

THE CURRENT

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

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Week of
February 26, 2024

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

While the weather is in a constant back-and-forth, things are certainly heating up around Town as *February falls forward into the March of Spring!*. While this past weekend was full of parade and festival fun, the week ahead holds some exciting opportunities to plugin to local government. So let's unfurl the sails and steer into this week's edition of *The CURRENT*.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **Business Advisory Board**

NEWS & NOTICES

- **Town Manager Recruitment: Public Input Sessions**
- **RE-BID NOTICE: Paving Contract RFP**
- **Army Corps of Engineers Meeting Review**

- **Mardi Gras By The Sea Success**
- **Community Center Events Calendar Updated**

SAFETY BRIEF

- **POLICE: National Night Out Rookie Award**
- **FIRE: Unit "High 5" Vehicle Debuts**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Community Paint Day**
- **7th Annual Doggie EGGstravaganza**
- **Spring Fling: Market & Music**
- **Badges, Boats, & Boots**



COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD will hold its next meeting (non-televised) on **Tuesday, February 27, 2024** at **9:00 AM** in **Terminal Conference Room** at the **Cape Fear Regional Jetport**, located at 4015 Airport Road SE. The meeting meeting location change is for **this month only**.

All Council & Board meeting dates can be found on the Meetings Information page at **OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS**.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

There are **NO** holiday closures for this week.

The next closure will be **Friday, March 29, 2024** in observance of **Good Friday**. To view all holiday closures, visit: **OakIslandNC.gov/HOLIDAY**.



NEWS & NOTICES

THIS WEEK: Town Manager Recruitment Public Input Sessions

Announced earlier this month in a ***letter from Mayor Liz White***, the Town Council has invited the public to participate in the recruitment process for a new Town Manager, through a series of ***Public Input Sessions*** to be held **THIS WEEK**.

The sessions will be held in the Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall on **Wednesday, February 28 at 10:00 AM, 2:00 PM, & 6:00 PM** and on **Saturday, March 2 a 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM**.

These will be a guided exercise of specific questions, ***and will not be a formal meeting of the full Council***. Seating for each session will be limited to 80 participants, so plan to arrive early.

For more information and to read the full invitation from the Mayor, visit the ***OKInformation*** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/NEWS** or click the link below.

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Re-Advertisement Notice: Paving Contract RFP

Due to an insufficient number of bids, this Request for Proposals is being re-advertised and will now close on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 10:00 AM.

The Town of Oak Island is seeking proposals from qualified, professional service contractors for paving and resurfacing of existing streets for the Town. The work will entail street resurfacing and associated work.

The selected contractor will commence and complete the construction of Town of Oak Island street improvements consisting of paving and resurfacing of streets as outlined on the Bid Schedules submitted. The contractor may submit recommendations for changes to the specifications and / or planned work; any such changes, including increased cost thereof, if applicable, shall be pre-approved by the Public Works Director.

The Town will evaluate the bids based on the sum of the “Total Bid” for the projects. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all of the project bids or bidders. There will be no Pre-Bid meeting. Bids will be opened next **Wednesday, March 6 at 10:00 AM** in the second floor conference room of the Oak Island Town Hall, located at 4601 East Oak Island Drive.

To view the RFP in full or download an Information packet, visit the ***Bid Postings*** page at **OakIslandNC.gov/BIDS** or click the link below..

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Army Corps of Engineers Meeting Review

This past **Wednesday, February 21**, the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** (USACE) held a Public Input Session regarding the proposed ***Coastal Storm Risk Management 50-Year Study***.

Although not sponsored or coordinated by the Town, the meeting was hosted in the Town Council Chambers at Town Hall, and was open to the public for both in-person and online participation.

The meeting offered a brief overview of the 50-year Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) plan for the Town of Oak Island, which aims to explore various risk management alternatives, from taking no action to structural measures such as beach nourishment. Following the presentation a brief period for questions and discussion was held.

For those who missed the one and a half hour meeting, the video is available to view on the Town's YouTube channel at [OakIslandNC.gov/YouTube](https://www.oakislandnc.gov/YouTube) or by clicking the link below.

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'Mardi Gras By The Sea' Success

It may be the "unofficial" kickoff to Spring in Oak Island, but from the record crowds this past weekend the ***Mardi Gras By The Sea Festival & Parade*** certainly seemed pretty official!

One of the most celebrated and anticipated events of the year, strong public engagement and favorable weather brought out the largest crowds the event has ever seen this past Saturday.

