

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:

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, June 25, 2023.

Vessel grounded Sunday, removed from beach Wednesday.

On Sunday evening, June 18, the Carol-Ina, a 28-foot vessel grounded on the beach between Frisco and Hatteras. Four people were on board. No injuries were reported.

The boat lost power and wind and high seas pushed the boat onto the beach.

On Wednesday morning, northbound traffic on NC 12 was shut down so that a crane could lift the vessel over the dune and onto a trailer. The lane closure happened about 11 o'clock and by noon the roadway was reopened.

The National Park Service reviewed the work plan submitted by the contractor and approved a permit for Wednesday to remove the vessel. The park service coordinated with NCDOT, State Highway Patrol, Dare County Sheriff's office and Dare County Emergency Management.

Dare school board launches two new initiatives

At its June 12, 2023, meeting, the Dare County Board of Education approved two new initiatives.

The board is inviting students to apply to be advisors to the board. Detailed guidelines and criteria were published June 21, 2023.

Superintendent Steve Basnight made the recommendation to select a student advisor from each of the system's three high schools.

For guidelines and application form, go to daretolearn.org.

Next, the board agreed to send a Letter of Intent to form an Early College for Dare County Schools to the state's Department of Public Instruction.

The idea for an Early College School for Dare County was first introduced during the Dare Board of Education March 27, 2023, retreat. Before the June meeting, board members visited Early College Schools in Rocky Mount and in Currituck County.

An Early College is a public school. State funds are allocated.

According to a brief listing in the agenda book, an Early College School "is a blend of High School and College." Such a school has a "pervasive college going culture with a focus on completion of an Associate Degree or Certification from College of The Albemarle."

The aim is to start the Early College in Fall 2024, using the previous College of The Albemarle facility on Russell Twiford Road.

The application deadline is Oct. 4, 2023.

Emergency Wi-Fi system coming to island

Hatteras Island Community Emergency Response Team received a grant for \$26,900 toward the purchase of six trailers, generators, and communications equipment to operate six satellite internet access points at strategic sites around the island for internet and phone service during a fiber cut or natural disaster. "This project will provide free wifi calling for residents, visitors, law enforcement, and emergency management personnel when lines are down," said Kenny Brite, the team's Board Chair. "Whether it is nine hours, or nine days as was the case after Hurricane Irene, this new system will allow important and sometimes life-saving communications to continue on our island."

The Outer Banks Community Foundation provided the grant.

First Leatherback Sea Turtle in 11 years

The first Leatherback Sea Turtle nest laid on Ocracoke Island in 11 years was discovered this past week, says a Cape Hatteras National Seashore media release.

On Monday, June 19, a nest with 93 eggs was laid on the beach and found in the early morning hours during a routine turtle patrol.

The Leatherback is the largest sea turtle in the world, weighing up to 2,000 pounds and measuring up to 6 and ½ feet as adults

Because the nest was right at the high tide line, park biologists relocated all 93 eggs to a safer spot on the beach.

Raise you heads for permitted fireworks show

The Independence Day Fireworks show in Avon is scheduled for Tuesday, July 4 in the evening.

The fireworks display, permitted by and in cooperation with the National Park Service and Dare County, will begin at 9:15, from a launch site at the end of the Avon Pier. The ensuing show, orchestrated and presented by the contractor PYROTECNICO, typically lasts about 20 minutes.

The fireworks are visible all along the Avon beach.

Parking adjacent to the launch site is limited. Visitors are encouraged to walk, bike, or carpool to their closest beach access.

Visitors are advised to avoid surfing or swimming within 500 feet of the pier in any direction, as it is highly dangerous and the Dare County Fire Marshal could call off the event due to any unsafe conditions. In 2022, people in the water near the Avon Pier caused about a 15-minute delay in the fireworks show, according to event organizers.

Hatteras Island's annual Independence Day celebration is sponsored by the Avon Property Owners Association and is funded in part by the Outer Bank Visitors Bureau.

Radio Hatteras will provide patriotic music for an hour starting at 9 o'clock. Tune in to 101 point 5 FM from Buxton or 99 point 9 FM broadcasting from Rodanthe.

And get ready for the Hatteras Village Golf Cart Parade and Community Cookout on July 4.

Fireworks reminders

Cape Hatteras National Seashore visitors and adjacent homeowners are reminded that it is illegal to detonate fireworks, or have fireworks in your possession, on all land managed by the National Park Service, including all beaches from the southern Nags Head border through Hatteras and Ocracoke islands. The fireworks shows held at the south end of Ocracoke Island and the Avon Fishing Pier have gone through a formal review process and received special use permits from the National Park Service for the shows.

For all of Hatteras Island, Dare County has an ordinance prohibiting fireworks.

Trash collection schedule

No changes to Dare County's residential or commercial collection are scheduled for Independence Day, which is celebrated on Tuesday, July 4, 2023.

All unincorporated areas of Dare County will therefore operate trash collection on a normal schedule on Tuesday, July 4, 2023.

All Dare County offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2023 in observance of Independence Day.

These closures include the Dare County C&D Landfill, Buxton Transfer Station and Manteo Recycle Yard.

All Dare County offices and facilities will reopen at 8:30 on Wednesday, morning July 5, 2023.

Kayak and crab with a ranger

Cape Hatteras National Seashore staff offers Kayak with a Ranger and Crabbing with a Ranger programs. To sign up to participate in these programs, call the following phone numbers beginning the on the Saturday prior to the program date:

To pre-register for Kayak with Ranger, call 252-513-2457.

The Kayak program is offered Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 10 in the morning.

To pre-register for crabbing, call 252-966-1761.

The Crabbing with a Ranger program is held Tuesdays and Fridays from 9-10:30 in the morning.

Three markets this week

Tuesday: Avon Farmers Market, 9 to 1, next to Vacasa.

Wednesday: Tri-village Market, 9 to 1 at Camp Hatteras Waves, outside and inside, soundside

Thursday: Old Trent Market 9 to 2 at Frisco Woods Campground, out front

Weather week

It was a rainy week with strong waves

Starting on Wednesday, the National Weather Service issued notice of high rip current risk for all Hatteras Island beaches. The same notice was posted on Thursday, June 22. Only the south facing beaches had a high rip current notice on Friday.

On Thursday and Friday the rains came.

On Thursday, the lightning was so dangerous that the famed performance of the beach apparatus drill at the Chicamacomico Life-saving Station was cancelled. The drill is performed every Thursday at 2 o'clock.

In Frisco, over those two days, two and one half inches of rain were recorded.

Two storms marched across the Atlantic this week. Tropical Storm Brett is slowing down in the Caribbean Sea. The Hurricane Center issued its last advisory on Brett Saturday at 5 o'clock. Tropical Storm Cindy is predicted also to slow down and degenerate into a low pressure system in the mid-Atlantic.

Welcome to Radio Hatteras. Thanks for listening. This is truly a great place to live and visit.

Please respect this island, the people who live here and the animals that visit.

Fill in the hole that you and your friends dug.

A turtle crawling up the beach at night will fall in and die.

A rescue vehicle responding to an emergency, an emergency that could be your loved one, could be wrecked.

Fill in that hole on the beach.

Stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, June 18, 2023.

Head on collision brings about three deaths

On Monday, June 12, at 10:30 in the morning, a head-on collision brought about three deaths.

A blue Dodge Caravan driven by Elijah Midgette, 25, Rodanthe, crossed left of center and collided head on with a burgundy Chevrolet Suburban driven by Carolyn Elmore, 55, Bracey, Va., reported Sgt. Matthew Bryan, with the highway patrol.

The collision took place just south of the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, where NC 12 makes a short rise and curves.

Six people were involved in the incident.

Midgette was pronounced dead at the scene. Elmore was taken to The Outer Banks Hospital where she died, said Sgt. Bryan.

On late Tuesday afternoon, a passenger in the suburban, Elizabeth Sadler, who was 88, died. She was from Blackridge, Virginia.

Multiple first responder units responded to the scene. Chicamacomico Banks Fire and Rescue and Nags Head Fire Department were dispatched.

Dare Emergency Medical Services rolled four ambulances to the scene along with four supervisors in addition to the Dare MedFlight response.

Dare County Sheriff's deputies, a National Park Service law officer, one law enforcement officer from U.S. Fish and Wildlife, off-duty U.S. Coast Guard members and bystanders helped at the scene.

As a result of the wreck, NC 12 was closed with law enforcement officers turning vehicles around at Oregon Inlet and at the roundabout in Rodanthe. The highway reopened at 1:45 p.m.

On Saturday, a moving funeral service for Elijah O'Neal Midgette was held outside under sunny skies at Fair Haven United Methodist Church in Rodanthe. Burial was at the family cemetery also in Rodanthe

Dare school board approves two initiatives

The Dare County Board of Education approved inviting student advisors to provide student perspectives and approved sending a letter of intent to form an Early College school for the system.

Superintendent Steve Basnight made the recommendation to select student advisors.

Director of Secondary Education Denise Fallon explained that advisors will come from the 11th grade in each of the systems three high schools. An application and interview process will be followed. Criteria include a grade point average standard, two recommendations from school personnel.

The application form has not yet been posted on the school system's website, though it may have been sent directly to students. According to the schedule, students will have until July 28 to fill out the application. Interviews would be conducted before the board's August meeting. Training would take place in August and the advisors would be sworn in September.

Board members have visited Early College Schools in Rocky Mount and in Currituck County.

An early college is a public school and state funded, though currently Dare County contributes teacher supplements, facility funds, nurses and school resource officers at district schools.

According to a brief listing in the agenda book, an Early College School "is a blend of High School and College." Such a school has a "pervasive college going culture with a focus on completion of an Association Degree of Certification from College of The Albemarle."

Business indicators still down

May Real Estate market indicators and other statistics show the health Hatteras Island's economy.

Over the five months of 2023 and 2022, Business correspondent Tom Hranicka reports "not much change in the general patterns."

All of the major indicators posted negative results including residential sale prices. The median sale price of homes was \$567,500, down almost 9 percent from January through May of last year.

The undeveloped lot market once again reported mixed performance results with both the number of properties for sale and those that were sold being less than during a similar time period in 2022.

In May 2023, however, the number of lots under contract through May showed a slight improvement and the median sale price of lots showed a 10 percent increase.

From a longer-term monthly perspective, homes for sale on the entire island during the past seven months have been stuck in the 70 to 80 range. Except for one month, 20 to 30 cottages have been sold each month since June 2022. Residential properties under contract has been on a downward trend for the last 15 months.

Residential median sale prices are still high but reflect a slight downward trend. As long as the supply of homes for sale is limited prices can be expected to remain elevated, writes Hranicka.

Looking at food service and lodging industries on the island through April, Meal Tax receipts were up 1.7 percent but occupancy taxes were down 2.5% from the same period last year.

Weather next week

For the next seven days, weather watchers need to direct attention to the tropical weather outlook from the National Hurricane Center.

At 8 a.m. Sunday morning, the center predicted that a tropical wave will develop into a tropic depression in the next day or two. In mid-week, the system is expected to move westward across the eastern and central tropical Atlantic Ocean at a speed of 15 to 20 miles per hour.

Tropical cyclone formation chance through 7 days is high at 90 percent.

Locally, if you have outside work to get done, Monday is the day.

For Monday night and Tuesday day and night, the National Weather Service is calling for a chance of showers.

Wednesday and Thursday, showers are likely. A chance of showers is called for on Friday and Saturday.

Remember weekday markets on Hatteras Island

Tuesday: Avon Farmers Market, 9 to 1 at Vacasa.

