



TOWN of BEAUFORT

NORTH CAROLINA



Town of Beaufort Newsletter

www.beaufortnc.org

February 2020

Beaufort, the Gateway to Freedom

As we enter Black History Month, it is important that we recognize Beaufort's long and rich African-American history. Carteret County native and accomplished North Carolina historian David Cecelski wrote in his book *The Waterman's Song, Slavery and Freedom in Maritime North Carolina* that early in the Civil War, free slaves helped Union soldiers navigate boats in the middle of the night from Morehead City, under the cannons of Fort Macon, through the shallows, and to our shores as Union soldiers occupied Beaufort without a shot fired. Because Beaufort fell so early in the war, Beaufort became a Gateway to Freedom...the second largest free slave community in North Carolina, with James City (outside of New Bern) as the largest. This is an important part of our Town's history and I hope we all continue to strive to make Beaufort a community that is free from discrimination of any form.

Congratulations to the Beaufort Garden Club

My heartiest congratulations to the Beaufort Garden Club as they celebrate their 60th anniversary. These ladies are one of our most active volunteer groups with beautification projects throughout our community to include the Boys and Girls Club, Town Hall, the old library, and the Boardwalk. The Beaufort Garden Club is a key to keeping Beaufort the "#1 Small Town in the South." Well done!

Update on Infrastructure and Parks

Paving. In March, we are expecting to secure funding for paving of 3 miles of our streets. With this funding, we will send out a Request for Proposal to determine the contractor to conduct this extensive work. We expect this paving to start no later than this fall (weather permitting) and should progress relatively quickly. As a reminder, we will not repave any streets that require underground utility work. That underground work is much more complex and will occur over the next few years.

Cedar Street. NC Department of Transportation will dramatically improve Cedar Street before turning it over to Beaufort. This work will include rehabilitating storm water systems that have collapsed over the decades. The State budget impasse has significantly slowed this work but so far it remains funded. We do not have an estimate for the start or completion of this project.

Randolph Johnson Park. I recently attended a meeting with contractors that have been selected to completely refurbish Randolph Johnson Park. They are motivated to get to work and have recently received a Notice to Proceed (NTP) from Town Engineer Greg Meshaw. The NTP will give the contractors 150 days to substantially complete this important project. We're hoping it will be complete much earlier than 150 days, but it is "better done right, than fast." We greatly appreciate the generous benefactor who is making this extensive park upgrade possible.

Topsail Marine Park. We had intended to start work (with the help of the Beaufort Garden Club) to improve Topsail Marine Park on the south end of Orange Street. Due to the recent fire adjacent to the park, we are delaying this Topsail Marine Park project until demolition work is complete in this area.

- Mayor Everett S. (Rett) Newton

The Very Best of Beaufort

As Mayor, I have had the honor to get to know our talented first responders. They may be the first people that visitors meet when they arrive in Beaufort, so they must have the skills of an ambassador for our community. On the other hand, they may need to react on a moment's notice to a complex emergency situation so it is vital that they are trained to handle an infinite number of crises. Our fire fighters, police officers, and EMS technicians are constantly adapting to emerging challenges. They are a vital part of our community, dedicated civil servants, and truly represent the very best of Beaufort!



Town Hall

701 Front Street
P.O. Box 390
Beaufort, NC 28516
(252) 728-2141

Office Hours

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday-Friday

Mayor

Everette S. (Rett) Newton
e.newton@beaufortnc.org

Commissioners

Ann Carter

a.carter@beaufortnc.org

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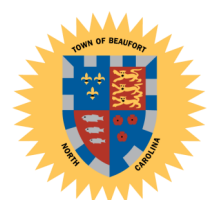
Charles McDonald

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Town Manager

John Day

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Newsletter Submissions:

Due Feb. 20, 2020 at 5 p.m.
Send to r.johnson@beaufortnc.org



Board of Commissioners

During their Jan. 13, 2020 regular monthly meeting, the Board of Commissioners took the following actions:

- Approved minutes for the Nov. 18 regular meeting, the Nov. 25 work session, the Dec. 9 regular meeting and the Dec. 18 work session.
- Approved FY20 BA #4 for additional funding for the Workers Compensation yearly premium.
- Approved a resolution requesting the Carteret County Board of Commissioners make an appointment of ETJ Members for the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment.
- Approved the amended meeting schedule for the Board of Commissioners.
- Approved the Mixed Use Project Site Plan for 806 Cedar Street
- Made appointments to Volunteer Boards:
 - Historic Preservation Commission: John Stephens and Bob Terwilliger
 - Planning Board: Ryan Neve, John LoPiccolo and Paula Gillikin

ADA Transition Plan Survey & Meeting

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Town of Beaufort is completing an ADA Transition Plan. This plan will look at barriers to accessibility and strategies to address a variety of issues that impact the accessibility of Town services, facilities, sidewalks and streets in the public right-of-way.



