

Lasting Impressions

WINTER, 2021

Snow
Days
Edition



HISTORICAL CHARM.
NATURAL BEAUTY.

Extraordinary Living

Lasting Impressions

Editor's Letter

Happy snow days! (...or are they?)

So many of us who have migrated to the SC coast from points north have fond childhood memories of snow days. I recall the joy of waking up to a fresh sheet of snow, wonder in my eyes and bated breath as I jump onto Mom and Dad's bed and turn the radio to KDKA, anxiously awaiting word if school will be canceled – or at least delayed long enough to pack down some sledding trails and make snow angels. "...Mt. Lebanon, two hour delay; North Allegheny, two hour delay; North Hills... (oh boy oh boy!) two hour delay!"

While playing in the snow shifted to skiing as I grew up (along with some silly middle school "pranks" like anonymously building snow men in friends' yards!) it wasn't until college in northeast Ohio that I learned why so many people "retire south." I was nowhere near prepared for the "lake effect snow" and still to this day cannot understand why - with a couple hundred girls in one dorm – the school did not invest in a larger hot water heater.

And driving – ohhhhhh, driving. Although my parents prudently held winter-driving lessons, it wasn't until as a teenager I had the choice of parallel parking on a Pittsburgh hillside in the snow or missing whatever

can't-miss-event was being held that week did I truly appreciate my folks' driving prep (and did I mention my first car was a manual?!).



Now, on those occasional summer days in the South that the sun seems to shine with a vengeance, I remind myself of living with 300 cloudy days a year; when every winter outing began with bundling in layers to shovel the driveway and scrape the car, followed by a change of clothes so you won't spend the day cold and soggy, and continued with numb fingers white-knuckling the wheel... and I re-center, appreciating and embracing Beaufort's 200+ sunny days in each turn around the sun.

Here in Beaufort it "flurries" about once every three years with the "Snow of 2018" dropping a quite-memorable four inches...which some of you were gracious enough to share photos of (thank you!) I hope y'all enjoy reading and seeing your fellow members' submissions for "snow days" memories as much as I have. And, stay warm out there! It's only going to be in the 60s this week!

Laura Q. McCarthy

Laura Q. McCarthy

FEATURES

- 4 Heart & Soulstice
- 7 Cold Days, Warm Memories
- 13 Property Lines: Sales Data
- 14 Work Hard Play Hard - Staff Snow Photos
- 16 Featured Club-Within-the-Club: Dataw Island Yacht Club
- 19 Charitable Living: Dataw Cares
- 21 Winter Schedule of Events

on the cover...

"Big Dataw Point"
Color Photo



COVER CONTEST *Announcement*

Would you like YOUR artistic creation to be featured on the next edition of Lasting Impressions? Each quarter, we will announce a theme and accept submissions for member art to be featured on the front cover.

Images will be selected based on how well they meet the theme that month, along with how well they capture the beauty, history, and charm of Dataw.

SPRING THEME: *"For Starters"*

Please submit images that make you think of a Start of some sort, at a minimum of 1 mb and a maximum of 10 mb to datawmarketing@islcl.net.

Include your name as you would want it credited, as well as the title of your art. Submitting a piece for inclusion implies consent for Dataw Marketing to use your image in our marketing materials.

Please note that all submissions will be acknowledged by reply email as "received" within two business days. If you do not receive a return email confirming your submission, please call (843)379-3056.

Interested in contributing to Lasting Impressions?
Please contact Laura McCarthy at (843)379-3056
or at datawmarketing@islcl.net.

Heart & Soulstice

A Journey to Antarctica



photos by Sanford Morse
story by Laura McCarthy

While it is a rare treat to see snow on Dataw Island, one Dataw member who is truly charmed by winter recently journeyed to a place he was SURE to see snow... No, not the North Pole – but Antarctica! Perhaps Earth's

most hostile climate, Antarctica is sparsely inhabited, but its few brave residents are truly beauties to behold. Antarctica is on the seven continents list, and it is usually the last to be visited.

Recently, Sanford "Sandy" Morse took a journey of nearly four days to get to 'The Ice' -- and the images he created are likely only trumped by his memories of this trip of a lifetime.

