

THE CURRENT

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

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Week of
May 13, 2024

WELCOME to *THE CURRENT*, the weekly digital newsletter for the Town of Oak Island, NC.

It's officially the ***Middle of May***, and with each passing day more and more aspects to summer life in Oak Island are starting to reemerge as the temperatures and activities heat up! As pictured in this week's cover photo, the Beach Services Unit is gearing up to begin patrols on the hot sand, while elsewhere in Town crews are laying down some hot, fresh pavement!

Add to that a busy Town Council meeting agenda, and it's easy to see there is a lot to cover in the week ahead. So let's cool down from all the heat, with a nice refreshing dip in this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **ABC Board**
- **Town Council Meeting**
- **Planning Board**

NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Council Meeting Preview**
- **ELECTIONS NOTICE: Recreation Center Classes Cancelled**
- **REMINDER: Summer Collection Schedule Underway**
- **Computer Recycling Event**

SAFETY BRIEF

- **FIRE: Smoke Detector Donation**
- **POLICE: Beach Services Unit Season Begins**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Class Cancellation: Mature Aerobics**
- **Crabbing to Cuisine**
- **Summer Concert Series**
- **Farmers' & Artisans' Market**
- **Story Time By the Sea**



MEETINGS & CLOSURES

COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

ABC BOARD will hold its next meeting (non-televised) on **Tuesday, May 14** at **10:00 AM** in the Oak Island ABC Store at 5402 E Oak Island Drive.

TOWN COUNCIL will hold its regular meeting (televised) on **Tuesday, May 14** at **6:00 PM** in the Council Chambers, located on the 2nd floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Drive.

PLANNING BOARD will hold its next meeting (televised) on **Thursday, May 16** at **9:00 AM** in the Council Chambers located on the 2nd floor of Town Hall.

All Council & Board meeting dates can be found on the Meetings Information page at OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

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

To view all holiday closures, visit: OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY.



Town Council Meeting Preview

The Town Council will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday, May 14**, at **6:00 PM** in the Town Council Chambers.

The Meeting Agenda includes THREE (3) **Public Hearings** to receive citizens' comments on the following:

- **HEARING 1:** Sign Regulations, to permit two 300 square foot electronic signs at a height of 35 feet in the Airport Zoning district or within 600 feet of the district.
- **HEARING 2:** Sign Regulations, to reduce the maximum height of Column/Pole signs to 15 feet, reduce the area of Column/Pole signs in the C-LD zoning district to 150 square feet, and create a Highway Overlay District to regulate off-premises signage.

- **HEARING 3:** Zoning Map Amendment, to apply the Highway Overlay District in a 400' wide corridor along NC 211 and Middleton Ave in the Town's zoning jurisdiction.

The meeting will also contain THREE (3) **Presentations** on:

- **Proposed FY 2024-2025 Budget**, presented by Town Staff.
- The **Recycling Program**, presented by contracted service provider Green For Life, with Sonoco available to answer questions.
- the **Ocean Rescue Unit**, presented by the Oak Island Fire Department

Public Comments, Council Reports, and Staff Reports will come next followed by the Consent Agenda and TWO (2) **Old Business** items, which include:

- Discussion of Recommendations from the Planning Board's review of the Table of Uses, Supplemental Regulations, and Definitions.
- Consideration of Reissuing a Request for Proposals to be Issued for Professional Engineering Services / Parking Assessment.

There are FOUR (4) **New Business** items, which include:

- Consideration of Action to Direct the Planning Board to Review Section 2.15, Height Limit Exceptions.
- Consideration of Annual Agreement with Oak Island Water Rescue.
- Consideration of Lease for Oak Island Water Rescue Property.
- Consideration of Budget Ordinance Amendment to appropriate the remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funds.

A **Closed Session** is also scheduled for the meeting. A more in-depth preview of the Town Council meeting has been provided by the Town Clerk, and is available on the **OKInformation** page of the Town Website. To view this preview, simply visit OakIslandNC.gov/NEWS or click the link below.

