



THE CURRENT

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Week of
September 2, 2024

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

Observed the first Monday in September, ***Labor Day*** is an annual celebration of the social and economic achievements of American workers. The holiday is rooted in the late nineteenth century, when labor activists pushed for a federal holiday to recognize the many contributions workers have made to America's strength, prosperity, and well-being.

If there's one thing the "gray beards" or the "long timers" and the "old salts" of the coastal Carolinas know, it's **hard work**. The sea is a beautiful sight to behold, but it will toughen you all the same. Whether it's **hauling in the day's catch**, or **building a new bridge**, or even **cleaning up after a storm**, this Town was shaped by the hands of hard work. A shaping which has provided a place many now come to enjoy when their work is over.

So whether Oak Island is the place you've come to do your work, or the place you come to escape it, we take this Labor Day to say "***Thank You***" all the same. So now, let's all take a break, and sit back and relax, as we float down this week's edition of ***The CURRENT***.

MEETINGS & CLOSURES

- **Town Council Special Meeting**
- **Environmental Advisory Committee**
- **Par 3 Advisory Committee**

NEWS & NOTICES

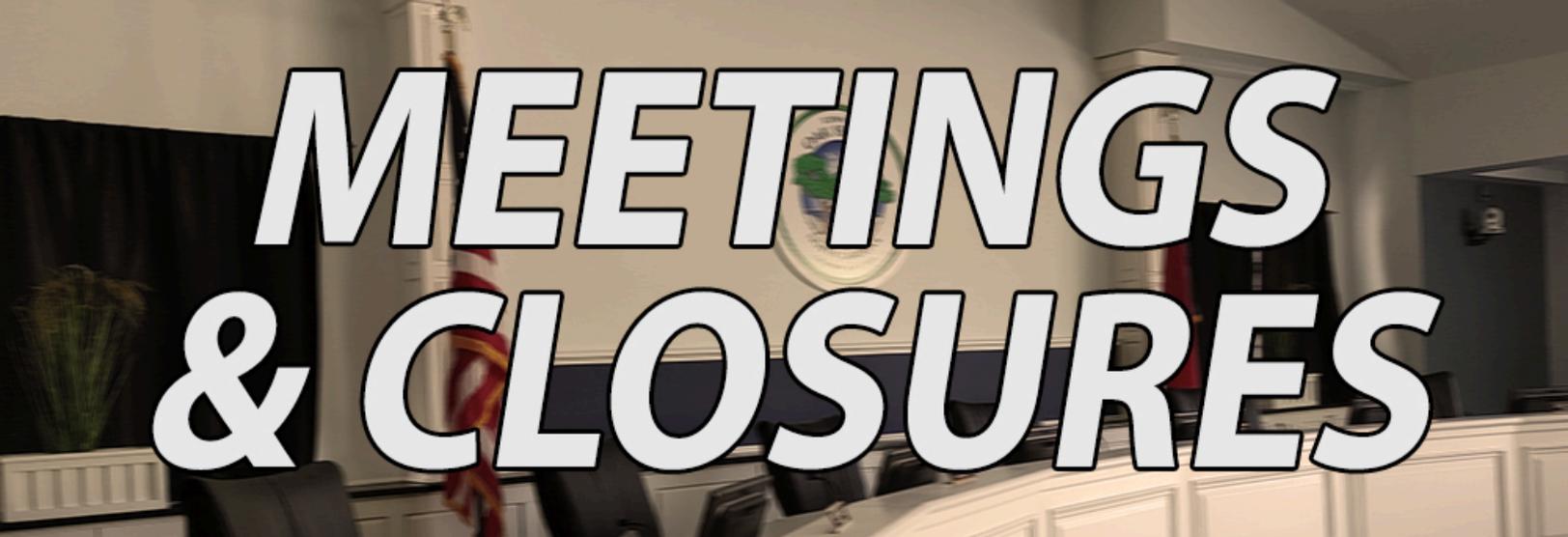
- **Special Meeting Notice**
- **Medallion Hunt**
- **Community Center Updates**
- ***Manager's Message: Labor Day Reflections***
- ***Staff Spotlight: New Employee Notices***

SAFETY BRIEF

- **FIRE & POLICE: Labor Day Safety**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Sunset On Summer *THIS WEEK!***
- **This Week In Recreation**
- **Event Flyers**



MEETINGS & CLOSURES

COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS

TOWN COUNCIL will hold a *Special Meeting* (televised) on **Tuesday, September 3** at **5:30 PM** in the Council Chambers, located on the 2nd floor of Town Hall.

