

Brunswick Marketplace

Bringing You the Best of Brunswick County

Volume 15 ♦ Number 5

March/April 2021

PRICELESS

2021 People's Choice Awards... and the Winners Are!

The People have spoken! Congratulations to this Year's Winners!
Look for the winners plaques when you visit these businesses. As always, Shop Local!

BEST BAKERY

Burney's of Southport

BEST BREAKFAST (tie)

Old Bridge Diner

Bagel Dock

BEST LUNCH

D's Italian Restaurant

BEST SALAD

Café Koa

BEST BURGER

Rusty Hook's

BEST BBQ

Oak Island BBQ House

BEST RIBS

Southport Smokehouse

BEST WINGS

Chaser's Sports Bar & Grill

BEST PIZZA

Dry St. Pizza & Pub

BEST ICE CREAM

Chuck's Homemade

BEST SEAFOOD

Swain's

BEST FAMILY RESTAURANT

Bella Cucina

BEST BISTRO

Ports of Call

BEST ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Castucci's, An Italian Joint

BEST MEXICAN

San Felipe's

BEST CREATIVE CHEF

Mose Guardascione, Castucci's

MOST ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

Joseph's Italian Bistro

BEST WATERFRONT RESTAURANT (tie)

KoKo Cabana

Inlet View Bar & Grill

BEST WAIT STAFF

Marcuies Sullivan,
Joseph's Italian Bistro

BEST SEAFOOD MARKET

Haag and Sons

BEST CRAFT BEERS

Southport Tap & Cellar

BEST PUB

Wing & Fish Company

BEST WINE SHOP (tie)

The Grape & Ale

The Wine Rack

BEST CHIROPRACTOR

Family Chiropractic Plus

BEST DOCTOR

Dr. Newsome, Doshier

BEST HOSPITAL

Doshier Memorial Hospital

BEST MOVERS

Premium Movers

BEST BEACH RENTALS

Oak Island Accommodations

BEST REAL ESTATE COMPANY

Lynda Haraway Group

BEST REALTOR

Elvira Gilbert, Margaret Rudd

BEST PEST CONTROL

Manning's Pest Control

BEST GARDEN SHOP

All in Bloom

BEST ARTIST

JD - Inklation

BEST ACCOUNTANT

Barbara Williams

BEST BARGAIN STORE

Label Shopper

BEST GIFT SHOP

Color Me Carolina

BEST WOMEN'S APPAREL

Mermaid Cove

BEST PLACE TO PAMPER YOURSELF

Las Olas Skin & Spa

PUBLISHER'S AWARD

Southport Cheese Shoppe



All in Bloom
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EASTER CELEBRATION!

Saturday, March 27 | 11am-2pm
Adult Easter Egg Hunt - Stuffed with Gift Certificates!

Saturday, April 3 | 11am-2pm
Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Bunny Meet & Greet



Hopping Into Spring!

VOTED
Brunswick Marketplace
PEOPLE'S CHOICE
BEST
GARDEN SHOP

VOTED
Maggie Awards
BEST OUTDOOR
SHOPPING
EXPERIENCE



Customer Appreciation Day!

Sunday, April 18

Band of Oz will be Playing 11am-2pm

Kai Joe's Serving Food from 11am-2pm

Caricature Artist 11am-2pm • Lots of Giveaways and Sales!

We are Open. and are taking every precaution to protect our employees and customers.
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Dosher Hospital Volunteer Organization Now Accepting 2021 Scholarship Applications

The Dosher Hospital Volunteer Organization will be offering three (3) \$4,000.00 scholarships to graduates or graduation candidates from any high school in Brunswick County. We have expanded the requirements to include those interested in any accredited health profession rather than only nursing. An application packet may be retrieved from the Dosher Web-

site by going to Dosher.org/Volunteer underneath the area entitled Scholarship Grants Available, or, students may speak to a guidance counselor at their high school.

Applications must be received by J.A. Dosher Memorial Hospital, Attn: Nursing Administration, 924 N. Howe Street, Southport, NC 28461 by April 30, 2021.

Andre Minor Named Dosher Chief of Staff

Andre Minor, MD has been elected Dosher Memorial Hospital's Chief of Medical Staff for 2021-2022. Dr. Minor, who is an internal medicine physician with Dosher primary care practice Dosher Medical - North Howe in Southport, has practiced medicine in Southport for over 30 years. Dr. Minor was chosen by physicians and other medical providers of the hospital.

Others elected to the hospital's

Medical Executive Committee include Dr. Jessica Bockook, Vice Chief of

Staff, Dr. Joseph P. Hatem, Chair of the hospital's Department of Medicine, and Dr. Robert Zukoski, Chair of the hospital's Department of Surgery.



Andre Minor, MD

Dosher Appoints Linda Conner as Patient Accounts Manager

Dosher Memorial Hospital has hired Linda Conner to assume the role of Patient Accounts Manager. Ms. Conner, a Virginia Native, has worked in healthcare for the majority of her career and was the Manager of Patient Financial Services and Patient Access for Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital prior to joining Dosher.

"We have tremendous confidence in the value Linda Conner will bring not only to Dosher but to the patient experience," said Lynda Stanley, President of Dosher Memorial Hospital and Foundation. "Ms. Conner's prior career accomplishments

coupled with her expressed enthusiasm for embracing new challenges will make her a great addition to our team and someone willing to meet the changing needs of our organization," said Dosher CEO and CMO Dr. Brad Hilaman.

Ms. Conner has two children and two grandchildren and resides on Oak Island with her husband.



We are honored to serve this community!
Thank you for your confidence in us
and choosing Dosher as the
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The Future of Knee Replacement is Here.



Dosher is the first hospital in the region to offer Mako SmartRobotics™ for total knee replacements.

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DOSHER 
 Memorial Hospital

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Goodbye 2020, Hello 2021!

By Joanne Thompson

Farmers' Markets, beach activities, boating, biking, and fishing, are happening up and down the Brunswick coast. We are still fighting our way through Covid, but we are smart and tough. We wear our masks, wash our hands and get our shots. Ya' just cant keep us down. Support our local businesses that are struggling to stay in business and adhere to Covid restrictions. Don't be disappointed. Call ahead and check to see whether dine in, take out, and/or delivery can be enjoyed.

