

Brunswick Marketplace

Bringing You the Best of Brunswick County

Volume 19 • Number 5

May/June 2025

PRICELESS

Congratulations to All the Winners of the 2025 Peoples Choice Awards!

More than a thousand readers voted for their favorite in each category by using Survey Monkey. For more than twelve years businesses have been selected by individuals recognizing businesses throughout Brunswick County for their service. Some businesses campaigned strongly other did not. Be that as it may, the results are in for this year.

If your favorite didn't win, well there is always next year. If there is a category we missed let us know.

Just Some of Our Happy Winners



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And Suddenly It Is Summer! by Joanne Thompson

The cold of winter finally has left us, and spring is dissolving into summer. Spring breaks are over, and Brunswick County is gearing up for the arrival of tourists. Road construction and housing development is fully engaged. Restaurants and stores are preparing for the influx as well. Let's all remember to be patient with each other: with servers where we dine; with auto and golf cart drivers; with cashiers and grocery baggers; to name a few. We are in paradise. Take a deep breath and relax. Enjoy!

There's plenty to enjoy throughout Brunswick County. Some new businesses to visit and changes to old favorites.

A recent Coastal Living Magazine listed **Oak Island** in the top **10 Best Beach Towns**. Pretty great. Congratulations!



There's a new plumber in the Southport-Oak Island area. **Labonte Plumbing**, located across from the airport, promises professional on time service with years of experience. Give them a call at 910-363-4067.

The Salty Olive opened in Southport near the police station and Walmart. The owners are very knowl-

edgeable. They offer quite an array of cool culinary choices, capitalizing on the benefits and subtleties of olive oils and balsamic vinegars. Sample and compare to decide what tickles your tongue. Fill a bottle or two with your choice. Wake up your salads and dishes with a burst of olive oil enhanced flavor. You can find clever and unique foodie choices for yourself and gifts for others who share your passion for tasting life. A favorite of mine is a food crayon. It is way kool as they say and will have your dinner guests talking.

The **Fish Factory Restaurant and Bar** a small intimate dining experience, will be open in time for summer, Tues. - Thurs. 11:30 - 9pm. It will offer quick lunch



service to eat in, take out or bring to your boat or beach. Gluten free and vegan will be available.

McAllister's sandwich shop is opening at 1109 New Pointe Blvd. in Leland near the Fuzzy Peach and Wal-

mart.

Back Home Butcher is about to open in the space formerly occupied by **Southport Suzie's** in the River Run Shopping Center off

Long Beach Road. Plaza. It will carry Certified Angus Beef, NC Cheshire Pork, as well as NC Joyce Farms Poulet Rouge Chicken and Naked Chicken. Wow! People are excited about locally sourced meat! Restaurant owners are excited as well.



Swain's on Oak Island is sporting a new paint job, a rather classy grey and black.

If you are looking for something fun to do to liven up your midweek doldrums, head on down to **Ports of Call** in Southport for hump day soiree for \$7 wines and craft cocktails like Raspberry Mezcal Margarita, Chocolate Old Fashioned, even a smoked Bees Knees and much more. Live music and tapas specials round out a perfect night out!

Southern inspired **Fixin's** on Oak Island has not only become a favorite spot for locals for farm fresh NC sourced menu specials but also offers classes by Chef Rick. Check out the website. If you are looking for

the best tomato pie you have ever had it is rumored that **Fixin's** is where you find it!



Cafe Koa in Southport also has a completely redone inside as well as a fantastic new mural on their facade.

The **Second Annual Jimmy Buffet Island Tour** on Oak Island is on May 3rd and starts at the Grape & Ale with Margaritas specials and live music by Kenny Reeves.

Southport Sourdough, 706 North Howe St. is gaining quite a following of customers and selling out quickly freshly made and baked breads. Drop by and pick up some.

Mother's Day, graduations, and weddings mark May and June.

Here's a suggestion for shopping local... get your sourdough bread from **Southport Sourdough** and then select a cheese or two from the **Southport Cheese Shoppe's** charcuterie array, choose some fruity olive oil and olives from **The Salty Olive** and try a special wine from **The Grape & Ale**. Finish off with a dessert from **Burney's**. Experience our local shops at their best!



Remember Our Active & Past Military - May 29



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Arts & Craft Vendors and Non-profits...
visit www.downtownsouthport.com
for a vendor application.

Food Trucks, please call DSI at
910-279-4616 for application information.

Chamber Annual Awards Announced "Small Business, Customer Service & Non-Profit of the Year"

In 2024, The Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce accepted nominations for its annual business awards: Small Business of the Year and Non-Profit Organization of the Year. Businesses who received a Golden Pineapple, a quarterly customer service recognition award, in the previous four quarters were eligible to compete for the Small Business Customer Service of the Year.

The Awards Committee had the honor of making the presentations to the following businesses:

2024/25 Small Business of the Year is Southport Jazzercise. Southport Jazzercise is more than just a fitness studio—it's a community-driven powerhouse that promotes health, wellness, and empowerment in Southport. Through high-energy workouts, expert instruction, and an uplifting environment, Southport Jazzercise has positively impacted countless individuals by making fitness fun, accessible, and inclusive for all ages and fitness levels.

Beyond fitness, Southport Jazzercise plays an active role in giving back to the community, participating in local events, supporting charitable initiatives, and fostering a spirit of camaraderie.

2024/25 Non-Profit of the Year is Up Your Arts. Up Your Arts embodies the spirit of community enrichment by championing the arts in Southport, NC. Their unwavering commitment to supporting artists, musicians, and art lovers has cre-

ated a thriving cultural landscape that benefits the entire community. Through innovative programming, strategic partnerships, and a relentless drive to expand access to the arts, Up Your Arts fosters a vibrant, creative environment where local talent flourishes.

As a nonprofit that continually evolves to meet the needs of its community, Up Your Arts has demonstrated outstanding leadership, vision, and impact.

2024/25 Small Business Customer Service of the Year is FinPoint Insurance Group. FinPoint Insurance exemplifies excellence in customer service, setting the standard for professionalism, reliability, and personalized care in Southport, NC. Their team goes above and beyond to provide tailored insurance solutions, ensuring every client feels valued, heard, and well-protected. By taking the time to understand individual needs and offering clear, comprehensive guidance, FinPoint Insurance has built a reputation for trust and dependability.

Beyond its outstanding service, FinPoint Insurance actively supports the local community, reinforcing its role as a business that truly cares about the people it serves. Their unwavering focus on customer satisfaction, integrity, and expertise make them deserve the Customer Service Award of the Year.

For more information: Chamber of Commerce at 910-457-6964, www.chambersmallbusinessawards.com



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New Spring & Summer Styles

Mother's Day Brunch Bash

Saturday, May 10 | 11am-2pm

Receive a free gift with every purchase.
Enjoy specials throughout the day.

Summer by the Sea

June 27-29

Wear your best Tropical Attire
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Hours: Mon-Sat 10:30am-5pm | Sun: 11am-4pm

www.thesouthportpearl.com



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Follow us on Social Media for more exciting events coming up.

Join our monthly Newsletter for more specials & updates.

Brunswick County Job Fair



Looking for a new job opportunity with benefits? Come to the Brunswick County Job Fair on Friday, May 9, 2025, Brunswick County Café (Cafeteria), Building D, 35 Courthouse Drive NE, Bolivia anytime between 10am and 1pm to meet with our team members and learn more about what job openings are available with Brunswick County Government. Parking is available in front of the David R. Sandifer Administration Building.

There are many available full-time job opportunities starting from entry level and up. Not sure if you qualify for a certain position? Speak with our team members at the job fair about education requirements and on-the-job training opportunities. Interested in temporary or seasonal work? Stop by the Board of Elections table to see if they have the right opportunity for you.

You can also reach out to our Human Resources team for any ques-

tions at brunswickcountync.gov/human-resources.

Find our latest job openings anytime at brunswickcountync.gov/jobs. Sign up for our New Job Openings weekly emails at brunswickcountync.gov/email. Learn more about the benefits we offer to Brunswick County employees at brunswickcountync.gov/benefits.

See the full list of available jobs and how to apply at brunswickcountync.gov/jobs.



