

Bald
Head
Island

Village's Voice

A NEWSLETTER FOR BALD HEAD ISLAND PROPERTY OWNERS



Dear Residents, Property Owners and Friends:

First, let me wish all my fellow dad's out there a Happy Father's Day in advance of this special day tomorrow, and if you're planning to be on the island this weekend, it should be a special occasion with many fun activities going on around the island today & tomorrow that you can enjoy together. Perhaps a round of golf, hanging out on the beach throwing some horse shoes, slinging some corn hole bags, maybe taking in a kayak or stand-up paddle board venture along Bald Head Creek, or learning about "Pirate life" with the invasion of the Pirates Weekend..., but whatever it may be, I hope you enjoy the moment and make some memories with one another that will last a lifetime, and if for some reason you may not be in the same room or even on the same island, pick up the cell phone and give the Ole' man a call (not a text)...., I'm sure he will appreciate it!

As we get older and reflect on the relationships of fathers & sons, it often reminds me of the classic Harry Chapin song "Cats in the Cradle", so don't let these opportunities pass you by;

*"And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
Little boy blue and the man in the moon
"When you coming home, dad?" "I don't know when"
But we'll get together then
You know we'll have a good time then"*

Secondly, as I follow last week's message on golf cart parking at public beach accesses



and other friendly reminders now that we are in the "season", I wanted to recognize a special family, the Hurley's from Charlotte, N.C., that I had the pleasure of meeting yesterday morning as I made my way off the ferry taking the usual stroll through the Marina to Village Hall when something caught my eye..., what might that be you ask? Well, Miss Emma & Olivia (pictured left) of course, who were nicely strapped in with their seatbelts & car seat.

As I introduced myself to Rob who was picking up one of his daughter's bicycles that had come across on the ferry, I asked him if he wouldn't mind if I took the photo above to which he obliged. I explained that often we see folks driving around with the infant or child in the lap of the driver and that is something that is strongly discouraged by our Public Safety Department. Rob & Carolyn, island property owners for several years now, are a great example of how to travel safe with the kids along the Wynds of Bald Head Island and on behalf of the Village and Public Safety Department we thank you!

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT & SEASONAL DOSHER ON ISLAND CLINIC MOVES TO ITS NEW LOCATION AT 273 EDWARD TEACH WYND EXTENSION:

Now, on to several important updates including the recent move of the Village Public Safety Department to their new facility located at 273 Edward Teach Wynd Extension (across from Merchant's Row). While the physical relocation has occurred over the last few weeks, the building is still a work in progress with the front parking area and concrete sidewalk having been installed this past week. While there are still a few remaining items to take care of, the Public Safety Department and seasonal Doshier Memorial Clinic are now officially open to the public.

While I have been asked by many here of recent, the Village will be planning for a "Grand Opening", both a celebration & invitation, for island residents & guests to have an opportunity to see the building up close with tours planned for this special day to take place in July. Once a date & time has been set we will get this out in a future Village Voice message so you can plan to stop by and see firsthand this unique facility.

Please continue to reach out to Gloria Agnew, Administrative Assistant, with any questions you may have related to Public Safety..., and as a reminder, annual ICE permit registrations are due beginning July 1st of each year. Gloria can be reached at 910-457-5252 or by e-mail at gagnew@villagebhi.org, and for any questions regarding Doshier Memorial Clinic on BHI you can call 910-457-5252 during their normal seasonal operating hours of Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING SET FOR JUNE 27TH: Village Council will be holding their June Council meeting on Wednesday June 27th, at the BHA Generator Society Room. The agenda will include a 2nd public hearing and required vote to adopt the 2018-2019 annual fiscal year budget..., the initial presentation of the proposed draft budget last month included significant discussion and public input on Deer Herd Management with Council approving a motion to include within a fund balance appropriation funds sufficient to apply for a WRC permit, and if successful, to continue with the deer immuno-contraception program with a possible cull, if necessary.

Note, the current immuno-contraception "research" permit issued to the Village through WRC is set to expire at the end of the year at which point a decision will need to be made by WRC if the program can continue with a new "operational" permit issued to the Village. This decision will likely come after their review of the final report and assessment of all relevant data submitted throughout the duration of the 5-Year program

to include the summer deer census population estimates.

