



# ***THE CURRENT***

**DECEMBER 2, 2024**

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**Week of**  
**December 2, 2024**

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

November is over and Thanksgiving has come and gone. No need to worry about any calories you may have put on last Thursday though, as this week marks the Christmas kickoff in Oak Island, and we've got an exciting lineup of community events to get you hyped for the holidays!

This week has everything, from the **Tree Lighting** to a **Holiday Craft Market** to **Breakfast with Santa**; and don't forget the highly anticipated **Christmas By The Sea Parade**. To preview ALL of the upcoming holiday events, just visit the improved ***Events & Activities*** page at **[OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS)**.

Once you've got your weekend planner all figured out, throw on those swim trunks and let's take a dip in this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

## MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **Recreation Advisory Board**
- **Environmental Advisory Committee**
- **Par 3 Advisory Committee**

## NEWS & NOTICES

- **Salty Dog Park Closure**
- **Community Survey Reminder**
- **HWY 133 Closure Notice**
- **Community Center Updates**
- ***Staff Spotlight*: New Assistant Town Manager**

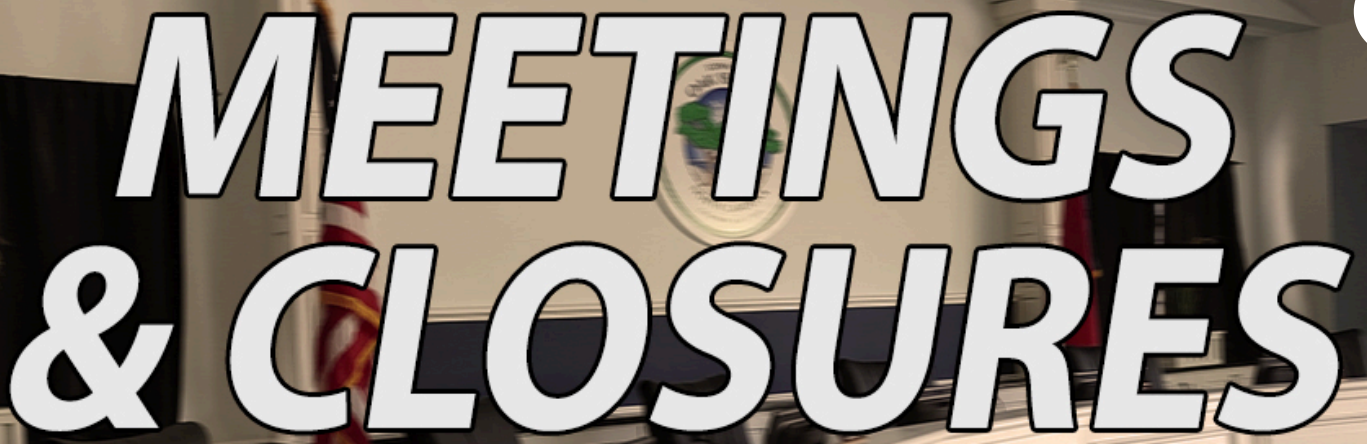
## SAFETY BRIEF

- **FIRE: Home Heating Safety**
- **POLICE: Preventing Porch Pirates**

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- ***Your "OKI Connection" For Events***
- **This Week In Recreation**
- **Event Flyers**





# MEETINGS & CLOSURES

## COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

**RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD** will hold its next meeting on **Monday, December 2** at **4:00 PM** in the Community Center, located at 102 SE 47th St.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE** will hold its meeting on **Thursday, December 5** at **8:30 AM** in the Ocean Education Center, 4700 E Oak Island Dr.

**PAR 3 ADVISORY COMMITTEE** will hold its next meeting on **Friday, December 6** at **1:00 PM** in the Par 3 Pro Shop at 4188 Vanessa Dr.

To view all upcoming future schedules visit the *Meetings Information* page at [OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS](https://OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS).

## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Town Administrative Offices will be **CLOSED** on **Tuesday - Thursday, December 24 - 26, 2024** for *Christmas*.

- ***NOTE: Garbage & Recycling Collections scheduled for December 25 will be collected on Saturday, December 28***
- The **Disposal Convenience Site** will be **CLOSED** on **Friday, December 27**
- Police, Fire, and Emergency Response services will be available by **calling 9-1-1**

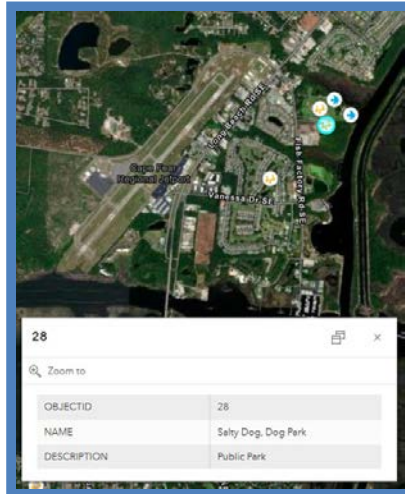
To view all holiday closures, visit: [OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY](https://OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY).

