

This is Radio Hatteras. I'm Grace with the Weekly News Summary for Sunday, June 2, 2024.

Rodanthe house tumbles to beach

Around 2:35 a.m. on the morning of May 28, a five-bedroom house at 24131 Ocean Drive in Rodanthe, collapsed into the Atlantic Ocean.

About a mile of beach was closed to the public while cleanup efforts proceeded. By Saturday, it appeared the beach was open.

In three days of picking up debris, 63 pickup truck loads of debris, plus what's collected by the private contractor, were hauled off the beach to a staging area at Ramp 23 immediately south of Salvo. The debris is consolidated and loaded into dump trucks for the run to the Dare County Construction and Demolition Landfill at the Manns Harbor Transfer Station.

On the day of collapse, 39 Cape Hatteras National Seashore staffers were at work cleaning up debris by 8:30 in the morning. The private contractor W.M. Dunn Construction arrived with equipment and staff around 9:30.

On Wednesday, national seashore staffers were joined by 16 volunteers who officially signed in at the Rodanthe Pier to help pick up debris. Perhaps others joined in without signing up.

The cleanup continued on Thursday. On Friday, seashore staff were working in Avon and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge picking up debris spread by the ocean currents.

The park service deployed its surf beach rake, a piece of equipment that rakes up small pieces of debris that may be under sand.

On Saturday, June 1, no noticeable debris was within sight of the collapse. Contractor W.M. Dunn Construction had also removed two septic tanks from the beach.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore staff encourages visitors to wear hard-soled shoes and remain cautious on the beach and in the water in front of Rodanthe as pieces of debris continue to wash ashore. Wind, currents and waves have spread debris along about an area from around the Richard Etheridge Bridge in Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge and as far as Avon.

Dwelling policy rate increase set; hearing avoided

On Thursday, May 30, 2024, Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey announced the North Carolina had settled its legal dispute with North Carolina insurance companies over a dwelling rate increase.

Dwelling policies are primarily offered to non-owner-occupied residences of no more than four units, including rental properties, investment properties and other properties that are not the property owner's primary residence.

The negotiated settlement with the North Carolina Rate Bureau calls for a statewide increase of 8%, reports a media release from the Department of Insurance.

However, in Territory 110 which covers the areas east of the sounds in Currituck, Dare and Hyde, the increase for extended coverage for buildings is set for 14.5%; for Currituck, Dare and Hyde Mainlands, the increase is 5.8%; and for Tyrrell County the increase is 2.5%.

The settlement calls for no increase statewide in fire insurance rates for buildings or contents.

The dwelling policy rate increase takes effect November 1.

The North Carolina Rate Bureau also applied for a rate increase for regular homeowners insurance. If no settlement is reached, a hearing will be held in October on that rate increase.

Birds and Turtles

The tip of Cape Point and south-facing shoreline are closed to off-road vehicles due to two American oystercatcher chicks. Two is the number of chicks in the Field Summary for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore issued May 31, 2024.

From north of the tip of Cape Point, the east-facing shoreline is open to 0.40 miles north of Ramp 43, which is open from 6 in the morning to 9 at night.

The Field Summary also reports

--32 American oystercatcher chicks with 14 active nests spread across the national Seashore

--165 active nests of colonial waterbirds with 65 nests at Cape Point and 81 at South Point on Ocracoke.

--Only one piping plover nest has been spotted. That nest is on South Point Ocracoke, which also has one Wilson's plover one active nest.

--On June 1, the national seashore biologists are reporting 15 loggerhead sea turtle nests on Hatteras and Ocracoke islands.

Dr. Beach's Best Beach list has no North Carolina beach listed.

For 2024, the top, third and seventh beaches are in Hawaii.

The second beach is Coopers Beach in Southampton, New York, which also claims the sixth place with the Main Beach, East Hampton, New York.

A state park in Clearwater, Florida claims fourth. Florida also has the eighth placed beach in Naples.

South Carolina, Massachusetts and California have one named beach each.

Drug arrest

On May 23, 2024, at about 1:49 in the morning, a Dare County Sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic stop on NC 12 near Nace Jennette Road in Buxton. During the stop, probable cause was established to search the vehicle. When deputies were searching the vehicle an amount of Methamphetamine and Drug Paraphernalia were located and seized.

Michael Ayward Godbey, 51, from Frisco was charged with felony Possession of Schedule II Controlled Substance and misdemeanor Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Godbey was given a \$6,000 secured bond.

