

This is Radio Hatteras. Hello, I'm Grace with the Weekly News Summary for Sunday, April 7, 2024.

It was a wet March

From the National Weather Service, Preliminary data shows just how wet March was across eastern North Carolina. Cape Hatteras picked up 13.86 inches of rain, which is its wettest March on record dating back to 1893. The previous record was 11.20 inches, set in 1989. And, March was the 19th warmest month on record with an average temperature of 56.2 degrees. The normal temperature was 53.8 degrees.

Commissioners hold special meeting on Housing, Wednesday, April 9

On Wednesday, April 9, 2024, Dare County Board of Commissioners will hold a special meeting about housing. The meeting starts at 9 o'clock in the newly designated Robert V. "Bobby" Owens Meeting Room.

Board of Commissioners Chairman Bob Woodard announced the special meeting at the board's April 2 meeting.

The published meeting agenda has Chairman's update as Item 1. The next item is Public Comment. That will be followed by answering questions: How Did We Get Here and Where Do We Go From Here.

Dare's commissioners have worked on housing for three and half years. Consultants were followed by a process to select firms to work building housing, which has not happened. Dare County has allocated \$12 million to a project. The state's General Assembly provided a \$35 million grant.

About the meeting, Woodard said "we will make a decision that day of where we go from here..."

The public is invited to attend the special meeting, in the Owens Meeting Room at the Dare County Administration Building, 954 Marshall C. Collins Dr., Manteo.

For those unable to attend in person, the special housing meeting will be livestreamed on Dare County's YouTube channel at [YouTube.com/DareCounty](https://www.youtube.com/DareCounty) as well as [CurrentTV.org](https://www.CurrentTV.org).

For people on Hatteras Island who would like to make public comment, the Fessenden Center Annex on Buxton Back Road will be open and staffed.

Buxton Civic Association meets April 10

At the April Dare County Board of Commissioners meeting, Brian Harris announced that a Buxton Civic Association has been formed to tackle the issue of petroleum contamination and remnant infrastructure showing up at the Buxton Beach Access.

A community meeting is set for Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 6 p.m., at the Fessenden Center, 46830 NC 12, Buxton.

On the agenda is establishing a Restoration Advisory Board, a committee required for all Formerly Used Defense Sites. Buxton Beach Access was designated a Formerly Used Defense Site, but no advisory board was created at that time.

Community Care Clinic offers dental care

The Community Care Clinic of Dare Dental Clinic is accepting new patients for April appointments. The clinic provides comprehensive Dental Care to residents and workers of Dare County who are uninsured or underinsured. Fees are based on income, and charged on a sliding

fee scale. Call the Dental Clinic to verify eligibility, register, and schedule an appointment at 252-261-3041 or email c c c d info at dare clinic dot org.

The clinic is located at 425 Health Center Drive in Nags Head.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Dare County Public Works Department has announced a three-day household hazardous waste collection event from Thursday, May 9 through Saturday, May 11.

During this event, Dare County residents and property owners on Hatteras Island can drop off hazardous waste for safe disposal at the Buxton Transfer Station, 47015 Buxton Back Road, from 2 to 4, Friday afternoon, May 10.

Residents of Dare County may use any of the three locations noted above during the three-day household hazardous waste collection event.

Start collecting the following items that are accepted: Paints, polishes, varnishes, paint-related materials and turpentine, Aerosol cans, adhesives and mercury, Household cleaners and pool chemicals, Herbicides, insecticides and pesticides, Fluorescent light bulbs and small batteries, Gasoline, motor oil, antifreeze and fuel additives, and Automotive batteries and automotive fluids

Two Cape Hatteras Students going to Governor's School.

Dare County Schools is proud to announce that four exceptional students have been accepted into the prestigious North Carolina Governor's School program.

Four Dare County students successfully passed the rigorous local and state nomination process to secure their positions in the highly competitive, four week residential program for gifted and talented high school students.

Congratulations to Cape Hatteras students Kevin Gonzalez-Caldera who will study English and Savannah Moore who will study visual arts.

