

2023 general Schedule for Information and Announcements:

SUNDAY

5 p.m. “The Weekly News Summary”

DAILY

11:30 a.m. Event PSAs

8 a.m. Activities of the Day

9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative Messages and
Tips

10:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. This Day in History: Shipwrecks, Events, and Music

12 Noon School News

1:30 p.m. Dare County messages

7 p.m. Night Skies

:15 and :45 Station Announcements

Emergency Bulletins:

As we receive them and at the top of every hour.

Announcements at :15, :30 and :45

NEWS:

2022 year-end news summary for Hatteras Island. January 1, 2023.

Some of the events that happened on the island last year start with the Rodanthe Bridge completion.

The Rodanthe Bridge opens

Providing mostly assured vehicle access, the new Rodanthe Bridge opened for traffic July 28, 2022.

The Rodanthe Bridge is a 2.4-mile bridge over Pamlico Sound that bypasses Hatteras Island's famed S-curves, one of the most vulnerable sections of NC 12.

A Community Day was held April 9. A Run the Rodanthe Bridge 5-mile and 5K events started at 8 in the morning. NCDOT opened a Community Day at 1 o'clock for people to walk or bike the bridge until 5 o'clock.

The anticipated mid-April opening did not occur. The last delay involved painting white and yellow lines on the bridge.

Construction started September 6, 2018. Bridge construction cost was \$145 million.

Historic day for Electric Cooperative

Tuesday, December 6, 2022, was a historic day for the Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative. The island's electric provider finished the final cutover to the new transmission lines on the Rodanthe Bridge! The reliability of electric service to Hatteras and Ocracoke islands is greatly improved as the bridge bypasses the vulnerable section of transmission infrastructure that was just north of Rodanthe.

Erosion takes three houses in Rodanthe; more are threatened

During the night of February 8, 2022, a two-story house collapsed into the Atlantic Ocean, south of the Rodanthe Pier.

It was the first of three that would fall this year, all from Ocean Drive, south of the Rodanthe Pier.

The structure had not been connected to water or power for a year or more

Cape Hatteras National Seashore alerted visitors to the presence of debris from Rodanthe through Salvo to Ramp 23, seven miles south of the site.

A few days later, debris had spread 15 miles south of the site along the Cape Hatteras National Seashore beaches.

The call went out for volunteers. And, volunteers showed up!

As a result of the collapses, the National Seashore purchased a mechanical rake to pick up smaller debris pieces just under the beach sand.

Property owners along the Rodanthe beach front are lobbying for beach nourishment. The Dare County Board of Commissioners will host a Town Hall meeting on erosion and nourishment Jan. 18, at 6 o'clock at the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building, across from the Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station.

Hatteras Island was visited by storms

The year opened with back to back winter storms in January. First, came a low pressure system; then three winter storms. One was icy. Another promised snow, but only delivered a trace of the white stuff. Coastal flooding came in February with 6 to 9 foot waves and one house collapsing.

In March, it was a cold front and a freeze warning.

In April, a low pressure system caused NCDOT crews to be called out twice to scrape sand off NC 12 in Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge.

A warning of coastal flooding in May was correct. A storm that visited May 10 brought two houses down along Ocean Drive in Rodanthe.

The summer was relative quiet.

Named storms started in September with Earl, Fiona and Ian, which returned in early October after hooking up with a low pressure system. Ian sent moderate to major coastal flooding.

The Christmas storm hit all of Hatteras Island with soundside overwash and bitterly cold temperatures, which gradually abated. A warm but foggy day greeted New Year's Eve.

Real Estate Market on Hatteras Island is trending downward

The significant decline in the number of homes and lots under contract to be sold suggests that the weak real estate market will be with us for some time to come, says Business Correspondent Tom Hranicka.

The number of houses available for purchase is less than 100 for the entire island.

The sales of houses are down. The median sale price is still rising.

The number of properties under contract to be sold has declined.

In October, only 23 homes were sold on Hatteras Island.

The cumulative results for undeveloped lots through October reflected continued weakening. The number of undeveloped lots for sale, properties sold and those under contract to be sold are all trending downward.

The median sale price for undeveloped lots has increased to \$125,000.

Two other gages for Hatteras Island's economy are meal tax and occupancy tax receipts.

Meal tax receipts through October were down 1.75 percent compared to the first 10 months of 2021.

Occupancy tax receipts, on the other hand, were up almost 7 percent through October when compared to the same period in 2021.

Major project addresses inlets

Miss Katie arrived in Dare County Friday afternoon, August 19. The shallow draft hopper dredge is already at work clearing shoaling in Oregon and Hatteras inlets.

The dredge is a collaboration between Dare County officials and EJE Dredging Service, who owns the dredge. It was built in Conrad Shipyard in Louisiana. She docks in Wanchese harbor. The Oregon Inlet Task Force is tasked with scheduling the Miss Katie and addressing the shoaling in all channels in Dare County.

The dredge was funded with a \$15 Million Forgivable Loan from the State of North Carolina.

The Miss Katie was selected by Workboat Magazine as one of the 10 Significant Boats of 2022.

Waterways Commission has good news

After two years of work by the county's Waterways Commission, the realignment of Hatteras Inlet was accomplished Dec. 1.

It means that the horseshoe route is now entirely open to federal maintenance dredging.

On December 1, Barton Grover, staffer for the Waterways Commission, received notification that a Finding of No Significant Impact was posted for the Hatteras to Hatteras Inlet Channel Realignment.

And, the environmental document says that in dredging, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers can follow best water.

New campus for College of The Albemarle

College of The Albemarle moved into a brand new campus this year. Various dignitaries snipped a ribbon April 8.

The \$17.7 million building consolidated offices and classrooms in one location.

The college now offers face-to-face instruction in classes needed for a diploma or certificate.

Do you think this doesn't affect Hatteras Island? The year one Cape Hatteras Secondary senior, perhaps more, has already earned a diploma along with the technical program in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning. He's still taking courses at the island school. Last year, four Cape Hatteras Secondary students received Associate in Arts degrees along with High School diplomas.

Two beach nourishment projects were completed on Hatteras Island in 2022.

In Avon, about 2.5 miles of shoreline was nourished at a cost of \$11,030,962. The project started 3,000 feet north of Avon Pier at Due East Road and ran to the Avon/National Park Service line. Start date was June 19 with finish July 27, 2022, just 39 days.

In Buxton, about 3 miles of shoreline from the Haulover Day Use Area to the oceanfront groin at the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse was nourished at a construction cost of \$18,106,674.

The nourishment project began on June 30 and was completed on August 16, some 47 days.

A water infrastructure project completed

A Dare County Water Department contractor replaced one and half miles of existing water line between Buxton and Avon.

The project started November 1 and the new line was placed in service December 12.

Between November 2018 and September 2022, the existing line experienced 10 ruptures due to pressure spikes. The new 12-inch PVC line is able to withstand pressure at 200 pounds per square inch.

Two groups are raising money for two more infrastructure projects

The Frisco-Buxton Pathway Committee has raised \$77,550 in donations for matching funds in case a federal grant is awarded. The first Pathway phase will run from Cape Hatteras Secondary School in Buxton to Little Grove United Methodist Church in Frisco. The Tourism Board has pledged \$400,000 for matching funding.

Outer Banks Forever is official non-profit partner with the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Wright Brothers National Memorial and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site.

Outer Banks Forever is raising funds to build a pathway from NC 12 to the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. The organization is working to close a \$625,000 funding gap. The Dare Tourism Board provided a \$132,000 Tourism Impact Grant for the pathway. The organization held a 2022 Giving Day event and raised \$24,500.

Another completed project finished just before the New Year.

The Dare County Geographical Information Systems Department has spun off a Recreation Map from its updated Community map.

The community map is found on the Dare County website, DareNC dot gov.

The recreation map can be accessed on Play dot DareCountyNC dot gov.

The brand-new Recreation Map allows Dare County residents, visitors and property owners to enter a location and discover an assortment of nearby attractions and amenities, including area beach accesses, lifeguard stations, public boat launches, ORV ramps, fishing piers, playgrounds, dog parks, picnic areas and sports facilities, as well as local historical sites, museums and other attractions.

Year of Momentous Deaths

In a span of less than 40 hours heading into New Year's Eve, news broke of the loss of three of the globe's best-known people — Pelé, Barbara Walters and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. The year also witnessed the deaths of Queen Elizabeth II, Mikhail Gorbachev, Sidney Poitier, Bill Russell, Loretta Lynn and other notables.

Take a few seconds now to remember those known to you who have died this year.

Now a brief announcement about next week's residential trash pickup schedule.

No pickup on Monday as Dare County services are closed.

On Tuesday, Hatteras Frisco and Buxton will be picked up. On Wednesday, Avon, Salvo, Waves and Rodanthe will be picked up. The regular schedule kicks in on Thursday and Friday.

On Hatteras Island, drop off Christmas trees at the Buxton Transfer Station, which is located at 47027 Buxton Back Road in Buxton.

Trees that are dropped off at these locations will be recycled into mulch.

All ornaments, lights, ribbons, tinsel and other decorations must be removed before the trees are dropped off.

The Dare County Public Works will not pick up any Christmas trees that are left on the curbside within the unincorporated areas of Dare County.

Now be careful out there. Stay safe and well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, January 8, 2023.

Rodanthe feasibility study to be updated

Dare County received a grant regarding beach nourishment in Rodanthe from the state's Division of Coastal Management.

The Division of Coastal Management provided a \$25,000 grant for a beach, shoreline, and water management project which consists of "re-establishing control and stations for a systematic survey along the Rodanthe beach to update the 2013 Feasibility Report. Topographic and bathymetric data will be used to determine minimum beach volume necessary for 5 years of storm protection and expected costs."

For the grant, the state provides a 75% match. Dare County provides \$8,335 from fund balance for the update work, making the update cost around \$34,000.

The County Manager Robert L. Outten was authorized to sign a contract for the grant.

To answer questions about beach nourishment in Rodanthe, a Town Hall meeting will be held by Dare County's Board of Commissioners January 18 at 6 o'clock at the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building in Rodanthe.

The meeting will be live streamed.

Island Free Press has a report with links to online options.

Dare School board receives more local money

The school board will receive almost \$200,000 more in funding from Dare's commissioners.

Under the funding formula followed by Dare County and the school board, the local current expense calculation includes increases in the state's Coast of Living Adjustment and in the state's retirement system rate.

Dare County is required to have its annual budget in place by July 1 of each year. If the state's budget is not in place the percentage of increases is estimated. In both categories, the state's increase was higher than the estimate. The formula was recalculated resulting in the additional funding.

The 2022 Fiscal Year Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and Audit reports that Dare County delivers the highest amount of local current expense school funding in the state, a position it has held in 19 of the last 20 years. Orange County edged out Dare in a recent year.

Dare County Board of Education meets Monday, January 9, 2023, in the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Dare County Administration Building, 954 Marshall C. Collins Dr., Manteo.

Speaking about the audit

Dare County commissioners received an unmodified audit opinion for the county's June 30, 2022, audit. Bob Taylor, partner with the county's audit firm, Potter & Company, told the commissioners that the required opinion letters were clean with no exceptions.

The auditor is required to provide an opinion on the county's financial statements and single audit opinions on internal control and compliance with federal and state programs.

Potter & Company looked at statements of governmental activity, the business-type activities like the Dare County water system, component units, each major fund and related notes.

Based on the audit, Potter & Company opined that the financial statements "present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position" of the various funds examined.

The entire 2022 Fiscal Year Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and Audit is posted on the Dare County website, dare nc dot gov under the Finance Department.

Dare has a new planner

Savannah Newbern is Dare County's new Planner. She joins the county's planning staff after two years with Currituck County. She previously worked for the Town of Duck. On January 3, Newbern made her first presentation to the county's Planning Board.

Planning Director Noah Gillam introduced Newbern to the Planning Board, January 3.

At that Planning Board meeting, board members agreed that conditions on a Buxton special use permit were reasonable and appropriate.

