



The Chambergram

Chamber Gold Members:
 Vantage South Bank ~ Tideland
 EMC
Chamber Honorary Members:
 Bob Jordan ~ Gene Wall

The Greater Hyde County Chamber of Commerce

20791 U.S. Hwy. 264, Swan Quarter, NC 27885
 252-493-3826/FAX: 252-926-9171

Email: hydecocc@embarqmail.com
Websites: www.hydecountychamber.org
 www.albemarle-nc.com/hyde
 www.ocracoke-nc.com

Hyde Chamber Welcomes New Member Mike Toler; Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep Ram, Inc.

One of the first things our customers notice about us is that they always see the same faces in sales and service. Like our employees, many of our customers have found a home here.

So, when you find yourself in the market for a new Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram or even a Certified Pre-Owned vehicle, look no further than right here.....Under the Big American Flag!

Mike Toler Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM is located at the corner of Hwy 70 and Hwy 24 in Morehead City, NC.

Mike Toler Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram was the #1 selling domestic in Carteret County in 2013 out selling Chevrolet and Ford

A little bit about me:

I was born and raised in Washington NC along with my wife Cindy Tice Toler.

Active in community;

Past board member of the North Carolina Seafood Festival (8 years), Rotary Club, and the Boys and Girls Club.



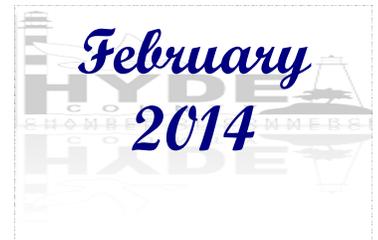
To Ocracoke:
 I have been coming to Ocracoke for as long as I can remember, the past few years my family and I have spent a lot of time there and have gotten to know some of you professionally, through doing business at our dealership. **One thing I have noticed is the time and effort that has to be made to pick up the vehicle here at the dealership, centering around travel time and ferry rides. I have decided that I'm now going to offer free delivery to your doorstep. With delivery and the very competitive pricing (and an excuse for me to go to Ocracoke,) I think it's a good idea for both of us. Check our inventory updated daily at www.miketoler.com, and please read our reviews on www.cars.com. If I don't have the new or used vehicle in stock that you're looking for, I will gladly locate it and still deliver it to your doorstep. We always carry a large selection of Jeep Wranglers, Grand Cherokees, and Cherokees.. As well as gas and diesel RAM 1500's, 2500's, and 3500's. And don't forget, we gladly accept trades.**

With *free delivery, *locating to get the vehicle you want *competitive pricing *gladly accepting trades, I personally guarantee a simple and easy process that will save you valuable time and money.

Mike Toler Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, Inc.
 5069 Hwy 70 Morehead City NC 28557
 252 247 2003 store
 252 725 0930 cell
 miketoler.com
 miketoler@miketoler.com

Or my daughter Alaina (Business Manager)

252-247-2003 - Work
 252-725-3328 - Cell
 alaina@miketoler.com



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Schedule of Events

March 3, 2014	Public Hearing: Bridge #79 Engelhard
March 9, 2014	Saltwater Connections Meeting
March 15, 2014	Davis Youth Center Yard Sale
March 18, 2014	Ocracoke Community Center Board Meeting
March 1-31	Estuarium Calendar
March 31, 2014	Deadline For Outer Banks Community Foundation Grant
April 26, 2014	Third Annual Miller Lite Ocracoke Island 5K/10K Race

ALBEMARLE FOOD BANK - HYDE COUNTY

The Albemarle Food Bank makes their Hyde County distribution on the last Wednesday of each month at two locations. The Swan Quarter location opens at 9:30 am at the O. A. Peay School parking lot. The Engelhard location opens at 11 am at the Engelhard Community Center next to the VFD. Members of the Hyde County Parish of the United Methodist Churches help in distribution.

