

Onancock News

Onancock Business & Civic Association

Holiday 2011

Noel Night on Second Friday • December 9

The eve of the Christmas Homes Tour will be extra special this year. Gather the family at the Onancock Wharf at 4 p.m. to welcome Santa and his elves as they boat into Onancock Harbor accompanied by a lighted boat parade and kayak reindeer flotilla.

Santa will then lead a parade of carolers up to Town Square at 4:30 for traditional Candlelight Caroling in the Park and tree illumination. Bring your singing voices for this very special small town holiday event.

The festivities will continue as Santa's elves and gathered carolers stroll into the downtown district to spread the Christmas spirit to

galleries and shops as they hold a town-wide Open House for your shopping pleasure, serving seasonal refreshments. Look for the lit luminaries outside their doors, pop in for some holiday cheer and finish your Christmas list by shopping local.

Complete your evening with a family dinner at one of Onancock's fine restaurants or the opening night of "Merry Christmas, George Bailey," 8 p.m. at the North Street Playhouse. For tickets call 757-787-2050

For more information on Noel Night, contact Joani at jdonohoe1@verizon.net or 757-787-8818.

Christmas Homes Tour & Music Festival • Saturday, December 10

Eight magnificent homes representing Onancock's past and future, plus historic Ker Place, Onancock Baptist Church and Cokesbury Church, are the centerpiece of this year's 12th Annual Christmas Homes Tour & Music Festival. The festive holiday weekend is set for Sat., Dec. 10, from 2 to 7 p.m.

Presented by the Onancock Business & Civic Association (OBICA), the homes tour each year benefits a different local charity, with this year's recipient being YMCA Camp Silver Beach, a residential camp in Jamesville that serves children regardless of financial circumstances.

Participating homes will be decorated for the season with lights, greenery, Santas and angels. gardenART on King St. will provide free photos with Santa from 2-5 p.m. on the day of the Tour. Several galleries in the Historic Onancock School will also be open, offering one-of-a-kind hand-crafted items for your holiday shopping.

The homes are arranged for easy walking, or if you like, a shuttle around town will provide free rides for ticket holders. Music will fill the homes and for your enjoyment, carolers will perform in front of Janet's Cafe at King and North streets. Cokesbury Church will open its doors at 3 p.m. for the annual Christmas concert featuring local performing artists. The concert is free and open to the public.

Homes Tour tickets are available at gardenART on King St., Marsh Jewelers, and The Book Bin. The cost is \$15 until Thanksgiving and \$20 thereafter. Tickets may be purchased the day of the tour at any of the homes and at Historic Onancock School. For groups of ten or more, a 20 percent discount will be available. Contact Joni Bunino at 757-710-3658 for more information.

Music Schedule:

3 to 3:50 p.m. The Orchestra of the Eastern Shore
4 to 4:50 p.m. Larry J. Giddens, Baritone Soloist
5 to 5:50 p.m. The Waterfront Band
6 to 6:50 p.m. 3 Sheets, Celtic & Nautical tunes

FEATURED HOMES & HISTORIC BUILDINGS

1. Caleb and Lynne Fowler invite you to share their first Christmas at "Branch's Bend," 6 Queen Street (behind the Roseland Theatre). Construction on this state-of-the-art passive solar home began in Fall 2010 and the Fowlers

have been in residence since August. The interior combines comfort and elegance, featuring hand-crafted cabinets and innovative interior design. This

peaceful setting is perfect for Lynne's fiber studio and the couple's African Shona sculpture collection.



2. Gary Cochran and Charlotte Heath decorate their home at 43 King Street with trees for the holidays. Built in the 1880s by local jeweler J. W. Duncan, the home has been renovated to reflect the eclectic tastes of its talented owners. The casual, funky, artsy and off-center décor showcases a collection of art and artifacts and is sure to be the talk of the tour.