Wednesday: Tri-village Market, 9 to 1 at Camp Hatteras Waves

Thursday: Old Trent Market 9 to 2 at Frisco Woods Campground

Make a date for next Saturday to attend the **Hatteras Village Fish Fry** that starts at 5 o'clock in the afternoon at the Hatteras Village Volunteer Fire Station. Large plates are \$13 and small plates \$9.

And remember, if you dig a hole, fill it in before you leave the beach. Holes left unfilled are dangerous. And, if some party was so rude as to not fill in a hole, please take some time to make the beach safe for everyone.

This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News summary for Sunday, June 11, 2023.

Cape Hatteras Secondary holds commencement On Saturday night, 48 Cape Hatteras Secondary School seniors received high school diplomas.

The William P. Dillon Memorial campus gymnasium was filled with family members and friends of the soon-to-be graduates.

It was a light-hearted evening. Speakers spoke with humor and meaning. Applause and some shouts rang out when individuals were called to walk across the stage. After the ceremony, families gathered around graduates. Generations of families were photographed inside the gymnasium and outside on the freshly-mown athletic field.

The 25-member Graduation Band played the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance" for the processional and recessional. A unit from the United States Coast Guard presented the colors, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the National Anthem was played by the band.

And then, the program started with Class President Molly Hanburger in English and Alan Garcia in Spanish issuing the welcome and a recitation of events that brought the Class of 2023 to the ceremony. Hanburger welcomed folks, including "high powered" people not known to her.

Earning special recognition at Commencement was Valedictorian Casia Enseñat, who will attend Appalachian State University to study nursing. She received \$34,500 in scholarships.

Salutatorian Oralia Alice Cirisa will attend Long Island University to study veterinary science. She received a \$128,000 recognition scholarship from the university. She honored her mother, who left family behind to come to Hatteras Island. "My mom is my hero."

The Citizenship Award for the class was presented by Principal Beth Rooks to Addyson Mae Wilson. She inspires and leads behind the scenes. At 12, she participated in a field service trip to Uganda and in 2019 went to Zambia to help villages through her church.

The keynote speaker was middle school teacher A.J. Gazda, who delivered the address for the class for its eighth grade promotion event. He shared all of *Desiderata* by Max Ehrmann, written in 1927. The opening line is "Go placidly amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons."

Closing remarks were delivered by Alexis Zavala-Roldan in English and Yelsin Selvin in Spanish. "Let us choose wisely.... Look forward with hope and determination."

Some 21 students in the Class of 2023 received 72 scholarships totaling \$610,500 for post-secondary education. The scholarships were presented by 51 organizations, businesses, families and colleges.

Two young men were absent from the ceremony. Ethen Robert Lord has already joined AmeriCorps and Declan Michael McMahon is already serving in the United States Air Force.

Dare Schools Superintendent Stephen G. Basnight stood at the top of the stage stairs to shake hands with every class member which was something new.

Six members of the Dare County Board of Education members attended the ceremony.

Helping Rooks with the awarding diplomas was Assistant Principal Annette Peele, who looked at each diploma to make sure it was the correct one for the student. This was her last graduation as Annette Peele is retiring.

Six Cape Hatteras graduates also received College of The Albemarle degrees. Six Cape Hatteras Secondary students earned Associate of Arts degrees from College of The Albemarle as well as High School Diplomas from Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies. The six graduates are Shaley Ballance, Misty Elder, Casia Ensenat, Molly Hanburger, Lilian Ratliff and Addyson Wilson.

Dare commissioners met Monday, June 5

Dare County Board of Commissioners met Monday, June 5 and adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2024. The budget total representing all funds is \$224.6 million.

The property tax rate remains 40.05 cents per \$100 valuation.

Employees receive a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment in Fiscal Year 2024.

The county's health plan has no projected increase for next fiscal year.

Eleven positions are eliminated. One is added.

Grounds maintenance and recycling will be operated by contractors.

Dare County Schools receive \$26.9 million for school operating costs under the funding formula developed in 2016. Additionally, the county will spend \$1.4 million from its operating budget for school nurses and school resource officers.

A capital projects budget will be presented at a later time.

A budget amendment for up to \$500,000 from appropriated fund balance was transferred to capital projects to build Recreational Pickleball Courts.

The site is not selected.

At the Rodanthe Harbor, existing bulkhead on the north and south sides will be replaced. The bill is \$188,750.

Funding was approved for emergency dredging at the entrance to Hatteras Harbor.

The Avon Fireworks show for the Fourth of July was approved as was a quitclaim deed for property at the Buxton Harbor.

George Banks, Dennis Robinson and Jeff Oden were reappointed to the Hatteras Community Center Board of Trustees.

Dare planning board meets

On Tuesday, Dare County planning board met in quick meeting. The board approved a preliminary plat for a two-lot subdivision in northern Roanoke Island.

The planning board and the board of commissioners are planning a joint meeting to discuss changes to the Cluster Housing Ordinance. Some zoning districts on Hatteras Island permit cluster housing projects.

Felony drug arrest made Tuesday

On Tuesday afternoon, June 6, 2023, at about 1 o'clock, Dare County Sheriff's Deputies working along with North Carolina State Highway Patrol conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in Avon, near Food Lion on NC 12. Probable cause was established to search the vehicle.

During the search, deputies located and seized a trafficking amount of Cocaine, over 250 grams of Marijuana, US Currency, Marijuana Paraphernalia and Drug Paraphernalia.

Noah Robert Sizemore, 42, Virginia Beach, Virginia, was arrested and charged with Felony Possession of Cocaine, felony Trafficking in Cocaine, felony possession with intent to sell and deliver Cocaine, felony Possession of Marijuana, felony possession with intent to sell and deliver Marijuana, felony Maintaining a Vehicle, misdemeanor Possession of Marijuana Paraphernalia and misdemeanor Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Sizemore was given a \$155,000 secured bond.

Dustin Peele named Employee of the month.

Dustin Peele, who serves as the special projects and purchasing manager for Dare County, has been named Dare County Employee of the Month for June 2023. The award was presented to Peele by Dare County Finance Director David Clawson at the Dare County Board of Commissioners meeting held Monday morning, June 5.

Peele initially began his service to Dare County on July 7, 2014, when he was hired as a purchasing agent for the Finance Department before being promoted to his current position of special projects and purchasing manager for the Finance Department May 17, 2021.

In his role as special projects and purchasing manager, Peele is tasked with a wide array of responsibilities, including approving requisitions and processing purchase orders for all Dare County entities; developing, implementing and administering the procurement and purchasing system; managing all surplus property transactions and property disposal procedures; and establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with vendors, associates and the general public.

Peele's role as special projects and purchasing manager includes overseeing all aspects of various special projects that take place throughout Dare County, from the initial bidding process to the multiple phases of construction and each project's eventual completion.

Dare school board meets Monday June 12

Air Quality alert across North Carolina

On Friday, in Eastern North Carolina, the air quality index dropped to code Yellow after a couple of days of Code Orange. Smoke from Canadian wildfires drifted down the United States eastern seaboard into North Carolina.

School board meets Monday

Dare County Board of Education meets Monday, June 12 at the Dare County Administration Building in Manteo.

The board meets in a closed session at 4:15 and at 5 o'clock in open session for its regular monthly meeting.

The regular meeting is live streamed through the Dare Schools website, daretolearn.org. Agendas are available at the same website.

Hatteras Island items include approval of a Solar plus grant from N.C. Green Power for Cape Hatteras Secondary school and special recognition for students earning Community College degrees. The board will approve changes to six policies and hear for first reading changes for another five policies.

The board is asked to send a notice of intent to the state's Department of Public Instruction to establish an early college program for Dare Schools.

Remember weekday markets on Hatteras Island

Tuesday: Avon Farmers Market, 9 to 1 at Vacasa.

Wednesday: Tri-village Market, 9 to 1 at Camp Hatteras Waves

Thursday: Old Trent Market 9 to 2 at Frisco Woods Campground

On Wednesday, Artists and crafters will set up at the Family Life Center in Buxton. The show runs from 10 to 3. The center is across NC 12 from Cape Hatteras Secondary School.

Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation holds its Annual Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation Barbecue Benefit, Tuesday, June 13 starting at 5:30 until the barbecue runs out. The event will be held between the Hatteras Post Office and the Hatteras Library.

The BBQ dinner will be provided by Crazy Johnny's BBQ and includes pork sandwiches, baked beans, coleslaw, macaroni salad, drinks, and homemade desserts. Plates are \$20.

Proceeds go to the Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation, which is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization. The Foundation assists Hatteras Island community members with medical bills not covered by insurance and for travel expenses for cancer treatments.

For more information about the Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation, go to hicf.org

Speckled Trout Fishing Tournament

This week, the Cape Hatteras Anglers Club's Third Annual Speckled Trout Tournament starts. This tournament is wide open to the public.

Registration at \$45 can be made in advance by calling (252) 995-4253. Cash prizes are awarded in three categories: men, women and youth.

On Wednesday, June 14, tournament registration runs from 4 to 7 o'clock at the clubhouse, 47231 Light Plant Road in Buxton.

On June 15, fishing starts at 5:30 in the morning in the Pamlico Sound. Late registration starts at 6 o'clock. Day 1 weigh in is set for 7 to 9 at night.

On Friday, June 16, fishing starts at 5:30 in the morning in the Pamlico Sound and ends at 5 in the afternoon. Weight-in is from 5 to 7. Dinner and awards follow final weigh-in.

Make a date for next Saturday to attend the Hatteras Village Fish Fry that starts at 5 o'clock in the afternoon at the Hatteras Village Volunteer Fire Station. Large plates are \$13 and small plates \$9.

Operation Beach Respect is set for June 17. This North Carolina Beach Buggy Association event helps sweep the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Beaches. Association volunteer members will be at the entrance of all open off-road vehicle ramps in the morning hours to hand out information and garbage bags. Walk the beach where you parked for the day and pick up trash. Return trash bags to the ramp entrance for pickup.

And, while we're talking about beaches. If you dig a hole, fill it in before you leave the beach. Holes left unfilled are dangerous. And, if some party was so rude as to not fill in a hole, please take some time to make the beach safe for everyone.

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

Weekly News Summary for June 4, 2023.

The weather wasn't ideal. Most days this past week were gray and foggy with high humidity and cool temperatures.

This weekend Hatteras Island was served up more weather. The National Weather Service warned islanders about possible coastal flooding and overwash.

The coastal flood warning is in effect until early Monday morning

A conservation group and law center tackle collapsing houses in Rodanthe

The Southern Environmental Law Center on behalf of the North Carolina Coastal Federation is urging the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and the National Park Service to do something to protect public health.

In a letter dated May 25, 2023, to David Hallac, Superintendent of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, the law center and coastal federation ask the federal agency to avert "the imminent threats to public health, welfare, and safety and the ongoing degradation of valuable natural resources created by collapsing houses and exposed and abandoned septic tanks in the village of Rodanthe."

The 12-page Hallac letter concludes: "We implore you to take action to prevent future contamination of Cape Hatteras National Seashore and to hold private property owners responsible for preventing and remediating the damage caused by their collapsing buildings and failing septic systems."

The letter to the state's Department of Health and Human Services is slightly different.

That letter asks the department to “(1) enforce its existing septic regulations to protect the public from improperly-sited, exposed, damaged, or malfunctioning septic systems at the beach; and (2) utilize the Secretary’s authorities to identify and abate public health nuisances and imminent hazards to address the imminent dangers to public health and safety created by oceanfront houses at risk of collapse, coastal debris fields created by collapsed houses, and exposed or detached septic tanks on any portion of the beach.”

Both letters address in detail Southern Environmental Law Center’s understanding of the authorities that permit health regulators and park service decision-makers to act to stop house collapses.

Noah Gillam, Dare County’s Planning Director, reports around a dozen Rodanthe houses are currently labelled unsafe for occupancy.