Online Survey: This survey is intended to inform the ADA Transition Plan update by identifying barriers to accessibility and generating priorities for improving town-owned infrastructure and programs. Visit www.beaufortnc.org and click on the tab at the top of the page or go directly to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BeaufortNC-ADA>

Public Meeting: Representatives from Stewart, the firm selected for this plan, will host a drop-in style public meeting on Monday, March 9, 2020 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the Train Depot (614 Broad Street). For additional information, contact ADA Coordinator Kate Allen at k.allen@beaufortnc.org

2020 Small Vessel/Kayak Lottery

The 2020 Small Vessel/Kayak Lottery for storage at a waterfront Town park will be 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 4 at the Train Depot. The lottery will be live streamed on the Town of Beaufort's Facebook page. Spaces will be assigned in order of the lottery. You do not need to be present. Town Staff will assign a space as close to your listed preference as is available that meets the needs of your vessel. There are 3 dinghy, 4 canoe and 37 kayak spaces at Fisherman's Park. There are 12 kayak spaces at Grayden Paul Park and 12 kayak spaces at Curtis Perry Park. Payment and valid proof of residency must be received by the Town of Beaufort within 10 business days of the lottery in order for your space to continue to be reserved. The 2020 fee is \$75. Town Staff will be at the Train Depot to accept payments in the form of cash and check during the lottery on March 4. Please fill out and return your completed Small Vessel Application by 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, 2020. For more information and to download the rules and application, visit <https://www.beaufortnc.org/parks/page/small-vesselkayak-storage>. (Under the Residents tab). If you have any questions or concerns please contact Rachel Johnson, Parks & Events Coordinator/PIO, at r.johnson@beaufortnc.org or (252) 728-2141 ext. 231.

Call 728-2141 to be added to the Sunshine List or email m.davis@beaufortnc.org.

February Meetings

All meetings are in the Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, unless otherwise posted. The public is welcome at all meetings.

- 6 p.m. Feb. 4—Historic Preservation Commission
- 6 p.m. Feb. 6—Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- 6 p.m. Feb. 10—Board of Commissioners
- 6 p.m. Feb. 17—Planning Board
- 4 p.m. Feb. 24—Board of Commissioners Work Session (Town Hall Conference Room, 701 Front Street)
- 6 p.m. Feb. 24 —Board of Adjustment

Beaufort Commissioner Elected to Two State Boards

Beaufort Commissioner Sharon Harker has been elected to serve on two state boards.



Harker was elected in November 2019 to serve on the Board of Directors for the North Carolina Coastal Federation. Harker was elected for a 2-year term starting in January 2020.

Harker was also selected to serve on the North Carolina League of Municipalities Advancing Municipal Leaders Advisory Council in December 2019 with her term beginning in January 2020. Harker was selected to serve on this council for her "expertise and perspective on municipal leadership," states a welcome letter from Paul Meyer, Executive Director. The Council's mission "is to create and sustain a practical skill development service to enable our local elected officials by providing consistent, relevant, practical and targeted training designed to improve decision making, add value in citizen interactions, and reduce municipal risk, building high performing municipal local governments."

Volunteer Board Vacancy

The Town of Beaufort Board of Commissioners is accepting applications for a vacancy on the Historic Preservation Commission. This appointment will serve an unexpired term ending Jan. 31, 2021. Citizens interested in serving should complete an Application for Volunteer Board which can be found on the town website www.beaufortnc.org. Applications should be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 17, 2020 to Town Clerk Michele Davis. Appointment will be at the March 2020 Board of Commissioners meeting.

Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission met Jan. 7 and discussed the following items:

- Approved: 519 Front St.- Request to install new 20-sq. ft. attached sign, add fiber cement siding to the lower outside granite wall and paint the area a light gray.
- Tabled until February meeting for additional information: 208 Cedar & 319 Orange St.- Request for demolition of two existing structures, tree removal with replacement with other vegetation, installation of lighting for the parking area and

fencing for the perimeter of the parking lot and adjacent properties.

• Staff has preliminarily selected a firm to update the existing Historic District Guidelines, pending State Historic approval. If all goes well a community input session will be held in early March with another session later in the summer. The completion of the guidelines will be beneficial for future construction and reconstruction in the Local Historic District.

For more information, please contact Kyle Garner, Planning Director, at 252-728-2142 or at k.garner@beaufortnc.org.

Citizen's Academy

The Town of Beaufort is launching its first Citizen's Academy in March 2020. Look for registration details on the Town's website and on the Town's Facebook page in early February. Spaces will be limited. Contact Rachel Johnson at r.johnson@beaufortnc.org for more information.



Trail of Faith Offering 20 Scholarships

Residents of Carteret County, Trail of Faith Farms (TOFF) is a quaint equestrian facility located in the fields of Trenton, NC. TOFF invites you to take advantage of a fantastic opportunity of our Riding Scholarships. A scholarship opportunity means that 100% of the cost is covered to participate in our horseback riding programs. We offer therapeutic riding, western lessons, and a Veterans program joining up vets and mustangs. For more information and to submit an application visit <https://trailoffaithfarms.weebly.com/scholarships.html>. Deadline to apply is March 1, 2020.



February Events at the NC Maritime Museum

- 7 Brown Bag Gam: Love at Sea
 - 11 Maritime Movie: Rescue Men, The Story of the Pea Island Lifesavers
 - 12 Merry-time for Tots: Sailor's Valentines
 - 13 Brown Bag Gam: The Great Dutch-Net Debate
 - 14 Heart of the Sea
 - 20 Brown Bag Gam: The Historic Whale Fishery of North Carolina
 - 22-23 Introduction to Wooden Boat Building Class
 - 22 Carolina Maritime Model Society Meeting
 - 27 Boating Safety Program: AIS for Recreational Boat-ers
- For information, visit ncmaritimemuseumbeaufort.com or call (252) 504-7740.

Loaves and Fishes Race for Recovery

Date: March 14, 2020

Time: 7:30 a.m. Run; 8:45 a.m. Walk/ Kids 50 Yard Dash

Purpose: Provide awareness and financial support for L & F Men's Recovery Program.

Website: www.runsignup.com/Race/NC/Beaufort/LoavesandFishesRunforRecovery



Most of us have been touched in some way by substance abuse or addiction, either personally or family members.

Please help us help others by supporting this Race for Recovery.

Sponsored by Ann St. UMC, Outreach

Call Oriel Homan, (252) 723-2687 with questions.



JOIN THE 2020 CENSUS TEAM

United States
Census 2020

2020census.gov/jobs

The U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

LOCATION
FORT BENJAMIN
RECREATION CENTER
100 MCQUEEN AVE
NEWPORT

DATE
SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 8, 2020

TIME
6:00 - 8:00 PM

COST PER FAMILY

\$15 EARLY BIRD
UNTIL JAN 24
\$25 JAN 25 - FEB 1

ONLINE REGISTRATION
IS AVAILABLE AT
ccpr.recdesk.com

FATHER Daughter DANCE

Join us for an evening of dancing and refreshments for Fathers and Daughters of all ages!

SAVE MONEY AND REGISTER EARLY!

REGISTRATION THROUGH FRIDAY JANUARY 24, \$15!

JANUARY 25-FEBRUARY 1 FEE WILL BE \$25



Registration Deadline
February 1

For more information contact Darlene Austin
Fort Benjamin Recreation Center 100 McQueen Ave Newport, NC 28570
252-222-5858 / ccpr.recdesk.com
Hotline # for changes or cancellations 252-728-8484





Carteret County Public Libraries

Events: Come join us for an afternoon of knitting every Wednesday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

Book Exchange and Sale: The Book Nook is open during regular library hours with many used books and audio materials for sale.