3. From the unique sunburst porch railings to the whimsical Pirates of the Caribbean décor, Christmas visitors will be enchanted by 19 King Street. The house dates to the late 1700s and is described in Whitelaw, but the thoughtful and well-researched restoration and renovation has made this home a comfortable retreat. Please join Maria Fontes Davis and John Simpkins in celebrating the holidays Caribbean style.

4. The Victorian at 34 North Street required dedicated restoration inside and out, with stunning results. Warm and reminiscent of bygone years, the Weiser family has filled their home with precious objects and amazing art, including a collection of Peter Ompir, the father of American decorative painting. Paintings by Jack Richardson and a duck decoy collection lend a local flare. Christmas is celebrated with a whimsical collection of Santas, Byer's Carolers and beautiful displays of holiday greenery.

5. The charming cottage located at 38 North Street is a fine example of an American Craftsman bungalow. The owners, Cindy and Scott Mackey, who purchased the long-neglected cottage in 2008, peeled back layers of flooring, paint, and overgrown landscaping to bring this 750 square foot home to a very charming and comfortable place to live. Step inside and return to the simple, natural, and traditional décor reflecting the cottage style.

6. Debby and Gary Gies have spent the last five years bringing the house at One Chandler Street to life. Set on four acres at the edge of Onancock, this Eastern Shore farmhouse built in 1905 was originally owned by John J. Chandler. Debby and Gary have enjoyed restoring the period moldings and trim to their original splendor. This home lends itself to traditional festive Christmas décor.
7. Thom and Linda Nolan and their guests at the Spinning Wheel B&B on 31 North Street enjoy modern convenience in a folk Victorian setting. The 115-year-old home will mark its 20th year as a bed and breakfast this year. Christmas is a special time at the Spinning Wheel, decorated Victorian style inside and out. Don't miss the performance of Thom's Celtic group, "3 Sheets," at Cokesbury Church at 6 p.m.
8. The 1886 Victorian Lady at the corner of North and Kerr Streets is home to the Inn at Onancock, owned by Kris and Lisa LaMontaigne. It opened in 2007, completely transformed into a stunning B&B featuring a wrap-around porch where guests sit and sip wine in the evening. Admire the beautiful patina on the front foyer's fluted wood trim that miraculously has never been painted, and look for the welcoming ghost that's been spotted by Kris and a few of their guests.
9. The Onancock Baptist Church Sanctuary on Market Street will be open for visitors, decorated with evergreens and seasonal plants. The congregation has outgrown the sanctuary and meets in a large modern building on the property. We thank the Onancock Baptist Church for the rare opportunity to see the sanctuary as it once was. Also, visit the new building at 1 Crockett Street.
10. Ker Place at 69 Market Street is the town's most prominent Federal style historical home, built in 1799. Step in and enjoy the annual free Holiday Open House. The Broadwater Academy Varsity Voices will sing holiday favorites 2-2:45 p.m. The Victorian Shaddowlight theater puppet show is at 3 p.m. for children of all ages, and at 4 p.m., the Roland Major and JL Smith Gospel Choir performs. The Open House is free to all.
11. Historic Onancock School will be a ticket outlet and a shuttle stop on the Homes Tour, with all galleries open, and serving refreshments. Reserve some time on the tour to check out this historic community resource, celebrating its 90th year.
12. Historic Cokesbury Church, corner of West and Market Streets, will once again host a holiday Music Festival that is free and open to everyone, from 3 to 7 p.m. The church, built in 1854, is one of the finest acoustical spaces on the Shore and enhances every performance.

Around Town

At **Red Queen Gallery** the Campbell/Dolby/Zidovec show continues through the weekend of Dec. 3-4 with Ten Good Sheep's hats for the season and Karyn spinning in the window, Foggy Place Soap, and Russell Jones' custom pottery work for Christmas purchase. Second Friday on Dec. 9 will feature the jewelry and art of Lisa Harlow, Anne Holland, Brenda Clark, and the jewelry of Dzigns.