After two houses collapsed May 10, 2022, the National Park Service counted 33 septic systems and drain fields exposed.

After a survey of two miles of the Rodanthe oceanfront, Dare County Emergency Management Director Drew Pearson sent letters to 51 property owners. The assessment by Pearson and Emergency Management Planner James Wooten catalogued the structures that have a “significant risk of becoming inaccessible due to hazardous ocean water on a recurring basis.”

The property owner letter states “When your property is surrounded by hazardous ocean water we become unable to provide public safety services to include responding to routine and emergency fire, medical and law-enforcement calls made from your property.”

Pearson’s letter encourages the house owner to ensure the property is not occupied when it is surrounded by hazardous ocean water. The letter also recommends disconnecting electrical and propane services.

May Crime blotter released for unincorporated Dare County

On June 1, 2023, the Dare County Sheriff released the May blotter listing felony crimes occurring in unincorporated Dare County. Out of 15 crimes listed, Hatteras Island had nine.

Three firearms are reported stolen from unlocked vehicles on Hatteras Island.

On May 6, Larceny reported in Waves. Electric golf cart stolen by unknown individual(s). Golf cart was located unoccupied and returned to owner.

On May 9, Breaking and Entering and Larceny reported in Buxton. Building broken into with money stolen. Under investigation.

Also on May 9, Breaking and Entering Motor Vehicle reported in Hatteras. Firearm reported missing from an unlocked vehicle. Under investigation.

On May 10, Breaking and Entering Motor Vehicle was reported in Frisco. Firearm reported missing from an unlocked vehicle. Under investigation.

On May 16, Breaking and Entering reported in Avon. Vacant home found to have been broken into. Nothing reported stolen.

Also on May 16, Breaking and Entering Motor Vehicle reported in Hatteras. Firearm reported missing from an unlocked vehicle. Under investigation.

On May 24, Financial Credit Card Fraud reported in Avon. Several unauthorized transactions on subject’s financial card. Under investigation.

On May 30, Financial Credit Card Fraud reported in Buxton. Several unauthorized transactions on subject’s financial card. Under investigation.

On May 31, Larceny of Dog reported in Buxton. Victim reported someone removed the dog from its chain during the night. Under investigation.

Additionally, a drug arrest was made May 30.

At about 11:28 at night, Dare Sheriff’s deputies responded to a suspicious person at a closed business. When they arrived, two individuals were found in a public vehicular area of the closed business. While

speaking to them, a bookbag was located. Both denied ownership of it. It was checked for identification and an amount of Methamphetamine along with an ID of a person who was on scene was located and seized. Kristen Marie Jarvis, 39, from Buxton was arrested and charged with felony Possession of Methamphetamine. Jarvis was given a \$15,000 secured bond.

On Hatteras Island Beaches

On the Cape Hatteras National Seashore beaches, 18 sea turtle nests have been counted by seashore staffers as of early afternoon June 3. All are loggerhead nests.

Six years ago, the number of nests reported was 32.

Along North Carolina beaches, 135 sea turtle nests have been counted. Six years ago, the number was 169.

On the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, American oystercatcher nests number 17 active with six chicks. Colonial waterbirds have established 138 active nests.

Piping plover have two active nests both on South Beach at Cape Hatteras.

For off-road vehicle ramp access, go to [n p s dot gov slash plan your visit slash conditions](https://www.nps.gov/plan-your-visit/conditions)

Board of Commissioners meets Monday morning at 9

Dare County Board of Commissioners meets Monday, June 5, 2023, in regular session in the Commissioners Meeting Room at 954 Marshall C. Collins Dr., Manteo.

The meeting starts at 9 a.m.

On the agenda is a public hearing on the County Manager's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024. That hearing is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. This is the operating budget. The Capital Improvement budget will be presented at a later date.

Children and Youth Partnership for Dare County will also report on its program and services and provide an update on the current child care situation in Dare County.

The Wall That Heals project will be in Dare county Nov. 15 through 19, 2023. The Dare County Tourism Board awarded a \$25,000 Event Grant for the project and the commissioners are asked to take appropriate action.

Hatteras Harbor Emergency Dredging is needed to address shoaling that is impeding use of the harbor's entrance/exit. Commissioners are asked for \$25,000 for the project. The state will provide \$100,000.

Under the consent agenda among the 12 listed items three are on Hatteras Island. The commissioners are asked to approve a budget amendment for the Rodanthe Harbor Bulkhead project, the Avon Fourth of July 2023 fireworks display and a quitclaim deed for Buxton Harbor.

Public Comments on any agenda item or issue is on the agenda and can be made in person in the Manteo meeting room. Public comment can also be made electronically from the Fessenden Center Annex, 47095 Buxton Back Road, Buxton.

On **Wednesday, June 7, the Hatteras Library** will provide a pop-up Library at the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building in Rodanthe.

Library staff will be present from 10 in the morning to Noon with a selection of library materials for all ages. Browsing and borrowing is encouraged. Folks can also sign up for a library card or put books on hold for the Library's next visit.

Outer Banks Buddies Schools Out Deck Jam set for June 9

On Friday, June 9, Outer Banks Buddies will have a Schools Out Deck Jam and Fundraiser. The event takes place at The Inn on Pamlico Sound in Buxton.

Outer Banks Buddies is a new organization. This fall, children and elderly residents will be paired with a buddy for a season. The pair will spend an hour a week together, discovering new activities and events to see what Hatteras Island has to offer.

The Deck Jam starts at 2 o'clock with a kids float party. Lifeguards will be on duty.

Live Music by SoulOne and food available for purchase is highlighted from 5 to 8.

Raffle items feature donations from Hatteras Island villages businesses.

Raffle tickets can be purchased at Kat's Deli in Hatteras, The Inn on Pamlico Sound front office in Buxton or from Outer Banks Buddies board members, Whitney Dempsey, Ashlee Garcia, Jenn Meekins, Melissa Herman and Alicia Packer for \$5 or 5 for \$20.

The Deck Jam is free and open to the public. The event offers an opportunity to celebrate the end of school and learn about the new Outer Banks Buddies organization.

Graduation activities

On June 8, in the morning, Cape Hatteras graduating seniors will rehearse graduation and then take a bus to Cape Hatteras Elementary School where a Walk of Fame along the first floor corridor will take place.

On Saturday, June 10 at 7 in the evening, Commencement begins for 49 members of the Class of 2023 at Cape Hatteras Secondary. The ceremony will be held in the gymnasium.

Now, stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly News summary for Sunday, May 28, 2023.

A storm of some sort visited Hatteras Island this weekend

A wet, cold, gray and somewhat windy Hatteras Island marked this Memorial Day weekend.

A coastal low pressure system formed off the southeast coast. That kind of storm can be just as troublesome as a hurricane.

The National Weather Service issued advisories about high winds and dangerous surf conditions. Rain totals of up to two inches were anticipated. Marine conditions were described as life-threatening.

June 1 starts the 2023 Hurricane season.

NOAA forecasters with the Climate Prediction Center predict near-normal hurricane activity in the Atlantic this year.

NOAA's outlook for the 2023 Atlantic hurricane season, which ends November 30, predicts a 40% chance of a near-normal season, a 30% chance of an above-normal season, and a 30% chance of a below-normal season.

NOAA is forecasting a range of 12 to 17 total named storms with winds of 39 miles per hour or higher. Of those, 5 to 9 could become hurricanes with winds of 74 miles per hour or higher, including 1 to 4 major hurricanes in categories 3, 4 or 5 with winds of 111 miles per hour or higher.

This summer, NOAA will implement a series of upgrades and improvements.

NOAA will expand the capacity of its operational supercomputing system by 20% to run more complex forecast models.

Upgrades or new tools for hurricane analysis and forecasting include the National Hurricane Center's Tropical Weather Outlook graphic, which shows tropical cyclone formation potential. The forecasts range expands from five to seven days.

Over the last 10 years, flooding from tropical storm rainfall was the single deadliest hazard. To give communities more time to prepare, the Weather Prediction Center is extending the Excessive Rainfall Outlook an additional two days, now providing forecasts up to five days in advance.

Two projects underway this season include new small aircraft drone systems, the deployment of additional Saildrones and underwater gliders and windborne global sounding balloons. These new technologies will advance the knowledge of hurricanes, fill critical data gaps and improve hurricane forecast accuracy.

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center will update the 2023 Atlantic seasonal outlook in early August, just prior to the historical peak of the season.

Long-range Tourism Management Plan released

On Wednesday, May 24, a 10-year tourism management plan was released by Dare County's Tourism board.

Our Long Range Tourism Management Plan focuses on protecting core values and managing growth of tourism. The plan aims to make sure tourism preserves and even benefits the environment, culture, and community livelihood. Thank includes quality of life for residents and quality of place for visitors."

To put together the plan, about a year's worth of work was required by consultants, Visitors Bureau staff and the public.

In 2021, tourism directly supported almost half, 45.5%, of all jobs in Dare County.

People held 12,295 jobs in food service, accommodations, retail, transportation, and other sectors.

While the statistics describe the Dare County economy, the plan addresses how to manage tourism growth.

Consultants interviewed people one-on-one, in seven focus groups, held two resident town hall meetings and analyzed the 4,538 responses to a survey..

More than 60% of survey respondents live on the Outer Banks year-round. "Residents would like to attract visitors who are respectful of our local lifestyle and who care about protecting our natural resources," states the report.

The plan picks up on opinions expressed in the stakeholder responses. Value and vision statements are presented.

"Outer Banks Values: A historically significant coastal community rooted in tradition, shaped by its dynamic natural environment, and celebrated for its quality experiences for locals and visitors.

"Outer Banks Vision: In 2033, the Outer Banks will be Idyllic island communities where residents and visitors coexist and thrive thanks to thoughtful efforts to balance and sustain quality of life with quality of place."

Four strategies are listed along with numerous tactics to apply those strategies. The four strategies are:

- Strengthen resident and visitor engagement
- Adopt an integrated approach to improving environmental stewardship
- Support infrastructure development that benefits the vitality of the community for residents and visitors
- Collaborate to advocate for an increase in housing diversity for all residents

The tactics list is long and needs to be studied and prioritized.

The roles of the Tourism Board and Outer Banks Visitors Bureau will vary depending on the topic to be explored and/or implemented. The entities will at times be advocates, leaders, conveners and supporters.

The Tourism Board is expected to take up the plan at its next meeting scheduled for June 15. The Long-Range Tourism Management Plan is now uploaded to the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau website at outerbanks.org/partners/long-range-tourism-management-plan, with a dash between all words. A video of the public meeting held May 24, 2023, will also be posted.

Cape Hatteras Electric receives safety awards; Flythe delivers updates

At the Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative Annual meeting, the cooperative's staff received two prestigious safety and health awards, presented scholarships and heard a very upbeat report from General Manager Susan Flythe.

North Carolina Secretary of Labor Josh Dobson delivered a Safety and Health Achievement and Recognition Program award, the highest state award for workplace safety and health.

The cooperative workers also received the Rural Electric Safety Award from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Susan Flythe, General Manager and Executive Vice President, reiterated in her remarks, "the cornerstone of our business, as stated in our mission statement, is safety."

The recertification by the two programs highlights the cooperative's loss time record. It has been five years and over 262,000 hours with no lost time accidents.

Flythe reported that 2022 operating margins "continue to be healthy and meet all the requirements of our loan covenants and lenders." Last year, the cooperative returned capital credits totaling \$1.7 million to current and former members.

A free rate study showed no need for a rate increase this year. Cape Hatteras Electric has not raised rates since 2018.

The cooperative continues to invest in infrastructure.