Food Bank
of the
Albemarle

FEEDING
AMERICA
A member of

Phone: 252-335-4035

Email: afoodbank@afoodbank.org

Website: www.afoodbank.org

Davis Youth Center To Hold Huge Yard Sale

Date:

03-15-2014

Time:

6am-NOON

Location:

Davis Youth Center

Davis Youth Center

33478 US 264

Engelhard, NC 27824

This is the biggest yard sale ever held in Engelhard. You don't want to miss it!



Saltwater Connections to meet on Ocracoke

March 9, 2014



Saltwater Connections will meet on Sunday, March 9, 2014, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm, on Ocracoke to continue work on the Outer Banks Heritage Trails project.

The meeting will focus on the second phase of the project – the Outer Banks Heritage Trails website that identifies businesses offering cultural and nature-based experiences and products in addition to the public places and events on the Outer Banks National Scenic Byway identified in the project brochure.

The project consists of four trails centering on community heritage, maritime heritage, outdoor recreation, and local seafood.

Estuarium March Calendar-2014

Art Exhibit- NC Estuarium, Washington, NC- "Eastern North Carolina Wildlife- A Study of our Local Animals and Birds" by Beaufort County artist Carol Mann. All these creatures are indigenous to our area, although some are seen more frequently than others. A river otter, fox, squirrel, raccoon and woodpecker are some of the local inhabitants that the artist chose to capture with her watercolor paints. There is no museum admission fee to view the art work.

March 8--Nature Photography Seminar with Sol Levine- NC Estuarium, Washington, NC- 10:00-4:00- \$50.00 program

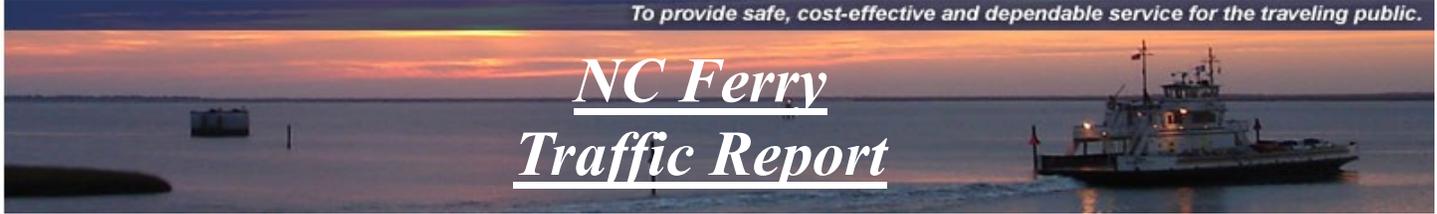
fee. This seminar is taught by Sol Levine, a professional nature photographer. The program is open to beginners as well as advanced photographers. Topics range from choosing a digital camera to getting the best close-up shots of wildlife. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Bring a bag lunch. Call 252-948-0000 for more information, or check www.naturesimagesbyso.com

The Crab Pot Gift Shop showcases many North Carolina products and books. It also carries unique gifts and cards with a natural flair.

The NC Estuarium is located at 223 E. Water Street, Washington, NC, and is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00-4:00. Admission is \$5.00 adults and \$2.00 students. Please call ahead for program information as space may be limited. The Estuarium is a Partnership for the Sounds facility, an organization promoting eco-tourism and sustainable economic development in the Albemarle-Pamlico region. Educational programming at the North Carolina Estuarium is supported by The Karns Fund.

www.pfsestuarium.net For more information, contact estuarium@embarqmail.com or 252-948-0000.

To provide safe, cost-effective and dependable service for the traveling public.