Changes are coming. Look for **Moore's Dogs in the old Confectionery** location and **Long Beach Pizza and Wings**, 4688 Long Beach Rd. Southport, between Southport and Oak Island. On Oak Island **Paul's OKI**, restaurant, bar, beverage store, long promised, is still trying to open in time for summer, stay tuned. A new brewery - **Solar Brewing Company**, is under construction on Oak Island. How about that? Much loved **Beana's Restaurant** is being replaced by **Long Beach Diner** - same place; same wholesome food, new renovation. **Thomas Drugs** on Oak Island is also being neighborly during this trying time by offering free delivery of prescriptions. The **Oak Island BBQ House** opened up

for inside dining; and once again you can dine inside at **Island Way**. The **Oak Island Deli & Pub** has new ownership, menu, enclosed area, and is offering breakfast in addition to lunch and dinner.

A new **Subway** can be found at the Sunny Point Tiger Mart, 4388 George II Hwy Southport. On Rte.85 into Southport, **The Tackle Box Seafood Market** has opened promising fresh fish and shell fish for sale.

Thanks to three businesses who stepped in to support cleanup after the tornado hit **Ocean Ridge Plantation** in Ocean Isle. **Angelo's Pizzeria** in Shallotte gave huge discounts on food for workers and volunteers. **Jumpin Java**, Ocean Isle, gave free coffee to 60 people and **Phoenix Landscape Management** has been working clean up. That's what is important, neighbors helping neighbors. Let's return the favor and support them too.

Southport Coffee Co. opened a new drive-thru freshly-ground coffee bar at the corner of Gandy and River Rd. in Southport to satisfy the pickiest java aficionados. It is run by the owners **Moore Street Market Deli**, known for creative fresh sandwiches, as well.

On Oak Island, **Swain's Seafood and Cut!** are hosting an American Cancer Society Relay for Life Seafood Dinner on March 23 and 24, from 4pm - 7pm, with reservations required. From soup and salad to entrée to homemade desserts, including wine or beer. Make Reservations by March 17, 2021. Call 910-448-5056 or for more information stjamesrelay.org

Find a bargain at **Mermaid Cove's Outlet**, newly opened on Long Beach Rd.

If you are on your way to North Myrtle Beach or the Myrtle Beach Airport and are taking Hickman Rd., try the food at **Mocha Cafe and BBQ Co.** where Indigo Farms used to be. The food is home style and homey.

Silver Coast Winery opened **Marker 1** tasting room at Carolina Corners Shopping Center at Ocean Hwy Carolina Shores.

Southport's **Zeetlegoo's** pet shop is no longer, but **Unleashed, the Dog & Cat Store** has opened in its place. If you need any pet supplies or want to shampoo Fido, **Gonzo's** on Oak Island is the place for you. They also offer delivery.

All in Bloom Garden Center and Landscapes in Southport is open

M-F 9-5; Sat 9-4 and Sun 11-4, with a huge assortment of plants, shrubs, trees, and garden ornaments. Owners Kim and Tina can help you with your landscaping and garden needs. Between them they have many years of experience.

In Leland, **Five Guys**, known for fabulous hamburgers, has opened to rave reviews. **Eternal Sunshine Cafe** has reopened with great new specials. Long-time favorite of locals, **Shirley's Diner** is now open on Mondays offering the freshest of fried fish platters.

Visiting for the summer or having extra guests? **Sharon's Linens and Beach Rentals**, 4574 Long Beach Rd. Southport, has everything you need. BBQ's, baby cribs, beach umbrellas, strollers, extra linens and towels; on and on can be rented here. Why fill your car needlessly... rent it and walk away.

New to the area with a newly opened office and accepting new patients at 4222 Long Beach Rd., **Dr. Michael Cahn** is a general surgeon and vein specialist offering free vein health screening.

*Stay positive. Stay strong.
Support local. Shop local.
It looks like 2021 is looking up for
all of us in Brunswick County.*

NEW! Check Out Our New Website!
www.brunswickmarketplace.com

Read the electronic version of our issue | Find links to our advertisers websites | Find local events

Also NEW! Subscribe to our FREE electronic email subscription!

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Check out Brunswick Marketplace on FaceBook!
<https://www.facebook.com/BrunswickMarketplace>

There you will find more information from local businesses, residents and news about events and specials happening in Brunswick county. Give us a like and stay up to date!

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Oak Island Lighthouse Run Canceled for 2021. Will Reconvene In 2022

Due to the continued health safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has canceled the 2021 Oak Island Lighthouse Run.

Because of the planning involved to make this event fun, safe and enjoyable for all, it was necessary to make this decision well in advance of the race date. "There is no way to accurately predict what public health challenges we will still face in April", said Ilene Evans, Co-Chair of the Oak Island Lighthouse Run Committee.

"We look forward to reconvening in April 2022 and thank our sponsors and participants for the support and understanding of this decision."

"The management team at Go Time supports the 2021 Lighthouse Run in their decision to forgo the 2021 event for spring of 2022. Each

race we work with has had to face unique challenges in their choice as whether or not to have in person racing. Participant experience, and safety, isn't something that the Lighthouse Run or Go Time are willing to compromise on, and we back the decision to wait to invite the running world back to Oak Island in April of 2022" Colin Hackman, President of Go Time.

The Oak Island Lighthouse Run/Walk is held annually the third Saturday in April with the exception being when the Easter weekend falls on the same weekend. The Oak Island Lighthouse Run is an event of the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce. For further information visit: <http://www.oakislandlighthouse.com>, call (910) 457-6964 or stop by the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce at 4433 Long Beach Road, Southport, NC 28461.

2021 Southport Plein Air Festival to Be Held June 18-19

Up Your Arts and the City of Southport are very eager to welcome artists back to our beautiful town for the 2021 Southport Plein Air Festival on June 18-19!

This popular outdoor painting event was reintroduced to Southport in 2019 after an absence of several years, including being cancelled in 2018 by Hurricane Florence. Last year, unfortunately, the festival was again cancelled, this time by Covid-19 restrictions; so here we are, not knowing for sure, but fervently hoping it will be smooth sailing this year! We'll be monitoring local restrictions on public gatherings as it gets closer

Not only are there a number of opportunities for artists to make incredible art throughout the festival, we also have great food and drinks,

music, guided tours, contests, classes, and more. The event culminates in our famous Wet Paint Sale where you can buy some of the amazing artworks created during the event by our talented local artists.

Registration for the 2021 Southport Plein Air Festival is open to all painters, regardless of age. It is a non-juried event, with merit and People's Choice awards conferred by established local artists. Winners will be registered in the 2022 Southport Plein Air Festival free of charge. There is no limit on medium, quantity or size. Painters retain all proceeds from the sale of their work during the Wet Paint Sale.