In 2022, the major project was installing transmission cable on the new Rodanthe bridge. The cable was energized in December 2022.

A project to replace the Hatteras substation transformer was started in 2022 and was energized earlier this year. The contractor refurbishes the old transformer and stores it for the cooperative. That substation transformer serves as backup.

The cooperative has started working with the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation on a long-term plan to address the need for reliable communication services. The cooperative will invest in running dedicated fiber optic cable underground from Nags Head to Buxton for the cooperative and the diesel plant. The investment was approved by the corporation's Board of Directors. Construction will start when all permits are approved.

Flythe announced that at the annual meetings of the statewide organizations in early April, Richie Midget, Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative Board President, was elected President of the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, which is the trade organization owned by all 26 of North Carolina's local electric cooperatives.

At the same time, Flythe was elected President of the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, one of the largest generation and transmission cooperatives in the nation.

At the cooperative's annual meeting, scholarships were awarded to three Cape Hatteras Secondary students. The scholarships are for \$1,000 per semester for eight semesters.

Scholarships awarded

On Monday night, over \$602,900 in scholarships were awarded to members of the Class of 2023 at Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies.

Held in the Hatteras Village Civic Center, the dinner and award ceremony drew soon-to-be graduates and families to the celebration.

Some 46 different organizations made presentations and awarded money for Hatteras Island young people to pursue post-secondary education. Four students received scholarships worth over \$100,000.

Class of 2023 events

June 4 is Baccalaureate Service at the Family Life Center across from the campus tennis courts.

On June 8, graduation rehearsal happens in the morning followed by the Walk of Fame at Cape Hatteras Elementary School.

On June 10, commencement is held starting at 7 p.m. in the school's gymnasium.

This past week, senior athletes and families were treated to a banquet and received recognition for playing sports for Cape Hatteras Secondary.

Recreationally-caught striped bass new size effective June 1

A new slot limit for recreationally-caught striped bass will go into effect June 1 in North Carolina ocean waters to comply with action taken by the Atlantic State's Marine Fisheries Commission's Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board.

Beginning on June 1, fishermen are allowed to possess one striped bass per person per day that is at minimum 28 inches and not greater than 31 inches total length tip of the nose to the tip of the compressed tail.

For the specific regulation, see Proclamation FF 25 2023.

Cape Hatteras Elementary fourth grade math teacher retires

After 37 years of teaching, fourth grade math teacher Wayne Hooper will retire August 1.

He taught in Florida for 11 years and returned to Hatteras Island to teach more than two generations of Hatteras Island students.

He has a legendary reputation for kickball games and timed multiplication quizzes, wrote one student on Facebook.

Students at Cape Hatteras Secondary surprised Hooper Thursday with a great thank you moment in the school's large atrium, complete with signs and loud applause.

Coming up this week

The 11th Annual Rock The Cape celebrates visual and performing arts on Hatteras Island June 1 and 2 with an art show, concert and gallery tour.

On Thursday, June 1, a full afternoon of art and live music is planned for Kitty Hawk Kites Waves Village Watersports Center at Milepost 40 in Rodanthe from 2 to 7. The free, family-friendly event will include an art show featuring 26 artists, a Hatteras Island musician family jam, plus a live concert with two Outer Banks bands.

On Friday, June 2, Rock The Cape hosts *Friday Arts on the Island*, which is a First Friday tour of the galleries on Hatteras Island. Some 26 galleries in Hatteras Island village are participating. The event is sponsored by Outer Banks Visitors Bureau and Vacasa and is co-hosted by Kitty Hawk Kites.

Dare Arts is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to encouraging the arts in Dare County through advocacy, enrichment, and opportunity.

On Saturday, June 3, it's time for another Really, Really Free Market.

Stop by the Avon Fire Station on Harbor Road from 9 to noon for some free shopping.

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

Friends of Felines Hatteras Island is hosting its annual yard sale Saturday, June 3, and Sunday, June 4, from 9 to 4 on both days.

This year, the yard sale will be held in the parking lot of the former Outer Beaches Realty Office in Avon. The annual yard sale, which has become an early summer tradition, features a wealth of local goodies donated by Friends of Felines volunteers and supporters from all across the Outer Banks.

Friends of Felines Hatteras Island is an all-volunteer and non-profit feral cat advocate organization that's based on the island, and which is dedicated to improving the lives of feral and community cats, and humanely reducing their numbers over time by utilizing the Trap-Neuter-Return method (TNR).

Hatteras Community Fish Fry started yesterday and runs through Labor Day Saturday September 2. The fish fry opens at 5 o'clock at the Hatteras Village Fire Station and goes until sold out. The meal features fresh fried fish, potato salad, cole slaw, hush puppies and iced tea. Homemade desserts are available with a donation. Large plates with two pieces fish are \$13 and small plates with one piece of fish are \$9. Proceeds are distributed to organizations doing good deeds in the community.

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

Weekly news for Sunday, May 21, 2023.

Proposed county budget presented; hearing set for June 5

On May 17 special meeting, the Dare County Board of Commissioners received the County Manager's recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which starts this July 1.

The commissioners set a public hearing on the budget for 9:30 a.m., Monday, June 5, 2023. The public hearing will take place in the commissioners' meeting room, which is adjacent to the Dare County Administration Building located at 954 Marshall C. Collins Drive in Manteo.

In-person comments may be offered during the public hearing in Manteo, and public comments will also be accepted at the Fessenden Center, which is located at 46830 N.C. Highway 12 in Buxton.

The budget has no property tax rate increase. The rate remains at 40.05 cents per \$100 of assessed value.

General Fund

Of the over \$130 million General Fund budget, the largest expenditures are allocated to public safety, which includes the Dare County EMS Department, Dare County Sheriff's Office and Dare County Emergency Management Department (31 percent); education, which includes Dare County Schools and College of The Albemarle - Dare Campus (23 percent); as well as human services (14 percent) and general government (13 percent).

Dare County Schools

The County's total contribution to Dare County Schools for next fiscal year is \$26.9 million in local current expenses calculated by a funding formula and \$1.4 million for county-paid school nurses and resource officers.

Dare County Employees

The budget proposes a three percent cost of living adjustment for benefits eligible full-time and part-time county employees along with the continuing implementation of the compensation study. The proposed budget does not call for an increase in health insurance payments.

In another action, the commissioners adopted a new personnel manual, which is included in the commissioner's agenda packet for May 17 and available on the Dare County website.

Water Fund

The water rate model update calls for an annual 2 percent rate increase for water customers located within the unincorporated areas of Dare County.

A recommended Water Capital Improvements Plan is currently in process, and when approved will be incorporated into the final budget document.

Sanitation Fund

The Sanitation Fund's property tax rate will increase from 10 cents to 11 cents per \$100 of assessed value per the county's solid waste study that was completed in 2022. The report and model plans for a 1 cent increase in three of the four following years to reach 13 cents in 2027. This rate increase only impacts property owners whose residences are located within the unincorporated areas of Dare County. Frisco Volunteer Fire Department requested a two cent increase in its tax rate in order to build a new station. The increase is included in the proposed budget.

Capital Investment Fund and Capital Improvements Plan

The Capital Investment Plan is budgeted separately from the General Fund.

Model development is currently in process, and plans will be presented to the Dare County Board of Commissioners once it has been completed, which may or may not be June 5. The approved Capital Improvements Plan will then be incorporated into the final budget document.

To view the proposed manager's budget for Fiscal Year 2024, go to darenc.gov/finance.

Commissioners remove controversial cluster housing ordinance from some zones

On May 17, Dare's commissioners held another lengthy hearing on Cluster Housing. At the end of an hour and a half public comment, the commissioner adopted a zoning text amendment that removed the ordinance from some but not all zones. The removal is effective immediately. Here's a rundown for Hatteras Island villages.

Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo and Frisco. The S-1 zone remains in the cluster housing ordinance.

Avon. The ordinance is removed from zones R-1 and R2-A. It remains in R-2 and C-2 and C-3. The VC zone is mapped in Avon, but was not included in the ordinance. The zone S-1 is mapped along the national seashore ocean beach and remains in the ordinance.

Buxton. The cluster housing ordinance is removed from R-1 and R2-A. The ordinance remains in R-3, C-2, C-3 and I-1. SED-1 stands for Special Environmental District which is mapped over the Buxton Woods Forest and not included in the ordinance. BNH is mapped over a residential area next to the Old Coast Guard Base and was not included in the cluster housing ordinance.

Hatteras. The ordinance is removed from RS-1 and R2-AH. It remains in R-2H and C-2H. A Height Overlay District is in place in Hatteras Village. The S-1 zone is mapped along the national seashore ocean beach and remains in the ordinance.

Hatteras Island real estate market remains down

The Hatteras Island real estate market continues its negative pattern.

Business correspondent Tom Hranicka compared the four months of 2022 and 2023 residential markets through April. He notes not much change in the observed general patterns.

The exception is the average residential sale price which recorded a marginal increase.

Mixed performance results for 2023 were found in the undeveloped lot market. Both the number of properties for sale and those that were sold were less than January to April 2022. The number of lots under contract increased slightly.

From a long range perspective, homes for sale on Hatteras Island during the past six months have been stuck in the 70 to 80 range, except for one month. Since June 2022, 20 to 30 cottages have been sold each month. Residential properties under contract have been on a downward path for the past 16 months, writes Hranicka.

Outer Banks beaches rate high; passenger ferry opens

Doctor Beach, a.k.a. Stephen Leatherman, has ranked the Buxton Lighthouse lifeguarded beach as the fifth best beach in his annual ranking. The Buxton beach is the only Outer Banks beach and only beach in North Carolina on the top ten list. Last year, Ocracoke lifeguarded beach was the top beach and is now retired.

Leatherman is a professor in the Department of Earth and Environment at Florida International University in Miami.

In another ranking, this one by U.S. News and World Report, the Outer Banks was named the tenth best place in the country for a summer vacation.

Avoid the long ferry lines to Ocracoke by catching the North Carolina Department of Transportation Ocracoke Passenger ferry. Passenger ferry service opens Tuesday, May 23.

This season is the fifth for the Ocracoke Express passenger ferry service between Hatteras and Ocracoke villages. The ferry carries 129 passengers with space for bicycles. The ferry makes three round trips daily. Reservations are now available at ncferry.org.

One-way fares are \$7.50, with an additional \$1 charge for bicycles. Children three and under who can share a seat with an adult can ride for free.

The ferry division has received money to operate increased vehicle ferry routes and to start the passenger ferry service. The division has received funding to cover fuel costs.

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse pathway approved

On Monday, May 15, final approval came to build a pathway from NC 12 to the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse and the lifeguarded beach and surfing hot spot.

On that day, National Park Service Regional Director Mark Foust signed a Finding of No Significant Impact on the submitted environmental assessment for the pathway.

Under the selected alternative, Cape Hatteras National Seashore will construct a 1.6-mile-long, 10 to 12-foot-wide paved multi-use pathway. The plan also includes other visitor amenities and improvements, including a restroom with showers facility and interpretation panels.

Outer Banks Forever, the non-profit partner of the three national sites in Dare County, is contributing funds to the project.

The park service pathway in the Lighthouse District will connect with the existing Buxton Back Road pathway, a project of the Outer Banks National Scenic Byway.

Ocracoke celebrates

On Thursday, May 18, the 200th anniversary of the Ocracoke Light Station was celebrated. Over 500 visitors gathered on a beautiful day for the celebration.

Go to Island Free Press for a report on the activities as well as lighthouse restoration.

Vandalism at Cape Point

Tuesday morning, May 17, Cape Hatteras National Seashore rangers discovered nine vandalized signs near Cape Point in Buxton, reports the Island Free Press.