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Art Around Town 2025

We are excited to announce Art Around Town 2025! Art Around Town is a series of free and accessible programs brought to the Leland community by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department in collaboration with Brunswick Arts Council and North Carolina Arts Council through their Grassroots Grant.

Here is a list of our Art Around Town events for this year! All events are free to the public. You do not have to participate for the entire duration of the program. Registration is encouraged. If you would like to register for a program, click the name of the program below.



Flower Fun with Erin

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 2, 5-8pm

Location: Brunswick Beer and Cider

Paint mini-flower pots and learn how to make wildflower seed bombs with us. Learn about the benefits of planting native plants and how they can beautify your garden.

Rings and Things with Jameka

Time: Thursday, May 8th, 5-8pm

Location: Mimi and Papa's Popcorn and Ice Cream

Join us at Mimi and Papa's for a night of jewelry-making! Local artist Jameka Purdie will be offering instruction on wire-wrapped jewelry like rings, bracelets, and more.

Pilates and Painting in the Park

Time: Tuesday, May 13, 6-8 pm

Location: Westgate Nature Park

Join pilates instructor Pam O'Deen and PRCR staff for a night of fun! This event will start with a 1-hour mat pilates class followed by an hour of painting. Please bring your own yoga mat to use for the pilates portion.



Tie Dye Extravaganza

Date/Time: Saturday, June 7, 12-3pm

Location: Brunswick Beer and Cider

Join Leland PRCR staff for an afternoon of tie-dye fun at Brunswick Beer and Cider! Bring your own t-shirt or other garment to dye, or pick something from our selection. Be prepared to get a little messy!

Brunswick Partnership for Housing Annual Fun-raiser to be Held May 20

It's dancing, food and fun for a great cause! We're holding our 4th annual Fun-Raiser at American Fish Co. Tuesday, May 20.

The Salty Dawgs are back, too!

Doors open at 5 p.m. and the band plays from 6-8pm.

Tickets are \$50 and include dinner. Cash bar, 50/50 and door prizes. Get your tickets now via the link below!

Special thanks to American Fish Co., The Frying Pan and Salty Dawgs for their generosity.

All proceeds go to BPH. No rain date.

Contact Susan Crabtree at susan-crabtree@hotmail.com or 267-235-6132 or Steve Moore at stevenam70@gmail.com or 919-601-2765 with questions or to purchase hard-copy tickets payable with cash or check. Please make checks payable to Brunswick Partnership for Housing.

For online ticket purchases, your ticket is your receipt. <https://www.brunswickpartnership.org>

Dosher Receives 2024 Press Ganey Human Experience Guardian of Excellence Award®

Dosher Memorial Hospital today announced that it has been named a 2024 Human Experience (HX) Guardian of Excellence Award® winner by Press Ganey, the global leader in healthcare experience solutions and services. This award is part of Press Ganey's annual ranking of the top hospitals and health systems in the country, according to performance in patient experience, for both their recent 5-star HCAHPS (Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems) score and inpatient care.

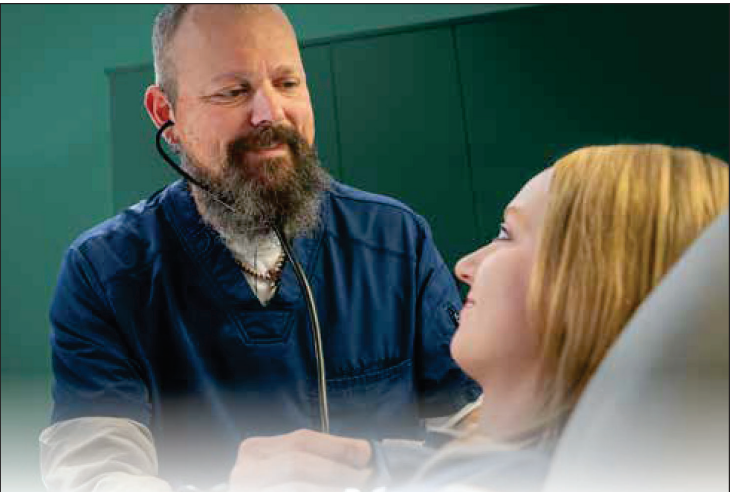
As a winner of the Press Ganey HX Guardian of Excellence Award®, Doshier is in the top 5% of healthcare providers in delivering patient experience in the last year. The referenced HCAHPS Star Rating is based on surveys from patients who were discharged between January 2023 and December 2023 and was included in public reporting in October, 2024. The surveys contained 22 questions related to patient care, including responsiveness of hospital staff, communication with doctors and nurses, cleanliness of hospital environment, and communication about medication. Doshier is one of eight hospitals in North Carolina who publicly report data to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and one of 295 hospitals out of 3,207 in the United States who publicly report data, who achieved this 5-star rating during the reporting period.

Said Doshier President and CEO

Lynda Stanley, "This award represents an important recognition in a skilled and dedicated staff who supports a culture of quality, safety, and overall excellence, and who fully understand that these factors are what create excellent outcomes as well as five-star patient experiences. We are grateful for our team on the Doshier Patient Care Unit for delivering extraordinary inpatient care to every patient, every day."

"Doshier is setting the standard for excellence in patient experience," said Patrick T. Ryan, CEO and Chairman at Press Ganey. "They are leading the way by turning words into action and creating a culture where every interaction is an opportunity to make a positive impact. It's clear they're committed to making a difference."

Doshier, who is in the first phase of their 7-year Master Facility Plan, looks forward to enhancing their 5-star patient experience through the expansion of clinical areas and provider offices to support the health and wellbeing of the community for years to come. Their new Emergency Department, which will double the space they currently have for emergency care and will include vertical care chairs to optimize workflow for lower acuity patients, is set for completion by the end of 2025. "We are excited for these infrastructure upgrades and how they will support our team in providing the high level of care that our community counts on," said Stanley. To learn more about Doshier go to [Doshier.org](https://www.doshier.org).





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May/June Events

BOLIVIA

May 16

Water Safety Day
4pm-7pm | Dinah E. Gore Sports & Aquatics Complex
210 College Rd NE

Over 10 local community agencies, emergency services, and first responders Event is FREE & open to the public JOIN US FOR: Water Safety Education, Hands on Aquatic Stations, Water Rescue Crafts & Vehicles, Food Trucks, Music & More, Prizes & Giveaways

LELAND

May 29-31

It's All Art Show & Sale
10am-6pm | Leland Cultural Arts Center | 1212 Magnolia Way
Juried Art Show & Sale Free admission and parking.

OAK ISLAND

May 6-June 3

Introduction to Home Cooking Series
2-3:30pm | GV Barbee Library
8200 E Oak Island Drive

The 5-part class will cover common cooking methods and techniques that can help you become a great home cook. Each class includes a live cooking demonstration and recipe tasting. Register at <https://brunswick.libcal.com/event/14143353> or call 910-253-BOOK.

June 3

Phone Photography 101
10am-12pm | Oak Island Lighthouse

Welcome to Cell Phone Photography 101! This is a basic photography class to help you learn how to take better images with your phone. Discussion is the first 30-45 minutes and then we will spend around an hour photo-ing and discussing.

Price: \$35/person. Payments accepted PayPal, Venmo or Zelle

To Book:: Email Katie@katiedphoto.com

June 21

Luau
3-5pm | Oak Island Recreation Center | 3003 E Oak Island Dr.

\$20 per resident couple and \$25 per non-resident couple

Come on out for this wonderful Community Dance. Father/Daughter, Mother/Son, Couples, Family and Friends. Don't miss out on this Luau fun. dancing, finger

foods, games, photo booth. This will be a wonderful time to spend with ones you love and to meet more people in our community.

OCEAN ISLE

May 10

First Annual Craft Fair
9am-2pm | 7025 Beach Drive

Join us for a day of crafts, community, and shopping local – all in support of Ocean View Learning Center! Interested in being a vendor? Contact Cheryl Farmer at 240-344-1054 for more info.

Tuesdays, May 27- June 24

Art in the Park
10am | Town Center Park
11 E 2nd St

This fun activity encourages kids to explore their creative side!

Wednesdays, May 21-Aug 13

Moonlight Movies
After Dusk | Town Center Park
11 E 2nd St

Come spread a blanket or bring a comfy chair and enjoy – and evening watching a family friendly movie on the lawn.