Learn all about it at: <https://www.upyourarts.org/southport-art-spaces/festivals/southport-plein-air-festival/>

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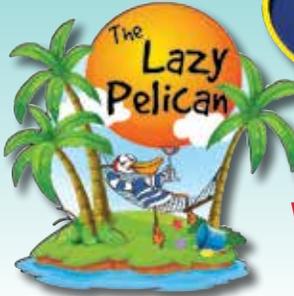
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Brunswick County Real Estate Market Sets Sales Record in 2020, Exceeding \$2 Billion

Brunswick County's residential real estate market set a new record in 2020 with \$2,157,449,018 in total sales volume, up 51.3% compared to 2019. Monthly numbers also hit record highs in December, with increases in homes sold and total sales volume.

"2020 was full of unknowns and uncertainty, but Brunswick County's real estate market did more than merely stay consistent - it smashed all expectations," said BCAR CEO Cynthia Walsh. "Total sales for the year topped \$2 billion for the first time ever, and we saw record sales in December compared to last year.

In addition to the increase in sales volume, Brunswick County saw a 6.5% increase in new listings in 2020, going from 6,603 to 7,032. The number of units sold increased by 28.8% from 4,916 to 6,331, and the average sale price increased 17.5%, rising from \$290,077 to \$340,741. The largest sale of the year was over \$3,000,000, 16 sales were \$2,000,000 or greater and 248 sales were between \$800,000 to \$1,000,000.

In addition to the year-end numbers, the market also saw increased sales volume, higher prices and a tightening inventory in December. The inventory of available homes continued to drop, closing out at nearly 1,200 available homes with an absorption rate and days on market

of just over two months.

December 2020 New Listings

December 2020: 385
December 2019: 339
Increase/Decrease: +13.6%

Units Sold

December 2020: 577
December 2019: 396
Increase/Decrease: +45.7%

Average Sale Price

December 2020: \$371,768
December 2019: \$326,857
Increase/Decrease: +13.7%

Total Sales Volume

December 2020: \$214,510,000
December 2019: \$129,440,000
Increase/Decrease: +65.7%

2020 Year-End Numbers

New Listings
2020 Total: 7,032
2019 Total: 6,603
Increase/Decrease: +6.5%

Units Sold

2020 Total: 6,331
2019 Total: 4,916
Increase/Decrease: +28.8%

Average Sale Price

2020 Total: \$340,741
2019 Total: \$290,077
Increase/Decrease: +17.5%

Total Sales Volume

2020 Total: \$2,157,449,018
2019 Total: \$1,426,020,708
Increase/Decrease: +51.3%

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Bright Ideas Education Grants Fund Teachers' In-Person and Online Classroom Projects – Apply Now

The past year has been particularly hard on teachers, students, and parents. It has required extra determination, flexibility, creativity, and in some cases, extra cash to make learning happen. If you're an educator with an idea for a project that will enhance your students' in-person or online classroom experience, consider applying for a Bright Ideas Education Grant.

Each year, Brunswick Electric provides grants for up to \$2,000 for innovative classroom projects that would otherwise go unfunded. Last year, 29 teachers in Brunswick and Columbus counties received more

than \$32,110 for projects across all disciplines, benefiting more than 7,000 students in Brunswick and Columbus counties.

Applications are being accepted now at NCBrightIdeas.com or at bemc.org/bright-ideas-grants, and the deadline to apply is September 15, 2021. But don't wait, applications received by August 15, 2021 will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 Visa gift card.



MARCH 18, 19, and 20

Mark your calendars now and plan to spend time shopping and dining in Southport!

Shop or dine at any of the participating businesses listed below. Spend \$25 or more and qualify to enter the drawing to win one of four Gift Baskets, each worth \$250!

Drawings, give-aways, and special events will be announced by participating merchants.

Retail Shops:

- Cattail Cottage
- The Pearl
- Artisan's Gallery on Howe
- Barn & Beach Designs
- Boo & Roo's
- Bullfrog Corner
- Candy & Company
- Cat on a Whisk & Shoefly
- The Christmas House
- Coastal Cottage Shoppe
- Franklin Square Gallery
- Gemini Floral
- The Green LYF
- Lantana's Gallery

- Magnolia Gifts
- Post Fabrics & Interiors
- Ocean Outfitters
- Olde South Village Shoppes
- Rebecca's Consignments
- Ropa Etc.
- Sedona South
- Southport Trading Co.
- Southport Market
- Talefeathers

Restaurants, Wineries & Bakeries:

- Burney's Bakery
- Kirley's Bread
- Moore Street Market
- Saucy Southerner
- Southport Cheese Shoppe
- Silver Coast Winery
- Uncorked by the Sea

For more information, visit: www.cattailcottage.com/pages.southport-spring-fling/

Creating a Smarter Energy Future, Together

We're using new and exciting technologies to develop programs that lower costs by reducing peak demand, and offer you flexibility in how you use electricity.

Members have been lowering their bills by signing up for the Time-of-Use rate option, and our Beat the Peak initiative is another example of how we can, by working together, reduce the amount we pay for wholesale power.

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March/April Events in Brunswick County

BOILING SPRING LAKES

March 6, 20 - April 10, 17

BSL Neighbors Market

9am - 2pm | Next to The Office
Coffee and Wine Bar
3280 George II Hwy SE | Southport

Twice a month market showcasing local talent, and fresh produce. Please adhere to COVID guidelines.

OAK ISLAND

March 13

Oak Island Mardi Gras Celebration By The Sea

10am-4pm | Middleton Park
SE 46th St

Parade (10am-2pm): The OKI Mardi Gras Celebration will feature a reverse parade along Dolphin Drive (Beginning at SE 40th St.) where island residents and guests will slowly drive past a variety of Mardi Gras themed floats, stations, golf carts, and more! To register to be part of this year's parade, simply visit <http://bit.ly/OKIMardiGrasParade2021>

Market (12-4pm): Continue your celebration by the sea at Middleton Park with the Mardi Gras Market! Featuring live music at the OKI amphitheater; shoppers can explore an expansive array of locally grown and handmade items from Brunswick County vendors.

Music (2-4pm): Music will include Blues and Soul music for the perfect picnic lunch in one of the parks designated socially distant picnic circles in the front of the amphitheater.

March 30 & 31

Oak Island Drive By Bunny

10am-12pm | Home at Oak Island
Ages: All Ages!

Fees: Free. Simply register online at <http://bit.ly/OKIDriveByBunny2021> and select the option that includes your neighborhood (Spaces are Limited)

Experience the thrill of searching for the Easter Bunny; no matter your age! Sign up your house/street/ or friends to have the Easter Bunny and Friends party their way through your neighborhood. Please follow COVID-10 protocols.