NC Ferry Traffic Report

2013-2014

CEDAR ISL-OCRACOKE

	TOTAL N.C.	TOTAL OUT-OF-STATE	TOTAL VEHICLES	TOTAL SPACES	PASSENGERS CARRIED
JULY	1,429	2,371	3,800	4204	10,394
AUGUST	1,572	1,894	3,466	3828	9,012
SEPTEMBER	1,226	2,034	3,260	3591	7,169
OCTOBER	996	1,653	2,649	3012	5,094
NOVEMBER	380	630	1,010	1124	2,058
DECEMBER	324	537	861	914	1,531
JANUARY	189	314	503	544	892
FEBRUARY			0		
MARCH			0		
APRIL			0		
MAY			0		
JUNE			0		
TOTAL	6,116	9,433	15,549	17,217	36,150
Y-T-D PREVIOUS YEAR	7,742	9,221	16,963	18,778	39,364
PERCENT CHANGE	-21.00%	2.30%	-8.34%	-8.31%	-8.16%

2013-2014

23098 5 67421.33845

HATTERAS INLET

CURRITUCK

	TOTAL N.C.	TOTAL OUT-OF-STATE	TOTAL VEHICLES	TOTAL SPACES	PASSENGERS CARRIED	
JULY	15,680	33,795	49,475	51,575	147,981	JULY
AUGUST	13,724	32,283	46,007	48,261	134,291	AUGUST
SEPTEMBER	11,825	25,557	37,382	39,170	90,948	SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER	9,054	14,337	23,391	25,090	54,192	OCTOBER
NOVEMBER	6,107	5,796	11,903	13,142	23,693	NOVEMBER
DECEMBER	3,824	1,959	5,783	6,378	11,155	DECEMBER
JANUARY	3,890	1,550	5,440	6,111	9,777	JANUARY
FEBRUARY			0			FEBRUARY
MARCH			0			MARCH
APRIL			0			APRIL
MAY			0			MAY
JUNE			0			JUNE
TOTAL	64,104	115,277	179,381	189,727	472,037	TOTAL
Y-T-D PREVIOUS YEAR	61,551	101,209	162,760	171,861	446,141	Y-T-D PREVIOUS YEAR
PERCENT CHANGE	4.15%	13.90%	10.21%	10.40%	5.80%	PERCENT CHANGE

To provide safe, cost-effective and dependable service for the traveling public.

NC Ferry

Traffic Report

2013-2014

SWAN QUARTER-OCRA

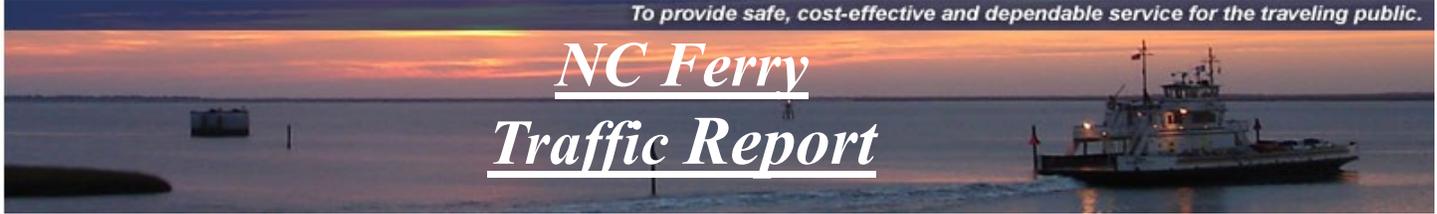
	TOTAL N.C.	TOTAL OUT-OF-STATE	TOTAL VEHICLES	TOTAL SPACES	PASSENGERS CARRIED
JULY	1,126	1,126	2,252	2,597	5,976
AUGUST	1,089	973	2,062	2,399	5,227
SEPTEMBER	841	660	1,501	1,689	3,281
OCTOBER	542	318	860	994	1,175
NOVEMBER	402	200	602	660	1,144
DECEMBER	703	183	886	977	1,797
JANUARY	338	89	427	481	837
FEBRUARY			0		
MARCH			0		
APRIL			0		
MAY			0		
JUNE			0		
TOTAL	5,041	3,549	8,590	9,797	19,437
Y-T-D PREVIOUS YEAR	6,022	4,382	10,404	11,794	23,091
PERCENT CHANGE	-16.29%	-19.01%	-17.44%	-16.93%	-15.82%

