

A large, light-colored stone statue of Martin Luther King Jr. is carved into a rock face. He is depicted from the chest up, wearing a suit and tie, and holding a rolled-up document in his right hand. The background is a clear blue sky.

THE CURRENT

JANUARY 20, 2025

OKInformation

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**Week of
January 20, 2025**

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

PLEASE NOTE: Town Offices will be CLOSED on Monday, January 20 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Winter Weather response efforts will continue to be updated at OakIslandNC.gov/WX.

"We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. first penned those words in 1963, he was sitting in a jail cell in Birmingham, writing in the margins of a newspaper that had been smuggled in to him.

While standing on a beautiful beach in North Carolina, over 60-some years later, can seem like an entire world away, it is truly amazing how those words transcend time and place. They are a stark reminder that just like grains of sand on that beach, we may all be tiny individuals, but together make up one beautiful whole. You don't have to take on the entire world to "let love win," it can be as simple as showing a little grace and kindness the next time you're at a crowded **[Beach Access Location](#)**.

So take time this week to look around and appreciate the bigger picture; make sure those you indirectly affect are reached in a good way. To find new ways to connect with your fellow grains of sand, just dip into this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **Town Council Meeting**

NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Council Meeting Review**
- **2025 Parking Program Updates**
- **Charting The Course: Community Open House**
- **Grants for Home Elevation**
- ***Staff Spotlight: Planning Manager Wanted***

SAFETY BRIEF

- ***NEW: Officer Feedback Forms***

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

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



MEETINGS & CLOSURES

COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

TOWN COUNCIL will resume its meeting started on January 16, on **Tuesday, January 21** at **1:00 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.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Town Administrative Offices will be **CLOSED** on **Monday, January 20, 2025** in observance of *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*.

- **NOTE:** The *Garbage & Recycling Collection Schedule* will NOT be affected, however service may run slower due to higher volumes over the holiday.
- Police, Fire, and Emergency Response services will be available by **calling 9-1-1**

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



NEWS & NOTICES

Town Council Meeting Review

Last **Tuesday, January 14**, the Oak Island Town Council held its regular monthly meeting in the Council Chambers.

CLICK HERE to View the Agenda Summary

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To watch this or any other previous meeting on demand, just visit the ***Meetings Information*** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS** or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

2025 Parking Program Updates

During the **January 14, 2025** meeting, the Oak Island Town Council finalized the **Paid Parking** updates for the 2025 Season. A brief summary of the season updates and purchase options have been provided through the **OKInformation** system.

As previously reported, the season dates will remain **unchanged** from April 1 - September 30, with Resident Parking Permits also remaining **unchanged** at a cost of \$10 per Permit for up to three (3) Permits.

The most **notable changes for 2025** are that **Season Parking Permit** costs will increase to \$225, and **Bulk Season Parking Permits** will increase to \$375 (starting on the fifth permit). Additionally, 100 of the regular paid parking spaces will be **converted** to **Resident-Only Parking** spaces. Both Resident Parking Permits and Season Parking Permits are **now available** to purchase, with Bulk Permits going on sale March 1.

For full program details and purchase information, just visit the **Parking Information** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/PARKING**, or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

Charting The Course: Community Open House

You're invited to participate in shaping the future of Oak Island! On **Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM** a **Community Open House** event will be held as part of the **2045 Charting The Course** project. The project is the Town of Oak Island's effort to update its existing **CAMA Comprehensive Land Use Plan** (often referred to as a "*Comp Plan*").

This "open house" style public input forum will focus on sharing and refining the draft plan goals to help guide the creation of the Comprehensive Plan. These draft goals have been developed from the input gathered at the initial Kickoff Event this past September, and the Community Survey conducted in November.

In addition to sharing thoughts on the Comprehensive Plan, the open house will also provide an opportunity for feedback on the ***Streetscape Visioning Plan***. The Streetscape design concepts will be available for review, with the designers prepared to answer any questions.