The Parade included **77 vehicles** with hundreds of participants, winding their way from Keziah Street to the Middleton Park Complex where Festival attendees got to browse from **103 vendors** at the market! All while enjoying great food, bounce houses, a Pet Costume Contest, Glitter Tattoos, Stilt Walkers, and music provided by the ***52nd Street Band***.

If you missed any of this weekend's fun, be sure to check out the photos on the Photo Gallery page at [OakIslandNC.gov/GALLERY](https://www.oakislandnc.gov/GALLERY) or click the link below.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

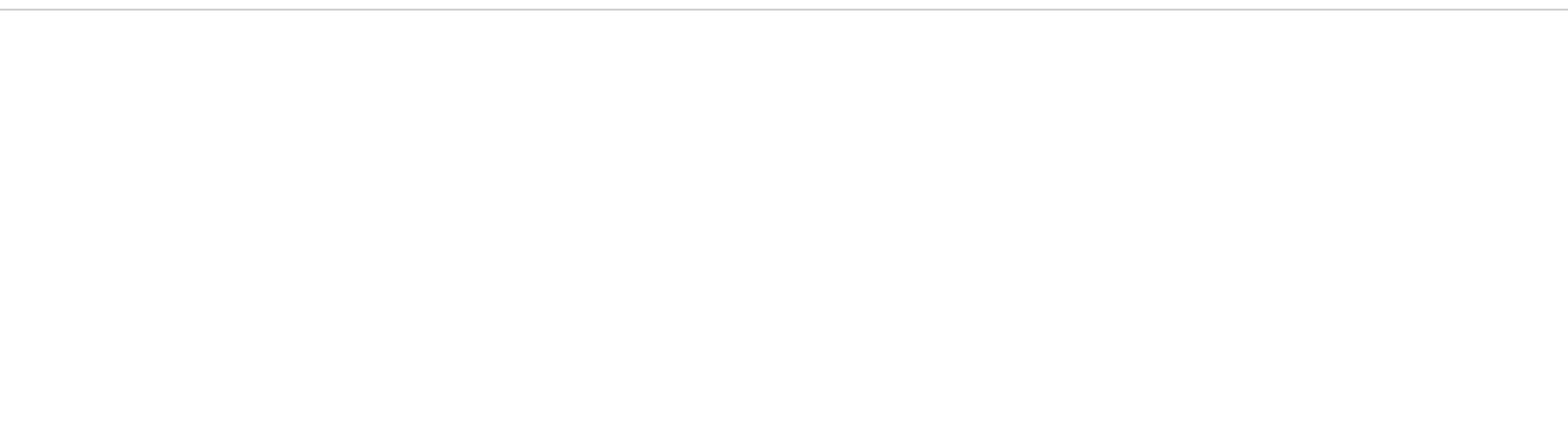
Community Center Calendar Updated for March

The **Oak Island Community Center** has updated its activity calendar for the month of **March**! Located beside the Town Hall at **102 SE 47th Street**, the Community Center is a congregate nutrition program and senior center, where individuals 60 and over can come to enjoy a hot well-balanced meal.

Hours are **Monday - Thursday** from **10:00 AM - 2:00 PM** with special meals & trips on Fridays (contact the Center for specific times). Individuals from Oak Island and the surrounding towns can participate in the programs, and do not have to be a Town resident. Transportation is also provided to those who live on the Island. Visitors can enjoy social recreation activities such as bingo and rummikub daily, while special programs are listed on the monthly calendar.

For more information on the Community Center, or to view the updated activity calendar for the month ahead, just visit their [OakIslandNC.gov/CC](https://www.oakislandnc.gov/CC) or click the link below.

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SAFETY BRIEF



POLICE DEPARTMENT: NNO "Rookie Award" Winner

On **Friday, October 6, 2023**, the Police Department hosted the **National Night Out** NNO event. This marked the Town's first year hosting the annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships.

Officers went all-out to ensure a memorable evening for all, as more than 20 different agencies, local business sponsors, non-profits, and community partner organizations joined in to FILL the Middleton Park Complex with activities, food, and fun. Importantly, the **National Night Out** organization itself took notice as well.

This past week, NNO presented the Oak Island Police Department with their prestigious ***Rookie of the Year*** Award. This award is presented to the agency making the best "first impression" in their efforts to participate in "*America's Night out Against Crime*."

