

## **Weekly News Summary for Sunday, October 20, 2024.**

Early voting for the 2024 General Election has started. Here is what you need to know. Early voting is open weekdays until Friday, November 1, from 8am to 7:30pm. Then on Saturday, Nov 2, it's the last day of early voting from 8am to 3pm. For early voting, three polling places are open: Buxton at the Fessenden Center Annex, Manteo at the Board of Elections office, and in Kill Devil Hills at the Town Hall. Voters can use ANY of the three locations during early voting. Unregistered folks wishing to early vote can register the day they plan to early vote during the early voting time period. Be sure to bring a valid photo ID to vote...this applies to early voting and Nov 5 voting. You can find sample ballots; polling precinct addresses and more at [DareNC.gov/Elections](http://DareNC.gov/Elections).

**On Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2024**, officials gathered for the first of two meetings to review the site plan, interior layout and furniture for Dare County's Early College. The new building mirrors that of the College of the Albemarle - Dare Campus in Manteo.

On the first floor, there are administrative offices and three classrooms including health and physical education adjacent to a space marked "Fitness" for physical education credit. A full service kitchen with food court is available with serving lines cold and hot food. The kitchen can be used for teaching culinary arts.

Upstairs is a science lab and classroom, a career/tech space, three math classrooms, an exceptional students area, and two social studies classrooms. One elevator is available in the plans. Crosswalks were raised as a concern, as students are now crossing the main highway to get food at the shopping center across from the college. The final meeting of the working group has been scheduled for Nov. 12 at 10:30 a.m.

**A nationwide survey to assess** marine debris on all U.S. shorelines is underway, reports the Coastal Review Online. Officials with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Debris Program announced the launch of the NOAA Marine Debris Monitoring and Assessment Project

The one-year, standalone, nationwide marine debris assessment is in partnership with the Texas-based research company 1stMission LLC. The project is being funded with more than \$3.3M through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Department of Commerce and NOAA. According to the announcement, the survey will establish a scientifically-valid assessment of marine debris and the findings will be used to develop marine debris report cards, providing a tool to communicate and compare regional debris estimates across the nation's shorelines. The project also is expected to initiate a long-term survey design to identify where and when to survey over the course of 11 years, that, if implemented, would allow for marine debris trend detection. For more information about this Nationwide Survey, visit the NOAA Marine Debris Program's website.

**The Dare County Parks and Recreation Department has** launched a needs assessment survey. Upcoming public drop-in sessions will be held in various locations throughout Dare County, including two on Hatteras Island. The sessions will be held to talk about future projects, programming and community initiatives and to gather feedback from residents and property owners about the community's preferences and priorities for recreational offerings in Dare County.

The public input meetings will be held in a drop-in format from 4 to 7 p.m., October 23 at the Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Building in Rodanthe and Thursday, October 24 at the Fessenden Center in Buxton.

Attend one of the two drop-in public input sessions listed to share your vision, concerns and ideas for improving recreation in Dare County!

Each of the drop-in public input sessions features open-ended discussions about the community's ideas for improving the delivery of recreational services in Dare County. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a visual preference exercise to determine new amenities, facilities and programs and to take the needs assessment survey to share additional information in more detail.

Attend these meetings to determine current and future parks and recreation projects on Hatteras Island.

**Dixie Burrus Browning to be honored this coming Saturday.** The children of the late Dixie Burrus Browning, who died June 11, 2024, invite family, friends, and the art-loving public to join them Saturday afternoon, Oct. 26, any time between 1-4pm to pay tribute to this much-loved Hatteras Island native and highly regarded artist and novelist.

This event, which will be held in the social hall of Our Lady of the Seas Catholic Parish in Buxton, will give attendees an opportunity to share memories of Dixie and to support three of her favorite local charities through the purchase of her paintings, dozens of which will be on display. All the proceeds from the painting sales and people's personal donations will go to Hatteras Island Meals, Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation, and the Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men, non-profits that Dixie generously supported before her death in June.

As both a successful, award-winning painter and a prolific novelist, Dixie contributed much to the cultural fabric of her community and to North Carolina as well. In 2016, she was recognized by the governor for these outstanding achievements when he conferred on her the state's The Order of the Long Leaf Pine award.

Dixie was a versatile painter, who worked as expertly with oil and acrylic as she did with her favorite medium, watercolor. While serving as the first president of the North Carolina Watercolor Society, she helped advance the work of other watercolorists throughout the state while she continued to produce award-winning paintings that can be found in private and corporate collections across the United States.

In the middle of her lifelong journey as a painter, Dixie took a detour into romance writing, eventually publishing over 100 books for Silhouette and Harlequin before returning to her first love, that of recreating watercolor images of her beloved Hatteras and the North Carolina countryside.

**The annual Cape Hatteras Secondary School Veterans' Celebration** will be held Friday, Nov. 8, 2024. The school's address is 48478 NC 12, Buxton.

Breakfast will be served to veterans and active duty military personnel at 9 a.m. in the school cafeteria, followed by a schoolwide program in the gymnasium at 10 a.m. to honor our veterans and remember the ones who have left us in the past 12 months.

"We are looking forward to this great event for our school and community," writes Cape Hatteras Secondary's faculty member Keith Durham.

Be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.