Your insights are crucial in guiding the Town's development over the next two decades. Come and share your thoughts to help ensure that the goals of this plan reflect the vision and needs of the community. To learn more about the ***2045 Charting The Course*** project, along with the ***Streetscape Visioning Plan***, just visit the ***PLAN 2045*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/PLAN2045 or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Grants for Home Elevation

The ***Development Services*** department is seeking interest from property owners with homes located in the ***FEMA Floodplain*** or with a history of damages from flooding. Possible funding may be available for **home elevation projects**, through the voluntary **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program** (HMGP)

As funds are available, HMGP would pay **100% of the cost of the elevation project**, subject to certain conditions. Projects would not be managed by the property owner, meaning the property owner **does not** have to find contractors to do the work, and bids / quotes are not required.

Development Services staff are working to secure HMGP funds now, so public interest is greatly appreciated. If you or someone you know may be interested in taking advantage of available HMGP funds to cover 100% of home elevation project costs, please contact Floodplain Administrator, Courtney Milliron, at cmilliron@oakislandnc.gov or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Staff Spotlight: Planning Manager Wanted

In the ***January 6, Edition***, the Town announced Matt Kirkland as the new Development Services Director. While his transition to this new role has been greatly welcomed, it has also created a new, critical staff opening.

The Town of Oak Island is seeking interested applications for the position of **Planning Manager**. This employee performs complex administrative and supervisory work in developing, coordinating, approving, and executing policies and methods for the Town, within the Development Services Department. The position requires a thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of local and regional planning, as well as Town, municipal, state, and federal laws pertaining to land use planning and development.

The ideal candidate would be a Certified Zoning Official, as well as Certified Floodplain Manager, and Certified Planner with the American Planning Association, or the ability to obtain certification within 2 years.

If you or someone you know is qualified for and interested in this position, download an application through the ***Job Openings*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/JOBS or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE



SAFETY BRIEF

NEW: Officer Feedback Forms

Our Officers work hard everyday to help protect the residents and visitors of Oak Island, through a professional, community-oriented policing model. Although a high level of service is expected, feedback from the community on their conduct, both positive and negative, is always appreciated.

That's why the **Oak Island Police Department** has launched our new ***Officer Feedback Forms***, available on the Department's page of the Town Website:

- The **Officer Recognition Form** allows us to recognize exemplary work, through direct reporting from within the community.
- The **Officer Complaint Form** allows for a safe outlet in which to provide even negative feedback on officer conduct.

Through both of these new forms, we are providing an easy way for you to make a public record of your interactions with our officers. Whether you've had a good experience, or perhaps even a negative one, ***we want to hear from you!***

Remember these forms are for relaying your interactions **specifically with an officer**. If you have questions, comments, or concerns regarding the Department as a whole, then the standard **Department Contact Form** is still your best option.

To access these forms, or learn more about the Department itself, just visit our webpage at **OakIslandNC.gov/PD** or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

For questions related to any of the content in the ***Safety Brief***, or for more information on the services provided by the **Police Department** or **Fire Department**, just visit the ***Public Safety*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/SAFETY or (919) 329-1111. Visit the Department Patches 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, January 20

- **Recreation Center CLOSED**

Tuesday, January 21

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 8:30 AM SilverSneakers with Susan
 - 9:30 AM Senior Yoga with Mert
 - 11:30 AM Qigong for Beginners

Wednesday, January 22

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 7:30 AM Mature Aerobics with Debbie
 - 9:00 AM SilverSneakers with Mary Beth
 - 4:30 PM Yoga for Balance with Tammy

- **Recreation Center**
 - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Striders walking Club

Thursday, January 23

- **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
- **Off Island Adventures**
 - 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM Duplin Wine Tour (pre-registration required)

Friday, January 24

- **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

Saturday, January 25

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
 - 10:00 AM Community Yoga with rotating instructors

Monday, January 27

- **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 coming event flyers below to download, print, and share!



Fitness Calendar



Mardi Gras Festival



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 from December 2020 to 2023. As a monthly publication, *The CURRENT* provided longer form, "magazine style" reading, along with added commentary, and content contributed form 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)	+