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R.H. McCLURE INC.
 CONSTRUCTION • REAL ESTATE • RENTALS

Winter 2011 Newsletter

Cardinals



This marks the 3rd anniversary of our quarterly newsletter- our thirteenth issue. (I hope none of you is triskaidekaphobic.) By now, you faithful readers know that we feature an area animal in each issue. We normally pick them at random, whatever suits our fancy. This time I picked the cardinal for two reasons: We have some off-the-island surprises for you later, and (and this is really the best reason), the cardinal is red. So what, you say? Well, to me white and red are the colors of winter, and I really don't want to think about white, because that's the color of snow, and we don't even want to talk about that, do we? Not in beautiful, sunny Ocean Isle Beach. So that leaves red, the color of holly berries, the color of mistletoe, Christmas stockings hanging from the mantle, Santa Claus' outfit, and cardinals.

Cardinals, also called "redbirds" do not migrate in the winter, so even though they're not very numerous on the island, you can often spot them off the beaten path, on the mainland. They like to hang around people's back yards, especially if there's a birdfeeder around. They live about fifteen years in the wild, and once they make themselves at home, they tend to stay around. They're easily spotted because they tend to stay in low bushes and small trees, and, of course, because of their bright color. Actually, only the male cardinal sports the bright red plumage, while the female is just a dull gray, as are the young males, until they molt and grow their bright red feathers. Unlike many songbirds, both the male and the female cardinals sing, often in a variety of melodies. Although they're normally very social, that changes during mating season. The groups dissolve into monogamous pairs, with the male feeding the female, while she incubates the eggs, usually three per season. The eggs are white, with brown speckles. During this time, the male cardinal becomes aggressive towards other birds, and sometimes they crash against window glass, trying to attack an intruder, which was merely their reflection.

In the United States, the Cardinal is called the State Bird, because it holds the record for being the state bird of the most number of states – West Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Virginia, and our own North Carolina.

Cardinals' diet consists of seeds, fruits, insects, and even small lizards, and worms. If you're going to set up a bird feeder in the yard, they do prefer peanuts and sunflower seeds. How do I know? A little birdie told me...

Tides

This fall we saw some of the highest and lowest tides we've ever seen from our "rear window". At high tides, we could barely see the reeds in the marshland. When the moon and the sun are lined up, they cause exceptionally high and low tides, known as Spring Tides, even though they don't have anything to do with the Spring season. The Proxigeon Spring Tide, which occurs about every other year, is when the moon and the sun are lined up, causing a stronger gravitational pull, plus the moon is closest to the earth, and is in between the earth and the sun.



New Year's Trivia

I decided to bring back the Trivia game part of our newsletter, and in the spirit of the holidays, and thanks to my granddaughter Diamond who provided me with some, we're featuring New Year's trivia. (Answers on page 3)

1. When do the Chinese celebrate their New Year?
2. When was the first New Year's Eve ball dropped in Times Square?
3. How much does the New Year's Eve Waterford Crystal ball weigh?
4. What does *Auld Lang Syne* mean?
5. In the ancient Roman calendar, when did the New Year begin?
6. When was the first New Year's holiday observed?
7. Under which calendar is New Year's Day January 1?
8. Kwanzaa is a seven-day holiday that ends January 1. What does the word "kwanzaa" mean in Swahili?
9. Rosh Hashanah is the beginning of the New Year for what religion?
10. What does "Rosh Hashanah" mean?



Oyster Festival Review

October means only one thing in Ocean Isle Beach – Oyster Festival. This year, on October 15th and 16th, over 70,000 people attended the 31st annual Oyster Festival. Country singer Josh Kelley was the headliner this year. There was something for everyone. As usual, there was a wide variety of crafts, awesome food, and great music. The kids enjoyed a new addition this year – a ride on a real live camel. Well, I say the kids, but many adults enjoyed the camel ride too. The first place winner of the oyster stew was the Giggling Mackerel Seafood Grille in Ocean Isle Beach. Second place went to The Grille, on Main Street in Shallotte. Boundary House in Calabash took third place.



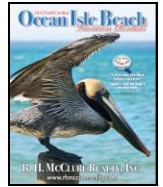
The annual Ocean Isle Beach Bridge Run for Food Half Marathon and 5K Run/Walk will take place on January 7, 2012. Starting at 9:00, runners will meet on Third Street to start the race across the bridge to the mainland, and back. Last year, 473 runners competed. The Run for Food race is run by the South Brunswick Interchurch Council, which is a group of Christian churches of all denominations, helping citizens in the area, by providing food, shelter, transportation and medical assistance to those in need. It'll be a chilly run, but it's for a good cause, and besides, you can't beat the view.



