

## King Mackerel Tournament Returns October 2-4, 2025

The Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the upcoming U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament, scheduled for October 2nd – 4th at Dutchman Creek Park in the Southport-Oak Island area. As one of the most anticipated fishing events in the country, the tournament promises a full day of competition, community, and fun – and we’re currently seeking sponsors to help make it all happen.

The U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament brings together fishing enthusiasts from across 11 states, offering cash prizes, family-friendly activities, sponsor showcase and food vendors.

“This event is more than just a fishing tournament,” said Carol Magnani, 2025 Tournament Chair. “It’s a celebration of outdoor tradition, sportsmanship, and community spirit. Sponsors play a key role in making this event successful and memorable.”

All sponsors will receive prominent recognition before and during the event, including logo placement, media mentions, social media shout-outs, and booth space on-site (where applicable).

We invite businesses, organizations, and individuals passionate about community engagement and outdoor recreation to partner with us. Sponsorship not only provides great exposure but also supports a beloved local tradition

We offer a variety of sponsorship levels to fit every budget – from major sponsors to local business shout-outs. The deadline to be included in the brochure is June 19th.

For more information on sponsorship packages or to become a sponsor, please contact:

U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament, 4433 Long Beach Road, Southport at (910) 457-6964 or go to <https://www.usopenkmt.com/sponsors>.

### Captain Goody Bag

A goody bag will be given to the captain of the first 400 boats entered into the 2025 tournament. The Goody Bag will include a bucket sponsored by Battery Tender and a wide brim hat. Goody bags not picked up during Registration/ Packet Pickup on Thursday, October 2nd from 10am-9pm at Dutchman Creek Park will be forfeited.

### Eyes on the Prize

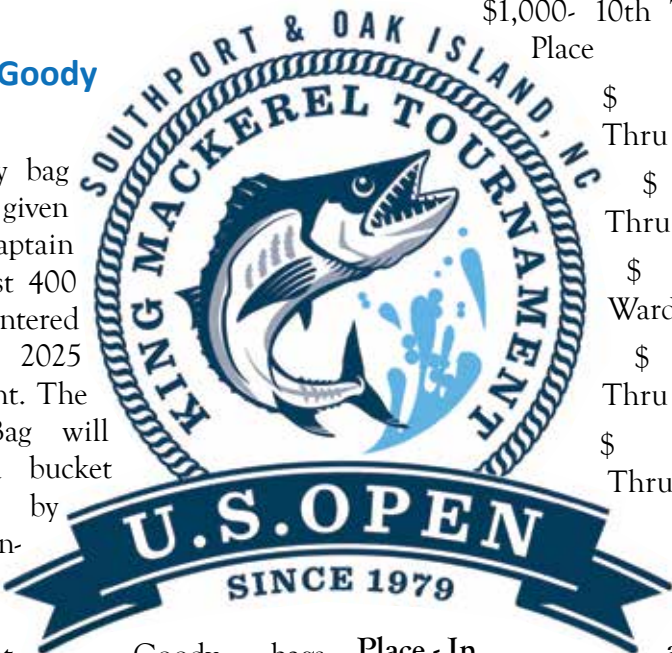
The U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament has a guaranteed prize structure.

We do not base the payout on the number of entries.

**Primary Prizes:** A boat entry can only win one Primary Prize. The entrant does remain eligible to win Secondary Prizes with the same fish or additional fish. Fish weights will be entered in an on-site computer. Each fish will be entered in the appropriate category of competition so as to assure the angler of the greatest prize earnings.

- \$25,000- Grand Prize
- \$10,000- 2nd Place
- \$ 5,000- 3rd Place
- \$ 2,500- 4th Place
- \$ 1,500- 5th Place
- \$ 1,400- 6th Place

- \$ 1,300- 7th Place
- \$ 1,200- 8th Place
- \$1,100 9th Place
- \$1,000- 10th Thru 15th Place
- \$ 800- 16th Thru 20th Place
- \$ 600- 21st Thru 22nd Place
- \$ 600- Dale Ward 23rd Place
- \$ 600- 24th Thru 25th Place
- \$ 500- 26th Thru 55th Place



**1st Place - In addition to the cash you will receive:**  
Goat BoxCo a grey Hub 70 with the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament Logo from Goat Box Co. (\$600 value)

A Battery Tender, 2, 3, 4 Bank Wave Charge Pro multibank unit of their choice and a Charge N' Start 4120 2-in-1 Battery Charger and Jump Start (\$650 value) from Battery Tender.

**2nd Place - In addition to the cash you will receive:**  
Goat BoxCo a grey Hub 50 with the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament Logo from Goat BoxCo. (\$500 value)

A Battery Tender WaveChargePro multibank unit of their choice (\$400 value) from Battery Tender.

**3rd Place - In addition to the cash you will receive:**  
Goat BoxCo a grey IC30 with the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament Logo from Goat BoxCo. (\$400 value)

A Battery Tender Charge N Start

4120 2-in-1 Battery Charger and Jump Starter (\$200 value) from Battery Tender.

### Other Prizes

There are a large number of other prizes awarded. To view the complete list visit <https://www.usopenkmt.com/prizes>

### Tournament Merchandise

Merchandise will be available to purchase online at [www.spto-kimerchandise.com](http://www.spto-kimerchandise.com) until September 26th. Merchandise purchased online will be mailed. You may also purchase merchandise in person Monday thru Friday from 8:30am-5pm at the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce, 4433 Long Beach Road, Southport.

### Registration

Online registration opens until Tuesday, September 30th at 11:59pm. After online registration closes you must register at tournament headquarters (Dutchman Creek Park) on Thursday, October 2nd from 10am - 9pm.

### Competition

The tournament fishing days will be held Friday, October 3-Saturday, October 3, with the awards ceremony at 8pm on October 4.

Live entertainment will be provided by Almost Blue on Thursday, October 2 from 4-7pm and the 52nd Street Band on Saturday, October 4 from 5-8pm. Cape Fear Radio will be on-site Saturday, October 4 from 2-4pm.

The [ThePointClickFish.com](http://ThePointClickFish.com) Team will stream weigh-ins from the scales and the docks LIVE from the U.S. Open King Mackerel Fishing Tournament website [www.usopenkmtlive.com](http://www.usopenkmtlive.com)

All KMT details are available at: <https://www.usopenkmt.com>





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kokocabana.com



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rubyscoffeehouse.com



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kaijoes.com



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(910) 363-5060  
Check us out on Facebook





## Fall Brings Cool Weather and Kool Times

by Joanne Hennessy Thompson

Our long hot summer has melted into fall with back-to-school sales, autumn festivals, and fishing outings. As always, we welcome some new businesses and, sadly say goodbye to some businesses that were part of our community for quite a while.

**Southport Trading Company**, a long-time shopping favorite for visitors and locals alike, will be closed by the end of October. The building has been sold and is expected to house an ice cream parlor. There will be great sales opportunities starting at the end of August until stock is gone. Farewell old friends and owners Kay and Taylor Jolliff. The store will be gone, but the Jolliffs will still be Southport's favorite residents. Look for them around town.

The building that houses the **Grape and Ale** in **Southport** has been sold so this shop will be closing, but until the doors close sales abound so hurry down to take advantage of discounts. The good news is that the original **Grape & Ale** on **Oak Island** will still be going strong with great beer and wine tastings and fun music venues and an active wine club. If you are looking for a quiet place to enjoy a glass of craft beer or good wine while meeting a friend or catching up on paperwork or a good book, visit The Grape & Ale. Stop in to enjoy free craft beer tastings on Thursday nights and wine samplings with music on Friday nights.

**The Moody Bean** coffee shop has joined **Needful Things** bookshop and moved from the Village Shops behind Southport Smokehouse to a cozy new location at 114 E Nash St. If you want to escape the hustle and bustle that plagues us all, you can curl up with a freshly roasted cup of coffee done your way and a book from local authors or the latest best sellers, at this oasis from the world of stress. Stop in. You will fall in love with this wonderful escape location.

**Cape Fear Radio**, our own Brunswick County local streaming entertainment has a new home. Their studios have moved from **The State**

**Port Pilot** building to the **Crossroads, A Gathering Place**, building on Oak Island. Locals with plenty of professional experience deliver entertaining segments reflecting a variety of interests. If you haven't listened in, give it a try. There is more than music to be found on **Cape Fear Radio**.

**Tengu**, Japanese restaurant in the River Run Shopping Center along Long Beach Rd. is under new management. The same owners of Osaka Japanese Restaurant in Shallotte, have opened it for dining in as well as take away.

Something new has opened!!! **Back Home Butcher** opened its doors where the former **Southport Suzie's** was near Big Lots. **Back Home Butcher** is a stand-alone, family-driven business complete with a fun atmosphere located just outside of Southport, North Carolina, in the River Run Shopping Center. It boasts a full-sized kitchen and beautifully styled dining area. It is neither part of any franchise, nor does it have any affiliation with "Backyard Butchers."

Meat will be cut and processed IN HOUSE. No pre-packaged, hormone pumped steaks here. Italian foodie finds can be found at this shop. Treat yourself to a new shopping experience. You can also enjoy deli fare created fresh for you. Stay tuned for community feedback. Stop in and check it out. See for yourself.

Enjoy your retirement, Tom McAndrews, long-time proprietor of **Bella Cucina**, 211 Hwy in Southport. You will be missed, but new owners Daron and Maria Basile Moore plan to continue serving beloved Italian specialties with new gusto. You can still order delish pizza to eat in or take home. Sample the luncheon specials. You will be back for more.

Happy 25th anniversary to Renee and **Renee's Fine Jewelry**, 602 N Howe St in Southport! Always classy and classic jewelry choices are found here. Unique rings, necklaces, and earrings can be crafted for you using quality diamonds and gems. You

can also get your watches repaired at Renee's.