# NEWS & NOTICES

## Salty Dog Park Closure

On **Tuesday, December 3, 2024**, the **Salty Dog Park** located within the **Bill Smith Park** at 4410 Fish Factory Road will be **CLOSED** to accommodate the removal of a dangerous tree. Work is anticipated to be completed and the park reopened by early afternoon.

For more information on the Salty Dog Park, or alternative options during this temporary closure, visit [OakIslandNC.gov/PARKS](https://OakIslandNC.gov/PARKS) or click the map below.



## Community Survey Reminder

**REMINDER:** The **Community Engagement Survey** as part of the **2045 Charting The Course** project will **CLOSE** this coming **Saturday, December 7**.

This survey is a critical opportunity to provide input on the Town's effort to update the existing **CAMA Comprehensive Land Use Plan** (often referred to as a “*Comp Plan*”), as well as the simultaneous **Streetscape Project**.

To participate in the *Community Engagement Survey*, visit [OakIslandNC.gov/SURVEY](https://OakIslandNC.gov/SURVEY) or click the logo below.



## HWY 133 Closure Notice

***\*NOTE:** This notice has been provided by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. For more information, visit the NCDOT website or contact NCDOT directly.*

To improve water flow, a portion of **River Road (N.C. 133)** will **CLOSE** for several months, requiring a detour. The road near **Funston Road** will **close to traffic December 2** and reopen in late summer 2025. ***[EDIT (12/5/2024): Signs, including "road closed" and "detour" were not in place as scheduled by a contractor, so for safety reasons the N.C. Department of Transportation could not close the road. The project is still planned to begin this month, and the department will provide another update when a new date has been selected for implementation of the road closure and detour.]***

During the closure, N.C. Department of Transportation contract crews will replace a drainage pipe with a larger aluminum pipe, as well as multiple other pipes with a 388-foot bridge and culvert. Drivers should follow the signed detour to N.C. 87 and U.S. 17 to access either side of River Road. NCDOT encourages drivers to plan their route as it will take longer than normal and use caution near the construction sites.

For real-time travel information, visit [DriveNC.gov](https://www.driveNC.gov) or follow NCDOT on social media.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## Community Center Updates

The **Oak Island Community Center** has updated its **Events Calendar** for the month of December, as well as adding new photos from recent events held in November.

Located at **102 SE 47th Street** beside the Town Hall, the Center is open **Monday - Thursday** from **10:00 AM - 2:00 PM** and on **Fridays** for **Meals & Trips** (contact the Center for specific times). The Community Center is a congregate nutrition program and senior center where individuals 60 and over can come to enjoy a well-balanced hot nutritional meal.

Individuals from Oak Island and the surrounding towns can participate in the programs, and do not have to be a resident. Transportation is even provided for those who live on the island portion of Town. Individuals can also enjoy social/recreational (bingo, rummikub, etc.) activities while attending the site from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, with other special programs listed on the monthly calendar.

To learn more about the programs hosted and how to contact staff, just visit the Community Center page at [OakIslandNC.gov/CC](https://OakIslandNC.gov/CC) or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## ***Staff Spotlight: New Assistant Town Manager***

The Town of Oak Island is pleased to welcome **Andy Snead** as the new **Assistant Town Manager**. Andy was formally introduced to the Town Council during the November meeting last month, and officially started on Monday December 2.



Graduating from NC State University in 1993 in Mechanical Engineering, Snead is also a licensed Civil Engineer. He has spent over 30 years in building design, construction, public works, and administration. After retiring from NC State in 2021, Andy has served as Director of Facilities at Campbell University for the past three years.

Although professionally hailing from the central part of North Carolina, his roots run deep in Oak Island, with his parents having built their first house here in 1982. Snead himself has been a property owner and part time resident for more than 15 years, and is excited to now be serving the community he grew up loving.

As Assistant Town Manager, Andy Snead will support all major functions of the Town Manager, with specific focus on overseeing Capital Projects and guiding Development Services. He will also serve in the capacity of Town Manager during instances of the Manager's absence.

To learn more about the Assistant Town Manager position, and contact Andy Snead, visit the Administration page of the Town Website at [OakIslandNC.gov/Government/Administration](https://OakIslandNC.gov/Government/Administration) or click the link below.



[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



# SAFETY BRIEF



## FIRE: Home Heating Safety

While a "White Christmas" in Oak Island may refer more to sand than snow ... the holiday season has definitely come in strong this week, with some of the earliest freezing temperatures we've seen in recent years.