April 1

Oak Island's "Contactless" Egg Hunt

4-6 pm | Home at Oak Island

Ages: 2-10 years old

Fees: \$5 per child

Register by March 24th: Online registration at <http://bit.ly/OKI>
Pick Up: April 1st. Oak Island Recreation Center- Kit pickup will be held outside from 4-6pm (Please use parking lot on SE 31st. St.) Follow set COVID-protocols.

Register the kids in your life to receive a bag of toy filled Easter eggs to create your very own Easter Egg Hunt with your social circle! Bring the kids along to scoop up their egg kits for a convenient drive thru pick-up as Peter Rabbit waves from a distance. Participants will be entered into age group drawings to receive special holiday prizes. Prizes will be awarded on April 1st, 2021.

April 3

Oak Island Spring Fling

11am-4 pm | Middleton Park
SE 46th St

Support local Brunswick County craft and food vendors while exploring a market brimming with one of a kind coastal crafts for the ideal seasonal souvenir. Live entertainment will kick off from 2-4pm at the Middleton Amphitheater for the perfect picnic lunch in one of the parks designated socially distant picnic circles in the front of the amphitheater. Please follow COVID-10 protocols.

April 23 & May 14

Oak Island Spring Fling Movies in the Park

Dusk | Middleton Park | Free

Gather the family and bring a favorite beach chair or blanket, to watch a family friendly movie under the stars! Movies begin at dusk, and concessions will be available.

COVID response protocols will be in place for all activities, including but not limited to: hand sanitizing stations, social distancing marking and signage, and mask wearing encouraged by all.

OCEAN ISLE

March 8

Wine, Women & Chocolate

5:30-8:30 pm | Silver Coast Winery
6680 Barbeque Rd NW

Register:

<https://brunswickcountychamber.org/wine-women-chocolate/>

April 24

Wine Fest Fundraiser

6:30-9:30 pm | Museum of Coastal Carolina | 21 E Second St

Wine Fest is the Foundation's premier annual fundraiser. Proceeds benefit the Museum of Coastal Carolina in Ocean Isle Beach and Ingram Planetarium in Sunset Beach. Contact: Doneva Garcia, 910-579-1016 <http://www.MuseumPlanetarium.org>

SOUTHPORT

March

NC Maritime Museum Programs

6 Sensory Saturday, *Women of the Water*

6 Sustaining and Above Member Program: Dr. Karin Zipf, *The Most Radical Women in America, 1848*

16 Third Tuesday Program: Dr. Paul Townend: *Alcohol and the Irish*

26 Homeschool Friday: *Steaming Ahead*

27 Maritime Mermaids

April

3 Springtime Sloop

3 Sensory Saturday, *Mermazing*

3 Salty Dog: *Shrimp Packets*

6 Day Camp: *Turtley Awesome*

7 Day Camp: *Seaside Spring*

8 Day Camp: *You have the Helm!*

9 Day Camp: *Pirates in the Port*

17 Day Trip: *Spring into History, Dirst Mariners*

20 Third Tuesday Program: Daniel Laliberte (USCG captain, ret.): *Coast Guard Drug Interdiction: Enforcing the Law since the 1880s!*

30 Homeschool Friday: *What's in Our Water?*

<https://ncmaritimemuseum-southport.com/>

March 21

Blessing of the Fleet

2 pm | Yacht Basin

The annual Blessing of the Fleet in the Southport Yacht Basin near the Provision Company Restaurant. Celebrated by yacht clubs up and down the Atlantic Coast as the beginning of the boating season, it is meant to ensure a safe and bountiful season.

The Reverend Eric Mills of St. Philips Episcopal Church will officiate the event. Blessed water will be sprinkled on each passing boat and a flower will be presented to a member of the crew. Bring your boats or enjoy the event from the shoreline!

April 17

Kiwanis Plant Sale

10am-3pm | Rear parking lot of the St. James Community Center

In addition to twice-a-year blooming Encore Azaleas, we will have many other landscape bushes, flowers and herbs available. Pre-ordering with delivery is available. Profits will help support our many youth programs in Brunswick County - Key Club, Teen & Peer courts, Terrific Kids, Royal Readers and Listening Post - as well as scholarships for deserving high school seniors and to BCC. For questions or help with your specific landscape needs, contact Larry Trainor, (443) 253-7145.

SUNSET BEACH

March 11

Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity Golf Outing

8 am | Thistle Golf Club
1815 Olde Thistle Club Road
Individual Golfers \$100
Foursome \$400

Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity will be hosting a golf outing at Thistle Golf Course in Sunset Beach. All the funds from this event will support building simple, decent homes right here in Brunswick County. There are many ways you could help. Visit: www.brunswickcountyhabitat.org

As always, with COVID-19 continuing, be sure to check first before heading out to an event to be sure event is still taking place.

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Southport Cares

Thank you to the Southport Rotary Club, who made a \$1000.00 donation to help Southport Cares continue our mission of helping those in need in our community.

Southport Cares was launched in late January 2020 by the police, fire and first responders in Southport. Our first recipient came across us when we responded to a home with a senior couple to replace a smoke detector and realized they were short on food and necessities due to some short term funding issues. The man's wife was on oxygen and was under the care of hospice. We brought them food to stock their shelves and refrigerator and gave the woman flowers to let her know her community was there with her.

After helping another person in need, COVID19 soon showed up at our doorstep, and we pivoted to help local businesses and workers in need. While we all wish we could have given more, we believe those workers and businesses who were suffering quickly realized they had a Community that was there for them.

In 2020, Southport Cares donated to 74 people, families and businesses in need. We would like to think that our efforts to band together with the community to help those in need has made a great town just a little bit closer, especially during a year like 2020.

While just over half of our funding comes from our Southport first responders, it was our community that really helped us make more of an impact through donations from individuals, churches and local civic groups.

As first responders who work and/or volunteer in Southport, we want to thank our local community for all your help and support each and every day. We are blessed to be in such a great community.



The Mission of Southport Cares is to help people in need get back on their feet and for them to know that the Southport Community is there to help them. We also help local first responders and their agencies when they need us the most. For more info: <http://southportcares.org/>

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OUR OAK ISLAND OFFICE HAS MOVED!
 OKI, We have moved to a more convenient location at 5904 Oak Island Drive, across from Food Lion. Still limiting walk-in due to Covid-19, but we hope to see you all soon!

