

Southport's Annual 4th of July Festival June 28-July 4

Come celebrate the patriotic spirit of America in Southport. For over 200 years, we've honored our nation's independence in grand style. From colonial times to today, it has grown into a cherished event. Each year, 40,000 to 50,000 people gather to commemorate Old Glory. Established in 1972 as the NC 4th of July Festival, the focus remains on honoring our nation's birthday. Join us for a delightful experience filled with traditions and merriment. Southport's festival ignites hearts with American pride.



Arts and Crafts Show - July 2-4

The N.C. 4th of July Festival Arts and Crafts show had its humble beginnings as a street fair near Leggett's (now Ocean Outfitters) on East Moore Street. Over time, it grew in popularity and underwent a few location changes until it finally settled in Franklin Square Park. Franklin Square Park, situated adjacent to the Southport Baptist Church at the corner of N. Howe and E. West Streets, became its permanent home.

Concessions

A variety of food and drink are available during the festival to fill you up as you partake in the numerous festival events. Your sense of smell will perk up when you near the concession areas. You will be tempted by the aroma of hot dogs, Greek gyros, Italian sausage, shrimp baskets, bar-b-que, blooming onions, and fries to funnel cakes, kettle corn, ice cream, cotton candy, and shaved ice.



Parade

The current N.C. 4th of July Festival Parade began in 1964 but has roots dating back to 1700's, when the ladies of Smithville (now the City of Southport) dressed in white and marched through the town in observance of Independence Day. Today's parade is much longer and has a bigger variety, with over 120 units filling the streets. An extra special treat is that the newly crowned Miss North Carolina makes one of her first appearances in the festival parade.

Freedom Flotilla

Decorate your vessel in Red, White, and Blue and come sail with us! Organized by the Cape Fear Yacht Club.

Freedom Run

Join us for an unforgettable 5K experience along the picturesque waterfront of downtown Southport! The race will wind through the quaint neighborhood, allowing you to immerse yourself in the area's beauty.

Music & Entertainment - July 2-4

We have partnered with Up Your Arts to bring you live music entertainment at Fort Johnston-Southport Visitors Center and Museum and the stage at Waterfront Park.

Naturalization Ceremony

The ceremony is a significant part of the annual North Carolina 4th of July Festival in Southport. After a three-year hiatus, the North Carolina 4th of July Festival is delighted to once again provide an appropriate

venue to welcome some of our country's newest citizens. There could not be a more appropriate venue for our country's newest citizens than in Southport, North Carolina, on the Banks of the Cape Fear River.

Veterans Recognition

The Veteran Recognition Ceremony is a mainstay of the July 4th Festival. During the many celebrations, it allows the public to stop and remember those who serve our country, protecting our freedoms. We encourage all Veterans in the area to attend. Dinner will be provided and seating is limited; this event is first come, first serve.



Annual Fire Fighters Freedom Competition & Apparatus Expo

This event, organized by the Southport Fire Department, has drawn firefighters from area fire departments to compete since 1984. What looks like fun games to the spectators is really an event to test the teamwork of a department, as it pays homage to the training and firefighting methods of our past. Take, for example, the bucket brigade. It was the method of extinguishing fires until the invention of the hand-pumped fire engine. A tremendous amount of teamwork and physical endurance, the key to an effective fire department, is needed to complete this duty.

The competitive events include Tanker Tug, Command Post, Bucket Brigade, Benjamin Franklin Impersonator, Extrication Demonstration, Mystery Event, Fire Extinguisher Demonstration, and Barrel Push, as



well as this year's newest activity, a pie-eating contest. Appearances by Sparky, Smokey, and Marshal from Paw Patrol®. Fire engines, ladder trucks, and equipment will be displayed, and firefighters will be available to answer any questions.

Beach Day

Beach Day is filled with fun and family-friendly activities organized by the Oak Island Recreation Department; with events held in collaboration with the North Carolina 4th of July Festival, as part of the larger schedule of activities hosted throughout the week to commemorate our Nation's Independence Day.

Fireworks

Oak Island will lead the way with a show from Oak Island Pier that starts at 9 p.m. and caps a day's worth of Beach Day activities marking the anniversary of the town's founding.

The pier is at 705 Ocean Drive, but the show should be visible from miles away, including Caswell Beach, the western portion of Oak Island, and even the waterfront in Southport, depending on the cloud coverage.

This year's 4th of July celebration includes a barge-mounted fireworks show from the **Southport waterfront** at 9 p.m. that is expected to last for at least 20 minutes.

The start will include a red burst for the blood shed by heroes, a white burst for the light of freedom, and a blue burst for courage to stand tall.

Full Listing of Events

<https://nc4thofjuly.com/events/>

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Summertime in Brunswick County

by Joanne Thompson

Oh yeah, it's summer and Brunswick County beaches and towns are booming. Road construction and the influx of visitors makes for tricky travel. Exercise patience. Leave a little earlier. Shop less busy times. Our economy is based on tourism. Remember many tourists plan and save all year for a brief beach vacation here...and we locals get to enjoy paradise all year... how lucky are we!!

Whether on vacation or wanting to enjoy a "stay-cation", feeding company, or just not wanting to cook, remember plenty of restaurants are ready to make your life easy.

When long lines are found everywhere, Pick Up and To Go solves the problem of having to wait around for a table. Free yourself of stress and feed your family without the fuss.

Here are a few Southport, popular places to try for pre ordered take away:

- **Dry Street** for delicious pizzas and salads, and...**StrEATside Bistro** for soups like roasted tomato jalapeño crab bisque and eclectic bowls and quesadillas.
- **Southport Cheese**, offering a world of unique cheeses, meats and olives, as well as creative hosting complements, prepares customized charcuterie trays that will WOW your guests. Freshly baked breads, bagels, and sandwiches for breakfasts, lunches, and brunches are available to make entertainment easier.
- **The Salty Olive**, located next to the police station near WalMart, is heaven for hosting. Sample a daz-

zling array of the highest quality olive oils and balsamic vinegars, both flavored and unflavored. Blood orange, pomegranate, fig, mango, are just a few choices to taste. The secret is QUALITY. You can taste and buy a small bottle, keeping it fresh for you. Some of the other tasty gourmet choices are martini kits, top of the line small batch soy sauces, fabulous stuffed olives, and sauces and jams. A wonderful line of Italian olive oil based cosmetic lotions and creams is found here as well. There are some really cute Southport branded hostess gifts as well.

- **A Slice of Haven**, 111 Howe St., formerly Trolley Stop Hot Dogs, has opened! Yay!! Take out pizza by the pie or slice. Salads, soft drinks, desserts, and gelato to go has everyone excited.

Let's talk about feeding your skin and soul too.

If you want to treat your skin and body **Las Olas Skin and Body**. Located on the Intracoastal Waterway in South Harbour Village, Southport, NC, Las Olas Skin and Body offers results-driven skincare and beauty treatments in a calm, coastal setting. Using medical-grade products and advanced techniques, each service is tailored to deliver real results.

Once a month, Jennifer Beeson, PA-C, is on-site offering Botox and fillers. Inspired by the healing power of the ocean, Las Olas invites you to relax, renew, and take it easy by the water.

If you a delicious spray tan instead of a real sun tan, try **Bronzed by Kelsea**, located inside **Cape Fear Fitness**, 5130 Southport Supply Rd. Kelsea offers classic and rapid spray tans and teeth whitening sessions. Book online.

While you are at it, pampering yourself, you might want to visit **Premier Fitness Studio**, on Long Beach Rd. for Fitness classes like bungee, arterial yoga, kickboxing, and cardio drumming. Let tensions drift away when you enjoy the Coastal Float Spa where you relax, rest, and renew.

Much to the delight of locals and visitors alike, **Fish Factory**, on Long Beach Rd., has opened and all comments are WOW just WOW. When you open the door you step into classy up scale decor, beautiful servers, a menu that offers choices priced well and prepared to perfection to satisfy! The chef Ryan chooses only quality ingredients and creatively prepares dishes that are palate pleasing and cooked to perfection. Fish Factory is open for lunch and dinner.

Give it a try.

New to the area, **Yakworks** kayaks, states it has the lightest, most stable kayaks. Located at 4807 Southport Supply Rd, kayaks, paddles, and plenty of accessories are for sale here in an effort to meet kayaking needs.

Something else, much like the gooney birds found everywhere, is artist-painted, yard covers. **Art-**



Works, creates yard water pipes covers that add to your garden's beauty. You can order customized art created to reflect your taste. Contact CathleenARThompson.com for yard art works, murals, paintings, jewelry or puzzles.



Discover and enjoy all the wonders of Brunswick County this summer. There are plenty of fun filled music venues, events, breweries, farmers markets, restaurants and beaches and beach activities to be enjoyed... let's get out and enjoy it ALL. Happy Summer. Happy 4th of July. Happy Birthday America!!

