

THE CURRENT



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

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Week of

August 12, 2024

The CURRENT is BACK! As much of the eastern U.S found out last week, Tropical Storms named "Debby" are not nearly as *sweet* as the little cakes of the same name. Nonetheless, the Town endured and thankfully came through in good (although soggy) shape!

While the Town's Storm Response efforts will be covered in the edition, as the saying goes the "regular works doesn't stop just because of a storm!" There's still plenty of important items to catch up on, and even more to announce. So for now, let's stay out of the actual water, and instead dive on into this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **ABC Board**
- **Town council**
- **Planning Board**

NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Council Meeting Preview**
- **Tropical Storm "Debby" Response Review**
- **Business Bulletin**
- **Penny Wars Continue**
- ***NEW FEATURE: Manager's Message***

SAFETY BRIEF

- **POLICE: Dutchman Dinghy Dash This Week!**
- **FIRE: Debby Gone, Don't Swim Yet**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Rescheduled Concerts Reminder**
- **This Week In Recreation**
- **Event Flyers**



COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

ABC BOARD will hold its next meeting on **Tuesday, August 13 at 10:00 AM** in the Oak Island ABC Store at 5402 E Oak Island Drive.

TOWN COUNCIL will hold its regular meeting on **Tuesday, August 13 at 6:00 PM** in the Council Chambers, located on the 2nd floor of Town Hall.

PLANNING BOARD will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, August 15 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** closures for the week ahead. The next Holiday Closure will be **Monday, September 2, 2024** in observance of **Labor Day**.

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



Town Council Meeting Preview

On **Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 6:00 PM** the Oak Island Town Council will hold its regular monthly meeting in the Town Council Chambers, located on the second floor of the Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Dr.

The **Meeting Agenda** for this month includes a

- **Public Hearing**
- **Three (3) Presentations**
- **Three Committee Appointments**
- **One (1) Item of Old Business**

- **Three (3) items for New Business**
- **and a Closed Session**

To view the full agenda and learn more about each of the items scheduled, visit the **Meetings Information** page at OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

Tropical Storm "Debby" Response Review

As mentioned in the introduction for this week's edition, last week the town experienced the slow-moving drawn out effects of Tropical Storm Debby. Not nearly a contender for "worst storm ever" the wind impacts were minimal, and thanks to a forecast shift in the final hours, even the rain amounts were not as historic as initially anticipated.

However, throughout the duration of the event the Town stayed true to the old adage, "**PREPARE for the worst; HOPE for the best!**" On Saturday, August 3, the Town sent out an initial notice of activation for the **Severe Weather Information** page, later assigning it the custom URL of OakIslandNC.gov/DEBBY. This was followed up by a total of EIGHT (8) "Town Response Update" email / text alerts, noting any significant changes in Town preparation or response efforts.

Additionally, the Town started a **NEW** feature, providing aerial surveys before, during, and after the storm. These videos were a key part in providing real-time visual updates to residents or visitors who had evacuated, as well as property owners who may live far away. A total of SEVEN (7) videos were produced amassing over **17,000 views** ([CLICK HERE to view the playlist](#)).

As a reminder, in times of weather emergencies, the **Severe Weather Information** page is the ONLY official source of response information from the Town of Oak Island. Please remember to use this page to verify ANY information seen on third party websites, news outlets, or social media.

And if you want to sign up to receive page notifications yourself, just go to the **OKInformation** system at OakIslandNC.gov/INFO or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

Penny Wars Continue

The next **Penny War** opportunity is just around the corner! "**Penny Wars**" is a friendly competition where community members and visitors contribute coins to jars representing different local nonprofits. This engaging event not only raises funds but also increases awareness about the impactful work these organizations do for Oak Island.

As part of the **Calendar of Events** celebrating the **Town's 25th Anniversary**, the Town Council has each selected a nonprofit to champion during this event.

The next Penny War event will be held at the upcoming **Dutchman Dinghy Dash** happening this weekend (see "Safety Brief" section below for more information). Staff will be setup and set up to take pennies!

