

# The Ocean Breeze



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## Winter 2005

## Christmas Parade

**Friday, December 2, 2005**

**7:00 pm**

### Featuring:

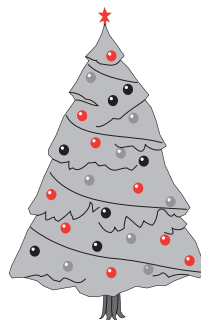
USMC Air Station Color Guard  
Croatan High School Band  
West Carteret High School Band

### Light Up the Night!

Enter your lighted floats, boats/trailers, antique cars, pageant winners, youth groups, marching groups, and more!

### Parade Route:

Oceanana Resort Motel on Fort Macon Rd. to the Circle  
For entry information call (252) 726-2121



### Town's Holiday Schedule

The Town Hall offices will be closed on the following days:

**November 24 and 25** for Thanksgiving holidays

**December 23 and 26** for Christmas holidays

**January 2, 2006** for New Year's Day

## FYI

- The Town's e-mail address is [tab@atlanticbeach-nc.com](mailto:tab@atlanticbeach-nc.com). Town Hall hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, M-F.
- You can access the Town's Code of Ordinances online along with the monthly minutes, monthly agendas, "The Ocean Breeze" and other information about the Town. The address is [www.atlanticbeach-nc.com](http://www.atlanticbeach-nc.com)
- Represent your Town by purchasing a vehicle tag, which are available at Town Hall for only \$5.00 each.

# Numbers to Know

## Department Phone Numbers

Administration.....	726-2121
Fire Department.....	726-7361
Inspections Department.....	726-4456
Planning Department.....	726-4456
Police Department.....	726-2523
Public Works.....	726-1366

## Town Manager and Department Heads

Chuck Cooper, Town Manager.....	726-2121
Sabrina M. Simpson, Deputy Town Clerk.....	726-2121
Laura H. Buda, Tax Collector.....	726-2121
Donna Turner, Director of Inspections.....	726-4456
Adam Snyder, Fire Chief.....	726-7361
Scott Kilpatrick, Police Chief.....	726-2523
Marc Schulze, Public Works Director.....	726-1366
Lee Smith, Planning Director.....	726-4456

## Planning Board Members

Joe Tarascio, Chairman  
 Larry Burke  
 Trace Cooper  
 Karen Koenig  
 Norman Livengood  
 Tom Outlaw  
 Vada Palma

## Board of Adjustment Members

Everett Cameron, Chairman  
 Ray Barts  
 Ann Batt  
 John Kurek  
 Joyce Vinson

## Alternate Members

Markey Burroughs  
 Darrel Lawrence  
 Joe Loughry



# Mayor and Town Council

Mayor Eddie Dawkins.....	726-1544
Mayor Pro Tem Doug Creech.....	247-3831
Harry Archer.....	726-6655
Jim Bailey.....	241-1200
Tom Doe.....	726-8952
Christie Roberson.....	222-0699

# Scheduled Board Meetings

- The Town Council meetings are always the third Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. If you wish to be on the agenda, please notify the Town Clerk in writing by noon on the first Monday of each month.
- The Planning Board meetings are the first Tuesday of each month.
- The Board of Adjustment meetings are the fourth Monday of each month.

# Mayor's Letter

It has indeed been my pleasure to serve as the Mayor of Atlantic Beach during this past year. As you are probably aware I am, thanks to the voters of Atlantic Beach, returning to my "first love" as a member of the Town Council. I am very happy to turn over this space and the responsibilities of Mayor to my good friend Joyce "Tootsie" Vinson.

During the past year the Town Council and I have been confronted with many important issues. While it may seem to some that we have not always been 100% successful, we have always tried to put the interests of our Town first. Some of our accomplishments have included the successful launch of the Circle Redevelopment project, resumption of the important channel dredging efforts, completion of the major Corps of Engineer beach nourishment project, surviving a significant Hurricane Ophelia with no loss of life, welcoming many of our old and new friends to Atlantic Beach during the summer season, and completion of many smaller but important projects that affect the daily lives of our citizens and visitors.

I look forward to serving the citizens and visitors of Atlantic Beach over the next two years. For those of you, who are not yet residents, please continue to include Atlantic Beach in your travel and vacation plans.