SHALLOTTE

May 17

BC Habitat for Humanity Annual Faith Community Breakfast
9:30am | Coastal Church
5200 Bridger Rd

Join us for breakfast as we recognize God's gracious hand in our work while expressing gratitude to our partner churches. Free and open to the public. Must RSVP by May 5 to Paster Michael Frink at 910-454-0007, ext 1010 or michael.f@bchabitat.org

June 14

1st Annual Pickleball Tournament
2pm | Carolina Pickleball Company
5825 Washington Rd SW

Join us for an afternoon of fun, friendly competition at our 1st Annual Pickleball Tournament - all to support a great cause! All skill levels are welcome and you do not need a team to enter. Sign up today and let's get picklin'!

Have questions or want to be an event sponsor? Email Theresa at theresa@bchabitat.org.

June 14

Daddy Daughter Summer Soiree
7pm | Ruby Anna Acres
1125 Bay Rd.

Join us for a Daddy Daughter Summer Soirée! This special event is all about celebrating the unique bond between fathers and their daughters. Enjoy an evening filled with laughter, dancing, and delightful activities designed for all ages. There will be an ice cream outpost, build your own bouquet station, and memorable fun filled moments that will last. Dress up for a night of elegance and joy, as we create lasting memories together. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to strengthen your connection and have a blast!

You must pre-pay! Limited spots available: Tickets \$40 per pair. To pre-pay: *cash app*: \$rubyannaacres, *venmo*: @rubyannaacres (memo: [your name - soiree])

To reserve your spot: text 472-220-9299 (memo: [your name - soiree])

SOUTHPORT

First Fridays

Southport Gallery Walk
5-7pm | Downtown Southport

Stroll downtown art galleries, enjoy their hospitality and enjoy the featured artists at each gallery. First Friday of each month all year except January, February & July

Wednesdays, May 7 - 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!

May 9

Community Blood Drive
12-6pm | Sacred Heart Church
5269 Doshier Cut Off SE

All blood types are needed! Donor ages range from 17 up. Younger donors can give with parental permission. There is no maximum age. According to our regional coordinator for the Red Cross, he knows people who give blood regularly and are in their 80s and 90s!! You can sign up for a

blood donation appointment at RedCross.Blood.org.

May 10

Mother's Day Flower & Tea Party
10am-5pm | Barn & Garden
4890 Long Beach Rd

We are having a bouquet bar and tea party to celebrate moms. Call (910)477-6050 to reserve a spot with your favorite lady. \$40 per person. 60 person limit for the day. 12 people per hour slot.

10:00-11:00, 11:30-12:30, 1:00-2:00, 2:30-3:30, 4:00-5:00

May 17

Art-Full Home Show & Sale
10am-5pm | Homer E. Wright Event Center | 4136 Southport Supply Rd.

Welcome to the Art-Full Home Show and Sale. View and purchase wholesale-priced original art from the area's finest, hand-picked artists. Open to the public!

SUPPLY

May 24

Tack Sale/Swap
10am | Wild Horse Ranch
1050 Wild Horse Trail

Calling all horse lovers and barn owners! It's time to clean out your barn and turn your unused horse and barn-related items into cash. Reserve your spot for just \$25 and sell your gear, tack, and everything in between.

Don't miss out on meeting other equestrians, finding great deals, and swapping valuable items for your stable! Spots are limited – Reserve yours today. Email Lifesbetter@awildhorseranch.com

WINNABOW

May 3

Car Show and BBQ Plate Sale
10am | Living Word
1029 George II Highway

Fun for the whole family!! Registration check-in starts at 8am and Car Show starts at 10am. All cars, bikes & trucks welcome ~ door prizes and awards! Whole Boston Butt Sale \$35.00 each (pre-order only!) Call Sonny Porter to order 910-371-6554

BBQ & Chicken BBQ Plate Sale: \$10 per single meat plate, \$12 per double meat plate. Each plate comes with 2 sides, roll, dessert and drink

50/50 RAFFLE: Drawing at 2pm

*You do NOT have to be present to win.

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

Brunswick Winds Spring Concert!

Celebrate spring as the Brunswick Winds presents "Music from Around the World". Our spring concert is FREE. Join us at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 10th, at Hatch Auditorium, N.C. Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell.

Brunswick Saxes, Brunswick Brass, and Trillogy Trio, our small ensembles, will also join this celebration to bring a concert experience offering something for everyone! Music selections include a sprinkling of classical, latin and sacred pieces, and selections from movies and theater.

Our volunteer musicians, along with talented high school students, 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.

THE 35TH ANNUAL BCLC ADULT SPELLING BEE

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm | Doors open at 5:30



Are You Smarter Than a Spell Check? It's time to be bold, be brilliant, and be ready to throw down some serious syllables. Our Annual Adult Spelling Bee is BACK – and it's the most buzzworthy fundraiser of the year!

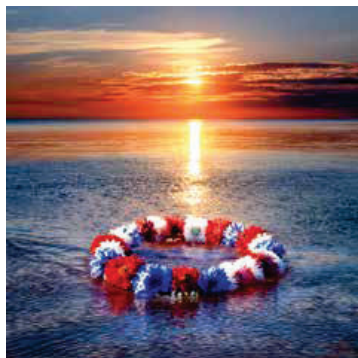
The Bee will be held at BCC Odell Williamson Auditorium, 50 College Road, Bolivia.

Enjoy live music by Bill Fritsch while you shop our HUGE silent auction, Wine Pull, and enjoy delicious food and desserts! Audience \$5.00 donation.

Annual Fallen Heroes Ceremony

Join us on May 17, 2025, 10am at the Historical Fort Johnston Museum & Visitor Center, 203 E Bay St, Southport to honor ten veterans during our annual Fallen Heroes Ceremony.

Event is sponsored by the Veterans Memorial Reef - VMR, veteransmemorialreef.org



How it Works

Grab a partner in rhyme and register your Team of 2 to compete in a high-stakes spelling showdown to support Brunswick County Literacy Council's mission to build stronger readers in our community.

Not ready to spell? Come and yell! Spectators are welcome and wanted. The team that brings the biggest, loudest cheering section wins a special prize too. So rally your crew, bring your signs, and get ready to spell-ebate!

For more info: 910.754-7323 or <https://bcliteracy.org/spelling-bee>

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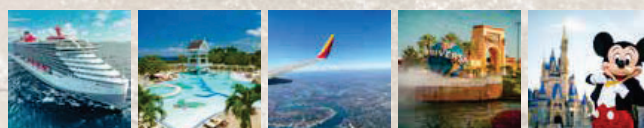
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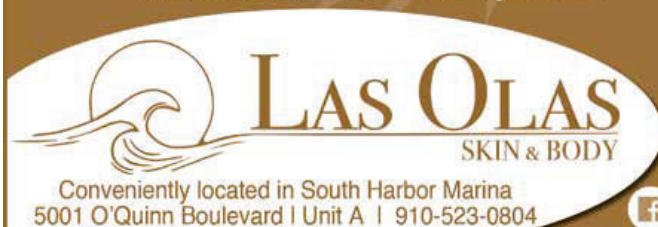
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**JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL MOTHERS'
DAY SUNDAY BRUNCH MAY 11TH**

SAVE THE DATE:

**OUR MAY CHEF'S TASTING AND WINE
DINNER WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY MAY 29TH.**

**OUR CULINARY DESTINATION IN MAY
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Southport Plein Air Festival



Mark your calendars for May 1-3, 2025, when one of Southport's most treasured events will be held, the Southport Plein Air festival.

This annual event, hosted by Up Your Arts and the City of Southport, is a favorite amongst artists from near and far and is open to all talent levels. Last year more than 90 artists participated in this 3 day event.

Plein Air, a French term for 'in the open air' means the public will have the opportunity to observe the artists painting outdoors all day Thursday and Friday, and Saturday morning. Southport is enriched with many scenic painting locations which makes this a favorite spot amongst the artists. Popular painting locations include the Cape Fear River, Southport's historic buildings, impressive live oak trees, and the waterfront with its colorful buildings, serene salt marshes, marinas, and wildlife. The public is encouraged to take a stroll around town and to interact with the artists as they have repeatedly expressed how much they enjoy Southport's hospitality.