This award just serves to confirm the dedication our officers and volunteers truly have to Community Policing. We are grateful to all of the law enforcement agencies within Brunswick County, as well as the military branches represented during NNO 2023. Additionally, we are just as thankful to YOU, the hundreds of attendees of all ages who came out to this community-building event, witnessing one of the largest spectacles Oak Island has ever hosted.

If you missed out on the fun last year, don't worry! Plans are already underway for 2024. Once finalized, information will be posted on the dedicated page of the Town Website at **OakIslandNC.gov/NN0**.

To learn more about the Police Department and how we serve our community, just visit **OakIslandNC.gov/PD** or click the OKI-PD patch below.



FIRE DEPARTMENT: "High 5" Makes Debut

If you attended the **Mardi Gras By the Sea Parade** this weekend, you might have seen the latest addition to our arsenal at the Oak Island Fire Department, a "new-to-us" 5-ton **High Water Vehicle** we've aptly named "***High 5***."

Pictured HERE during Saturday's parade, the **1986 AM General M939** is a 6-wheel drive beast originally designed to transport 10,000 lbs (4,500 kg) of payload over the most challenging of terrain, in the most punishing weather.

For use in Oak Island, ***High 5*** will be placed in service as a High-Water Rescue & Support vehicle, making good use of its extreme ground clearance. It will be housed at Station 2 and be available for emergency calls involving high water or any other conditions which would be impassable to normal response vehicles. As of this past weekend, High 5 is officially in service, and will be operated by a combination of members from the Fire Department and Police Department.

For more information on all of the facilities and services provided by the Fire Department, just visit **OakIslandNC.gov/FIRE** or click the OKI-FD patch below.



Community "Paint Day"

- **WHEN:** Saturday March 9, 2024 • 10:00 AM
- **WHERE:** Oak Island Splashpad Pump house • 4610 E Dolphin Drive

Mark your calendars, and break out your brushes ... ***actually, we'll provide the brushes!*** It's time to add a "splash of color" at the Splashpad, as Town hosts the "***Community Paint Day***" as part of the **Oak Island Public Art Trail**.

Now is your chance to be part of that effort, which will inspire years of memories for residents and visitors alike.

To learn more about the Public Art Trail, just visit the program's dedicated page on the Town Website at **OakIslandNC.gov/ART** or click the link below.

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7th Annual Doggie EGGstravaganza

- **WHEN:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 • 11:30 AM
- **WHERE:** Salty Dog Park (inside Bill Smith Park) • 4410 Fish Factory Rd.
- **COST:** FREE

Join Oak Island for the ***7th Annual Doggie EGGstravaganza*** at the Salty Dog Park inside Bill Smith Park. There will be many special prizes and yummy treats hidden inside eggs around the park. There will be separate a hunt for ***Dogs over 25 lbs*** and ***Dogs under 25 lbs***. Pets must be up to date on their vaccinations to participate.

For more information visit the **Events & Programs** page for the Recreation Department at **OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS** or click the link below.

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Spring Fling

- **WHEN:** Saturday, March 23, 2024

- **Market & Kids Zone:** NOON - 4:00 PM
- **Concert:** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- **WHERE:** Middleton Park Complex, 4610 E Dolphin Drive

Spring into the season with the Town of Oak Island as we say goodbye winter and hello spring! This event is free and no need to register. Come ready to shop at the Artisan Market, enjoy some lunch and dinner at our food vendors, let the kids play in the kids zone and then relax for some music by *The Doorsmen*!

For more information, check out the event listing on the [***Events & Programs***](#) page for the Recreation Department at [**OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS**](https://OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS) or by click the link below.

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Badges, Boats, & Boots

- **WHEN:** Saturday, April 20, 2024 • 2:00 PM
- **WHERE:** Middleton Park Complex (Softball Field), 4610 E Dolphin Drive

The ***bats are out and 'B3' is BACK!*** Come join the Oak Island Fire & Police Departments for their SECOND Annual exhibition against the US Coast Guard Station Oak Island in a First Responder Community Softball Game.

The inaugural event in October 2023 was a huge home run, so the "teams" have partnered up again for a more seasonal spring game this coming April. Plan now to attend and show support for your favorite first responders!

For more information visit the dedicated page of the Town Website at [**OakIslandNC.gov/BBB**](https://OakIslandNC.gov/BBB) or click the link below.

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REMINDER: A full listing of all coming events can be found on the ***Events & Programs*** page of the Town Website at [**OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS**](https://OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS).

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



Community Paint Day



Spring Fling



Badges, Boats, & Boots

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 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)	+