



Island Report

Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values

BHA Surveys Members about BHI Transportation Passenger Ferry/Tram Schedule Changes and Submits Results to the NC Utilities Commission

BHA's Board of Directors recently solicited feedback on proposed changes to the passenger ferry/tram departure schedule from property owner members via an online survey. The proposed departure schedule change is outlined in the application BHI Transportation (BHIT) submitted to the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) on February 19, 2024.

In addition to the member comments received that were forwarded to the NCUC, the Board included a letter summarizing members' concerns thus far. In an effort to compile additional member feedback on these proposed changes, BHA reopened that survey, and BHA will forward the results to the NCUC on behalf of owners upon its completion. Below is a snapshot of the results; the full report can be found at www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/news.

- Responses to the survey were collected utilizing Survey Monkey from February 23 – March 1, 2024. A link to the survey was emailed to the 1,790 subscribers of BHA's *Compass* email bulletin on February 23rd and a reminder email was sent on February 28th.
- 100% of respondents stated they are BHI property owners. Property owners were asked to review the application and share whether they supported the application or had no opinion.

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BHI Native Plant Feature of the Month *Indian Blanket Flower*

Indian Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*) is also known as Annual Gaillardia, Beach Blanket-flower, Bedding Gaillardia, Blanket Flower, Firewheel, Gaillardia and Girasol Rojo. It is a beautiful, brightly colored perennial flower in the daisy family. It is native to the southeastern United States coastal regions, including the barrier islands, and is often found growing in the soft sand along beach walkways. According to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, "The name Indian Blanket Flower is thought to be derived from its bright, bold colors that were like those utilized by Native Americans to weave blankets."

Indian Blanket Flower thrives best in full sun to partial shade and is tolerant of most garden soils if there is good drainage. It can grow one to two feet tall and approximately one foot wide. The small leaves are oblong and grayish green. The long-lasting, radial

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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.

Contact Chris Howard, ARC Administrative Assistant, at Chris@BaldHeadAssociation.com or 910-457-4676, ext. 23.

For all questions about trees and vegetation, email Trees@BaldHeadAssociation.com.



What Requires ARC Review and Why?

BHA's Design Guidelines lay out the process for the architectural review of new homes and renovations of existing homes in accordance with mandates set forth in BHA's Covenants. For a list of what requires ARC review, check out pages 6-7 of the 27th Edition of the Guidelines, which reference Sections 7.1(a) and 7.2 of BHA's Covenants.

The ARC is charged with reviewing items (such as structures, buildings, improvements or construction) per the Covenants, with the goal of "enhancing and protecting the value, desirability and attractiveness" of Bald Head Island. So, things like paint colors, window types, building height, lighting, landscaping, etc., are reviewed in the New Construction process and need to be reviewed again if changes are proposed. Once something has been reviewed and approved by ARC, it can be repaired or replaced without ARC review only if there is no change in material, color, size, etc.

Why is this important? It's important because when someone buys property within BHA's jurisdiction, they become members of Bald Head Association. The ARC is accountable to all members, not just those building new homes or renovating existing homes. While some houses may stay in one family for generations, other houses may change ownership every few years. ARC has an obligation to future members to ensure that the house they bought complies with the Design Guidelines at the time it was built or when changes were made.

ARC may provide new owners with copies of their house plans, paint colors, landscape plant list, etc., if they are interested in replacing something or making a change. Imagine a new homeowner asking for the property file from ARC but the drawings look quite a bit different from the house they just bought — different utility or stair locations, different door and window details, different paint colors, different walkway locations, etc. You get the idea. It's not that these changes are categorically unacceptable, but they need to be reviewed by the ARC and documented as approved for the benefit of new and future owners.

The ARC process relies on volunteers (your BHI neighbors) and professionals dedicated to maintaining the architectural quality and standards outlined in BHA's Covenants. It was put in place by BHA's membership for the benefit of all members. BHA's Covenants and Design Guidelines can be found on the website at www.baldheadassociation.com/about-bha.



ARC Quiz — True or False?