Speed limit change at Pea Island visitor center

NCDOT has changed the speed limit in the area of the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

The change moved the limit from 55 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour due to a seasonal increase in pedestrian and visitor traffic in the immediate area.

Rock the Cape celebrates visual and performing arts on Hatteras Island

The 12th Annual Rock The Cape celebration happens next Thursday and Friday June 6 and 7.

The free, family-friendly event include an art show, concert and gallery tour.

On Thursday, June 6 there will be a full afternoon of art and live music at Kitty Hawk Kites' WAVes Village Watersports Resort at Milepost 40 in Rodanthe.

On Friday, June 7 Rock The Cape will host Friday Arts on the Island, a First Friday tour of the galleries on Hatteras Island.

The Rock The Cape art show and concert is scheduled from 2 in the afternoon to 7 on the lawn at Kitty Hawk Kites' Waves Village in Rodanthe.

The free concert will take attendees on a musical genre tour with a Hatteras musician family jam, a unique blend of traditional and contemporary Celtic music by Nova Scotian duo Cassie and Maggie, and pop, funk and soul tunes by Night Routine.

Wind and Waves Maritime Sailing Festival set for the weekend in Rodanthe

Wind n Waves Maritime Sailing Festival is a weekend of fun on Hatteras Island.

The festival opens Friday at 6 o'clock with Pamlico Deli's Beach Party Bonfire Friday with live acoustic music and ghost crabbing contest at the oceanside stage.

Saturday festivities start at 12 noon with the Maritime Arts & Crafts Market and a full line up of activities on Four Stages:

Maritime Market Main Stage: Live Music, Oyster Shucking, and speakers including Keeper James, Scott Dawson, and Tyler from Kinnakeet Oysters – surrounded on all sides by Maritime Arts & Crafts Market featuring local Outer Banks vendors and artists.

Soundfront Water Stage: Get to know Hatteras Sailing and join in for Sailboat Racing, Hobie Cat lessons and rides, build your own boat contest, Paper boat races, Learn To Sail chalk talks, demo sails, boat tours and more.

Oceanfront Water Stage: Pamlico Deli barbecue, Surf Camp, Learn to Surf Fish with Bill Crawford, Hobie Cat Surf Sailing, and a Sunrise Worship Service.

Poolside Bar: Outer Banks Boil, Bottomless Pints, and Live Music featuring The Carolina Sweaters Saturday Evening.

Fishing and Crabbing Rodeo

On Saturday, June 8, the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge hosts the annual Crabbing and Fishing Rodeo. This event is the only time when North Pond is open for fishing or crabbing. The event starts at 9 o'clock and runs until noon. Bring your own equipment. No crab pots or other commercial gear. Watch the crab size; must have a five-inch shell. Recreation crabber limit is 50 crabs.

On Monday, June 3, 2024, **Dare County Board of Commissioners convenes** its monthly meeting at 9 a.m. The agenda includes a public hearing on the 202 Fiscal Year Budget and consideration of the Capital Improvements Plan for the County, the Dare County Schools and he Water Fund.

Saving Lives Task Force Partners with the Dare County Library

Thanks to the work of the Saving Lives Task Force of Dare County, Narcan and fentanyl testing strips are now available at all three Dare County Library branches for the public to pick up as needed.

A life-saving station story

Throughout 2024, Jen Carlson is writing about shipwrecks and rescues in advance of the 150th anniversary to the Chicamacomico Lifesaving Station.

All in a Day's Work

Sometimes it's all about the right attitude:

On a foggy afternoon, January 27, 1922, the south patrolman of the Chicamacomico Coast Guard Station spotted a stranded steamer about 600 yards from shore and hurried back to the station to report his findings.

Captain John A. Midgett, Jr. called the Gull Shoal station for an assist and then led the crew out into the misty weather pulling the beach apparatus cart through the sand while fighting the waves and rainwater now covering the beach. Less than an hour after the initial spotting, the Gull Shoal crew was on scene with the Chicamacomico crew only minutes behind.

However, the steamer was no longer able to be seen in the thick fog. For almost two hours, the crews waited on the shoreline hoping the fog would lift. Eventually, it cleared just enough for the realization that the steamer was no longer stranded and had floated off the sandbar. Nearly six hours after heading out into the thick fog, both station crews returned to their respective stations.

Now, be careful out there. From all the volunteers at Radio Hatteras, thank you for listening. This is Radio Hatteras.