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25th Annual Brunswick Arts Council Art Show August 5 - August 15, 2025



This show is open to Adult Artists 18 and older who are residents of Brunswick County and/or who are paid members of the Art League of Leland, Associated Artists of Southport, Oak Island Art Guild, Waterway Art Association, Coastal Carolina Camera Club or the Brunswick Arts Council. Brunswick County Teens (rising 9th grade to just age 18) are eligible to enter the Teen Category. Teens over 18 should enter the Adult Category.

\$6,000 in Awards!

The awards ceremony is open to all artists and guests. The Art Exhibition is open to the public at no charge.

Conditions

Entries must be original works, not previously shown at the BAC Annual Art Show. Ceramics, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, or a combination of the listed media created in the last three years (2022-2025) will be considered. 2D art works must be suitably mounted and securely wired ready to hang (no sawtooth hangers). All entries must not exceed 40" in any direction, including the frame. 3D work must not exceed 50 pounds. No entry that requires the artist to be present for moving or assembly will be accepted. BAC reserves the right to change submission categories if sign-up category criteria isn't met. By submitting your artwork, your agreement to these conditions is implied.

Registration Form & Entry Fee

Only two entries into each category. An artist may submit more than one entry. Submit a non-refunda-

ble entry fee of \$45 (Adult) & \$10 (Teen). (Example: entry number 1 could have two pieces in Painting and entry number 2 could have two pieces in a 3-D.) Pay online or make checks payable to: Brunswick Arts Council.

The registration form and entry fee must be received by BAC no later than Saturday, August 2, 2025. This is the ONLY registration option.

Works must be hand delivered on Monday, August 4, 2025 from 10 am-2pm to the Leland Cultural Arts Center, Leland NC.

Directions and map available at web site: Parks & Facilities | Town of Leland, NC or call (910) 385-9891.

Gallery Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am - 9pm, Friday & Saturday 9am-3pm

Art Show Calendar

Pre-registration deadline: Saturday, August 2, 2025

Receiving works: Monday, August 4, 2025 10am-2pm

Exhibition dates: Tuesday, August 5 thru Friday, August 15, 2025

Gallery Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-9pm, Friday - Saturday 9am-3pm PM

Reception & Awards Ceremony: Thursday, August 14, 2025, 5-7pm

Judge & Winners- Walk-thru: Thursday, August 14, 2025, 5:15-6:15pm

Removal of work: Friday, August 15, 2025, 10am-2pm

<https://www.givsum.com/opportunities/25th-annual-bac-artshow-e36170168>

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CHECK OUT THE

Southport EVENTS CALENDAR

cityofsouthport.com/events

Ribbon Cutting Celebration at Women's Life Center in Shallotte

It was a beautiful morning to celebrate a beautiful mission! We were honored to host a ribbon cutting on June 13 for Women's Life Center, a powerful beacon of Help, Compassion & Hope for women and families navigating difficult pregnancy decisions.

As an Impact Mission of StATU-SA (Stand Against Trafficking USA), this center is making a real differ-

ence—right here in our community.

Learn more at <https://womenslifecenter.org/>




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Elevating Access

A Capital Improvement Project to Increase Accessibility at the Museum.

For more than 34 years, the Museum's saltwater aquariums, live touch tank, interactive exhibits, lectures, and family programs have made it a popular destination for local residents and tourists from across the country. However, the Museum has several accessibility challenges that limit its functionality and ability to serve all visitors. Therefore, the Ocean Isle Museum Foundation has launched a capital improvement project, Elevating Access, to make essential building modifications to the Museum that will increase accessibility.

Project Overview

The project includes, refitting restroom facilities, the addition of handrails along interior ramps between exhibits and the construction of an addition to house an elevator which will provide access to the Hayden O'Neil Learning Center, a multi-purpose education space on an upper level, and the Barrier Island Gallery on the lower level. Both these areas currently can only be reached by stairs.

It's all part of a master plan for the Museum's 14,000-square-foot building, a process that engaged a broad cross-section of stakeholders, including Board members, government, nonprofit, and business leaders, and donors, members, and volunteers. The resulting ten-year plan identified the need to increase accessibility for patrons, rearrange exhibits to provide for a more effective traffic flow, relocate the retail area to attract more sales, and increase exhibit space. But last year the organization's board of trustees identified accessibility as its most pressing need. As a result, we launched the Elevating Access project.

Need For the Project

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that Brunswick County has been North Carolina's fastest-growing county since 2020. From 2021 to 2022, its population increased by

8,250, a growth rate of 5.7%, and now exceeds 153,000 residents. In 2021, the Annual Disability Statistics Compendium reported that 15.2% of County residents had a disability.

Additionally, seniors will benefit from this project. The 2022 U.S. Census reports that 34% of Brunswick County residents are 65 and older. Many of the Museum's patrons are seniors visiting with their grandchildren, and most of the Museum's approximately 100 volunteers, many serving as docents are over 65. This project will ensure they can fully engage with visitors in all exhibits and programs.

The Museum aims to create a welcoming environment that serves diverse audiences, promotes equal access, and ensures all visitors enjoy a complete and enriching experience. Elevating Access positions the Museum for sustained success and greater community impact for the growing communities it serves.

In addition to general audiences, which include local residents and tourists, students will benefit from this project. The Museum's interactive exhibits and education programs are critical resources, providing essential STEM learning activities that align with North Carolina Standards of Learning for grades K-6. Nearly 3,500 students visit annually, primarily from Brunswick County elementary and middle schools, all of which are Title 1 schools. Students also come from the North Carolina counties of New Hanover, Columbus, Pender, Onslow, Duplin, Horry, and even as far away as Durham. Because some exhibit spaces and the Learning Center are currently only accessible by stairs, installing an elevator will provide students with equal access.

To learn more about the benefits of being a major donor, please contact Executive Director Jim Hoffman at director@museumplanetarium.org.

To donate:

<https://sales.museumplanetarium.org/Donation.aspx?CR=RC>

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Dosher Hospital Foundation Receives \$40,000 Grant from Louis Bacon's Orton Foundation

Dosher Memorial Hospital Foundation announced that it is the recipient of a \$40,000 grant from the Orton Foundation, the North Carolina affiliate of The Moore Charitable Foundation. The funds will be allocated to Doshier Hospital's new Emergency Department, which treats more than 12,000 patients per year and which has earned two national awards for providing high patient satisfaction.

Dosher Memorial Hospital is building an 8,000 sq. ft. ED complex expansion to handle the projected volume increase of patients. The Total Service Area (TSA) population is projected to increase by 8% (2,615 people) over the next five years. The new space will include 9 patient care rooms and 5 vertical care rooms. Grant funds will allow Doshier Hospital to grow and build upon the 2022 Mindray Cardiac Monitor that Orton Foundation funded and provide the infrastructure needed in the new ED space. The current antenna infrastructure that supports the monitors was put in place in 2011/2013 but is not robust enough to handle the clinical needs for today's higher acuity healthcare environment. Therefore, new antennas and additional Mindray patient

monitors are needed to support the new space.

Lynda Stanley, President and CEO of Doshier Memorial Hospital said, "The Doshier Emergency Department is central to our mission of providing extraordinary care for our community. We are extremely grateful to The Orton Foundation for their generous support of the Doshier Emergency Department. Over the years, their charitable donations of over \$315,000 have enabled us to upgrade medical equipment, such as the infrastructure needed for the Mindray Cardiac Monitor, to ensure the most positive outcomes for our patients.

"We are proud to continue our support of Doshier Memorial Hospital and the expansion of their Emergency Department, which treats more than 12,000 patients every year and maintains high patient satisfaction," said Louis Bacon, founder and chairman of The Moore Charitable Foundation and its affiliate The Orton Foundation.

For more information about the Doshier Memorial Hospital Foundation, contact Toni McAndrews, Foundation Director, at (910) 457-3936 or visit www.dosher.org.



Pictured Left to Right: Jill Ward, Chief Nursing Officer, Doshier Memorial Hospital; Dillon Epps, The Orton Plantation; Libby Featherston, Treasurer, Doshier Memorial Hospital Foundation; Kelley Pendleton, RN, Doshier Memorial Hospital Emergency Department; Antonette (Toni) McAndrews, Director, Doshier Memorial Hospital Foundation; Tish Hatem, Secretary, Doshier Memorial Hospital Foundation; Don Hendershot, RN, Doshier Memorial Hospital Emergency Department; Lynda Stanley, CEO/President, Doshier Memorial Hospital.

SICK?

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When you're sick with a minor illness, and need to see a medical provider right away, Doshier's Walk-In Care team is golden!

Wanda Oxendine, FNP, and Cassaundra Hefner, DNP, FNP – nominated by a grateful patient – earned a Golden Pineapple Award for outstanding service from the Southport Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce.

Doshier Wellness Center is located at 3009 Medical Plaza Lane, adjacent to the St. James SeaSide Gate.

- ✓ Open M-F, 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
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July/August Events



BELVILLE

August 23

Community Yard Sale

7am-Noon | Belville Riverwalk Park
580 River Rd SE

Table/booth registration required.