In addition to the proposed draft FY 2018-2019 budget agenda item, proposed text amendments included below will be reviewed and discussed with possible action by Council:

INCREASE OF CIVIL FINES FOR THOSE CITED WITH DRIVING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED & UNDERAGE DRIVING: A 1st reading and setting of public hearing for a proposed text amendment recommended by the Transportation Committee was included on the May 18th agenda. The text amendment being proposed to the current ordinances related to Section 28-36, *Driving while license revoked*, and 28-91, *Operation of electrically-powered vehicles by unlicensed drivers* (i.e. golf carts) would increase the fine from \$50.00 to \$500.00. This would include those under age driving an electric vehicle (i.e. golf cart).

PUBLIC INPUT RECEIVED TO DATE ON THE PROPOSED INCREASED FINE FOR UNDERAGE DRIVING: To date, the Village has received public input from island residents who in general appear to favor an increase in the fine for underage driving, but specifically, as it relates to the proposed fee amount of \$500.00, many indicated in their opinion that the fee proposed was too high for this type of infraction..., some felt an amount somewhere in the middle might be more appropriate.

REPEAL OF THE ORDINANCE ON THE CURRENT ISLAND-WIDE BAN ON MULCH: A 1st reading and setting of public hearing was also included on the May 18th agenda to repeal Section 10-32 of the Village Code of Ordinances having to do with the current ban on mulch and prohibiting its importing from an off-island source due to the Redbay Ambrosia Beetle and Laurel Wilt Disease. Despite restrictions that were set in place with the adoption of the ordinance in 2014, and other efforts of the Village, island residents, and BHI Conservancy, to the extent that Laurel Wilt, unfortunately, has been found to be present on island. Having said, with best management practices identified for mitigation of diseased trees to keep the spread of the disease to a minimum with recommendations by the National Forestry Service, the Village recommendation at this time would be that it is no longer necessary to prohibit mulch from an off-island source. The recommendation, if approved by Village Council, in dissolving the ordinance would then allow property owners to purchase from businesses like Island Hardware bagged mulch as another option to mulch processed on island at the Timber Creek mulch site.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TEXT AMENDMENT TO REGULATE THE USE OF FIRES FOR COOKING, HEATING, AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES: A public hearing was held on the text amendment to the open burning ordinance at the May 18th Council meeting..., this is a continuation of discussion amongst staff & Council since the January 2018 Council meeting and subsequent update in the February 24th Village Voice message. At this point, given public input received on the proposed text amendment, Council has directed staff to revisit the recommended changes and bring back forth at the June 27th Council meeting a revised draft.

BHI POTABLE WATER AND “GenX” UPDATE: As a follow up to the May 20th Village Voice update on GenX, Village Utilities staff collected water samples for testing of the Village’s treated water after having gone through the Reverse Osmosis (RO) System and its eventual entry into the distribution system and going out to utility customers..., the results received indicated a 0.79 PPT, this is well below the DHHS health goal of 140 PPT. Note, the sample and test results of the water include both BHI water from on-island production wells and additional water supplemented by Brunswick County Utilities from their NC211 water treatment plant.

WINTER 2018 DREDGING PROJECT & APPROVAL RESULTS OF THE MAY 8TH BOND REFENDERUM: On May 22nd, 2018, the Chairman and Members of the Brunswick County Board of Elections certified the results of the special election held on May 8th, 2018, the results of the canvass where the total number of BHI registered voters voted “YES” in approving the \$6,000,000 General Obligation bonds was 81, and the total number of voters of the Village who voted “NO” at 22.

The Village continues to move forward with the project, a bid opening is scheduled for July 18th to review bid proposals solicited by prospective dredging contractors to do the project this winter. Once bids received at the bid opening are reviewed by the Village’s coastal engineer, a recommendation will be forthcoming to Village Council for approval.

As always, if you have any questions or comments feel free to e-mail, call, or stop by Village Hall and as a reminder, if you know of anyone who may find the Village Voice message of particular interest, but are unsure if they are a current subscriber, please forward this message to them and let them know getting on the e-mail distribution list is as simple as sending me a follow up request by e-mail at cmccall@villagebhi.org

Thanks,



Chris McCall

Village Manager