Whether the cold comes in waves or settles in to stay, we'd like to remind everyone of some important tips for home heating safety.

Space heaters, fire places, and other supplemental home heating are a great and economical way to help stay warm, but they **must be used cautiously**. When using these items, remember to:

- **Have the device or fireplace inspected annually to ensure they are operating optimally**
- **Never leave fires, space heaters, candles or other means of heat unattended**
- **Keep combustibles, pets, and kids 3-5 feet away from heat sources as these generate enough heat to burn, melt or ignite such items**
- **Be sure to verify that you use the right fuel for the right device**
- **Place heaters on a solid flat surface to prevent from tipping (most newer models can detect a tilt and safely disable the device, but it's always better to err on the side of caution!)**
- **Plug supplemental heaters directly into the outlet on the wall, and NOT with an extension cord**

Additionally, some great advice that's worth following all year long, is to **regularly make sure your smoke detectors are functioning**, and have fresh batteries. A "best practice" would be a simple test once a month, or at a minimum of twice a year. Adjusting clocks for daylight savings time can usually serve as a good reminder.

For more fire safety tips, or to learn about the many ways the Fire Department works to keep you safe, just visit our webpage at [OakIslandNC.gov/FD](http://OakIslandNC.gov/FD) or click on our patch below.



## POLICE: Preventing "Porch Pirates"

As we are now well into the gift giving (and buying) season, more than 90% of shoppers will buy at least some of their holiday gifts online; with almost half of ALL shoppers buying only online. While home delivery makes shopping convenient for you, it can also make things convenient for criminals too.

This holiday season, let's remember to ***“keep pirates in the past & off your porch!”*** To help make sure your gifts end up in the right hands, try these tips:

- **Use “Delivery Instructions” to have packages left in a discreet or secure location**
- **Require a signature or (if possible) other means of remote verification**
- **Install motion activated security lighting**
- **Considering adding a doorbell camera**

Most importantly, remember to simply be a good neighbor. The holidays can be a stressful time, and delivery drivers are human too. Mistakes happen. With streets named by number AND direction here in Oak Island, we often see packages delivered to the wrong houses (ex: a “NE” address instead of “NW” street, etc.). Taking a few minutes to make sure an incorrectly delivered package gets to the right home could make all the difference in someone else's holiday. Even “Santa's Helpers” need a little help sometimes!

If you have questions, concerns, or would just like to know more, feel free to contact us through the [Department Contact Form](#) on our webpage at [OakIslandNC.gov/PD](http://OakIslandNC.gov/PD) or click on our patch below





# COMING EVENTS

## Your "**OKI Connection**" to Coming Events

Hey! Have you downloaded the Town's NEW mobile app, "**OKI Connection**" yet? If you haven't already, visit the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) and search "**OKI Connection**" to find and download this app for your iPhone or Android device. This new app is full of "easy buttons" linked to the most requested services and departments. But most importantly, it has a direct link to the recently improved [Events & Activities](#) page!

So visit the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) now, and download the newest app featuring the logo below:



## THIS WEEK: *In Recreation*

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

### **Monday, December 2**

- **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
- **Community Center**
  - 5:00 PM Christmas Bingo

### **Tuesday, December 3**

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**

- 8:30 AM SilverSneakers with Susan
- 9:30 AM Senior Yoga with Mert
- 11:30 AM Qigong for Beginners

## **Wednesday, December 4**

- **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

- **Middleton Park Complex**

- 1:00 PM Striders Walking Club

- **Recreation Center**

- 6:00 PM Hot Chocolate Snowman Craft

## **Thursday, December 5**

- **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

- **Recreation Center**

- 5:00 PM DIY Christmas Ornament Craft

## **Friday, December 6**

- **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

- **Recreation Center**

- 8:00 AM: Table Tennis

- **Middleton Park Complex**

- 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Tree Lighting

## **Saturday, December 7**

- **Christmas By the Sea Parade (2:00 PM)**

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**

- 10:00 AM Community Yoga with rotating instructors

- **Community Center**

- 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM Breakfast with Santa

## **Sunday, December 8**

- **Middleton Park Complex**
  - 1:00 AM – 2:00 PM Holiday Market

## Monday, December 9

- **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
- **Recreation Center**
  - 6:00 PM Gingerbread House Decorating

**REMINDER:** A full listing of all fitness classes and recreation programs can be found at [OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS](https://OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS).

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



**Fitness Calendar**



**Tree Lighting**



**Breakfast With Santa**



**Christmas Parade**

# THANK YOU

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**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.

<b>MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2023)</b>	+
<b>MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2022)</b>	+
<b>MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2021)</b>	+
<b>MONTHLY EDITION ARCHIVE (2020)</b>	+