The staff and management at R.H. McClure Realty would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Our 2012 Vacation Rentals brochure will be out this month! If you're not already on our mailing list, be sure to give us a call to receive our brochure.

800-332-5476



R.H. McCLURE REALTY'S FACEBOOK SWEEPSTAKES

We've been running our Facebook Sweepstakes and asking you to "Like" our page on Facebook. As promised, one of our lucky Facebook fans will win a free reservation fee (a \$60.00) value.

And our winner is...



Michael Boyer



Michael Boyer, when you book your reservation for 2012, your reservation will not be charged a reservation fee! If you already have a reservation, call us to make the adjustment in our records.

Prize has no cash value – it can only be applied to 2012 reservation.

Answers to New Year's Trivia

1. The Chinese celebrate their New Year at the second moon after the winter solstice.
2. The first New Year's Eve ball was dropped in Times Square on December 31, 1907.
3. The New Year's Waterford Crystal ball weighs 1,070 pounds.
4. *Auld Lang Syne* means Times Gone By.
5. In the ancient Roman calendar, the New Year began on March 1.
6. The first New Year holiday was observed in ancient Babylon about 4,000 years ago.
7. New Year Day is January 1 under the Gregorian calendar.
8. The word "Kwanzaa" means first fruits.
9. Rosh Hashanah is the beginning of the New Year in the Jewish religion.
10. Rosh Hashanah means Head of the Year.



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Super Saturday

Super Saturday started at 2:00p.m. on November 26 with the yearly parade down Second Street. There were clowns, Shriners' go-carts, floats, boats, and of course, Santa Claus. The Dunn Clowns were the favorite of my grandchildren, as well as all the candy they collected. What our little OIB parade lacks in size, it more than makes up for in enthusiasm and fun.



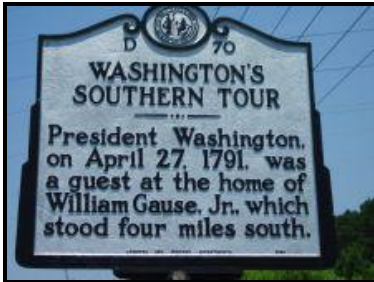
Later that evening, after the Christmas tree on Causeway Drive was lit up, and Christmas carols were sung, Santa arrived at the Ocean Isle Beach Fire Station. The Ocean Isle Beach Property Owners' Association provided cookies and hot cocoa. Everyone enjoyed the festive atmosphere, and having a chat with Santa. From there it was back over the bridge to watch the 8th annual Christmas Flotilla. The boat parade started at Shallotte Point, and came down the Intracoastal Waterway to dock behind Sharkey's Restaurant. There was much whooping and hollering as people called out to their favorite. My personal favorite, and the winner, was the red choo-choo train, complete with golden wheels, and silver smokestack.



Off the Beaten Path

Recently, I mentioned a certain place to a long-time resident of the area, and she had never heard of it. That gave me the idea of including in the newsletter a couple of “off the beaten path” places with which people might not be familiar. Those of you who drive down from Virginia, Ohio, or Pennsylvania have probably seen several road plaques letting the public know that “George Washington slept here”.

George Washington was a traveler. During the Revolutionary War, and later, during his presidency, he and his horse went all over the Mid Atlantic and Southern states, staying in hundreds of inns and private homes. There’s even a website dedicated to “George Washington slept here”. <http://www.bnbfinder.com/press/pressRelease.php?action=pressRelease&pressId=45&ref=a&year=>

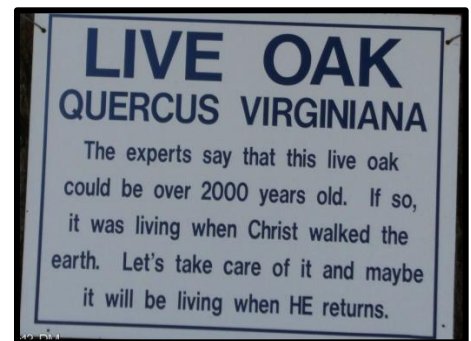


Did you know that we have our own George Washington slept here plaque? You’ve probably seen it. It’s at the junction of Ocean Isle Beach Road and Hwy 17. The plaque says the site is four miles south, but not too many people go there, since, after all, the actual home where Washington visited is no longer there. Gause Plantation included a two-story manor house built in 1751 by William Gause, who obtained 400 acres of land from the crown, and became an innkeeper. Washington

didn’t actually sleep there either. According to his diary, on Wednesday, April 27, 1791, during his Southern Tour, Washington, “breakfasted at Wm. Gause’s, a little out of the direct road 14 miles from the last stop..” It was off the beaten path even then. The house is gone, but Gause Landing Road still merits a visit. Its Spanish moss draped oak trees make it one of the most beautiful roads in the area.