And, three Cape Hatteras students will compete in California

Cape Hatteras Secondary students, Emma Riggs, Ann Lord, and Kristin Bennett placed third in the Community Giving project category at North Carolina DECA Career Development Conference in Greensboro. They will now compete at the International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, California, at the end of April.

This winning project, Coastal Care Packs, was created to support foster children in Dare County. The girls raised money and received donations to make bags and backpacks for babies, elementary, middle/high school students filled with all the necessities needed for each age level. They then met with Social Services workers who distributed the bags. For next year, the goal is to continue this project and include surrounding counties of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Currituck.

New Medicaid registrants number 400,000 in the state

This week, Governor Roy Cooper announced that more than 400,000 North Carolinians now have access to health care through the state's Medicaid expansion following record enrollment numbers and a coordinated campaign to enroll North Carolinians across the state.

This number represents more than two-thirds of the 600,000 people North Carolina expects to enroll over the next two years. Since December 1, North Carolina has enrolled an average of more than 1,000 people per day in Medicaid expansion – a pace faster than other states that have expanded Medicaid.

Many people who have enrolled through Medicaid expansion are young adults between the ages of 19 and 29 and work part-time or full-time. New enrollees also disproportionately live in rural communities.

Wow. Have you seen the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse?

The famed lighthouse is now surrounded by an impressive scaffolding structure from the ground all the way to the very top. Over 70 truckloads of scaffolding were used for the lighthouse.

Some more news from the Seashore.

The National Park Service's Frisco campground reopened for the 2024 season Saturday, March 30.

Hatteras Island's other seasonal CHNS campground, the Cape Point Campground in Buxton, remains temporarily closed due to flooding of low-lying campsites from the recent heavy rains. The Frisco and Cape Point Campgrounds remain open for the season until after the Thanksgiving holiday. The Oregon Inlet and Ocracoke campgrounds are open year-round.

Reservations and campsite payments for all four CHNS campgrounds can be made online at recreation dot gov.

Most of the known breeding American oystercatcher pairs have returned to the Seashore.

American oystercatchers, called the clowns of the beach for their coloration, scrape an area on the beach as a precursor to egg-laying. The females will use their feet to create a shallow depression or scrape in the sand. American oystercatchers are the earliest special beach birds to arrive and usually the last fledglings to leave.

Summer camp registrations are now open

For Hatteras Island, the Fessenden Center offers fun-filled programs, camps and activities specifically tailored for children and teens of all ages. At the Fessenden Center, some of the offerings are fishing classes, maritime camp, swimming, movies and dance, an assortment of sports, STEM Camp, various arts and crafts activities and Mess Masters!. Don't miss out on the chance to create unforgettable memories this summer. Sign your child up today and get ready to let the fun begin! Click the buttons below to view a PDF of the programs that will be offered for each division in Dare County for the summer of 2024.

Registration is now open and will remain open until a program is full. Register in person at the Fessenden Center or online using the registration platform Dare N C dot gov slash Register

Another two summer offerings

Coastal Studies Institute offers summer camps focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math concepts and using hands-on experiences and exploration of the great outdoor spaces of the Outer Banks.

Each week of camp features a particular theme and runs Monday through Friday, 9 to 3:30. The camps accept up to 16 campers between the ages of 10 through 15 years old each week. 2024 Summer Camps will run the weeks of June 10 through August 9, excluding the week of July 4. The registration fee for each week is \$375 per individual.

Contact Parker Murphy or call 252-475-5452 for general camp questions. Go to [coastal studies institute dot org slash summer underscore camps](http://coastalstudiesinstitute.org/summer/camps) for descriptions.

The Dare County Sheriff's Office offers the Sheriff's 2024 Summer Camp S.A.L.T. for children ages 8 to 14.

Summer camp sessions run from 8 to 4, Monday through Thursday, and 8 to noon on Friday. Five sessions are held from June including the first two weeks of August. Campers may sign up for one of the camps.

The camp activities may include fishing, climbing the Alpine Tower, rock wall, educational field trips and going to the sound. Each child will have opportunities to make new friends, learn ways to deal with challenges and create proud memories.

Each camp is limited to 30 participants. Call 252-475-5980 for a registration packet and list of sessions.

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