The permit goes next to the Dare Board of Commissioners March 6.

John Canning with High and Dry LLC requests the permit for a group development for storage warehouses on property across NC 12 from Sandbar and Grille in Buxton. The property has one 1,500 square foot metal building with vacant land used for storing boats, trailers and recreational vehicles. Canning proposes to add 4,263 square feet to this existing structure and build another smaller, 939-square foot structure. Total units will be about 20.

Conditions cover lighting, access hours, building separation, keeping an access easement at a full 20 feet and making the surface dirt free and capable of supporting emergency vehicles.

Occupancy and meal tax collection is slowing

In December, Lee Nettles, Executive Director of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, reported that the January to October lodging and meal tax collection data suggested a slowing in the major tourism boom of the last few years, reports Tom Hranicka, Business Correspondent for Radio Hatteras.

Nettles stated that the collection statistics are looking more like the 2019 pre-COVID period.

In Nettles opinion, the level of visitation during the last year and a half is not necessarily sustainable, reports Hranicka.

Dare County Employee for January is Hatteras Islander

Captain Jack Scarborough is the communications director for the Dare County Sheriff's Office 911 Communications Center in Manteo. On January 3, Dare County Sheriff Doug Doughtie tapped Scarborough as Dare County Employee of the Month for January 2023.

Scarborough is from Avon. He attended Cape Hatteras High School.

He started his career with the Dare County Sheriff December 14, 1998, shortly after turning age 21. "I like to hire homegrown," said Doughtie during his award presentation at the meeting. "He was a perfect fit for the community," said the Sheriff.

As a sworn law enforcement officer in his native Dare County, Scarborough embarked on what would become an incredibly successful career with the Sheriff's Office, earning a series of promotions over the course of the next 25 years that reflected his passion, hard work, dedication and service to the residents and visitors of the Outer Banks, stated the Sheriff.

Big events in February

Tickets are now on sale for two February events on Hatteras Island.

The North Carolina Coastal Federation's Oyster Roast is set for Saturday, February 4. Tickets are already sold out for 1 o'clock entry time.

Proceeds from this event benefit the Federation's oyster education and restoration programs.

Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door, although in the past, the oyster roast has sold out well before the February event date.

To enhance the safety and enjoyment of the event, ticket sales are separated into different event entry times. The second entry time is 2:30. The ticket price includes all-you-can-eat steamed oysters, one serving of chowder, cornbread, and a nonalcoholic beverage.

For more information on the annual Oyster Roast, visit nc coast dot org

Hatteras Village's Waterfowl Festival is set for February 24 and 25.

The festival kicks off Friday evening February 24 with the delicious "Fin, Feather and Bourbon" event.

The festival is sponsored by the Hatteras Village Civic Association.

The Friday night event features seafood and waterfowl dishes, accented with a variety of cheese, flatbreads, fruits and other items. Accompanying the feast are select bourbons, wines, and beer. Tickets for this event are limited and must be purchased in advance. The ticket cost is \$ 70. A silent auction of art and other items from vendors will be offered.

For more information, visit hatteras on my mind dot com slash H V C A slash Waterfowl Festival. Click spirit of hatteras events, look for waterfowl festival.

This week

St. John United Methodist Church in Avon begins offering a free, delicious, homemade meal each Thursday starting this week, January 12 at 5 o'clock. The free Thursday meals run through March 16. The address for St. John United Methodist is 40336 McMullen Road, Avon.

Now, be safe out there. Stay well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, January 15, 2023.

Hatteras Island weather turns really cold and brings minor flooding
Starting Saturday afternoon, Pamlico Sound water started creeping into sound front properties and in Hatteras village.

By Sunday morning, flood waters from the sound had receded.

Overnight temperatures dropped to 35 degrees with a wind chill around 25 or 26 in Rodanthe and Frisco.

On Sunday, both a coastal flooding and a high surf advisories were in place from Cape Hatteras north to Duck. Minor coastal flooding may happen tonight into Monday morning. Wave height of 6 to 9 feet in the surf zone is predicted.

Given the weather, a Meeting in Rodanthe about erosion, beach nourishment is timely

A special meeting of the Dare County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Jan. 18, 2023, at the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building, 23646 NC 12, Rodanthe, across from Chicamacomico Life-Saving Station.

The purpose of the meeting, which starts at 6 o'clock, is to discuss Rodanthe erosion and beach nourishment.

Livestream will be available on Dare County's YouTube channel. Comments or questions to be addressed during the meeting may be submitted via email to DareCountyPR@DareNC.com no later than Monday, Jan. 16, 2023.

To participate virtually, attendees must register in advance using this link: DareNC.gov/Rodanthe

Now to other news.

Dare's school board has been grappling with a request by home school families to allow home schooled students to participate in high school athletics and extracurricular activities.

At January 9 Dare Board of Education meeting, a new Policy was introduced along with changes to another policy to permit home school students to participate in high school sports and/or activities.

The proposed Policy Code 3105 addition is titled Part-Time Admission of Home School Students. The North Carolina High School Athletic Association requires many of the 11 conditions about home school student's participation in high school sports.

Some of the conditions are:

—Students must enroll for at least one-half of the school day and take at least one course on campus each semester.

—Classes will be assigned on space-available basis.

—Student must present academic records from the student's current home school.

—Home schooled students dually enrolled must participate in all required district, state and federal testing.

—Student must adhere to Dare Schools "Student Code of Conduct" and other rules applicable to full-time students and subject to consequences for violation.

—Student sports eligibility is determined by the principal and applicable rules of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, the state's Department of Public Instruction and State Board of Education.

—While enrolled in a part-time basis in Dare Schools, the student must maintain attendance at an active home school registered with the North Carolina Division of Non-Public Education.

Changes are also recommended to Policy Code 3620, titled Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations.

This policy echoes existing board policy, which requires students participating interscholastic athletics or extracurricular activities to participate in the district's random drug testing program.

A section is added to the policy titled "Athletic Participation by Dually Enrolled Home School Students." The new section states that dually enrolled home school students can participate in interscholastic athletic if they comply six conditions.

The full list of requirements was published in The Coastland Times on January 15, 2023.

In the future, the board's agenda as published on the system's website will contain proposed policies and other agenda items so that the public can consider whether to make comment before a meeting. Former school board member Susie Walters suggested the change during public comment.

The two policies mentioned were part of a package containing eight policy manual updates or new policies, two regulations changes and four form changes, proposed by the North Carolina School Boards Association and/or Poyner Spruill, LLC, the school board's law firm.

The policies were presented for first reading, allowing the school board and the public time for consideration of the proposals. The proposed policies are usually presented at the next board meeting.

North Atlantic right whale with serious injury sighted

On January 8, 2023, an aerial survey team from the Clearwater Marine Aquarium sighted a heavily entangled North Atlantic right whale about 20 miles east of Rodanthe, according to an update from NOAA and reported on Island Free Press.

After reviewing documentation of this new entanglement case, NOAA Fisheries biologists have made a preliminary determination that it meets the criteria of a "serious injury." This means the whale is likely to die from this injury, states the article.

Scientists with the New England Aquarium identified the whale as right whale #4904, a 4-year-old juvenile female.

The last known sighting of right whale #4904 was in May 2022 in Massachusetts Bay, and she was not entangled at that point. NOAA Fisheries and its partners reviewed initial images from January 8, which showed her to have numerous wounds across her body and whale lice on her head.

NOAA Fisheries will work with authorized responders and trained experts to resight her. They will further document the entanglement, and determine if an entanglement response will be possible, reports the article.

Some reminders from the National Park Service

In the coming weeks, Cape Hatteras National Seashore will announce its preliminary plans for celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Ocracoke Light Station..

In 1822, for a charge of \$50, the federal government bought two acres at the south end of Ocracoke Island as the site for a new lighthouse. Constructed by Massachusetts builder Noah Porter and finished in 1823, the tower still stands today.

The lighthouse is about 75 feet tall. Its diameter narrows from 25 feet at the base to 12 feet at its peak. The walls are solid brick, 5 feet thick at the bottom tapering to 2 feet at the top. An octagonal lantern crowns the tower and houses the light beacon.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore's Cape Point and Frisco campgrounds open Friday, April 7.

Campgrounds at Oregon Inlet and Ocracoke are open year-round. Reservations and payments for camp sites are made online at recreation dot gov.

The National Park Service has three government contracts for businesses to bid on at Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

The projects are:

—Construct 10 RV sites and install utilities in an administrative area on Ocracoke Island. Bids due noon, February 9

—Stripe Oregon Inlet boat ramp parking lot on Bodie Island. Bids due 5 o'clock February 6

—Conduct market research for a multipurpose paved trail between NC 12 and the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. Responses due January 25.

For additional information, contact Michael Barber at 252-475-9032.

Pavement gone in Pea Island refuge

The North Carolina Department of Transportation recently completed the pavement removal of a former section of N.C. 12 north of Rodanthe, reports Island Free Press.

The two miles of former roadway are bypassed by the new Rodanthe Bridge.

The road route reverts to Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge.

The refuge beach remains open, but no parking is available at the southern end. A parking lot is available at the northern end of the Rodanthe Bridge.

Five years ago, Radio Hatteras reported that on Thursday, January 12, 2017, NCDOT awarded a design build contract to Flatiron Constructors of Broomfield, Colorado for the Rodanthe Bridge.

The Bonner Bridge replacement bridge was still under construction but expected to open in late 2018.

The new Captain Richard Etheridge Pea Island bridge was due to be completed in May 2017.

Homecoming at Cape Hatteras Secondary

On Friday night, the Cape Hatteras Secondary Student Government Association presented this year's Homecoming Court.

Tapped by student body vote for King and Queen were Berendt Johnson and Grace Shoemaker. Elected Prince and Princess were Lucas Blankenship and Tayler Mabry. Selected as Duke and Duchess were John Conner and Kinzlie Phillips.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day schedule changes

All Dare County offices and facilities, including the Buxton Transfer Station, will be closed Monday, January 16, 2023, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. These sites will reopen Tuesday, January 17 at 8:30.

Residential trash collection on Hatteras is changed with no trash collection on Monday.

Buxton, Frisco and Hatteras will be picked up Tuesday, January 17

Avon, Salvo, Waves, and Rodanthe will be picked up Wednesday, January 18.

Thursday and Friday collections are normal.

Commercial trash collection will take place Tuesday and Friday

Opportunities this week

On Tuesday evening, January 17, from 6:30 to 8 an online seminar titled Raising Resilient Children is offered for parents and caregivers of children ages birth through 12 years old. The seminar is taught by Susan Lee and sponsored by Children and Youth Partnership for Dare County. Registration is online at dare kids dot org or by calling 441-0614. Extension 4.

A Grief Support Group meets virtually Wednesday evening, January 18, from 7 to 8:30. The meetings are open-ended and free. For login information, contact Amberly at 252-995-2478.

On Thursday, January 19, the folks at St. John United Methodist Church in Avon invite all to a free, home-cooked dinner. Serving starts at 5 o'clock. **Stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.**

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, January 22, 2023.

Beach nourishment meeting brings large crowd

Beach nourishment is a hot topic in Rodanthe.

A Town Hall meeting in Rodanthe last Wednesday night was sponsored by the Dare County Board of Commissioners. Over 100 people with standing room only crammed the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building. Another 160 people turned in virtually to hear a county presentation about erosion and beach nourishment.

Dare County Manager Robert. L. Outten made the presentation and answered questions. He reviewed the county's history with beach nourishment and how it is financed.

His final presentation slide flatly states: "The county currently does not have sufficient funds to pay for any new beach nourishment projects. Without an influx of state or federal funding, no new beach nourishment projects are possible in Dare County."

Questions were answered. Suggestions made.

One attendee said "we just can't give up."

Real estate market declines

Today's business report brings a summary of last year's real estate market compared to 2021.

The summary was prepared by Tom Hranicka, Radio Hatteras Business Correspondent.

The major market indicators paint a picture of a lethargic market with a downward trend, writes Hranicka.