Aboard the National Geographic Explorer, Morse and just 60 other travelers accompanied about a dozen naturalists and photographers to the islands of the northern peninsula, twice making landings on the continent proper. The expedition was 21 days, first exploring Patagonia, and then crossing the infamous Drake Passage.

In addition to standard Arctic safety precautions, Covid





precautions added additional layers to the travel. "We were the first ship to visit Antarctica since Covid," Morse explained. "Because of Covid and governmental entanglements (ours, theirs, Chile and Argentina) it was 96 hours getting home and almost as long getting there. We stayed in a 'bubble,' with probably 10 Covid tests along the way, and no contact beyond the ship."

Regardless of the extra layers that these precautions added, Morse realized a dream come true with this very special





trip; an excursion which had been on his "list" since the first days of cruise itineraries going there.

"I've been all over the world," Morse said, "but Antarctica was the most beautiful place I've ever been. Photos and words can only begin to convey Antarctica's majesty and beauty."

And what majesty these photos display!





Cold Days Warm Memories

Above: Snow days at Big Dataw Point, Wanda Elmore; **Below right:** Snow on Dataw, Aldo Marchioni

We asked Dataw Island members to share “snow days” memories, and we just love the variety that was shared!

Julie Sanders Growing up in the Ohio snow belt, I chose Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama to escape the harsh winters. When George and I got married in my hometown of Mansfield, Ohio, it was in January on a day with windchill temps in the negative 30s and plenty of fresh snow. Our dear classmates who attended were mostly Deep Southerners who had never experienced such a frigid wonderland. One fellow arrived wearing a thinly woven alpaca sweater and said (shivering) that he thought Ohio fought for the South! Another girl from Jacksonville wore her expensive leather boots (purchased in Italy during her junior year abroad) and she couldn't figure out why they slipped so easily on the icy walks. Another had a





case of beer freeze in his trunk.

All were in awe of the beautiful and sparkly snow. We took everyone down to the park at the end of the street and rode toboggans and sleds all day until our hair was completely frozen from our steamy breath with each scream of delight. Our toes thawed and cheeks were all rosy for the wedding ceremony that night.

Glad we live here now, but thanks for reminding me of one party snow day that will always be special.

Don Farris This picture (**left**) was taken on Cotton Dike hole 17 on January 4, 2018, during the first real snowstorm here on Dataw Island in years. Walking in the snow reminded us of the many snowy walks we took in New York's Hudson Valley. We wished we had still had our cross-country skis!

Dale Martin In 1981 I shoveled snow for 15 days in NJ ... then, I promptly moved to Miami and enjoyed disco world!

Marie and Ken Doyon We went to a sleigh rally at Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts one year... (these charming sleighs (**below**) feel like they belong on Christmas cards!)



James Millard Managing, working, and living on a Lexington, Kentucky, farm which has been in the family since 1873, winter snows are not anywhere near a fond memory of our near-30 years' experience.

On a farm, snow quickly turns to mud. Ice storms lead to power outages, which, on a well, means no running water. Flushing the toilets required a trip to the creek with a bucket.

Since moving to the Lowcountry nearly three years ago, we have reveled in those sangfroid moments of those we left behind in Kentucky.

Seasons of the South

Holly Dolan Our backyard on Morgan River hole 4, on January 3, 2018 (**right**). Five inches of snow remained for one week all over Dataw Island. Lots of palm trees died... but our Golden, Wilson, a three-year visitor from Oregon loved it!



Kellie Steger 15 inches of snow in Virginia (**below**).

Bottom row: File photos of Dataw snow, 2018.



Chris Raskind Before retiring to Dataw in 2000, I was an elementary classroom music teacher in Norwalk, CT. We had plenty of snow most years but had to make up the 'snow days'.

They were usually fun and unexpected. I regularly taught a song called 'Snow Day' each winter. The last line was "I love to wake up and hear the radio say, 'Norwalk Schools are closed', YAY". One year we had so much snow that we missed 11 days and lost our weeklong April vacation! The younger students begged me not to sing that song, believing it might be causing all the snow!

Fond memories of the beautiful whiteness! Don't miss the shoveling, cars skidding, falling on ice or the cracked skin on my fingers. Here is better!