BOLIVIA

July 12

The Landings Car Show

11am-2pm | The Landings of Oak Island | 2910 Pine Plantation Pkwy

Food Trucks, Face Painting, Fairy Hair, Games and More!!! The Landings of OKI residents will vote on the winners of the Car Show. Half of the proceeds will go to the winner and the other half goes to activities for the residents of The Landings OKI. Car registration fee \$25.00.

HOLDEN BEACH

Tuesdays

Tide Dye Tuesday

1-2:30pm | Bridgeview Park

Participants must be in line by 2:00 p.m. to participate because the process takes approximately 30 minutes to complete.

Fee is \$7 per shirt for youth sizes through adult XL and \$10 per shirt for 2XL.

Payment via cash or check only.

LELAND

July 12

Foam Festival

12-4pm | Leland Brewing Company
Cape Fear Rugby Club | 141 Old Fayetteville Rd

This event will feature 4 HOURS of family friendly foam, free to enjoy!

We will also have, local live music, craft brews and cider, handcrafted coffee from Midnight Oil, 20+ small businesses.

July 19

Summer Art Market

10am-3pm | Leland Cultural Arts Center | 1212 Magnolia Village Way

More than 20 vendors from across North Carolina, offering a wide variety of handcrafted items

July 29

2nd Annual Breakfast at the

Kids Table

7:30-9am | Leland Cultural Arts Center | 1212 Magnolia Village Way

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern NC has three after-school clubs and one summer camp club in Brunswick County serving children K-8. The desire of BGCSENC is to expand throughout the entire county, but we cannot do that without community caring. Please join us as we kickstart our morning with highlights of our successes in Brunswick County.

No charge to attend. Sponsor levels available for cost with full table of 7 for guests and marketing benefits.

<https://bgcsenc.org/what-we-do/>

OAK ISLAND

Mondays Thru August 25

Oak Island Farmers Market

8am-1pm | Middleton Park
4610 E. Dolphin Dr

Enjoy fresh produce, homemade jams, cakes and a variety of homemade goods including jewelry, furniture, rugs and more!

OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS

July 10, 24 & August 12, 26

Kayak Trips Down the Davis Canal

10am-12pm | Oak Island Recreation Center | 3003 E Oak Island Dr | \$30 Residents/
\$40 Non-residents

Enjoy Oak Island's beauty from the water! Guided trips are available through the Oak Island Recreation Department. Trips last approximately 2 hours and include kayak rentals, paddle, PFFD and experienced guides.

Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch at SE 31st Street, Oak Island, NC

For more information or to register, call the Recreation Programs Supervisor at 910-278-4747.

July 11-12

Christmas in July

8:30am-4pm | Oak Island Senior Center | 5918 E Oak Island Dr.

Please join us at the Oak Island Senior Center on July 11 and 12 for a Christmas Art/Craft/Bake Sale.

July 19

Splash Pad After Hours 18 and Older

6:30-8pm | Middleton Park
4610 E. Dolphin Dr

Come join in the fun at the Splash Pad After Hours. You must pre-register for this Program. The Splash Pad will be open

for Adults, with games, music and food trucks.

To register visit www.OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS. \$5 Per Person, Pre-Registration Required

If you have any questions contact contact Emily Kincer or John Henry at ekincer@oakislandnc.gov or jhenry@oakislandnc.gov

August 30

34th Annual Arts & Crafts Festival

9am-4pm | Middleton Park

34th Annual Arts and Crafts Festival hosted by the Oak Island Art Guild. 75+ local and regional artists/ craftsmen will be on display at the Middleton Park on Oak Island on Saturday, August 30, 2025. Paid parking, Free admission to event, food trucks.

OCEAN ISLE

Tuesdays Thru August 26

OIB Market Series

9am-1pm | 3rd & 5th West Street

Wednesdays July 2-

August 13

Moonlight Movies

7:30-10:30pm | Town Center Park
11 E. Second Street

Bring a comfy chair or blanket and enjoy your favorite family-friendly films projected onto a 16ft screen on the Amphitheater stage. No matter where you are, every spot has a great view! A variety of food vendors will also be on site with yummy snacks and treats for purchase. Moonlight Movies is a great way to relax with your friends and family in an inviting outdoor setting.

Pets, smoking, vaping, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and glass containers are prohibited on park grounds and in parking areas.

<https://www.oibgov.com/calendar/24726/moonlight-movies-2025-summer-schedule>

SOUTHPORT

July 11, August 1

First Fridays at the Artisans Gallery

5-7pm | The Artisans Gallery on Howe | 114 S. Howe Street

Join the Artisans Gallery on Howe for our fabulous First Friday events. We have live music on the porch, snacks and wine inside, and some of the best shopping in Southport inside our two-story gallery.

July 11

Movies on the Lawn

Dusk | Fort Johnston Garrison Lawn | 203 E. Bay Street

Bring the family, blanket, or chairs for a viewing of Dog Man. Popcorn will be served and drinks available for \$2.00

August 20

Southport Lions Labor Day

Car Show

8am-2pm | Downtown Southport

Family Day games, moon bounce, and more. Hot dogs and hamburgers sold at 1980 prices. Open to ALL cars, trucks and motorcycles. Event sponsorships are available. Car Show: 8am-2pm; Family Day Activity: 10am-3pm. Car Show Registration \$25 from 8am-12pm. Judging 10:30am-12:30pm. Awards at 2:00pm. Trophies awarded in several categories. Preregister and visit online: www.southportlions.org. Proceeds to benefit Southport Lions Vision Programs, Community Programs and Youth Programs.

For more information or sponsorship details, contact Roger Albizu at (301) 514-5393 or email Roger.Albizu@gmail.com
<http://www.southportlions.org>

Wednesdays, Thru- Aug 27

Southport Summer Market

10am-4pm | Waterfront Park

The Southport Summer Market is a place for local growers and crafters to sell their goods directly to consumers, fostering community engagement and interaction.

The Southport Summer Market will run every Wednesday from the first Wednesday in May until the last Wednesday in August, excluding the week of the Fourth of July, and will be open from 10am-4pm. The market operates rain or shine unless determined otherwise by the Market Committee due to hazardous weather conditions.

Go to cityofsouthport.com/southport-summer-market/ to learn more or register to become a vendor!

SUNSET BEACH

Thursdays Thru October 9

Market in the Park

9am-1pm | Sunset Beach Town Park

For Up-to-Date Information on the Above Events and to Find More Fun Things to Do:

www.oakislandnc.com/ | www.oakislandnc.com/government/parks-recreation | www.townofshallotte.org
www.hbtownhall.com | www.sunsetbeachnc.gov/ | www.ncbrunswick.com/events | www.southport-oakisland.com
www.townofleland.com/ | www.oibgov.com/ | www.southportnc.org/ | www.townofcalabash.net/ | www.cityofbsl.org/
Also check events on your facebook page





Cars in the Park Car Show

The Sun Coast Cruisers Car Club is holding their annual Car show this time at the Belville Riverwalk Park, 580 River Road, Belville on September 6th, 2025. We will expect 100 classic cars and about 150 spectators for this event. SunCoast Cruisers have around 80 active members that will be assisting with the show.

20% of the proceeds from the show will go to local charities like CUE, DVA or Honor Fight for Veterans.

All are welcome! No Admission for spectators.

Enjoy vendors, food trucks, door prizes and 50/50 Drawing.

Registration is from 8-11am. Awards presented at 2pm.

Pre-register for \$20.00 by August 29, or day of show for \$25.00. Make checks payable to Sun Coast Cruisers, 141 Lighthouse Dr, Carolina Beach, NC 28428

<https://www.facebook.com/SunCoastCruisers>

Batten Down the Hatches for Annual Pirate Week July 6 – 11

A vast, ye landlubbers! Batten down the hatches for the Museum of Coastal Carolina and Town of Ocean Isle Beach annual Pirate Week on July 6-11. There will be pirate fun aplenty for those who like pillage, plunder, and sword fights. Who doesn't, aye!?

Did you know that the proximity of the gulf stream combined with shallow waters and sandbars made the Outer Banks an ideal location for piracy? Throughout Pirate Week, the Museum of Coastal Carolina and the Town of Ocean Isle Beach Recreation Department offer a variety of fun events to explore this infamous chapter of Carolina maritime history.

ty of fun events to explore this infamous chapter of Carolina maritime history.

<https://museumplanetarium.org>

21 East 2nd Street

Ocean Isle Beach

Phone: 910-579-1016



Join us for a summer of reading and fun with the Brunswick County Library Summer Reading Program! In addition to our reading incentive program for youth (Ages: Birth to Grade 12), we will be offering in-person events at all five of our branches. Summer Reading kicks off June 1 and ends on July 31. Click the tabs below for events at each library branch or check the events calendar for all Library programs and events.

Starting June 1, youth can pick up a Summer Reading log at any of the library branches. Reading can be recorded on the log or on READsquared, which can be accessed online or via the app: <https://brunswickcounty.readsquared.com/>

To view specific information for each Library branch visit: <https://www.brunswickcountync.gov/199/Summer-Reading>

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Southport Reminds Public: Metal Detecting and Treasure Hunting are Prohibited on Protected Historic Sites

The City of Southport would like to remind residents and visitors that metal detecting, treasure hunting, and unauthorized digging are strictly prohibited on protected historic sites within the city. Several key locations in Southport are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are legally protected under both state and federal law.