Homes for sale were about the same. Only 70 residential properties were available for purchase on the entire island at the end of the year.

2022 registered a 34 percent decline in the number of residential sales for the year. A drop of nearly 60 percent of the properties under contract to be sold, a leading indicator of future sales.

Hranicka points out an interesting aspect of the market. Despite the noted declines, the median residential sale price increased 15 percent to \$599,000 from \$523,000 at the end of 2021.

Similar patterns during 2022 in the undeveloped lot market emerged in a real estate sector that was fairly strong.

The market decline becomes much more apparent on an annual versus monthly basis.

In 2022, properties for sale declined from a high of 113 in July.

Residential sales are holding in the 20 to 30 per month range, down from a high of 51 in March.

Properties under contract to be sold are about one-half of what they were in December 2021.

In contrast to the increase in the year-over-year median residential sale price, the monthly median sale price also started a decline from its high point of \$737,500 last July to \$515,000 in December.

It is worth mentioning that during 2022, mortgage interest rates increased from around 3.5 percent at beginning of current year to 6 to 7 percent now.

Considering the market picture as a whole, it is hard to see a significant level of improvement during 2023, writes Hranicka.

Sea Turtles rescued

This winter season has been a busy one for the volunteers with the Network for Endangered Sea Turtles and the staff at the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island.

In the Christmas holidays, over 200 cold-stunned sea turtles were rescued.

A recent update from the Sea Turtle Assistance and Rehab Center said another 37 sea turtles have been rescued. The number includes 37 green, five kemp's ridley and one loggerhead.

A full report is available on Island Free Press, the digital newspaper for Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands.

Get reentry permits

Dare County Emergency Management is encouraging all Dare County residents, non-resident property owners and business owners to obtain reentry permits well ahead of hurricane season, which officially begins June 1, 2023.

To enter Dare County following a mandatory evacuation, individuals must present a current reentry permit along with a valid corresponding ID. Last year's reentry permit expired December 31.

Reentry permits are issued as a PDF file that is sent via email to applicants with the required credentials. Permits can be obtained online at any time.

To obtain a 2023 reentry permit from Dare County Emergency Management, go to darenc.gov, click on emergency management under departments and punch reentry in the list on the left side.

Long-range Tourism Management topic of Tuesday meetings

The Outer Banks Visitors Bureau is working to develop a Long-Range Tourism Management Plan to guide future tourism-related growth and development in Dare County.

The input of residents is critical to this process and to the effectiveness of the Plan.

Residents of Dare County's Outer Banks are invited to share input at a community meeting where consultants will solicit input to further develop and refine the Tourism Management Plan.

Two meeting locations and times on Tuesday, January 24 are offered.

The first meeting is Tuesday morning at 9 to 10:30 at the Fessenden Center in Buxton.

The second meeting is at the Ramada Plaza in Kill Devil Hills from 6 to 7:30.

Again, go to [Island Free Press](http://IslandFreePress.com) for a link to register for the meeting or call the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau at 252-473-2138.

Cape Hatteras Basketball report

Cape Hatteras Lady Hurricanes are on a four-game win streak. On Friday, the team defeated Hobgood Charter 40 to 30.

Cape Hatteras boys team also defeated Hobgood 60 to 44.

The teams play Mattamuskeet in Buxton on Tuesday, January 24 and in Ocracoke on Friday, Jan. 27.

Be safe out there. Keep well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, January 29, 2023.

The Dredge Miss Katie arrives to work in Hatteras Inlet

On Thursday, January 26, the dredge Miss Katie arrived in Hatteras village and docked at the U.S. Coast Guard station.

The dredge will perform maintenance dredging in Hatteras Inlet's Connector Channel.

The dredge was built as a public private partnership by Dare County and EJE Dredging.

For the first time, this dredge is working on maintenance not crisis dredging.

The inlet has been navigable since the last dredging by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The goal is to widen and deepen the channel in preparation for the spring tournaments and summer traffic.

Already, Hatteras Village Offshore Open organizers have announced that boats participating in the tournament must sail out of Hatteras village docks. Last year, because of inlet conditions, the tournament permitted boats to sail out of Morehead City. Hatteras village missed out on a late spring economic boost.

Dare County Waterways Commission asked that the Miss Katie be sent to Hatteras Inlet. The county's Oregon Inlet Task Force controls where and when the Miss Katie will work.

Dare County State of the County event was a sellout

In 36 hours, tickets for this year's State of the County event were sold out.

Some 210 people gathered for breakfast at Captain George's Seafood Restaurant in Kill Devil Hills and to hear Dare County Board of Commissioners Chairman Bob Woodard deliver information.

Woodard talked about five issues: essential and workforce housing; beach nourishment, waterway accessibility, commitment to education and combating the opioid crisis.

The presentation included five individuals, each one talking about one of the five issues.

A teacher talked about trying to find housing. She's been living in teacher housing. Her three years are up in August. If she can't find housing, she'll need to leave.

The Captain of Hatteras Island Rescue Squad told how difficult it is to deliver emergency medical services to narrow beaches on Hatteras Island.

A waterman's wife praised the new dredge for keeping Oregon Inlet open. Her husband no longer has to leave only on high tide.

Dare County has a long standing commitment to the county's public schools, providing 38% of the school system's budget. But supporting education doesn't stop at the twelfth grade. Dare County built a new \$18 million academic building for College of The Albemarle. Dare's commissioners created the Dare Guarantee Scholarship that essentially guarantees two years of community college for free.

To deal with the opioid crisis in this county, a Recovery Court was created. The 18-month program helps people get and stay sober and wipes out court problems.

The presentation was filmed and can be found on Dare N C dot gov.

Two Dare building projects advance

Dare County's Capital Improvements Planning Committee sent to the Board of Commissioners for the Feb. 6, 2023, agenda two projects: the new Southern Shores Emergency Medical Services building and the new Dare Medflight Hangar and living quarters.

The two projects are in Phase I of the county's capital improvement plan.

The Kill Devil Hills partnership project is also in Phase I. However, the lease between Dare County and the Town is not in place and bids are not due until Jan. 31.

Barnhill Contracting Company, the county's construction manager, reported that bid overages were about 9% or \$1,305,404 over the company's September 2022, estimate. The total cost for the two projects is now \$15,177,017.

The Financial Model for the Capital Investment Fund does not work going forward into Phase II.

For Hatteras Island, the five-year capital improvement plan would upgrade the Emergency Medical Services Station in Buxton, provide improvements for the Fessenden Center and work with Chicamacomico Banks Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department for a new Rodanthe Emergency Medical Services station.

Options exist for the projects to eventually be built, but no decisions have been made about schedule or project priority.

A little weather came to Hatteras Island last week.

The National Weather Service posted a Wind Advisory for Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands for Wednesday into early Thursday morning.

Winds hit 38 miles per hour from the southwest shortly early Thursday morning.

A Gale Warning was in effect for all offshore and Pamlico Sound waters.

What following was a passing cold front.

The Island Free Press reported crowds of surfers Thursday morning with vehicles parked along N C 12 north of Buxton.

Go to Island Free Press for wave and surfer photos.

Avon resident wins big lottery prize

An Avon resident opened a scratch-off stocking stuffer and celebrated.

She received \$150,000 winning one of three remaining Cashword Multipliers.

For Laura Miller of Avon, a scratch-off stocking stuffer sparked a joyous celebration after it became a \$150,000 Christmas present.

The winner collected her prize at lottery headquarters Thursday and, after required state and federal tax withholdings, took home \$106,876.

She's going to pay off her truck.

Dare school board meets Jan. 30 on home-schoolers playing sports

The Dare County Board of Education will meet in special session on Monday, January 30, 2023, at 3 p.m., at the Dare County Schools Administrative Office in Nags Head.

The purpose of the meeting is for the Board to discuss the proposed policy for home-school student participation in Dare County Schools' athletics.

A draft policy was presented at the Board's Jan. 9, 2023, meeting. At that time, the policy was scheduled to be considered Feb. 13, 2023 precluding home-school student participation in spring sports.

If the policy is adopted Monday, Jan. 30, 2023, home-school students will have the requisite time to prepare documents and give notice of intent to participate in a sport.

The meeting is open to the public and will be live-streamed on the Dare County Schools website, dare to learn dot org

Drama club holds auditions

The Cape Hatteras Secondary Drama Club will hold auditions for its spring musical Legally Blond January 31 and February 1 in the campus auditorium from 3:30 to 6 o'clock. Sign up in room 303 and see additional instructions.

Thursday dinner

The St. John United Methodist Church in Avon offers free Thursday dinners. A homemade dinner is served starting at 5 o'clock

Hamlet presented

Hamlet will be presented Friday afternoon, February 3 at 5:30 at the Fessenden Center in Buxton. The production by Mended Wing Theatre Group is free.

Now, be safe out there. Stay well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, February 5, 2023.

Propane tanker overturned on NC 12 in Hatteras village

Around 5:30 in the morning on Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2023, a propane tanker was reported turned over on the side of NC 12 around a half mile south of the Hatteras Village Civic Center.

Richard Harris, 55, Kill Devil Hills, was travelling south heading to the NCDOT ferry to Ocracoke to make deliveries.

Even though he followed his normal routine of going to bed early and getting up at 3 a.m., he fell asleep at the wheel, reported State Highway Trooper Karl Libby. Fog in the area was dense.

Harris was not trapped in the truck but was held in place by a seat belt. The driver of the car in front of the propane truck saw the incident, turned around, and was able to cut Harris out of the seat belt.

Harris was charged with failure to maintain lane control.

Seto's Towing Service arrived on the scene with a massive wrecker around 8:15.

The Hatteras Village Volunteer Fire Department was called out. The scene was cleared at 10:05 a.m.

About an hour after the incident occurred, one lane of NC 12 was open.

Cape Hatteras Elementary and Cape Hatteras Secondary had announced that the Hatteras Island schools would open two hours late. To be safe, the buses filled with students did not roll past the ditched propane tanker.

Possible Primary Health Care Alternative developing

While Manteo is not Hatteras Island, what the town's Healthcare task force does may offer an alternative primary health care service,

Early last week, the Town of Manteo Special Planning and Zoning Board approved a Zoning Permit for changing the use of the property at 402 Budleigh Street in Manteo from a telecommunications office to a medical office.

This action allows for the establishment of the Manteo Medical Center facility at that location.

The Manteo facility will be associated with the Ocracoke and Engelhard medical centers, which are federally qualified health centers.

Such centers deliver physical, dental and behavioral health care and also have a transportation component.

Behavioral health care is a key need in Dare County.

On January 31, Port Health Services announced it "will not be able to accept any new Medicare or private/commercial insurance patients until its staffing pattern is enhanced.

Jennifer Hardee, Clinical Services Manager for Port Health wrote in a media release: "We simply do not have the capacity to assess and provide timely treatment with our current staffing."

She called the move a "temporary strategy." A list of local providers will be handed out for patients and stakeholders.

Port Health has an office in Hatteras village. The level of service offered is unknown. It is not readily apparent on Port Health's website or with telephone calls.

On July 20, 2022, the Town of Manteo Board of Commissioners appointed members to a Healthcare Task Force and directed the task force to address the growing healthcare concerns in Dare County. The primary care medical practice in Manteo had shut down due to lack of medical personnel.

At the onset, the Task Force identified priorities and created sub-committees addressing facility needs, patient care, project funding, and recruitment and retention of medical professionals.

In connection with medical care, the Outer Banks Hospital and Medical Group recently announced that it will operate under a new brand name, Outer Banks Health. The logo is changed as well.

Dare school board agrees to let home-schooled students play high school sports

Dare County Board of Education unanimously approved a new policy allowing homeschooled students in the county to enroll and tryout for high school athletics.

The new Policy 3105 was adopted in a special board meeting Jan. 30, 2023, so those students who want to participate in spring sports can meet the deadline for declaring intent to tryout.

Another policy, Policy 3620 titled Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations, was revised to be compatible with new policy.