Sincerely,  
 Mayor Eddie Dawkins

# Beach Keepers

Fall is a time for memories. It instills a sort of warmth toward upcoming holidays, family ties and friendships. Summer's over with crowds and elections behind, and Atlantic Beach again has its spiritual renewal of lengthy sunsets and gratitude for the beauty of staying for us who live at the beach year round.

It's a time to reflect and say thank you back to the community that works so naturally, keeping Atlantic Beach special. Without enumeration you know who you are, the color, the personality, wit and vitality of the beach. You are the territory, the beach ties; the part of Atlantic Beach that builds the warmth, keeps the glow, and keeps Atlantic Beach.

Christie Roberson  
 Councilwoman

# Manager's Message

The Fall and early Winter at Atlantic Beach are magical times for those of us lucky enough to live here (sweatshirts and shorts are the fashion choice for many of our residents). I would encourage all of you to take the time to come down and enjoy the great weather and "quieter" times at the beach. Hopefully you had an opportunity to enjoy this past Summer season with us as well.

As I approach the end of my first year of service as Town Manager, the Town staff and I are confronted daily with a myriad of issues and opportunities to provide services to our citizens, to provide solutions to problems, to develop better ways to administer our Town, and to provide effective support to the Town Council's efforts. Notwithstanding our Town's relatively small size, the issues we confront can be daunting. With your support we will continue to approach each issue with an eye toward serving the best interest of our Town. Some of the recent events and accomplishments that may be of interest are:

## Town Financial Operating Results

The Town's revenues and expenses are on track with no major surprises from the budgeted estimates. Some key highlights of the financial operation to date include:

- The Town completed last year's budget cycle without having to use any of the prior year's fund balance for operations.
- The Town completed the sale of the Circle property to FMB, Inc. which netted in excess of \$1.5M for the Town's special revenue funds.
- The Town's cash balance for all funds as of October 31, 2005 was \$6,526,681. Overall revenues and expenses related to departmental operations are on target as budgeted.
- The Town has received grant funding for both Police and Fire activities in excess of \$250K that has improved the Town's ability to provide services to the citizens and visitors.
- The Town, after the busy summer season, is moving forward with several budgeted capital projects including the completion of the sidewalks (majority grant funded) along Hwy. 58 to the western terminus of Town.

## The Grove (a.k.a. The Circle)

Fred Bunn is moving forward with the plans for the Grove development. The majority of the demolition of the structures that will not be renovated for the new Grove has been accomplished. This demolition has gone extremely smooth and greatly improves the "look" of the Circle even before the building begins. Fred and his team expect to begin construction activities, after completion of the significant detail design phase, in approximately 8-12 months. Expect to see signs in the not to distant future on the Circle site depicting what the new Grove will look like.

## Town's website

The Town's new website is hopefully in operation by the time you read this edition of *The Ocean Breeze*. Please take a look at the new information resources that are in the new site. We look forward to providing a better access point for our citizens and visitors to the Town's staff and services. The new site is a work in progress and will not happen all at once, but keep an eye out for the improvements as they evolve. Take advantage of the "Comments" capabilities to let us know what you think and any suggestions for added features.

## Dredging

The Town Council has authorized the dredging of the Inter-Coastal Waterway channel that has become severely degraded by weather and tides. We are moving quickly to get CAMA permits to allow for this current dredging effort as well as provide the capabilities to continue dredging as needed in the future. The dredging will commence as soon as the CAMA permitting process is complete.

I look forward to continuing to report on the happenings in Atlantic Beach in future issues. When you are in town please enjoy the experience and call on us at the Town Hall if you need any assistance.

Chuck Cooper  
Town Manager

# Mayor Elect's Comments

I am very excited to be the Mayor Elect. The oath of office will take place December 19, 2005, at the regular Town Council meeting. After the holiday fun, I look to start out the New Year being your Mayor for the next two years. Atlantic Beach has a lot going on. I am in hopes that we can get right to work on what I feel are some of the most important issues facing Atlantic Beach, such as dredging and storm water.

I look forward to working with a great Council, the Town Manager, and Town employees. As I stated in my campaign, I will always have an open door policy. Come see me.

Tootsie Vinson  
Mayor Elect

## Holiday Safety

When buying your Christmas tree, be sure to pick a fresh tree. You'll know it's fresh if the needles are firmly attached. When the tree is in your home, keep plenty of water around the base. A dry tree is the source of more than 1,000 home fires every year.

Be bright about lights! Don't use lights with worn insulation, broken plugs, or loose sockets. They can cause fires, shocks, and even electrocution.