Protected Properties Include:

- Fort Johnston premises — including the grounds, lawn, and the entire North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport site
- Old Brunswick County Courthouse / Old City Hall
- Old Brunswick County Jail
- John N. Smith Cemetery, the newest addition to the National Register

Federal laws such as the Archae-

ological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and North Carolina's own Archaeological Resources Protection Act prohibit unauthorized excavation or artifact removal on these properties. Violators may face fines of up to \$2,000 per day, imprisonment for up to six months, and confiscation of equipment.

"The preservation of Southport's historic sites is critical to maintaining our city's unique heritage," said Jessie Labell, Assistant Director of Community Relations. "We urge everyone to respect these protected areas and report any unauthorized activity immediately."

What to Do if You Discover Artifacts

If you accidentally discover an artifact or historical item, do not disturb or remove it. Instead, report your find to one of the following local institutions:

- Fort Johnston Visitors Center and Museum
- North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport
- Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site
- Fort Fisher State Historic Site

These locations will ensure proper documentation, evaluation, and preservation of historic artifacts.

How to Report Suspicious Activity

Residents who witness illegal metal detecting or digging on protected lands should report the activity promptly:

- Southport Police Department: (910) 457-7911
- NC Office of State Archaeology: (919) 814-6550 (archaeology.ncdcr.gov)
- NC Division of State Historic

Sites: (919) 814-6970 (historicsites.nc.gov)

By protecting our historic sites and reporting unauthorized activities, we all play a part in preserving Southport's rich history for future generations.



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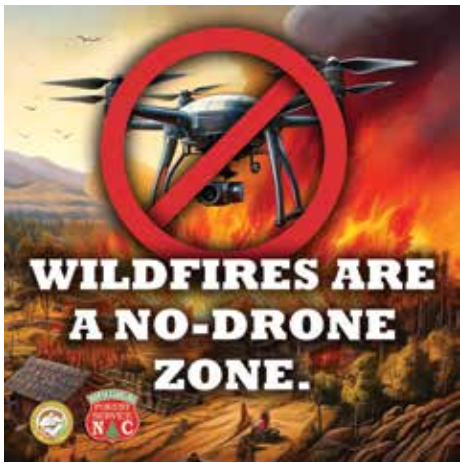
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There were two drone incursions recently over the Sunset Road Fire, an active wildfire, in Brunswick County. While these drones were in the air, firefighting aircraft had to be grounded for 45 minutes. When a wildfire runs and spreads rapidly, every minute counts.

Flying a drone near or over a wildfire is ILLEGAL. Don't do it.

Firefighting aircraft that respond to wildfires fly low in support of ground personnel. Drones can pose a serious threat to pilot and public safety. A drone that disrupts air operations also puts firefighters, residents and property at risk of loss to wildfire.

Oftentimes, media outlets, other first responders and private landowners deploy drones near or over wildfires. It isn't ok. It's dangerous ... until it's deadly. Don't do it.

It's illegal to fly a drone near or over a wildfire in North Carolina.

N.C.G.S. §15A-300.4 -- No person, entity, or State agency shall use an unmanned aircraft system within either a horizontal distance of 3,000 feet or a vertical distance of 3,000 feet from any forest fire within the jurisdiction of the North Carolina Forest Service.

Remember, wildfires are a no-drone zone for good reason.

Help Preserve Southport's Charm — One Brick at a Time!

Do you love Southport's history, coastal character, and beautiful old homes? The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) might be the perfect place for you to get involved!

The HPC helps protect and guide changes in the City's historic district — from reviewing renovation projects and new construction to ensuring that our town's unique charm is preserved for future generations. It's where passion for preservation meets thoughtful decision-making.

Who are we looking for?

People who care. Whether you're a history buff, architecture lover, or just someone who wants to keep Southport looking like Southport, we want to hear from you! No special degrees required — just a heart for heritage and a willingness to learn.

Join us and help write the next chapter in Southport's story!

Apply here: <https://buff.ly/qmjz1LZ>

It's Too Hot to Leave Your Dog in the Car



Dogs suffer from heatstroke and die every year when owners leave them in parked hot cars. Leaving the windows down or parking in the shade is not enough to prevent this.

VEHICLE TEMPERATURE		
OUTSIDE TEMP (F)	INSIDE TEMP (F)	
	10 MIN	30 MIN
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

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NC: 800-672-6379
FAX 910-253-2705

Hurricane Season is Here: Be Informed. Be Prepared. Be Safe.

As hurricane season begins, the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office urges all residents to take the time to prepare now—before a storm threatens our area.

Living on the coast means we must always stay weather-aware, especially during hurricane season, which runs from June 1 through November 30. While we hope for a quiet season, it only takes one storm to make a lasting impact.

Here are a few key safety tips to keep in mind:

- **Make a Plan:** Know your evacuation route, have a family communication plan, and identify a safe place to go if you need to leave your home.
- **Build a Kit:** Stock up on essentials like water, non-perishable food, medications, batteries, flashlights, and important documents. Don't forget supplies for pets.
- **Stay Informed:** Follow trust-

ed sources for weather updates, including the Sheriff Brian Chism National Weather Service, local news, and official county alerts. You can also follow the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office on social media for timely updates and emergency information.

- **Protect Your Property:** Trim trees, secure loose items, and make sure your home insurance is up to date.

Sheriff Brian Chism and the men and women of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office are committed to your safety. We work closely with emergency management partners before, during, and after any severe-weather to help keep our community safe.

Don't wait until a storm is on the radar. Prepare today.



Maintain awareness of your surroundings, be courteous and respectful of other boaters, and travel at a safe speed.

Hot cars can be deadly. Never leave children or pets in your vehicle.

TIPS FOR A SAFE SUMMER SEASON

SOUTHPORT POLICE

Call 911 if you think someone is drowning. Don't try to rescue someone from the water unless you are trained in water rescue.

Do not drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Propane and charcoal grills should only be used outdoors. Keep them away from the house, deck and railings.

Brunswick Marketplace

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Brunswick Bands Announces Summer Winds Concert Series

The Summer Winds is an ensemble of Brunswick Bands Inc., an organization of volunteer musicians, along with talented high school students, who simply enjoy performing music, and are dedicated to enriching our Brunswick County area with a variety of fabulous instrumental music. Admission for any of our concerts is always free.

The Bands encourage Brunswick County students to participate with community and school band programs. The Music Student Assistance Program loans musical instruments to students, and a scholarship program is available to graduating Brunswick County musicians. Some individual Band members also assist the music programs at middle and high schools in the county. Brunswick

Bands, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Financial support comes from donations, sponsorship opportunities and Friends of the Brunswick Bands.

For more information, visit www.brunswickbands.org.

Brunswick Summer Winds

2025 Summer Concert Tour

***Friday - June 27th**
7:15pm – Fort Johnston Garrison Lawn – Southport

***Tuesday - July 1st**
7:00pm – The Davis Community in Porters Neck – Wilmington

Wednesday - July 2nd
7:00pm – Woodlands Amphitheater – St. James

***Saturday, July 5th**
7:00pm – Southport Baptist Church – Southport

All Concerts are free of charge
*Denotes Concerts Open to the General Public

Summer Activities for Kids

Looking for activities for the kids this summer? Here are a few options.

Town of Oak Island Education Centers

June 2 - August 29

Ocean Education Center

Monday-Wednesday | 10am-2pm

Nature Center

Wednesday-Friday | 10am-2pm

VBS - Trusting Jesus from the Inside Out!

July 16-19 | 1pm

Living Word | 1029 George II Hwy
Winnabow

Come and join us as we discover how to put our trust in Jesus! Each night we will have music, lessons, crafts, games, food and lots of fun!

- Elementary to Middle School Ages (K-8): Kindergarten to 2nd Grade, 3rd-5th Grade, 6th-8th Grade
- VBS Opening Night Wednesday, July 16th 6-8:30pm
- VBS Thursday, July 17th, 6-8:30pm
- VBS Friday July 18th 6-8:30pm
- Family Fun Day! Saturday, July 19th: 10am-1pm
- Kids can be dropped off as early as 5:45pm.
- Dinner served nightly
- VBS concludes with Family Fun Day on Saturday, July 19th which is open for all family & friends to join us for a fun day of food & fellowship.

More details to follow including a registration link.

No cost to attend. Please beware of scammers

Library Events

Summer E-Sports Tournaments

4-5pm | Rourke Branch Library
5068 Main St, Shallotte

Join us this summer for our first-ever Library E-Sports Tournament featuring Mario Kart 8 Deluxe on the Nintendo Switch! Rising 3rd-5th graders only. Race against your friends, show off your skills, and compete for cool prizes in our Youth

Brackets. Free to enter - all you need is your game face! Snacks and Drinks provided. Parent/caregiver must remain at the library during the program.