Unfortunately, the first event during the Beach Day celebration was cut short by a thunderstorm, but the standings after a couple hours during Beach Day are:

- 1. Oak Island Water Rescue (-162)**
- 2. Sea Turtle Protection Program (-203)**
- 3. Oak Island Angels (-296)**
- 4. Beach Preservation Society (-400)**
- 5. Matthew's Ministry (-730)**
- 6. Seabiscuit Wildlife Shelter (-1039)**

Pennies and points will continue to be collected until December 7! Thank you for your continued support in making these events a success. To view the full 25th Anniversary Calendar of Event, just visit the 25th Anniversary page at OakIslandNC.gov/25YEARS or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Business Bulletin Published

Due to Tropical Storm Debby preparation, **The CURRENT for last week was not produced**. That means we missed the announcement that the August edition of the ***Business Bulletin*** was now published!

The "Business Bulletin" is an e-newsletter developed by the Town's Business Advisory Board and Economic Development Office. It provides hyper-local, business-focused news updates, tailored exclusively for the local business community. Read on as we shine a spotlight on the heartbeat of commerce in the Town of Oak Island, fostering connections, and fostering growth.

To read this month's edition or sign up to receive the Bulletin directly, just visit the ***Economic Development*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/ECON or click on Logo Link below.



MANAGER'S MESSAGE: Welcome New Town Staff

From the office Interim Town Manager, Kathryn Adams ...

Media releases and public addresses often start with the phrase "the Town of Oak Island works hard to..." but what does that really mean? When you break it down, "the Town" is basically our people. Just like you, they are your friends, family, and neighbors, and they care just as much about the future of this Town as you do.

So please join me in welcoming two new members to our family, **Cyndee Sales** and **Drew DiMella**!



Cyndee Sales officially started last Monday, August 5, as our new **Front Desk Receptionist**, where she will provide an immediate assistance to anyone walking through the Town Hall doors (so no more walking down the hall or following signs for help)! Cyndee moved to Oak Island about a year ago, after having visited for more than a decade. Cyndee comes to us from the Town of Wake Forest, where she previously worked as an Accounting Specialist.

Drew DiMella is the newest addition to the Development Services Department, in the Planning Division as our newest **Zoning Technician**. He joins us as an integral part of the Development Services team in the Code Enforcement area. Drew moved to Brunswick County from West Chester, NY in February of this year, to be closer to family.

So again, please help us welcome **Drew & Cyndee**, as they both are working to help enhance the services we provide to the public everyday!

To learn more about any of the departments or staff for the Town of Oak Island, just check out the **Services Information** page of the Town Website. You can find by clicking the big "**Report A Concern**" button right on the homepage, or the SERVICES tab in the top menu. You can also just visit OakIslandNC.gov/SERVICES or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE



SAFETY BRIEF



FIRE: Debby's Lasting Effects

While Tropical Storm Debby fully exited the area late last week, lingering effects are still impacting coastal waters for Oak Island, Brunswick County, and much of North Carolina.

This week started with the Beach Warning Flag conditions shifting to **YELLOW**, **but as a reminder**, flags indicate rip current risk only, and DO NOT address water quality.

In addition, the NC Recreational Water Quality Program, still has a **Swimming Advisory** in effect.

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE LATEST ADVISORY

As noted in the Advisory, "*waters affected by stormwater runoff can contain elevated levels of harmful bacteria that drain into coastal water bodies.*"

Residents and visitors *should avoid swimming in waters* until testing indicates bacteria levels are within the state's and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's standards. The advisory will be lifted in part or in whole as test results become available.

Locally, the Recreational Water Quality Program conducts testing at 11 sites in the Town of Oak Island, and two in neighboring Caswell Beach, for *enterococcus bacteria*. This is an "indicator organism" that does not cause illness, but is an indicator of organisms that can.

AS A REMINDER, full program information and current notices are available on the *Beach Safety* page of the Town Website. To view this information, simply click on the "**Swimming Advisory Information**" tab on the **Beach Safety** page at OakIslandNC.gov/SAFETY. or click the patch below.