Two receptions will be held to welcome the artists to Southport and give them an opportunity to meet and interact with their fellow artists. Haven of Southport, 307 N. Howe Street, will host them on Thursday, May 1, from 4-6pm. This happy hour event is open to the public. On Friday, May 2, a private event will be held for the artist at Frying Pan, 319 West Bay Street.

On Saturday, May 3rd, beginning

at 10am music and festivities will be held in Franklin Square Park. The day will start with the ever popular Kids Plein Air, where children can try their hand at painting. There will also be a variety of other art forms that will be demonstrated by local artisans and all members of the public are invited to participate and try something new free of charge thanks to the generosity of grants from the North Carolina arts council, via Brunswick Art Council.

At 3pm guests will be asked to leave Franklin Square Park for one hour while the artists set up for the much anticipated wet paint sale. At 4pm guests will be invited to return to the park to view and purchase the paintings the artists created during the 3-day festival.

Following the sale, a panel of judges comprised of selected local artists, will present awards for their favorite paintings. The premier award, the People's Choice Award, is selected by the public. The People's Choice Award recipient has the honor of having their work featured on T-shirts and other graphics promoting the 2026 Plein Air festival.

A raffle will be held for two paintings created and donated by last year's People Choice winner, Denise Nelson. Tickets will be available at the event all day Saturday. The raffle for the paintings will be held at 6pm following the awards ceremony. The winner does not need to be present to win.

Website: <https://cityofsouthport.com/southport-plein-air/>

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Freedom Run/Walk Call for Entries

Families looking for a unique July 4th destination need look no further than Southport, NC. The town's annual Independence Day celebration is the official celebration of the state of North Carolina, and this year's festivities promise to be better than ever.

Highlights of the celebration include picnics, arts and crafts, a car show, parade, fireworks, firemen's competition, children's games, live entertainment nightly, great food, and, of course, lots of red, white, and blue. This year's festival promises to be an unforgettable experience for the whole family.

One of the festival's most popular events is the Freedom Run and Walk sponsored by Novant Health, the run will be held on Saturday, June 28th. The race begins at 8am, and participants are guaranteed a Freedom Run t-shirt if entering by June 14th. This year's fee is \$35 for the 5K. There is no charge for the 1-mile run/walk. Interested participants can visit the festival's website, www.nc4thofjuly.com, for details and an entry form. Fleet Feet of Wilmington, NC, will be contributing to winner prizes.

For over thirty years, the N.C. 4th of July Festival Freedom Run has been racing through the streets of Southport, NC. The 5k and 1-mile fun run begins and ends at the Waterfront Park in Southport, N.C.

"For over 200 years, Southport, North Carolina, has celebrated the nation's independence. More than 50,000 people visit during the festival each year, and we're excited to welcome even more visitors this year," said a festival spokesperson. "We're proud to offer such a unique and memorable experience for families celebrating this important holiday."

The festival's Independence Day celebration is a must-see event for anyone looking for a fun and patriotic way to celebrate July 4th. For more information on the festival, please visit www.nc4thofjuly.com.






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THE RECREATION CENTER WANTS YOU!

Do you have a passion, skill, or talent you'd love to share with the community? The Oak Island Recreation Center is looking for enthusiastic individuals to lead new classes, courses, and clubs! This is your chance to inspire, educate, and connect with our vibrant community while doing what you love.

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NC 800-672-6379
FAX 910-253-2205

A Message from Sheriff Brian Chism: Don't Fall for the Scam Calls



Sheriff Brian Chism

Brunswick County Residents,

I want to take a moment to personally warn you about a growing issue we're seeing across our county—scam calls targeting good, honest people like you.

These scammers are clever. They're posing as members of law enforcement, even using real names and spoofing our phone numbers to make their calls look official. One of the most common tricks right now is the jury duty scam. They'll call you and claim you missed jury duty and that there's a warrant out for your arrest. Then they'll demand money to "clear it up."

Let me be very clear:

No one from the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office will ever call you and demand payment over the phone.

We don't ask for gift cards, prepaid debit cards, or anything of the sort. If you actually missed jury duty—or have any other legal issue—you'll be notified properly through the mail, not through a threatening phone call.

These scammers are trying to create panic. They want you to act quickly and emotionally. I want you to do the opposite. Hang up. Take a breath. Then call us directly at (910) 253-2777. We'll tell you the truth.

Here are a few more tips to help protect yourself and your loved ones:

- Never give out personal or financial information over the phone.
- Be suspicious of anyone asking for payment through gift cards, Venmo, or wire transfers.
- Don't click links in random texts or emails claiming unpaid tolls or tax debts.
- If you're unsure—call us. We'd much rather double-check some thing for you than see you get taken advantage of.
- Download the BCSO mobile app and follow us on social media. We put out alerts about scams on a regular basis.

We're also seeing scams involving fake tax notices, toll road messages, online romance cons, and even packages showing up at your door you didn't order. If something feels off, trust your gut.

It's heartbreaking to see people lose their hard-earned money because of these criminals. That's why I'm asking you to help spread the word—talk to your neighbors, your parents, your kids.

Awareness is one of our strongest defenses.

As your sheriff, protecting you is my top priority—on the street and online. And we're in this together.

Have You Downloaded the BCSO Mobile App?

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Office mobile app is the best way to stay informed about important updates from our office—including scam alerts, safety and traffic notifications, and other critical information we regularly push out to our community.

- Stay ahead of the latest scams
- Get important alerts right to your phone

- Access resources and contact information with ease

Search "Brunswick County Sheriff NC" in your app store to download today or scan the QR code.



Brunswick Marketplace

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Web: www.brunswickmarketplace.com

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Tourism Counts Ice Cream Social

The Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce invites the local business community and our elected officials to celebrate National Travel & Tourism Week with an ice cream social Tuesday, May 6 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Cape Fear Regional Jetport, 4015 Airport Road, Southport.

The event is free and open to both chamber members and non-member businesses. Each guest will receive one free serving of ice cream or Italian Ice during the event.

"Tourism is the backbone of our local economy," said Karen Sphar, executive vice president of the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce. "The Southport-Oak Island area is home to hundreds of small, locally owned businesses, many of which are hospitality based in our tourism-centered region. These national celebrations provide the ideal time to bring our business community together to recognize the contributions these vital business

members bring to our economy."

During the event High Tide Aviation is offering an introductory air tour around OKI for \$50.00 pp. Reservations for the air tours should be made by calling (910) 294-5871.

Remarks about tourism's importance to the local economy and benefits to its residents will be made by Howie Franklin, Cape Fear Regional Jetport John; Sneed, Brunswick County Tourism Development Authority; Jim Hoffman, Museum of Coastal Carolina/Ingram Planetarium; Cindy Capps, Rusty Hooks Dockside Grill & Tiki Deck, and Marcell Hatten, NCWorks.

The event is sponsored by: Duke Energy, Chuck's Homemade and High Tide Aviation. National Travel and Tourism Week, is sponsored by the U.S. Travel Association, celebrates the impact the travel industry has on the economy, businesses, and individuals. Call (910) 457-6964 or go to southport-oakisland.com for more information about the event.



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WHERE: Middleton Park Complex
4610 E Dolphin Dr.

Come join the Oak Island Fire & Police Departments for
their annual exhibition with the US Coast Guard in a
First Responder Community Softball Game!
To learn more, visit OakIslandNC.gov/BBB

Call for Artists! We are Welcoming New Members!

Associated Artists of Southport is a cooperative housed in Franklin Square Gallery which exhibits fine art paintings, pottery and sculpture and promotes the arts in the greater community.

If you would like more informa-

tion about our membership options, please click on the link below or go to our website at FranklinSquareGallery.com and click on the page titled "Become A Member"

<https://www.franklinsquaregallery.com/become-a-member>

Jam & Java Seeking Musicians

The Oak Island Recreation Department is looking for up and coming musicians who would like a chance to play music for the community.

If you are interested in playing for the community Monday evening at the Recreation Center, reach out to Emily Kincer at 910-278-5518 or ekincer@oakislandnc.gov.

The City of Southport's Public Information Office Needs Your Help!

