The start of summer is always a great time at the beach. It’s the beginning of a stretch of time when we are reminded of why we work hard all year in order to kick off our work shoes and hop on the boat or walk down the beach. This summer will be a particularly fun one at our beach because two large fun-oriented projects will be coming online in the next few months.

We have done a lot this winter to improve stormwater and other infrastructure issues in town. Those are necessary projects but, not necessarily fun. Children can not play on stormwater lift stations. However, kids can play at our new skateboard park and at our new miniature golf course. Thanks to the leadership of our Town Council and the financial support of Carteret County, we are building these next two improvements at our Town Park across from Atlantic Station. If all goes as planned, they should be open to the public later this summer.

Providing more family entertainment has been a priority of the Town Council for the past few years and we have made progress with our splash pad, family movie nights and other family-oriented events throughout the years. But, this summer will be the turning point. This summer will show that we have successfully turned around a decade-long decline in family fun in Atlantic Beach.

As word has spread about our park improvements, the Town Council and I have been approached by individuals and businesses who would like to contribute to the cost of the project. These generous offers reinforce how important family fun is to our community. Large donations to the skatepark from groups like Minges Bottling Group/Pepsi and The Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament have done much to move that project forward. But, there are many others who have asked if there is something they can do to help. In response to these requests for donation opportunities, we have developed a list of sponsorship opportunities that span a wide range of donation levels and is included in this issue of the Ocean Breeze. From park benches, to large live oak trees that will be planted on the site, to naming rights of miniature golf holes, we have choices for memorial or promotional opportunities that will help with the park project and are fully tax deductible.

I am always overwhelmed by the willingness of our citizens and our businesses to support our community. Your Town Council and town staff run a tight ship here in Atlantic Beach. We are fiscally conservative and always work to keep our expenses—and in turn—your taxes, as low as possible. So, when it comes to special projects like our Town Park, we rely heavily on grant funding and donations. We are taking big steps forward with family entertainment and we are doing it the right way with well-designed and well-built improvements to our park that will serve both kids and adults for years to come.

I was recently on site at the park inspecting a portion of the skatepark that was built into the dunes when I saw a piece of bright blue concrete sticking out of the sand. After a little digging, I realized it was a piece of the old waterslide that used to stand.
The warm weather always brings a welcome rush of activity as we gear up for another summer season. During the past winter months all of our departments have been very busy getting numerous projects completed and ready for the return of all our seasonal residents and tourists that fill up our beach Town.

The Town staff continues to reel in grants for major projects. We received a $73,000 grant for the water access project at the Bridge Abutment entrance to the Town. We will receive a $100,000 grant to continue dredging of the main boating channels leading out to the ICW. We are proud to announce the installation of a new beach access boardwalk at the Dunes Avenue location. We have submitted another state grant application for vehicular and pedestrian beach access improvements at Raleigh Avenue this fall.

As part of our townwide stormwater improvements plan we will soon complete a major drainage project in the Charlotte/Durham/Bogue/Cedar St. neighborhood; and look to begin a major project on Old Causeway this fall. We will continue to tackle these problem areas all over town.

The big news is the major expansion of our Town Park is well underway with the installation of a skatepark, mini golf course and concession stand/restrooms facility. This $1.2 million project is a combination of our town funds with a $600,000 match from the County, corporate sponsorships, naming rights, and private donations to complete one of our long awaited goals.

We will have summer kick off fireworks on Saturday night of Memorial Day weekend and again on Sunday night, July 3rd at the Circle. We have followed through on citizen requests for family events with a full slate of activities. Our popular Wednesday night seaside movies will return, with a double feature during July 4th week. The popular co-ed sand volleyball league has now grown and expanded to a two night per week program using the Boardwalk courts. Our sand soccer program is growing as well. Our summer junior lifeguard program fills to capacity the week registration opens.

We will bring back the third annual Beach Music Festival which has now grown into a week long affair, and are pleased to launch another festival, the Crystal Coast Music Festival, to be held the first Saturday in June.

Here’s wishing you the best for a great Summer of 2016. Spend your days making memories that you can recall years from now with that old familiar phrase, “Do you remember that time at Atlantic Beach when...?”

David Walker
Town Manager

Mayor’s Message con’t.

on the site--a waterslide that I loved as a child. A couple of years ago, this would have been a nostalgic but depressing find. But, as I stood on that dune and looked down at all the work in progress at the park, I felt just the opposite. I was excited. I was excited for this summer. I was excited for our future. I was excited to see family fun coming back to Atlantic Beach.

A.B. “Trace” Cooper, III
Mayor
As June draws near, we enter another Hurricane Season. The following reminders will ensure that if there is a severe weather event, you and your property stay as safe as possible.

Atlantic Beach Re-Entry Permits: Passes may also be used as parking permits when displayed on a vehicle’s dashboard within Town paid parking areas.