1. True or False? BHA's Covenants and Design Guidelines apply to all homes on Bald Head Island.
Answer: False — BHA's Design Guidelines and Covenants apply to properties that are owned by members of BHA. Homes located in the Harbour Village and on Middle Island have their own Design Guidelines and Covenants. All other residential properties (and a few non-residential ones) are subject to BHA's Covenants and Design Guidelines.
2. True or False? The Design Guidelines are mandated by BHA's Covenants and can't be changed.
Answer: False — The ARC reviews and updates the Design Guidelines annually, with members and service providers encouraged to review the draft changes for input. Changes are approved by BHA's Board of Directors.
3. True or False? Spring is a good time to replace plants and update the garden with new and exotic plant material.
Answer: False — Property owners may replace plants that have died and add a reasonable amount of plants as desired. Significant changes to landscaping must be reviewed/approved by the ARC.
4. True or False? House signs need ARC approval but must not exceed 2 sq. ft. in area per Village Ordinance.
Answer: True — There are additional guidelines for sign contents, placement and colors. A "Minor Change" application must be submitted for a house sign. (All ARC online applications can be found at www.baldheadassociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines.)

BHA President's Letter

By Christine Osborne, BHA President

Upon your receiving this month's newsletter, spring will have sprung! Although I love each and every season here on beautiful Bald Head Island, there is a particular magic that appears in spring. As I write this letter, a full 12 days before the official start of spring, I have spotted my first painted bunting, several alligators, our two Osprey families rebuilding their respective nests, turtles and, of course, the frogs that croak at night. No need for a sleep app when on Bald Head Island!

Another happy occurrence with spring's arrival is that many homeowners head back to the Island to enjoy some respite from the hustle and bustle of their daily lives. They look forward to catching up with friends and neighbors, long walks on the beach or just simply watching the sun set from a well-perched porch.

One thing we may all count on is that from

now through Labor Day ... and beyond, there will be an abundance of activities happening around the Island for all to enjoy. I highly recommend that our members visit our website at www.BaldHeadAssociation.com and click on the "Events" menu. Diane Mesaris, our Administrative Assistant, works hard to keep the calendar up-to-date with not only BHA's events but all of the Island happenings.

In closing, I would like to share with you all one of my favorite things to do here on BHI. Although I have been known to sneak out anytime of the year, warmer weather calls me to our beautiful beach well after sunset with a blanket and my eyes to the sky for one of the most striking displays that any stargazer would appreciate.

We are so fortunate to be on an Island that encourages less use of outside lighting for all to enjoy. 🌌

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BHI Conservancy • Old Baldy Foundation
Village of BHI • Village Chapel of BHI

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Editorial Policy

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

(1) The maximum length of a letter for publication in the *Island Report* will be 250 words. This limit will be strictly enforced. If the article or letter exceeds that length, the contributor may be granted more space by the Communications Associate or Executive Director, if appropriate. (2) Any individual will be limited to one letter every six months. BHA reserves the right to edit letters in the interests of accuracy and civility or to publish a letter as written, followed by a correction by the editor. In the interest of covering diverse topics and opinions, BHA reserves the right to select among submissions for publication. For the full *Island Report* Editorial Policy, www.baldheadassociation.com/about-bha. Deadlines are the 1st of the month for the following month's issue.



Village of Bald Head Island Update

By Carin Faulkner, Village Public Information Officer

Recap of the 2024 Village Council Annual Retreat

If you want to know what the Village has accomplished over the last year and what the Village's budgetary needs and priorities are, you should take the time to review what was presented and discussed at the Village Council's Annual Retreat. The entire retreat is available to watch or listen to on the Village's YouTube channel. Use the accompanying QR code to access the video playlist that breaks the two-day retreat down by topic. If you aren't sure which topic you would like to dive into, please read our recap below.

Day one of the Village Council Annual Retreat consisted of the following:

- A presentation from the BHI Conservancy on the Conservancy's environmental services contract with the Village. This includes several services such as aquifer monitoring, creek water monitoring, beach vitex assessment and treatment, deer management and predator population assessments.
- A shoreline management update from the Village's coastal engineer that included an overview of the Village's shoreline management program, proposed scope and options for the 2025 coastal storm damage reduction project, future options for the east end of South Beach and future Village considerations.