Great news...**Angie's Fresh Produce**, on Long Beach Rd. between Oak Island and Southport, will be open ALL YEAR LONG. Not just a summer season place to get the freshest of fresh fruits, veggies, plants, and food items, you will now be able to find all that you crave for everyday and all the holidays at Angie's.

Looking for a new place to have your car serviced? Located across from the airport at 4124 Long Beach Rd. is **Coastal Sands Automotive**. Owners, Heather and David Smith, are locals with years of experience and expertise and offer military and first responders discounts.

Also new is **LaBonte Plumbing**; new to the area, but not new to plumbing with years of experience in the Boone area. They specialize in residential and commercial plumbing as well as service for existing problems. Here is a great local's special offer: \$859 for replacing your old hot water heater. This offer includes 50-gallon tank, labor and haul away. Ya just can't beat that!

If you have not been to **The Salty Olive**, located near Walmart in Southport, what is keeping you? It is a foodie's heaven. Trying the premium olive oils and balsamic vinegars is an experience. Owners Lisa and Mike Rogers are there to help you to a culinary experience not to be missed! They not only treat you to a tasting treat but explain every specialty food item that they carry complete with recipes and entertainment hints that help you be known as the super host among your friends. Need something for your foodie friend? **The Salty Olive** has what you are looking for to be a winner.

Are you a vegan or gluten free? **Southport Vegan Cookies** has you covered. If you are neither but just love freshly baked specialty cookies, you are in luck. It is located in the little shops area behind the South

port Smokehouse. If you haven't visited, what are you waiting for?

**Slice of Haven**, located where the former **Trolley Stop** hot dog shop was at 111 S Howe St., opened serving up some mighty fine take out pizzas by the whole pie or slice. David Truglio and Beverly Wallace Hammond, owners of wine bar, with authentic Italian gelato, Haven, 307 N Howe St., have truly brought a slice of Italy to downtown Southport for locals and visitor alike to take away and enjoy. Slice is open 7 days a week from 11 am until 10 pm.

If you are looking for a place that offers super salads and unique pizzas, all while sitting outside enjoying the experience with your dog, try **Dry Street** on Howe St. in Southport. A very popular lunch and dinner spot, **Dry Street** is well known for the freshest of fare. Whether take out or eat-in you will not be disappointed.

Isn't it time you found your special place to revive, refresh, and renew? **Premier Wellness Center** on Long Beach Rd has an array of services and classes catering to your health and wellness. Professionally trained instructors lead classes like Yoga, Silver Sneakers and Parkinson's prescribed regimens to name only a few available. Massage, Nails, Sauna, Float and Body Sculpting, are only a few of the many services you can take advantage of in a pursuit of good health. Stop in. Make an appointment. Chat with owner Christy Gillenwater, who is an experienced professional and keenly knowledgeable. Do yourself a favor. Caring for yourself is not a luxury; it is a necessity.

Enjoy Brunswick County's fall fishing, festivals, boating, shopping or dining out. Remember to shop local. Support small businesses in our community. These hardworking owners and staff are our neighbors and the bedrock of our local economy. We need them and they need us.



## Sebby's PIZZERIA *Voted Best Pizza!*



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Beer | Wine | Indoor Dining | Family Owned and Operated

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[www.facebook.com/Sebbysbreakfastandlunch/](http://www.facebook.com/Sebbysbreakfastandlunch/)

## Communities In Schools Celebrates 30 Years

Communities In Schools (CIS) of Brunswick County is marking a major milestone—30 years of empowering local students to succeed—with a special Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser on Friday, October 3, 2025, at the Southport Community Center.

The evening promises a lively mix of entertainment and community spirit. Guests will enjoy live music from the Beehive Blondes, dinner catered by Middle of the Island Catering, and a cash bar. The Little Green Booth will be on hand for fun photo keepsakes, and the event will also feature a silent auction filled with exciting items, plus a 50/50 raffle for a chance to win big.

Founded nationally in the 1970s, Communities In Schools has grown into the nation's most effective organization dedicated to helping students stay in school and prepare for

life. The Brunswick County affiliate works daily inside local schools through its Action for Success program and other initiatives to support academic achievement, social-emotional learning, behavioral intervention, truancy prevention, and parent engagement. All services are provided free of charge to ensure access for students most in need.

By partnering with school staff, civic organizations, community groups, and volunteers, CIS surrounds students with the resources and relationships they need to thrive—building not just strong students, but stronger families and communities.

Tickets for the 30th anniversary celebration are available now at [cis-brunswick.org](http://cis-brunswick.org) under the "Upcoming Events" page. Proceeds will directly benefit CIS programs that continue to make a lasting difference in the lives of Brunswick County students.

## Captain Charlie's Children's Fishing Tournament

This one is for the kiddo's! This annual event takes place at the Southport City Pier on Bay Street, October 4 from 8:30am-12pm.

Registration will begin at 8:30am, starting time is 10am and the tournament ends at 12pm. Any Fish on your line at 12pm will be counted.

Fish can be caught by hook ONLY. (No Snagging)

No Sharks, Skates, Rays Or Eels Will Be Counted.

Ages 16 years old and under are eligible. There are four age groups 5 & under, 6-9, 10-12, 13-16.

There can only be one rod per child.

Bait will be supplied by the participant.

Categories include: spots, croakers, pin, pig, toad, flounder and drum. Categories may change according to the fish being caught during the tournament. Prizes will be given for the largest fish in each category.



Two Grand Prizes will be awarded for the Largest Fish Overall and the Most Fish Caught Overall.

In case of a tie for the Heaviest Fish, Longest, the longest of the two fish will win.

An Entrant can only win in One (1) Category.

Parents/Guardians are allowed on the pier, but the contestant must reel the fish in unassisted.

All decisions made by Tournament Officials are Final.

If you have any questions call 910-457-7945 or 910-279-3331.

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## Brunswick County Job Fair



Looking for a new job opportunity? Come to the Brunswick County Job Fair on Friday, September 5, 2025, anytime between 10am and 1pm at the Brunswick County Café (Cafeteria), Building D, 35 Courthouse Drive NE, Bolivia to meet with our team members and learn more about what job openings are available with Brunswick County Government.

There are many available full-time job opportunities starting from en-

try level and up. You can also reach out to our Human Resources team for any questions at 910-253-2013 or email [HumanResources@brunswickcountync.gov](mailto:HumanResources@brunswickcountync.gov).

Find our latest job openings anytime at [BrunswickCountyNC.gov/jobs](http://BrunswickCountyNC.gov/jobs). Sign up for our New Job Openings weekly emails at [BrunswickCountyNC.gov/email](mailto:BrunswickCountyNC.gov/email). Learn more about the benefits we offer to Brunswick County employees at [BrunswickCountyNC.gov/benefits](http://BrunswickCountyNC.gov/benefits).

## Geocaching with Leland Parks and Rec

Join the world's largest scavenger hunt right here in Leland. Visit some of Leland's beautiful parks and facilities to find hidden treasure. Scan the QR code to learn more about how to start the geocaching adventure.

Geocaching is the world's largest treasure hunt where participants search for hidden "caches." Caches come in all shapes and sizes in all types of places. Inside, one can find anything from the cache's log to small prizes that can be swapped or trackables that can be hidden in another cache. When searching for a geocache to go looking for on the website or app, be sure to look at descriptions, sizes, and tips! Anyone can geocache by using a phone. To learn more, visit [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) or scan the QR code. How to Geocache. Create an account at [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com).



Use the website or app to find a geocache. Use the app to navigate to a nearby cache. Log cache, share experience, and put it back where it was found!

For more information call 910-385-9891 or email [recreation@townofleland.com](mailto:recreation@townofleland.com).



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**On Smart Speaker:** Ask your Amazon Alexa to “enable Cape Fear Radio,” then just say “Play Cape Fear Radio”  
**The Cape Fear App:** Go to Apple’s App Store to download the Cape Fear Radio App – it’s free!



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## Grab those Clubs and Tee Off!

**F**all is filled with opportunities to have a great day on the links.

### Brunswick Plantation & Golf Resort

**Ladies Fun League:** The ladies fun league is held at Brunswick Plantation & Golf resort at 380 Brunswick Drive in Calabash.

It's a 9-Hole League for All Ladies and Beginners.

Putting Contest on Azalea #1

Tee Times Start at 11am and the cost is Unlimited \$20 - Premier \$25 - Guests \$30

Cost includes 9 holes, cart, range, instruction, and tee gift.

Sign Up in the Pro Shop.

### Witchy Way Ladies Only Golf Outing:

9-Hole Outing for Ladies

2-Player Scramble Teams with Tee Times Starting at 12:04pm

Dress in Costume to Play the Par 5's from 150 Yards

Unlimited \$20 - Premier \$35 - Local \$50

Includes 9 Holes, Cart, Range, Sleeve of Balls, Prizes, and One Glass of Wine or Draft Beer in Champions Grille

Compete for Long Drive, Longest Putt, and Closest to the Pin

Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place Teams on Each Nine

Sign Up in the Pro Shop

### Brunasco Classic Golf Tournament

Get Ready for the 4th Annual Brunasco Classic Golf Tournament!

Join us September 5, 2025, at the newly renovated Sea Trail Golf Resort for a day of friendly competition, stunning greens, and unbeatable giveaways! A huge THANK YOU to our Presenting Sponsor, Makai Brewing Company for their continued support!

Register early before spots fill up!

Includes: Green Fees & Cart Rental, Luxury Gift, Breakfast & Catered Lunch, Amazing Giveaways & Raffles.