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ELECTION NOTICE: Recreation Center Classes Cancelled

Please note, all classes at the **Oak Island Recreation Center** will be **CANCELLED** on **Tuesday, May 14, 2024**. This cancellation is to accommodate the recreation Center's use as a voting location in the **May 14 Second Primary**.

There has been a request for a second primary in two statewide contests: Republican Lieutenant Governor and Republican State Auditor. If no candidate in a primary receives more than 30% of the vote, the candidate who receives the second-highest vote total may demand a second primary. The top two vote-getters would be on the ballot for the second primary.

The Election Day for this Second Primary has been set for Tuesday, May 14, with polls open from **6:30 AM - 7:30 PM**.

For more information on the Second Primary or voting in general, visit the Brunswick County Board of Elections page at BrunswickCountyNC.gov/ELECTIONS or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

REMINDER: Summer Collection Schedule Underway

This past Saturday, May 11 the **Garbage & Recycling Collection Summer Schedule** began for **Collection Zones 6, 7, & 8**. this change means that Garbage Collection service is now being provided every Wednesday & Saturday, with Recycling Collection provided every Saturday. Collection will switch back to the normal schedule on September 28

As a reminder, ZONE 6 is the area of East Beach Dr., East Dolphin Dr., & East Pelican Dr. (from Middleton Ave. - 58th St.), ZONE 7 is the area of East Beach Dr. (from SE 69th St. - 79th St.), & Ocean Dr., and ZONE 8 is the area of West Beach Dr., West Dolphin Dr., West Pelican Drive, & Kings Lynn Dr.

Oak Island has *eight* (8) **Garbage & Recycling Collection Zones** throughout Town. While most of the year these areas are provided collection service on one day per week, during the Summer the more heavily visited trafficked areas of Zones 6, 7, & 8 switch to a two times per week collection. To view information about Collection Zones, Schedules and other services provided, visit the **Garbage & Recycling Collection** page at OakIslandNC.gov/COLLECTION or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

Computer Recycling Event

On **Saturday, June 1, 2024**, from **10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**, the Town of Oak Island will host a **Computer Recycling Event** to benefit the **Brunswick County Computers 4 Kids** (BCC4K) program. Equipment can be dropped off in the parking lot behind the Oak Island Police Department at 4621 E Oak Island Drive.

BCC4K is a non-profit organization which refurbishes used computers, for use by Brunswick County School students in need of a home computer. Since its inception in 2006, BCC4K has refurbished and donated over **4,400 systems**. Forms for tax deduction will be available.

Systems **DO NOT** need to be working in order to donate, and ALL data will be wiped from hard drives to ensure protection of personal information. **Apple** products will need to be **reset to original settings** and **removed from Apple accounts**.

For more information and a full list of **ACCEPTED** and **NON-ACCEPTED** items, read the full public notice on the **OKInformation** page at OakIslandNC.gov/NEWS or click the link below.

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SAFETY BRIEF



FIRE DEPARTMENT: Smoke Detector Donations

Back in March of this year, we posted a [Facebook video](#) about a special smoke alarm installation we performed for a Deaf / Hard of Hearing resident.

In the weeks and months since, that video and the call which inspired it created a huge amount of public interest. This led community partners [Stop Loss LLC](#). and [Better Beach Rentals](#) to come back with an even *LARGER* donation, not only of specially assistive smoke alarms, but also Carbon Monoxide and regular smoke detectors as well.

This past **Friday, May 10**, we were honored to receive these donations at Station 2, where they were delivered and presented to Chief Price and our Administrative Staff.

Over the past couple of weeks especially, it is has been truly encouraging to see the amount of care members of our community have for one another; not only after tragedies strike, but as in this case, with helping to prevent them as well.

We can assure everyone these donations today will go a long way in helping our community in the future. To learn more about these or other alarm options that may benefit your specific needs, call us at 910-278-1000

To view the video from this most recent donation, simply visit our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/OakIslandFire](https://www.facebook.com/OakIslandFire) or click the OKI-FD patch below



POLICE DEPARTMENT: BSU Season Launches

Last week, we wrapped up training for the **Beach Services Unit (BSU)** ahead of their 2024 Season. As pictured in this week's cover photo, staff members were trained in **driving on the beach** using the Department's THREE (3) **brand new UTVs** purchased for 2024. Staff also finished their **in-class training** as well.