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Brunswick County Schools News

Schneider Electric Donates High Tech Green Machines

Check out the solar powered picnic tables at our high schools that are enabled with a charging station and Wi-Fi hot spot! They are designed to provide self-sustaining 'Green' energy via sunshine and are made completely out of recycled materials! (They were donated by Schneider Electric)



BACKGROUND: Schneider Electric and BCS partnered together in 2017 to begin a MAJOR self-funding energy project expected to save the school system more than \$23 million in energy consumption over the 17 years of the project. One of the goals of the partnership is to find ways to use the project as a teaching tool for students and promote the use of numerous 'Green' initiatives. The company says the tables are the first of

several smaller tools to help the district become better stewards of natural resources.

Thank you, Schneider Electric for the high tech tables!!!

Empowering Youth

There is a wonderful opportunity for BCS families to take part in an "Empowering Youth and Families Program" hosted by our community partners.

It's Mission:

- Improve family relationships and communication skills
- Educate communities about protective factors
- Build resilient people
- Prevent youth substance misuse

Included in registration, free of cost:

- 10 virtual sessions
- Dinner provided for each family once a week
- Opportunity to grow closer as community
- Register your family today!

It's Free. It's Virtual. For more info:

Haylee Allen, 910-520-5168

hballen2@ncsu.edu

At the Table

We are on a mission to make sure our school community is Cyber Safe.

It takes a team effort to ensure our students know how to be safe when online so join us in spreading helpful tips and information to #BeCyberSafe.

Check out these ideas/conversation starters that could take place at the dinner table about being responsible consumers and producers of information on the internet!

AT THE TABLE

- #1 Have you ever seen an image, video or content that made you feel uncomfortable?
- #2 Why did the image, video or content make you feel uncomfortable?
- #3 What can we do when we see something online that makes us feel uncomfortable?
- #4 What can we do when someone asks us something that makes us feel uncomfortable?
- #5 How can our actions online make others uncomfortable?

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BRUNSWICK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

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Sheriff John Ingram

The Sheriff's Office offers many community programs, but perhaps one of the programs for which I am most proud is our Anchor Initiative.

Too many people have lost, and continue to lose their lives because of addiction. Too many families have been ripped a part. Back in 2017, we decided it was time to take action. We began to realize we could not arrest away the problem and we were fighting the wrong war. It wasn't a war on drugs; it was a war on addiction.

In researching ways law enforcement could potentially help, we learned there are typically three obstacles that those who want treatment for their addiction face; lack of knowledge of treatment facilities, money and transportation. In establishing the Anchor Initiative, our goal was to eliminate those obstacles.

Here is how the program works: Individuals with addictions who are ready for treatment can contact the Sheriff's Office through self-referral, social referral or officer interaction. Once contact is made, the person requesting assistance declares they are addicted and request assistance. Participants will not be charged with drugs or paraphernalia found in their possession if socially or self-referred. Participants are not asked where the drugs came from during these encounters. Those encountered by law enforcement while in the criminal element are subject to arrest, however the arrest does not disqualify them from Anchor assistance. The individual will be put in immediate contact with an Anchor Initiative coordinator, who will respond and do an assessment. The coordinator will contact RHA Mobile Crisis or a like entity to start the process of finding

availability for detox facilities. If the individual is in need of medical treatment, the coordinator will transport them to the local ER to be checked out. During this process the Anchor Initiative Coordinator will be working to find the individual with a treatment option, first seeking inpatient, comprehensive outpatient or intensive outpatient services, as well as working with the volunteer group to provide transportation to and from the ER, detox and treatment as needed.

The Anchor Initiative will strive to keep the cost for these individuals as low as possible, paying for the transportation, detox (if necessary) and initial entrance fees to treatment providers (if necessary.)

The goal of the program is ultimately to save lives, but there are other benefits from a law enforcement perspective. A reduction in opiate use and related emergency calls, reduction in property crime, strengthening the law enforcement/community bond while building partnerships and resources, and establishing a plan of action towards combating the next epidemic.

The Anchor Initiative is funded entirely by charitable donations, fund raisers and grants. Donations can be made through the Brunswick Sheriff Charitable Foundation at <http://www.sheriffscharity.com/donate/>.

Anyone suffering from addiction, who is ready for treatment, can call 910-363-7880.

Brunswick Marketplace

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Web: www.brunswickmarketplace.com

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Congratulations to These Community Leaders

Southport Officer Eric Maynes

Congratulations to Officer Eric Maynes being chosen as the Southport Rotary Club's 2020 Officer of the Year. With all the challenges of 2020 Officer Maynes work ethic and rapport with those we serve stood true. We appreciate all your dedication and hard work.



Boiling Spring Lakes Captain Kevin Smith

Captain Kevin Smith was selected as the Boiling Springs Police Department Officer of the Year. When Captain Smith was a detective, he heard about a 25-year-old missing person cold case. Following a lead in Florida, he was able to solve the case and bring closure to the family. The exceptional work on this case was done in addition to maintaining his normal standards and workload.



Communities In Schools of North Carolina

The Board of Communities In Schools of North Carolina has named Jill Cox the CEO of our organization. Jill was formerly the COO of CISNC and, under her leadership, CISNC staff have supported 160,000+ vulnerable students during Covid-19. We're delighted to have her at the helm! Learn more: cisnc.org/ceo

Oak Island Corporal Kenneth Bullock (not pictured)

Corporal Kenneth Bullock was selected as the Oak Island Police Department Officer of the Year. Corporal Bullock has a natural instinct for the job and uses this instinct on calls and in directing the actions of the other officers on the squad. He portrays a positive attitude and a selfless public service mindset. He is loyal to the Department and a positive, productive, law enforcement professional.

Please call our office to get your 2020 tax organizer. Welcome Callie - new Administrator and Susan - new Staff Accountant!



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Visit Ingram Planetarium & Explore Out There!

The Ingram Planetarium is currently open at 30% capacity March - May 15, 2021, Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 10:30.

It is recommended that you call 910-575-0033 to reserve your ticket over the phone on the day of your visit.

7625 High Market Street
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
910-575-0033

Here are two of the current programs being offered. For more information on these and other programs visit: <https://museumplanetarium.org/>

Accidental Astronauts

In this animated adventure, Robokids Cy, Annie, and their dog Armstrong get a lot more than they expected from their class field trip in an impromptu adventure. Explore the Sun, Earth, and Moon with a witty star ship computer as navigator and guide. Race along the surface of

the Moon! Collect an asteroid sample in low gravity! Survive a solar storm! Find a new appreciation for the unique beauty of Earth. This is a great show for little explorers. The movie is followed by a live star show.