Prizes awarded immediately following the tournament in the beautiful Atrium Room at Sea Trail Resort!

Tag your golf crew and get ready to tee off for an incredible day on the course! Don't wait—sign up now! <https://bit.ly/BrunascoGolf2025>



### Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity invites you to a memorable day of golf, giving back, and community fun.

The tournament will be held September 25, 2025, with Registration at 7:15am and Shotgun Start at 8:30 am.

The location is the Thistle Golf Club at 1815 Olde Thistle Club Road, Sunset Beach.

### 16th Annual Doshier Foundation Golf Classic

Doshier Memorial Hospital Foundation is holding its 16th Annual Doshier Memorial Hospital Foundation Golf Classic on Friday, October 10th, 2025. This year's event will be held at the Oak Island Golf Course and will feature a shot gun start, awards and luncheon after the tournament. Sponsorship opportunities are available and golfer registration is \$130 per person which includes breakfast items, luncheon with awards, and beverages. The tournament also features a raffle and online auction. The Foundation is looking for sponsors, golfers and raffle prizes. Online registration is available at [www.doshier.org/foundation](http://www.doshier.org/foundation). The number of players is limited to the first 132 paid registrations.



## Dosher to Host “Operation Medicine Cabinet”

**M**ark your calendars! The Doshier Memorial Hospital “Operation Medicine Cabinet” medication disposal event has been scheduled for Wednesday October 1st. Operation Medicine Cabinet is a drive through drug take back event which enables local residents to drop off unwanted and expired prescription medications at the front entrance of the hospital without having to leave their vehicles.

The drug drop hours are between 9am and 1pm, and the location is the Doshier Hospital front entrance at 924 N. Howe Street, Southport.

Sharps containers will not be accepted at this event.

For questions about Operation Medicine Cabinet, call the Doshier Office of Marketing and Community Relations at 910-457-3900 or email [marketing@doshier.org](mailto:marketing@doshier.org).



### Operation Medicine Cabinet

**Wednesday October 1st, 9am-1pm**

Drop off expired or unwanted prescription medications at the front entrance of Doshier Hospital.

Call 910-457-3900 for more information.

## Southport Awarded \$70,000 Grant from NCDEQ

**T**he City of Southport has been awarded a \$70,000 grant from the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) through the Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP).

This funding will help Southport identify and prioritize local projects that improve our community's ability to handle coastal challenges like flooding, stormwater issues, and other infrastructure concerns.

The grant fully covers the first two phases of the RCCP program, which include:

- Address local barriers to coastal resilience, including limited staffing capacity, financial constraints, and social inequities
- Support communities in conducting risk and vulnerability assessments to create a prioritized list of resilience-focused projects.

The State will select, compensate, and oversee consultants to assess Southport's vulnerabilities and recommend potential projects tailored to the city's needs. Once the first two phases are complete, Southport will be eligible to apply for additional funding under Phases 3 and 4 to support the design and implementation of the recommended projects.

The program is administered by the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (DCM) with funding support from the NC General Assembly and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). Key partners include the NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and NC Sea Grant (NCSG).

# SICK?

**RECEIVE  
AWARD-WINNING  
WALK-IN CARE**



**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.

✓ No appointment required

✓ Fast, convenient care

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Wellness Center

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# September/October Events

## ASH

### October 15-19

#### Brunswick County Agricultural Fair and Expo

6pm | 2030 Ash-Little River Road

The Brunswick County Agricultural Fair and Expo is coming to your neighborhood! We will have Dreamland Amusements for rides and games, indoor and outdoor Commercial vendors, as well as Food vendors and definitely many animals and art displays.

Please email [brunscofair@gmail.com](mailto:brunscofair@gmail.com) for more details about being a vendor or entering animals/art/crafts/food. You can also see the website [www.brunswickfair.com](http://www.brunswickfair.com) for the forms to submit if you're interested in securing a booth or any items for display for the duration of the fair.

## BELVILLE

### September 6

#### Cars in the Park Car Show

9am-3pm | Belville Riverwalk Park  
580 River Rd SE

Vendors, Food trucks, door prizes, 50/50 drawing, dash plaques to first 100 registered vehicles. Open to all years, makes and models. Call Rich 910-599-6667, [www.suncoastcruisers.com](http://www.suncoastcruisers.com)

### September 19

#### Family Movie Night

8pm | Belville Riverwalk Park  
580 River Rd SE

Experience the Disney blockbuster 'Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl' under the stars at the Belville Riverwalk Park - on Talk Like a Pirate Day!

It's an evening of piratey fun and surprises!

Gather up you little scallywags and bring out the whole crew for this high-seas adventure! Special pirate appearances and photo-ops before the movie.

Enjoy trivia before the movie, prizes, fun and more! Plus, enjoy food and movie snacks from local vendors.

### September 13

#### Feast of the Pirates

9am | Belville Riverwalk Park  
580 River Rd SE

Brought 't' ye by Wilmington Harbor Enhancement Trust providing 'Waterfront, History, Education 'n Treasures! A fun day for all ages. We hope 't' be seein' ye thar. [www.feastofthepirates.com](http://www.feastofthepirates.com) / [whetsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:whetsecretary@gmail.com)

## HOLDEN BEACH

### Tuesdays, Sept-December

#### Holden Beach Group Run/Walk

6-7pm | Jordan Blvd

2, 3 or 4 miles. All paces are welcome—whether you're a runner or a walker, there's a spot for you! Let's enjoy some fresh air, beautiful views, and great company.

Bring your friends, and let's have some fun together!

Hosted by the Soho Running Club

## LELAND

### September 25

#### Battle of the Bowls

6-8pm | Leland Cultural Arts Center | 1212 Magnolia Village Way

Lick off the fun with a friendly chili cook-off between the Leland Police Dept. and Leland Fire/Rescue. Vote for a favorite chili by bringing a nonperishable food item to support local families in need. Shop local artisans and enjoy live bluegrass music while you enjoy the event.

### September 25-October 30

#### Six-Week Shag Lessons

8pm | 117 Village Rd NE, Unit G

Learn how to shag dance with professional instructor James Sterner. Partners not required. This six week class runs from 5-6pm September 25 - October 30th. James will show you how to shag to Carolina Beach Music. Then stay the night and practice your moves with the rest of the Carolina Shag Club. The six week course costs \$60. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. This is a 3rd party event. Sorry, no Gio Card discounts.

### October 4

#### Lend a Hand in Leland

8:30am-Noon | Various Places

This free community-side day or service initiative is aimed at fostering collaboration and volunteerism. For more information and register for a project: <https://www.townofleland.com/lendahand>

## OAK ISLAND

### September 13

#### Beach Cleanup!

2-6pm | 705 Ocean Drive

September is when things start to settle down a bit and the locals come out of hiding. Come hangout and help us clean up our beautiful beach, raise money and listen to some good music! Non-locals are allowed to come join the fun too!

## September 17

### September Craft Class

1-3pm | Oak Island Recreation Center | 3003 E Oak Island Drive

\$15 Residents / \$20 Non-Residents  
Register at [www.OakIslandNC.gov/PRO-GRAMS](http://www.OakIslandNC.gov/PRO-GRAMS)

Come paint this month with Maria! Create a fun, hand-painted fall, pumpkin canvas.

Not an artist? No worries!! Maria will provide detailed instruction as well as some stencils to help you create a masterpiece!

## OCEAN ISLE

### September 27

#### Fall Food Truck Festival

11am-3pm | Town Center Park

The Town of Ocean Isle Beach is excited to host our Third Annual Fall Food Truck Festival at Ocean Isle Beach! (Rain date is Sunday, September 28, 2025).

Admission to this family-friendly event is FREE! Join us for a variety of food trucks, live music and more!

The Sunshine & the Hurricanes Band will take the Amphitheater stage from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, so make sure to bring your lawn chairs and dancing shoes!

Vicki Paints will be set up for face painting throughout the event!

Have a food truck? Interested in being a food truck vendor for the festival?

<https://files.municipalone.com/ocean-isle-nc/880051519072925pm.pdf>

## SHALLOTTE

### September-December

#### Shallotte Striders

6-7pm | Mulberry Park  
300 Mulberry Street

Walking/jogging group that meets every Tuesday evening at Mulberry Park. Everyone welcome.

## September 27

### Paint Your Pet Fundraiser

6-9pm | Shallotte Family Moose Lodge 253 Holden Beach Rd |

Our Artists will walk you through Step by Step, how to create your very own Pet Portrait on a 16 x 20 canvas. After you have signed up for the class, send us a high quality digital photo of your Pet to: [ArtBarPainting@gmail.com](mailto:ArtBarPainting@gmail.com) no later than 9/16.

Include your name and reservation information in the email.

One Pet per photo. Only one Pet will be transferred onto Your canvas.

To be included in this Event, All Painters Must sign up no later then 9/16.

## SOUTHPORT

### September 6

#### Southport Village Shops

#### Vendor Event

9:30am-3:30pm | Southport Village Shops

Shop our village shops and enjoy all the local crafters and vendors set up in our beautiful courtyard. Family and dog friendly!

## September 16

### Brunswick Family Assistance Fundraiser

5pm | American Fish

Concert to benefit Brunswick Family Assistance. Private event, more details to come.

## September 16

### FOLSOI Annual Meeting

1pm | Southport Community Center | 223 East Bay Street

Special guest: NYT Best selling author Diane Chamberlain

## September 26

### Cabaret & Carbernet: Brunswick

#### Little Theatre Fundraiser

7-9pm | Southport Community Center | 223 East Bay Street

A Cabaret show, with wine, dessert, raffles and more! To purchase tickets: <https://www.brunswicklittletheatre.com>

## WINNABOW

### October 18

#### America 250th:

#### Port Brunswick Day

10am-4pm | 8884 Saint Phillips Road SE

Join us at Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site on Saturday, October 18th for the return of Port Brunswick Day! Living historians will be interpreting various colonial trades and aspects of colonial life including candle making, blacksmithing, woodworking and more. Kids will have an opportunity to experience colonial toys and games. This event is FREE. All ages are welcome.