- A presentation from the Village's governmental affairs consultants on the various advocacy efforts they have been working on for the Village. They discussed the Village's priorities that include beach renourishment and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) contributed funds agreement, a proposed USACE feasibility study, the wastewater treatment plant expansion and offshore wind plan and leases.
- Discussions with Carrie Moffett, Executive Director of Bald Head Association (BHA); Chad Paul, CEO of BHI Limited, LLC; Chris Webb, Executive Director of Old Baldy Foundation; and David Sawyer, CEO of the BHI Club, on their various plans over the coming year and how the Village can work together with these entities to reach mutual goals.
- A presentation from WithersRavenel on the Village's asset inventory assessment (AIA) program and funding opportunities once the Village has an asset management plan in place. The tasks that need to be achieved to develop the AIA were discussed, and the status of each was explained.
- An update on the Village's wastewater treatment plant expansion project from Tony Boahn, P.E., from McKim

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••• Continued from page 4 (Village of Bald Head Island Update)

& Creed. Mr. Boahn presented the two alternatives for the expansion project and explained the advantages of the recommended alternative (AquaNereda process). He presented the updated construction cost estimates, the estimated timeline and the recommended next steps.

- A presentation from Jonathan Peele of Coastline Insurance Associates on insurance issues. He discussed increasing insurance rates, rating factors, market availability and golf cart liability insurance.
- The Village Council discussed the Village's comprehensive long-range planning and review of Vision 2025 (completed in December 2017). Mr. McCall, Village Manager, said that he wanted to review the Vision 2025 document to see where the Village is now. There was discussion about updating the document and getting the Cape Fear Council of Governments or another firm to assist, and include this cost in the FY25 budget.

Day two of the Village Council Annual Retreat consisted of the following:

- A presentation from the Village's Human Resources Director, Judy Schofield, on the staff composition of the Village, turnover rates, worker's compensation claims, benefit usage, training, accomplishments made over the last year and future goals.

Dates	Days	Event
February 6-7, 2024	Tuesday/Wednesday	Council Retreat
February 16, 2024	Friday	Internal: Budget Worksheets Distributed
March 6, 2024	Wednesday	Internal: Revenue Estimates Due from DHF's
March 27, 2024	Wednesday	Internal: Expenditure Estimates Due from DHF's
April 8-12, 2024	Monday - Friday	Internal: DHF Meetings with Manager/Fin. Dir.
April 26, 2024	Friday	Recommend: Prelim. Budget Pres. Workshop
May 3, 2024	Friday	Manager's Rec. Budget Submitted
May 17, 2024	Friday	Public Hearing on Budget
June 12, 2024	Wednesday	If needed: Sugg. Budget Updates Workshop
June 21, 2024	Friday	Recommend: Adoption of Budget

- A presentation from the Village's Public Safety Chief Joshua Gibson on upcoming projects for FY25. Projects include an assessment of the public safety model, a review and update of the department's policies and procedures, work toward achieving NC law enforcement accreditation and a fire preparedness assessment.
- A presentation from the Village's Public Services Director JP McCann on public works and utilities activities for the year and future planning efforts. He discussed staffing levels (he will be requesting two new staff in FY25), the wastewater treatment plant expansion, an analysis of barge trips and a proposed solution to save money and staff time in the long-term, the asphalt paving 5-year plan, the remaining tasks to perform at the contractor services campus

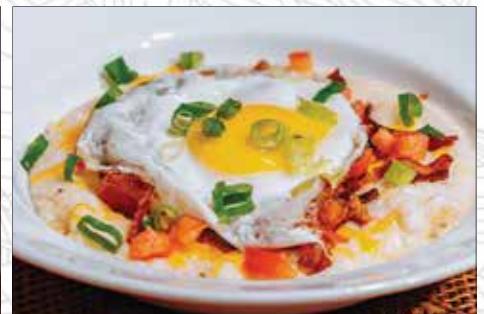
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Bald Head Island Earth Day Event

By Jennifer Wiggen, Senior Educator, BHI Conservancy

This April, the Bald Head Island Conservancy and BHA's Resource Conservation and Beautification (RCB) Committee are hosting our inaugural Earth Day event! The theme this year is "Pollinators," and we can't wait to celebrate with you.