Dynamic Earth

Narrated by actor Liam Neeson, this show explores the inner workings of Earth's climate system. With visualizations based on satellite monitoring data and advanced supercomputer simulations, this cutting-edge production follows a trail of energy that flows from the Sun into the interlocking systems that shape our climate: the atmosphere, oceans, and the biosphere. Audiences will ride along on swirling ocean and wind currents, dive into the heart of a monster hurricane, come face-to-face with sharks and gigantic whales, and fly into roiling volcanoes. This movie is followed by a star show.

Museum of Coastal Carolina

The museum is currently open March - May 15, 2021, Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 10am-3pm.

21 East 2nd Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
910-579-1016

<https://museumplanetarium.org/museum-of-coastal-carolina/>

The mission of the museum is "To inspire curiosity about our unique coastal environment, history, and the broader natural universe through interactive, fun, science-based experiences."

During March and April, enjoy such programs as Touch Tank Feeding, Flora and Fauna of the Green Swamp, What's in the Water?, Air



Pollution 101, Behind the Scenes Secrets, Sea to Tree and more!

Visit the website to find detailed information on the programs and admission fees.

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SUFA Awards Teacher Grants

The St. James Artisans' charitable organization Stepping Up For Arts recently awarded Teacher Grants to four Brunswick County Public Schools teachers. Thanks to your generosity in supporting SUFA fundraising efforts including SUFA Tote Bags, SUFA Holiday Raffle Baskets, and Donations in general, the following teachers received grant for their projects. Congratulations to all!

Nancy Miller - Bolivia Elementary School - Greeting Card Projects

Kathy Peck - Belville Elementary School - Glaze for Ceramics

Theresa Reiter - Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary School - Landscape Art

Casey Black - Cedar Grove Middle School - Band Software

In addition to the Grants, SUFA also donated \$1000 for teacher supplies. Due to COVID, each student must have their own art supplies and then must be sanitized before the next class. These funds will provide teachers with extra supplies to help with the transition.

Up Your Arts Presents A Bennie with the Jets Drive-in Concert at Cape Fear Jetport

Up Your Arts event Tickets are on sale NOW for the next Bennie with the Jets drive-

Purchase your tickets: <https://bit.ly/2NLYy6X>

in concert, lifting off on Saturday, April 24 at the Cape Fear Regional Jetport (SUT) with LunaSea Rockers and Dave's Not Home! Gates open at 1pm. Rain date: May1st.

Tickets are \$50.00 per vehicle and all proceeds benefit our Save the Hall, Y'all campaign to transform the old city hall building in the heart of downtown Southport into a community arts center!

Buckle up and prepare for a rockin' good time!



www.facebook.com/LunaSeaRockers

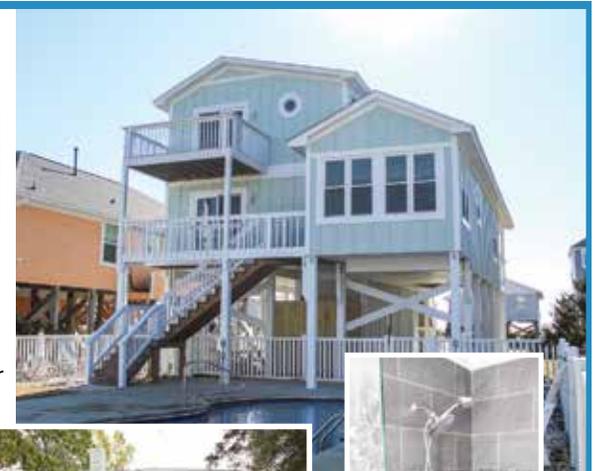


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Mark Your Calendars!

These Events are on the Horizon with Opportunities for Businesses to Reach Potential Buyers.



Saturday, May 8 | 10 am-3 pm
Middleton Park Ext.
4610 E. Dolphin Drive | Oak Island

The Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce announced the addition of the Coastal Home & Lifestyle Showcase to its extensive lineup of events. The Coastal Home & Lifestyle Showcase will be like the Coastal Consumer Showcase but will focus on local businesses who can help improve, support, or enhance your home and/or lifestyle.

“We create business opportunities and adding the Coastal Home & Lifestyle Showcase is core to that mission”, said Kim Felts, President of 2020/2021 Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Contact Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce 910.457-6964. www.coastalhomeandlifestyleshow.com



Mondays starting
May 24-September 6
8:00 am - 1:00 pm September 6
Middleton Park
4610 E. Dolphin Drive | Oak Island

Applications are now available for the Oak Island Farmer’s Market. Sell homemade or homegrown items in an outdoor market just steps from

the beach. Submitted applications are not guaranteed into the market until approved by the Market Supervisor. All vendors MUST have a tax ID on their application, and new vendors should include a photo or two of their wares. Vendor Fees: \$15 Daily or \$200 Seasonal (\$40 savings!) For more information, email Ryan Gordon at rgordon@ci.oak-island.nc.us



Saturday, June 19 | 10 am-8 pm
Middleton Park
46th & Dolphin Drive | Oak Island

Come join us for this new festival! Food Truck Rodeo, Arts & Craft Vendors, Community demonstrations, Free Music & Enter the Rotary Corn Hole Tournament. Created by Brunswick Arts Council, Friends of Oak Island Parks & Rec, Southport Evening Rotary & The Soundhouse. Stay tuned for music & food truck confirmations.

This event is sponsored by the Brunswick Arts Council, Friends of Oak Island Parks & Rec, The Soundhouse, and Southport Evening Rotary.

Want to be vendor? Arts & Crafts, Community Group spaces are \$40 for a 10x10 foot space. Free for non-profit groups. Contact exedir.brunswickartscouncil@gmail.com.

Are you a food truck vendor? Fees are \$100 per truck. Contact rgordon@ci.oak-island.nc.us

<https://brunswickartscouncil.org/event/soundstock-solstice-by-the-sea-festival/>

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For more information: stjamesrelay.org

910-448-5056 | 910-933-6300
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Contact Laura Whittinghill, CPI Security for Your Security Needs

CPI Security, the leader in customized security and home automation solutions in the Southeast, proudly welcomes Laura Whittinghill, Security Consultant to the Greater Brunswick County area. Laura works with both Residential and Small Businesses in helping design and develop smart home automation and security, fire protection and monitoring, along with business security solutions.

Laura joins CPI following her 30 years in Advertising Sales and Sales Management experience with various Fortune companies across the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, including Bell Atlantic, Verizon, Hearst, Gannett, Berkshire Hathaway and most recently, Spectrum Reach in Charlotte. Laura combines her long-standing business experience with a passion for people and understanding their security and smart home automation needs for homes and businesses.