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

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



## A Cut Above: Back Home Butcher Brings Flavor and Family to Southport

**B**runswick County has gained a new neighbor with ambitions to share their love of food and customer service with our community. Back Home Butcher, at the River Run Shopping Center, 4956-1 Old Long Beach Road in Southport, isn't just another butcher shop. It's the vision of friends-turned-family who believe good food, warm service, and knowing where your food comes from should be a part of everyday life.

The shop's mission is simple – Family. Friends. Food. Fresh. From New York to North Carolina, the Back Home Butcher team has built careers in kitchens, restaurants, food service, and hospitality. Now, they're combining that experience to bring premium meats and specialty products to the coastal community they call home.

Husband and wife Benjamin and Elizabeth Bynum are a great team at work and at home. "Butcher Ben" is a Certified Angus Beef Specialist

whose 25 years in food service range from restaurant kitchens to food distribution. Elizabeth has more than 16 years of expertise serving in local government law enforcement finance and digital and broadcast media. The couple is excited to introduce Brunswick County to their new venture.

They are joined by executive chef Scott Euvrard and sales executive Joan DeSantis, a dynamic duo with decades of culinary and hospitality experience, and Kevin Fahy, a retired NYPD detective who has embraced a second career as a local butcher and restaurateur.

Together, this team brings not only knowledge and skill but also a shared love of community. Their promise is to offer quality meats sourced with care, exceptional service, and a personal touch that makes shopping feel like coming home.

Stop by and discover what fresh, local, and family-centered service really looks and tastes like.



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**est. 2025**

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# The 44th Annual NC Oyster Festival Returns to Ocean Isle Beach

**G**et ready for a weekend of shell-shucking fun as the North Carolina Oyster Festival returns for its 44th year! Held October 18-19 in Ocean Isle Beach, this beloved coastal celebration draws over 20,000 visitors each year—and for good reason.



Hosted at 11 East 2nd Street, the festival runs Saturday from 9am-6pm and Sunday from 10am-5pm. Admission is \$5 cash per adult, and kids 12 and under get in free. Whether you're a fan of seafood, live music,

local art, or just good old-fashioned festival fun, there's something here for everyone.

The festival kicks off with Community Night on Friday, October 17, a free family-friendly event starting at 6pm. Arrive early when gates open at 4pm to grab a spot for the opening ceremony at 5pm, which features a flag-raising, Honor Guard presentation, National Anthem, and a ribbon-cutting hosted by the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce. You'll also witness the unveiling of the official 2025 festival t-shirt and poster, designed by local artist



Keith White. The evening wraps up with a free concert by The Extraordinaries from 6-8pm.

The main event Saturday and Sunday is packed with fresh oysters, food vendors, arts & crafts, and live entertainment. Shucking contests, an oyster eating challenge, and an oyster stew cook-off give attendees a chance to show off their skills—or just cheer on the competitors. Main Stage music includes performances by BlackWater Rhythm & Blues Band, The Main Event Band, Chocolate Chip & Company, and Jim Quick & Coastline Band.

Free shuttles run continuously during festival hours from two lots: Lowes Foods (7278 Beach Dr.) and Odell Williamson Municipal Airport (6080 Beach Dr.). ADA-accessible transportation is available from the Lowes lot. Festival grounds are also wheelchair-friendly. Traffic is heaviest between 11am and 2pm, so plan accordingly.



Don't miss this iconic fall tradition on the Carolina coast! For more info, visit [ncoysterfestival.com](http://ncoysterfestival.com) or contact the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce at 910-754-6644.

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## OKI Peer Fishin' Fest

Operation North State's Peer Fishin' Festival returns to Oak Island Pier, offering free fishing, food, and fellowship for wounded warriors and veterans.

Operation North State (ONS) is rallying North Carolina's residents, businesses, and community groups—especially those in Oak Island, Southport, and Brunswick County beach communities—to support the 10th Annual Peer Fishin' Festival. This much-anticipated event will take place from Monday, October 20 through Friday, October 24, rain or shine, at the Oak Island Fishing Pier.

The Peer Fishin' Festival is a unique, five-day celebration designed to honor and support wounded warriors and disabled veterans (DVets) from across the state. The event will welcome between 500 and 550 participants, including wounded warriors, their guests, sponsors, pier mates, and volunteers. Each attendee receives a daily fishing pass, t-shirt, fishing equipment (if needed), as well as free refreshments, lunch, and now dinner. Snyder expressed gratitude for the local "pier mates" who generously share their time, fishing expertise, and equipment to ensure a memorable experience for all.

For more information, to volunteer, or to register, contact Operation North State at [mailbox@operation-northstate.com](mailto:mailbox@operation-northstate.com) or call 336-764-5967.

## Empty Bowls

We're excited to invite you to our Empty Bowls event, where you can enjoy delicious soup, handmade pottery, and make a difference in our community!

The event will be held October 14, from 11am-2pm at Trinity United Methodist Church

Every \$30 ticket purchased not only gets you a beautiful, hand-crafted bowl but a delicious bowl of soup supporting Mathews Ministries, OI-Southport Food Pantry and Brunswick Family Assistance and with your help, we can fight hunger and provide meals to those in need.

Tickets are on sale now! [www.franklinsquaregallery.com](http://www.franklinsquaregallery.com) or in person at Franklin Square Gallery and



Please provide your name, email, phone number, and hometown in North Carolina.

### How You Can Get Involved

Operation North State is seeking additional support from the community to make this year's festival a success. Here's how you can help:

- A limited number of spots remain for wounded warriors and DVets to participate.
- Volunteer as a "Pier Mate" and assist veterans on the pier.
- Donate products, services, or funds to support meals, snacks, beverages, and prizes.
- Contribute a covered dish for the popular weekly breakfasts, lunches, or snacks.
- Visit the pier during the festival week to cheer on these remarkable veterans and show your support.
- Bring a "Super Senior" veteran in your life to the pier for a few hours to connect with fellow veterans.

Ricky Evans.

Bring your friends and family for an afternoon of good food, great company, and a chance to make a real impact!

Let's fill those bowls and hearts!

Just a few of our current soup sponsors: Oliver's, Mr. P's, Southern, gathering Place, Oak Island Subs, Falcones, Frying Pan, Duffers and more!



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## Brunswick Sheriff's Charitable Foundation Scholarships

The Brunswick Sheriff's Charitable Foundation awarded scholarships with a total value of \$3,750 to three deserving students. All three students are attending East Carolina University.

The Charitable Foundation's scholarships are designated for children of Brunswick County Sheriff's Office employees and Sheriff Brian Chism retired employees. Criteria for the scholarship include school grades, an interview and other accomplishments.



**Pictured L-R:** Sheriff Brian Chism, Colton Gondek, Hailey Woodard, Monique Stenquist (Board Chair), Karen Bitting (Board Member), Felicia Woodard (Board Member)

**Not Pictured:** Morgan Bellamy

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## Brunswick Marketplace

Volume 20, Number 1 | September/October 2025

**Publisher:** SeaWay Printing

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jthompsonandco@yahoo.com

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910-457-6158 | teamseaway@gmail.com

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**Web:** www.brunswickmarketplace.com

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Brunswick Marketplace was established June 14, 2006.

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## Southeastern NC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

ES&P Associates, Inc. has scheduled the first public meeting (virtual) for the Southeastern NC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The meeting will be held from 6-7pm on the evening of Monday, August 18, 2025.

This meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about the plan update and how they can provide important information to inform the update.

Registration is required and the registration link and a QR code is provided below:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/fa5edf87-62ba-47fb-aa61-e35c7c30eb09@f7f3568d-363f-4e58-a4d8-1c07f43b09fb>

The Southeastern NC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan is a collaborative effort between Brunswick, New Hanover, Onslow, and Pender counties, along with their municipalities, to reduce the impact of natural disasters. The plan identifies and as-

sesses risks, and then proposes mitigation strategies to minimize future losses from hazards like hurricanes, flooding, and wildfires. The current update process is underway and aims to maintain eligibility for FEMA funding.

### What is hazard mitigation?

**Hazard mitigation:** any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards

### 2 main types of mitigation:

- Mitigating impacts on existing development
- Reducing vulnerability of future development

### 6 main types of mitigation techniques:

- Prevention
- Property Protection
- Natural Resource Management
- Structural Projects
- Emergency Services
- Education and Awareness



## Southport Trinity United Methodist Church Part of the Mobile Pantry



**D**id you know Southport Trinity UMC, located at 209 E Nash St, Southport is a satellite location for the Brunswick Family Assistance Mobile Pantry? To help those with limited transportation, it parks in front of our sanctuary on the first Wednesday of each month 9:30-11:30am. Questions or concerns, please call their Bolivia office at 910-754-4766. Thank you BFA for all you do to care for our community.



## Southport Grape & Ale Closes

**A**fter more than a decade of serving as a destination for wine, craft beer, and live music, The Grape and Ale has closed its Southport location. Established in 2008 and operated by current owners Joe and Des since 2021, the Southport shop became known not only for its carefully curated selection of beverages and merchandise, but also as a welcoming community gathering spot.

While the Southport chapter comes to a close, fans of The Grape and Ale can take heart—the Oak Island location remains open. There, customers can continue to enjoy the quality products, seasonal offerings, and friendly atmosphere that have made the business a favorite across the area.