Barb Mallon Our favorite snow memory was when we arrived to live in Charleston, S.C. in 2017 in just two pods! Snow gear was definitely not included, yet 2017 ended with snow. The locals kept assuring us it was only flurries and would be gone by morning, but the evening/night temps dropped into the teens and the snow kept falling. Soon the snow was thick and the ponds frozen. Schools and airports were shut down for over three days - so much for snow flurries!



Let it Snow – Some Fond and Some Not-So-Fond Memories

From Ann and Joel Holden

We lived on Lake George, NY, for four years after retiring from our jobs at IBM in the Poughkeepsie, NY area. We had spent weekends and summers there for several years before that, but never year-round. The first time my husband went up to our house in the winter, I was not able to go so he took pictures for me. They were beautiful – stark black and grey trees against the snow-covered ground. I asked him why he took black and white pictures and didn't take colored pictures... his reply was "those are colored pictures." That's how we discovered the colorless, cold days of winter in Lake George.

The lake was two miles across to the other shore from our house and it would freeze over most winters so thick that you could ride a snowmobile across it. The ice fishermen would drive their pickup trucks out on the ice and erected ice houses so they could drill holes and fish through the ice. There was a law that said all ice houses had to be off the lake on March 15 because the ice would start to melt and thaw, but on March 16 we saw about 42 pickup trucks on the ice! Apparently, the law didn't mention trucks. The waters of Lake George were pristine, so a sunken pickup truck would have been a very bad thing. Fortunately, we never saw one.

When the ice thawed it made a great ringing noise, like a gong under water. As soon as there was a little open water the water birds would start arriving... beautiful loons, hundreds of snow geese, many species of ducks. They would rest on the ice around the open water for a few days and then some would fly off to areas farther north. I wish we had pictures of them.

There was one winter when the lake didn't freeze over completely and the captain and crew of the summer tourist steamboat, the Mohican, brought the boat up the lake on February 8th – just because they could! We went out on the porch and waved at them. They blew the big, booming, boat horn in reply.

The snow was very deep in the woods around us. I remember one March it snowed 10 inches every week for three weeks! We tried some snow shoeing and some cross-country skiing, but it was just too cold and windy. I mostly stayed in and quilted. We spent a fortune having the driveway plowed so we could get in and out, if necessary.

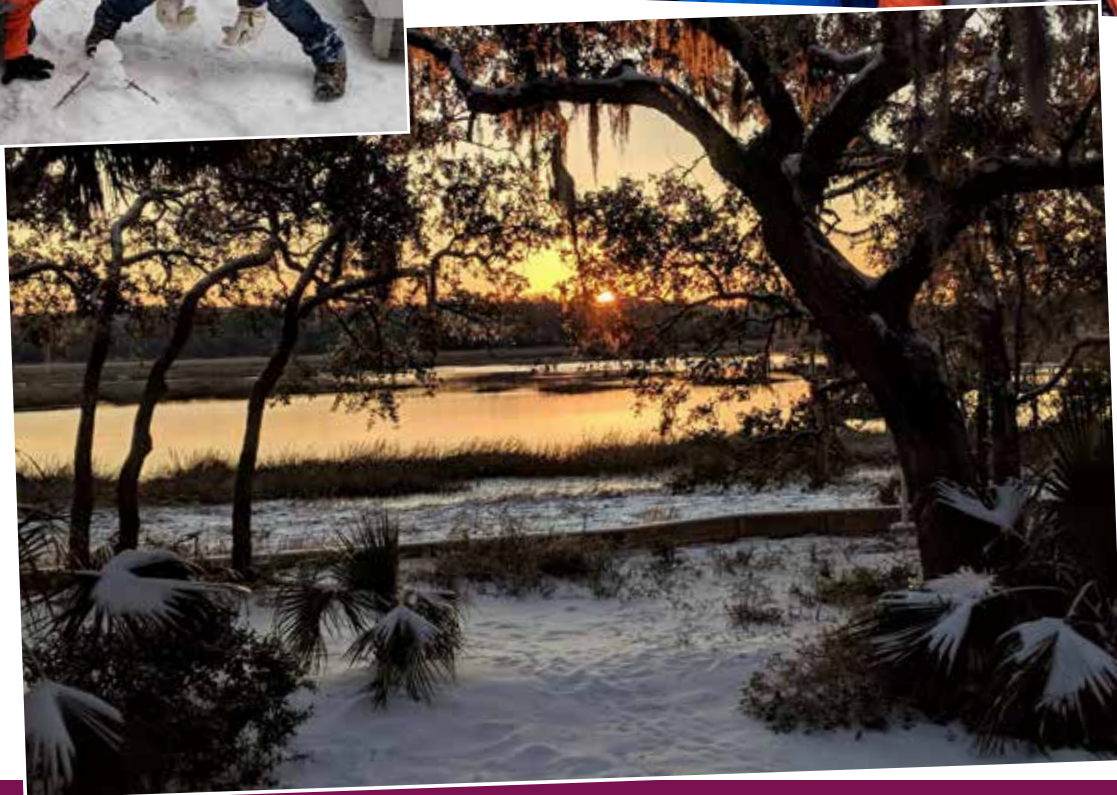
So, now you know why SNOW is a four-letter word to us and why we now live in South Carolina. Joel's story is we tied a snow shovel to the front of our car and drove until someone ask us what it was. I now call the hottest, most humid days of summer, my "snow days" and I enjoy staying inside with my quilting.