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

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

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

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Town Administrative Offices will be **CLOSED** on **Monday, September 2, 2024** in observance of **Labor Day**.

NOTE: There are **NO changes** to the **Garbage & Recycling** schedule, however collection may be slowed due to higher volume over the holiday weekend.

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

NEWS & NOTICES

Special Meeting Notice

Please be advised that the **Oak Island Town Council** will hold a **Special Meeting** on **Tuesday, September 3, 2024** at **5:30 PM** in the Town Council Chambers, located on the second floor of Town Hall at 4601 E Oak Island Dr.

The purpose of this meeting is to hold a Closed Session, to discuss Specific Personnel pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6). Action may be taken.

Portions of the meeting outside of the Closed Session, including any actions taken, will be broadcast LIVE on **OKI-TV** (Spectrum Cable Channel 8), as well as livestreamed on the **Meetings Information** page of the Town Website. To view this page visit **OakIslandNC.gov/MEETINGS** or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Oak Island Medallion Hunt

The **Business Advisory Board**, is thrilled to announce the upcoming **Town of Oak Island Medallion Hunt**; a community-wide event celebrating the Town's **25th Anniversary**.



This fun and exciting event brings the community together in a ***race to find the hidden medallion!*** Whether you're a long time resident or just visiting, this thrilling treasure hunt is a chance to explore our beautiful Town, discover local businesses, and enjoy a little friendly competition.

How it works: Every morning of the event, a new puzzle will be posted on the ***Medallion Hunt*** page of the Town Website, as well as the Town's ***Facebook page***. The answer to the puzzle will be the name of a business in the Town of Oak Island.

Once you solve the puzzle and identify the business, head over to that location to find a clue that will lead you closer to the medallion's hiding spot. Each day, new puzzles and clues will bring you closer to the final location, so be sure to participate every day to maximize your chances. ***The Hunt will continue daily until someone successfully finds the medallion!***

For a full list of the program structure and rules, simply visit the ***Medallion Hunt*** page at ***OakIslandNC.gov/HUNT*** or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Community Center Updates

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

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/recreation (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*** or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

MANAGER'S MESSAGE: Labor Day Reflections

Direct updates from the office of Interim Town Manager, Kathryn Adams...

If you receive email updates through **OKInformation**, or subscribe to any of our **social media channels**, then you've probably seen several announcements lately about **new hires**. You may have even noticed the new **Staff Spotlight** feature here in The CURRENT.

That is intentional, and Labor Day makes a great opportunity to explain why.

The Town of Oak Island, like any other municipality, isn't made up of bricks and mortar. We aren't just a collection of beaches and parks, or streets and trees. **Oak Island is our PEOPLE.** We have a commitment to helping you understand the departments and services that make up your local government; and we feel the first step to understanding, is knowing the people who serve in those roles.

They work hard everyday to make this Town the best it can be, and Town Administration is working just as hard to ensure there are enough of them to do the job. So we take this Labor Day to say "Thank You" for the work they do everyday "**From the Trees to the Sea.**"

If you need to contact any department to **report a concern** or **request a service**, just click on the "**Report A Concern**" button right on the homepage, or click the link below.



Staff Spotlight: New Employees

We have more new faces to introduce here at the Town of Oak Island! Pictured from **left to right** below are ***Kristen Bauer, Tammy Arritt, & Karen Durham.***



Joining the Planning Department, Karen Durham is our newest Zoning Tech, and Kristen Bauer the GIS Administrator. Tammy Arritt joins Town Administration as the new Assistant Clerk / Communications Assistant (so look for her input in future editions of *The CURRENT*).

Kristen Bauer just had a short trip across the ICW, where she previously worked at a quality control lab at Archer Daniels Midland in Southport.

Tammy Arritt moved from a little farther away in Johnson City, TN where she worked as a paralegal. Although she has been a "heart time resident" of Oak Island for many years, and is excited to finally relocate to the area for good.

Karen Durham is no stranger to local government, as she comes from the Town of Clayton, where she worked for the past 18 years.

For more information on how you can join the Town of Oak Island team, just visit the ***Job Openings*** page at OakIslandNC.gov/JOBS or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



SAFETY BRIEF



FIRE & POLICE JOINT MESSAGE: Labor Day Safety

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was written and scheduled prior to the events of Sunday, September 1. It does NOT refer to this or any other similar event, and is not intended to bring undue attention to the tragic outcome. This article will remain published, as its message remains relevant to the week ahead.]