Owners Joe and Des expressed gratitude to the Southport community for its years of support, and look forward to continuing to share their passion for great wine, beer, and good company from their Oak Island home base.

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

## Southport Wooden Boat Show Returns November 1

One of Southport's most beloved and unique annual events is sailing back into town this fall. The 2025 Southport Wooden Boat Show will take place on Saturday, November 1, from 10am-4pm bringing with it a full day of maritime magic, wooden boat craftsmanship, and family-friendly fun along Southport's historic waterfront.

Now in its 16th year, the Wooden Boat Show celebrates the rich heritage of wooden boatbuilding—a tradition deeply tied to Southport's coastal identity. Long before the town became a tourist destination, wooden boats powered the local economy, carrying fish, transporting people, and providing rescue services along the Cape Fear River and surrounding islands. Today, this event honors that history while showcasing the skill and passion of modern boatbuilders, hobbyists, and maritime artisans.

Children will have plenty to explore too, with hands-on activities like building and decorating their own toy boats, rope-making, and maritime crafts. Adults can browse the Ship's Store for the 2025 collector's poster and limited-edition t-shirts, or enjoy a delicious bite from award-winning Chef Craig Blanks, who will be serving up coastal cuisine from his food truck.



### Ahoy, Vendors!

Interested in becoming a vendor? The show is currently accepting registrations from individuals, businesses, and organizations whose offerings align with the show's nautical or maritime theme. Accepted vendors may include marine artisans, boat gear, nautical-themed decor, vintage maps, maritime books, and more. Spaces are 12'x12' and can accommodate a standard 10'x10' tent or display. Booths will be located along city streets, so all displays must be self-supporting and weighted (no ground stakes). The fee is \$40 for a single space or \$60 for a double.

Vendor space is limited, and preference is given to applications received by the first Monday in October. Final assignments and setup instructions will be shared in the week leading up to the event. For more details, or to apply, email [vendors@southportwoodenboatshow.com](mailto:vendors@southportwoodenboatshow.com).

Organized by a dedicated team of volunteers and supported by local organizations, the Southport Wooden Boat Show is a 501(c)(3) non-profit event committed to preserving and celebrating wooden boat building, craftsmanship, and maritime culture.

Don't miss your chance to be part of one of Southport's most popular waterfront festivals! For updates, visit [southportwoodenboatshow.com](http://southportwoodenboatshow.com).



2025 features a new collectors' quality poster designed by local artist, Becky Steele.

Each year, the event draws thousands of visitors eager to see beautifully handcrafted boats on display both in the water and on land, meet boat owners and builders, and explore all things nautical. Attendees can enjoy live music, harbor tours, and interactive exhibits by organizations like the North Carolina Maritime Museum, the North Carolina Aquarium, and the Fort Fisher Underwater Archaeology Branch.

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## Rev Your Engines for the Annual Classic Cars n' Rock n' Roll Show!



**G**et ready to cruise back in time at the 11th Annual Classic Cars n' Rock n' Roll Car and Truck Show, rolling into Downtown Southport on Saturday, October 25, 2025. Hosted by the Cape Fear Cruisers, this popular event lines up vintage vehicles along Howe Street from Bay Street to Atlantic, celebrating everything from antique rides to modern muscle all on the Southport waterfront.

Registration runs 8:30-11am., with awards announced at 3pm. Entry is \$20 if you pre-register by October 15, or \$25 the day of the show. All vehicles must display a U/L approved fire extinguisher. The first 150 entries will receive dash plaques.

There will be entertainment with live music from The Back Porch Rockers and DJ Dave will be spinning the Oldies.

Come out and enjoy a festive atmosphere filled with chrome, classics, and rock n' roll.

### Awards will include:

- Top 40
- Pre-War (1941 & earlier)
- Antique (1942-1963)
- Classic (1964-1999)
- Modern (2000-2022)

- Late Model (2023-2025)
- Import & Rat Rod (All Years)

### Specialty Awards like:

- Young Car Enthusiast (Under 22)
- Mayor's Choice
- Police & Fire Chief's Choices
- Community Relations Award
- Best Halloween Decorated Vehicle
- Best in Show
- Club Participation Award (\$200 Cash prize)



And don't forget to enter the 50/50 raffle! Come hungry for food, fun, and fellowship. All proceeds benefit local charities.

For more information, visit [capefearcruisers.com](https://capefearcruisers.com), email [capefearcruisers@gmail.com](mailto:capefearcruisers@gmail.com), or call 910-477-4331.



## Indulge Your Sweet Tooth at Lil Bitty Donut Company



**S**outhport has a new reason to indulge a sweet tooth! Megan Farmer has officially opened the doors to Lil Bitty Donut Company – Southport, located at 4961 Old Long Beach Road, Suite #6 (behind Taco Bell in the Hobby Lobby Shopping Center).

What makes Lil Bitty Donut Company stand out? It's all about the fresh, made-to-order mini vanilla cake donuts—served hot and ready, with the option to mix and match flavor. These little treats pack big flavor in a perfectly bite-sized package.

Megan, a passionate advocate for the Shop Small, Shop Local movement, has built her menu through partnerships with other local businesses, including Southport Coffee Co. & Kitchen and Lil & John's Sweetreat Homemade Ice Cream. The result? Mouthwatering collaborations like donut sundaes and donut shakes that take indulgence to a whole new level.

**Hours:** Monday–Thursday:  
7:30am–6pm, Friday–Saturday:  
7am–7:30pm

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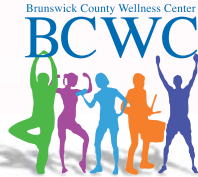
Now that summer's packed up its beach towels, treat yourself to some well-deserved "you" time.



Dive into adrenaline-pumping exercise classes like Bungee Fit or Cardio Drumming! Or jump into on-on-one sessions to smash your fitness goals!



Indulge in a blissful float session or bask in the toasty embrace of our infrared sauna for a dose of rejuvenation and recovery magic!



Join specialized classes designed to improve movement, strength, and balance for those living with chronic conditions such as Parkinson's Disease.



*Save the Date* **1st Annual Overcoming Obstacles Event**  
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## The Benefits of Floating

**F**loating offers transformative benefits beyond mental health, well-being, and stress reduction. It connects us to our inner selves, providing spiritual connection, present awareness, clarity, and purpose. By relaxing and meditating, we tune out the distractions of the world around us.

### Health & Wellness

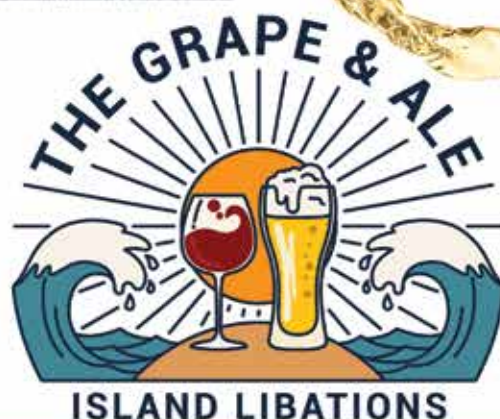
People float for many reasons: stress relief, recover from injuries, anxiety, eliminate chronic pain, PTSD, sleep disorders and many more. Recent studies indicate that floating increases dopamine, endorphine levels, and

boosting mood. Without the need to fight gravity or distractions, you will likely experience the most complete relaxation you've ever felt!

### Self Improvement

People have cut strokes off their golf game, developed complex scientific theories and drafted whole portions of books while floating. With nothing to distract you, your level of concentration and knowledge absorption is astonishing.

Give Coastal Float Spa a call at 910-477-6003 in Southport to make an appointment for your sensory reset!



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## Oak Island News

### Oak Island Awarded NCDEQ Grant

State awards nearly \$6 million in coastal resiliency grants to 32 communities for planning, engineering, design, and construction. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality announced nearly \$6 million in coastal resiliency grants to 32 communities for planning, engineering, design, and construction. The Town of Oak Island is one of the grant recipients, and will be awarded \$70,000 as part of the NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP).

The main deliverable for Phases 1 and 2 is a Resilience Strategy, which includes a Project Portfolio of pro-

jects that address the community's specific coastal resilience needs. The Resilience Strategy provides a strong foundation than can later inform a full Resilience Plan be integrated into existing local plans and ordinances. Having a document like this helps communities clarify their goals, attract funding, and pave a more direct path to implementation.

Once Phase 1 and 2 are complete, the Town can then apply for future funding through RCCP for engineering and designs (Phase 3) and implementation (Phase 4) for projects identified in our project portfolio.

### Oak Island Launches Adopt-A-Tree Program

During the Town Council meeting last week, Stormwater Administrator and Tree Canopy Manager, Brice Taylor officially announced the launch of the Town's new Adopt-A-Tree program.

This new program helps to advance the goals of increasing the tree canopy and improving the survivability of newly planted live oaks in the Right Of Way (ROW). Participants can "adopt" a recently planted live oak tree, either through a one-time donation as a TREE PROVIDER or as a TREE MANAGER, agreeing to a 24-month commitment to water the adopted tree.

In addition to helping the Town

through the many benefits provided by live oak trees, participants will also have their tree's name listed in the Tree Adoption Registry, with background information included in an Online Story Map. Tree names and information will also be included in Physical Signage displayed in Town Hall ... oh, and don't forget the special Program Member Decal and Tree Manager T-Shirt included to help further promote the program!

Individuals, local businesses, or non-profit organizations interested in adopting a tree directly or on behalf of someone else, can visit [OakIslandNC.gov/TREES](http://OakIslandNC.gov/TREES).

## GOODBYE TO BIG HOLES

### NEW RULES TO KNOW

Deep holes in the sand can be **dangerous** to beachgoers, wildlife, and Beach Safety crews responding to emergencies! These can lead to **damaged equipment, severe injuries**, and in some cases even **death**!