We are bringing a specialty license plate to Southport and would love to feature your art. The contest is now open and accepting submissions through June 1, 2025.

Read more about the contest and submit your art here: <https://buff.ly/RzQirYN>



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Kudos and Congratulations



Congrats Southport Cheese Shoppe

NC Cooperative Extension recognized the Southport Cheese Shoppe and employees for their outstanding commitment to food safety.

Our very own Lori received an award for highest score in Brunswick County on the Food Safety Manager Exam in 2024!

Keeping our customers safe with ANOTHER 100 Sanitation score!

tion to this important work reflects a strong commitment to making a positive impact in our community.

Join us in celebrating this achievement!



Smith Family Home Dedication

This week, we had the joy of celebrating an incredible milestone—the home dedication for the Smith family. A heartfelt thank you to our amazing donors, whose contributions have provided not just a house, but a foundation for hope, stability, and new beginnings. Your kindness truly changes lives!

To everyone who joined us for the ceremony—thank you. Your presence made the day even more meaningful for the Smith family as they stepped through the front door of their very own home.

Together, we've built more than just walls; we've built a community. Thank you for being a part of this journey and for helping us make the dream of home-ownership a reality!

FOLSOM Treasurer Mary Gretton Awarded Brunswick County's 2025 Governor's Volunteer Service Award

Congratulations to Mary Gretton, for receiving the 2025 Governor's Volunteer Service Award. Created in 1979, this award is an important part of the proud history and tradition of volunteerism and community service in Brunswick County and North Carolina.

FOLSOM president Cindy Phillips said, "Mary is the engine in the background that is often not seen, but essential to the board, functioning and serving the libraries and helping spread our mission. FOLSOM is lucky to have her as a volunteer."



Detention Officer Graduates form Juvenile Justice Basic Training

We are proud to recognize Detention Officer James Kennedy for successfully completing the Juvenile Justice Basic Training School through the NC Department of Public Safety!

This rigorous three-week program provides essential skills and knowledge to work with troubled youth, helping to guide them toward a better future. Officer Kennedy's dedica-

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Do You Know What to Do When a Hurricane Hits?



There are a few events coming up to attend where you can learn the do's and don'ts during hurricane season.

Bolivia

Are you prepared for emergencies? Come by the #ReadyBrunswick Preparedness Expo on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at the Government Center, 30 Government Center Dr NE, Bolivia anytime between 11am-2pm. to meet with our team members and other local organizations to learn more about disaster preparedness and recovery in Brunswick County.

This family-friendly event is FREE to attend and will feature over 20 local organizations that are ready to help prepare you for local hazards and threats, guide you and your family in developing an emergency plan, and teach you about organizations that can assist with recovery needs.

There will be FREE Sunset Slush Classic Italian Ice, popcorn, a vast display of rescue vehicles, a free raffle contest, and many handouts related to emergency preparedness and recovery.

Details: <https://www.brunswick-countync.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=402>

Southport

The City of Southport will hold an informative Hurricane expo on May 13, from 5:30-7pm at the Southport Community Building, 223 East Bay Street.

Talk with employees about:

- Evacuations and Re-entry
- Electricity and Generators
- The Do's and Don'ts of Debris Removal
- Protecting Valuable Records

- Animals During an Evacuation
- EMS and Water Rescue
- Special Needs/Home Bound Citizens
- Protecting Your House
- Having Your House Firesafe
- Southport Connected/Code Red

The city department will have free giveaways. and WWAY will be doing a live broadcast.

For more information call SFD HQ at 910-457-7915.

Oak Island

The Town of Oak island will host its 2025 Hurricane Conference on Thursday, May 15, from 6-9pm at the Council Chambers, located on the second floor of town hall at 4601 E. Oak Island Drive.

This year's Conference is coordinated by the Oak Island Police Department.

As a resident or property owner, this is your chance to learn all the information available from the Town related to:

- Hurricane Preparedness
- Evacuation Routes
- Shelter Locations
- Emergency Supply Checklists
- Staying Informed During a Storm
- And More

Additionally, hear from local experts, meteorologists, and emergency responders as they provide vital information and answer your questions. This event is free and all are welcome. Presentations will be broadcast LIVE on OKI_TV and available later on the town website. For more info: OakIslandNV.gov/HURRICANE.



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It's Sea Turtle Season!



Sea Turtle season runs from May 1-October 31. Here is some good info to know.

Sea Turtles Dig the Dark

Nesting turtles are frightened by lights and won't lay their eggs on a brightly lit beach. Hatchlings will go to the lights rather than the ocean! Please help us preserve our marine life by keeping beach-front lighting off from May 1st until October 31st.

Turtle Emergencies

Found a mother turtle laying a nest? A stranded or injured sea turtle and/or unattended hatchlings? Do not intervene!

Call your local Turtle Protection team immediately:

Caswell Beach: 910-368-6323,

<https://caswellturtlewatch.org/>

Holden Beach: 910-754-0766, 24/7/365, <https://hbturtlewatch.org/>

Oak Island: 910-945-8888, <https://okiseaturtle.org/>

Ocean Isle: Sea Turtle Rescue Team 910-880-8715, <https://oibseaturtles.org>

Deb Allen- Island Coordinator
704-607-2027

Report Activity at or near a nest on OIB 910-712-0278

Sea Turtle Friendly Light Fixtures
turtlelights010@gmail.com

Sunset Beach: Sunset Beach Turtle Watch - 910-209-1079 or Sunset Beach Police Department - 910-579-6297 or 911, <https://www.sunsetbeachturtles.org/>



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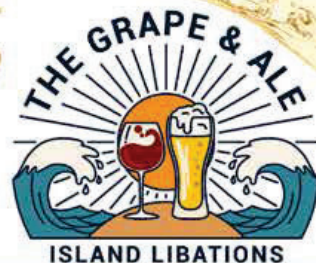


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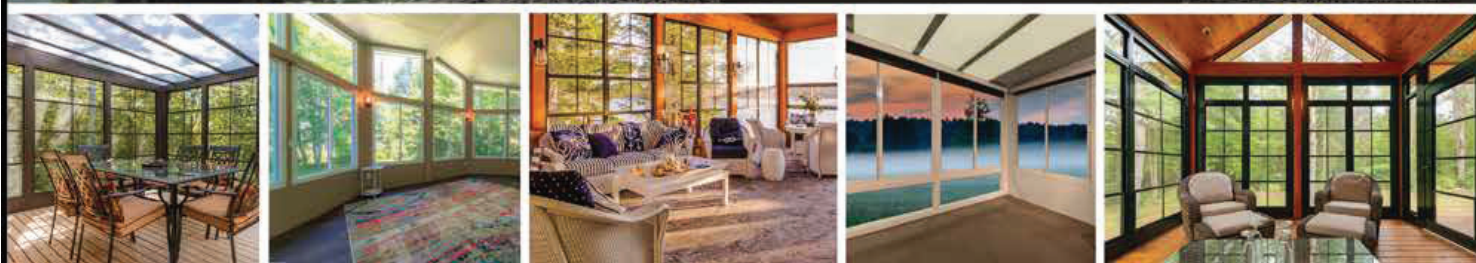


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New Hope Clinic's Wellness Wagon and Care-A-Van Greatly Expand Their Range

For 27 years New Hope Clinic, has never wavered in its mission and passion: "To provide patient-centered healthcare and wellness services for underserved adults in Brunswick County."

Over the years they have continually expanded their services and patient base, and once again they are on the move — but this time, literally.

New Hope Clinic (NHC) recently purchased a 28-foot van and transformed it into a clinic on wheels, appropriately called The Wellness Wagon. Then they bought a minivan and named it Care-a-Van, which is used to screen and enroll the patients. These two new vehicles will allow the clinic to serve low-income, underserved populations that live in locations too far away to travel to the clinic's main facility in Southport.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially inaugurate this new mobile service was held on March 26 and cheered by a crowd of an estimated 75 enthusiastic New Hope supporters and friends. NHC Executive Director Sheila Roberts cut the ribbon and invited the guests to tour the Wellness Wagon and have some refreshments.

The impetus for the Wellness Wagon was a study published by Harvard Medical School in 2018 identifying the pockets of poverty in each state and the need for mobile units to address the situation. The NHC board proposed the mobile health project in 2019, but like so many other programs, it was put on hold during the pandemic and revived in 2023.

