



FEBRUARY 10, 2025

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Week of
February 10, 2025

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

"*Love Is In The Air*, In the whisper of the *trees***. Love Is In The Air, in the thunder of the ***sea***."** Ever since Australian singer John Paul Young first dropped his 1977 disco hit, it's become a staple of Valentine's day media. Standing on shores of Oak Island however, it's hard not to think those lines in that second verse weren't somehow written just for us.

It's nearly impossible not to fall in love when you're in such a beautiful place "***where the Trees meet the Sea!***" Cards, candies, and fresh cut roses may be the symbols of love for some, but around here, it doesn't get much more romantic than a simple walk in the sand, or an old tree swing under a sturdy oak.

Despite Cupid's distractions, there's plenty of Town businesses (and fun announcements) for the week ahead. So once you've finished eating all the chocolate in that oversized heart-shaped box, be sure to wait 30 minutes before taking a swim in this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **ABC Board**
- **Town Council**
- **Board of Adjustment**
- **Steering Committee**

NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Council Agenda Preview**
- **Seafood Festival Announced**
- **Tree Naming Contest**
- **Community Open House Reminder**
- ***Staff Spotlight: New Officer On Duty***

SAFETY BRIEF

- **Safety Station Signage**

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

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



MEETINGS & CLOSURES

COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

ABC BOARD will hold its regular meeting on **Tuesday, February 11** at **10:00 AM** in the Oak Island ABC Store, located at 5402 E Oak Island Drive.

TOWN COUNCIL will hold its regular meeting on **Tuesday, February 11** at **6:00 PM** in the Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Dr.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT will hold a called meeting for the purpose of hearing two variance requests on **Wednesday, February 12** at **10:00 AM** in the Council Chambers.

STEERING COMMITTEE for the **Comprehensive Land Use Plan** will meet on **Thursday, February 13** at **9:00 AM** in the Town Council Chambers.

To view all upcoming future schedules visit the *Meetings Information* page at OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

There are no scheduled closures or service modifications for the week ahead. The next Holiday Closure will be on **Friday, April 18, 2025** in observance of **Good Friday**. To view all Holiday Closures, visit:

OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY.



NEWS & NOTICES

Town Council Agenda Preview

The Oak Island Town Council will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Dr.

The public is welcome and invited to attend, and sign-up sheets for commenting during the public hearings and / or the general comment period will be available in the back of the Chambers prior to the meeting.

CLICK HERE to view the Meeting Agenda

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To watch this meeting, or view the full agenda, minutes, or video of any previous meeting, just visit the Meetings Information page at OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

Seafood Festival Announced

Do you like the sea? Do you like food? do you like *food that comes from the sea?*

Well have we got some news for you, as the **Recreation Department** has just announced the **2025 Oak Island Seafood Festival**, set for **Saturday, May 3, 2025** from **NOON - 5:00 PM**.

This exciting **NEW** festival will feature a **Peel-&-Eat Shrimp Competition**, **Cooking Demonstration**, **Education Events**, a **Craft & Artisan Market**, **Food Trucks**, and live music by **The Ford Project**.



The Festival will be held in the **Middleton Park Complex**, located at 4610 E Dolphin Dr. **PLEASE NOTE:** This is a **Town-sponsored** event, so **Paid Parking** will **NOT be in effect** during the Festival for the immediate area.

To learn more or download your own Festival Flyer to share, visit the **Special Events** page at OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](https://OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS)

NEW "Name The Tree" Contest

Located within the **Bill Smith Park** at 4410 Fish Factory Road, there is an old, beloved live oak tree. As part of the Town's ongoing **Tree Preservation Project**, efforts are underway to honor and preserve this part of local history, **starting by giving it a name**; and the Town would like YOUR help!



In a **Facebook exclusive** event, the Town has started a **Name The Tree** contest which **will run this week only**, through **Friday, February 14**. To participate:

- Simply comment on the **original post**, currently pinned to the top of the **Town Facebook** page (**NOTE:** Must be on the original post, comments made on shared posts will not be seen).
- We'll select the top finalists and open an official poll for everyone to vote on their favorite!
- The winning name will be announced at a special ceremony during the **Earth Day Festival** on **Saturday, April 26, 2025**.

