

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, February 2, 2025.

The Dare County Board of Commissioners meets Monday, February 3, 2025. On the agenda are several presentations.

Members of the Buxton Civic Association will deliver a presentation titled, "Eroding Trust, Building Resolve," which details how coastal erosion exposed former military structures at the Buxton Beach Access, leading to petroleum contamination and prompting the Buxton community to take action to address the issue.

A needs assessment for the county's Parks and Recreation Department will be presented.

Representatives from McGill Associates will report the final results from the Dare County Parks and Recreation Department's needs assessment survey that was conducted by the firm in the fall of 2024 to gather community input.

Board Chairman Robert L. Woodard will report on discussions with Brad Alexander, owner of Aria Construction and Development, regarding the county's potential purchase of a property in Wanchese that is currently in the process of being developed into a 48-unit cluster home project called The Villages at Old Wharf Road.

Dare Community Housing Task Force Chair Donna Creef will present the task force's 2024 final report, titled Housing for Now and Future Generations. She will also provide an update on the task force's latest initiative, called Our State, Our Homes. The program, called Carolina Across 100, is led by University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dare County is one of 14 teams participating in this 18-month project, with the goal "to improve access to and availability of affordable housing in North Carolina."

The Dare County commissioners meet at 954 Marshall C. Collins Drive in Manteo at 9 o'clock. Hatteras Islanders can watch the meeting and presentation by Buxton Civic Association at the Fessenden Center Annex off Buxton Back Road.

Restoration Advisory Board January 2025 Update:

On December 20, 2024, in a Memorandum for Record, Col. Ron Sturgeon documented his determination that the criteria for establishing a Restoration Advisory Board for the Buxton Naval Facility FUDS property have been satisfied.

In January 2025, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers anticipates initiating consultations with the regulatory community and key local government officials to form a selection panel to identify community leaders and representatives for Restoration Advisory Board membership. The board's first meeting will be held in March 2025. More information will be provided once it becomes available.

Hatteras village stars in video

A new video highlighting Hatteras Village has been released on Current TV. The video offers viewers an overview of this historic coastal community nestled between the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and Pamlico Sound. The film is part of the new Current TV series called "Discover Hidden Dare" designed to highlight various services, amenities, attractions and recreational opportunities that are offered within the unincorporated villages of Dare County. To view the video go to YouTube dot com slash Current TV OBX.

2025 reentry permits are now available

The 2025 Dare County reentry permits are now available online at [DareNC dot gov slash reentry](https://DareNC.gov/reentry). All residents, non-resident property owners and local business owners are encouraged to visit the site to review reentry requirements/priorities and to submit their reentry permit application. To enter Dare County following a mandatory evacuation, everyone must present a current reentry permit or other documents showing they are eligible to reenter. Acceptable documents are outlined for each reentry stage. To minimize delays at law enforcement-staffed reentry checkpoints, be ready to display your reentry permit, present your acceptable documents and provide a valid corresponding ID when asked. Expired reentry permits from previous years will not be accepted.

Sign up for Senior Games and Silver Arts

Registration for the 2025 Dare County Senior Games and Silver Arts opens tomorrow, Monday, February 3. Dare County residents ages 50 and older are invited to register to participate in the 37th annual Dare County Senior Games, to be held from Saturday, April 12, 2025 to Friday, May 9, 2025.

Coordinated by the Thomas A. Baum Senior Center in Kill Devil Hills—in partnership with the Virginia S. Tillett Community Center in Manteo and the Fessenden Center in Buxton—the Dare County Senior Games is an Olympic-style sporting and arts event during which participants compete in everything from pickleball, swimming and shuffleboard to basketball, bowling and bocce ball.

A link containing the 2025 Dare County Senior Games registration form will go live at [DareNC dot gov slash Senior Games](https://DareNC.gov/SeniorGames) on Monday, February 3, 2025. Printed registration forms are available on Monday at the three centers.

Regular registration ends on Friday, March 21, 2025. Late registration—which includes an additional fee—will take place from Saturday, March 22, 2025 to Friday, March 28, 2025. For more information about the Dare County Senior Games, visit [DareNC dot gov slash Senior Games](https://DareNC.gov/SeniorGames). If you need assistance with the Dare County Senior Games registration process, contact the Thomas A. Baum Senior Center at 252-475-5635.

Comment on state's 10-year transportation plan

A draft of the state's next long-range transportation improvements plan is now available for public review.

The State Transportation Improvement Program, or STIP, is the N.C. Department of Transportation's guide that shows how and when transportation projects are expected to be funded over the next 10 years. Projects scheduled in the first five years are generally considered to be scheduled for delivery, while those on the latter half of the schedule are funded for preliminary engineering only and are subject to be re-evaluated when the next STIP is developed.