Please join us on Friday, April 5 at Marina Park (111 Keelson Row) from 10:00am-2:00pm to pick up your pre-ordered native plants and herbs from the BHI Garden Club's sale and enjoy lots of fun activities for the whole family. The North Carolina Wildlife Federation, Bee City USA®, Old Baldy Foundation, the BHI Garden Club and others will also be joining us to share information on the importance of pollinators on Bald Head Island and how you can help create a habitat for them in your own backyard.

The BHI Conservancy will be hosting activities focused on colors in nature. We invite you to come and explore the new Pollinator Garden and complete our "Colors in Nature BioBlitz" activity. Help as we observe as many colors as we can. We'll also teach guests how to use iNaturalist, a community science app, to make observations that scientists can use in their research and contribute directly to the current projects happening on Bald Head Island. We hope to see you there! 



BHI Conservancy Sea Turtle HEROES: Become One Today!

By Carrie Barnette, Director of Development, BHI Conservancy

Bald Head Island Conservancy (BHIC) is pleased to announce the inaugural Sea Turtle HEROES: Help Environmental Research, Outreach, Education and Sustainability Program, a donor opportunity designed to support our Sea Turtle Protection Program and BHIC Education Programming. As Sea Turtle HEROES, you can have the opportunity to purchase personalized turtle plaques for display in the Barrier Island Study Center (BISC) Media Center. Proceeds from the plaques will be used to help the sea turtles of Bald Head Island.

You can purchase any number of sea turtle plaques, which come in four sizes: the 4-inch Hatchling (\$175), 6-inch Kemp's Ridley (\$350), 8-inch Green Turtle (\$575) or the 10-inch Loggerhead plaque (\$875). Each sea turtle can be personalized to include names, sentiment and/or a logo of the purchaser's choice.

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••• Continued from page 6 (BHI Conservancy Sea Turtle HEROES: Become One Today!)

Each turtle plaque will be hung for a period of three years. After the three-year display time, turtles may be renewed at the going rate for the program or removed. A replica of the tile purchased is also available with an additional donation.

This terrific, limited-time opportunity to help protect Bald Head Island sea turtles is only available through April 22, 2024. Order your Sea Turtle HEROES today at www.bhic.org/sea-turtle-HEROES.


At the Bald Head Island Conservancy, our Sea Turtle Protection Program (STPP) utilizes saturation tagging to intercept and identify every turtle that nests on our beaches.

The STPP team conducts nightly patrols and deploys a range of techniques when encountering a turtle: applying a passive integrated transponder (PIT), attaching a flipper tag, collecting



a DNA sample and taking both straight and curved carapace measurements. All the data gathered is recorded in our historical database, which spans over 40 years and provides a wealth of information on individual sea turtles that have visited Bald Head Island.

This rigorous tagging program allows the STPP team to gather valuable insights into the health and behavior of these endangered species. By closely monitoring sea turtle populations, BHI scientists can better understand how these animals respond to environmental changes

and can adapt conservation efforts accordingly. Join us in our mission to protect and preserve these magnificent creatures and their habitats by becoming Sea Turtle HEROES! 

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Want To Know More About Community Wide Standards (CWS) on Bald Head Island?

Let's Start with Some Background

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."

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, sightly and attractive condition.

The Guiding Principle of CWS

It is the intent and purpose of BHA 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. To that end, all structures shall be cared for, maintained and repaired in a manner such that the external appearance of each structure remains consistent with the other well-maintained structures in


the community and consistent with the general tone and nature of the community.

In the normal and ordinary course, members of the CWS Committee will make regular evaluations of the neighborhoods in order to permit BHA to identify properties in need of maintenance to comply with the Community Wide Standards. Select the accompanying QR code to view the full CWS document.



Where Are We Now?

BHI is divided into 12 sections. All evaluations are done using a uniform checklist from the street view, and photos are taken to document any issues. No CWS Committee member, nor any BHA staff or representative, trespasses on a member's property. Any homes needing attention will receive a letter from BHA, with information about the issue(s).

CWS Committee members are your neighbors on BHI who love this Island as much as you do and want to help keep the integrity of its beauty. For any questions about CWS, contact BHA's Covenants Compliance Associate, Dora Richey, at Dora@BaldHeadAssociation.com or 910-457-4676, ext. 30. 