Get creative, get inspired, and help us give this iconic tree the perfect name! To view the post and make your own name suggestion, just visit the Town Facebook page at [Facebook.com/TownofOakIslandNC](https://www.facebook.com/TownofOakIslandNC) or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

THIS WEEK: Community Open House Event

Reminder: on **Wednesday, February 12**, at **6:00 PM** the **Community Open House** event will be held as part of the **2045 Charting The Course** project to update the existing **CAMA Comprehensive Land Use Plan** (often referred to as a “Comp Plan”).

This open house serves as the latest public input forum in the project, and will focus on sharing and refining the draft goals developed from the initial Kickoff Event and the Community Survey.

The open house will also provide an opportunity for feedback on the ***Streetscape Visioning Plan***, currently being developed alongside the Comp Plan. The Streetscape design concepts will be available for review, with the designers present to answer any questions.

Public 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 logo link below.



Staff Spotlight: New Officer On Duty

Last week, the **Oak Island Police Department** was proud to announce one of its newest additions, **Officer Zachary Knepshield**. Officer Knepshield was hired by the Department as a Basic Law Enforcement Training (B.L.E.T) cadet at Cape Fear Community College, where he graduated this past December.

Zachary has been a resident of Brunswick County for four years, and has always known he wanted to be a Police Officer. He is eager to start serving Oak Island, and in his free time enjoys basketball and spending time with family.

The Department looks forward to great work from Officer Knepshield, as we're sure he'll be a valuable to this community. Please help them welcome Officer Zachary Knepshield to the Town of Oak Island family!



Safety Station Signage

While it is still February, and that means still technically winter, the warm days of Spring and Summer will soon be here! That means the **National Weather Service** will resume its **Beach Warning Flag** forecasts, and the the **Ocean Rescue Unit** will be checking the **Water Safety Stations** for the season ahead.

Last week, the Oak Island Fire Department was contacted about a Water Safety Station sign, which had become damaged and fallen off its pole.



As anyone can imagine, these are **vital to ensuring public safety**. Thankfully, Fire Chief Lee Price was able to recover the damaged sign, which had been left beside pole. He was grateful for the tip, as with nearly 70 signs posted throughout the public beach areas, it can sometimes be difficult to notice damaged or missing signs quickly.

That's where YOU come in! **If you ever notice a damaged, missing, or faded sign, please contact the Fire Department immediately through the Department Contact Form**. If a firefighter or an officer with the Oak Island Police Department is nearby, you can also alert them as well.

Similarly, if you ever notice someone posting on social media about damaged or broken signs, please point them in the same direction. In either case, please take action, and do not just assume someone else will do it! Your small effort could mean a world of difference for someone in their time of need!

To learn more about the Water Safety Stations, their signage, and the Rescue Tubes they hold, just visit the ***Beach Safety*** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/SAFETY** 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 click on the Department Patches below.



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Class Cancellation

The ***Silver Sneakers with Susan*** classes scheduled for **Tuesday, Friday, & Monday, February 11, 14, & 17** have been **CANCELED**.

For more information on this cancellation, please contact the **Oak Island Recreation Department** at **910-278-5518** or through the **Department Contact Form**. To view alternative fitness class options, visit **OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS** or click 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, February 10

- **Recreation Center**
 - 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 – 7:00 PM Bingo

Tuesday, February 11

- **Recreation Center**
 - 9:30 AM Senior Yoga with Mert
 - 11:30 AM Qigong for Beginners

Wednesday, February 12

- **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
- **Bill Smith Park**
 - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Striders walking Club

Thursday, February 13

- **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

Friday, February 14

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
 - 7:30 AM Mature Aerobics with Debbie
 - 10:30 AM Sculpt and Flow Yoga with Tammy or MB
- **Recreation Center**
 - 8:00 AM: Table Tennis

Saturday, February 15

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

Monday, February 17

- **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



Spring Fling



Seafood 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.

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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)	+