

THE CURRENT

DECEMBER 9, 2024



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**Week of
December 9, 2024**

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

Spring is in the air! ... and tomorrow it'll be Fall. Followed by Winter, and a bit more Spring, *maybe?* The point is, in southeastern North Carolina, we don't really base our seasons off of the weather. Unlike the weather however, we are consistent in how we always come together to celebrate life, family, and community at every opportunity!

This past week was no exception, as we **kicked off the Christmas season** in true Oak Island fashion! Between a Tree Lighting, a Parade and Holiday Market, the last few days have been chock full of cheer. Now that we've all seen the sights from the recent festivities, be sure to grab your towel and read on below for a swim in this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

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

NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Council Agenda Preview**
- **Spruce Pine Donation Delivery**
- **An "OKI Connection" Milestone**
- **Business Bulletin Published**
- **Christmas Tree Drop Off**

SAFETY BRIEF

- **FIRE: Toys For Tots Award**
- **POLICE: Donate Responsibly**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Class Cancellations**
- **This Week In Recreation**
- **Event Flyers**



COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

ABC BOARD will hold its next meeting on **Tuesday, December 10** at **10:00 AM** in the Oak Island ABC Store at 5400 E Oak Island Drive.

TOWN COUNCIL will hold its regular meeting on **Tuesday, December 10** at **6:00 PM** in the Council Chambers, located on the 2nd floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Drive.

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).



Town Council Agenda Preview

On **Tuesday, December 10, 2024** at **6:00 PM** the Town Council will hold their regular monthly meeting in the Town Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Drive.

CLICK HERE to view the Meeting Agenda

To watch the livestream or view the agenda / minutes from any previous meeting, visit the ***Meetings Information*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Spruce Pine Donation Delivery

Back on **November 3, 2024** the Town hosted the **BANDING TOGETHER: *Relief for Western NC*** benefit concert & donation event to help support the Town of Spruce Pine, NC, in their ongoing recovery following Hurricane Helene. The event itself was a huge success, raising \$30,000 in financial contributions, and **delivering an entire truckload of donated supplies**.

While the donated goods were immediately delivered and put to use, Town officials were able to coordinate a personal delivery of the financial contributions just before the Thanksgiving holiday.



In the as-yet-unreleased photo above, Mayor Liz White was joined by Council Member Terri Cartner and Police Chief Charlie Morris, as they traveled to Spruce Pine on November 22 to personally deliver the \$30,000 in funds raised during the **Banding Together** event. They were met by (L to R) Town Manager Darlene Butler, Mayor Phillip Hise, and Police Chief Kasey Cook.

For more information on the Banding Together event, you can view the video review on the Town's YouTube channel at Youtube.com/@OakIslandTV or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

An "OKI Connection" Milestone

Back in early November, the Town's launched its new "**OKI Connection**" mobile app. Available for download on the **Apple App Store** or **Google Play** (just search "**OKI Connection**") the app is full of "easy buttons" linked to the most requested services and departments.

In just under a month since publishing the **OKI Connection** app has hit its first major milestone with over **500 downloads!**

That's right, over **500** of your neighbors, friends, and fellow Oak Islanders are now connected to features and information from the Town like never before. From contacting Town departments, requesting services, even finding the latest **Events & Activities** ... it's all here, and with even more features on the way!

So let's help pump these numbers even higher! Visit the **App Store** or **Google Play** now and download the newest app featuring the logo below:



Business Bulletin Published

Another good thing about the holiday season is that it is also good for businesses. There's a lot to keep up with in the business community for Oak Island and our **Economic Development** department is here to help. Last week, the December edition of the ***Business Bulletin*** was published!

This month includes feature articles on the Façade Improvement Grant program, as well as the Corporate Transparency Act, along with listings of available commercial properties.

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.

New editions are emailed directly to those on the subscriber list each month. To sign up to receive new editions or view previous editions, visit the ***Economic Development*** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/ECON** or click on Logo Link below.



Christmas Tree Drop Off

While for some the Christmas season has just begun, there are many observers who have been looking at their Christmas trees since before their Thanksgiving turkeys were thawed.

Regardless of when their trees were first trimmed, eventually they will all be put away. That's why the **Public Works Department** is here to help, with the annual "***Grinding of the Greens***" program. This program provides a convenient and environmentally beneficial way to dispose of your live Christmas trees, where after collection they are ground up and used as

mulch in various Town parks and facilities.