For the last two years, NHC has been securing funding for the van and minivan and all the equipment and operating expenses for one year, including insurance and gas.

Major donors included Cape Fear Memorial Foundation, iHeart Catholic Church, Ocean Ridge Charities Association, Southport Ro-

tary, The Leon Levine Foundation, Landfall Foundation, Sacred Heart Church, The Catherine Kennedy Home Foundation, St. Phillip's Episcopal Church, Philip L. Van Every Foundation, St. James Service Club, Southport Lions Club and General



Federation of Women's Clubs, plus several individual donors and fundraisers. Collectively they raised a total of \$342,000.

The Wellness Wagon made its maiden run in December of 2024. They now have monthly visits scheduled for St. Brendan's Church in Shallotte and have scheduled visits to The Bridge Presbyterian Church in Leland and the Brunswick County Government Center in Bolivia. Periodically they visit the Christian Recovery Center (CRCI) in Shallotte and its sister facility, Rose House in Calabash.

We are ramping up slowly for the first 90 days," Roberts said. "I'll sleep better after those first 90 days and the van and wagon are fully utilized every day."

Plans include attending community events and health fairs, faith-based communities and other nonprofit organizations that provide human services. The clinic now serves close to 500 patients a year, and the wagon, when fully utilized, will add an additional 200. It is estimated that there are 4,000 people in Brunswick County who meet the eligibility requirements to be treated by New Hope Clinic.

To read the entire article: <https://lifeinbrunswickcounty.com/health-on-the-move/>

Escuela Del Sol Opens First Bilingual Preschool in Brunswick County

The Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held on April 24th for Escuela Del Sol Bilingual Preschool located at Ocean View United Methodist Church, 8400 E. Oak Island Drive, Oak Island.

Escuela Del Sol Co-Owner and native Spanish Speakers from South America-Uruguay: Fabiana Santucci and Gisella Brosche. The preschool staff includes Cynthia Marino (Los Angeles, California), Grecia Can (Mexico), Augustina Riddle (Argentina) and Imelda Ramos (Honduras) representing a few of the 21 Spanish Speaking Countries right here in Oak Island!

Escuela Del Sol is the first bilingual preschool in Brunswick County. Escuela Del Sol, combines play-based learning with the magic of bilingual education, helping children build confidence in both English and Spanish.

While Escuela Del Sol lease classrooms and play spaces within the



church facility, they operate independently and is not affiliated with Ocean View United Methodist Church. The preschool welcomes families of all backgrounds in a nurturing, bilingual learning environment.

Escuela Del Sol also offers a Language and Learning Center for adults and school aged children and teens at 5001 O'Quinn Blvd, Southport

For more info: <https://www.escueladelsol.net/preschool> or call 949-289-4044.

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The Sounds of Summer

Keep This Page for the Concert Series Schedules in Our Brunswick Towns



Oak Island Summer Concert
"Bands By The Beach!" Series • 2025

2025 LIVE BAND LINEUP:

May 23 • The Entertainers
May 30 • Christine Martinez Band
June 6 • Jim Quick & Coastline
June 13 • Wicked Fire Santana Tribute
June 20 • Too Much Sylvia
June 27 • Julio & the Saltines
July 1 (Tues.) BEACH DAY • 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Chairmen of the Board Feat. Ken Knox
July 11 • The Embers Feat. Craig Woolard
July 18 • (UPDATE) The British Invaders
July 25 • Rivermist
August 1 • The Sand Band
August 8 • The Extraordinaires
August 15 • The Salty Dawgs
August 22 • 52nd Street Band
August 30 (Saturday) • The Main Event Band

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Every Friday*
in the
Middleton Park
Complex
at 4610 E Dolphin Dr.
*Unless otherwise noted

Follow the schedule at OakIslandNC.gov/EVENTS

Southport Concert Series

Thursdays • 6-8pm
Franklin Square Park

May 29: Back Porch Rockers
Jun 5: CMB (Christine Martinez Band)
Jun 12: Rev & The Flying Flamings
Jun 19: Double-Cherry Pie A La Mode
Jun 26: Sandy Branch Band
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: Sept 4, 11, 18, 25



2025 LINEUP

| Sunday | Friday |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| May 25: The Main Event | July 18: Chocolate Chip & Company |
| June 6: Christine Martinez | July 25: Too Much Sylvia |
| June 13: The Entertainers | Aug 1: Band of Oz |
| June 20: The Tonez | Aug 8: Gary Lowder & Smokin' Hot |
| June 27: Blackwater Band | Aug 15: The Embers Ft. Craig Woodward |
| June 30: The Extraordinaires | Aug 22: Special Occasion Band |
| July 11: The Catalinas | Aug 31: Continental Divide |

Monday
June 30: The Extraordinaires

Friday
July 11: The Catalinas

Sunday
Aug 31: Continental Divide

All concerts are FREE! Chair Set-up after 4pm

For concert information, please visit oibgov.com

CONCERTS AT THE LAKE
SPRING LAKE PARK
210 PINE RD.

CLASS ACT BAND
FRIDAY MAY 30TH 6-8PM
HOODS CREEK
FRIDAY JUNE 13TH 6-8PM
THE CHANCE UNION BAND
FRIDAY JUNE 27TH 6-8PM
THE DOORSMEN
FRIDAY JULY 11TH 6-8PM
LUNAR TIDE BAND
FRIDAY JULY 18TH 6-8PM
THE BAND WHIPLASH
FRIDAY AUGUST 1ST 6-8PM

SUNSET SOUND WAVES
CONCERT SCHEDULE

2025
SUNSET BEACH TOWN PARK

MAY
28 NORTH TOWER BAND

JUNE
4 RIVERMIST
11 MERCENARIES BAND
18 CHOCOLATE CHIP & CO.
25 THE SWITCH

JULY
2 THE EXTRAORDINAIRES
9 BAND ON FIRE
16 DEVIN DOVE BAND
23 THE ENTERTAINERS
30 JB & THE GET DOWN BROWNS

AUGUST
6 JULIO & THE SALTINES
13 MACDADDYS
20 TOO MUCH SYLVIA
27 52ND STREET BAND

Concerts are 6-8pm
Weather Permitting

Calabash Town Park

Tuesdays 6-8:30pm | 868 Persimmon Rd.
Call 910-579-6747 for more information.

June 3: Band of Oz
June 17: Chocolate Chip & Company
June 24: Too Much Sylvia
July 1: The Extraordinaires
July 15: Thomas Road Band
July 22: The Main Event Band
July 29: J.B. and The Get Down Browns
August 5: The Tonez

Holden Beach

Sunday evenings 6:30-8pm
Bridgeview Park across from Town Hall.
Call 910-842-6488 for more information.

May 25: The Embers feat. Craig Woolard
June 1: Too Much Sylvia
June 8: Carolina Kool
June 15: Gary Lowder & Smokin Hot
June 22: The Main Event Band
June 29: The Extraordinaires
July 6: The Tams
July 13: Jim Quick and Coastline
July 20: The Sand Band
July 27: Continental Divide
August 3: Blackwater Band
August 10: Band of Oz
August 17: The Entertainers
August 24: North Tower
August 31: Chairman of the Board

Shallotte Concerts

Mulberry Park, 123 Mulberry St.
Thursday Nights July-September | 7:00-9:00 pm

July 3: The Catalinas
July 10: Too Much Sylvia
July 17: Chocolate Chip & Company
July 24: The Tonez
September 4: The Extraordinaires

July 31: Thomas Road
August 7: Julio & the Saltines
August 14: The Entertainers
August 28: Band of Oz



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Brunswick County Seeking Volunteers to Form Emergency Response Teams

A CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) is being organized for Brunswick County and localities. Brunswick County officials are in the initial phase of accepting the first round of volunteers and plan to start formal training during the early summer. After the initial team is formed and trained, application for team certification can be filed with national authorities and the team would be recognized and certified. That initial team can then be broken down

into more local teams.

CERT provides trained volunteers to assume support activities during an emergency and free-up highly trained teams such as the fire department during a large event so they can handle the tasks requiring professional training. Membership in CERT is open to any adults 18 years or older. There is no upper age limit.