We are grateful for this beautiful place – Dataw Island.

Seasons of the South



Sarah Schoen Family fun, Dataw snow days!



Seasons of the South

Snow Day Memories: Top 30 Reasons to Move to Dataw Island

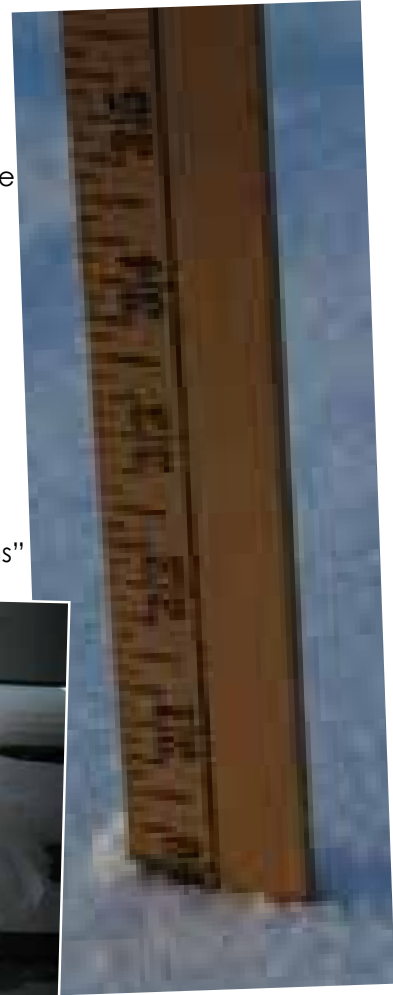
From Doug & Linda Robinson

Rather than a long-ago memory, this is one from just a few years ago. Linda grew up in Ohio and Doug was born and raised in Western New York, a few miles from Buffalo. So, we were both well-accustomed to winter weather and plenty of snow.

In January 2016, we were living in Northern Virginia, about 50 miles west of Washington, D.C., when the Mid-Atlantic blizzard hit. During 40+ years in Virginia we had never experienced a snowfall of this magnitude.

Fortunately, we had already purchased our Dataw Island lot prior to that storm. The construction plans for our new house had been finalized and Live Oak Builders were preparing to begin construction in February.

We took some photos and sent them to Todd Bradley at Live Oak. We explained that we simply wanted Todd and his staff to be aware of, and fully understand, our "top 30 reasons" why we were moving to Dataw Island.



Property Lines: By the Numbers



- In November, 2021, we had 15 closings, comprising 9 homes and 6 lots. This brings us to a year to date total of 160 closings, which is about 30% MORE closings that we had at this time in 2020, which itself was a record-setting year.

- The homes sold in November had a median value of \$550,000 and an average of \$559,444. Year to date, the median price of homes sold was \$395,000 up \$34,210 from \$360,790 at this time last year.

- Currently there are 10 homes on the market (1 of which is listed as under contract), and 31 lots. At this time last year there were 34 homes on the market and 56 lots.

- November, 2021, saw 7074 unique visitors to the public-facing website, up 5% from last November. New users are up 9% from 5634 to 6132.