Second on our Off-the-beaten-path tour is a beautiful oak tree in Shallotte Point. This is not just any old tree. This tree is over two thousand years old. You can drive over to see it in front of 1616 Shallotte Point Road.



Sign posted on the oak tree in Shallotte Point.

Third on the tour is Vereen Memorial Gardens, on Hwy 179 just south of Calabash. The Vereen family owned the 400-acre plantation since the early 1800's. The 114-acre park now includes woodlands, salt marshes, picnic areas, children's swings, quiet, shady resting sites overlooking the IWW, and a nice gazebo, not to mention a wide observation deck extending into the waterway. The park also includes a section of the Kings Highway, which was a part of the earliest Atlantic Coastal Transportation system. It has been in place since the 1700's, and was travelled by George Washington. It was named for King Charles II of England, who directed the colonial governors to build it in 1650. The road went from Boston, MA to Charleston, SC, a total of 1300 miles. The entire trip took about two months. The section of road in the park is one of the few stretches of Kings Highway that still retains its unpaved original appearance. The park is beautiful, the views are amazing, and it's all free.



Sure, we're known for our beautiful, laid back, family beach, our great golf courses, restaurants, and water sports, but next time you're down, you might want to spend a couple of hours "Off the Beaten Path".

Boaters will be happy to know that Shallotte Inlet is being dredged. Dredging operations will continue until January 1. For now, please stay clear of the dredge and all pipelines. Happy boating!

RH McClure Real Estate Sales

Below is a current list of properties that are available through R.H. McClure Realty, Inc. We would like very much to represent you in your quest for properties on or around Ocean Isle Beach. Our sales staff will assist you with any listed property in this area. Please check with us often, as prices and listings change frequently. Call

Bob Kennette	B. Wayne Melton	John Hightower
910-540-5940	910-233-6606	910-520-0533

Or visit our website at www.rhmclclurealty.com to view all listings in Brunswick County

Beach Homes

Oceanfront-124 East 1 st St 4 br, 4 bath	Sold	\$ 1,435,000
Oceanfront-269 West 1 st St -5 br, 3 bath		\$ 749,000
2 nd Row-169 E 1 st St 3 br, 2 bath, half of duplex		\$ 369,000
Soundfront-155 Marsh Lagoon- 5 br, 5.5 bath	Sold	\$ 895,000
Natural canal – 79 Wilmington, 6 br, 2 bath		\$ 445,000
Concrete canal-49 Newport St, 4 br, 2 bath		\$ 459,000
Island Park Cottages-3 Myrtle Ct, 4 br, 2 bath	-short sale-	\$ 299,900

Beach Condos

Windjammer Unit 1-J – 2 br, 2 bath, oceanfront	\$ 299,900
Windjammer Unit 1-I – 2 br, 2 bath, oceanfront	\$ 295,000
Windjammer Unit C-2 – 2 br, 2 bath, oceanfront	\$ 273,500
Ocean Point 1002 – 3 br, 3 bath, oceanfront high rise	\$ 585,000

Beach Lots

Kings Lynn-6640 Kings Lynn Dr, Soundfront-Holden Beach	\$ 385,000
Soundfront Lot-192 West 4 th St	\$ 479,000

Mainland Lots

Bricklanding Golf Course Frontage – 1756 Forrest Oak	\$ 69,900
Bricklanding Golf Course Frontage - 1633 Carriage Pl	\$ 99,000
Bricklanding Golf Course Frontage - 1625 Carriage Pl	\$ 99,000
Crow Creek – 389 Autumn Loop, golf course lot	\$ 82,000
Crown Stream – 1602 Crownstream Drive	Sold \$ 35,000
Brookhaven Subd.Lot 10 in Brookhaven, 5 min. to Wilmington	\$ 325,000

Mainland Homes

Crown Stream – 1600 Crownstream Dr.- 3 bedroom 2 bath - Sold	\$175,000
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