In **July 2025** the Oak Island Town Council approved an update to **Ordinance 14-142**, now limiting the depth and tools used to dig recreational holes on the beach areas.

HOLES CAN'T BE **DEEPER** THAN 12"

ONLY **TOY** SHOVELS MAY BE USED

MUST BE WATCHED AT **ALL TIMES** & FILLED IN BY **6:00 PM**

CAN RESULT IN **\$50 FINE**

Learn more at [OakIslandNC.gov/HOLES](http://OakIslandNC.gov/HOLES)



## USCG Auxiliary Offers Final Boating Course of 2025

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-05 (Southport/Oak Island/Shallotte) will hold its final Boat America Class of the year on Saturday, September 6, 2025, from 8am-4pm at Brunswick Electric Membership Corp, 795 Ocean Highway West in Supply.

This one-day beginner boating class is open to individuals 14 years and older and meets the North Carolina Boating Safety Education Law

requirement. Topics include boating nomenclature, required equipment, legal and safe operation, navigation, emergency procedures, and more.

The cost is \$35 per person or \$30 each for two or more registrants. Space may be limited. To sign up or learn more, contact Dawn Smith at CGAuxSafeBoating@gmail.com.

For more information about this and other courses, visit [www.flotilla10-05.org](http://www.flotilla10-05.org).

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**H**urricane Season is here. Are you ready? The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30, and forecasters are predicting an above-normal year. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) expects 13-19 named storms, with 6-10 becoming hurricanes and 3-5 reaching major hurricane strength.

### Stay Informed with ReadyBrunswick

Brunswick County Emergency Management urges all residents to sign up for the ReadyBrunswick Emergency Notification System. This free service allows the county to reach thousands of people in seconds with urgent weather alerts, safety notices, and emergency information.

**It only takes a minute to enroll:** Sign up online at [brunswickcountync.gov/833/Emergency-Alerts](http://brunswickcountync.gov/833/Emergency-Alerts) or text BRUNSWICK to 888777.

Once registered, you can tailor alerts by location, language, and quiet hours using the online portal. Keeping your contact info up to date is key—this service only works if we can reach you.

### Make a Plan

Create a Family Emergency Plan that covers evacuation routes, shelter options, pet care, important documents, and how your

household will stay in touch during an emergency.

### Build a Kit

Prepare 3-7 days' worth of non-perishable food, water, and medications for each person and pet in your home.

### Know Your Zone

Check your evacuation zone at [ncdps.gov/KnowYourZone](http://ncdps.gov/KnowYourZone) to find out if you live in a high-risk area for storm surge or flooding.

### Understand the Terms

A Hurricane Watch means conditions are possible. A Hurricane Warning means they are expected. Learn the difference so you can respond appropriately.

### Review Your Insurance

Make sure your property insurance is up to date—and consider flood insurance, which is not typically included in homeowner policies.

### Need More Info?

Visit [brunswickcountync.gov/294/Hurricanes](http://brunswickcountync.gov/294/Hurricanes) for more preparedness tips.

Check the latest forecasts at [nhc.noaa.gov](http://nhc.noaa.gov).

Call Brunswick County Emergency Management at 910-253-5383 or email through the county website.

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**W**elcome aboard mates! Join us for this Charity Event for our Veterans who served in combat! Please come out to support us and let the “13 Girls” show you how to have fun along the Silver Coast! Looking for vendors and sponsors too!! All vehicles welcome!

More information at: [cvma15-13.com/rebellion-ride](http://cvma15-13.com/rebellion-ride)

Stops to include: Planet Fun and Starz Grille, Mermaids Island Grill, Inlet View Bar & Grill At Hughes Marina, Sharky’s Waterfront Bar & Grill, VFW Post 7288 and back to Starz.

Dress like a pirate to increase your odds of winning some amazing prizes!

Proceeds to benefit CVMA NC15-13 Coast Chapter.

## Needs & Seeds of Connects Neighbors in Need

**N**eeds & Seeds of Brunswick County is a local Facebook group with 8,700 members, created to connect people in and around Brunswick County, N.C., who either have items to give away or are seeking items they need. The group operates as a free exchange—items are not for sale—and aims to foster a sense of community by encouraging members to “be a blessing” by sharing resources.



Membership is open to local residents, with the understanding that posts should be maintained and removed once needs are met. Cash donation requests are not permitted, and posts older than seven days are deleted by administrators to keep the page current. Members are also encouraged to express interest in items while allowing others the opportunity to benefit, helping to avoid excess or stockpiling.

Founded several years ago, Needs

& Seeds has grown steadily, with the group becoming a place where needs are met, relationships are built, and community connections are strengthened. The group is moderated by local administrators who help answer questions and ensure the guidelines are followed.

For those in Brunswick County or nearby who are interested in participating, the group can be found on Facebook under Needs & Seeds of Brunswick County.



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 Authors Walk-in October -  
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## Free Breakfast and Lunch for All Brunswick County Students

**A**s the 2025–2026 school year approaches, the Brunswick County Schools Child Nutrition Department is gearing up to continue its mission of fueling student success through healthy, balanced meals. The department's dedicated staff are members of the School Nutrition Association (SNA), a national nonprofit that advocates for quality school meals and supports professional growth for nutrition professionals.

Every school day, Child Nutrition staff work to provide meals that help students stay focused, energized, and ready to learn. Being part of the SNA

of North Carolina connects the team to a statewide network committed to high standards, ongoing training, and advocacy for nutritious, accessible food in schools.

### Great News for Families

All Brunswick County Schools students will once again receive free breakfast and lunch every school day this year—no forms, no fees, just nutritious meals to help students learn, grow, and thrive.

To learn more about the SNA and its work, visit [schoolnutrition.org](http://schoolnutrition.org) or follow SNA of North Carolina on Facebook.

## Bella Cucina Welcomes New Owners



**S**outhport's beloved Italian restaurant Bella Cucina has a new chapter ahead. Maria and Daron Moore, of Bella Basile Hospitality Group have officially taken the reins of the award-winning eatery, which has been a community favorite for more than 20 years.

Known for its handmade pastas, authentic Tuscan-style recipes, and locally sourced seafood, Bella Cucina will continue to honor the legacy established by the DeMeo family and carried forward by Papa Tom McAndrews and Tom McAndrews III. Long-time Executive Chef John Turner, who has led the kitchen since 2018, remains at the helm.

Maria Basile Moore, a seasoned restaurateur and former Chief Marketing Officer, brings over a decade of experience to the role, blending a passion for hospitality with expertise in social media, event marketing, and digital outreach. "We are thrilled to become part of the Southport community and take the reins of this beloved institution," she said.

Bella Cucina offers something for every occasion—from hand-tossed pizzas and subs in the quick-service area, to drinks and bites in the bar/lounge, to elegant dining room experiences for date nights, family gatherings, and celebrations. If you haven't visited Bella Cucina in a while, this is a great time to see what's new.





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Look for our Menu on Facebook: Burney's Bakery of Southport  
[www.burneyssweetsandmore.com](http://www.burneyssweetsandmore.com)

## Leadership Brunswick County Accepting Applications for 2025–2026 Class

Brunswick County's next generation of leaders is being sought for the 2025–2026 Leadership Brunswick County program, a nine-month initiative designed to develop informed, committed, and qualified individuals ready to take on leadership roles in the community.

Sponsored by the Southport-Oak Island Area, North Brunswick, and Brunswick County Chambers of Commerce, the program identifies highly motivated, emerging leaders and educates them on the county's needs and the dynamics of social and economic change. Participants will meet monthly from September 2025 through May 2026, engaging with leaders in business, government, and education while exploring topics such as Brunswick County's history and culture, government systems, justice and law enforcement, education, environment, health and human services, and economic development.

Applicants must live or work in Brunswick County, hold or have the



potential to advance to a leadership role, and demonstrate a sincere commitment to community service. Attendance at the September

17 orientation retreat is required, along with at least six of the eight monthly sessions, 10 volunteer hours with a local nonprofit, one municipal or county meeting, three chamber enrichment activities, and the All County Chamber Business Networking After Hours in November.

Tuition is \$450 for Chamber members and \$500 for non-members. Applications, along with tuition, must be submitted by 4pm on Monday, August 25, 2025. Selected participants will be notified by September 8, 2025.

Applications can be downloaded at [www.southport-oakisland.com](http://www.southport-oakisland.com) or requested by calling:

- Brunswick County Chamber: 910-754-6644
- North Brunswick Chamber: 910-383-0553
- Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber: 910-457-6964

### School's Back in Session. Do Your Kids Need Homework Help?

Here are a couple of great resources for students to assist with homework.

**NCpedia** - An online encyclopedia that highlights North Carolina's unique resources, people, and culture, managed by the North Carolina Government and Heritage Library. [www.ncpedia.org](http://www.ncpedia.org)

**SIRS Discoverer** - Articles, non-fiction books, activities, and websites for elementary and middle school students. Library card needed to access. [https://library.uncw.edu/resources/sirs\\_discoverer](https://library.uncw.edu/resources/sirs_discoverer)



Calling all volunteers! Do you enjoy planning events? Do you love the 4th of July? Join the committee to help plan next year's 4th of July festivities to celebrate America's 250th Birthday! Send an email with your interest to [agoodrich@sunsetbeachnc.gov](mailto:agoodrich@sunsetbeachnc.gov).

We would love to have you join us!



# Fall is For Food, Festivals, and Halloween Fun



## Shallotte Spooktacular

Join us Tuesday, October 28, at 6pm for a SPOOKY night at Mulberry Park hosted by the Shallotte Parks & Rec and Brunswick County Parks & Rec!