Be careful when hanging several strings of lights together. It could result in an overload situation. Remember that all lighting, inside and outside, should be turned off before you go the bed.

Keep space heaters away from curtains, bedspreads and furniture. Make sure children know they could get burned if they touch a space heater.

Are the stockings hung by the chimney with care? Be especially careful if there's a cozy fire burning in the fireplace.

Make sure your fireplace opening is covered with a sturdy metal screen or heat-tempered glass doors. This reduces the chance of a fire starting from escaped sparks or wood.

We wish you a safe and happy Holiday Season!

## Home Fire Inspections

If you are interested in having a home fire inspection, please feel free to contact the Fire Department at (252) 726-7361. We will come to your home to help ensure that your holidays are going to be fire safe one.

## Promotion & Hires

Lt. G. Verrazzano has been promoted to Captain. Casey Arthur has been hired as a Firefighter/Paramedic with the Atlantic Beach Fire Department. Congratulations to them both.

## Firefighters Assistance Grant

The Atlantic Beach Fire Department was awarded \$84,000.00 in grant funds through the 2005 Assistance to Firefighters grant. This is a federal grant that helps support fire departments through grant monies to purchase equipment related to firefighter safety and operations. This grant is very competitive and we are pleased to have been chosen as a recipient for the second year in a row. The Department has been awarded a total of \$122,000.00 in the last two years which has helped us purchase needed equipment.

This year's grant will be used to purchase fire nozzles, fire hose and other equipment that needs to be replaced due to failure and age.

## Planning Report

The Town of Atlantic Beach is currently working on updating the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Land Use Plan for the town. The Planning Board has been reviewing past development patterns and practices and gathering historical data and information for the past 12 months and will be beginning the process of formulating policy goals and objectives during the first of the new year. Since this document is intended to be a comprehensive assessment of the needs and recommended development patterns of Atlantic Beach for the coming 20 years, the Planning Board is requesting your additional input into the matter. During the first half of the process the Planning Board held multiple public input and work sessions to gather insight from the citizenry and now they would like to refine those comments into ranked action items. Beginning in January 2006, the Town will have available short surveys for all Atlantic Beach residents to complete expressing their opinions on certain development issues. For residents residing in Atlantic Beach, these surveys will be available at the Town Hall. Copies of the survey will be mailed to all property owners that do not reside permanently in Atlantic Beach. The survey will also be made available on the Town's website at [www.atlanticbeach-nc.com](http://www.atlanticbeach-nc.com). If you would like to know how you can become further involved in the Land Use planning process or if you have any questions related to planning and development within the Town of Atlantic Beach, please feel free to contact the Planning Department at (252) 726-4456.

# Operation Safe Harbor

The Atlantic Beach Police Department was selected to receive a \$169,800 grant for Homeland Security, administered by the Division of Emergency Management, Homeland Security Branch. The grant committee, made up of members from across the state, ranked our grant third in the state.

This equipment grant will allow the purchase of a 25' SeaArk patrol boat equipped with sonar, communications, and fire suppression. The goal is to increase Marine Patrol in Atlantic Beach 100% and provide assistance and mutual aid to the Morehead City Port Authority and surrounding areas. The Morehead City Port impacts Carteret County \$23,086,330.00 annually.

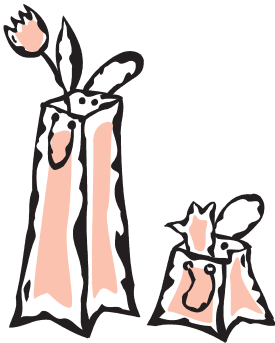
With the purchase of the boat and equipment, Atlantic Beach will be able to address the growing needs of our boating community, and shows the dedication of our staff to continue to seek funding sources that will reduce the Department's operational costs while improving the services we provide to our citizens and visitors alike.

## Safety Tips for Holiday Shopping

The holidays will soon be upon us. Please remember to practice the following safety tips:

1. Do not carry large amounts of cash.
2. Try not to shop alone. There is safety in numbers, so its better to shop with a friend or in a group.
3. If you are shopping at night, park in a well-lit area.
4. Always lock your packages in the trunk of your car, if possible. Never leave items out in plain view.
5. If you are shopping alone at night, ask a store employee for an escort to your vehicle.
6. If traveling during the holidays, make sure to give yourself ample time to get where you are going. Don't be in a rush - that is how accidents happen.