Laura worked with the CPI marketing team as a Local Sales Manager with Spectrum Reach in Charlotte. When asked why she wanted to join CPI, Laura said, "I was impressed by the fact that CPI Security stood heads above other se-

curity companies with their award winning live voice monitoring capabilities that respond in seconds of an alarm being triggered." She added, "Of equal importance, I was impressed by the unique employee culture and their commitment to making a difference in our community. I just knew that CPI Security is where I wanted to land when I reached the coast!"

After vacationing for several years on Oak Island, while visiting their longtime friends, Laura and her husband Alex decided to make a final move to their forever home on Oak Island in 2020 where they currently reside. Once their move was finalized, Laura joined the CPI Security Business Solutions Sales Team in 2021.

Laura is eager to provide a complimentary home or business security analysis. She can be reached at lwhittinghill@cpisecurity.com or by company cell 843-231-6099. Welcome Laura!



Calling All Young Artists in Brunswick County!

The Brunswick County Planning Department and the Brunswick Arts Council are pleased to announce the Blueprint Brunswick 2040 Youth Art Contest.

Close your eyes and think of the future of Brunswick County in the year 2040! What do you dream about for your house? Local park? Street? Neighborhood? Downtown? School? Waterfronts? How will people move around and travel in 2040? How will they play? Imagine it & draw it for us - so that we can plan for the future of Brunswick County.

Dream it, draw it and we can take some of these ideas and put them into our Brunswick County Future Land Use Plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future growth in Brunswick County.

The contest is open to children K-12 or homeschooled students from ages 5 to 17. The entry deadline is March 31. Winners will be announced April 15.

For the contest flyer and complete rules and the entry form, visit www.brunswickcountync.gov/blueprint-brunswick/art-contest/

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The Great Easter Scavenger Hunt

The Great Easter Scavenger Hunt will take place from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM on Saturday, April 3, and utilize TEN (10) different locations throughout Oak Island. Sites to be utilized include Middleton Park, Bill Smith Park, Veterans Park, Templeton Park, Oak Island Recreation Center Grounds, Heron Lookout, May Moore Park, Oak Island Park 3, Register Park, and the Nature Center.

Startup packets for each participating family or group will be available outside the Recreation Center on Thursday, April 1, from 9:00 am-6:00 pm The startup packet will include a list of the rules and Stamp Sheet and the first clue. Additional clues will be found at each following site visited. The clues will be laminated and affixed at each site and monitored by an attendant to make sure they are not taken; and that each group completes their challenge before seeing the next clue.

Group will then have their Stamp Sheet marked with a special stamp. All challenges will be creative and COVID-safe. Once finished with the scavenger hunt, groups will turn in Stamp Sheets at the Recreation Center and receive a completion certificate, along with candy bag or eggs.

This is a free event, open to all ages!

Register by March 24th: <https://bit.ly/TheOKIGreatEasterScavengerHunt2021>

Covid-19 Protocols can be found on the registration page.



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Brunswick Nature Park

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911 acres of wonderful undeveloped wilderness that provides a dynamic mix of vegetation, wildlife, ecosystems, vistas, wetlands and waterways. It is truly an environmental oasis worthy of exploration. You can enjoy a kayak/canoe launch site, a 40x40 picnic pavilion perfect for a family gathering and miles of hiking and biking trails. Park is open year round from 8 am until dusk.

Cedar Grove Park

700 Grove Trail SW | Supply

The newest addition to the Brunswick County Park System. Located convenient to Supply, Shallotte and Holden Beach, this Park offers opportunities to enjoy nature, play and have fun. The Park is located directly behind Cedar Grove Middle School and serves as the schools main area for leisure and sports activities. The Park has two tennis courts, multi-purpose and/or football field/soccer field, a field house/concession stand and two softball fields, plus a paved walking path.

Dutchman Creek Park

4750 Fish Factory Road | Southport

30 acres of partially developed land offering opportunities for fishing, picnicking and a playground. There is a restroom facility at this Park.

Leland Community Park

1490 Village Road NE | Leland

This Park's amenities include 2 baseball fields (180 ft. and 200 ft), a practice area and batting cages. It also has 1 concession stand, a

field house, 3 picnic shelters, 1 playground and a community building, plus a paved walking path. This Park has a recycling area.

Lockwood Folly Park

430 Green Swamp Rd | Supply

Amenities at this 20-acre park include 3 baseball/softball fields (2@200ft and 1@300ft). This Park has 1 football field/soccer field, 1 concession stand, 1 office/storage building, playground, basketball court, 2 tennis courts and 3 picnic shelters.

Navassa Park

800 Park Avenue | Navassa

This Park is in the heart of the Town of Navassa. The Park has 5 acres with includes 1 baseball field, 1 basketball court, 1 picnic shelter, concession stand, tennis court and 2 playgrounds.

Northwest District Park

1937 Andrew Jackson Hwy NE
 Leland

Consists of 35 acres featuring 5 baseball/softball fields (2@300ft, 1@250ft, 1@200ft, and 1@150ft). It houses 1 concession stand, 2 basketball courts, 4 tennis courts, 1 playground, 4 picnic shelters and 8 acres of practice area.

Ocean Isle Beach Park

6483 Old Georgetown Road
 Ocean Isle Beach

The Park features 2 playgrounds, eight tennis courts, four pickleball courts, baseball and softball fields, a dog park, 2 basketball courts, an amphitheater, restroom facility, picnic shelter and a multi-purpose field used for soccer/foot

Continued on next page

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Continued from page 18

ball with walking trail and fitness stations.

Shalotte Park

5550 Main Street | Shalotte

A beautiful shaded Park located just outside of Shalotte, NC. The Park consists of 64 acres with 4 baseball/softball fields (2@200ft and 2@300ft). It has a soccer field, 2 concession stands with restrooms, 1 office/storage building, 1 basketball court, 2 tennis courts, 3 picnic shelters, a playground and a dog park.

Smithville District Park

8340 River Road, SE | Southport

Consisting of 23 acres, this park has 4 baseball/softball fields (2@300ft). It has 1 football/soccer field (300ft), 1 soccer field, 1 concession stand with restrooms, 1 storage building, 1 basketball court, 8 tennis courts, 4 pickleball courts, 2 picnic shelters and 1 inclusive playground with picnic shelter.

