

# THE CURRENT

Weekly News & Events for  
the Town of Oak Island, NC

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Week of

April 8, 2024

***That was the warmup round!***" It's the second week of April, and for many, Spring Break is now over. That means a quick "lull" in weekly population swell, until the crowds of Memorial Day weekend arrive and the Summer Season gets thrown into full swing. However, regardless of how many people happen to be sitting on our shores at any given moment, there's always plenty to discuss. So say "hi" to your new neighbors, and invite them in for a dip, as we dive into this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

## MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **ABC Board**
- **Town Council**
- **Budget Workshop**

## NEWS & NOTICES

- **Nuclear Siren Test**
- **Budget Workshops Continue**
- **Paid Parking Reminders**
- **Courts Cleared to Reopen**

## SAFETY BRIEF

- **POLICE: Letter To LSV Rental Companies**
- **FIRE: Red Flag Response Rate**

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Karaoke Opening Night**
- **Spring Fling**
- **Badges, Boats, & Boots**
- **Earth Week Events**



## COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

**ABC BOARD** will hold its next meeting (non-televised) on **Tuesday, April 9, 2024** at **10:00 AM** in the Oak Island ABC Store at 5402 E Oak Island Drive.

**TOWN COUNCIL** will hold its next regular meeting (*televised*) on **Tuesday, April 9** at **6:00 PM** in the Town Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Drive.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP** The Town Council will hold its next Budget Workshop (*televised*) on **Thursday, April 11**, starting at **9:00 AM** in the Town Council Chambers.

Upcoming meetings for next week include:

- **Budget Workshop** (Thursday, April 16)

All Council & Board meeting dates can be found on the Meetings Information page at [OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS).

## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

There are **NO** Holiday Closures for the week ahead. The next holiday closure will be on **Monday, May 27, 2024** in observance of **Memorial Day**.

To view all holiday closures, visit: [OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY](http://OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY).



## Nuclear Siren Test

This **Wednesday, April 10, 2024** between **10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**, Duke Energy and county officials will conduct a **full volume, 3-minute test** of the sirens around the Brunswick Nuclear Plant.

**No public action required.** The 38 sirens within 10 miles of the Brunswick Nuclear Plant will sound for 5 to 30 seconds. To ensure they are functioning properly, it may be necessary to test some sirens more than once. Testing is performed in cooperation with emergency officials in Brunswick and New Hanover counties, who are responsible for sounding the sirens.

To view the full notice and learn more about Duke Energy and their service in this area, visit the ***OKInformation*** page at [OakIslandNC.gov/NEWS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/NEWS) or click the link below.

**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**

## Budget Workshops Continue

This past week, the Town Council kicked off their annual **Budget Workshops** with special meetings on **Tuesday, April 2** and **Thursday, April 4**. Usually held in May, these special meetings offer an informal, "workshop style" setting, where the Council meets with the Town Manager, Finance Director, and department heads to help provide direction in forming the Town Budget for the coming fiscal year. This further builds upon the "ground level" work the Council sets during their "Annual Retreat" in January.

Last Tuesday's meeting provided a general overview of the work ahead, and addressed budgeting within Administration and Recreation departments. Thursday looked at funding for Emergency Services, with the Fire and Police departments. The upcoming meeting this week will look at Development Services and Public Works.

To watch the upcoming meetings live, or view any past meeting, just visit the ***Meetings Information*** page at [OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS) or click the link below.

**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**

## Paid Parking Reminders

Last week the **Paid Parking** program began for the 2024 season, which is enforced from **April 1 - September 30**, between the hours of **9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**.

As a reminder, both temporary Parking Permits and Resident Permits are **NOT** being sold in-person at the Town Hall for 2024. While the Customer Service Desk staff can assist with providing your Utility Account Number (used to obtain a Resident Permit), they cannot assist with Permit purchases, ticket information, or citation disputes.

Citation payments or disputes can be handled by directly contacting the parking services vendor, **Otto Connect** at [surfcast@ottoconnect.us](mailto:surfcast@ottoconnect.us) or by phone at **910-200-1497**.

Permit purchase information, as well as all other details related to the program, is available on the ***Parking Information*** page of the Town Website. This is the **ONLY official source** of program information from the Town, and is updated regularly with any developments as needed.

To view the ***Parking Information*** page, simply visit [OakIslandNC.gov/PARKING](http://OakIslandNC.gov/PARKING) or click the link below.

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## Courts Cleared to Reopen

This past Friday, April 5, the Public Works Department gave an update to the resurfacing work being performed on the Pickleball & Tennis courts located in the Middleton Park Complex (behind Town Hall).

As **pictured in this editions cover photo**, a majority of all work has been completed, and the north pickleball court (closest to the Town Hall) was officially **REOPENED on Friday, April 5**.

Only minor work is needed to finish the remaining courts, which should be reopennned soon. Work is being performed by **Carolina Sport Court**, which includes full resurfacing of all courts and the conversion of one tennis area into 6 pickleball courts.

Once completed, the closure will be been removed from the **Projects & Facility Closures** page, where you can view all current ongoing projects that require closures at [OakIslandNC.gov/PROJECTS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/PROJECTS) or by clicking the link below.

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## POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief's Letter To LSV Rental Companies

While Memorial Day weekend in May is traditionally viewed as the start of the summer tourist season, for all practical purposes in Oak Island, the Easter holiday weekend is the true kickoff. With the influx of our weekly guests, comes a rise in one of the most popular ways to get around town; rented **Low Speed Vehicles** (LSVs).