The meeting was held at the administrative offices of Dare County Schools. It was broadcast online.

The actions taken apply to all Dare County student-athletes. The information required of home-school students is already on file for current in-school athletes. No additional information is required for current student-athletes.

Dwelling insurance settlement reached

Radio Hatteras Business Correspondent Tom Hranicka writes the North Carolina State Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey has announced that a settlement has been reached with insurance companies regarding dwelling insurance.

Dwelling insurance policies are offered for non-owner-occupied residences of no more than four units, including rental properties, investment properties and other properties that are not occupied full time by the property owner. The policies are not the same as homeowners insurance.

Under the settlement, insurance companies writing dwelling insurance east of the sounds and Roanoke Island for fire remain unchanged. Extended coverage increases over 12 percent for buildings and over 11 percent for contents.

Three types of dwelling insurance are available in North Carolina. The basis and two extended policies which increase the number of perils covered.

The average increase statewide is one-tenth of a percentage point less than 10 percent.

The increase affects new or renewed policies after June 1, 2023.

Beach nourishment in Rodanthe

A well-attended in person and virtual audience attended a Dare County Board of Commissioners presentation about beach nourishment for Rodanthe was held January 18.

Radio Hatteras Business Correspondent Tom Hranicka forwarded follow-up information.

At the meeting, County Manager Bobby Outten estimated the cost at \$20 million. Outten discussed the county's beach nourishment fund, stating that that the fund fueled by occupancy tax is not growing fast enough to add this expense.

One solution pointed out by Outten is being pursued by the state's coastal counties. The counties are asking the General Assembly for a recurring fund to help pay for nourishment.

The county has also engaged a consulting firm to update a previous report about erosion rates and how many cubic yards of sand would be needed for a project. The information will answer the question about how much a beach nourishment project in Rodanthe would cost. The update would likely take 90 to 120 days to complete.

Seashore visitors in record numbers

Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Fort Raleigh National Historic Site and Wright Brothers National Memorial combined to host nearly 3.6 million visits in 2022.

Last year was the third busiest year on record at Cape Hatteras National, behind only 2021 and 2002. America's first national seashore hosted 2,862,844 visits and booked 60,973 campsites in 2022.

Balloons are year-round threat in seashore

Cape Hatteras National Seashore personnel who patrol the Bodie Island, Hatteras Island, and Ocracoke Island beaches collected a total of 733 balloons along the shoreline in 2022, which included 300 balloons that were picked up in the months of May and June alone.

CHNS biological technicians and other staff regularly pick up trash while working on the beaches, but collecting and tallying balloons specifically is a somewhat new endeavor, reports Island Free Press.

Balloons are singled out for an annual tally because they are potentially harmful to wildlife.

Floating balloons often resemble food, and animals may die of starvation if ingested balloons block digestive tracts. Entanglements can occur with birds that encounter the strings which are attached to discarded balloons.

New media accounts

The North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries has its own social media accounts.

On Facebook, find N C Marine Fisheries. On Instagram and twitter, look for the address N C underscore D M F and on two

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality is inviting the public to follow the Division of Marine Fisheries' new accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Coming up this week

Dare County Board of Commissioners meets for its month meeting, Monday, February 6 at 9 a.m. at 954 Marshall C. Collins Dr., Manteo.

Hatteras Islanders can offer public comment at the Fessenden Center Annex in Buxton.

The Army Corps of Engineers has allocated \$1.6 million for the dredging of Avon Harbor and Channel.

The commissioners are asked to approve a Shallow Draft Navigation Application to receive 75% state match.

At 11 o'clock, Tuesday, February 7, the N C 12 Task Force will meet at the county's Administration building in Manteo. It is anticipated that a draft report of recommendations will be available.

That same day, the Dare County Planning Board meets at the same place at 6 o'clock.

At the start of the meeting, the board will consider two minor subdivisions

The subdivisions are both on Hatteras Island.

First is a Preliminary Plat Review for a 2-Lot Minor Subdivision requested by Lorraine H. Burrus of 57161 Pricilla Curve Road, Hatteras village.

The second minor subdivision up for Preliminary Plat Review is five lots in Murray Bay at 52185 Mare Vista Drive, Frisco.

The main item of business is the Planning Board's review of a proposed Cluster Home Development of 60 two and three bedroom small homes.

The weather

Today's temperature has been a battle between warm air pushing in from the Atlantic Ocean and cooler trying to move across the region, says the National Weather Service which did not register a high temperature prediction.

And, it was really cold Saturday morning. In Frisco, the temperature was 26 degrees with a wind chill of 14.

Regardless, the National Weather Service has posted some reminders of warmer days ahead. Only 35 days remain until daylight saving time begins. It's just 44 days until Spring. Easter is only 64 days away.

Stay warm. Be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras

Weekly news summary for Sunday, February 19, 2023.

Valentine's Day on Hatteras Island was unique!

Most of the island lost cell phone, landline and internet service around 2:30 in the afternoon. Service was disrupted when workers replacing a culvert under the By-Pass in Nags Head severed the cables bringing communication services to the Hatteras Island. Some customers were able to connect sporadically to cell service. Services were partially restored by 9 o'clock and fully restored by midnight.

Real estate market is lethargic.

That's a statement from Radio Hatteras Business Correspondent Tom Hranicka about the January market.

Here are the statistics:

Homes for sale are about the same as the last three months with only 72 residential properties available for purchase.

Only 15 houses were sold in January. That's the lowest number in this current market cycle. Half the houses sold were waterfront or one lot back from waterfront.

A drop of about 50 percent in the number of properties under contract occurred. That's an indicator of future sales.

Despite these declines, the median residential sale price increased 14 percent to \$570,000.

The undeveloped lot market was also sluggish. Median sales price for building sites is \$222,000.

Accommodations and restaurants reported for all of 2022.

Meal tax receipts for the year were flat with just a one percent increase over 2021.

Occupancy tax receipts for 2022 rose a little over six percent when compared to last year.

Writes Hranicka, "one thing is for certain – what the future holds for the Hatteras Island economy is always a lively topic for speculation."

Libraries closed for computer system upgrades

All three branches of the Dare County Library were closed Saturday for upgrades to servers and software. The libraries will also be closed Monday, February 20 so library staff members can attend training sessions. The libraries will reopen at scheduled hours on Tuesday, February 21.

Join St. John United Methodist Church members for dinner this Thursday

Each Thursday, from January through mid-March, St. John United Methodist Church in Avon hosts Free Community Dinners. The dinners are truly free - - -

This year the program is celebrating 10 years of service to the community of Hatteras Island. The terrific dinner crew regularly prepares dinner for 300 people who enjoy home-cooked food. So, gather at the St. John United Methodist Church this Thursday and every Thursday through March 16 starting at 5 p.m.

Joy Crist has a great, online article about the Free Dinner program at Island Free Press.

Two upcoming meetings about coastal erosion and septic systems are scheduled.

Coastal Resources Commission meets Feb. 23

The North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission meets February 23 in Ocean Isle Beach and will consider two amendments to regulations governing septic tanks on oceanfront properties. Changes to the rules were drafted in response to sewage spills from houses that collapsed last year in Rodanthe.

Staffers have prepared proposed amendments for consideration which are posted on the commission's website.

The meeting is livestreamed from You Tube. A link is posted on the commission's website.

Threatened Oceanfront Structures Interagency Work Group to meet February 27 by web conference

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Coastal Management and the Cape Hatteras National Seashore are hosting an interagency work group meeting on February 27 by web conference to discuss the topic "Property Acquisition and Financial Assistance."

The public may listen at 1 p.m. by computer or phone.

Panelists will discuss property acquisition and financial assistance programs that may assist owners of threatened oceanfront structures and federal, state, or local governments responsible for beach management.

The work group was established in August 2022 and will engage with partner organizations and stakeholders to identify, research, and recommend policies and programs to establish a proactive, holistic, predictable, and coordinated approach to erosion-threatened structures and to ensure that appropriate regulatory, legal, insurance, and financial mechanisms exist.

Go to Island Free Press for information about linking up by computer or phone.

Interested parties may submit comments by email to D C M comments at n c d e n r dot gov. List "Threatened Oceanfront Structures" in the subject line.

Cap off the upcoming week with the Waterfowl Festival in Hatteras village on Saturday, February 25.

The day starts at 10 and ends at 5. The festival presents amazing exhibits in two locations; two falconry demonstrations; crafts for children; and much more.

Information booth and exhibits are at the Hatteras Village Civic Center along with the main performance tent that also has a duck calling contest. The festival is free. Show up.

Now be safe out there. Stay well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, February 26, 2023.

New Congressional office opened in Dare County

For the first time, Dare County has a District Office for a current United States Congressman. On Friday, Feb. 17, 2023, U.S. Representative Greg Murphy held an Open House for his new district office on the first floor of the Dare County Administration Building, 954 Marshall C. Collins Dr., Manteo. The office is staffed by Leslie Ginski, a caseworker for the Congressman. Call 252-230-3549 for an appointment. The office is in Room 194.

Murphy thanked Dare County Board of Commissioners for use of the space.

Attendees expressed a wide range of concerns.

Bob Woodard, chairman of the county's board of commissioners, started the conversation about local needs. He mentioned the just-released report by the NC 12 Task Force. He asked Murphy for some help with state leaders. "The state never put money into a nourishment fund," said Woodard.

In addition to this new office in Manteo, Congressman Murphy has district offices in Greenville, Jacksonville, and New Bern.

Murphy represents the Third Congressional District which includes the following counties: Beaufort, Camden, Carteret, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Duplin, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt (part), Sampson, Wayne (part).

New flood information may be required from property sellers

The North Carolina Real Estate Commission at its February 15 meeting voted unanimously to move forward with a potential new rule that would add flood-related questions to the disclosure form that sellers must provide to potential buyers, reports Business Correspondent Tom Hranicka.

At some point a public hearing on the rule will be held, and if adopted, the new disclosure guideline could go into effect July 1.

Some of the questions that might be added are:

Whether a house has had flood damage

Whether the property has a flood elevation certificate

The cost of any flood insurance policies

Whether a damage claim has been filed through the national flood insurance program

Whether the property owner has received federal funds in the past due to flooding.

In other news, Hranicka reports that according to a report in HometoGo, the marketplace with the world's largest selection of vacation rentals, Avon was fourth in the 2022 ranking with an increase of 274 percent.

And finally, the Target store in Kill Devil Hills is scheduled to open April 2.

Dare school board hears presentations

In the 2023-24 school year, the first Dare County students to enroll in Dual Language Immersion will transition to middle school.

At the start of the Feb. 13, 2022, regular board meeting for the Dare County Board of Education, Jake Henry with Participate Learning presented information about the language program and a possible elective course rather than a core course taught only in Spanish.

Proficiency levels are established by the state. Assessments come at the end of the eighth grade.

Dare Schools Superintendent Steve Basnight read from a letter he sent to parents of students in the Dual Language Immersion program.

In that letter, he said the system had no plans to do away with the Dual Language program. Middle grade students who opt to remain in the program will meet every day, year long. The system's three middle schools will have an elective period to accommodate the class.

The classes will use curriculum from Participate Learning, which will be taught by native Spanish-speaking teachers in the classroom.

Several presentations marked this board meeting.

From College of The Albemarle came college President Jack Bagwell and Dare County campus Dean, Tim Sweeney.

Sweeney said the Dare Campus is growing with new programs. The Dare Campus now has Career and Technical Education courses including electric, plumbing, HVAC at the Dare campus. Marine Diesel engine repair is offered in Manns Harbor.

Sweeney also reminded the Dare County Board of Education about the Dare Guarantee Scholarship, created and funded by the county's Board of Commissioners.

The community college duo is promoting proposed changes to add a Diploma Track with a vocational focus for high school students. Such a track would allow students to choose a Career and Technical Education pathway to a diploma and employment.