POLICE: Dutchman Dinghy Dash **THIS WEEK!**

Fly the anchors and lower the sails ... or something like that! It's time for one of the most exciting events on the water Oak Island has to offer! The THIRD annual **Dutchman Dinghy Dash**.



(Click the logo for more details!)

Like a soapbox derby on the water, the "**D3**" challenges builders to travel up to 400' in homemade cardboard boats, **without sinking!** Form your own team and join with multiple first responder agencies, Town Departments, and local businesses who participate in and FUN community event for a good cause!

The only **ENTRY FEE** is a donation of at least **\$10 in non-perishable goods** (canned food, utensils, etc.) for use in community donation events.

For more information or to register, just visit the ***Programs & Events*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/D3 or click the patch below.





COMING EVENTS

CONCERT RESCHEDULE NOTICES:

- The **Summer Concert Series** scheduled for **Friday, August 9** featuring ***The TAMS*** has been **RESCHEDULED to Thursday August 15**
- The **Summer Concert Series** scheduled for **Thursday, August 8** featuring ***Rivermist*** has been **RESCHEDULED to Thursday, August 29**

This Week in Recreation

Provided below is a listing of the recreation activities specifically for the week ahead! For questions or additional information, contact the **Recreation Department** at **910-278-5518**.

Monday, August 12

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
 - Mature Aerobics with Debbie 7:30 AM
 - SilverSneakers Fitness with Maggie 9:00 AM
 - Senior Yoga with Mert 11:15 AM
- **Middleton Park Complex**
 - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Artisan and Farmer's Market
- **Ocean Education Center**
 - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM: Special Activities

Tuesday, August 13

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 8:30 AM SilverSneakers with Susan
 - 9:30 AM Senior Yoga with Mert
- **Ocean Education Center**
 - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM: Special Activities

- **Recreation Center**

- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Macrame workshop with Lyrica (Pre-registration required)

Wednesday, August 14

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**

- 7:30 AM Mature Aerobics with Debbie
- 9:00 AM SilverSneaker with Mary Beth
- 4:30 PM Yoga for Balance with Tammy

- **Ocean Education Center**

- 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM: Special Activities

- **Nature Center**

- 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM: Special Activities

- **Middleton Park**

- 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM Strides Walking Club (Bill Smith Park)

Thursday, August 15

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**

- 8:00 AM Total Body Blast with Mary Beth
- 9:00 AM Silversneakers with Maggie
- 10:15 AM Chair Yoga with Tammy
- 6:00 PM Slow Flow Yoga with Rotating instructors

- **Nature Center**

- 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Special Activities

- **Summer Concert Rescheduled**

- 6:30 PM: The Tams

Friday, August 16

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**

- 7:30 AM Mature Aerobics with Debbie
- 9:00 AM SilverSneakers with Susan
- 10:30 AM Sculpt and Flow Yoga with Tammy or MB

- **Nature Center**

- 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM: Special Activities

- **Summer Concert**

- 6:30 PM The Salty Dawgs

- **Recreation Center**

- 8:00 AM: Table Tennis

- **Recreation Center**

- 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM Steve's Crab Shack Class (pre-registration required)

Saturday, August 17

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
 - 10:00 AM Community Yoga with rotating instructors
- **Recreation Center**
 - 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM – Macrame workshop with Lyrica (Pre-registration required)

Monday, August 19

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
 - Mature Aerobics with Debbie 7:30 AM
 - SilverSneakers Fitness with Maggie 9:00 AM
 - Senior Yoga with Mert 11:15 AM
- **Middleton Park Complex**
 - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Artisan and Farmer's Market
- **Ocean Education Center**
 - 10:00 AM - 2:00 AM: Special Activities

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!



August Fitness Calendar



Macrame Workshop



Crabbing To Cuisine

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.

This information is produced by the **Town of Oak Island Communications Office** and is intended for information and educational purposes only. Any perceived endorsement or promotion of third-party products, services, or organizations is unintentional. For more information on any of the departments or services provided by the Town of Oak Island, call 910-278-5011, or email info@oakislandnc.gov.

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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