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The Four-legged “Old Baldy” — Part 2

By Jake Grossman, Educator and Collections Coordinator, Old Baldy Foundation

The four-legged “Old Baldy” was born on the western frontier sometime in 1852. He served at the first major battle of the Civil War when he carried General David Hunter at Bull Run on July 21, 1861. At Bull Run, Baldy was wounded at least once, maybe twice, when a piece of shrapnel struck his nose and another, perhaps, his flank. Afterwards, Baldy went back north to Washington, D.C., to recuperate.

Although not yet fully recovered, General George Meade purchased Baldy for \$150 in September 1861. Brigadier General Meade named him Baldy because of his white face.¹ Meade claimed, “The horse [Baldy] I first got has been an excellent horse in his day, but General Hunter broke him down at Bull Run. ... This has always been my luck with horses; I am never fortunate with them.”² Thankfully, General Meade’s luck with horseflesh was about to turn.

Baldy and General Meade served together from late 1861 through the summer of 1863. During that span they participated in 10 battles (seven alone in 1862), beginning on December 20, 1861, at the Battle of Dranesville, in Virginia. Dranesville was a small, yet relatively well-studied engagement as it became the first Union victory on the eastern front.

Baldy’s next action came at the Battle of Beaver Dam Creek on June 26, 1862, in Hanover County, Virginia. Although a

Union victory, it was the first scene in a disastrous Union attempt to take Richmond known as the “Peninsula Campaign.” No rest for the weary, Baldy and Meade were back in action the following day, June 27, 1862, at the Battle of Gaines Mill. Three days

later General Meade was in yet another fight, the Battle of Glendale; however, Baldy was not present for that one. At Glendale, Meade was severely wounded on the right arm in fighting described as the “fiercest bayonet fights that perhaps ever occurred on this continent.”³ Baldy and Meade returned north to recover for a couple of weeks before returning to the field later that summer.

Old Baldy and Meade participated in multiple pivotal battles throughout the rest of the war. They were at Groveton, Virginia,

on August 28, 1862, and two days later at Second Bull Run. At Second Bull Run, not only were the Union routed, Old Baldy sustained another wound. This time Baldy was hit on the right hind leg but was “not badly hurt.”⁴

Similar to Groveton and Second Bull Run,

Baldy’s next two battles, South Mountain and Antietam, came in quick succession. The Battle of South Mountain on September 14, 1862, arose when both sides contested three passes through the southern tip of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Baldy and Meade led a successful charge up ruthless terrain to capture Turner’s Pass, which ultimately played a key role in the Union victory. The efforts of our duo at South Mountain inspired another Union general to proclaim, “Look at Meade! Why, with troops like those, led in that way, I can win anything!”⁵ That battle,

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General George G. Meade. Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress.



Battle of Bull Run (July 21, 1861). Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress.



“Old Baldy,” General Meade’s Horse. Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress.

“We’re still helping BHI families when the rest are gone!”

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Why Having a Knox Box Is So Important

This is a true story. Recently, a resident reported water coming from their neighbor's home when no one was at the house. This kindly neighbor correctly notified the Public Safety Department. Public Safety personnel were dispatched to the house and unfortunately discovered that the home did not have a Knox Box, so they were unable to access the home to assess the situation. Public Safety personnel then contacted BHA to see if the property owner had a "Key Holding" agreement, which was not the case.



This is just one example illustrating the importance of having a Knox Box for emergencies. And having a Key Holding agreement with BHA could have helped. In this instance, the water leakage was due to a faulty hot water heater, and the situation has been resolved.

For more information about BHA's Key Holding agreement, visit www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/new-property-owners-first-steps. Let's explore more about Knox Boxes.

Seconds count. What happens when first responders need access to your home in an emergency? A Knox Box allows emergency responders, such as firefighters and paramedics, with immediate access into secure residences and commercial properties when it matters most. Removing barriers to entry

reduces injuries to responders and minimizes property damage to homeowners.

Knox Boxes are small, steel boxes that are attached to the address bollards and homes on Bald Head Island. The box holds a key and an information sheet and can only be opened by the Public Safety Department with a secure key. Knox Boxes give first responders access to your home or business in an emergency. First responders will be able to access your property when it matters most. Removing barriers to entry reduces injuries to responders and minimizes your property damage.