In April of 2023 we redesigned and reissued our popular **Low Speed Vehicle Info-cards**, which provide a handy "quick reference" on the rules expectations for LSV use within the community. Also for the first time ever, Chief Morris sent out to a letter to all known LSV rental companies, which included copies of the info-cards and a strong urging to provide them to ALL of their customers.

**Once again for 2024**, the Chief will be sending out an **LSV Rental Business Letter** updated for 2024, along with the info-cards. By working together with business owners and operators to provide this information to their customers, we can help to ensure a safe and enjoyable summer for everyone.

If you would like to read the letter, download an info-card of your own, or just learn more about the "rules of the road" for LSVs, simply visit the dedicated page at [\*\*OakIslandNC.gov/LSV\*\*](http://OakIslandNC.gov/LSV) or click the OKI-PD patch below.



## **FIRE DEPARTMENT: Red Flag Response Rate**

This past **Monday, April 1** marked the start of the **Beach Warning Flag** forecasts from the **National Weather Service (NWS)**; and unfortunately it didn't take long to see just how vital this resource can be. During that first week of forecasting, we experienced **three straight days** of **RED FLAG** conditions.

Through the Town's email and emergency text alert system, **OKInformation** over **22,200 email and text alerts** were sent to our subscribers in those 3 days alone, all with an over **99% delivery success** rate!

Such a high delivery success rate is an amazing accomplishment, and is a testament to how connected and engaged our subscribers are. However, we know that eventually, the call to rescue someone in distress will come ... *and we will be ready!*

Speaking of, if you think you might be ready to **ANSWER THE CALL** yourself, then consider joining our **Ocean Rescue Unit**, as we are now hiring part-time positions. To learn more about this unit, you can visit the webpage at [\*\*OakIslandNC.gov/ORU\*\*](http://OakIslandNC.gov/ORU) or click the OKI-FD patch below.





# COMING EVENTS

## Karaoke Opening Night (Teen Center)

- **WHEN:** Friday, April 12, 2024 • 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- **WHERE:** Oak Island Community Center • 102 SE 47th Street (beside Town Hall)
- **WHO:** Teens

Come have some fun with friends, or make some new ones! This is a chance to see if a Teen Center would be a fun and useful facility for the Town to employ this summer. So have some fun and be a part of something new, building a program for teens in the Town! For more information call the **Recreation Center** at **910-278-5518** or visit the **Events & Programs** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS** or click the link below.

**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**

## Spring Fling

- **WHEN:** Saturday, April 13, 2024 • NOON - 4:00 PM
- **WHERE:** Middleton Park Complex, 4610 E Dolphin Drive

Due to inclement weather, the **2024 Spring Fling** event originally planned for this past weekend has been **RESCHEDULED** to **Saturday, April 13, 2024** from **NOON - 4:00 PM**.

There will not be a concert at the rescheduled event, due to scheduling conflicts with the band; *however*, staff are working to coordinate a separate concert date, which will take place before the Summer Concerts Series begins. The rescheduled Spring Fling on April 13 will still feature multiple Food Vendors, Craft Artisans, and a kids area with inflatables.

For more information visit **OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS** or click the link below.

**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**

## Badges, Boats, & Boots

- **WHEN:** Saturday, April 20, 2024 • 2:00 PM
- **WHERE:** Middleton Park complex (Softball Field) • 4610 E Dolphin Drive

The bats are out and '**B3**' is BACK! Come join the Oak Island Fire & Police Departments for their SECOND Annual exhibition against the US Coast Guard Station Oak Island in a **First Responder Community Softball Game**.

The inaugural event in October 2023 was a huge home run, so the "teams" have partnered up again for a more seasonal spring game this coming April. Plan now to attend and show support for your favorite first responders! For more information visit the dedicated page at [OakIslandNC.gov/BBB](http://OakIslandNC.gov/BBB) or click the link below.

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## Earth Week Series

- **WHEN:** Monday - Friday, April 22 - 26, 2024
- **WHERE:** Various Locations

Reel in the celebrations at Oak Island's Earth Week Series as coastal residents and guests enjoy a fantastic line up of free community opportunities! Learning sessions about turtles, owls, gardening and nature ... there's even a fishing derby and Arbor Day celebration! There's a lot to do throughout the entire week, so be sure to check the flyers and plan ahead.

For more information visit [OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS) or call **910-278-5518**.

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**REMINDER:** A full listing of all coming events can be found on the **Events & Programs** page of the Town Website at [OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS).

**Click on the event flyers below to download, print, and share!**



Karaoke Opening Night



"B3" Softball Game



**Earth Week Front Page**

**Earth Week Back Page**

# THANK YOU

**Thank you** for reading this edition of ***THE CURRENT***, and choosing to stay informed on the News & Events happening in Oak Island, NC.

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## PAST EDITION ARCHIVE

**DID YOU KNOW?** *The CURRENT*, hasn't always been a weekly publication. Originally produced as an award-winning digital monthly newsletter, *The CURRENT* published 35 editions, spanning a period of three years from December 2020 to 2023. As a monthly publication, *The CURRENT* provided longer form, "magazine style" reading, along with added commentary, and content contributed from community partners.

Past editions of both the weekly and monthly formats are available to view anytime, by clicking the tabs below.

**MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2023)**

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**MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2022)**

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**MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2021)**

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**MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2020)**

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