Due to an American oystercatcher nest and least tern breeding activity, some of Cape Point is closed; however, the tip of Cape Point currently remains open via an ORV-only corridor. During the hours around low tide, a sandbar to the east of the ORV-only corridor is usually available for pedestrian access to the tip of Cape Point.

To sign up for text alerts from the national seashore on beach access updates, Text **CAHAORV** to **333111**

On the beach

Shorebird and sea turtle information is now reported on the Cape Hatteras National Seashore website, nps dot gov slash c a h a. These totals are as of the morning Friday, May 19.

On Hatteras Island, 5 American Oystercatcher nests are active. One chick has hatched. At Cape Point, two American Oystercatcher nests are active.

As for colonial waterbirds, Hatteras Island has 17 active nests and Cape Point 8.

Piping plover have two active nests on South Beach in Buxton.

One sea turtle nest has been marked on Hatteras Island.

Lots of events are happening on Hatteras Island this upcoming week.

Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative annual meeting Monday

The 78th annual meeting of members of the Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative will take place Monday evening, May 22 at the Cape Hatteras Secondary School.

Dinner and registration will be from 6 – 6:45, followed by the business meeting beginning at 7 o'clock.

During the meeting, reports of officers, directors and committees will be offered, announcement of elected directors will be made. The cooperative's General Manager Susan Flythe will deliver an update. Cape Hatteras Secondary School band students will provide entertainment during the dinner, which will be served by Crazy Johnny's Bar-b-que. The cooperative has gift bags for each registered member and will end the evening by raffling several prizes.

The cooperative is also presenting a program Electrical Safety for the General Public, Wednesday, May 24 from 6 to 7 at the Fessenden Center Annex on Buxton Back Road.

Free physicals at Cape Hatteras gym Monday

All Cape Hatteras Secondary athletes are advised of a Free Sports Physical on Monday, May 22 from 5 to 7 in the evening. The physical will be available in the campus gym. Athletes must have a physical form filled out by a parent prior to arriving or a parent must come with the athlete to fill out the form upon arrival. Pick up forms Monday in the Front Office.

Threatened Structures Interagency Work Group meets May 24 by web conference

An interagency work group concerned about threatened oceanfront structures is meeting Wednesday, May 24 by web conference.

The state's Division of Coastal Management and the Cape Hatteras National Seashore are hosting the meeting to discuss the role of public and private insurance in addressing erosion-threatened structures.

The public may listen by computer or phone.

The web meeting for the Work Group starts 9 o'clock.

To join by computer, go to Island Free Press for the connection.

To join by phone, dial 1-415-655-0003 use meeting number 242 223 25519. Password is 49 46 29 23.

Vaccination clinic in Avon: Coastal Humane Society and the Roanoke Island Animal Clinic are holding a vaccination clinic at the Avon Fire Station Wednesday, May 24, from 2 until 4. Cats and dogs are both welcome. The cost for cats is \$18. The cost for dogs is \$31

Kids Fishing Tournament Saturday: On Saturday, May 27, the 19th annual Kids Fishing Tournament at the Rodanthe pier will be held. Prizes for all children anglers have rolled in from 10 businesses and generous individuals. Free registration starts at 9 o'clock in the morning. Fishing starts at 10 and goes to 1 o'clock. Pizzas from Lisa's Pizzeria is delivered at 12:30. Prizes are awarded from 1 to 2 o'clock. Children up to 16 years old can participate. Rods can be rented at \$12.

Village market on Sunday: On Sunday, May 28, Camp Hatteras RV Resort and Campground in Rodanthe will host a Tri-Villages Market from 9 in the morning to 1 in the afternoon. Some 26 different local crafters and artists are planning to attend the soundside event.

Now, stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Weekly news summary for Sunday, May 14, 2023.

Speed limits change.

On Thursday, May 11, NCDOT workers started changing speed limit signs, a sure sign that the peak travel season for Hatteras Island is looming.

This year a new section of NC 12 on the island is now 35 miles per hour, to the consternation of frequent drivers.

Usually, as expected, the speed limit in Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo and Avon dropped to 35 from the off-season 45 miles per hour.

The speed limit at the top of the island in Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge is 55, except on the temporary bridge. The speed limit is also 55 between Salvo and Avon. Those are the only stretches of the highway speed.

Between Avon and Buxton, the speed limit is 45 miles per hour.

The new section is Buxton and Frisco. Normally, the 35 miles per hour speed limit changes to 45 miles per hour just before the Radio Hatteras Station in Buxton. The stretch is now marked 35 miles per hour all the way to the end of Frisco.

So, leave early. Take a deep breath and slow down.

Water quality swimming advisory lifted

The water quality swimming advisory at Sandy Bay has been lifted.

The state's recreational water quality officials lifted the advisory May 11, 2023 after testing showed bacteria levels had dropped.

The Sandy Bay area was posted May 3 as result of tests taken May 1 and May2.

The state's Recreational Water Quality Program samples 215 sites in coastal waters of the state, most of them on a weekly basis from April through October.

Tourism high is North Carolina

This past week National Travel and Tourism Week celebrated the tourism year in 2022.

In North Carolina, tourism reached its highest level ever with travelers spending more than \$33.3 billion on trips to and within the state. The previous record of \$29.2 billion was set in pre-pandemic 2019.

The state's tourism-supported workforce increased 9.8 percent to 216,900 jobs in 2022. That figure reverses the more than 26 percent loss in employment suffered in 2020. Tourism payroll increased 13.5 percent to \$8.7 billion. Also, as a result of visitor spending, state and local governments saw rebounds in tax revenues to nearly \$2.5 billion.

Dare County's tourism based economy generated \$1.83 billion, which ranked the Outer Banks county as Number 4 in the state.

Tourism-related jobs numbered 12,295. The county's tourism generated state revenue of \$67.6 million and local revenue of \$79.2 million.

Notable events in Cape Hatteras National Seashore this week and upcoming

First turtle nest found on seashore beaches On Friday, May 12, the first sea turtle nest of the season for Cape Hatteras National Seashore was found on an Ocracoke beach.

The nest was confirmed by seashore biologists.

Statewide, the first sea turtle nest was located on Cape Lookout on May 6.

As of May 13, nine nests have been located on the state's beaches.

The National Park Service and many turtle admirers urge beach goers to pay attention to signs on the beach and to respect nighttime driving restrictions.

Historically, last year, a loggerhead nest was found on Ocracoke May 20

In 2021, the first nest was also located on Ocracoke on May 14.

In 2020, Hatteras Island recorded the first nest on May 17.

British Cemetery Memorial Service held Thursday

The day before that first nest, representatives of the National Park Service, United States Coast Guard, Royal British Navy, Royal Canadian Navy, American Legion, along with residents of Hatteras Island and elsewhere gathered to honor the two British sailors buried here 81 years ago, and all others who lost their lives defending the coast of the United States during the Battle of the Atlantic in World War II.

The ceremony at 11 in the morning features speakers from far away as well as the reading of a history of the San Delfino oil tanker and the names of the merchant marines who lost their lives on April 9, 1942 by students from Cape Hatteras Secondary School.

Ocracoke celebration this week

A reminder, this week on Thursday, May 18, the National Park Service will host a celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Ocracoke Lighthouse. The formal program starts and 1 o'clock.

Veterans Administration reps in KDH for three days

Representatives from Veterans Administration will be at the Dare County Youth Center at Family Recreation Park on Mustian Street in Kill Devil Hills for three days this week.

No appointment is necessary to visit representatives from 9 to 3 Thursday, May 18 and Friday, May 19 and 9 to 2 on Saturday, May 20.

Any Veteran or survivor can meet with a representative face-to-face and file a claim for compensation, pension, or other VA related benefits, submit evidence, and speak to a VA claims processor about existing claims all in the same day.

In addition to information on VA disability claims process, experts will be on hand from the Veterans Health Administration to assist with healthcare eligibility and enrollment, nursing support, suicide prevention.

On Saturday, May 20, Veterans Health Administration clinicians will conduct on-site Toxic Exposure Screenings.

Veterans are advised to bring their discharge papers (DD-214). Survivors who are interested in filing a claim are advised to bring both discharge papers and a death certificate.

Spring Concert is May 16

At Cape Hatteras Secondary School, the 2023 Spring Concert performed by members of all bands at the Island School takes place Tuesday, May 16.

The concert starts at 6 o'clock in the auditorium on the Buxton Campus.

This is the premier showcase for all banks in the school.

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

Weekly News Summary for May 7, 2023.

Vacation rental bookings down

The vacation rental market on Outer Banks and Hatteras Island is changing.

Last month, Tom Hranicka, Radio Hatteras business correspondent, reported that after two boom years created by a surge associated with the COVID pandemic, fewer visitors came to the Outer Banks. The article was published in the Island Free Press.

A follow-up article published this week in the same online source noted that summer rental bookings in Dare County are down by about 10 percent from last year.

If this pattern continues, it would be the second straight year of slight declines in summer vacations being booked after record breaking totals in 2020 and 2021.

During a recent webinar, a representative of Key Data found that trends for 2023 bookings are linked to an increased supply of rental homes and decreased renter demand. This leads to a lower occupancy rate.

While specific data for Hatteras Island is not available, unofficial comments made by several local property management company employees support the observation that rentals are down this year.

This results in some weekly rates being discounted to boost occupancy.

As a point of reference, the Dare County Occupancy Tax receipts for Hatteras Island through March show a less than one percent increase over the first three months of 2022. The occupancy tax revenue is seen as a measure of the health of the island accommodations industry.

We will have to watch to see if this trend persists as the year progress, writes Hranicka.

Coastal Resources Commission deals with septic systems

Meeting in Manteo, the Coastal Resources Commission proposed an amended rule to address septic systems on the beach and supported a proposal to add flood information to the Real Estate Commission's disclosure form.

The amendments to the septic rule include describing elements of a septic system as septic tank, pump tank or components of a ground absorption system.

The amendments state "septic tanks, pump tanks, or components of a ground absorption system, shall not be relocated or replaced within public trust areas of ocean beaches."

And, the second amendment is "When structures are relocated within the Ocean Hazard Area of Environmental Concern, all remaining debris, ancillary structures, or infrastructure shall be removed from the original location.

The first amendment verb was changed from may to shall, making the location mandatory. The second amendment is entirely new and makes the property owner clean up all the debris.

A public hearing on the amended rule is expected to be held in early fall.

Swimming advisory issued for Sandy Bay

On May 3, an advisory against swimming was posted at soundside Sandy Bay between Frisco and Hatteras where state officials found bacteria levels in the water that exceed the state's and Environmental Protection Agency's recreational water quality standards.

Test results of water samples taken on May 1 and May 2 indicate bacteria levels that exceed the state and federal action levels.

This advisory is not a beach closing, nor does the advisory affect the entire area, within the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Swimming advisories are for waters within 200 feet of a posted sign.

The state continues testing and will remove the sign when bacteria levels decrease. As of Saturday evening, no public notification has been issued about reduced bacteria levels.

Debris observed washing up on Cape Hatteras National Seashore beaches from Nags Head to Salvo

Cape Hatteras National Seashore and the Town of Nags Head have observed plastic, metal, paper and textile fabric debris washing up in low densities along about 25 miles of beaches, from Nags Head to the villages of Rodanthe, Waves and Salvo.

Observations of debris began on April 27 and were reported to the U.S. Coast Guard's Sector North Carolina. The nature of the debris suggest it may have come from a U.S. Navy vessel located near the northeastern coast of North Carolina.

Staff from Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy and the Town of Nags Head have been removing debris over the last 72 hours. Agencies will continue to remove debris over the coming days.

The U.S. Navy is investigating the incident and no update has been issued.

Date Ocracoke Lighthouse was lit

On May 18, 2023, the National Park Service and Ocracoke folks will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Ocracoke Lighthouse.