New Homeowners

Check your address bollard to see if you have a Knox Box. If you have one, you will need to make sure that a copy of your current key and contact information are placed inside the box. You will need to fill out a Knox Box form from the Department of Public Safety's website (use the accompanying QR code)

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ISLAND EXPERTS



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Dale Giera, owner and master craftsman, created Trinity Design Build on Bald Head Island after building custom, award-winning homes in the Triangle area for more than 30 years. Being an island property owner who has completed many new construction and remodeling projects on the island, Dale is well versed on the details of building on Bald Head Island. He's currently building a beautiful, custom home on Brown Pelican Trail and recently completed new construction projects on Kinnakeet as well as the Esplanade building on Maritime Way.



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BHA Is Updating its Online Service Provider List!


#8 Top Web Page Viewed


Service providers are an essential piece of the puzzle for any property owner, most especially for those who live on a barrier island that is accessible only by ferry. For sure, there are fewer service providers who wish to navigate the additional logistics of doing business on Bald Head Island. Interestingly, in the last year, the Service Provider list on BHA's website ranks as #8 for most frequently visited pages.

This provider list is one of the services that BHA provides its members and is quite an expansive list. For "Homebuilding and Renovations," there are six categories. For "Home Improvement and Maintenance," there are 21 categories. For "Island Life," there are 19 categories. For "Weddings and Events," there are 10 categories. Company listings under each category range anywhere from two to 30. Want to check it out? Visit www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/island-service-providers.

Recently, BHA staff have been working to do an overhaul on the list, which is typically updated on a periodic basis. This list is only as good as its content, which can change constantly, as providers come and go or their contact information changes. To help in keeping this valuable resource as updated as possible, we ask for your help. Have

you worked with a service provider who did a great job and merits being included on the list to help your neighbors? If so, are they on the list, or should they be added? Or, perhaps you have updated contact information for a service provider. Send any additions/revisions to Pam Henson at Pam@BaldHeadAssociation.com. Type "Service Provider List" in the subject line.

As noted on the website, the Service Provider list is not an endorsement of nor a referral for service providers by BHA. This is a list of service providers who have worked on BHI in the past or requested to be added to the list. Property owners should exercise their own due diligence in the selection of service providers and should not rely upon the inclusion of a provider on this listing below or advertising from service providers in *The Island Report*. It is recommended to research all companies and company representatives through online resources — be thorough. Beware of companies and/or company representatives who are here today and gone tomorrow, particularly after a significant weather event such as a hurricane. Beware of companies that require full payment for a project up front. Ask your neighbors who they have used that they trust. And get everything in writing. 





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••• Continued from page 1 (BHA Surveys Members about BHI Transportation Passenger Ferry/Tram Schedule Changes and Submits to NC Utilities Commission)

- 76% of owner respondents are opposed to the proposed change. 16% support the proposed change and 8% have no opinion. In total, 196 property owners shared their opinion; 185 submitted comments.
- Many respondents stated they understood that changes needed to be made to the schedule but didn't like the schedule that was proposed by BHIT. Others preferred the current schedule. There were numerous concerns about the removal of the current late evening ferry service, particularly between Thursday – Sunday, which would affect Hammocks owners, and property owners and their renters who may be driving to the Island after work on Fridays.
- A significant number of respondents shared their observation that the proposed schedule would reduce the number of ferry runs that will be available per day and had concerns whether the increasing number of passengers could be serviced with reduced capacity. Others further questioned if they would see a reduction in ferry ticket pricing with reduced service.
- Numerous respondents voiced concern that the proposed schedule would negatively impact the Island's employees and further described concerns about the Club's and other employers' ability to retain employees if the schedule were adopted.
- Several property owners offered ideas to make the schedule more palatable, such as adding contractor ferry runs on Saturdays, one-way tickets, relaxing regulations in the off-season and adding additional runs between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

BHA's goal with the survey was not to produce an instrument that met a statistical significance threshold. Instead, BHA had just two simple goals with the survey. First was to inform BHI property owners that the application had been submitted to the NCUC and second, to engage property owners to learn their opinions about the schedule change. These two goals were accomplished.

BHA's Board of Directors thanks the individual property owners who took the time to share their opinions on this important issue. All disparaging remarks and personally identifiable information has been redacted. The Board has forwarded the results of the survey to the NCUC for its consideration. Property owners who haven't expressed their opinions through the survey should contact the Public Staff of the NCUC at www.ncuc.gov/contactus.html.