Register Here:

June 19: <https://brunswick.libcal.com/event/14436657>

July 1: <https://brunswick.libcal.com/event/14436583>

July 8: <https://brunswick.libcal.com/event/14436493>

July 24: <https://brunswick.libcal.com/event/14436514>

July 29: <https://brunswick.libcal.com/event/14436571>

Tie-Dye Crafting @ Barbee

July 14 | 4pm

Barbee Library | 8200 E Oak Island Dr Oak Island

Join your friends and get artistic with tie-dye! Dye unique patterns on bandanas and t-shirts provided or bring your own items. Remember to wear clothes that can get messy. Grades 3-12. Registration is required.

To register: <https://brunswick.libcal.com/event/14102640>

Teen Court

July 29 | 6-8pm

Brunswick County Courthouse
310 Government Center Dr NE,
Bolivia

Brunswick County Teen Court takes place at the Brunswick County Courthouse. Teen Court is a Communities In Schools program in partnership with the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, Brunswick County Schools, and the District Attorney's Office.

Students are trained to serve as attorneys, jurors, bailiffs, and clerks in real cases involving first-time juvenile offenders. These volunteers get a hands-on educational experience which helps them better understand our system of justice. Juvenile offenders' participation in this diversion program saves the county at least \$2,000 per case. In 2014, 74 defendants were served and 76 volunteers participated in the program.

<http://www.cisbrunswick.org>

Teen Court Director Erin Hagen at 253-4087

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FRI-SAT DINNER: 5 PM -9 PM-CLOSE + SUNDAY BRUNCH: 10 AM-2 PM



June marked the start of the Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from June 1 through November 30, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts above-normal hurricane activity in the Atlantic basin this year. Brunswick County encourages all community members to start preparing now.

For the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season, NOAA is forecasting a range of 13 to 19 total named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher). Of those, 6-10 are forecast to become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 3-5 major hurricanes (category 3, 4 or 5; with winds of 111 mph or higher). NOAA has a 70% confidence in these ranges.

The alphabetical list of 2025 Atlantic hurricane names can be found at hurricanes.gov/aboutnames.shtml#atl

ceive information in the event of a tropical event. Get the latest updates from the National Weather Service in Wilmington (NWS) on their website, social media, or through a NOAA weather radio. Tune in to local news and radio stations, or check your favorite weather app. To get updates from Brunswick County, sign up for the ReadyBrunswick Emergency Notification System, download the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office Mobile App, subscribe to the County's Emergency Updates email list, and follow Brunswick County and the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office on social media.

Know your evacuation zone. Visit the North Carolina Department of Public Safety's Know Your Zone webpage to view areas most at risk of storm surges and flooding in Brunswick County. Local officials use the zones to determine which areas should be evacuated in case of an emergency. Decide where you would go and what routes you would take if you had to evacuate.

Know the terms. A Hurricane Watch indicates hurricane conditions are possible. A Hurricane Warning indicates hurricane conditions are expected. Review other related terms used by the National Hurricane Center.

Check your insurance. Before an emergency strikes, review your insurance policies to ensure your property is covered for any flooding or natural disasters that could occur. Flood insurance, which is not normally part of homeowner's insurance policies, is encouraged for North Carolina residents.

For more hurricane preparedness tips from Brunswick County, visit BrunswickCountyNC.gov/hurricanes.

Find information on emergency planning and hurricane safety online at ReadyNC.gov or Ready.gov. View updates from the National Hurricane Center, a real-time emergency weather map, and additional online resources at nhc.noaa.gov.



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Ways to Prepare for Hurricane Season

Make a plan. Create and practice a Family Emergency Communication Plan that includes all members of your household and pets. Discuss who your emergency contacts are, your evacuation route, shelter plan, forms of identification for your pets and animals, how you will receive emergency alerts, where you will store important documents, and what you will put in your emergency supply kit.

Build a kit. An emergency kit is vital for your survival. When preparing an emergency kit, it is recommended to prepare three to seven days-worth of medicine, water, and non-perishable food for each person and pet in your home.

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension - Brunswick County Center has prepared a hurricane cookbook and a Hurricane Meal Kits program to help individuals and families prepare nutritious meals ahead of an emergency.

Stay informed. It's important to plan for multiple ways you will re-

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Empty Bowls

The Artists of Franklin Square Gallery, Associated Artists of Southport are busy creating one of a kind bowls to support the Empty Bowls mission to “eliminate hunger in our communities ONE BOWL at a time”.

What is Empty Bowls...

It's a grassroots fundraising project to fight hunger and food insecurity. Its mission is to “eliminate hunger in Brunswick County ONE BOWL at a time.”

Originated in Michigan in 1990, by a high school pottery teacher and his students; now hosted by art communities worldwide.

Potters and painters at FSG will join to create hundreds of beautiful, handmade ceramic soup bowls that will be donated for purchase by supporters.

On October 14, 2025, supporters who've purchased a \$30 ticket will be able to attend the culminating event, from 11:00am -2:00pm, at Trinity

United Methodist Church, Southport, NC.

At the event, ticket holders will receive a simple meal and a gift - soup and bread to take home, donated by local participating restaurants, and one of those beautiful bowls created by our artists.

There will also be a raffle and silent auction items available on the day of the event.

All proceeds will be donated to Mathew's Ministry, Brunswick Assistance and Southport, and Oak Island Food Pantry.

How Can YOU Get Involved?

Tickets: <https://form.jotform.com/242255233055146>

Become a sponsor: <https://form.jotform.com/242334405631145>

Contact Charleea Yarbrough at 336-588-3974 to answer any additional questions. .

Website: <https://www.franklinsquaregallery.com/empty-bowls>

A Second Helping - 3G Food Recovery and Redistribution

Don't throw your food away as you leave your vacation!! Please Donate it as you leave the island.

Collections happen on Saturday mornings between 7:30am and 11am from Memorial Day to the Saturday before Labor Day (12 Saturday mornings). There are three Collection Stations on Ocean Isle Beach.

Drop-off Locations:

- West 1st St. by the Pier
- East 1st St. & Halifax
- East 2nd St. at Museum

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- Perishables

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How It Works

- Surf Chairs & Walkers Delivered to You – Our Town Staff will bring the equipment right to your doorstep.
- Delivery & Pickup Schedule – Deliveries happen 8am-12pm, and pickups start at 2pm. (Not available on weekends or holidays.)
- Delivery Location – We can only deliver to homes within the Sunset Beach Corporate Limits.
- Sign at Delivery & Pickup – You must be present to receive and return the equipment.
- Getting to the Beach – You'll need a large SUV, pickup, or van to transport the surf chair (it does not fold). Walkers do fold for easier transport.

Handicap- Accessible Beach Access

For a smooth journey to the sand, accessible walkways are available at:

- The Gazebo
- 1st Street
- 3rd Street
- 40th Street



How to Apply

To request a surf chair or walker, please fill out the application here.

For questions or assistance, contact Kimberly Riggsbee:

- Email: kriggsbee@sunsetbeachnc.gov
- Phone: 910-579-6297, Ext. 1001

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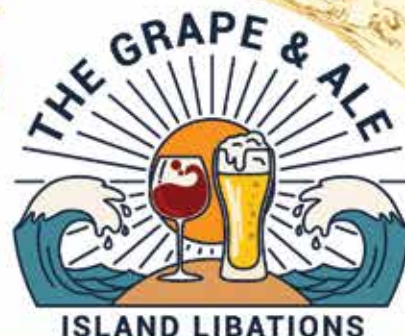


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Thu-Fri 12pm-8pm
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New Listings Surge in Brunswick County while Market Remains Competitive

Similar to last month, Brunswick County's residential real estate market saw increases in new listings and homes sold in April, while prices decreased. The decrease in prices can be attributed to fewer luxury sales compared to April 2024.

"Our market continued to outpace itself in April, with the largest new listing surge in 2025 AND the largest number of new listings in one month in over a decade," said Cynthia Walsh, CEO of the Brunswick County Association of REALTORS® (BCAR). "Now, you could worry that we might be gaining more listings that we can sell, but when you consider other factors like days on market and the absorption rate, it's clear Brunswick County's market is stable and competitive."

New listings increased 18.1% compared to last April, rising from 747 to 882. The number of homes sold increased 3.4%, from 529 to 547, while total sales volume decreased 9.6%, from \$268,497,854 to \$242,855,771. The average sales price decreased 12.5% from \$507,557 to \$443,978, and the median sales price decreased 9.4% from \$392,000 to \$355,000. Brunswick County's luxury market recorded 23 sales over \$1 million in April 2025, down slightly from the 36 sales over \$1 million recorded in April 2024. The largest sale was a \$4.1 million sale in Ocean Isle Beach. The absorption rate, which is the amount of time it would take to sell off all the current inventory, is 4.6 months.

Year-to-date sales volume through April totaled \$828,735,872, down 1% from \$837,018,297 at the same point in 2024. The average year-to-date sales price decreased 3.8%, from \$484,026 to \$465,497, while the median sales price decreased 3.6%, from \$377,238 to \$363,535. The number of units sold through April is up 4.6% compared to last year, increasing from 1,715 to 1,794, and the number of new listings rose 8.5%, from 2,839 to 3,080.