Collection will be available beginning on **December 26** in the **Middleton Park Complex** parking lot at 4610 E Dolphin Drive. Just look for the designated area with signage.

REMEMBER:

- **All decorations must be removed from trees before disposal**
- **DO NOT place trees on the beach or dunes**
- **DO NOT burn trees as part of beach bonfires**

For more information, contact the Public Works Department through the Department Contact Form at OakIslandNC.gov/PW or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



SAFETY BRIEF



FIRE: Toys for Tots Award

As we **mentioned last month**, we are actively collecting for the **Toys For Tots** campaign, with our three Fire Stations being the official donation drop off points for the Town of Oak Island.

This week while picking up the donations at Fire Station 2, the United States Marine Corps Reserve presented the Fire Department with a ***Commander's Award*** for "***outstanding support of the Brunswick County Marine Toys For Tots Program.***"



Pictured above from left to right are Amanda Padgett, Jon Leonard (with Bluebell), Dave Wagoner, Brad Medford, Mike Pulley and Scott Sage. While we are truly grateful for the recognition, we will never let it give us cause us to relax our efforts! The Toys for Tots program is something very near to our hearts.

As first responders, we often see situations where homes, property, and even lives lost, especially around the holidays it gives us a great sense of joy to know we can help bring something back to those children in need during the holidays. **Thank You Oak Island** for helping us to achieve this goal, as we proudly share this recognition with all of you who have donated over the last few weeks.

For more information on the Fire Department and how we work to serve this community, just visit our webpage at OakIslandNC.gov/FD or click on our patch below.



POLICE: Donate Responsibly

As the **Fire Department** just announced, they were just recognized for their efforts in the Toys For Tots program throughout Brunswick County. Not only does giving to others help those who receive, it can have positive phycological benefits for the giver as well.

However, sometimes, we get so caught up in the "good feeling" of helping others, that we can get taken advantage of. This holiday season, don't let your good deeds go to waste. Before making your next donation, take a few tips from the **NC Department of Justice** and be sure to **verify the organizations** using sources like the NC Department of the Secretary of State, [Better Business Bureau's \(BBB\) Wise Giving Alliance](#), [Charity Navigator](#), [Charity Watch](#), or [GuideStar](#). Also consider giving to charities you are familiar with personally.

To view the full information provided by NCDOJ just visit their website at NCDOJ.gov.

Remember, if you have any questions or suspicions about anyone soliciting donations in our local area, feel free to contact us through the the [Department Contact Form](#) on our webpage at OakIslandNC.gov/PD or just click on our patch below.



Class Cancellations

PLEASE NOTE: The following fitness programs have been **CANCELLED** for the week ahead:

- **SilverSneakers with Susan** scheduled for **Tuesday, December 10** at **8:30 AM** and **Friday, December 13** at **9:00 AM**
- **Yoga 4 Balance with Tammy** scheduled for **Wednesday, December 11** at **4:30 PM**

For more information on these closures or any alternative program options provided at the Recreation Center, please contact the Oak Island Recreation Department at 910-278-5518 or through the [Department Contact Form](#) by clicking the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

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 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 Houses

Tuesday, December 10

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 8:30 AM SilverSneakers with Susan (CANCELED)
 - 9:30 AM Senior Yoga with Mert
 - 11:30 AM Qigong for Beginners
- Middleton Park Complex
 - 4:00 PM Santa Paws

Wednesday, December 11

- **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 Bill Smith Park
- **Recreation Center**
 - 5:00 PM Movie Night

Thursday, December 12

- **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**
 - 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM Ugly Sweater Contest

Friday, December 13

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 7:30 AM Mature Aerobics with Debbie
 - 9:00 AM SilverSneakers with Susan (CANCELED)
 - 10:30 AM Sculpt and Flow Yoga with Tammy or MB
- **Recreation Center**
 - 8:00 AM: Table Tennis
- **Ocean Education Center**

- 2:00 PM Between the Lines Book Club
- **Bill Smith Park**
 - 6:00 PM Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt

Saturday, December 14

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
 - 10:00 AM Community Yoga with rotating instructors
- **Recreation Center**
 - 6:00 PM Snowball Dance

Monday, December 16

- **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

REMINDER: A full listing of all fitness classes and recreation programs can be found at OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS.

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



Fitness Calendar



Santa Paws



Candy Cane Hunt



12 Days of Christmas

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)

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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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