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New to BHA? BHA Board of Directors

The six-member BHA Board of Directors is elected by the membership for three-year terms. Board candidates are announced in BHA's Annual Report mailed in December, with additional biographical information online. Member votes are tallied the morning of the Annual Meeting, held the final Saturday in January, with election winners announced at the end of the meeting.

BHA Board members are your neighbors on Bald Head Island and welcome property owner input to serve you better. The Board meets monthly for executive and public sessions, and a full-day retreat is held annually in February. The Board will finalize the 2024 meeting schedule at its March 22nd meeting, which will be added to BHA's website (www.BaldHeadAssociation.com). New this year will be a time change to the public session, beginning an hour earlier, at 10:00am. Members are welcome and encouraged to learn more about BHA by attending the public meetings in person or via Zoom.

You can read more about BHA's 2024 BHA Board of Directors and easily email them at www.Baldheadassociation.com/board-roster. Here is this year's roster:

Christine Osborne, President
First term expires January 2026

Betty Robinson, Vice President and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
First term expires January 2027

Paul Carey, Secretary/Treasurer
First term expires January 2026

Joe Brawner
First term expires January 2025

John Kinney
Second term expires January 2025

Steve Smalley
First term expires January 2027



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-Robert, BHI Owner

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••• Continued from page 10 (The Four-legged “Old Baldy” — Part 2)

however, was overshadowed by the Battle of Antietam three days later.



Battle of Antietam. Lithograph courtesy of the National Museum of American History.

The Battle of Antietam is considered the “bloodiest day in American history” due to the 22,717 people that were killed or wounded. There were more soldiers (132,000) at Antietam than the entire population of Wilmington, North Carolina (117,000) in 2021. The dead totaled 3,600 people, including six generals, in just 13 hours of fighting. It is

unknown how many (but certainly, thousands) horses died. Baldy and Meade were among the deceased when Baldy took a bullet straight through the neck. Believed to be dead, Baldy was left on the field. The following day, however, Meade’s body servant found Baldy quietly grazing around the scene of destruction. Baldy survived his 8th battle and his 4th wound of the war, yet there was more action to come. 

¹ A brigadier general was typically in charge of 4,000 soldiers.

² “Old Baldy” General Meade’s Warhorse. *A Brief History*, by Anthony Waskie, Ph.D.

³ “Report of George A. McCall, August 12, 1862.” *War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Washington, DC, Government Printing Office.

⁴ “Old Baldy” General Meade’s Warhorse. *A Brief History*, by Anthony Waskie, Ph.D.

⁵ *The Generals of Gettysburg — The Leaders of America’s Greatest Battle*, by Larry Tagg.

••• Continued from page 11 (Why Having a Knox Box Is So Important)

and return it to the department with a copy of your current key. You can do this between 9:00am and 3:30pm Monday through Friday. The Public Safety building is located at 273 Edward Teach Extension.

If you do not have a Knox Box or you cannot locate one, please contact Public Safety to see if one has been purchased


for your address. You can do that by calling 910-457-5252 or emailing the Public Safety administrative assistant at psadmin@villagebhi.org. If there is not a box for your home, you will need to order one from the Knox Company (knoxbox.com). Once ordered, the box will be delivered to the Department of Public Safety.

New House Keys? Or, Not Sure?

If you’ve changed your house keys, remember to take a new key to Public Safety to replace it in your Knox Box. If you’re not sure about keys or have any other questions, contact Public Safety at 910-457-5252 or psadmin@villagebhi.org.

Please Note

Homes near the ocean may experience more speedy corrosion to Knox Boxes over time. Inspect your Knox Box, and if you have questions or concerns, use this article’s QR code for assistance in having it checked.

Note that Public Safety will not use the Knox Box for any other reason other than an emergency. Public Safety cannot unlock your door to allow homeowners, relatives, guests or renters into the home if they are locked out. 

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• • • Continued from page 1 (BHI's Native Plant Feature of the Month — Indian Blanket Flower)

shaped flowers bloom from spring until the first frost. The diameter of the flowers is around three to six inches. The middle hues of the flowers range from brown/copper, gold/yellow, orange, purple/lavender and red/burgundy. The outer tips of the flowers are yellow, with a funnel shape.