The Dare County school board continues to investigate Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps or JROTC. The program requires the local school board to pay half the salaries of one officer and one enlisted person and provide a classroom and 400 square feet of storage space. The program would be offered at First Flight High School. The estimated cost is \$60,000 to \$65,000.

The new Secondary Schools' Program of Studies lists JROTC as available.

Searching for a little levity.

On a cloudy Monday afternoon, the Fessenden Center hosted its Inaugural Hatteras Husband Holler Contest.

The contestants were something worth hollering about.

While all of the contestants did an outstanding job, the winners were:

First Place - Peggy Patterson

Second Place - Gina Miller

Third Place - Cathy Diemer

If you missed out on this year's local contest, be sure to subscribe to the Fessenden Center eNewsletter by visiting [Dare NC dot gov slash subscribe](http://DareNC.gov/subscribe). Subscribers receive monthly notices for all of the creative activities and events occurring at the Fessenden Center in Buxton!

Fisheries survey asks info from for hire operators

The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries is conducting a survey of for-hire operators that work in coastal waters of the state. Charter boat, head boat, and guide service operators should expect to receive the survey soon.

The survey will ask questions about fishing habits, perceptions, income, and expenditures. The information gathered in the survey will help inform fishery management plans as well as help develop economic impact models to assist fisheries managers in making informed decisions on various fisheries topics.

State Basketball tournament update

In the state basketball tournament, nine northeastern teams played in the first round, February 21.

In the girls 1-A bracket Columbia and Bear Grass lost in the first round

Cape Hatteras defeated Union 51-40 in the first round to advance to the second. Cape Hatteras encountered Southside and lost. Southside won in the third round and is in the Regional playoff.

In the 2A bracket, Manteo played in the first round and lost.

In the 3A bracket, Currituck defeated First Flight to make it to the second round where Lady Red Barons were defeated.

In the boys state tournament, only First Flight remains in the tournament. First Flight defeated J.H. Rose in the first round and East Wake High School in the second. The Nighthawks play E.E. Smith Saturday night in Fayetteville.

In 1-A, Ocracoke Dolphins defeated Jones in the first round, but lost to West Columbus in the second. Manteo defeated Southwest in the first round, but lost to South Granville in the second round. Bertie defeated Cape Hatteras in the first round.

Web conference on Threatened Oceanfront Structures on February 27

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Coastal Management and Cape Hatteras National Seashore will host an interagency work group meeting February 27 via web conference.

Panelist will discuss property acquisition and financial assistance programs that may assist owners of threatened oceanfront structures and federal, state, or local governments responsible for beach management.

The meeting starts at 1 o'clock and the public can listen in by computer or phone.

For log-information, go to Island Free Press under the article Threatened Oceanfront Structures.

The work group was established in August 2022 and will engage with partner organizations and stakeholders to identify, research, and recommend policies and programs to establish a proactive, holistic, predictable, and coordinated approach to erosion-threatened structures and to ensure that appropriate regulatory, legal, insurance, and financial mechanisms exist.

Join Cape Hatteras Secondary's baseball team and coaches for a free spaghetti dinner Monday night

The Cape Hatteras Secondary School baseball program is starting a new community service project this year. Our middle and high school players, coaching staffs, and volunteers will be hosting a free spaghetti supper for the community Monday evening, February 27 at 6:30. The dinner will take place at the Lighthouse Assembly of God Family Life Center in Buxton, directly across NC 12 from the school campus. The address is 48745 NC 12, Buxton.

The teams will be introduced to the community and welcome the community to be part of baseball program.

In addition to the free dinner, drawings will be held for Hurricane baseball apparel, tickets to games and other prizes. Community members will also be given information about various ways that they can support the Cape Hatteras Secondary baseball program.

A very special thank you to sponsors Conner's Supermarket, Food Lion, Frisco Rod & Gun and Sonny's Restaurant. A complete list of sponsors will be recognized Monday night.

Ferry Division hosts career fair February 28 in Hatteras

On Tuesday, February 28, find out about job opportunities available with the North Carolina Ferry System

The fair runs from 10 in the morning to 3 in the afternoon at the Hatteras Village Community Building at 57689 NC Highway 12.

Applications will be accepted for all positions at all experience levels, from entry-level parking lot attendants to experienced boat captains. Temporary and full-time permanent positions are available. People attending the job fair should bring resumes and supporting documents. Representatives from the Ferry Division will be on hand to explain the various positions available and opportunities for advancement.

To see jobs available with the Ferry Division, visit the state jobs website at governmentjobs dot com slash careers slash northcarolina and search "Ferry." Continue to visit the site, as new ferry jobs are added regularly. For more information, call 252-463-7027.

Hatteras Island is about reading

On Saturday morning **March 4**, from 10 to noon, the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Civic Association will host a Dr. Seuss Birthday Party in celebration of Read Across America Week.

Celebrate reading with games, crafts, snacks and books for all children to take home.

The party will be held at the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building in Rodanthe, across from Chicamacomico Lifesaving Station.

Activities are best suited for children age 8 and under, but all are welcome.

The event is free and open to the public.

And at Cape Hatteras Elementary students and staff are participating in a reading program called One School, One Book. Every student has received a copy of Nim's Island by Wendy Orr. A reading schedule was distributed. On Monday evening, the schedule calls for reading chapter 8 of 16 in the book. In school, activities and discussion will explore the book. And a finale is planned.

Weather up and down

Record-breaking warmth occurred across much of Eastern North Carolina February 22. Highs reached the low to mid 80s inland. Closer to the coast, it was above normal, but not quite as warm as further inland. Several locations neared, or broke, record highs for the date.

Rodanthe registered 70 degrees and Frisco 71.

So, this weekend, the temperatures went lower and cooler.

This coming week, Monday through Friday the high temperatures will be in the 60s.

Now, be safe out there. Stay well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, March 5, 2023.

Oregon Inlet bridge inspection starts Monday. Traffic delays expected

Starting Monday, March 6, the Oregon Inlet Bridge and the Bonner Bridge Pier will undergo federally mandated inspections.

North Carolina Department of Transportation officials said weekday daytime lane closures between a half-mile to a mile in length will be in place on the Oregon Inlet Bridge while the inspections take place.

The lane closures will be marked by flaggers.

Motorists can expect delays of up to 10 minutes.

Bonner Bridge Pier inspections will also begin March 6, but the pier itself will remain open to the public. Sections of the pier will be cordoned off by traffic cones to keep pedestrians from accessing areas where inspections are taking place. The pier may be closed for brief periods while platform trucks are moved on and off the structure, officials said.

All work is expected to be complete within three weeks.

The inspections are a part of the Federal Highway Administration's National Bridge Inspection Standards, under which thorough inspections of bridge decks and support systems are required every two years.

Meeting held about threatened oceanfront structures

On Monday, February 27, the first of four meetings of the threatened Oceanfront Structures Interagency Work Group took place virtually.

Radio Hatteras Business Correspondent Tom Hranicka filed the report about the meeting.

The work group was formed last August to address issues facing coastal communities where structures are threatened by storms, water and beach erosion.

Complex issues were discussed including funding, potential buyouts of endangered structures, and relocation or removal of these properties.

Dare County Manager Bobby Outten pointed out that in addition to structures, several hotspots on Hatteras Island are uninhabited like the canal area south of the Oregon Inlet Bridge and the Cape Hatteras National Seashore area between Salvo and Avon.

Perhaps the best summary of the current status of the issues discussed by the work group was Outten's comment that at the present time any of the potential options lacked funding, but that the county in conjunction with other stakeholders would work hard to identify and develop programs and alternatives for solutions to the funding challenge.

The next meeting of the work group is planned for May.

Dare County felony blotter for February 2023

The Dare County Sheriff's felony blotter for February 2023 was released March 1. Eight incidents were listed with Roanoke Island leading with four incidents.

Buxton had two incidents reported.

On February 10, larceny was reported in 47000 block of Delmer Road. Money stolen from residence. The crime remains under investigation.

On February 17, Financial Card Fraud was committed in the 47000 block of Bernice Lane, Buxton. Unauthorized transactions were made on an EBT card.

On Friday, March 3, the Dare County Sheriff's Office announced the following:

"Scammers calling themselves the Sheriff's Office & Sheriff's Office Civil Division are at it again and telling the person called that they have missed court, owe money, have a warrant or some other reason. At some point they will ask you to pay money. If they give you a number to call back, you will get an answering machine which answers as the Sheriff's Office and it gives you options which sounds to be an official call, but it is not!

"Please tell your friends or family members to let them know this is occurring and hopefully people will not be drawn into this ploy and lose their money. The Sheriff's Office will not ask for money over the phone."

North Carolina will expand Medicaid

North Carolina legislative leaders Phil Berger for the Senate and House Speaker Tim Moore announced Thursday, March 2, 2023 that an agreement was reached to expand Medicaid.

The legislation will likely be voted on later in March at the earliest and go into effect January 2024.

North Carolina has been one of 11 states that has not adopted Medicaid expansion.

Associated Press reports, the federal government covers 90% of the cost of Medicaid recipients under expansion. Potentially 600,000 people in North Carolina could receive the benefit — those who make

too much to qualify for conventional Medicaid but not enough to receive subsidized health insurance under the Affordable Care Act passed in 2010.

Under the agreement, the state's 10% share would be paid through assessments paid by hospitals, which in turn benefit from getting reimbursed as they cover patients with Medicaid.

Officials say the state also would get an extra \$1.8 billion over two years through a COVID-19 federal relief package from Congress for states that hadn't accepted expansion.

North Carolina currently has 2.9 million Medicaid recipients.

Coastal Studies Institute announces summer camps

Registration for summer camps at the Coastal Studies Institute in Wanchese started Wednesday, March 1.

The institute has scheduled eight weeks of camp between June 12 and Aug. 11 with four alternating themes that focus on science, technology, engineering, art and math, or STEAM, concepts, hands-on experiences and exploration of the great outdoor spaces of the Outer Banks.

The cost for one week of camp is \$325 and up to 13 campers between 10 and 15 years of age will be accepted for each session. Each day of camp is from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Contact Parker Kellam by calling 252-475-5452 for general camp questions. For questions regarding the summer camp registration call 252-328-9198.

Led by East Carolina University, the Coastal Studies Institute is a multi-institutional research and educational partnership of the University of North Carolina System including North Carolina State University, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Wilmington, and Elizabeth City State University.

Dare County Commissioners meet Monday morning

On Monday morning, March 6, Dare County Board of Commissioners will meet at 9 o'clock at 954 Marshall C. Collins Drive, Manteo.

The meeting is live streamed with the connection from the county's website, dare n c dot gov.

Hatteras Islanders can offer public comment from the Fessenden Center annex on Buxton Back Road.

The commissioners are asked to approve the financing package for building a new Emergency Medical Services building in Southern Shores, a joint station for Kill Devil Hills Fire department and Dare County Emergency Medical Services, and a new hanger and crew quarters for Dare MedFlight.

Additionally, the board is asked to approve a budget amendment to fund a new air handler at Cape Hatteras Secondary School.

Dare County Board of Commissioners is asked to support the naming of two new ferry vessels as MV Avon and MV Salvo.

In the resolution, Dare County Board of Commissioners strongly urges the Albemarle RPO and the North Carolina Ferry Division to consider naming future vessels using the Algonquian named areas of the region.

Springtime Ferry Schedules Start this week

Spring time brings additional ferry departures on the Hatteras-Ocracoke ferry route.

On Tuesday, March 7, the daily schedule increases from 28 to 26 departures.

The schedule, effective Tuesday, for the Hatteras to Ocracoke departures is top of the hour starting at 5 o'clock in the morning to 6 in the evening followed by departures at 7:30, 9, 10 and midnight.

From Ocracoke to Hatteras, ferries leave at the bottom of the hour with the earliest at 4:30 in the morning then every hour starting at 6:30 through 5:30, then 6:15, 7:30, 8:45, 10:30 and midnight.

The Hatteras-Ocracoke vehicle ferry route will again increase its departure schedule on April 4 before running its full summer schedule beginning May 16.