Some projects underway or scheduled are building two passenger ferries (underway) to use on the Hatteras-Ocracoke route, replacing Alligator River Bridge (underway) and building the mid-Currituck Bridge starting in 2026.

A public comment period for the draft plan for years 2026-2035 is now open and runs through April 4. People can review the document and submit feedback online by [NCDOT dot gov](https://NCDOT.gov). Local

NCDOT offices across the state will also hold weeklong drop-in periods in the coming months for the public to ask questions and submit comments in person.

Transportation officials are expected to adopt the 2026-2035 STIP in summer 2025.

Sandbag remnants removal underway

After the Rodanthe Bridge was completed in 2022, about 1,200 feet of shoreline just north of the Pea Island Wildlife Refuge boundary still contained the remnants of sandbags from multiple sandbag projects that were conducted over the years.

In March of 2024, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) removed the old sandbag remnants from 110 linear feet of beach in the Mirlo Beach area of northern Rodanthe, but had to suspend operations due to the shorebird nesting season.

As reported on Island Free Press, on Monday, January 27, NCDOT restarted the cleanup operation, and as of this week, a large excavator is unearthing remnant sandbags from the beach, while sandbag fragments are being removed by hand from the excavated sand.

NCDOT anticipates the remnant sandbags can be entirely removed this winter before shorebird nesting season, according to Tim Hass, communications officers for NCDOT Division One.

The ongoing work does not affect traffic on N.C. Highway 12, as this section of Hatteras Island is now bypassed by the Rodanthe Bridge, reports the Island Free Press.

The Outer Edge third episode is now available

The third episode of The Outer Edge docuseries recently made its debut on YouTube, reports Island Free Press.

The episode “Local Notes” features singers/musicians/artists Tshombe Selby, Dan and Laura Martier, Ed Tupper, and Dawn Moraga and Willow Rea.

The six-part series, produced locally by the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, is part of the organization’s “ongoing commitment to responsible travel and the vibrant local community it serves.”

The documentaries explores the Outer Banks of North Carolina through the stories of OBX locals who pour their passions into photography, commercial fishing, boat building, crafting local products, analyzing weather patterns, and fueling the grassroots music scene.

Go to Island Free Press for links to Outerbanks dot org slash edge and the links to Episode 1 titled Sea to Table and Episode 2 titled Crafted at Sea Level.

Cape Hatteras Secondary homecoming now scheduled for Tuesday this week

Cape Hatteras Secondary School will host its 2025 Homecoming on Tuesday, February 4 in the William P. Dillon Memorial Gym.

The basketball contests with Mattamuskeet will start at 4 o’clock with the Junior Varsity Boys and follow with the Varsity Girls at 5:30 and the Varsity Boys at 7.

The Homecoming Ceremony will start at 8:30 p.m.

Dare County’s CIPC meets Feb. 3

Dare County’s Capital Improvements Planning Committee will meet Monday, February 3, at 1 o’clock in Room 238 in the Dare County Administration Building, 954 Marshall C. Collins Dr., Manteo.

The Committee will meet to review four proposals for the Construction Manager at Risk for Phase III new construction projects. This phase includes the following projects: Public Works in Manteo/Buxton, EMS Station #5 in Nags Head, EMS Station #6 in Waves, and the Sheriff's CID Evidence Building, and will consider any other matters to come before the Committee.

A **Buxton Community Health Fair** is slated for February 4, starting at 10 in the morning and ending at 1 o'clock. The Fair will held at the Fessenden Center Annex, off Buxton Back Road. Wellness screenings are featured.

Starry Nights, a celebration of stargazing on one of the darkest stretches of the East Coast, is coming to Hatteras Village on Saturday, February 8, for the second consecutive year. The child-centered event features a mobile planetarium that will be set up at the Hatteras Village Fire Station. Show times are 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30. Activities start at 1:30 and run to 4:30. From 5 to 6:30 go to the Hatteras Village Civic Center for soup before going to Sandy Bay for skywatching.

The afternoon and evening events are sponsored by the Hatteras Village Civic Association and are free to the island community.

The **Hatteras Village Waterfowl Festival** is set for February 22 at the Hatteras Village Civic Center. Falconry returns as does the duck call competition. Activities for children throughout the day. The day's activities are free and open to all.

And, just up the road, the **Buxton Civic Association** is joining with Café Pamlico to sponsor a Mid-Day Mardi Gras Fundraiser from 3 to 6 o'clock on February 22. Live music and special food. Tickets are \$10.

This is Radio Hatteras.