Brunswick County

New Listings:

April 2025: 882

April 2024: 747

Increase/Decrease: +18.1%

Units Sold:

April 2025: 547

April 2024: 529

Increase/Decrease: +3.4%

Average Sales Price:

April 2025: \$443,978

April 2024: \$507,557

Increase/Decrease: -12.5%

Median Sales Price:

April 2025: \$355,000

April 2024: \$392,000

Increase/Decrease: -9.4%

Total Sales Volume:

April 2025: \$242,855,771

April 2024: \$268,497,854

Increase/Decrease: -9.6%

Is Your Golf Cart Registered?

Golf Cart Registration Station

Wednesdays @ 10:00 am at the Southport Summer Markets

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BRING? 50.00 (Cash or Check)

Checks made out to City of Southport, "golf cart" registration in memo section

Proof of Insurance | Driver's License

ONE STOP SHOP - LEAVE WITH STICKER AND BE CART LEGAL.

Town of Oak Island to Hold Development Stakeholders Meeting

The Town of Oak Island is excited to announce a new opportunity to discuss building, permitting, and inspections through an upcoming Stakeholders Meeting.

The meeting will be held on July 15, from 2-5pm in the Council Chambers at 4601 E Oak Island Drive, Oak Island

Open to all General Contractors,

Irrigation & Landscaping Specialists, Pool Installers, Realtors, and Property Owners, this public forum will help guide attendees through the changes and regulations surrounding the building and permitting process.

Due to expected crowd size and time constraints, questions must be pre-submitted by 5:00 PM on Friday, July 11.

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The Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce Announces the Winners of the Spring 2025 Golden Pineapple Awards.

The Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce awarded 27 local businesses a Golden Pineapple Award at a ceremony held at the Chamber. Spring 2022 Golden Pineapple Award Winners are: Accommodations: Beach House Motel Inn & Suites, Better Beach Rentals & Sales, Captain's Cove Motel, Margaret Rudd & Associates, Inc., REALTORS, and Oak Island Accommodations; Activities & Attractions: The Adventure Kayak Company, and Yoga Unlimited; Food & Beverage: Bald Head Coffee & Tea House and The Tiki Tavern; Retail: Doodles, Oak Island Senior Center & Gift Shop, Southport Sass Boutique and Unleashed the Dog & Cat Store of Southport; Professional: Hamilton Realty Group eXp Realty Headwaters Engineering of the Cape Fear, PLLC, Margaret Rudd & Associates, Inc., REALTORS; River Road Animal Hospital; and Southern Realty Advantage; Services: Cape Fear Solar Systems, Coach MKey Companies, LLC; Coastal Painting & Improvements; Cruise Planners – Lina DiCola, Mow & Blow OKI, Never Stumped Tree Service, Pinnacle Mortgage Corporation, River Run Pack & Ship and St. James Remodeling.

Golden Pineapple Awards are given quarterly to those businesses nominated by their customers for providing consistent and exceptional

customer service. The pineapple is the international symbol of hospitality which is the reason the Chamber chose it for the award.

"Exceptional customer service isn't just a department—it's the heartbeat of every successful business. It turns transactions into relationships and customers into advocates," said Karen Sphar, Executive Vice President of the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce.

Just a few comments from the nomination forms: "super accommodating and friendly staff", "going above and beyond", "staff is absolutely incredible and so helpful and friendly", "I would refer anyone to her", "friendly staff and nice atmosphere", "wonderful to work with from start to finish", "professional, responsive, transparent and knowledgeable", "represent all that is good and kind and professional and neighborly", "I know that I don't have to worry about anything" and "Dependable, does what they say they will do, go that extra mile, easy to work with and communicates well".

Nominations for the next quarter will be taken until July 31st. If you would like to nominate a Chamber member business who has provided you with exceptional customer service visit the Chamber's website at www.ChamberSmallBusinessAwards.com to complete a brief nomination form.





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Support Day4Hope in Brunswick County

Day4Hope is an event that takes place before the beginning of the school year, to provide services and supplies to our most vulnerable children and families. This year's event takes place on Saturday, August 9, 10am-4pm at Odell Williamson Auditorium, 150 College Rd NW, Bolivia.

You can support this cause by donating a book from the Day4Hope wish list! With your help, every child attending Day4Hope will receive a

book to take home.

Simply follow this link to find out more and to make a donation.
<https://day4hope-nc.org/>

*FOLSOI has donated \$250 toward the purchase of books on the Day4Hope wishlist.



Explore Handmade Treasures at Leland's Summer Art Market



The Town of Leland invites the community to enjoy an afternoon of art, shopping, and local creativity at the Summer Art Market on Saturday, July 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Leland Cultural Arts Center, located at 1212 Magnolia Village Way.

This free, family-friendly event will feature more than 20 vendors from across North Carolina, offering a wide variety of handcrafted items, including pottery, jewelry, stained

glass, woodworking, and more. New this year, attendees can create their own bouquet with Rooted Petal at their on-site flower bar and purchase popcorn from Mimi & Papas Gourmet Popcorn booth.

Whether you're looking for a unique gift or a one-of-a-kind piece for your home, the market offers something for everyone.

Learn more about the Summer Art Market and future markets at <https://www.townofleland.com>.

Volunteer at Once More Bookstore



Do you love libraries, like to read and are you looking to give back to your community to make a real impact?

Why Volunteer with Us?

Make a Difference: Your time and effort will directly impact literacy in Brunswick County.

Meet Like-minded People: Connect with a community of volunteers who share your passion.

Flexible Commitment: We offer different volunteer opportunities to fit your schedule.

Volunteers We Need Right Now

Once More Bookstore: Receive donations on Tuesday mornings and transporting books to the recycle facility throughout the week. Must be able to lift boxes of book.

Pickup donated or discarded books from library branches and deliver them to the store. Must be able to lift boxes of books.

Support our online book sales. Computer skills are required for tasks such as listing items, managing orders and handling packing and shipping.

Note: The bookstore is always in need of extra hands and a truck to help pick up large donations, as well as to assist with rearranging and maintaining the store site. If you're strong, handy, or have access to a truck, we could really use your help! We especially encourage more guys to get involved — your support makes a big difference!

How to Sign Up or for Questions:

Email us at volunteer@folsoi.org

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Restoring Dignity, One Clean Load at a Time: Suds of Love Brings Hope on Wheels



In Brunswick County, a 30-foot mobile laundry and shower truck named Miss Dorothy is changing lives—one clean load at a time. Operated by Suds of Love, Inc., a faith-driven non-profit, the truck provides free laundry services, showers, hygiene kits, and washer/dryer donations to communities and schools in need.

Powered by Volunteers, Guided by Faith

Powered by volunteers from all walks of life, Suds of Love is rooted in faith and the belief that everyone is made in God's image and worthy of love. To learn more or support their mission, visit:

<https://www.sudsoflovetruck.org/about>

A Mission of Dignity

Founded by Tina Bowen, Suds of Love began as a grassroots effort to restore dignity through hygiene. "We don't just wash clothes—we restore hope," Bowen says. Today, Miss Dorothy travels the region fully equipped to meet people where they are, offering not just cleanliness, but compassion and second chances. Each visit delivers more than hygiene. Volunteers greet guests by name, offer conversation, prayer, and respect. As guest Bill shared, "Now that I have clean clothes, people will stop treating me like a bum... I feel normal now."



Supporting Schools and Families

Suds of Love partners with schools, shelters, churches, and civic groups to reach those often overlooked—like students without clean clothing or families facing tough times. Washer and dryer donations to schools help students feel confident and ready to learn.



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Join Us for Brunswick County Summer Series Concerts.

Calabash

Tuesdays at Calabash Town Park, 868 Persimmon Road, 6-8:30pm

July 1: The Extraordinaires

July 15: Thomas Road Band

July 22: The Main Event Band

July 29: J.B. and the Get Down Browns

Aug 5: The Tonz

Holden Beach

Sundays at Bridgeview Park, 125 Davis Street, 6:30-8pm

June 29: The Extraordinaires

July 6: The Tams

July 13: Jim Quick and Coastline

July 20: The Sand Band

July 27: Continental Divide

Aug 3: Blackwater Band

Aug 10: Band of Oz

Aug 17: The Entertainers

Aug 24: North Tower

Aug 31: Chairman of the Board

Oak Island

Fridays at Middleton Park Complex, 4610 E. Dolphin Drive, 6:30-8:30pm

June 27: Julio & The Saltines

July 1 (Tues): BEACH DAY 6-9pm

Chairman of the Board ft. Ken Knox

July 11: The British Invaders

July 25: Rivermist

Aug 1: The Sand Band

Aug 8: The Extraordinaires

Aug 15: The Salty Dawgs

Aug 22: 52nd Street Band

Aug 30 (Sat): The Main Event Band

Ocean Isle Beach

Peggy Hughes Summer Concert Series, Fridays at Town Center Park, 11 East 2nd Street next to Museum, 6:30-8pm

No chair set up before 4:00pm

Visit www.oibgov.com for concert and parking information.