Please note this event will be held at the Riverwalk for the 2nd year- 158 Wall St. (You can access the Riverwalk off of Main St. on Wall Street)

Caution - the event route is gravel so strollers and wheelchairs may have difficulty through path.

Please remember to bring the kids Candy Buckets as the kids will be able to go around and visit lots of vendors for candy and fun prizes!

## Shallotte Market on Mulberry

September 20 | 10am-2pm  
Mulberry Park  
123 Mulberry St. Shallotte

## Sunset Beach Trunk or Treat Wednesday, October 29 5:00 - 6:30pm



## Palette of Pumpkins

Fall is in the air, and we're celebrating with a creative twist! Join us for our Palette of Pumpkins event at the clubhouse, 31 Quaker ridge Dr,

Calabash - it's the perfect way to tap into your inner artist while getting to know the amazing people in our community.

Come decorate your own pumpkin (no artistic experience required!), enjoy light refreshments and drinks, and mingle with your fellow residents. Whether you're here for the fun or just to enjoy the cozy atmosphere, this is the place to be!

It's happening Tuesday, September 30th at 5:30pm so grab your creativity and bring your pumpkin-loving spirit! See you there for a fun-filled, artsy afternoon!

RSVP today and let's make this pumpkin palette the most colorful event of the season!

## Oak Island Trunk or Treat

October 31, 2025 | 5-7pm Oak Island Recreation Center, 3003 E Oak Island Drive

Sign up to be a Trunk-Or-Treat Vendor and help the Recreation Department fill the parking lot by joining in on the fun, passing candy out to the kids!

Decorate your car and pass out candy, with First, Second, and Third Place awards being presented for Best Decorated Car.

To register as a Vendor, visit [OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS](http://OakIslandNC.gov/PROGRAMS).

For questions or to learn more, contact Emily Kincer at 910-278-5518 or email [ekincer@oakislandnc.gov](mailto:ekincer@oakislandnc.gov).

## Boos & Brews Market

Come out to Leland Brewing, Cape Fear Rugby Club, 141 Old Fayetteville Rd, Leland for a frightfully fun market full of spooky season vibes, creepy-cute creations, and handcrafted haunts from some of the best local makers and mischief-makers around.

Come sip on something spooky, shop 'til you drop (dead), and soak up all the eerie energy. Costumes encouraged. Chilling with your coven? Even better. You won't want to ghost this one!

Interested vendors can apply here: [www.eventeny.com/company/coastalpopups](http://www.eventeny.com/company/coastalpopups)

## Haunted Forest Halloween Fest & Haunted Trail

October 24-25, Gates open 12pm, Start time 5:30pm, End time 12am

6149 Sawdust Lane SE, Winnabow

Camping - Live Music - Haunted Trail, Circus Side Show Variety Acts - Djs, Themed Nights - Costume Dance Parties, Dubtown Cosmonauts - Domocile - Tripodacus, Dragons With Matches - Jesse Stockton - Evol Gene, Heter Pan's Murder Mystery Band - Superhuman Jam & More!

Ticket price includes parking, camping & haunted trail. Limited tickets available. Day passes & weekend passes available.

For more info and the purchase tickets: <https://aftontickets.com/event/buyticket/gl9enkvw95>

## Festival By The Sea

The last full weekend in October, the Holden Beach Merchants Association hosts the very popular "NC Festival by the Sea." This 2-day event is kicked off with a parade down the Holden Beach causeway. This is the only day of the year that you can walk across the Holden Beach bridge and each year several hundred take that high altitude stroll to stake out the perfect spot to view the parade.

Arts and Crafts vendors are open from 9am-5pm on Sat. and 9am-4pm on Sun.

For the competitive sort, there is a horseshoe tournament and a sandcastle building contest. Children enjoy face painting, huge kites flying overhead and the children's rides and amusements. There is live musical entertainment both days at Holden Beach's new Pavilion.

The North Carolina Festival by the Sea is a free event with plenty of free parking. Please contact the Holden Beach Merchants Association at [www.hbmerch.com](http://www.hbmerch.com) for Festival By The Sea information.

## Celebrate Calabash

September 27 | 10am-3pm  
868 Persimmon Rd

Shop local vendors, food trucks music and crafts, pumpkin decorating, family fun for all ages.

## Spook or Treat

October 24 | 5pm - 6:30 pm

Join the Southport Parks & Recreation Department for Halloween crafts and treats at Spook or Treat! There will be a costume contest for ages 4 and under, 5-7, 8-10, and 11-13. Prizes will be awarded for scariest and cutest.

The event will be held at the Park & Recreation Office, 209 N. Atlantic Avenue.

Please call 910-457-7945 for more information.



## 5th Annual Oak Island Witches Ride

The witch ride is back Saturday, October 25 from 12-5pm on Oak Island! Save the date and plan to join in the fun! <https://www.facebook.com/events/599735919671737>

## Country Fall Festival

The Bridge Presbyterian Church is holding a Fall Festival on Saturday, October 25, 8am-4pm and we're looking for vendors! 10' x 10' booths are \$25. Call 910-769-4951 for questions.

## Leland Fall Festival

October 25 | 4-7pm  
Northwest District Park  
1937 Andrew Jackson Highway

This free Halloween event features community businesses, organizations, and non-profits handing out candy to kids from booths with interactive activities, games and more! Costumes are encouraged.

## Witch Ride & Brew

Downtown Southport will be once again crawling with witches on Sunday, October 26. Put on your best witchy attire and join the fun! Find details on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/861776685336883/>





**FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT FISHING**

SAVE THE DATE  
**1-14 SEPTEMBER 2025**  
Ocean Crest Pier, Oak Island NC

Categories:  
• longest flounder  
• heaviest flounder

How to Enter:  
pay \$20 entry fee before the tournament

**G**et your rod and reel ready – it's almost time for the Flounder Tournament at Ocean Crest Pier, Oak Island, NC

Held September 1st-14th, with an \$20 entry fee per person.

**Categories:**

- Longest Flounder (by length)
- Heaviest Flounder (by weight)

**Rules:**

- All fish must be caught from Ocean Crest Pier
- Rod and reel only – no nets or giggering
- One entry per person per day
- Winners announced Sept. 14



**CHRISTMAS BY THE SEA**  
Annual Parade & Festival  
Town of Oak Island, NC

**A**lthough there may be heat advisories this week, we're already looking ahead to making warmer memories in cooler temperatures, as Parade Entry Applications for the 2025 Christmas By The Sea Parade are now being accepted!

<https://rightherein.com/story/index.html...>

The Parade itself will be held on Saturday, December 6 beginning at 2pm. As always, this "Rain or Shine" event will run right through the heart of Town along E Oak Island Drive.



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**H**eld the first Saturday in October each year, Sunset at Sunset is the Town of Sunset Beach's Community Block Party.

Staffed by volunteers, what began as a small event on the beach has grown over the years and is now located in the Town Park, 206 Sunset Blvd. North Sunset Beach.

More than 100 vendors, crafters, food services, and non-profit organizations participate in the day's activities. Only quality goods are permitted to be sold and year after year the variety of items continues to expand. Throughout the day bands entertain attendees.

Anyone interested in securing booth space or volunteering to staff the event is invited. Please reach out to Amy Goodrich, Events Coordinator at [agoodrich@sunsetbeachnc.gov](mailto:agoodrich@sunsetbeachnc.gov)



## Grants Available for Local Artists

**T**he North Carolina Arts Council is now accepting applications for its Artist Support Grants, offering up to \$1,000 for professional artists in New Hanover, Brunswick, Pender, Columbus, and Bladen counties. The program funds projects taking place October 1, 2025 - December 2026 that further an artist's creative and professional development.

Eligible projects include creating new work, purchasing equipment or materials, attending professional development workshops, travel for exhibitions or conferences, developing promotional materials, and covering up to 50% of artist fees. Both individual artists and small, unincorporated artist collectives may apply. Applicants must be at least 18,



**S**unset On Summer Returns! It's the best way to close out a Summer full of fun! The immensely popular Sunset On Summer Music Festival will return on Saturday September 6, from NOON to 8pm.

Held in the Middleton Park Complex at 4610 E Dolphin Dr., this event will host food trucks and multiple bands throughout the day on TWO stages - Hoods Creek, North Tower, and Departure (Journey Tribute) will be on the main stage and Deep Creek Soul will be playing on the side stage in between the band turnovers. Come out and enjoy the music and bring your dancing shoes!

The event caps off with a special FIREWORKS show to help say goodbye to another awesome Summer!

have lived in the region for at least one year, and may not be full-time undergraduate or associate degree students. Artists who received funding in or since FY2022-2023 are not eligible.

Applications are due by Friday, September 12, 2025. Completed applications should be emailed to [grants@artswilmington.org](mailto:grants@artswilmington.org) with the subject line "ASG 2025-2026" or mailed to 221 N. Front St., Suite 101, Wilmington, NC 28401.

Two virtual grant workshops will be offered: Tuesday, August 5 at 10 am and Wednesday, August 6 at 6 pm.

For more information, contact Rhonda Bellamy at [grants@artswilmington.org](mailto:grants@artswilmington.org) or call 910-343-0998.





Excitement is heating up this summer for Up Your Arts' 4th Annual Cool & Fancy Gala to be held at the Homer E. Wright Event Center on Saturday, September 6th 2025. This event is more than just an opportunity to dress up in fancy clothes and dance the night away! Each year this important fundraiser is key to funding Up Your Arts programs that promotes and enhances visual and creative arts in the greater Southport area. The 4th Annual Cool & Fancy Gala general admission tickets are \$75 per guest, first come/first serve seating. In past years our Gala has always been a sell out event.