Now that they have completed this, we are excited to announce that **Beach Services Unit** patrols will **begin this Thursday, May 16 at 7:00 AM.**

Building upon the successes of the previous two seasons, for 2024 the BSU will consist of THREE (3) teams, patrolling in staggered shifts of:

- **7:00 AM - 3:00 PM**
- **9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**
- **10:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

Started in 2022, the Beach Service Unit (BSU) is a civilian-staffed branch of the Oak Island Police Department, which works to preserve and maintain the public beach areas within the Town of Oak Island. Members of the BSU do not carry firearms or conduct police tasks, but are authorized to issue citations for violating Town ordinances related to dunes, beach safety, and parking. All BSU members wear specific uniforms, with *BEACH SERVICES* prominently displayed across the back of their shirt, and make their patrols in the blue, department-marked utility vehicles (UTVs) pictured in the links above. Aerial drone video is also used to monitor surf conditions in real time, and record ordinance violations.

For more information on the BSU, the services they provide and functions they serve within the Department, just visit the **Beach Services Unit** webpage at **OakIslandNC.gov/BSU** or click the OKI-PD patch below.



CLASS CANCELLATION NOTICES

Please Note: the ***Mature Aerobics*** classes for **Friday, May 17 & Monday May 20** have been **CANCELLED**.

Additionally, **ALL** classes will be **CANCELLED** for **Tuesday, May 14** to accommodate the Recreation Center's use as a voting location.

Crabbing to Cuisine

- **WHEN:** Friday, May 17, 2024 • 3:55 PM - 4:55 PM
- **WHERE:** Oak Island Recreation Center • 3003 E Oak Island Drive
- **COST:** \$45 Residents • \$50 Non-Residents

Join Steve's Crab Shack learning all about the Blue Crab! Discussions include methods of catching crabs, types of bait, local areas where crabbing is permitted, as well as how to prepare and steam your catch. Participants receive hands on practice in picking Blue Crab for a taste test that is sure to have your taste buds screaming for more!

For more information or to view ALL upcoming Crabbing to Cuisine class dates, visit **OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS** or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

Summer Concert Series

- **WHEN:** Friday, May 24, 2024 • 6:30 PM
- **WHERE:** Middleton Park Complex, 4610 E Dolphin Drive
- **COST:** FREE

The Summer Concert Series is one of Oak Island's favorite pastimes. This is a FREE event. Come and bring a chair/blanket and enjoy great entertainment all summer long. There will also be food trucks onsite in case you get a little hungry. Concerts each week start at 6:30 PM from the Middleton Park Complex Amphitheater located at 4610 East Dolphin Drive, Oak Island, NC. .

For more information and to view the ***Live Band Lineup***, visit **OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS** or click the link below.

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Farmers & Artisans' Market

- **WHEN:** Mondays, June 3 - August 26, 2024 • 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- **WHERE:** Middleton Park Complex • 4610 E Dolphin Drive

The Oak Island Farmers' & Artisans' Market is a great opportunity for the public to see, and financially support the very best of Oak Island's local growers and crafters. Farmers and artisans alike can be found in this great showcase of baked goods, produce, handmade crafts, and artistic goods. Market events are held each Monday morning throughout the summer season.

For more information or to view the full Market Schedule, visit OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Storytime By The Sea

- **WHEN:** June 5, 2024 • NOON - 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- **WHERE:** Oak Island Cabana • 4601 E Beach Drive
- **AGES:** 12 & Under

Join the Oak Island Recreation Department at the Oak Island Cabana, located at the corner of SE 46th Street and E. Beach Drive, for ***Story Time by the Sea!*** This free series invites participants ages 12 - Under to enjoy a coastal themed story reading, followed by an arts & crafts project to take home. Engaging stories set to the backdrop of breathtaking views make for the perfect way to spend time together as a family! Pre-registration required. Free Program.

For more information or to see the full schedule of ALL Story Time By The Sea dates, visit OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS or click the link below.

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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.

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



Sunset On Summer



Farmers' & Artisans' Market



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 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)



MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2022)



MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2021)



MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2020)