Be safe this holiday season. Happy Holidays from everyone in the Atlantic Beach Police Department!



## Promotion and Full-Time Hires

AK Miller has recently been promoted to Interim Major. Captain Tami Thomas has been promoted to Investigator. Captain Jim Willard has been promoted to Patrol Commander. Hugh Flynn, Mike Ussery, Jeff Harvey and Jay Spitz have all been promoted to Lieutenant. Christina Hardy and Ken Saxer were promoted to Corporal. Each have worked very hard to achieve these promotions and we feel fortunate to have them on our staff.

We are also proud to welcome Janie Morris. She has been hired as a full-time dispatcher for the Town of Atlantic Beach.

## Special Vacation Burglary Precautionary Tips

If you are going to be on vacation or away from your dwelling for any extended length of time, follow these tips:

- Arrange to have a trusted neighbor keep a close watch on your dwelling while you are away.
- Discontinue all delivery services coming to your dwelling such as newspapers, mail, etc.
- Make sure your front lawn is cut and cared for while you are gone. Arrange to have your trash cans taken out on trash day to give the appearance that you are home.
- Use an automatic timer to turn on and off your night lights while you are gone.
- If you have a telephone answering machine, do not put a message on it stating that you are on vacation or away. Place a message that indicates you are home but can't answer the call.
- Before you leave, make sure that all doors, windows, and other means of entry are locked and secured.
- Advise your local law enforcement agency that you are going on vacation and that you would like additional vacation checks of your premises.

## Burglary Prevention Strategies

The best way to prevent burglary is to make your home an unattractive target to a potential burglar. You make it more difficult by "hardening" such areas of entry as doors, windows, vents, skylights, etc. The harder a potential burglar has to work to gain entry, the less likely they will bother to burglarize the home.

Invest in alarms from a reputable company and post warnings on your residence that the home has a burglar alarm system.

## Winterize Your Home

Cold weather is coming, and you will want to prepare for it. If you have outside water lines (docks, fish cleaning stations, irrigation lines), you should shut off the water supply and either drain the lines or insulate them properly. Those homeowners who will be gone for an extended period of time, perhaps even the entire winter, may wish to winterize their property by securing the water supply (shut it off at the water meter) and draining the lines. If you do so, also remember to (1) turn off the power to your hot water heater and drain the unit, and (2) add a little bit of antifreeze to the commode(s) and P-traps in the sinks so they will not freeze. If you plan to leave the water supply on, make sure that (1) all outside faucets are shut off tightly, (2) the faucets and all exposed piping are well-insulated, and (3) the heat is on in the house enough to prevent from bursting.

## Christmas Tree Removal

The Town will pick up your Christmas tree after the holidays. Please remove all tinsel and decorations and leave the tree next to the curb. If you wish, you may take your tree to Fort Macon State Park instead. There will be signs at the bathhouse directing you where to place the tree.

## Yard Waste Collection

We strive to keep Atlantic Beach beautiful and are constantly looking for ways to improve our service levels to our citizens. In order to serve you better, we are making some minor changes to the way we pick up yard waste.

- We would like to have all leaves and grass clippings bagged.
- Limbs must be cut in lengths no longer than 4 feet.
- Yard waste shall be placed next to the roadway/curb for pickup.
- Please do not place items for pickup next to poles, mailboxes, fencing, under trees or under overhead lines as we use a boom truck for pickup.
- Per Town Ordinance, Section 15, Article 4, yard waste shall be placed on your curb, not on empty lots.
- Per Town Ordinance, Section 15, Article 29, construction and demolition (C&D) shall not be picked up by the Town.
- Large loads, equating to half a truck full or more, will require payment in advance to the Town Hall. Please note, the Public Works staff is not authorized to accept any form of payment.

With everyone's help and cooperation, yard waste and white goods can be picked up within three to four working days under normal conditions. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Utility Billing Clerk, **Denise Crowley, at (252) 726-1366.**

*The Ocean Breeze:* Produced and edited by the Town of Atlantic Beach, NC.  
For more information, contact the Town at (252) 726-2121 or by e-mail at [tab@atlanticbeach-nc.com](mailto:tab@atlanticbeach-nc.com)

### Town of Atlantic Beach

Post Office Box 10  
Atlantic Beach, North Carolina 28512



*The Ocean Breeze*

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Presorted  
Standard  
Permit No. 14  
Atlantic Beach, NC  
28512

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