CERT falls under FEMA, North Carolina Emergency Management, and Brunswick County Emergency

Management. CERT volunteer basic training and certification include light Search and Rescue, disaster medical triage, distributing disaster supplies, helping with the call center at the county complex, traffic control, and a variety of emergency services. In addition, the trained CERT volunteers will acquire knowledge to help with even personal household or neighbor emergencies.

Additional task forces under Brunswick CERT are planned to be Ad-

vanced Technical Search and Rescue and the REVC (Radiation Emergency Volunteer Corps) which falls under the DHHS Medical Reserve Corps and NC State CERT and would provide triage, decontamination, and other services in the event of a radiation event at one the three reactors in North Carolina.

More details are available at https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/about-cert?language=en_US

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Woof! Yes! Fido Can Enjoy the Brunswick Beaches



Pets are welcome at all of NC's Brunswick Islands' beaches. In fact, tripswithpets.com named Caswell Beach and Oak Island numbers 1 and 2 respectively in its list of "Top 5 Dog-Friendly Beaches in North Carolina."

Please be aware of any local leash laws or town ordinances listed below that may apply for specific beach locations. Also, please be respectful of others and clean up after your pet.

Bald Head Island - Pets on the beach must be leashed from sunset to sunrise during turtle season, May 1 through November 15. All other times, pets are permitted off leash but must remain under direct supervision at all times.

Caswell Beach - Dogs that are leashed are permitted year round on the beach strand, as long as they do not pose a threat or nuisance to others. Dogs not leashed, but under the control of their owner, are permitted on the beach strand from dawn until 9am year-round. Additionally, from October 15 through March 15, dogs not leashed, but under the control of their owner, are permitted on the beach strand all day.

Holden Beach - Holden Beach does not allow dogs on the beach from May 20th to September 10th

between 9am and 5pm. Dogs must be on a leash at all times on the island.

Oak Island - Dogs that are leashed are permitted year round on Oak Island beaches. Dogs are allowed off their leash from October 15 until March 15 from 6am until 8pm in locations marked by beach access signs.

Ocean Isle Beach - Dogs are not permitted on the beach strand between the hours of 9am and 6pm during the period of Memorial Day through Labor Day. Dogs must be on a leash at all times on the island when off the premises of the owner, keeper, or guardian.

Sunset Beach - From the Friday preceding Memorial Day through Labor Day, dogs are not allowed on the beach between the hours of 8am and 6pm. After 6pm, and before 8am, dogs are allowed on a leash no longer than 10 feet. After Labor Day and before the Friday preceding Memorial Day, dogs are allowed all day but must be leashed.

Just remember, whenever you're on the beach with your dog regardless of location, please be respectful of others and the environment, and clean up after your pet.

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A Second Helping Needs Volunteers!

A Second Helping Summer Island Food Collections on Ocean Isle Beach NEEDS VOLUNTEERS! (It will involve only three Saturdays over the summer) CAN YOU HELP US? If we don't have enough volunteers by the middle of May to gather all this food, we won't be able to continue the food collections and the food will end up back into the trash cans.

Ten years ago, a group of neighbors on Ocean Isle Beach got together to collect unopened food items from vacationers as they left their vacation rentals. This food went to Brunswick Family Assistance (BFA), a local food pantry supplementing food to the food insecure people in our community. This collection grew to over 30,000 pounds of food each summer which is equal to about \$150,000 in food to the community.

After many years of dedicated service, and many weeks of thoughtful deliberation, the OIB Second Helping Team made the difficult decision to discontinue their current program and invited A Second Helping 3-G

to help carry the torch of this important community outreach program moving forward.

Collections happen on Saturday mornings between 7:30am and 11:00am from Memorial Day to the Saturday before Labor Day (12 Saturday mornings). There are three Collection Stations on Ocean Isle Beach.

Each of the 3 stations will need 5 volunteers. Which means we need 15 volunteers on a team each Saturday.

Spending a few hours with your friends on a Saturday morning is great fun. Can you be a volunteer? We can add you to a team as we build the teams!

You WILL NOT BE ALONE. We will be with you to help you, and make sure you are having fun.

If you would like to volunteer or would like more details, please feel free to contact: Bert and Vicki Barman 602-686-2436 (Bert3milestb@outlook.com)



Come on out and shop home-made crafts and artisan items, homemade jakes, jellies, bread, soaps, Carolina's finest BBQ sauce, fried bananas!

There will be face painting and fairy hair as well!

Park at the Dixon Chapel and ride the shuttle to the fair. There is no parking at event site.

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110 Shallotte Crossing Parkway
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(910) 755-7278

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Tickets are now on sale for Up Your Arts' 4th Annual Cool & Fancy Gala to be held April 21 at the Homer E. Wright Event Center (formerly known as St. James Community Center), from 6-10pm on Saturday, September 6, 2025.

Entertainment will feature Wilmington's premiere eight-piece dance party band, Uptown Easy. Dinner and dessert will be catered by Southport's own award winning Live Oak on Howe, enjoyed along with a variety of beer and wines served throughout the evening. Bourbon bar with signature UYA collector glasses will also be available.

The 4th Annual Cool & Fancy Gala has three ticket levels. General admission tickets are \$75 per guest + sales tax and ticket processing fees, first come/first serve seating. For parties of six or eight, host tables can be reserved for \$100 per guest + sales tax and ticket processing fees (must be purchased together). Businesses can also reserve a six- or eight-person gala table and receive promotional benefits for \$125 per guest+ sales tax and ticket processing fees, including table signage, an ad in the gala program, and placement in social media posts.

Certain Up Your Arts' sponsorships available all year round include

premium gala seating for parties of six or eight. Please see the full range of benefits offered to annual sponsors at <https://www.upyourarts.org/get-involved/sponsorshiQL> or email info@1.1P.Yourarts.org with questions.

Raffles, Raffles, Everywhere! Online raffle are also now live, winners will be announced at the gala (attendance not required). Fun and fundraising raffles include:

- Royal Caribbean cruise for two
- Lunch for a Year with area restaurants
- Dinner for a year with area restaurants
- Trek Electra Cruiser Go! electric bike, sponsored by Island Bicycles on Oak Island
- Shibumi Shade with Wind Assist, donated by Strands Outfitters of Oak Island

Seas the arts! and be sure to get your gala tickets and raffle tickets soon. You can buy them online at <https://www.UYOurarts.org>.

Proceeds of Up Your Arts 4th annual Cool & Fancy Gala support the organization's mission to promote and enhance creative and performing arts in the greater Southport area.

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Golf Carts at the Beach



Low Speed Vehicles are registered through the State of North Carolina and DO NOT require a special permit or authorization to operate within the Town limits.

Many retailers sell specifically designed LSVs, or in some cases golf carts which have been redesigned to meet the requirements of an LSV. In many cases these retailers will provide the needed registration and titling services required to make a vehicle "street legal" in North Carolina.

For vehicles sold from the factory as a Low Speed Vehicle with proper safety equipment, registration, tags & title, no further action is needed.

By North Carolina law it is required for LSEV's:

- To be driven on public streets (no sidewalks)
- All operators must possess a valid driver's license
- The vehicle must be registered with the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles and have a valid license tag, vehicle inspection and valid vehicle insurance

LSEV's fall under the following Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Stand-

ard. No. 500 (49 CFR 571.500) which states:

- Must have the ability to travel between 20-25 mph
- Be equipped with headlamps
- Be equipped with stop lamps
- Be equipped with turn signal lamps
- Be equipped with tail lamps
- Be equipped with reflex reflectors
- Be equipped with parking brakes
- Be equipped with rearview mirrors
- Be equipped with windshields
- Be equipped with seat belts
- Be equipped with vehicle identification numbers (VIN)

If you are bringing a Low Speed Electric Vehicle (Golf Cart) from out of state your LSEV must:

- Be registered with your state of residence Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
- Must have a license tag (hard tag just like your car) issued by your DMV
- Must have valid insurance

Check your particular town for further rules of the road regarding low speed vehicles.

Sip, Sip, Hooray! Wine Tasting and Silent Auction

Get ready to elevate your bourbon game! Introducing the Blanton's Bourbon Gift Basket - a treasure trove for whiskey lovers! Join us on May 8th at the SIP, SIP, HOORAY silent auction and place your bid for a chance to take home this exclusive prize. Don't miss out on the smooth sips and delightful flavors that Blanton's has to offer! Cheers to good times ahead!