The Hatteras-Ocracoke ferry rides are free.

On March 14, the Ocracoke-Cedar Island and Ocracoke-Swan Quarter routes will increase daily departures from two to three from each terminal. These two long routes require reservations.

The Cedar Island and Swan Quarter routes go to full summer schedules May 16.

For ferry information, call 1 800 by ferry.

CPR class offered on Thursday

Hatteras Island Rescue Squad offers a public CPR class, Thursday, March 9 at 6 o'clock in the evening. The class is held at the squad's station at 48103 NC 12, Buxton.

This one night, three hour class will cover adult, child and infant CPR and the use of an AED.

Class is open to Hatteras Island property owners and residents. Cost is \$12 per student for American Heart Association certification and pocket mask. Attending and completing class is only \$5. Bring exact change. Call the station at 252-995-5490 and leave name, telephone number and number of students wishing to attend. Walk-ins welcome on a space available basis.

Cape Hatteras Sports

The Varsity and Middle School Baseball teams at Cape Hatteras Secondary School fed about 125 community members Monday night, Feb. 27, 2023, at the first Cape Hatteras Secondary Baseball Community Dinner.

It was a great night of food, fun, and fellowship with many attendees leaving with prizes won from a free raffle.

In the meantime, the Varsity baseball Hurricanes home opener is Thursday, March 9 against Manteo. He teams take the field at 5 o'clock.

Thursday, March 9 is the home opener for the Cape Hatteras varsity softball team, also playing Manteo at 5 o'clock.

On Saturday, the Cape Hatteras baseball team hosts the annual Sandlot Tournament, where the teams vow to "Knock Cancer out of the Park." The first game starts at 11 o'clock. Cleveland and Currituck High Schools are participating.

Now, be safe out there. Stay well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly news summary for Sunday, March 12, 2023.

This Sunday morning, the National Weather Service has issued a high surf advisory that runs until Tuesday morning March 14.

Large breaking waves of 8 to 12 feet are expected in the surf zone on beaches north of Cape Hatteras. Dangerous swimming and surfing conditions are occurring. The weather service expects localized beach erosion.

Large item pickup in unincorporated Dare County starts March 27

Large item pickup for unincorporated Dare County starts Monday, March 27, 2023, and runs continuously for about 12 to 15 days.

Already items are appearing on the NC 12 right-of-way.

Due to budget and time constraints, a strict one pass only will be enforced.

While items are already appearing on NC 12 about two weeks early, items must be on the roadside in front of homes by Monday, March 27.

If the private contractor does not take an item placed on the roadside by the end of the 12 to 15 day collection period, the item has been rejected and therefore must be disposed of at the owner's expense. Accepted items include scrape metals, appliances (take off refrigerator doors) and furniture, mattresses and box springs.

Sort these items into separate piles.

Do not add tree limbs, stumps or other vegetation, or old clothing, construction/demolition materials, boats, trailers, jet skis, propane tanks or fire extinguishers.

Hazardous materials will be picked up Friday, May 12, from 2 to 4 o'clock at the transfer station in Buxton.

Remember March 27 starts the only large item pick up or 2023 on Hatteras Island.

Congratulations to Fessenden Center's April Bodiford

On March 6, April Bodiford was tapped as Employee of the Month of March for Dare County.

Bodiford serves as fitness coordinator for the Dare County Parks and Recreation Department Hatteras Island Division at the Fessenden Center in Buxton.

The award was presented to Bodiford by Dare County Public Services Director Tim White during the Dare County Board of Commissioners meeting.

In her role as fitness coordinator, Bodiford conducts and choreographs group fitness classes for members of the community, plans and conducts formal class instruction on various health and fitness topics, and assists individuals with physical exercise prescriptions for specific health-related needs.

On the evening of March 5, 2023, at 10:11, deputies working on Hatteras Island assisted NC State Highway Patrol with a traffic stop near South Beach subdivision off NC 12 in Rodanthe.

During the stop the vehicle was searched and an amount of Marijuana, MDMA which is known as ecstasy in tablets and molly in crystal form, and Drug Paraphernalia were located and seized.

Kimberly A Kronsberg, 28, Richmond, Virginia, was arrested and charged with felony Possession of a Schedule I Controlled Substance and misdemeanor Possession of Marijuana. Kronsberg was given a \$2,000 secured bond.

The information was announced March 10 by the Dare County Sheriff's office.

Dramatic rescue off Avon

Early Tuesday morning, March 7, the U.S. Coast Guard Station Hatteras Inlet was notified of a 25-foot disabled sailboat about three nautical miles offshore Avon. Three people were aboard.

The station's 47-foot Motor Lifeboat was launched and started toward the sailboat.

Due to weather conditions clearly seen in a dramatic video, a Jayhawk helicopter was dispatched from U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Elizabeth City to assist in the rescue.

Once on the scene, the surfmen on board decided that towing the vessel south towards Hatteras village or to Oregon Inlet would prove difficult.

As a result, the Hatteras Station Officer in Charge with Sector North Carolina and U.S. Coast Guard District 5 thought the safest course of action would be a helicopter evacuation.

The Jayhawk helicopter maintained its position as a rescue swimmer retrieved each person from the water one at a time. The mariners were hoisted onto the helicopter. Once the three mariners were safe, the helicopter left the scene and the motor lifeboat headed back to the Hatteras station.

To watch the Coast Guard's video of the rescue, visit [Island Free Press](#).

New bridge coming for those travelling west from Hatteras Island

On Thursday, March 9, Governor Roy Cooper, Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt, and N.C. Department of Transportation Secretary Eric Boyette visited the Alligator River Marina to talk about a \$110 million federal grant to help replace the Alligator River 2.8 mile swing bridge.

The grant is one of only nine projects nationwide to receive a Mega Grant from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The grant will help pay for a new two-lane, high rise span to carry US 64 from Dare County to Tyrrell County and beyond.

The new bridge is expected to cost \$294 million. The funding estimate also includes the cost to install broadband between I-95 in Rocky Mount and NC 12 in Nags Head, an underserved area.

The current bridge is a two-lane swing-span bridge named the Lindsay B. Warren Bridge. It was built in 1962.

More than 4,000 boats pass through the bridge every year while travelling the Intracoastal Waterway, forcing vehicle traffic to stop while the swing-span opens and closes or doesn't open or close.

Donations for Animal Shelter

In March, Dare County libraries are hosting an annual collection drive to benefit the Outer Banks SPCA. Suggested donations include dog food, cat food, treats, leashes, laundry detergent, trash bags, paper towels and hand soap.

Donations can be dropped off at Dare's three library locations including the one in Hatteras Village. The Hatteras Library is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 to 5:30, Wednesdays from noon to 5:30 and Saturdays from 10 to 2:30.

Pathway planned for Cape Hatteras lighthouse district

Cape Hatteras National Seashore has issued an environmental assessment for the construction of a new multi-use pathway from NC 12 to the Cape Hatteras lighthouse.

Public comment is open until March 28. Lighthouse Road, in the Seashore's Hatteras Island

Two alternatives and analysis of potential impacts are presented for public review

The first is a No Action Alternative - Current Management

The Preferred Alternative is a 1.6-mile-long paved multi-use pathway to be constructed on one side of the road in two segments.

The proposal is to build a 10-foot wide pathway for two-way travel for bikes, electric bicycles and motorized wheelchairs, but not equestrian use. The Lighthouse entrance would be reconfigured and connection made to the existing sidewalk along NC 12 and Buxton Back Road.

An education plaza with comfort station, picnic tables, benches, and bike racks constructed.

Comments may be submitted electronically or mailed to: Superintendent, 1401 National Park Dr., Manteo, N.C. 27954. The electronic site for information and comments can be found at [parkplanning dot nps dot gov slash c a h a under document list](https://parkplanning.dot.nps.gov/c/cha/underdocumentlist).

Work in the National Seashore

Cape Hatteras National Seashore seeks individuals between the ages of 15 and 18 years old to apply for its Youth Conservation Corps summer employment program. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2023.

Participants will get paid to work, learn and gain leadership skills. No prior experience is needed, just an eagerness to make a difference.

The YCC session dates for Cape Hatteras National Seashore are June 19-Aug.11, 2023. Participants will work on a variety of maintenance projects on Hatteras Island, including fence repair, boardwalk maintenance and painting. The pay is \$15 per hour for a 40-hour work week. Housing is not available,

and individuals must be able to report for work in Buxton. More information about the application process is available at [nps dot gov slash subjects slash youth programs slash ycc](http://nps.gov/subjects/youthprograms/ycc).

Board of Education meets Monday

The regular monthly meeting of the Dare County Board of Education happens Monday, March 1 at 5 o'clock. This meeting is open to the public and will be live-streamed on the Dare County Schools website at [dare to learn dot org](http://daretolearn.org) under board of education.

The agenda calls for the board to approve a budget amendment of \$50,000 received from Dare County for improvements to the facilities at the Cape Hatteras Secondary School's soccer field.

A new Artist in Community program is starting.

Outer Banks Forever, Dare Arts, and the Outer Banks Group of the National Park Service are sponsoring the program.

The deadline for submitting an application is Tuesday, March 14.

Three artists will be selected for an Earth Day event at Bodie Island Lighthouse from 10 to 5.

Go to Outer Banks Forever website for all the details: [o b x forever dot org](http://obxforever.org)

Blood Drive set for Tuesday

An American Red Cross blood drive will be held at the Cape Hatteras Anglers Club on Tuesday, March 14 from 11 in the morning to 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The address for the Anglers Club is 47231 Light Plant Road, Buxton.

It's Music in our Schools Month

At Cape Hatteras Secondary School, on March 14, the high school and middle grades music students will perform an "Almost Spring Concert." The high school band will perform the music for the Music Performance Assessment sponsored by the North Carolina Bandmasters. The concert starts at 6 p.m. in the campus auditorium.

On March 23, the high school band will participate in the Music Performance Assessment for the first time. The competition is set for Riverside High School, Williamston. Underwriting the band participation is the Hatteras Island Youth Education Fund.

The Cape Hatteras performance is set for 4:50 p.m. at Riverside High School.

Bands from across the state travel to locations to perform rated pieces of music before a panel of three judges.

Remember the state's Department of Transportation is performing required inspections of the Oregon Inlet Bridge and the Bonner Bridge Pier during the next few weeks. These inspections cause some minor traffic delays on the bridge and may temporarily limit access to sections of the pier. For those travelling north, allow some extra time.

Be safe out there. Stay well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, March 19, 2023.

Another house collapses into the ocean

This past week started with a small oceanfront house in Rodanthe falling into the Atlantic Ocean. Residents and volunteers earned well-deserved praise for immediately going to the Rodanthe beach to begin cleanup.

This time around, the National Park Service was proactive. On Wednesday, 60 park service employees and a fleet of vehicles kept up the arduous task of picking up debris.

By the end of Thursday after a community volunteer effort, 67 pick-up truck loads of debris were taken off the beach and loaded into a big dumpster and dump trucks which made five runs to the county's landfill on the mainland.

The house at 23228 East Point Drive was small, only 1,116 square feet. It was built in 1976 and purchased by the current owner in 2007.

The National Park Service has been in touch with a representation of the owner. The park service anticipates a cleanup plan from the owner.

For second time this year, communication was sliced off

Around 9:30, Tuesday morning, March 14, 2023, the island's fiber optic cable was damaged close to the Pea Island Visitor Center.

According to Dare County Emergency Manager, Drew Pearson, the cable was in the dune not underground when it was damaged.

On Hatteras and Ocracoke, cell phones, land lines, internet service was disrupted.

The damage was fixed by 2 o'clock.

911 service was crippled. Dare County issued instructions to go to the nearest fire or EMS station for emergency help.

The first outage occurred February 14.

Dare school board adopts calendar for next academic year

Meeting in a short session, Dare County Board of Education adopted a school calendar for next year and a budget amendment for Cape Hatteras Secondary's soccer facilities.