There is still plenty of time to take advantage of some of the best Raffles prizes ever offered. Multiple on-line raffles are also now live, winners will be announced at the gala (attendance not required). Fun and fundraising raffles include:

- 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

**The STAR raffle item is literally 7 nights under the stars:**

- Royal Caribbean cruise for two

That's correct! A cruise that you determine your choice of just where and when to voyage. For only \$100 per ticket, yields a solid chance at winning a vacation for two at sailing to any of Royal Caribbean destinations. Use for a birthday gift or anniversary gift, or split the cost with a travel buddy! Remember all is a donation for a good cause so you can't go wrong.

Seas the arts! and be sure to get your gala tickets and raffle tickets soon. You can purchase them on-line at <https://www.upyourarts.org>. Email [bbray@upyourarts.org](mailto:bbray@upyourarts.org) with any questions. 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.

## Southern Living is looking for The South's Best 2026 and Southport is in the running!

From charming streets and coastal views to historic sites and incredible food, we know there's a lot to love. Take a moment to vote for your favorite Southern spots — and if Southport's on your list, we'd be honored to have your support.

Go to:

[www.southernliving.com/souths-best/southsbestvote](http://www.southernliving.com/souths-best/southsbestvote)  
to cast your vote!

Survey closes September 30, 2025

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## Kudo's and Congratulations!



### Congratulations to Our Newly Certified School Resource Officers!

Several of our deputies have successfully completed the Basic School Resource Officer Certification training!

This specialized training is designed for sworn law enforcement officers assigned to serve as SROs, helping them enhance their skills, experience, and credentials. The program recognizes that an SRO's role goes beyond the school walls, often blending traditional patrol responsibilities with the unique duties of keeping our schools safe.

We're proud of their dedication to professional growth and their commitment to protecting and serving the students, staff, and families of Brunswick County.

### Detention Center Leadership Spotlight

We are proud to recognize Lt. Williams, Lt. Frye, Lt. Patelos, and Chief Fowler for their exceptional leadership at the Brunswick County Detention Center.

As Sgt. Roggenkamp shared: "The leadership at the Brunswick County Detention Center significantly alleviates the stress we face daily. These leaders not only maintain a well-organized facility, but they provide unwavering support to the staff, a sentiment shared by officers across the board. Their open-door policy for both personal and professional matters fosters a truly supportive atmosphere. We are grateful for their presence, and the expertise and dedication they demonstrate inspire all of us to strive for excellence."

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**W**ant your brand to stand out and support an amazing cause?

We're inviting local vendors to take part in the 10.10 Challenge Event at Sunset Beach Town Park on October 10!

Showcase your products, connect with the community, support Parkinson's research, caregiver support, and mental health resources.

Whether you're a maker, nonprofit, food truck, or local business — this is your chance to give back while growing your reach.

Sign up today: [my1010.org](http://my1010.org)

Questions? Contact [info@my1010.org](mailto:info@my1010.org)



**L**adies of Brunswick County ~ If you don't like the path you're on, start paving a new one! Join us for She Moves NC, a 10-week walking and/or running program for women ages 16 and over beginning on September 17 at Ocean Isle Park, 6483 Old Georgetown Rd, Ocean Isle Beach. The clinic is on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:45 weekly and registration includes entry into the Calabash Turkey Trot on November 27.

Over 500 women have successfully completed the program and we want you to also

For more information and to register visit: <https://coastalraceproductions.com/shemoves/>

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## Sleep Out Brunswick Offers a Powerful Night of Awareness and Action

**W**here did you sleep last night? Chances are, it was in a warm, safe bed. But for hundreds in Brunswick County, the answer is far less comfortable. That's the message behind Sleep Out Brunswick 2025, a 15-hour immersive event organized by Brunswick Partnership for Housing (BPH) to raise awareness about homelessness—and funds to fight it.



Sleep Out Brunswick 2025 will be held on Friday, October 24 at 4pm through Saturday, October 25 at 7 am at Brunswick Community College (Health Sciences Building J, 50 College Rd. NE, Bolivia, NC). Participants will take part in an overnight experience designed to mimic

the reality of sleeping without permanent shelter—spending the night outdoors in tents, cars, or cardboard structures. An off-site participation option is also available for teams or individuals who prefer to host their own sleep-out anytime between September 24 and October 24.

At the heart of the main event is a Poverty Simulation®, a moving three-hour exercise that gives participants a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by those living in poverty or homelessness.

Funds raised from this event directly support BPH's mission to provide transitional housing and support services for unsheltered families and individuals. Since opening the



Felton-Russell House in Southport in July 2023, BPH has provided shelter to dozens, helping many transition into permanent housing.

Participants are encouraged to form teams, gather sponsors, and raise funds to support the cause.

Whether you're sleeping out, sponsoring someone who is, or forming a team with coworkers or friends, your involvement helps BPH continue its vital work.

Founded in 2019 through support from local businesses, civic clubs, churches and foundation grants, Brunswick Partnership for Housing is a non-profit dedicated to ending homelessness in Brunswick County. In addition to transitional housing, BPH offers case management,

emergency shelter placement, referrals, and other services across a three-county region—all with a trauma-informed care approach.



Sleep Out Brunswick is more than just a fundraiser—it's a transformative event that brings the community together in empathy, solidarity, and hope.

To register, sponsor a participant, or learn more, visit [www.brunswickpartnership.org](http://www.brunswickpartnership.org) or contact Sally Learned (910-946-1501, [admin@brunswickpartnership.org](mailto:admin@brunswickpartnership.org)), Barry Fulton (949-533-5537, [barryfulton@gmail.com](mailto:barryfulton@gmail.com)), Susan Crabtree (267-235-6132, [susancrabtree75@gmail.com](mailto:susancrabtree75@gmail.com)).

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Closed Sunday

## Did You Know?



**W**e are asking for your help! Please respect the nesting mama turtles on our beaches and allow them the space they need to lay their eggs in peace. If you see a nesting mama:

- Never shine a light (White or Red) on a nesting mama or hatchling.
- Stay at least 20-30 feet behind her. She can sense your presence and she may get scared and leave the beach without nesting.
- Stay off her flipper prints on her crawl. We need to "read" the crawl to locate her nest chamber.

## Best Seats Around for the Stede Bonnet Pirate Regatta.



**J**oin us on a beautiful autumn afternoon as Provision Company™ hosts the premier sailing event of the Lower Cape Fear River.

### The Details

**Date:** November 1, 2025

**Captains Meeting:** 10am

**Race Time:** 1pm

**Party Time:** 6pm

**Race Info Contact:**

[jamie@madriverdesigns.com](mailto:jamie@madriverdesigns.com) or  
910-457-0654

Named after the 18th century "Gentleman Pirate" that moored his vessel the royal James on the nearby

Cape Fear River, the regatta is an annual sailboat race and pirate festival that coincides with Halloween.

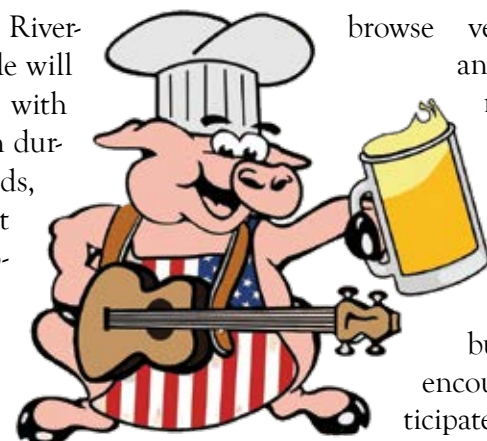
Dressed in pirate regalia, the crews of each vessel hoist their pirate flag firing water cannons and water pistols. Captain and crew jockey for position in a mock battle to create an exciting start for all spectators.

Following the race an awards ceremony and party featuring food, drinks and live entertainment will be held at Provision Company, Yacht Basin on the Southport waterfront. Don your best pirate costume matey and join the fun!

## Bands, Brews & BBQ on the Brunswick Riverwalk at Belville

**T**he Brunswick Riverwalk at Belville will come alive with music, food, and fun during the annual Bands, Brews & BBQ event on Saturday, October 18, 2025, from 11 am-4pm—rain or shine.

Set against the backdrop of the scenic Cape Fear River, the event features a BBQ cook-off where both professional and amateur teams compete for top honors, with plenty of samples for attendees to enjoy. Visitors can also sip local craft beers,



browse vendor booths, and listen to live music throughout the day.

Food vendors, craft vendors, and local businesses are encouraged to participate, making this a great opportunity

to connect with the community while enjoying one of Belville's most popular annual events.

For more details and vendor applications, visit [northbrunswickchamber.com/bands-brews-bbq](http://northbrunswickchamber.com/bands-brews-bbq).

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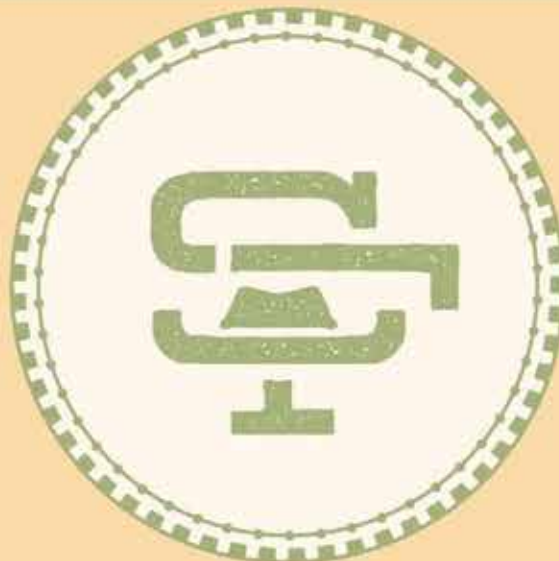




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