Town Creek Park

6420 Ocean Highway East | Winnabow

This park has 35 acres with 4 baseball/softball fields (2@200ft and 2@300ft). It has 2 concession stand with restrooms, 2 basketball court, 2 tennis court, shuffleboard and bocce ball, and horseshoes, picnic shelters and 2 playgrounds and a dog park. This park also has a walking trail.

Waccamaw Park

5855 Waccamaw School Rd. NW | Ash

This Park has a total of 30 acres with 20 acres currently undeveloped. It has 3 baseball/softball fields (2@200ft and 1@300ft). Other features include 1 concession stand, 1 basketball court, 2 tennis courts, 1 shelter/picnic pavilion, playground and 1 community building. 9 hole disc golf and bocce.

For a complete list and information on other parks in Brunswick County, visit: <https://www.ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do/nature/parks-and-recreation/>

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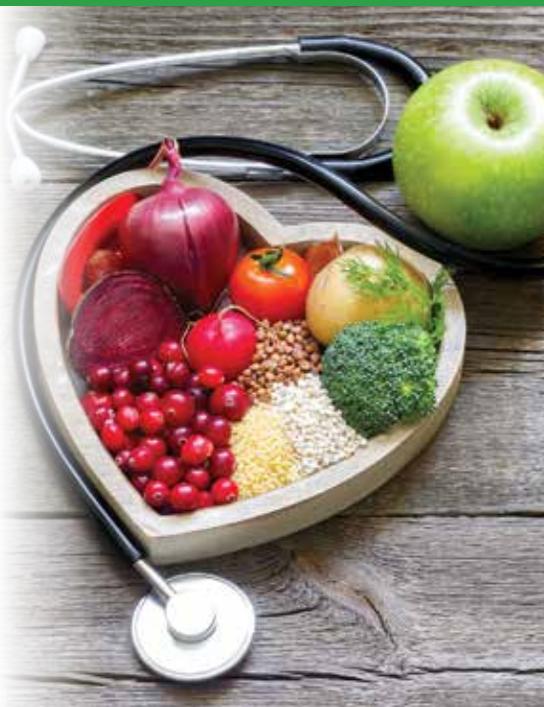
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63-Year Old Oak Island Lighthouse Sporting New LED Lantern



Since 1958, the one hundred and fifty-three feet tall Oak Island Lighthouse has offered panoramic views of the area and blue ocean water as far as the eye can see.

The new LED light at the top of Oak Island Lighthouse was installed in December 2020 after the previous light's rotating motor failed last year. The lighthouse has provided a rotating light since it was opened.

Bob Ahlers, chair of the Friends of Oak Island Lighthouse, said the U.S. Coast Guard, which maintains the light, had previously explored installing the more cost-efficient LED technology, but the sudden need to replace the failed motor expedited the process.

Ahlers said the Cape Lookout Lighthouse is among those that have been converted to LED and Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is expected to join in the future.

The LED light, which has only been operational for about a month, consists of four panels of bulbs with a reach of 24 nautical miles. The entire unit for the new Oak Island light, which is quieter and more energy conscious than its predecessors, cost about \$40,000.

"Ours is such an iconic rotation structure, and people in Oak Island and Southport recognize the movement, especially at night," said Bob Ahlers, chair of the Friends of Oak Island Lighthouse. "This is the first

and, right now, only rotating beacon in the U.S. that is provided by the U.S. Coast Guard."



While some might ask why the USCG would invest in a somewhat out-of-date means of navigation, Ahlers said there is a part to be played by lighthouses even in 2021.

As late as the 1980s, when some local mariners still didn't have radar capabilities, they needed the lighthouse. Today, it remains a sturdy sense of navigation in tough conditions like storms and thick fog.

They also offer a defining sense of place, as the Oak Island Lighthouse still has its identifying light pattern for mariners out to sea – four flashes followed by six seconds of blank.

"They are historical icons and we refer to them as a third level of navigation," Ahlers said. "You have GPS, you have radar and you have physical structures in lighthouses. This lighthouse is a fixture of this area and its light is part of that."

Reprinted in part from an article in Star News, published on January 5, 2021. Written by Hunter Ingram.

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NC Cooperative Extension-4-H Youth Cooking Programs



Brunswick County 4-H partners with various organizations within the county to offer hands-on learning experiences. In 4-H you “learn by doing” and meet new friends that share your interests. You can participate in projects where you make something, develop a skill, raise and/or train an animal, or even international programs! There are numerous projects available to you, including foods, clothing, public speaking, models, aerospace, citizenship, and livestock.

Chopped Virtual Cooking Class & Challenge

Open to high school students, ages 14 to 18 with cooking experience. Three sessions - April 6th, 7th and 8th.

Participants will learn knife skills, practice food safety, increase nutrition knowledge, cook delicious meals, and compete for the best dish.

Access to a kitchen is required! Food and some tools will be provided.

Registration is free. Contact Morgan King at 910-253-2610 or mhking3@ncsu.edu, <https://go.ncsu.edu/cookingcamp>

Farm to Fork Camp

The Farm to Fork Camp Local Foods Work Group is hosting a state-wide 4-H Virtual Farm to Fork

Camp for 4-H youth grades 3-12 on March 6, 13, and 20, 2021, from 10 am - noon.

Do you know where your food comes from? Do you like to cook? If so, join us for the 4-H Farm to Fork Camp. Youth will learn about the food on your plate and where it came from. This camp will include 3 sessions. Participants will learn about agriculture, virtually visit local farms and learn to prepare delicious dishes using local ingredients. There will be a 4th session that participants will complete on their own. Once the sessions are complete, we will announce a competition where 4-H'ers will compete in a Virtual Healthy Food Challenge. During this competition, participants will take a mystery basket of ingredients and transform it into an amazing dish! North Carolina 4-H members (80 spaces) and volunteers (20 spaces) can register for this free workshop in the new 4-H Online 2.0 and signing into their 4-H Online account and heading to events. <https://nc.4honline.com/Login>

Check out <https://www.facebook.com/BCCooperativeExtension> and <https://brunswick.ces.ncsu.edu/> for more exciting and fun programs offered.

Brunswick County NC Cooperative Extension
25 Referendum Drive | Bolivia | (910) 253-2610

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Oak Island Elks Lodge Remodeling Tiki Bar



The Oak Island Elks Lodge is currently improving their Tiki Bar so members can enjoy the space even more. They invite you to come check it out along with the other facilities and find out how you can become a member of this worthwhile benevolent association. The Elks is more than just a social club!

The Elks club is open to members, visiting Elks and guests. The bar and restaurant facilities have extensive hours of operation. They have a beautiful Fellowship Hall perfect for weddings, large meetings and banquets. Call the Lodge for more information.

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