2013-2014

OCRACOKE-SWAN QUART

	TOTAL N.C.	TOTAL OUT-OF-STATE	TOTAL VEHICLES	TOTAL SPACES	PASSENGERS CARRIED
JULY	1090	896	1986	2146	5365
AUGUST	1126	885	2011	2337	5079
SEPTEMBER	1132	794	1926	2162	4178
OCTOBER	619	369	988	1140	2002
NOVEMBER	468	207	675	767	1338
DECEMBER	821	115	936	1,054	1,950
JANUARY	395	109	504	576	996
FEBRUARY			0		
MARCH			0		
APRIL			0		
MAY			0		
JUNE			0		
TOTAL	5,651	3,375	9,026	10,182	20,908
Y-T-D PREVIOUS YEAR	6,593	3,963	10,556	11,557	22,619
PERCENT CHANGE	-14.29%	-14.84%	-14.49%	-11.90%	-7.56%

To provide safe, cost-effective and dependable service for the traveling public.



NC Ferry Traffic Report

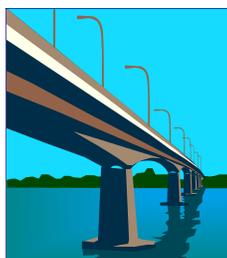
2013-2014

SUMMARY REPORT

	TOTAL	TOTAL	GRAND TO- TAL	GRAND TO- TAL	GRAND TO- TAL	PERCENT VEHICLES	PERCENT VEHICLES	
	N.C. ALL SITES	OUT-OF-STATE ALL SITES	VEHICLES ALL SITES	SPACES ALL SITES	PASSENGERS ALL SITES	FROM N.C. ALL SITES	OUT-OF-STATE ALL SITES	
JULY	66,616	52,357	118,973	124,358	326,945	55.99%	44.01%	100.00%
AUGUST	61,117	48,711	109,828	115,417	287,698	55.65%	44.35%	100.00%
SEPTEMBER	54,069	39,520	93,589	98,417	210,989	57.77%	42.23%	100.00%
OCTOBER	44,579	24,722	69,301	74,100	142,465	64.33%	35.67%	100.00%
NOVEMBER	35,229	12,424	47,653	50,971	92,276	73.93%	26.07%	100.00%
DECEMBER	29,648	6,877	36,525	38,631	67,221	81.17%	18.83%	100.00%
JANUARY	26,259	5,503	31,762	33,595	54,932			
FEBRUARY	-	-	-	-	-			
MARCH	-	-	-	-	-			
APRIL	-	-	-	-	-			
MAY	-	-	-	-	-			
JUNE	-	-	-	-	-			
TOTAL	317,517	190,114	507,631	535,489	1,182,526			
Y-T-D PREVIOUS YEAR	320,876	177,417	498,293	525,299	1,162,400			
PERCENT CHANGE	-1.05%	7.16%	1.87%	1.94%	1.73%			

***Ferry System affected by Scour at Bonner Bridge. EM Route efforts underway 12/3/13 - In Progress**

Public Hearing: Bridge #79 Engelhard



Division Maintenance engineer Sterling Baker and Division Program Manager John Abel will meet with the Hyde County Board of Commissioners in the Hyde County Government Center @30 Oyster Creek Road in Swan Quarter @ 5:00pm thru 6:00pm, Monday March

3, 2014 for the purpose of discussing the removal of Bridge #79 (Roper Lane) in Engelhard and replacing it with a Pedestrian Bridge only. A copy of the Proposed Alternates is posted in the Hyde Government Center. All interested persons are invited to attend the meeting.