- Year to date, the website has seen 81,402 unique visitors, down 3% from 87,737 at this time last year. New users were also down 3%, and average session duration is up 4% to 3 minutes; anything over 2 minutes is considered excellent.

These days, I am often asked if we need to keep marketing when our inventory is running so low. For a more comprehensive answer, I recommend the

Marketing article on page 19 of *Dateline*; to recap:

- It is important that we continue to fill the "pipeline" with leads, so when current owners are ready to sell there are buyers and hopefully strong prices

- It is equally important to continue to build brand awareness (which is the first step to any sale)

Remember, many buyers in our market begin their research 2-5 years prior to buying, so many of today's prospects are future buyers. The continued investments in keeping our facilities updated and our community top-of-mind are paramount to our relevance now and in the future.

Although it is true that the number of homes on the market at a given moment is very low, we are selling WAY more homes and lots than we ever had in the past. In other words, we should count our successes (record-breaking sales, increased prices, turning vacant lots into improved properties) and continue the momentum rather than risking taking a major backslide by halting our initiatives.

As the market evolves, we will be thankful for the benefits of having a healthy pipeline of buyers.

Work Hard Play Hard

Our Dataw Staff enjoyed the Snow of 2018, too!





PHOTOS: Previous page, left - Lori Murdaugh's granddaughter; right - Aldrich snowman. This page - upper left, Holly Mason and son, Carter; lower left - Virgil Fripp's snowman; top right - photo by Nick Frank's wife; middle - photo by Lori Murdaugh; bottom right - Rymario Armstrong making snow angels at the Security Gatehouse.



Featured Club Within the Club



The Dataw Island Yacht Club is one of the most popular clubs-within-the-club, and their annual Commodore's Ball is THE event of the season! Celebrating a successful year of fun events both on the water and off, the annual DIYC event serves also to thank the outgoing bridge for their service and to welcome the incoming bridge. Thank you to outgoing Commodore Bryan Tuttle and his bridge, and the incoming 2022 bridge (left to right, above): John Keet, Vice Commodore; Dan Duncan, Commodore; Bryan Tuttle 2021 Commodore; Dale Kirby, Rear Commodore. We may not get to enjoy snowballs this year, but the Commodore's Ball was a blast!

Featured Club Within the Club



Congratulations also to Volunteer of the Year, Scott Johnson!



Featured Club Within the Club





Dataw Cares
community outreach

What is Dataw Cares?

Started by a caring group of Dataw members who saw a need within our Dataw community to reach out to other members, an "encore" version of Dataw Cares has recently emerged that encompasses needs in the greater community, including those "outside of the gates." So, what is Dataw Cares? It's a spirit that embodies charitable living...in other words, the spirit of Dataw!

DATAW CARES: ANSWERING THE CALL

Once again Dataw Island has proven itself to be incredibly generous to those in need. During a recent drive to support Afghan refugees, Dataw members provided about 2000 pounds of hygiene products and cleaning supplies as well as gift cards and checks totaling around \$3000. These supplies were delivered to Columbia to aid the Afghans who are arriving there now.

The drive kicked off with a presentation held at the Community Center, featuring a refugee family undergoing resettlement in Atlanta, a resident who volunteered with the Red Cross to help Afghan refugees at Fort McCoy, WI, and Seth Herschberger, with Lutheran Services Carolinas, who explained the

resettlement process and the help that is needed.

With the fall of Afghanistan, some 55,600 Afghans escaped by airlift and suddenly became refugees living in barracks at U.S. military bases across the country and overseas. Most are individuals or family members who supported our troops and development efforts. They have been extensively screened and fully vaccinated, and are being vetted at military bases like Fort McCoy, before being resettled in local communities. Over 400 refugees will find new homes in SC in the coming months, primarily around Columbia, Greenville, and Charleston.

Since the presentation, many have asked how to become more involved in assisting in their resettlement process. Lutheran Services Carolinas, a faith-based



Charitable Living: Dataw Cares



non-profit, is the government contracted provider for our area. They seek volunteers in many areas, from providing mentorship and job support to housing and transport. There is also the potential for a Dataw group to be part of a "Circle of Welcome," for refugees arriving in Charleston. Lutheran Services will group 8-14 people who commit to volunteering with a family for a six- or twelve-month period. To indicate interest, please contact member Liz Blair at elblair@islc.net or (843)252-6622.