The event, hosted by the Leland Area Rotary Club, will take place at the Leland Cultural Arts Center, 1212 Magnolia Village Way from 5-7:30pm.

All bidding will take place onsite the night of the event.

To purchase tickets, scan the QR Code or contact Billie Gunn at 810-650-6157.



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Make Music Day, which originated in 1982, is a global celebration observed on the same day in over 1,000 cities across numerous countries. This unique music festival invites everyone to participate, regardless of age or skill level. Whether you're a budding amateur or a seasoned professional, there's a place for you in this harmonious gathering.

And the best part? It's completely free and open to the public. So, mark your calendar for June 21st, at Ocean Isle Beach Park, 10am-8pm and let's create a symphony that resonates around the world!

Featured performers will be Ian Daviz Band, Purple Reign, Empress, Camp Fire Ball, Tina Smith, The Reflections and BAC Community Players.

From 3-6pm there will be an open mic, 2 songs, 10 minutes, digital plug and play or amp. Pre-register

at <https://brunswickcounty.makemusicday.org/>

The stages await for all musicians, rappers, and instrumentalists to join in. Whether you're a seasoned performer or just starting out, there's a spot for you in this harmonious ensemble.

- **Singers:** Belt out your melodies with passion.
- **Church choirs:** Bring your heavenly harmonies.
- **Jazz combos:** Swing those notes and improvise.
- **Rock bands:** Crank up the amps and let the chords roar.
- **Glee clubs:** Harmonize and spread joy.
- **MCs:** Drop your lyrical flow.
- **Marching bands:** Step in rhythm and create a cadence.
- **Mariachis:** Strum those guitars and serenade us.
- **Carolers:** Sing festive songs during the season.

The festival will also offer food options and arts/crafts vendors for your shopping pleasure. Come and celebrate the talents of our local musicians and enjoy the day.

More info is available at: <https://brunswickartscouncil.org/> or <https://brunswickcounty.makemusicday.org/>

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Dinner Thu-Mon 4-9pm

Oak Island Campground Has a New Owner and a New Look



We are a small family-owned campground located on the mainland of the seaside town of Oak Island and located just 1 mile from the beaches. We are also located less than 3 miles from the charming historic town of Southport NC. You'll find ample beach access and a variety of fishing options from the piers to docks to charters for both the ocean and intercoastal waterway.

Under new management, many improvements have been made to the campground including a new eye-catching entrance, upgraded camp spots, new bath house, new laundry facilities, new dog park, and pavillion.

We offer sites for all size campers! Don't have a camper?

No worries, we have several camps available for rent.

We are a stop for the Southport Trolley! 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.

Contact us today! We'd love to have you stay with us!

Oak Island Campground
4125 Long Beach Rd SE,
Southport, NC 28461, USA
(910) 269-6979

oikcampground@gmail.com
oakislandcampground.com

Dosher to Hold Community Cookout and Birthday Party

Dosher Memorial Hospital's fourth annual Community Cookout is set for Saturday June 7th, at the front entrance of Dosher Hospital, at 924 N. Howe St. from 11:30am - 1:30pm. All are welcome to join Dosher staff, Trustees, Volunteers, and hospital leaders for the celebration, which will include a cookout lunch, dessert, and music.

"This year's cookout marks a milestone birthday for Dosher Hospital," said Dosher President and CEO Lynda Stanley. "Dosher will celebrate 95 years of caring for our community at what has become a much-anticipated annual event.

Therevent is free. Pre-registration is not required but is appreciated. Go to dosher.org/birthday, or call 910-457-3900 for more information or to RSVP.



Get ready for a fun-filled day with something for everyone!

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors out to enjoy the sunshine and community vibes at our annual Spring Fling hosted by The HOPE Center!

The fun will be on Saturday, May 3, from 12-5pm at 63 Baldwin Dr, Leland.

What's Happening:

- Local Vendors
- Delicious Food
- Bounce House
- Live DJ
- Games for All Ages
- Spring-themed activities & more!

Whether you're coming to shop, eat, dance, or just have fun—there's something for everyone!

Learn more: www.hopecleland.com

RSVP & share this event with your friends and family!

Looking for a Volunteer Opportunity?

Interested in helping the Town of Ocean Isle Beach Recreation Department with summer programs?

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Email Ruthie McHugh Recreation Director ruthie@oibgov.com or call 910-579-2166 for more information

oceanisle BEACH

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for a way to get involved in your community?

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Fort Johnston-Southport Museum & Visitors' Center
- Southport Summer Market Mobile Visitors' Center
- Events

No experience needed—just a positive attitude and a willingness to help!

Contact 910-457-7927 or sign up at www.bit.ly/446X0JQ

CITY OF SOUTHPORT
CHARTERED 1776

Town of Oak Island Recreation

Oak Island Recreation: Volunteers Wanted!

The Oak Island Recreation Department is looking for volunteers to help serve the community, with several different opportunities to choose from!

To learn about the many different opportunities available, visit the QR code, or visit our website and click the 'VOLUNTEER' tab at:

OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS

Volunteers needed

PLEASE JOIN US
For
DRINKS

CAFE KOA

DOWNTOWN SOUTHPORT
CAFEKOANC.COM

BRUNCH
LUNCH
DINNER

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Vegetables..Local meat cuts..Fresh farm eggs..
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And so much more!

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Open Daily
9am-6pm

Southport, NC
& Bald Head Island, NC

Follow Us!

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2E Merchants Row • Bald Head Island, NC • (910) 477-6007
angiesfreshproduce.com

Ride with Brunswick Transit System



Brunswick Transit System, Inc. (BTS) is a non-profit community transportation system that coordinates general public and human services transportation for the residents of Brunswick County. The transit system operates a fleet of 17 vehicles, including ADA equipped vehicles to assist persons with special needs.

What services does BTS offer?

BTS provides non-emergency transportation services to the general public through our Dial-a-Ride grant funded program and to various agency clients through contracts with those respective agencies.

What is Dial-a-Ride?

Dial-a-ride is a fare assistance transportation program sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The service is open to the residents of Brunswick County. There is a fare and reservations are required. Reservations must be made at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. Transportation is available on a first-come/first-serve basis as space and schedules permit.

Who can ride?

Any resident of Brunswick County is eligible to ride with BTS. BTS provides transportation for general purpose trips, medical trips, and most non-emergency trip destinations.

When can I ride?

Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm as space permits. When you make your reservation please allow 2 hours for service before your requested drop-off as pick-up times may vary depending on the number of riders. Once a reservation is confirmed you will receive an automated phone call including a pick-up time. A driver may only wait five (5) minutes for you to

board the van.

How do I schedule a ride?

To request general public transportation services, call the BTS office at (910) 253-7800 or toll-free at 877-754-2764 between the hours of 8am and 4:30pm, Monday-Friday. Requests left with the answering service are not scheduled until our staff has contacted you.

What information do I need?

You will need to provide the dispatcher/scheduler with the following information when you call to schedule your trip: Your name, address, destination address, telephone number, any return trip information, any special requirements (space needed for a child seat, wheel chair, etc.), and the name, relationship, and age of anyone traveling with you.

How do I cancel a ride?

If you must cancel a scheduled trip please notify the BTS office at 910-253-7800 or toll-free at 877-754-2764 as soon as possible, but at least 2 hours in advance of your pick-up time. Early notification allows BTS to provide transportation to others and will eliminate any no-show charges, which must be paid before future rides are scheduled.

How much does it cost?

Fares for general public riders are \$3.00 or \$5.00 one-way depending on the destination. When you call the dispatcher/scheduler you will be given the correct fare for your scheduled trip. Tickets can be purchased from the BTS office. Arrangements can be made by calling the BTS office at 910-253-7800 or toll-free at 877-754-2764.

For more information: <https://www.brunswicktransit.org>



Oak Island Pier | 705 Ocean Drive
Oak Island | (910) 933-6222



*To the Right of
Koko Cabana!*

Oak Island | (910) 933-6133



4722 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island | (910) 933-1073



614 W. West Street | Southport
(910) 363-5060





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