For many, the Labor Day holiday and the week following are the final days of summer fun. From a first responder perspective, we know that means considerably more cars on the roads, people on the beach, and activities in the water.

While we want everyone to have a good time, we also want it to be enjoyed **safely**. That's why for residents and visitors alike, we stress the following reminders:

- **AWARENESS:** Remember that safety doesn't take a break once Summer is over! Be sure to remain aware of your surroundings, and check the **Beach Safety** page everyday for current **Beach Warning Flag** conditions, swimming advisories, and how to avoid common accidents.
- **PATIENCE:** With more people, can come more frustration. Remember to take it easy, and let everyone enjoy their last few days of Summer together. When traveling, plan to leave a little earlier to allow for the increased traffic, and understand that wait times may be longer at your favorite restaurants.
- **KINDNESS:** If remain awareness of our surroundings, and employ some patience, then practicing a little kindness should come naturally. While we understand disagreements will happen, there's no reason they should escalate to needing Police Officers (and even Firefighter / EMTs), Remember that a little kindness goes long way, and is always a great first step to ensuring everyone stays safe.

Finally, we also understand that sometimes "having fun" can quickly get out of hand. If at any point you encounter someone acting in a way that endangers themselves or those around them, **please do not hesitate to CALL 9-1-1**. As always, we will be here to help.

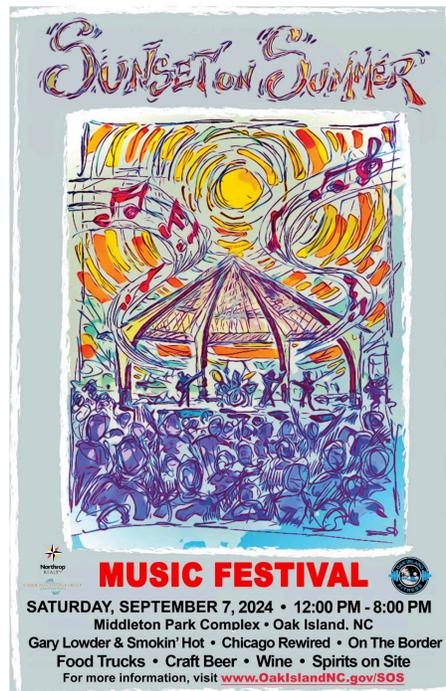
To review ALL of the safety information available, just visit the Beach Safety page of the Town Website at **OakIslandNC.gov/SAFETY** or click on either of our department patches below.



COMING EVENTS

THIS WEEK! '*Sunset On Summer*'

It's finally here, the best way to bid farewell to an awesome Summer! This **Saturday, September 7** the popular ***Sunset On Summer*** Music Festival returns:



Come out from **NOON - 8:00 PM** in the **Middleton Park Complex** for music from ***Gary Lowder & Smokin' Hot*** at NOON, followed by ***Chicago Rewired*** at 3:00 PM and ***On the Border*** at 6:00 PM.

The event will also feature food trucks, craft beer, wine, and spirits on site. All capped off with a special **FIREWORKS** show to help say goodbye to an awesome Summer!

For updates or to share information, visit **Special Events & Programs** page at OakIslandNC.gov/SOS or click the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

This Week in Recreation

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

Monday, September 2

- Town is Closed for Labor Day
- **Splash Pad Open 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**

Tuesday, September 3

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
- **Splash Pad CLOSED**

Wednesday, September 4

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
- **Recreation Center**
 - 10:30 AM – 11:30AM Strides Walking Club (Middleton Park Complex)
- **Splash Pad Closed**

Thursday, September 5

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
- **Nature Center**
- **Splash Pad Closed**

Friday, September 6

- **Recreation Center Fitness Classes**
- **Recreation Center**
- **Splash Pad Opened 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**

Saturday, September 7

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**

- **Recreation Center**
 - 11:30 AM – 1:30 AM Macrame Wall Hanging workshop
- Middleton Park Complex
 - NOON – 8:00 PM Sunset on Summer Music Festival
- **Splash Pad Opened 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**
(SUNDAY) Splash Pad Opened 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM Last Day to be opened

Monday, September 9

- **Recreation Center fitness classes**
- Recreation Center

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

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



September Fitness Calendar



Paintbrush Academy



Macrame Workshop



Table Tennis

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 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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