Indian Blanket Flower is highly resistant to drought, heat and salt. The vibrant orange and red flowers provide nectar for butterflies in the summer, and the remaining seed heads attract songbirds in the fall and winter. Because of its amazing colors and long blooming season, Indian Blanket Flower is an excellent plant to add brightness and beauty to coastal landscaping such as borders and container gardens.



• • • Continued from page 5 (Village of Bald Head Island Update)

(grading, stormwater, parking), beach access repairs, wastewater treatment plant and lift station upgrades, the Village's motor fleet and a Village Hall and Island Package Center fence replacement proposal.

- A presentation from the Village's Finance Director on the proposed FY25 budget calendar, preliminary revenue estimates, an update on the financial model, potential FY25 budget impacts and proposed updates to the Village's financial policies.
- The Village Council discussed its priorities for FY24-25 considering all the information that was presented. The wastewater treatment plant expansion and its funding were discussed. Grant funding was something that the Council would like to pursue for the wastewater treatment plant and shoreline protection projects. As far as grant funding for public safety, achieving NC law enforcement accreditation will make the chances of receiving grants more favorable.

The Village Council is expected to have its first budget workshop on April 26, 2024, to receive a preliminary budget presentation from staff. This is where citizens will have the opportunity to get a narrower perspective of the capital and operating expenses that will be considered for the FY25 budget. To receive the public notice for this meeting, please contact Darcy Sperry, Village Clerk, at village.clerk@villagebhi.org. Include "Sunshine List" in the subject line, and Ms. Sperry will add you to the email distribution list for future public notices, including notices for special meetings and public hearings.



Scan this QR code with your phone camera for full details on BHA's events calendar!



April 2024:

ARC-A Meeting	4/5/2024	9:30am
Earth Day Celebration and Native Plant & Herb Sale	4/5/2024	10am
Pollinator Garden Planting	4/6/2024	
BHI Artisan Show & Sale	4/6/2024	10am
Community Potluck Dinner	4/8/2024	6pm
BHIC's Johnston Coastal Sustainability Symposium	4/9/2024	
ARC-B Meeting	4/19/2024	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	4/19/2024	10am
Island-wide Litter Sweep	4/20/2024	10am
Earth Day	4/22/2024	
Howl at the Moon — "Pink Moon"	4/23/2024	6:30pm
BHA Board Meeting (tentatively scheduled)	4/26/2024	10am

Save the Date in May:

ARC-A Meeting	5/3/2024	9:30am
Picture Book Writing Retreat	5/3/2024-5/5/2024	
Community Potluck Dinner	5/13/2024	6pm
ARC-B Meeting	5/17/2024	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	5/17/2024	10am
Howl at the Moon — "Flower Moon"	5/23/2024	7:30pm
BHA Board Meeting (tentatively scheduled)	5/24/2024	10am
Smith Island Art League Show and Sale	5/25/2024-5/26/2024	10am
Memorial Day	5/27/2024	

Around the Corner in 2024:

ARC-A Meeting	6/7/2024	9:30am
Porch Island Treasures	6/15/2024	9am
Juneteenth Holiday	6/19/2024	
ARC-B Meeting	6/21/2024	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	6/21/2024	10am
Howl at the Moon — "Strawberry Moon"	6/21/2024	7:30pm
BHA Board Meeting (tentatively scheduled)	6/28/2024	10am

Ongoing:

AA Virtual Meetings:	Mondays & Thursdays	8am
(Zoom Group: #85999065097, P/C: 570863, Email: sober.1day.at.a.time@gmail.com)		
Knitting Group:	Wednesdays	9:30am
Men's Group:	Every Other Monday	8:30am
Village Chapel Services:	Sundays through Memorial Day	8:30am
Women's Fellowship:	1 st & 3 rd Mondays	10am
Yoga Classes:	Mondays & Wednesdays	11:45am



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- former Fish Bowl owner

"We are so grateful for your amazing job! Thank you!"

- Villa 3 owner

"You have been nothing short of amazing over the past five years. We are truly grateful."

- No Hurry owner

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- Dewey's Paradise owner

"Thanks for all you do. It is much appreciated."

- Elephant's Foot owner

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