First day of school next fall is Monday, August 28. School staff return August 21 for five days of required work days, one day more than last fall. Starting August 16, school staff have three days of optional workdays.

Scattered throughout the 2023-2024 calendar are nine optional workdays and seven required workdays. Three days of early dismissal are set for September 1 and Halloween, October 31 which is followed by a required workday for parent conferences. Another early dismissal comes on the last day of the school year, June 7.

Traditional holiday periods are in place with no school from November 22 through 24 for Thanksgiving; December 18 through January 2 for Christmas; and April 1 through April 5 for Easter.

In the consent agenda, the board adopted a budget amendment appropriating \$50,000 for upgrading facilities at the Cape Hatteras Secondary soccer field on Buxton Back Road. The funds were forwarded from Dare County.

Economic measures of Hatteras Island

February report on real estate markets remain lethargic, however the number of homes for sale are slowing creeping upward, writes Radio Hatteras Business Correspondent Tom Hranicka.

It will be interesting to see if this pattern continues into the summer as it did last year.

The number of houses sold last month also inched upward but remained in the 20 to 25 sales per month range, where the residential market has been stuck since June 2022.

The median sales price cooled to \$435,500.

Properties under contract to be sold, which are considered to be an indicator of future sales, continued the downward trend present for over a year.

Performance indicators for undeveloped lots all posted negative results for February. The exception is the median sale price which increased to \$225,000.

On parallel track, the moratorium on new connections to the waste water treatment plant on the Soundside in Kinnakeet Shores community has still not been lifted.

In an additional measure of the island's economy, the reported January meal tax receipt was an eye-popping increase of 44.7 percent. Occupancy tax receipts were flat with an increase of 2.81 percent

Outer Banks Community Foundation Establishes Outer Banks Center for Nonprofits; Announces Plans to Relocate Offices

During its Annual Meeting March 14, Outer Banks Community Foundation announced the establishment of the Outer Banks Center for Nonprofits, a new collaborative space that will provide flexible office space and services for nonprofits on the Outer Banks.

The new center and new foundation office will be in now vacant Southern Bank Building in Manteo.

The Community Foundation has outgrown its current Southern Shores location and its new facility will also benefit other local nonprofits facing challenges securing appropriate space for operations. The establishment of the new center comes at an important moment in the foundation's evolution.

The Community Foundation is celebrating its 40th Anniversary and is preparing to meet the ever-expanding range of challenges within the Outer Banks community.

Recall issued on Gerber Good Start Soothe Pro

On March 17, 2023, Perrigo issued a voluntary recall of certain lots of Gerber Good Start SoothePro powdered infant formula due to the potential presence of the bacteria Cronobacter. The recalled product was manufactured at Perrigo's Gateway Eau Claire, Wisconsin facility. These bacteria can cause diarrhea and urinary tract infections in people of all ages and can be very serious in infants, reports the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

No infections linked to this recall have been identified in North Carolina to date.

Consumers who purchased the product after March 5, 2023, should check their formula's Lot Codes and "use by" dates, which can be found on the bottom of the package.

Call the Gerber Parent Resource Center at 1-800-777-7690 for lot numbers.

Go to the North Carolina Catch Annual Summit tomorrow

The annual North Carolina Catch Summit happens tomorrow, March 20, at Lone Cedar Café. It's free and fills the day starting at 8:30 a.m.

Registration seems to remain open at N C Catch Summit 2023 dot Eventbrite dot com

Some Hatteras Islanders are participating in the panel discussions. Speakers include Kathy Rawls, Director of Marine Fisheries, and David Senter, Farm Aid advocate.

Lunch is \$15.

Emergency and Disaster information available Wednesday in Rodanthe

Emergency and disasters come somewhat routinely to Hatteras Island, whether technology or weather related. A strong infrastructure of local government agencies and community organizations help preparation and recovery.

Join the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Civic Association Wednesday evening, March 22 at 6:30 in the village's Community Building for a panel presentation and discussion of preparedness and recovery from disasters.

Representatives from Dare County Emergency Management, Dare County Health and Human Services, Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative, Radio Hatteras, Chicamacomico Banks Volunteer Fire Department, Hatteras Island CERT and the Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men will discuss their roles and partnerships in responding to emergency and disasters.

A Dare County Community Orchestra is forming

Sponsored by the Dare County Youth Orchestra, people interested in participating are invited to attend the first rehearsal March 27, 6 o'clock at St. Andrews by the Sea in Nags Head. There are no auditions or fees to participate.

For more information, email Erickson I e at dare to learn dot org or go to Island Free Press to a link to the online form.

Just a note from Hranicka: In the annual cycle of the Hatteras Island economy, the new season usually begins the week before Easter and extends until Thanksgiving. It's an exciting time of the year. Businesses are starting to open and house owners preparing cottages for incoming renters.

Stay safe out there. Be well. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, March 26, 2023 and look ahead at a busy week.

Pay attention.

Large item pickup for the unincorporated areas of Dare County, which is all of Hatteras Island, will begin Monday, March 27, 2023, and run continuously for about 12 to 15 days.

The large item pickup will be conducted by Southern Disaster Recovery.

The pickup will be a one-time pass only. Items must be on the road Monday morning.

So, move stuff for pickup out now to the side of the road in front of where you live.

Put appliances separate from household items. Remember: no cardboard, no clothes, no building materials.

Items remaining after pickup must be disposed of by the owner.

Lighthouse lens taken apart

The famed Cape Hatteras first order Fresnel lens has greeted visitors in the lobby of the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum.

On March 17, three skill craftsmen arrived to take apart the amazing structure and move it to storage while the main gallery of the museum under goes a \$5 million renovation.

Lighthouse historian John Havel spent four of the five days with the crew as the 170-year old light was disassembled with care and precision to preserve the historic treasure.

For an in-depth report on the work, go to Island Free Press.

Prescribed burn in Pea Island

On Monday, March 20, smoke was visible north of Rodanthe

A prescribed burn was underway in the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge.

The burn area was 1,600 acres to set back woody vegetation, improve wildlife habitat and reduce fuel loads.

Wild turkey hunting season opens in North Carolina April 1.

The youth season is April 1-7, and the statewide season is April 8 through May 6. Hunters are limited to two turkeys for the season, only one of which may be taken during the youth season.

Last year, 2,022 wild turkey season hunters statewide recorded 20,576 birds harvested, including 1,777 birds that were taken during youth season.

Hunters must comply with a two-bird limit and may only take male or bearded birds.”

The youth season is open to anyone under the age of 18, and hunters aged 16 and 17 must have hunting licenses. Youth under 16 are exempt from license requirements provided they are accompanied by a licensed adult who is at least 18 years old. Youth who have licenses or a hunter education card may hunt without adult supervision. All hunters must report their turkey harvest on a Big Game Harvest Report Card.

Hunting licenses can be purchased online. Close-by hunter education classes are scheduled for April 2 at Roanoke Island Volunteer Fire Department in Manteo and Tyrrell County Agriculture Extension, 4-H building, Columbia. Both in person classes run from 1 to 7.

Thursday night March 30 is busy at Cape Hatteras Secondary

From 5 to 7, middle school families are invited for some brainy fun with drones, straw rockets, and more. The event which comes with food and door prizes takes place in the big gym.

From 5:30 to 7:30 in Room 306, it's Dare Guarantee Application Night. Dare County's Guarantee Scholarship provides a free college education at College of The Albemarle.

Another important date is April 18 which is Application Day at College of The Albemarle in Manteo.

In a recent newsletter from the secondary school, Thursday, March 30 was also announced at Guidance Night.

A baseball tournament starts Friday evening.

The Surf, Sand and Service Baseball Tournament is scheduled for March 31 and April 1 at Cape Hatteras Secondary School in Buxton.

The tournament honors Military Personnel and First Responders.

Visiting teams are Green Hope and Panther Creek, both from Cary and both 4-A schools.

On Friday, March 31, Cape Hatteras will play Green Hope with the start time at 6 o'clock.

On Saturday, April 1, Cape Hatteras plays Panther Creek at Noon and at 2 p.m., Green Hope and Panther Creek collide.

The tournament charges no team entrance fee. Instead, coaches and players bring two canned food items to donate to the Cape Hatteras Food Pantry, directly across NC 12 from Cape Hatteras Secondary.

A silent auction with baseball- and island-themed items will be offered.

Spectator ticket price per tournament day is \$5 per person.

The address of Cape Hatteras Secondary School is 48576 NC 12, Buxton.

Lots of things happening this Saturday. Sweep the beach early; then go to a free market in Avon; stop by the Cape Hatteras baseball diamond to take in a few innings; have a run or trot in Hatteras mid-afternoon and go to the theater in the evening at Cape Hatteras Secondary.

Beach Buggy Association's Operation Beach Respect is Saturday, April 1

The first of three beach cleanings is April 1.

The beach buggy group chose April 1 so that seasonal ramps 23 and 34 could be included. On April 1, all ramps 2 through 55 will be covered including ramp 70 on Ocracoke Island.

Volunteers with four-wheel drive vehicles are encouraged to go to a favorite access ramp in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore and load up rubbish from the beach.

Association members handing out trash bags will be stationed at every ramp from 7:30 to 11:30. Return the bags to the ramp entrance. If an item is too large, drag it up to the bottom of the dune for pickup later.

In Avon

Really, Really Free Market in Avon happens Saturday, April 1.

The market runs from 9 in the morning to noon at the Avon Fire Station.

The Really, Really Free Market started more than a decade ago, and became a valuable resource for islanders in need after several historic storms, including Hurricane Isabel in 2011, and Hurricane Dorian in 2019, (when the market was stationed in Frisco.)

Everyone is welcome at this free event. The public is invited to arrive with goods, services, skills, performances, stories, crafts, food, games, music, clothing, furniture, plants, and resources to share with others in the community. The event is self-organized by everyone who participates, and volunteers and donations are always appreciated.

Donations of clean, gently used, or new items are also accepted the morning of the event, but nothing is required to attend.

Hillbilly run and Flip Flop trot

The Hillbilly Run and Flip Flop Trot will be held this year on April 1 beginning at 3 in the afternoon at the Hatteras Civic Center.

Shank Austin received a tiny banjo in a case as first prize for being the first male runner in the 2022 5K. This fun and whimsical event was established in 2020 to fund the Monica F. Collingsworth Scarborough Memorial Scholarship. That run was initially canceled due to Covid. It was conceived to fund a scholarship for a student from Cape Hatteras Secondary School whose life had been touched by cancer but who managed to find positivity in the experience.

In 2021, the first event was held virtually with about 65 participants, and along with sponsors and donations, the event raised over \$4,000, resulting in the first scholarship awarded in the amount of \$2,500. Last year, it grew to almost 90 participants – live and in places other than Hatteras Village – with the organizers adding the iconic toilet paper finish line.

This year will be the second live event in Hatteras with a virtual option for those who are away from the island or would rather participate on their own terms but still would like to be a part of the event.

Participants are encouraged to complete the family-friendly Trot as they see fit, with volunteers circling through the courses playing banjo music. The slightly more serious 5K participants will begin their run ahead of others.

The 5K will run through an established course in Hatteras Village while participants in the Flip Flop Trot can walk, bike, skate, or however they see fit to reach the toilet paper finish line.

Registration is \$30. Bag pick up will be on March 31 from 5 to 7 o'clock at the Hatteras Civic Center or can be picked up an hour before the event begins.

Those wishing to sponsor the event can email organizers at hatterashillbilly@gmail.com for more information.

Finding Nemo presented April 1 at 7

The Hurrah Players present Finding Nemo Jr., Saturday night, April 1, in the Cape Hatteras Auditorium. Tickets for adults are \$15 and for children and students \$10. The one-time performance starts at 7 o'clock.

Now, be safe out there. Stay well. Thanks for listening. This is Radio Hatteras.

Public Service Announcements:

Broadcast at 6:30 and 7:45, April 1, 2023

This is Radio Hatteras with an afternoon weather update.

A strong cold front is sending southwest winds up Pamlico Sound.