June 27: Blackwater Band

June 30 (Mon): The Extraordinaires

July 11: The Catalinas

July 18: Chocolate Chip & Company

July 25: Too Much Sylvia

Aug 1: Band of Oz

Aug 8: Gary Lowder & Smokin Hot

Aug 15: The Embers Ft. Craig Woodard

Aug 22: Special Occasion Band

Aug 31(Sun): Continental Divide

Shallotte

Thursdays at Mulberry Park, 123 Mulberry Street, 7-9pm

July 3: The Catalinas

July 10: Too Much Sylvia

July 17: Chocolate Chip & Company

July 24: The Tonz

July 31: Thomas Road Band

Aug 7: Julio & The Saltines

Aug 14: The Entertainers

Aug 21: Chris Taylor & The Rumor

Aug 28: Band of Oz

Sept 4: The Extraordinaires

Southport

Thursdays at Franklin Square Park, 130 E West Street, 6-8pm

July 10: River Sound

July 17: Rock the Dock

July 24: The Doorsmen

July 31: Deep Creek Soul

Aug 7: Almost Blue

Aug 14: Jazz Adjacent

Aug 21: Mike's Garage Band

Aug 28: Brunswick Big Band

Rain Dates: September 4, 11, 18 and 25

Sunset Beach

Wednesdays at Sunset Beach Town Park, 206 Sunset Blvd. N, 6-8pm

July 2: The Extraordinaires

July 9: Band on Fire

July 16: Devin Dove Band

July 23: The Entertainers

July 30: JB & The Get Down Browns

Aug 6: Julio & The Saltines

Aug 13: Macdaddys

Aug 20: Too Much Sylvia

Aug 27: 52nd Street Band

Carolina Shores

Town Green area behind Town Hall, 200 Persimmon Road, 6:30-8:30pm

Sept 19: Band on Fire-The Tamed Beast Craft BBQ

Fall Golf Tournaments - Register Now

The Brunsco Classic, September 5th, at Sea Trail Golf Resort, at Sunset Beach.



Thank you to our presenting sponsor Makai Brewing for their continued support!

This year brings a newly renovated venue, beautiful greens, raffles and great exclusive giveaways!

The rate is \$400 per 4-person team

Includes: Green fees, Cart rental, Luxury Gift, Breakfast, Catered lunch, Amazing Giveaways

Additional prizes will be awarded immediately following the tournament in the beautiful Atrium room. Check out Sea Trail Resort | Sunset Beach, NC !

Rain date will be announced. Sponsoring? Use the discount code \$50OFF if you buy a \$400 team and a \$300 hole sponsorship.

Register at <https://brunsco-classic-golf-tournament.perfectgolfevent.com/registration>

[sic-golf-tournament.perfectgolfevent.com/registration](https://brunsco-classic-golf-tournament.perfectgolfevent.com/registration)



The Doshier Golf Classic is set for Friday October 10th at the Oak Island Golf Club and registrations and sponsorship opportunities are open!

Cost is \$130.00 per golfer. Single golfers will be assigned to a team. Includes greens fees, cart, use of driving range, on course beverages, awards, and lunch.

Registration Opens at 8:00 a.m.

4-person teams - Shotgun Start at 9:00 a.m.

For more information call the course at Oak Island at (910) 278-5275 or call Toni McAndrews at (910) 457-3936.

Go to Doshier.org/Foundation to register! Please fill out the Registration & Sponsorship Form completely and click on the submit button to process your registration.

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Oak Island Announces E-Bike Information

Whether it's updating the Speed & Traffic Data, or adding new LSV signage, the Oak Island Police Department is working hard to make streets safer for ALL travelers, regardless of what method of travel they are using.

Recently Electric Assist Bicycles, or e-bikes, have become an increasingly popular way of getting around. While their cost-friendly nature and ease of use are appealing, they are distinctly different from regular bicycles. That's why we'll soon be launching our new Electric Bicycles Guide.

Coming Soon

Similar to our popular Slow Ride: Take It Safely cards for LSVs, these printed information sheets will offer clarification on the laws surrounding e-bikes, their classifications, and rules around where they can and can't be ridden in Oak Island. For instance, E-bikes CAN be driven on any public street throughout Town;

however, they CANNOT be driven on sidewalks or the Davis Canal Pedestrian Crossovers. Seasonally, they also cannot be driven on the public beach strand from March 16 through October 14.

These ordinances also prohibit the use of similar motorized recreational riding devices such as scooters, One-wheels, skateboards, and unicycles

While we hope to have these new cards in print soon, in the meantime, we've added the most important details to our page of the Town Website, under the E-Bikes tab. To view and share this information, just visit OakIslandNC.gov/PD



Pickleball Tournament Smashing Success - Rain and All!

We're thrilled to share that our First Annual Pickleball Tournament to benefit Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity was a smashing success!

Thanks to your incredible support, 50 players participated, and we raised over \$3,500 for a great cause.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who played, donated, and pitched in—especially those who helped dry the courts! Your spirit, teamwork, and positivity made the day unforgettable.

A special shoutout to The Carolina Pickleball Company for generously hosting and donating the venue. We couldn't have done it without you!

Because the event went so well, we're excited to announce plans for a 2-day Fall Tournament! We're aiming for 100 players, so if you know someone who would like to be added to our player list, please email tracy@bchabitat.org.

We are so grateful to be part of such a generous and enthusiastic

community. Together, we're building homes, communities, and hope—on and off the court.

Thank you again for making this event such a success. We can't wait to see you in the fall!



13 Graduate Leadership Brunswick County



Leadership Brunswick County organizers celebrated the graduation of thirteen individuals from the nine-month program. Merikay Hunt, M.S., COACH MKay Companies, LLC gave an inspiring keynote address during the 2024-2025 Leadership Brunswick County Graduation Ceremony.

"The one thing constant in our world is change. Professionals who embrace change and deal with change in a positive, purposeful way - they will make an impact. These people are willing to Learn. To Grow. To Lead." Said Merikay Hunt.

Merikay shared three key learning opportunities from her experience participating in Leadership High Point, Class of 2001 and helping conduct their leadership retreat for several years. "Always Be willing to Learn. Be willing to Grow. Be Willing to Lead. Visit me on LinkedIn and YouTube as Merikay Hunt or Facebook at Coach MKay for educational insight to help you on your leadership journey. I wish you all the best moving forward and remember to make every day count." Hunt ended her comments.

Leadership Brunswick County is a program sponsored by the Brunswick County, North Brunswick and Southport-Oak Island Area Chambers of Commerce to develop corps of informed, committed and qualified individuals capable of providing dynamic leadership for Brunswick County. It is designed to identify highly motivated, emerging leaders and educate them about the needs of our community, as well as

the dynamics of social and economic changes.

The 2024-25 Leadership Brunswick County graduates are:

Laurie Griswell, Novant Health; Pam Hardy, Duke Energy; Anne Hewett- Lower Cape Fear Life-Care; Chrystal Jones - No Hassle Travel; Heather King-Semple - Novant Health; Jessie Labell - City of Southport NC; Anna LaRue - Patriot Roofing & Exteriors - Raleigh, Wilmington, and Myrtle Beach; Karen Martin - City of Southport; Will Mitchell - Corning Credit Union; Ashley Roberson - Cumulus Media; Noah Saldo - City of Southport; Jamie Vogler - Novant Health; and Hallie Willis - Town of Oak Island.

To graduate from Leadership Brunswick County, participants were required to attend an orientation retreat, a minimum of 6 sessions from the eight sessions held between October-April, attend one regular municipal or county meeting, attend three enrichment activities provided by a chamber of BCC, attend the All County Chamber Business Networking After Hours Hosted by Brunswick Community College, and volunteer a minimum of 10 hours for a non-profit organization in our community.

Applications to participate in the 2025-26 Leadership Brunswick County program will be available in August. To receive an application, or for more information, North Brunswick Chamber @ 910-383-0553, Brunswick County Chamber @ 910-754-6644 or Southport Oak Island Area Chamber @ 910-457-6964.

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The Holden Beach Turtle Watch Program



Turtle Talk is Family members of all ages will enjoy the program. A turtle patrol volunteer will share their knowledge of nesting sea turtles, what to look for when visiting the beach, and current nest information. There will be a slide show, a delightful short movie, and a Q&A segment. This program focuses on the life cycle of the sea turtle and how the HBTWP aids in the preservation of sea turtles. Several turtle artifacts will be on display. Turtle Talk will be held every Wednesday evening from June 18 to August 13.

Children's Turtle Time is being on Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. This program is designed for two groups of children, ages 3 - 4 and 5 - 6. An adult should remain with their child during the 45 minute program. If a family has two or more children that fall within both age groups, it is advisable that two adults attend. The program introduces young children to the world of sea turtles through hands-on play, games, books and puzzles. Children's Turtle Time will be held every Wednesday from June 25 to August 6.

Turtle Talk and Children's Turtle Time are free-of-charge and will be held at the Holden Beach Chapel at 107 Rothchild Street on Holden Beach. The 2025 HBTWP tshirt and other HBTWP merchandise will be for sale at both weekly events.