**Ocracoke Island Realty and Village Realty Announce
New Scholarship Fund For Outer Banks Students**



Ocracoke Island Realty and Village Realty with offices in Nags Head, Corolla and Columbia have entered into an agreement with The Outer Banks Community Foundation, Inc. to award annual scholarships to graduating seniors from northeastern North Carolina planning on pursuing higher education and having shown good academic performance.

While The Outer Banks Community Foundation will administer the endowment fund, a committee comprised of employees from Ocracoke Island Realty and Village Realty will choose the annual recipients of this scholarship. Graduate and/or graduating seniors, including home-schooled and those having earned GEDs, from Dare, Currituck, Hyde, Tyrrell, Washington, Camden or Pasquotank Counties will be eligible to receive the scholarship.

The Foundation is a non-profit corporation which serves as a community foundation for the benefit of citizens of the Outer Banks. This endowment, and others managed by the Foundation, are a resource for future generations to meet the chal-

lenges of their times.

Details on the scholarship are available [online](#). The application must be completed online and will be on the Foundation website on **Monday, March 3 and will close March 31**. Please visit the Outer Banks Community Foundation [website](#). Applicants with questions are requested to contact Outer Banks Community Foundation.

Ocracoke Island Realty is the largest real estate and vacation rental company on Ocracoke Island. Ocracoke offers a charming village, 16 miles of unspoiled beaches, a unique slower pace and was named #1 Beach in the United States by "Dr. Beach" in 2007. Call Ocracoke

Island Realty at 877-646-2822.

Locally owned and managed, Village Realty is a full service real estate company with offices in Nags Head, Corolla and Columbia, NC, and recently celebrated their 20th anniversary on the Outer Banks. With a reputation for "Exceptional Homes, Extraordinary Customer Service," Village Realty manages over 600 vacation rental homes from Corolla to South Nags Head.

***Thanks to Ocracoke
Island Realty for the
submission of this article.***

Residents and Officials Speak Against Ferry Tolls At Ocracoke and Hatteras

Ocracoke and mainland Hyde residents who attended a hearing last night on the N.C. Department of Transportation's plan to toll the Hatteras-Ocracoke ferry were overwhelmingly against putting a toll on their only free access to their homes.

"A toll on the Ocracoke-Hatteras ferry would devastate our local economy," said Chip Stevens, owner of Blackbeard's Lodge, who made a PowerPoint presentation on the unique qualities of Ocracoke. "How is the ferry system different from any highway system? How fair is it to make Ocracoke the only town in North Carolina that has to pay to go home?"

Stevens was among several islanders and officials who spoke to the crowd of more than 150 in the Ocracoke School gym following the NCDOT's formal presentation of how they would toll the Hatteras ferry and raise tolls on the Cedar Island and Swan Quarter ferries in order to comply with a state law enacted last June.

Last Wednesday night, Feb. 19, a smaller crowd attended the hearing at the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras village. All of the dozen or so speakers opposed the ferry tolls.

The hearings are about the General Assembly's insistence on raising \$5 million per year from the seven ferries in the eastern part of the state in order to pay for replacement boats in the 22-boat fleet.

According to the legislation, the decision to enact tolls to raise more revenue is now in the hands of local folks who are part of the Rural Transportation Organization (RPO) of the Albemarle Commission. This RPO includes 10 counties in eastern North Carolina.

A complicated funding procedure devised last year by Gov. Pat McCrory and called the Strategic Transportation Investments Plan divided the state into 10 regions all of which were given \$32 million with which to fund bridges, trains, airports, roads, bike and pedestrian projects, and ferry replacement. Prior to this initiative, ferry replacements were done by an appropriation from the legislature.

If the local RPO takes no action on the DOT's request for tolls, it will go back to the legislature, said RPO chairman Lloyd Griffin in an interview today.

But last night, island and mainland residents made passionate appeals against this third attempt in as many years to toll the Hatteras ferry.

"This is insanity," said Tom Pahl. "The legislators who are responsible for this are not here at this hearing. They created this law and they can undo it. There are other options."

