Map

For BHA’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Operation Re-Forest — We Forest” in 2020, Honor Trees were a new option for property owners to purchase a tree in honor of a loved one, either on their own property or on BHA Common Area. In case you missed it, BHA’s website features a map of all planted trees during Operation Re-Forest — We Forest, including those Honor Trees. A list of honorees is also included on the web page. Visit [BaldHeadAssociation.com/re-forest](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com/re-forest).

Stay tuned for information about BHA’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Operation Re-Forest — We Forest, with plantings planned for early December.

## BHA’s Owner Portal

BHA’s Owner Portal lets you look at your account at any time. You can verify your last payment or change your contact information. If you haven’t signed up yet or have any questions, contact Denise Eidal at [Denise@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Denise@BaldHeadAssociation.com) or 910-457-4676, ext. 27.

## Calling All LLCs

If you’re an LLC and own property (or properties) on Bald Head Island, make sure that BHA has contact information for the managing partner. Contact Diane Mesaris at [Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com) or 910-457-4676, ext. 21.

## Rip Currents

Rip currents are strong, narrow currents that flow away from the beach. Known as “rivers of the sea” that can sweep you off your feet in ankle-deep water, these localized currents can carry unsuspecting swimmers farther out to sea, at rates of 1-2 feet per second and up to 8 feet per second (the speed of an Olympic freestyle swimmer) and are generally no more than 80 feet wide.

If you get pulled farther from shore, **DO NOT PANIC**. Though your instinct will want you to swim back toward shore, DO NOT do this — that action puts you at risk of drowning because of fatigue. Experts recommend not to fight it and to swim parallel to shore until you are out of the channel of current. Then swim back to land at an angle. Conserve energy when necessary — float on your back or tread water. The important thing to remember is to **RELAX** until you are ready to swim parallel to shore.

Check the Facebook pages for BHI Public Safety and the Village of BHI for timely alerts, reminders and information, including weather and surf zone cautions.





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## New to BHA? Helping Protect the Value and Aesthetics of Property on BHI

Bald Head Island is a unique and special barrier island where human development is joined in harmony with natural beauty — a balance that has drawn many property owners, renters and guests to the Island. Bald Head Association’s vision for the Island is to promote “A community working together to cultivate a unique quality of life and to preserve the ageless appeal of Bald Head Island for generations to come.”

To that end, the BHA is charged with the effective management of Covenants, Design Guidelines and Common Areas. BHA uses tools such as the ARC (Architectural Review Committee), Design Guidelines and Community Wide Standards (CWS) to help protect the value and aesthetics of property on BHI. BHA also has a responsibility to ensure that the three BHA-managed drip-line communities of Keeper’s Landing, Surfman’s Walk and Sumner’s Crescent

are maintained.

BHA’s Covenants provide that all property owners maintain and preserve their lots and all structures on them in a clean, neat, sightly and attractive condition and provide for the removal of trash and refuse from their homes, all in conformity with the Community Wide Standards and all in order to assist in maintaining the aesthetics of the Island and the property values of owners’ homes. Each property owner can make an important difference by following the guidelines which will enhance not only their property’s aesthetics and value, but those of all property owners on the Island.

Familiarize yourself with BHA’s documents, including our Bylaws, Covenants, Design Guidelines, Community Wide Standards and more on our website at [BaldHead Association.com](http://BaldHeadAssociation.com). 

## Village Chapel Update

*By Elizabeth Beam, Special Events Coordinator*

The Village Chapel invites everyone to three special events the weekend of September 10-12, 2021.

On Friday, September 10, there will be a commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11, sponsored by the Village of Bald Head, Public Safety and the Village Chapel. Gathering will begin

at 8:30am between the Chapel and Village Hall.

On Sunday, September 12, worship will be at 10:00am on the Chapel grounds, led by Col. Michael Charles, minister.

Please bring your own chairs for each of the events. 



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••• Continued from page 11 (Old Baldy Foundation Gears Up to Help Share Legacy of the U.S. Life-Saving Service)

passengers on wrecked vessels or using Lyle guns and breeches buoys, a peculiar device similar to a modern-day zip line that propelled people back to shore over rough waters.

The Cape Fear Life-Saving Station was home to important figures like Dunbar Davis, its first keeper, who became somewhat of a folk hero for serving what is known as Dunbar Davis' Longest Day, a 103-hour shift during which he responded to several wrecks with no rest. There was also John L. Watts, the keeper who led a daring and infamous rescue through an October 1893 hurricane.

From 1882 to 1913, the latter being the year the Life-Saving Station was moved from East Beach to South Beach, the men at the station saved 642 lives from 54 shipwrecks, an astounding record made even more impressive by the fact they never lost a soul.

It was exhausting and dangerous work that asked its men to do the job without guaranteeing they would make it back to shore safely. But they did it regardless of the risk.

More than a century after it was formed on Bald Head Island, the Life-Saving Service doesn't offer as recognizable a legacy on the Island as Old Baldy. But its importance is irrefutable — on the Island and beyond.

This September, the Old Baldy Foundation will join with the N.C. Maritime Museum at Southport and the Historic Wilmington Foundation to host the annual conference of the U.S. Life-Saving Service Heritage Association, a group of descendants and admirers of the surfmen and keepers who work to further educate the masses about their legacy of courage.

Their conference has traveled to the Outer Banks and New York, but the Cape Fear is just as important a stop. It was on our shores the U.S. Life-Saving Service proved that a maritime rescue force was a vital function of the federal government, eventually leading to the formation of the U.S. Coast Guard in 1915. Surfmen in places like Bald Head Island, and the families stationed with them, recognized the necessary risk and were ready to make the sacrifice.

Come by the Smith Island Museum of History to learn more about the Cape Fear Life-Saving Station and the men, women and families who defined its era of service.



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



## September 2021:

ARC-A Meeting	9/3/2021	10am
BHI Artisans Show & Sale	9/4/2021	10am
Labor Day	9/6/2021	
BHA Office Closed	9/6/2021	
BHA Board Meeting	9/10/2021	11am
BHI Transportation Authority (BHITA) Meeting	9/15/2021	9:15am
Village Council Meeting	9/17/2021	10am
ARC-B Meeting	9/17/2021	10am

## Save the Date in October:

ARC-A Meeting	10/1/2021	10am
BHA Board Meeting	TBD	TBD
Village Council Candidate Forum	10/11/2021	TBD
ARC-B Meeting	10/15/2021	10am
Village Council Meeting	10/15/2021	10am
BHI Transportation Authority (BHITA) Meeting	10/20/2021	9:15am

## Around the corner in 2021:

Veterans Day	11/11/2021	
BHA Office Closed	11/11/2021	
Thanksgiving	11/25/2021	
BHA Office Closed	11/25/2021-11/26/2021	
SIAL Show and Sale	11/26/2021-11/27/2021	10am

## Ongoing:

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



### Bald Head Association

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