Education & Outreach "Turtle Talk on the Road" - The Hold-

en Beach Turtle Patrol has taken their popular Turtle Talk program on the road so they can bring education about sea turtles directly to you! Members of the Turtle Patrol are available to come to your local classroom, club, community, church or service organization to talk about their organization and provide education and outreach to promote awareness and to advocate for these endangered species. They are available for groups of all ages ... preschool to adults. Contact their outreach program coordinator by email at outreach@hbturtlewatch.org for more information or to schedule a program.

HBTWP was founded in 1989 to monitor and protect the sea turtle population on Holden Beach. This all volunteer, nonprofit conservation organization operates under the authority of the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (ES Permit 25ST11).

The 2025 turtle season began May 1 on Holden Beach when members started patrolling the island each morning looking for signs of a nesting sea turtle crawl on the beach. Sea turtles nest on Holden Beach mid-May through August, and their nests hatch July through October.

For details about these educational programs, the latest statistics regarding the number of nests on the Holden Beach, and recent news, visit the Turtle Patrol's website at www.hbturtlewatch.org or visit us on Facebook and Instagram.

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Kudo's and Congratulations!

On June 3 during the Shallotte Board Meeting, two courageous police officers with the Shallotte Police Department were honored with the Life Saving Award for their swift and heroic actions in rescuing a child from a life-threatening situation, demonstrating exceptional bravery and quick thinking in the face of danger. Thank you Officer Brown and Sergeant Ferguson for your service.

On Sunday, June 1, 2025, Sergeant Jeremy Ferguson and Officer Christopher Brown of the Shallotte Police Department responded to an alarm at the Cardinal Pointe Clubhouse. While on scene, a bystander alerted them to an unresponsive child in the pool. Officer Brown quickly pulled the child from the water while Sergeant Ferguson checked for a pulse and called for EMS. Officer Brown initiated CPR, cycling compressions and draining water from the child's airway. After approximately three minutes, the child began breathing on her own. Their swift, decisive actions directly saved a life and reflect great credit upon themselves and the Shallotte Police Department.



Artisans Gallery Celebrate 5th Anniversary

Congratulations to The Artisans Gallery on Howe! Friday they celebrated their 5th business anniversary. The Gallery is located at 114 S. Howe Street, Southport. Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am-5pm and Sunday 12:30pm-4pm. <https://artisansgalleryonhowe.com/>

The Artisans is an association organized for the development of artists in the Brunswick County area, the marketing of their art and enhance-

ment of art appreciation in Brunswick County. They provide retail opportunities for its members to bring their art to the buying public.



Photo by Zeb-Starnes-Photography

Angela Dover of Southport Jazzercise Recognized.

The Coastal Entrepreneur Awards recognizes up-and-coming ventures in our region as well as established companies that keep innovating.

The Coastal Entrepreneur Awards are a joint effort of UNCW's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the Greater Wilmington Business Journal to shine a spotlight on entrepreneurs in the Cape Fear region.

As part of the Coastal Entrepreneur Awards program, area chambers of commerce share their top picks. During the banquet in May, Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce top pick, 2024/25 Small Business of the Year Angela Dover, Southport Jazzercise was recognized. Congratulations Angela!



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Summer Food Programs are Here!

From now through August 22nd, Brunswick Family Assistance is distributing Summer Food Bags to support rising 1st-12th grade students in Brunswick County.

Each bag includes: A week's worth of breakfasts, lunches, snacks, and drinks — everything a child needs to stay nourished over the summer.

Just stop by the BFA office and ask for a Summer Food Bag for each qualifying child in your household. No appointment needed!

Let's make sure no child goes hungry this summer. For more info, call the BFA office today! (910) 754-4766

Brunswick County Schools is proud to offer SUN Meals — providing free, nutritious meals to all children 18 and under this summer!

No registration, no ID, no cost — just show up and enjoy a healthy meal!

The following schools will offer breakfast and lunch in the cafeterias:

- Lincoln Elementary
- Bolivia Elementary
- West Brunswick High School
- South Brunswick High School
- North Brunswick High School

You can find times on their web site at <https://bcschildnutrition.com/>

Let's keep our kids fed, strong, and ready to learn.



COME PLAY ALL YOUR FAVORITE GAMES WHILE RAISING MONEY FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

Enjoy a night at the tables! Poker, Blackjack, Roulette and Craps - All to raise money for Waves4 Kids.

The event is August 23, from 6-10pm at the St. James Community

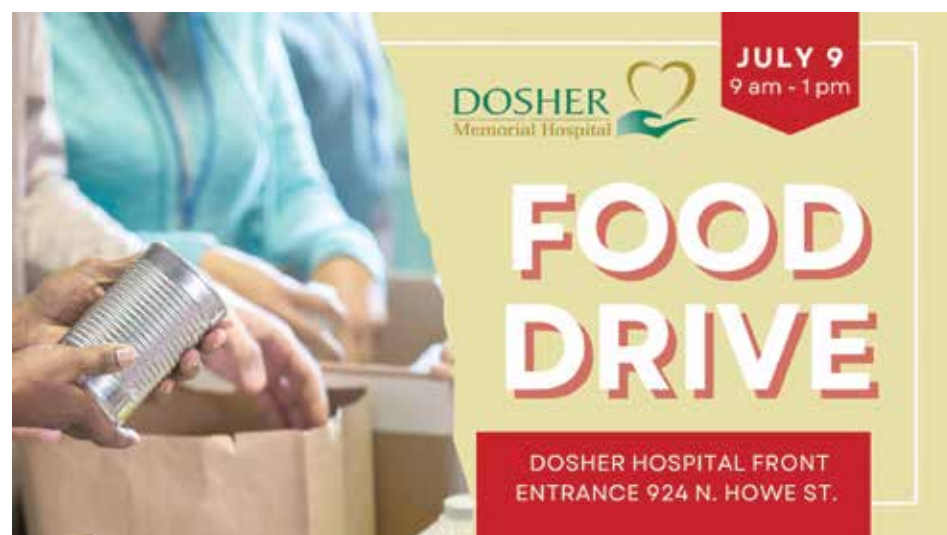
Center. Tickets are \$95.00 (Dinner and poker chips are included). To purchase tickets www.waves4kids.org.

The night will also have a cash bar and silent and live auctions.

Help Us Give Healthy!

Dosher Memorial Hospital will host a drive-through food donation event at the hospital front entrance on Wednesday July 9th between the hours of 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. The food will be distributed to a local pantry. Food pantries often experience low inven-

tories in the summer, therefore, our July food drive aims to help compensate for these shortages. Donors can help to promote healthy nutrition by including whole grains and items low in sugar and sodium. Non-perishable items only, and no glass, please!



Come on out to the OKI Rec Center on July 3rd to learn about some Fantastic Fish!

OKI Beach Preservation Society partners with NC Aquarium FF each year to bring a summer children's lecture series to our island. This is #2 of 3 for this year.

The event is free of charge and open to youth and families. Please click the link to register (this helps us ensure there's enough seating available). <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLScBst988FE.../viewform...>

A Little About Our July Session:

What do sharks, seahorses, and eels have in common? They're all fish! Fish come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Join us as we learn the characteristics of fish and uncover some of the facts and myths of these fantastic animals with interactive activities, props, and live Ambassador Animals.





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The Cape Fear App: Go to Apple's App Store to download the Cape Fear Radio App — it's free!



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Town of Leland Recognized as a City of Civility



The Town of Leland is proud to be recognized as a City of Civility by the North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM). This recognition highlights the Town Council's ongoing commitment to understanding resident needs and responding with respect, empathy, and integrity.

The distinction is part of the NCLM's Commit to Civility program, which promotes respectful and effective leadership in local government. The program educates municipal officials on their role in civil society and equips them with the tools needed to lead their communities thoughtfully and responsibly.

"Being named a City of Civility reflects our Council's dedication to

listening with compassion, engaging with respect, and making decisions in the best interest of our residents," said Mayor Brenda Bozeman. "We are proud to be among the first in the state to earn this recognition."

To qualify, at least 75 percent of a municipality's elected officials must complete civility training through NCLM. In Leland, all five Councilmembers and the Town Clerk completed the training, demonstrating their shared commitment to civil leadership. Council approved the resolution in May, having met all NCLM requirements.

Leland is one of only six municipalities out of more than 500 across North Carolina to receive the City of Civility designation.

Hop On, Hop Off with an All-Day Pass

The music and social life around Southport and Oak Island can be fun, but getting there, finding parking, and getting back safely can be a challenge. Southport Trolley is now offering an easy and affordable solution to keep you, your loved ones, and our roads safe.



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3. Local's Restaurant
4. Grape & Ale / Mr. P's / Haven
5. First Citizens Bank
6. Flava's Ice Cream
7. Morning Star Marina (Call For Pickup)

Oak Island

8. Second Wind
9. Grape & Ale
10. Lazy Turtle
11. Koko Cabana
12. Pirate's Deck
13. 49th Street Grill, Bar & Patio
14. Paul's Of Oak Island
15. Solar Brewing

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