Hyde County manager Bill Rich noted that one of those options is the gasoline tax, which should pay for the ferries as it does for highways, of which the Ocracoke ferries are a part.

"The DOT has a \$4.3 billion budget which means they spend \$11.8 million a day," he said. Of the \$5 million estimated revenue from tolling, about \$2.8 million of that would come from a proposed toll on the Hatteras ferry.

"Why should they ask us for \$2.8 million when they're spending \$11 million a day?" Rich continued. "This is unbelievable."

Ocracoke resident Jim Borland echoed several speakers when he asked the RPO not to bring this up for a vote.

"This is a bad law and a bad idea that will hurt our economy," Borland said. He proposed another option to islanders.

"If (the RPO doesn't) vote in our best interest we could band together and file a class action lawsuit against this," he said.

Janet Sears Russ of mainland Hyde said that Hyde County has one of the highest poverty levels in the United States and that North Carolina has one of the highest gasoline taxes as well. "They decided to divide the state (into these transportation divisions) and pit one group against another."

"It is a shame that this group of legislators thinks it's better to punish Eastern North Carolina," she said. Earl Pugh, Jr., vice-chairman of the Hyde County commissioners, noted the recent assault on this area's economy in recent years from hurricanes destroying roads and shoaling the Hatteras Inlet, the NPS instituting beach-driving fees, and looming increases in homeowners' insurance.

"And now tolls on the lifeline of Ocracoke," he said. "New bridges aren't tolled."

Islander Arleen Burley pointed out the finances on a DOT 2013-2014 "Sources and Uses" chart she found online.

"Thirty-four million dollars was taken from the DOT revenue and is being returned to the general fund and the treasury," she said. "If these funds were returned to the DOT, we wouldn't need any tolls on any ferries." Tommy Hutcherson, owner of the Ocracoke Variety Store, said a toll on the Hatteras ferry would cause all of his vendors to raise their prices, which would force him to raise prices on his groceries. "Let's keep Ocracoke a destination not an aggravation," he said.

H. M. "Butch" Petrey, a Currituck County commissioner, who is on the RPO and who attended the meeting said Currituck is on Ocracoke's side, as are Camden and Dare counties.

"I will vote 'hell no' on ferry tolls," he said. "This is not a DOT issue. This is a Raleigh issue."

State Rep. Paul Tine of Kitty Hawk, who represents Hyde and Dare counties, asked that the RPO take no action on the DOT's request and send it back to Raleigh.

"There's no doubt we (legislators) created this problem, and we'd like to work on it in the short session that begins in May," he said. "I can't guarantee anything,

but there are some in the legislature that would like all ferries to be free."

Additionally, he said it's important for people to make their voices heard by contacting the legislators in Raleigh. "We need people to weigh in," he said. "Their voice really does matter."

S. Henri McClees, one of the lobbyist team hired by several coastal counties, said that on Friday, the Down East RPO was the first one to take no action on the DOT's request for tolls.

"These tolling numbers cannot work," she said as she ripped in two the DOT hand-out.

After the meeting, Richard Walls, deputy secretary for transit, who devised the tolling methodology and attended the meeting, said the meeting was comparable to the ones on Knotts Island and Pamlico in attendance and intensity. He also said the DOT is working on a request-for-proposals for advertising on the ferry system that should be out soon.

At the Hatteras hearing, residents of Hatteras and Ocracoke, along with officials from several counties spoke against the tolling plan. They included three Dare County commissioners – Warren Judge, Allen Burrus, and Wally Overman -- a Currituck County commissioner and a Hyde County commissioner. "Slot machines are the only fair way to do it," was the comment of Hyde commissioner John Fletcher, who represents Ocracoke. Earlier this month at a commission meeting, he proposed adding slot machines on the sound ferries to raise revenue.

After the Ocracoke meeting, although he did not speak, islander Bill Jones commented on the spirit of the island residents.