If you are interested in becoming more involved, please contact Seth Hershberger, Area Manager of Lutheran Services Carolinas/Refugee and Immigrant Services, at SHershberger@lscarolinas.net or (803)272-8709.

PHOTOS: Previous page, upper left - Dataw Island collection; lower left - donations at Fort McCoy; lower right - presentation at the Community Center via Zoom. This page - Afghan refugees traveled from the Atlantata area to thank Dataw representatives with a home-cooked traditional Afghan meal, and were treated with a tour of Dataw and Hunting islands, seeing the ocean for the first time!



Winter Fun - Calendar of Events

Having friends or family visit this Winter?
Here are some great events that they may enjoy!

Reindeer Jingle Mingle December 3, 6 pm - 10 pm

Enjoy an evening of food and fun to benefit the Fripp Island Deer! Mingle with friends old and new! Silent auction, raffles, 50/50 raffle, Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer trivia, ugly Christmas sweater contest, pin the antlers on the reindeer, photo booth, music, and enjoy food and drinks from local restaurants and our own Fripp kitchens. Tickets: \$50 includes beer and wine. \$75 includes premium liquors. allevents.in



Gullah Kinfolk Christmas Wish December 3, 7 pm - 9 pm

Aunt Pearlie Sue and Gullah Kinfolk brings this history alive through interactive storytelling, dancing, hand-clapping foot-stomping music that mesmerize audiences as they journey back in time to celebrate this special Yuletide season. "Com' 'joy Yo'self. Christmas dis ain't Christmas wit'out Aunt Pearlie Sue and Gullah Kinfolk!" \$35 paid in advance, \$40 at the door.

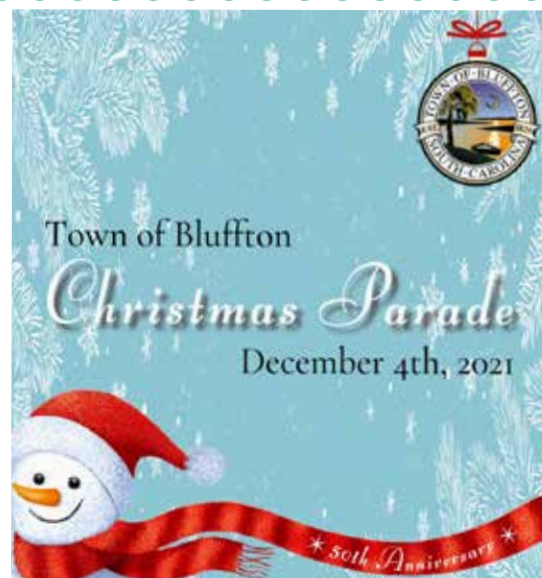
southcarolinalowcountry.com/events



Bluffton Christmas Parade December 4, 10 am

The Town of Bluffton is proud to host its 50th annual Bluffton Christmas Parade, through Bluffton's Historic District, beginning at the corner of Bridge and Pritchard Streets. Parade participants will make their way along the parade route and end in Bluffton Park at the corner of Pin Oak Street and 8th Avenue. This holiday event is held rain or shine.

townofbluffton.sc.gov





The Festival of Trees December 4-6

One of Beaufort's most beloved holiday celebrations, The Festival of Trees to benefit Friends of Caroline Hospice, continues a tradition that started more than 30 years ago. December 4 - 6, over 60 beautifully and whimsically decorated trees will be on display at Tabby Place in Downtown Beaufort.

The Celebration of Giving Gala, hosted among the trees on December 6, features music, wine, beer, and lots of food from some of Beaufort's best local restaurants. Do a little holiday shopping at the silent auction while you're there.

eatstayplaybeaufort.com



Beaufort's Holiday Weekend December 3-5



Nothing gets you into the Christmas spirit like Beaufort's fun-filled first weekend in December with the annual 'Night on the Town' celebration, followed by the ever-popular Light Up the Night Boat Parade and ending with the Beaufort Christmas Parade. And don't forget: Free parking at the Marina parking lot from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day!