1. Please make sure you know where your re-entry passes and any other important documents are on your first visit of the summer. Do not wait until a storm approaches to try and find these items. Should you be asked to evacuate you will need these passes to regain entry to your property in Atlantic Beach after the storm passes and officials declare it safe for property and business owners to return. If you have misplaced or lost your passes you may purchase another one by following the procedures listed below.

2. Permits will only be issued Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm at Town Hall. No permits will be issued or mailed 24 hours before projected landfall.

3. Re-entry permit applications must be completed in their entirety for each parcel number, whether for real or personal property, and for each business in Atlantic Beach. Applications will be kept on file at Town Hall and cross-referenced with each assigned permit issued.

4. Re-entry permits are permanent permits and will not be re-issued each year.

5. Additional permits can be purchased for $25 per additional permit. Torn or worn permits that need to be replaced can be brought to Town Hall for replacement without charge.

6. Once property or business owners receive their two permits, they may give those permits to any individual(s) of their choosing (who may be in a better geographic position to check on property after a storm) or an additional permit can be purchased for that specific purpose.

7. Permits are assigned to specific parcel numbers and all permits will be transferred at closing or at the transferring of the title. This is as important as receiving the keys, parking passes, or gate control cards at closing. If two permits have previously been assigned to the parcel number, the new owner will be charged a $25 fee for each replacement permit requested. Remember, the permits are assigned numerically and cross-referenced to the specific parcel number matching the applications on file.

Do You Have Your Hurricane Re-Entry Pass?

Sample

[Image of a sample permit]

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SAMPLE
**Durham Avenue Drainage Project**

The Atlantic Beach Town Council approved a storm drainage project which will bring some long-sought relief to the flooding problems in the South Durham Avenue/West Bogue Boulevard/Cedar Lane drainage basin. Construction is underway with completion expected prior to Memorial Day weekend.

Our staff and engineers were able to design a system that will allow the water to drain by gravity flow to a lift/pump station located on South Durham Avenue to an existing storm drainage connection on West Fort Macon Road. This project will increase the size of the drainage pipes and the pump station will increase the flow of stormwater toward the discharge point. This is Phase 1 of a two phase project. Phase II should start in the fall, after the summer season. We feel this project will offer significant relief immediately upon completion.

This drainage basin rates as one of the worst flooding areas in Atlantic Beach and the Town has searched for a solution over the past twenty years. Unfortunately, coastal environmental rules prohibit numerous options that are available to inland towns. We have also recently completed several engineering projects to bring flood relief to other areas of our Town. These projects are very expensive, but it is our goal to fund and accomplish many of them over the next several years including: Old Causeway, Pond Drive, Robin Avenue, West Boardwalk and Henderson Drive.

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**Body Cameras**

You may notice that patrol officers with the Atlantic Beach Police Department have recently begun wearing body cameras. This equipment was purchased with the assistance of grant funds awarded by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the use of these cameras is intended to enhance our capabilities to accurately document events and actions that occur during the course of daily police work. We hope that the implementation of this new program will serve to foster an increased level of trust and safety among the citizens we serve.

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**New Water System Well**

After many years of planning, construction of the Town’s newest water well is nearing completion. The well will have the capacity to produce more than one million gallons per day (mpg). This well is located on an existing well site at the Town Park, thereby saving taxpayers money by not having to purchase separate property. Its extra pumping capacity will assure an abundant source of water for many years to come.
Beach Volleyball and Beach Runs

The Carteret County Recreation Department offers many fun-filled opportunities to meet new friends, exercise, and enjoy the beach at the same time. Adult Co-Ed Volleyball games are held on Monday and Wednesday nights May 18 through August at the Atlantic Beach Circle with registration available through May 9th. The Beach Run Series offers opportunities twice a month for all ages and skill levels including 1 mile, 5K or 10K with Beach Runs starting at the Atlantic Beach Circle.

Register online for both at ccp.recdesk.com or call (252) 808-3301 for more information.

Crystal Coast Music Festival

Atlantic Beach is excited to host the first annual Crystal Coast Music Festival that is being organized by the folks behind the very successful Bonnaroo festival in Tennessee.

This year’s lineup features the multi-platinum selling rock band, Third Eye Blind, along with emerging Indie artists Robert Delong, Judah & The Lion, and Amasa Hines.

The festival will be held Saturday, June 4th at the Circle. Tickets are available for purchase through Ticketmaster. Please note: coolers and outside alcohol will not be allowed within the concert boundaries on the beach.
The $1.2 million park expansion project is financed by a combination of town funds with a $600,000 match from the County, along with corporate sponsorships, naming rights, and private donations to complete one of our long-awaited goals.
Be a part of the Atlantic Beach Town Park with these donation opportunities:

**COMING SOON:**
- Skate Park
- Miniature Golf
- Concession Stand
- Restroom Facilities

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Checks payable to the Town of Atlantic Beach
PO Box 10, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512
Visit www.atlanticbeach-nc.com for more information

With donation, please provide the following information to: tab@atlanticbeach-nc.com

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Town of Atlantic Beach 2016 Parking Program Outline

Atlantic Beach will implement a paid public parking program at several locations of beachfront parking spaces for the 2016 summer season. Last year, this program derived over $100,000 from nearly 35,000 transactions.