"I'm so happy with the people on this island," he said. "I'm so glad to live here."

To look at the DOT's methodology, click on this PDF link of the Board of Transportation December meeting minutes. The methodology is Exhibit A at the end. http://www.ncdot.gov/board/bot/current/201312_Minutes.pdf

Angela Welsh, a staffer with the Albemarle Commission, though she did not speak Monday night, provided the commission's website <http://www.albemarlecommission.org/planning> for people to get more information about this complicated process. It includes a page on ferries.

2014 ART EXPRESSIONS FOR HOME SCHOOLED KIDS AND TEENS

Friends of Hyde County's
Historic Courthouse
PO Box 54, Swan Quarter,
NC 27885
www.hyde1854courthouse.org
Art Program Announcement

program will be offered every
second*
Thursday and Friday of each
month starting January 9 and
10
from 12:45 PM to 3:00 PM
each day

jhmclawhorn@aol.com

Pay Pal may be used only after
making your reservation
Please pass this information
along to your FB friends and
to others who do not have
email

2014 ART EXPRESSIONS
FOR HOME SCHOOLED
KIDS AND TEENS
with Joan Sears
www.facebook.com/
JoanSearsHydeCountyArtist

\$25.00 per student for both
days
\$15.00 per student for one day
only
All materials and supplies are
included

* exceptions may apply and
will be announced well in
advance.

mATTIE ARTS CENTER is
pleased to extend this exclu-
sive
invitation to parents of home
schooled children ages 6 and
up.

Parents are welcome to attend
for the same fee
Reservations requested;
payment upon arrival

RESERVE A SEAT BY
CALLING JUDY MCLAW-
HORN AT
252-943-8991



This new multi-media art

Ocracoke Community Center Board Meeting

Mar 18, 2014

*The Ocracoke
Community Center
Board will hold its
regular monthly
meeting at 5 PM in the
Community Center.
The public is invited to
attend.*



**Third Annual Miller Lite Ocracoke Island 5K/10K
Race and 1 Mile Family Fun Run Sponsorship**

Shown are Kari Styron, Rental Manager at Ocracoke Island Realty and Greg Honeycutt, Chairman of the Race Committee on a rare snowy day on Ocracoke February 11, 2014! Ocracoke Island Realty is in its 3rd year as a Platinum Sponsor of the Miller Lite Ocracoke Island 5K/10K Race and 1 Mile Family Fun Run.

The Third Annual Miller Light Ocracoke Island 10K/5K and 1 Mile Family Fun Run will be held on Saturday April 26th starting at 8:00am. Last year over \$25,000 was raised to benefit Ocracoke Community Park, Ocracoke School Athletic Boosters Club, and WOVV 90.1, Ocracoke Community radio. 100% of sponsor proceeds go to our 3 non-profits. In addition, over 300 runners and their families came to Ocracoke in 2013 with more expected this year. This event is a huge benefit for Ocracoke businesses at the beginning of our season.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor contact Greg Honeycutt at Greg@OceanAtlanticRentals.com for more information or to register go to www.OcracokeIsland5KRun.org.





**Distinctive Planning for Weddings
and Events on Ocracoke Island, The Outer
Banks And Throughout North Carolina**



Beach Ball Events offers full & partial packages placing you with the finest vendors on the Outer Banks. Please contact us:

www.beachballevents.com
sales@beachballevents.com
252.202.4429

Working in partnership with Deborah Sawyer Photography & Saints of Soul Band

www.beachportraits.com
252.207.4800
www.saintsofsoul.com
252.916.5328



**Williford Auto
Supply, LLC**

34200 HWY264 ENGELHARD, NC

**Hours : 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Monday - Friday
7:30 am — 4 pm Saturdays**

**Delivery available in all of
Hyde County
& surrounding counties!
Call for details
252-925-3631**

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We sell & Install
many brands of Tires**