This week, the Island Free Press published an article written by Aida Havel and John Havel about research conducted by Dale Mutro, an Ocracoke native who does historical research at night.

Mutro discovered and hooked together documents that reveal the Ocracoke Lighthouse was actually first lit August 15, 1824.

As the article states the lighthouse celebration can now go forward for a year and a half.

Read the result of historical sleuthing at Island Free Press.

New ferry notification coming in spring

North Carolina Ferry Division will soon launch a new notification system to provide passengers with route-specific information by text or email when schedules are interrupted.

The new Ferry Information Notification System, or FINS, will give passengers the option to receive alerts directly from ferry terminals when a departure is delayed or canceled, or when service resumes after a service suspension.

Visit ncdot.gov/fins to sign up. Data rates may apply for SMS messaging.

Ferry Division staff have used route-specific Twitter accounts to announce schedule interruptions, but users have stated a preference for having those notifications sent directly to them. Staff will continue to send out notifications on Twitter while users transition to the new FINS system.

The FINS system with full implementation is expected later this spring.

New services at D M V

On May 1, the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles changed appointment scheduling, walk-in availability, and office hours to improve service at its 115 driver license offices across the state.

All customer services statewide will be provided on a walk-in basis after 12 o'clock noon. Appointments will only be available in the mornings through the 11 o'clock and can be booked at [skip the line dot ncdot dot gov](http://skiptheline.ncdot.gov).

Even with this change, walk-in customers may still have the opportunity for morning-hour service if there is time between scheduled appointments or if a customer does not appear for a scheduled appointment.

As scheduling shifts toward more walk-ins, a new feature will soon be available on the NC D M V office locations webpage to show the public the current estimated wait time at driver license offices.

COVID-19 public health emergency ends this week

As of May 11, 2023, the federal public health emergency for COVID-19 comes to an end. The coronavirus now becomes a routine part of public health and health care.

Data about COVID-19 is incorporated in the state's Respiratory Illness Summary Dashboard.

Vaccination information has been monthly since February and will be retired at the end of May. The data will be available from the CDC.

Home test kits are now widely available, and they can also be found for free at community access points, through Project ACT, at [access covid tests dot org](http://accesscovidtests.org).

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event in Buxton May 12

The Dare County Public Works Department will host a household hazardous waste collection event at the end of this week.

On Hatteras Island, the collection takes place Friday afternoon, May 12, from 2 to 4 at the Buxton Transfer Station, 47015 Buxton Back Road.

If you forget, the next day Saturday, May 13, from 9 to 1 the collection will be at Dare County Public Works, 1018 Driftwood Drive.

Materials accepted are paint, polishes & varnishes; paint related materials; turpentine; aerosol cans; adhesives; motor oil; antifreeze; fuel additives; household cleaners; herbicides; insecticides; gasoline; batteries; mercury; pesticides; pool chemicals; fluorescent lightbulbs; automotive batteries; small batteries; and automotive fluids like brake and transmission.

Items not typically accepted include commercial, business and industrial waste; explosives; bullets; radioactive material; 55-gallon drums of material; cylinders other than propane and fire extinguishers. Mark unlabeled containers.

The event is cosponsored by NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Pesticide Division and North Carolina Cooperative Extension.

Commissioners meet May 17 for a hearing on Cluster Housing

The proposal before the commissioners eliminates the cluster housing ordinance from all zones that currently permit multi-family housing, which eliminates the density issue raised by the Wanchese proposal.

On Hatteras Island, Avon, Buxton and Hatteras have use specific zoning. The cluster housing ordinance would be removed from R-1 and R2-A mapped in Buxton and Avon and from RS-1 mapped in Hatteras. The cluster housing ordinance would remain in effect in the C-2 and C-3 districts in Buxton and Avon, the R-2 zone in Avon, the R-2H zone in Hatteras, R-3 in Buxton and C-2H in Hatteras.

Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo and Frisco are zoned S-1 which retains cluster housing as a use.

The accelerated public hearing is set for May 17 at 5 o'clock in the Commissioners Meeting Room in Manteo. Hatteras Islanders can deliver public comment at the Fessenden Center Annex in Buxton. Some 22 zones are listed for removal of the cluster housing ordinance. A dozen zones remain.

Hurricane Preparedness

As part of Hurricane Preparedness Week, Governor Roy Cooper urged North Carolinians to learn about and prepare for the dangers of severe tropical weather.

Hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30.

Radio Hatteras has broadcast information about storm preparedness this past week.

Best preparation is have an emergency plan and kit.

The plan should include details on how and where you would evacuate, a meeting place, and important phone numbers. Everyone should have an evacuation plan to stay with family or friends, or at a hotel outside the affected area.

Dare County has no storm shelters.

Having an emergency kit allows people to survive for a few days with little or no outside assistance.

Assemble an emergency supplies kit that includes enough non-perishable food and water to last each family member three to seven days.

Radio Hatteras volunteer staff is gearing up for the storm season. Our storm book and procedures have been updated. A new volunteer Kate Wharton will serve as Storm Coordinator so Radio Hatteras can provide the best storm coverage possible.

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

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, April 30, 2023.

The weather is, shall we say, interesting.

On Friday, widespread rain pummeled the island. In both Frisco and Rodanthe, close to one and eight tenth inches fell. Top wind speed in Rodanthe was 31 miles per hour and in Frisco, 30 miles per hour. Ditches along NC 12 in Rodanthe remained full on Saturday. On Friday afternoon, heavy rain flooded several subdivisions.

On Saturday, the National Weather Service issued warnings about severe storms, soundside coastal flooding of one to two feet north of Cape Hatteras and a high surf advisory south of the Cape. Rip current risk is high along all eastern North Carolina beaches.

The weather warnings lasted through Sunday night.

Night driving restrictions on Hatteras beaches go into effect May 1

Night driving restrictions on oceanside beaches within the Cape Hatteras National Seashore start Monday night, May 1, at 9 o'clock.

From May 1 through July 31, priority off-road vehicle ramps close at 9 o'clock and reopen the following morning at 6 o'clock. All other designated oceanside ORV ramps close at 9 o'clock and at 7 the next morning.

Priority ramps number 10, with two on Bodie Island, six on Hatteras Island and two on Ocracoke. For a list, go to Island Free Press.

Soundside ramps, Inside Road, and Pole Road do not have night driving restrictions. A map of ORV access ramps can be found online at [nps dot gov slash c a h a under plan your visit](https://www.nps.gov/caha/plan-your-visit/).

Night driving restrictions help protect nesting sea turtles, which start to arrive in early May.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore's turtle patrol program, which identifies recent nest sites along the shoreline, also begins in early May.

While night driving restrictions are in place, visitors may still park their vehicles in parking areas and walk on the beach at night.

Cigarette smoking declines

U.S. cigarette smoking dropped to another all-time low last year, with 1 in 9 adults saying they were current smokers, according to government survey data released Thursday, reports Associated Press. However, electronic cigarette use rose, to about 1 in 17 adults.

These preliminary findings from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are based on survey responses from more than 27,000 adults.

Cigarette smoking is a risk factor for lung cancer, heart disease and stroke, and it's long been considered the leading cause of preventable death, reports the Associated Press.

In the mid-1960s, 42% of U.S. adults were smokers.

Last year, the percentage of adult smokers dropped to about 11%, down from about 12point 5 percent in 2020 and 2021.

Here's another health reminder. Coronavirus is still with us.

On Thursday, North Carolina reported 2,344 new coronavirus cases for the week, down about 184 cases from the previous report. The Department of Health and Human Services reported 233 new patient hospital admissions, down by four cases. The daily average of adults in intensive care was 36 adults. In Dare County for March 2023, 96 new cases were reported. Of that total 82 were residents.

Events are happening every day this week on Hatteras Island

Cape Hatteras Elementary has a Kindergarten Kick-Off May 2

At Cape Hatteras Elementary School in Buxton, rising kindergarten students and families are invited to a Kindergarten Kick-Off event Tuesday afternoon, May 2 from 5 to 6 o'clock.

Come for a night of fun. Visit a kindergarten classroom. Take a tour of the media center and art room. Visit with "Buster the Bus" and more.

Pop-up Library in Rodanthe Wednesday

On Wednesday, May 3 from 10 to noon, a Pop-up Library will feature a selection of library materials for all ages to browse and borrow. Hatteras Library staff will set up a library in the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building.

This is the first of three monthly visits. The staff will return on June 7 and July 5.

For more information on Dare County library offerings, go to dare.nc.gov/departments/libraries.

High School Musical on stage

Cape Hatteras Secondary's newest production will take to the Buxton stage Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7 and Sunday at 2 o'clock.

The show, High School Musical, has a cast of 30 students with 20 more involved in production. Go to the Island Free Press for an extensive article about the production.

Cape Hatteras Secondary Drama Club is presenting the show.

Tickets for adults are \$15 and for children \$10. Tickets may be purchased at the Froggy Dog Restaurant in Avon and United Bank in Buxton. Tickets will be available at the door, but performances may be sold out.

Dare County commissioners meet May 1 in Manteo

On May 1, 2023, the Dare County Board of Commissioners is scheduled to take up the controversial special use permit application for a cluster housing development in Wanchese and consider a zoning text amendment as proposed by the county's planning board and demanded by community members in Wanchese and Manns Harbor.

The docket sheet for the Wanchese project asks the board to "deliberate and take appropriate action."

The second item about cluster housing springs from the controversy surrounding the Wanchese project.

In March, the Dare's commissioners asked the planning board to revisit the cluster housing ordinance.

The planning board at its April 4 meeting discussed options to refine the ordinance.

The proposal before the commissioners eliminates the cluster housing ordinance from all zones that currently permit multi-family housing, which eliminates the density issue raised by the Wanchese proposal.

On Hatteras Island, Avon, Buxton and Hatteras have use specific zoning. The cluster housing ordinance would be removed from R-1 and R2-A mapped in Buxton and Avon and from RS-1 mapped in Hatteras.

The cluster housing ordinance would remain in effect in the C-2 and C-3 districts in Buxton and Avon, the R-2 zone in Avon, the R-2H in Hatteras, R-3 in Buxton and C-2H in Hatteras.

Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo and Frisco are zoned S-1 which retains cluster housing as a use.

A public hearing is proposed for June 5, 2023, at 9 a.m. on the proposed changes.

Some 22 zones are listed for removal of the cluster housing ordinance. A dozen zones remain.

One lane of bridge closed

If you are heading west from Hatteras Island and Dare County, take note that the four-lane Virginia Dare Bridge will have one lane of traffic during daylight hours from May 1 through May 5. The closed lane is the right westbound lane of the bridge. Tideland Electric Cooperative is inspecting electrical lines attached to the bridge.

Now, be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteraws

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, April 23, 2023.

Fire destroys rental house in Rodanthe

On Wednesday, April 19, 2023, a three-story house on the soundside in Rodanthe's Mirlo Beach subdivision was fully engulfed in fire when volunteer firefighters arrived.

Firefighters from Chicamacomico Banks Volunteer Fire and Rescue were dispatched to 22000 16th of August Court at 3:15 p.m.

The rental house was unoccupied at the time. No major injuries were reported.

Firefighters had the fire under control within an hour.

Two hours after dispatch, the five firefighters from Avon Volunteer Fire Department were released.

About six hours after the page, Chicamacomico Banks firefighters were wrapping up the scene though some stayed through the night to monitor hot spots.

According to the Dare County website, the assessed value of the rental structure built in 2000 is \$584,600. The structure had six bedrooms, five full baths and one half-bath. Behind the structure was an in-ground swimming pool with a concrete pool deck.

On Friday, April 21, Dare County Fire Marshall Steve Kovacs was still investigating the cause of the fire.