Purpose:
To generate funds for beach services which include: a 7-day-a-week, paid summer lifeguard program which was affected by the withdrawal of annual lifeguard-funding contributions by the county, the operation and maintenance of three public beach access bathhouses, daily garbage/refuse pickup and disposal along a five-mile beachfront and various free summer recreation program activities like the Atlantic Beach Music Festival, the Memorial Day and July Fourth Fireworks; the family outdoor movie nights and the traffic safety enforcement for a summer population that approaches 50,000. These funds ensure that such tourist-related beach services are not fully subsidized by the local property taxpayers.

Schedule and Rates:
• Paid parking program runs from May 13, 2016 through August 31, 2016
• Daily from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
• Pay stations: $1.50/hour paid parking using parking stations, accepting CREDIT CARDS/DEBIT ONLY
• Any cars in paid lots or parking spaces at beginning of parking day hours will be ticketed
• No refunds for rain-outs
• Free parking with valid Handicap or Disabled Veteran tag/plates

Paid Parking Areas:
New Bern Avenue Beach Access, West Boardwalk CAMA Lot, Boardwalk Pavilion Lot, Inner Circle Gravel Lot, Circle Point, marked spaces along West Drive, Atlantic Blvd., and East Drive.

Atlantic Beach Property Owners:
Free parking with display of a Town Hurricane Re-Entry Pass on dashboard.

Atlantic Beach Resident Renters:
One free season pass with proof of Atlantic Beach residence (utility/CATV bill, or NCDL) may be obtained from Town Hall during normal business hours. Sticker must be adhered to windshield.

Non-Resident Season Pass:
$50 each; pass may be purchased at Town Hall during normal business hours and must be adhered to windshield.

The Program is under the guidance of and enforcement by the Atlantic Beach Police Department (ABPD).

Dunes Avenue Beach Access

The Town Council has funded and awarded the contract to construct an ADA compliant beach access at the terminus end of Dunes Avenue replacing the existing non-compliant walkway. The new structure will be a concrete sidewalk that transitions to an elevated boardwalk allowing improved access to the beach strand. The project is totally funded by the Town at a cost of $43,220 and will be completed prior to Memorial Day Weekend.

Leash Laws

The Police Department would like to remind everyone that the Town’s “leash law” requires all dogs to be kept on a leash any time the animal is not on the owners’ property - this includes while on our beach strand. There are certain times of the day that leashed dogs are allowed to be walked on the property known as the Circle area; this time period is between the hours of 5:00 am and 10:00 am. Due to an increased number of complaints, we are asking everyone to comply. The ABPD will vigorously enforce the ordinance this summer on the beach and the Circle.
Dredging Grant

The Town received a $100,000 Water Resources Development Grant from the State to assist with our local dredging costs of our annual channel maintenance program. Funds provided by the grant will assist in paying for the maintenance dredging on five channels in Atlantic Beach. The Royal, New Causeway, Causeway, Anchorage, and Triple Ess Channels are maintained at the recommendation of the Atlantic Beach Citizens Committee on Dredging. Dredging these areas removes 10,000 cubic yards of dredging materials between now and Spring 2017.

Bridge Abutment Phase 1 Enhancement Completed

With the help of the $73,000 in grant funds we received last year we were able to enhance and install pervious parking at the former bridge abutment area for 22 vehicles and 4 vehicles with attached boat trailers.
At the Circle on the Boardwalk
Holiday Band
Band of Oz
Fantastic Shakers
Mighty Saints of Soul
Saturday, May 21st
11:00am - 6:00pm

NO GLASS
NO PETS
Wednesday Movie Nights at the Circle along the Boardwalk
8:30 pm
Bring a chair or blanket • Rain Date: Thursday Nights

June 8.....PLANES
June 15.....FIELD OF DREAMS
June 22.....HONEY I SHRUNK THE KIDS
June 29.....WIZARD OF OZ

July 6.....GOONIES
July 6.....JAWS
July 13.....SOUL SURFER
July 20.....FROZEN
July 27.....UP

August 3.....INSIDE OUT
August 10.....ZOOTOPIA

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
AUGUST 2
TOWN PARK
6:30 pm

FIREWORKS
SATURDAY, MAY 28
& SUNDAY, JULY 3
9:00 pm at the Circle
American Flags on Causeway Bridge

Proudly flown and managed by the Atlantic Beach Public Works Department over the entire length of the bridge made possible by a mutual cost-sharing agreement with Morehead City for their display.