The show offered at the **Eastern Shore Art League Gallery** through December is "More Gifties." Our artists have been inspired to add to our wonderful collection of gift items for the holidays. The gallery is located at 59 Market Street.

Johnny Mo, family and staff of Mallards wish you each a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, thank you for

supporting us over the last year and look forward to seeing you in 2012! Stop by **Mallards at the Wharf** during December's Second Friday for a cup of Christmas Cheer. It's not too late for those Holiday catering needs. Email mallardsllc@verizon.net. Mallards Holiday Hours: Christmas Eve, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Christmas Day, Closed; New Years Eve, 11:30 a.m. until ?; and New Years Day Brunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

SouthEast Expeditions at the Wharf hosts Soup on Sunday Fun Paddles, 2-4 p.m. through Dec. 11. Kayak reindeer/carolers needed to escort Santa into Onancock Harbor on Noel Night on Second Friday, Dec. 9. Our last day of the season is Saturday, Dec. 17, closing at 4 p.m. to get ready for the Christmas Parade! January through March we'll be leading trips in the Florida Keys and Everglades

(www.BurnhamGuides.com) Call 757-354-4FUN or email mary@burnhamguides.com for more info.

gardenART on King St. has all of your holiday needs: Gifts, wreaths, roping, poinsettias and so much more. Come get festive! 757-787-8818

On Dec. 9-11, the **North Street Playhouse** presents "Merry Christmas, George Bailey," featuring the Lux Radio Theatre version of "It's a Wonderful Life." Performances are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Call the Playhouse for reservations and information: 757-787-2050 or 1-866-70-DRAMA (703-7262). You can now purchase tickets online at www.northstreetplayhouse.com

Holiday 2011 • Mark Your Calendar

November

- 19 ACES presents *Dale Jett & Hello Stranger*, 8 p.m. Nandua High School. acesva.org
 25-27 9th Annual Open Studio and Vineyard Tour, Artisans Guild of Eastern Shore. Free, self-guided tour. esartisansguild.org

December

- 6 OBCA Meeting, 7 p.m. Naomi Makemie Church
 8 International Film, "The Guard" (Ireland), 8 p.m. Roseland Theatre
 9 Noel Night on Second Friday, 4-8 p.m. onancock.org
 9-10 "Merry Christmas, George Bailey," 8 p.m. North Street Playhouse. Tickets: 757-787-2050
 10 Christmas Homes Tour, 2 p.m. onancock.org
 10 Holiday Music Festival, Historic Cokesbury Church, 3-7 p.m.
 11 "Merry Christmas, George Bailey," 2:30 p.m. North Street Playhouse
 11 ACES presents *The Virginia Symphony Brass* holiday concert, 2:30 p.m. Nandua High School. acesva.org
 17 Onancock Christmas Parade, 5 p.m. onancock.com

January

- 3 OBCA Meeting, 7 p.m. Naomi Makemie Church
 12 International Film, "Roman De Gare" (French), 8 p.m. Roseland Theatre
 28 ACES presents Bowen McCauley Dance Company, 8 p.m. Nandua High School. acesva.org

February

- 7 OBCA Meeting, 7 p.m. Naomi Makemie Church
 9 International Film "Incendies" (Canada) 8 p.m. Roseland Theatre
 17-18 "To Be Young, Black & Gifted," North Street Playhouse
 24-26 "To Be Young, Black & Gifted," North Street Playhouse

March

- 2-3 "To Be Young, Black & Gifted," North Street Playhouse
 6 OBCA Meeting, 7 p.m. Naomi Makemie Church
 8 International Film "Beginners" (American), 8 p.m. Roseland Theatre
 24 ACES presents the Virginia Symphony, 8 p.m. Nandua High School. acesva.org



Would you like to get involved?
 We meet the 1st Tuesday of the month, 7 pm at the Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church!

Phone 757-302-0388

Mail P.O. Box 111
 Onancock, VA 23417

E-Mail onancockbca@gmail.com

Web www.onancock.org

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