eatstayplaybeaufort.com

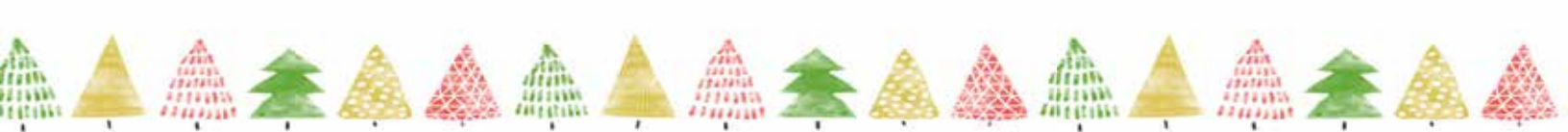


The New Year's Eve Gala at the Jazz Corner, Hilton Head December 31, 5PM & 8PM



The NOEL FREIDLINE QUINTET featuring MARIA HOWELL, 2 concerts, 5PM & 8PM \$165++ per person, price includes: Concert with the Noel Freidline Quintet featuring Maria Howell, 4 course dinner, champagne toast, & party favors.

thejazzcorner.com



Beaufort Oyster Festival January 13-22,

Located in Downtown Beaufort, Festival days will be held January 21-22 coinciding with Tides to Tables Restaurant Week and numerous other activities in the Beaufort-Port Royal area!



Bluffton Frosty 5K January 22nd, 8AM

Join the fun for the Bluffton Frosty 5K and "Sipping for Grace". The race starts at the Bluffton Oyster Factory and winds through Historic Old Town Bluffton and along the May River. Run, walk, bring the kids, fun for the entire family! Stroller friendly and dogs are always welcome. Warm up with a cup of HOT CHOCOLATE at the finish line served up by the students at Bluffton High School. Proceeds will not only benefit the BLHS cross country team but will also contribute to the fifth year of the Grace Sulak Scholarship Foundation. The fee for the race is \$30, \$20 for students under 18.

runsignup.com/Race/SC/Bluffton/BlufftonFrosty5K



Annual Hilton Head Snow Day



**January 29
11:00 am - 4:00 pm**

This is a family event that will have inflatable rides, a snowfield, and entertainment! For the kids who have never seen snow, this is the perfect event to share the joy!

events.islandreccenter.org

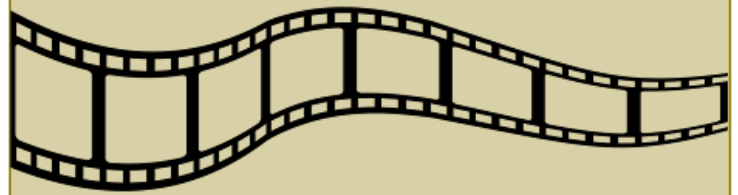




Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Chamber Restaurant Week
January 29-February 5,

Whether it is a place that has never been tried or the area's newest hot spot, Chamber Restaurant Week is the best way to dine your way through the Lowcountry! The chamber's 14th annual Restaurant Week is back for you to enjoy a price-fix menu from some new spots or old favorites. Modeled after successful restaurant weeks in New York and other cities, over 70 of Bluffton and Hilton Head Island restaurants offer specially priced or prix-fixe menus, signature dishes, new entrées, and old favorites.

formsite.com/hhchamber



16th Annual Beaufort International Film Festival
February 22-27

Six days of international and local short films, feature films, animation, filmmakers' surprises, educational forums, guest speakers, parties, and the quiet charm of historic Beaufort will all be on display.

filmfreeway.com/BeaufortInternationalFilmFestival



Hilton Head Island Seafood Festival at Hudson's On The Docks
February 21-27

Over the course of seven days guests take in celebrity guest chef dinners, the best of southern pit masters, local wildlife, cooking demos, wine tastings, mixologist, scholars and more. The festival explores the South's evolving food culture, which has been returning to its roots in recent years by honoring its rich native agriculture. Experience our coast's rich fishing heritage during the weeklong festival. Here you can sample restaurants' fresh catch specials, try fresh oysters, and maybe even learn how to fish yourself. From incredible seafood meals to rustic barbecue and bonfires, world-class talent and southern charm collide on one gorgeous Island setting.

hiltonheadseafoodfestival.com

Know of an exciting off-island event being held March - May? Please email DatawMarketing@islc.net for consideration for inclusion.