At 6 o'clock, the Pamlico Sound is running high with large white caps in Rodanthe. The National Weather Service predicts perhaps 1 to 2 feet above ground inundation from Avon northward toward Roanoke Island. The wind is expected to fall out around 11 tonight.

In Frisco at 4 o'clock, the wind was blowing 25 from the southwest with gusts to 41 miles per hour.

In Rodanthe, the wind has been consistent from the south southwest. A gust at 48 miles per hour was recorded around 2 o'clock, which is still the highest wind speed.

The National Weather Service anticipates the coastal flooding threat will subside around 4 o'clock Sunday morning.

The service warned about high surf with ocean waves 7 to 9 feet in the surf zone for beaches south of Cape Hatteras.

Stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Broadcast at 4:47 p.m., April 1, 2023.

This is Radio Hatteras with an afternoon weather update.

A strong cold front is sending southwest winds up Pamlico Sound.

At 4 o'clock, the Pamlico Sound was running high with white caps in Rodanthe. The National Weather Service predicts perhaps 1 to 2 feet above ground inundation from Avon northward toward Roanoke Island. The wind is expected to fall out around 11 tonight.

In Frisco at 3 o'clock, the wind was blowing 23 from the southwest with gusts to 35 miles per hour. A Radio Hatteras Observer noted that Pamlico Sound water was low, pushed out by the wind.

In Rodanthe, the wind has been consistent from the south southwest. A gust at 48 miles per hour was recorded around 2 o'clock.

The National Weather Service anticipates the coastal flooding threat will subside around 4 o'clock Sunday morning.

The service warned about high surf with ocean waves 7 to 9 feet in the surf zone for beaches south of Cape Hatteras.

The National Weather Service indicates storms are expected to intensify until 7 o'clock tonight. Stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Insert or break in at 11:30, 1:30 and 2:30 today, March 31

Cape Hatteras baseball tournament scheduled for today.

Three baseball games will be played today, March 31, at the Cape Hatteras Secondary baseball diamond in Buxton.

The 2023 Surf, Sand and Service Tournament is scheduled to be played today.

Cape Hatteras games start at 3 and 5 o'clock. In the last game at 7 o'clock, tournament participants Green Hope and Panther Creek will face each other.

The tournament honors military personnel, law enforcement officers and first responders.

The Cape Hatteras Lady Hurricane Softball team is also playing. The softball game against Northeastern High School will start at 6 p.m. at the Buxton softball field.

Admission to the games is \$5 for the entire afternoon.

Insert at noon, 1, 2, 3, 4 today

This is Radio Hatteras with a hazardous weather warning.

The National Weather Service has issued a Wind Advisory for all of eastern North Carolina starting Saturday, tomorrow at sunrise and running through the day and evening until 2 o'clock Sunday morning.

A Gale warning is in effect for the Pamlico Sound and ocean waters. The weather service warns of dangerous seas and strong gale force winds starting Friday night and blowing through Saturday night.

Large surf and beach erosion south of Cape Hatteras is possible from Saturday afternoon through Saturday night. For south facing beaches the wave height in the surf zone is looking like 7 to 10 feet; for east facing beaches the wave height is 4 to 7 in the surf zone.

Soundside flooding of 1 to 3 feet above ground level may occur from Rodanthe northward at the same time.

Southwest winds are predicted to blow 25 to 35 miles per hour with gusts up to 50 miles per hour.

Strong to severe storms are a possibility.

The North Carolina Ferry division has a message for those planning ferry trips on Saturday. The forecast makes schedule interruptions likely on several routes. Consult the “current conditions” section of the division’s home page at ncferry.org.

Be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Insert or call in at noon, 3, 5 6:45 p.m. Friday, March 3, 2023.

This is Radio Hatteras with a Friday weather update. A strong cold front will move through the area tonight bringing strong southwest wind gusts as high as 40 to 50 miles per hour. Showers developing along the front could produce areas of locally enhanced higher wind gusts. The strong winds will lead to minor coastal hazards as well.

The National Weather Service has issued a Wind Advisory in effect from 7 tonight to 4 o’clock Saturday morning.

Minor water level rises, up to 1 foot above ground level, will be possible for soundside areas north of Hatteras Saturday morning.

A high surf advisory is in effect from 10 o’clock tonight to 10 Saturday morning. Large breaking waves of 6 to 9 feet are expected in the surf zone. The weather service warns of dangerous swimming and surfing conditions and localized beach erosion.

Stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Break in at 2 and 3 p.m., Feb. 12, 2023

This is Radio Hatteras with a Sunday afternoon weather update.

The National Weather Service has issued a high surf advisory for today.

Large breaking waves of 7 to 9 feet are expected in the surf zone from Hatteras Island north. The sun broke through just after 1 o’clock. It means the low pressure system is passing over Hatteras Island.

This is Radio Hatteras.

Break in at 4:30, 5, 7 and that's all for today.

This is Radio Hatteras with a Saturday afternoon weather update.

The National Weather Service is calling for gusty wind and minor water rises Sunday and Monday mornings, February 12 and 13.

Two sessions of water risings are expected. On Sunday morning, the weather service now says only one foot above ground is expected in the south and west Pamlico Sound.

On Monday morning, the soundside of Southern Hatteras Island may receive a foot of rising sound water.

Wind gusts up to 40 miles per hour are forecast.

Heavy rainfall with amounts ranging from one to three inches is expected on Sunday.

The coastal low pressure system is expected to pull away Monday morning with gusty northwest winds lessening during the day.

Be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Break in as close to noon as possible; then 1 and 3.

This is Radio Hatteras with a Saturday weather update.

The National Weather Service is calling for gusty wind and minor coastal flooding Sunday and Monday mornings, February 12 and 13.

Heavy rainfall is anticipated Sunday. The prediction is for over an inch of rain to fall over a dozen hours starting at 6 o'clock Sunday morning.

Two sessions of coastal flooding are expected. On Sunday morning, one to two feet above ground level is expected in the south and west Pamlico Sound.

On Monday morning, the soundside of Hatteras Island and the Outer Banks may receive coastal flooding of one to two feet.

A developing coastal low is tracking across eastern North Carolina.

As the front passes, wind direction changes.

On Sunday, wind direction starts East Northeast and swings to the east. By noon, the wind is coming from southeast; at 3, it's south; and by 6 o'clock, the wind is blowing southwest. At midnight, the wind is predicted to be west and later Monday morning coming from the northwest.

On Sunday, winds top out at 22 miles per hour with gusts to 33. Another, slightly higher peak shows up around 6 o'clock Monday morning.

The National Weather Service has posted these forecast challenges: Moderate and increasing confidence in only minor impacts. Some uncertainty remains with respect to strength and duration of West to Northwest winds as the low departs Monday.

Another National Weather Service briefing is anticipated this afternoon. This is Radio Hatteras.

Insert Thursday and Friday, Feb. 2 and 3, at 11:30 a.m. and Saturday, Feb. 4 at 8 a.m.

Saturday is Take Your Child to the Library Day. That's this Saturday, February 4. All three Dare County libraries including Hatteras Village and Manteo and Kill Devil Hills are offering a variety of programs from 10 to noon. Be there.

Insert Feb. 8, 9, 10, 15, at 11:30 a.m.

At the Fessenden Center at noon on Monday, February 20, an adult luncheon is scheduled. Local chef Dee Callahan will serve a three-course meal with dessert. The cost is \$12 per person. Registration is required by calling the Fessenden Center at 252-475-5746 or drop by the lobby. The registration deadline is February 15.

Insert Feb. 16, 18, at 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Two announcements together.

After the Fessenden Center's adult luncheon, at 1:15, February 20, the inaugural Hatteras Husband Holler Contest is scheduled. First prize is a ribbon and bragging rights until next year. Register to holler by calling 252-475-5746 or show up at 1:15, Monday, February 20.

The next day, Tuesday, February 21, The Outer Banks Hospital is offering free wellness screenings at the Fessenden Center from 9:30 a.m. to Noon. Wellness screening includes checking blood pressure, heart rate, cholesterol, blood sugar and body mass index along with health coaching. Appointments are highly recommended and take priority over walk-ins. To make an appointment, call The Outer Banks Hospital at 252-449-4529.

Insert Feb. 14, 16 at 11:30

A new shelling group will meet again Friday, February 17 to walk, talk and hunt shells along the gorgeous Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Bring a favorite shell bag to gather treasures. The group will meet at 10 a.m. at the parking area past the Cape Point Campground. For more information, call Annelise Wilcox at 252-475-5764 or stop by the Fessenden Center lobby. In the

event of inclement weather, call the Fessenden Center after 8:30 a.m. to confirm if the group will meet that day

Break in at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan 15, 2023

This is Radio Hatteras with a Sunday update

Good Sunday

For Cape Hatteras northward, the Coastal Flood Advisory remains in place and the high surf advisory is now active.

Both advisories are now only for oceanside locations from Cape Hatteras to Duck according to a mid-morning posting by the National Weather Service.

Minor coastal flooding of one to two feet above ground level is possible tonight through Monday morning, particularly in areas where dunes are vulnerable.

On the beaches, breaking waves of 6 to 8 feet are expected in the surf zone.

Last night on Hatteras Island, the temperature was 35 degrees in both Frisco and Rodanthe. The wind chill readings were 25 to 26 degrees. In Rodanthe, the wind has not varied from the northwest. The high wind reading was 37 miles per hour.

Soundside water has receded from Frisco shorelines.

Stay safe. This is Radio Hatteras.

Insert at 5 p.m. or shortly thereafter Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023.

This is Radio Hatteras with a weather update

Two National Weather Service advisories remain in place: a coastal flood advisory and a high surf advisory.

The high surf advisory starts Sunday, January 15 around 1 and lasts through Monday morning.

Large breaking waves of 6 to 8 feet are expected in the surf zone.

Soundside flooding has started.

In Hatteras, sound water is creeping up but not covering Eagle Pass Road.

In Frisco, sound water is covering soundfront yards.

In Rodanthe, Waves and Salvo at 3:30, tidal creeks along NC 12 are filling but not overflowing. The flooding prediction is one to two feet about ground level.

This is Radio Hatteras.

Insert during the 3 p.m. hour and again at 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023.

This is Radio Hatteras with a new weather advisory

The National Weather Service issued a high surf advisory starting Sunday afternoon. The coastal flood advisory for soundside and oceanside Hatteras Island remains in effect. The high surf advisory, issued around 2:30 this afternoon, is in place Sunday, January 15 starting around 1 and running through Monday morning. Large breaking waves of 6 to 8 feet are expected in the surf zone. The weather service forecasts a long period of strong north northwest winds may lead to minor soundside flooding along Hatteras Island and the Outer Banks Saturday night into Sunday morning. Water level rises of one to two feet above ground level are predicted. On Sunday and Monday, a deepening coastal storm offshore develops and sends long period swells toward ocean shores. The swells may bring flooding from the ocean Sunday night into early Monday morning. Dangerous swimming and surfing conditions and localized beach erosion may occur. Localized minor ocean overwash possible, north of Cape Hatteras, for areas where dune structures are vulnerable. Tonight, the temperature drops to 32 with wind chill plunging to 25 degrees overnight. Tonight, the northwest winds could gust 34 miles per hour.

This is Radio Hatteras.

Insert at 11, 1, 3, 5 Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023

This is Radio Hatteras with a coastal flood advisory.

The National Weather Service has issued a coastal flood advisory for soundside and Oceanside Hatteras Island. The weather service forecast reports a prolonged period of strong north northwest winds may lead to minor soundside flooding along Hatteras Island and the Outer Banks Saturday night into Sunday morning. Water level rises of one to two feet above ground level are predicted. On Sunday and Monday, a deepening coastal storm offshore develops and sends long period swells toward ocean shores. The swells may bring flooding from the ocean Sunday night into early Monday morning. The northwest winds could gust 40 miles per hour. Tonight, the temperature drops to 35 with wind chill plunging to 21 degrees overnight. This is Radio Hatteras.