Also responding to the fire scene were North Carolina Forest Service, National Park Service, Dare County Emergency Medical Services.

Real estate market has downward trend

This week's business report concentrates on the island's major market indicators for the first quarter of 2023 and a more detailed look at the monthly trends.

On Hatteras Island, the number of houses for sale has remained flat at 77 houses. Interestingly, writes Tom Hranicka, Radio Hatteras Business correspondent, this is the same number of properties available for purchase in March of last year.

The number of houses sold declined significantly, 53 percent from the first quarter of 2022. While monthly house sales inched up slightly, only 20 to 30 houses have been sold each month since last June resulting in a clear downward trend when measured from January 2022.

House prices through March remained elevated at a median sale price of \$503,000. This reflects a downward trend over the past 15 months.

The most recent high point in residential selling prices occurred in July 2022, when the median sale price was \$737,500.

Properties under contract to be sold, followed the downward patters seen over a year. At the end of the first quarter, the number of pending residential sales was half of what it was at the end of the first quarter last year. Properties under contract are considered to be a leading indicator of future sales.

In the undeveloped lot market, performance indicators all but one posted negative results for the first quarter of this year. The median sale price increased 18 percent in relation to the same period last year. Additional measures of the island economy are meal tax receipts and occupancy tax receipts.

In February, meal taxes were reported at 12 percent over February 2022. Occupancy tax receipts were essentially flat with an increase of only 1.5 percent over February last year.

According to an article in Island Free Press, fewer visitors came to the Outer Banks in 2022.

The economy may be normalizing, commented Lee Nettles, executive directors of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau.

Limited parking at Oregon Inlet boat ramps during pavement project

From the evening of April 23 through the afternoon of April 27, parking availability will be limited at Cape Hatteras National Seashore's Oregon Inlet public boat ramps during a project to place permanent pavement markings in the parking lot. Visitors should use caution while maneuvering boat trailers in and out of the work zone.

The public boat ramp parking lot at Oregon Inlet, located between the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center and U.S. Coast Guard Station Oregon Inlet, provides approximately 78 parking spaces for users of the public boat ramps. During the pavement improvement project, around half of the parking spaces will be available for vehicles with boat trailers to use

Two major elected boards hold budget workshops on Tuesday this upcoming week

The Dare County Board of Commissioners will hold a budget workshop, Tuesday, April 25, starting at 9 o'clock in Room 238 in the Dare County Administration Building in Manteo. The workshop is open to the public.

The Dare County Board of Education will hold a budget workshop on Tuesday, April 25 at 1 o'clock, at the Dare County Schools Administrative Office in Nags Head. The workshop is open to the public and live-streamed on the Dare County Schools website at daretolearn.org/board-of-education/board-meetings.

Coastal Resources Commission holds meeting in Manteo

The N.C. Coastal Resources Commission will meet April 26 at the Dare County Government Complex, 954 Marshall C. Collins Drive, Manteo. A public input and comment period is scheduled for noon. At the chair's discretion, comments may be limited to three minutes per person.

On the agenda is discussion of oceanfront erosion and septic tanks seaward of the vegetation line, both topics of importance to oceanfront property owners.

A full meeting agenda and briefing materials can be found on the Coastal Resources website.

Severe weather report from weekend

Highest wind speed recorded in Frisco was a gust 26 miles per hour around 9 o'clock Saturday night. Four tenths of an inch of rain had fallen as of around two this morning.

In Rodanthe, the highest gust was 41 miles per hour at 11:30 Saturday night. Some three tenths of an inch of rain fell during the weather event.

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

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, April 9, 2023.

Dare County Schools online registration portal is open for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. If your child will turn five on or before August 31, 2023, you can now register your child for Kindergarten.

To make the process as smooth as possible, visit our website for registration links and tips to complete the enrollment process at

<https://www.daretolearn.org/.../kindergarten-registration...>

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, April 2, 2023.

This week and next, Hatteras Islanders will celebrate Easter with visitors. Many islander-owned businesses have reopened for the season and are eager to see old friends and new visitors. At the end of this edition of the Weekly News Summary is a listing of Easter services and events.

Wildfire across the sound

Across Pamlico Sound, a 5,293-acre wildfire has sent smoke and ash to northeastern North Carolina counties. The Last Resort Fire drew 72 firefighters from the North Carolina Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Most surface fire has been cooled by recent rain. However, smoke from ground fire is still prevalent. A massive plumbing operation is underway to bring fresh water to wet the smoldering soils.

The cause of the fire was determined to be a debris burn on private land that escaped containment.

Medicaid Expansion has happened

On March 27, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper signed House Bill 76, Access to Healthcare Options, into law. The legislation expands Medicaid, which is expected to provide health coverage to over 600,000 people across North Carolina.

The expansion is expected to help rural hospitals stay open and improving mental health.

In North Carolina, rural residents are 40% more likely to be uninsured and eligible for Medicaid expansion. Eleven rural hospitals have closed in North Carolina since 2005, with more at risk of closure due to a lack of paying customers. North Carolina, like other states, is currently dealing with an opioid and substance abuse crisis. About 40% of overdose patients in emergency departments are uninsured, making it harder for them to get the follow up mental health care they need.

The expansion will take effect upon the signing into law of the Fiscal Year 2023-25 state budget. In his proposed budget, Cooper has proposed using a portion of the \$1.8 billion dollars received as a signing bonus to create the Improving Health Outcomes for People Everywhere Fund. The fund would address mental health services, systems to support people in crisis and using data and technology to enable better health access and outcomes.

Pier reopens

One of the locations for an Easter Sunday morning sunrise service opened Saturday, April 1, 2023.

During the winter, the Rodanthe Fishing Pier owners made some structural repairs at the end of the pier and replaced some deck boards. Lighting was also updated, reports Island Free Press.

The pier is open from 7 in the morning until dark.

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse will not open for climbing

“The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is currently closed for climbing and will likely not open in 2023, due to restoration efforts; outdoor areas near the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse are open 24/7,” states the Cape Hatteras National Seashore website.

The restoration is extensive. Some \$18 million is set aside for the project. The Outer Banks Group of National Parks has received the 100% engineering drawings for the restoration work.

The project also involves new paths and a new landscape design.

Likely, when the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is reopened, a different climbing program will be in place in order to preserve the structure.

Dare County announces Good Friday holiday schedule

In observance of Good Friday, all Dare County offices and facilities will be closed Friday, April 7, 2023. In addition, Dare County Public Works has announced its revised collection schedule for the week of Monday, April 3 through Friday, April 7, 2023.

The Dare County C&D Landfill, Buxton Transfer Station and Manteo Recycle Yard will be closed on Friday, April 7, 2023 in observance of Good Friday. These sites will reopen on Saturday, April 8, 2023.

Residential trash collection for Hatteras Island for next week is as follows:

Monday, April 3: Buxton, Frisco and Hatteras

Tuesday, April 4: Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo and Avon

Wednesday, April 5: Buxton, Frisco and Hatteras

Thursday, April 6: Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo and Avon

No trash collection on Friday, April 7.

Commercial trash collection takes place on Monday, April 3 and Thursday, April 6.

Dare County offices will reopen at 8:30 a.m. Monday, April 10.

Now, for Easter information.

Easter Sunday Sunrise Services will be held at 6:15 at three locations:

In Buxton, the Old Lighthouse location

In Avon at the Avon Pier

In Rodanthe at the Rodanthe Pier.

These Easter Sunday Worship Services are announced.

In Avon, at St. John United Methodist Church at 11 o'clock.

In Buxton, Our Lady of the Seas Catholic Church, Easter Sunday Mass at 10 o'clock and at 11:15 an Easter Egg Hunt starts at Fellowship Hall

In Buxton, Buxton United Methodist Church at 9:15

In Frisco, Little Grove United Methodist Church at 8:15

In Frisco, Heritage of Faith Church at 10

In Hatteras, Hatteras United Methodist Church at 11:15

In Salvo, Clark's Bethel Methodist Church at 11 o'clock followed by pot luck at Salvo Fire hall.

Several Easter Events are set for Saturday, April 8

Frisco Woods Campground will be hopping this Saturday.

Old Trent Market kicks off at 9 o'clock with local artisan booths. The market runs to 2 o'clock.

The Campground will be hosting its 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, sponsored by Gilco Trucking. A Pig Pickin' event with donations to benefit the Frisco-Buxton Pathway is scheduled.

The kids' Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 4 o'clock.

A second adult Easter Egg hunt will take place at 7 o'clock Saturday evening. All adult participants must be at least 21 years old, and adult egg-hunt items must be donated due to ABC license requirements.

The Pig Pickin' includes Barbecue, Slaw, Baked Beans, Mac and Cheese, and more. Plates are available for a \$5 donation towards the pathway project. Donations will also be accepted throughout the afternoon and evening, as the Frisco-Buxton Pathway Committee inches closer towards its \$95,000 goal. As of the end of March, the Committee had raised an estimated \$78,000 towards the project.

In Rodanthe, the Clark's Bethel Methodist Church Presents All Around Easter this Saturday.

A Community Cookout and Egg Hunt is planned for the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building in Rodanthe. The event runs from 11 to 3.

The Cookout starts at noon. The Egg Hunt at 2:30.

In Frisco, Frisco Mini Golf and Go Karts hosts the Easter Bunny and much fun with games, a petting zoo with bunnies and baby chicks and an Easter Egg Hunt done in six age categories. The age groups are under 1, 2 and 3, 4 and 5, 6 and 7, 8 to 10 and 12 and under. The event has over 3,000 eggs with prizes and candy. Cape Hatteras Christian Fellowship is providing free food. The invitation is out for the community to attend this Annual Easter Egg Event that runs from 11 to 4.

On Easter Monday, April 10, a Tri Villages Market at Camp Hatteras kicks off with artists and makers' market tents set up on the Soundside outside and booths inside the conference center. Camp Hatteras is in Rodanthe along NC 12.

And, just a little advance warning. Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 10. It's a day to thank the 13 lineworkers for Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative. They turn the lights on!

Be safe out there and thanks so much for listening to this show. This is Radio Hatteras.

Public Service Announcements:

Tuesday, June 27, 2023. Air at 10 a.m. or shortly thereafter.

This is Radio Hatteras with a weather summary and forecast on July 27, 2023.

At 2:44 this morning, the National Weather Service indicated that the storm tracking across North Carolina was coming to Hatteras Island's towns. It arrived. In Rodanthe, it left around 3:44, a minute before the predicted time.

In Rodanthe, the highest gust was 58 miles per hour.

In Frisco, the highest gust was 30 miles per hour which was registered just before midnight and again just before 7 this morning.

The automated weather station at the Frisco airfield registered three-quarters of an inch of rain. In Buxton, a quarter inch of rain fell. In Rodanthe, less than two-tenths of an inch of rain was measured.

When the storm left, the temperature plunged. In Rodanthe, just before 3 o'clock the temperature was 80 degrees. A half hour later, the air temperature was 72.8 degrees.

For the rest of today, Tuesday, June 27, the National Weather Service states that "scattered strong to severe thunderstorms may redevelop this afternoon and will be capable of damaging wind gusts and large hail."

The weather service has warned that "heat indices of 100 to 105 degrees are forecast over the upcoming weekend, including through July 4th.

Be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Monday, June 26, 2023. Air at 3:00 and 3:45 p.m.

This is Radio Hatteras with a weather message

The National Weather Service has announced an Enhanced threat for Eastern North Carolina for severe weather this afternoon and tonight.

Scattered to numerous strong to severe thunderstorms are expected to develop later today and tonight.

The greatest risk, says the Morehead City forecaster, will occur from 5 this afternoon to 5 early Tuesday morning.

Main threats are

Damaging southwest wind with gusts of 60 to 70 miles per hour.

Large hail up to two inches in diameter.

Isolated tornadoes and maybe localized flash flooding.

Be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Monday, June 12, 2023 Air now, 11:30, and noon and 1

This is Radio Hatteras with a weather alert

Severe weather associated with an approaching cold front is possible in Eastern North Carolina this afternoon and evening, says the National Weather Service.

The timing for the event is noon to 11 o'clock tonight. The weather service says the severe weather will most likely come this afternoon through this evening.

The primary threat is damaging winds. Large hail and an isolated tornado remain possible.

Be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Friday, June 9. Air at at 7 a.m., 9, 11 and noon.

This is Radio Hatteras with Friday's Air Quality forecast.

North Carolina's Division of Air Quality has mapped Code Yellow across Eastern North Carolina for Friday, June 9, 2023.

Code Yellow is not considered an air quality action day. People who are unusually sensitive to air pollution may still consider shortening their time being active outside if they experience any symptoms. Healthy adults can go about their day as normal, states the division's media release.

Stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

June 6, 2023. Air at 5, 6 and 6:45 p.m

Air Quality alert now in effect

The North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources in Raleigh has issued a Code Orange Air Quality Action Day for Ground Level Ozone, until midnight Wednesday night.

An Air Quality Action Day means that Ground Level Ozone concentrations within the region may approach or exceed unhealthy standards.

The alert is caused by smoke from Canadian wildfires.

For additional information, visit the North Carolina Division of Air Quality Web site at [airquality dot climate dot ncsu dot edu](http://airquality.dot.climate.dot.ncsu.edu).

June 3, 2023. Insert at noon, 1pm, 3pm

This is Radio Hatteras with a noontime Saturday weather update

The National Weather Service has posted a Coastal Flood Advisory for Hatteras Island and other Outer Banks areas.

The advisory is in effect starting at 5 o'clock this afternoon and going through early Monday morning.

The weather service is predicting minor to locally moderate coastal flooding of one to two feet of inundation above ground level for oceanside areas. Localized ocean overwash is possible north of Cape Hatteras Sunday. This is a high spring tide. Generally, higher sea levels come during nighttime high tide.

At Cape Hatteras, high tide tonight is around 7:45 and on Sunday night, around 8:30.

Look for the wind to quickly increase this afternoon and evening. The forecast indicates the wind speed will increase up to 35 miles per hour.

Be careful out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

May 28, 2023. Aired at 5:30 and 6 p.m..

This is Radio Hatteras

The sun is shining all over Hatteras Island.

Tonight's forecast says there's a slight risk of showers and thunderstorms.

Southeast breeze at 8 to 13 miles per hour.

Now, we have ponding on NC 12.

Be courteous. Take turns. Go slow, do not speed.

Drivers: keep your windows rolled up for the ones that just have to go fast.

Be careful. This is Radio Hatteras.

Broadcast noon on May 28, 2023.

This is Radio Hatteras with a mid-day weather report

Thunderstorms have rolled up Hatteras Island.

Sharp lightning and house-shaking thunder have rolled up Hatteras.

Heavy rain was pouring down in Rodanthe which will lead to filled ditches spilling onto NC 12. A weather station in Salvo is reporting 2 inches of rain.

But at the time of this announcement, we're seeing sunny skies in south end of Buxton.

On Facebook, an unverified photo has been posted showing deep water on NC 12 north of Avon.

It's warmer this morning: 71 in Frisco and a 68 in Salvo. Winds are southeast.

Drive with extreme caution. Slow down. Lights on. Wipers on.

Please stay safe. This is Radio Hatteras

May 25, 2023: Nor'easter Storm 5.25-29.23

Aired two times between now and 8 o'clock and at 9 p.m., May 25, 2023.

This is Radio Hatteras with the Thursday evening weather report.

The National Weather Service has issued a wind advisory and a high surf advisory for Hatteras Island and other areas in Eastern North Carolina.

A low pressure system is coming up to the Carolinas this weekend.

A wind advisory is in effect starting Friday morning to early Saturday afternoon. Northeast winds are expected to blow 25 to 35 miles per hour with gusts to 50 miles per hour.

Rainfall on Hatteras Island is predicted at 2 to 3 inches, total through early Sunday.

The high surf advisory is in effect from 5 o'clock Friday afternoon to 8 o'clock Saturday evening. Large breaking waves of 6 to 10 feet are expected in the surf zone on the beaches north of Cape Hatteras. Dangerous swimming and surfing conditions and localized beach erosion will occur. The risk for rip currents is high north of Cape Hatteras.

Ocean overwash from Cape Hatteras north to Oregon Inlet may occur around times of high tide starting tonight through late Saturday night.

Be safe. This is Radio Hatteras.

May 25, 2023

Insert during 10 a.m. hour, then at 11, noon and 1 p.m.

This is Radio Hatteras with a morning weather announcement.

The National Weather Service reports a slow moving, developing low pressure system offshore, is forecast to come ashore into the Carolinas Saturday or Sunday.

This low pressure system brings potential for several coastal threats.

Widespread showers and thunderstorms with heavy rains bringing two to four inches rain and strong northeasterly winds to eastern North Carolina start tonight, Thursday, May 25. This will continue to the Memorial Day.

Strong northeast winds are expected on Hatteras Island starting Friday with gusts of 45 to 50 miles per hour. The winds may bring rough surf, minor coastal flooding, localized ocean overwash north of Cape Lookout and areas adjacent to southern Pamlico Sound. The national weather service warns about an elevated rip current risk for the beaches.

The weather service reports that a Coastal Flood Advisory, High Surf Advisory and Wind Advisory will likely be issued later today.

Be safe out there. Prepare now for strong winds. This is Radio Hatteras.

Insert 8 a.m. June 7 and 21, 2023

Grief Support Group sponsored by Adoration Health and financially supported by Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men is free and open to all adults in Dare County. Meetings are held the first and third Wednesday evenings each month, from 7 to 8:30. Meetings are virtual with login information shared by the facilitator. Call Chris at Adoration Health at 252-301-2620 for login information.

May 7, 2023

Digging large holes in the sand is dangerous. Sand is unstable and these holes often collapse. Over the years, multiple visitors to the beach have been killed when these large holes collapse and trap them. Tragically, the most recent death was May 6, 2023. For your own safety, don't dig large holes in the sand.

April 30, 2023

Broadcast at 7:15 p.m., 7:45 p.m. and 10 p.m.

This is Radio Hatteras with weather warnings for late tonight and Sunday.

A strong area of low pressure is expected to cross eastern North Carolina tomorrow, bringing a range of weather hazards to Hatteras Island.

The National Weather Service is warning about severe storms late Saturday night into Sunday. Soundside coastal flooding of one to two feet from Avon north is predicted for Sunday into Sunday night.

A High Surf Advisory has been issued for beaches south of Cape Hatteras. Rip current risk is high.

Gale warnings and small craft advisories have been issued for all coastal water and the Pamlico Sound.

On Sunday the wind will be south at 17 to 26 miles per hour with gusts as high as 28 miles per hour. The wind will shift west Sunday night at about the same speed and then move southwest on Monday.

Be careful out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Air when received, then 5, 6 and 7 p.m., April 9, 2023

This is Radio Hatteras with an afternoon storm update

The National Weather Service says that a Coastal Flood Advisory is in effect until two hours after midnight tonight, that 2 a.m. Monday, April 10.

The flood advisory says 1 to 2 feet of inundation above ground level is possible.

A high surf advisory remains in place until midnight Monday, that's all day tomorrow.

Large breaking waves of 8 to 12 feet will hit the surf zone.

Even though the sun is now shining, the beach is a dangerous place.

The weather service cautions that rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from shore into deeper water. Dangerous shore breaks can throw a swimmer or surfer head first into the bottom causing neck and back injuries. Strong longshore currents create dangerous swimming conditions.

In Frisco, the top wind speed during this event was recorded at 55 miles per hour. In Rodanthe, the top speed was 47 miles per hour.

NCDOT announced at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon that no overwash occurred during this morning's high tide. The NC 12 roadway still has wet blown sand. Continue to reduce speed and drive carefully, encourages NCDOT. The transportation department's crews will be checking road conditions again at high tide tonight which is about 10:30.

Stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Easter Storm 4/8/2023

This is Radio Hatteras with an early evening weather report.

NCDOT wrote at 5:45 this afternoon, "As of now, NC12 is open, but there is a lot of wet sand on the road at several locations. Our crews will continue to clear what they can and monitor conditions at high tide (10 p.m.). It's another good night to stay off the roads. Conditions are forecast to improve Sunday."

For Hatteras Island, the National Weather Service has posted a Wind Advisory, a High Surf Advisory and a Coastal Flood Advisory.

A Wind Advisory is in effect until 11 o'clock Sunday night. Maximum gusts are predicted up to 50 miles per hour.

High Surf Advisory is now warning the large breaking waves will be 6 to 12 feet, a foot higher than the previous forecast.

A Coastal Flood Advisory is in place now for Hatteras Island north of Cape Hatteras.

The National Weather Service says minor ocean overwash could produce 1 to 2 feet of inundation from Pea Island to Cape Hatteras a few hours either side of high tide around 10 o'clock tonight.

On Sunday and Sunday night, more powerful swell will increase overwash threat. Ocean overwash could result in up to 2 to 3 feet of inundation.

Travel impacts on NC 12 are possible.

A storm warning is now in effect for all of Pamlico Sound south of Oregon Inlet and the Atlantic Ocean. Dangerous seas 11 to 18 feet with Storm to Gale Force winds are expected, peaking late tonight through Sunday.

About Easter Sunrise services:

The service at the Avon Pier is canceled.

The service at the old Lighthouse site in Buxton will proceed if a light rain is falling. If it's blowing, the service will not happen.

Now, stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.

Saturday, April 8, 2023

Air when ready. Then at noon, 1 and 2 and 3.

This is Radio Hatteras with storm news at midday Saturday.

Here's the latest on NC 12.

NCDOT wrote around 10:30 a.m. that NC12 remains open and passable this morning. There is blown sand on the roadway in several areas, so please drive with extreme caution if you must drive today. Crews will be out clearing sand at times, so please give them room to work!

For Hatteras Island, the National Weather Service has issued a Wind Advisory, a High Surf Advisory and a Coastal Flood Watch.

A Wind Advisory is in effect until 11 o'clock Sunday night.

Northeast winds will blow 25 to 35 miles per hour with gusts to 50 miles per hour expected.

The wind has been blowing from the Northeast since Friday morning around 10 o'clock.

In Rodanthe, the highest gust has been 38 miles per hour. It's expected to go up to 46 miles per hour.

A High Surf Advisory starts this evening. The warning is for large breaking waves of 5 to 11 feet through late Monday.

A Coastal Flood Advisory starts Easter Sunday morning. Two to three feet of inundation above ground level is possible. The advisory runs through Monday Morning

The high tide on Sunday morning is around 10 o'clock in Hatteras Village.

The temperature this morning was 51 in Rodanthe and 49 in Frisco. The beach is not hospitable and is a dangerous place to be this weekend. Rip currents, large breaking waves and strong longshore currents are in the surf zone.

Dare County Emergency Management warns “Travel impacts could occur along NC 12. NCDOT crews are working to clear blown sand and keeping the road as safe as possible for travel. If travel is necessary drivers should exercise **EXTREME CAUTION** especially around the times of high tide. Those in vulnerable oceanfront areas, to include the north end of Rodanthe should take action to protect property. Some structures could become fully surrounded by water making occupancy potentially unsafe. South of Cape Hatteras localized, minor ocean overwash could bring limited impacts around the times of high tides.”

Stay safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.