Activities for Children: Children's Activities: Pre-K Storytime (ages 3-5) meets on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Toddler Storytime (ages 2-4) meets on Fridays at 10 a.m. Lego Club (ages 6-12) meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 6-7 p.m. Page-Turners (ages 6-12) meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 4-5. Study Hall for Young Adults is 3-4:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 6-8:30 p.m. Thursdays. Teen Advisory Board and Shelf Readers, which is a service project for teens, meets 2-4 p.m. every other Saturday. Please call the library for dates.

Featured Artwork: The art gallery features the work of Tina Lecheler, an award-winning artist currently

living in Beaufort, NC. Tina grew up in Staunton, VA and holds a B.S. from Virginia Tech as well as a Master's degree from Texas Women's University. She works primarily with oil on canvas and is known for her outstanding use of color. Tina has participated in many local and regional art shows. Jane Abernathy Hahn, owner of Interiors by the Sea in Beaufort, has been a beachcomber all her life. Sea glass and sea pottery collected by Jane in Carteret County will be displayed, as well as some collected by her and others from Bermuda, England, Ireland and the Bahamas. She will have examples of crafts she's made, including lamps, glass blocks and ornaments. Included are sharks' teeth and other fossils from years spent combing the beach in North Florida. The library is interested in displaying crafts made by local residents. Please call the library at (252) 728-2050 for more information.

Girls Exploring Science & Technology

The 5th annual Girls Exploring Science & Technology event is Sat, April 4, 9 AM - 4 PM at the Duke Marine Lab in Beaufort. 6th-8th graders will participate in hands-on science and engineering activities and learn about STEM careers. Event is free and lunch is provided. Registration opens March 4 and will fill quickly: <https://sites.duke.edu/gest/>



The Writers' Exchange

The Writers' Exchange is an organization built by one writer and one poet in the spirit of promoting poetry and writing in all its forms. We strive to provide a structured environment through which any writer may feel encouraged to give and take valuable critique of their work for the advancement of same.

We hope to compliment all existing writers' groups and organizations in the area, and to assist all Eastern NC writers in coming together for the benefit of learning, sharing, and having fun through the discipline of constructive critique. Please visit us on Facebook and/or email us at thewritersXchange@aol.com. No dues or membership fees required. All genres welcome. All ages welcome. All levels of expertise welcome. Meetings are 6-9:30 p.m. the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at the Beaufort Train

Beaufort Woman's Club

Flags: Beaufort 3' x 5' flags (\$60) and 12" x 18" garden flags (\$25) for sale at Ace Hardware, 1511 Live Oak; Cousins Bed & Breakfast, 305 Turner; and First Citizens Bank, 1501 Live Oak. All proceeds benefit the community through the Beaufort Woman's Club.

Meeting: The club's next meeting is 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. A light supper will be served followed by Catherine Elkins about the Carteret Local Food Network. All are welcome.

BEAUFORT Historical Association

Membership Drive—Valentine Party: 2-4 p.m. Feb. 9

The Beaufort Historic Site is open with a variety of food and drink in every building for current and prospective members to explore, and celebrate Valentine's Day (a little early). Guests can learn more about how the BHA uses membership dollars to preserve and promote the rich cultural heritage of Beaufort



and Carteret County. All are encouraged to visit the Mattie King Davis Art Gallery during this time for Heather Sink's art show. This event is free to the general public. For more information visit www.beauforthistoricsite.org, call 252-728-5225, or stop in at the Beaufort Historic Site Welcome Center, 130 Turner St.

Historic Site Tours:

10 a.m.—2 p.m. Monday-Saturday
Tour the Beaufort Historic Site and the buildings that call it home. The historic buildings include the Josiah Bell House c. 1825, John C. Manson House c. 1825, Carteret County Jail c. 1829, Apothecary Shop c. 1857, and the Carteret County Courthouse c. 1796. Each building depicts a different period or aspect of life in historic Beaufort. The tour will include a choice of three buildings and given by a docent in period dress. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for ages 6-12, and free for ages 1-5. Tours also available upon request with 1hr notice.

Down East Center for Women's Ministry

A lot is happening at the Down East Center for Women's Ministry and we'd love for you to be a part of it! Come join us:

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1: Free seminar on **Money Management** (helpful and some fun tips too!)

1-2:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10: **Your Kingdom Come** 6 week Study

Making Peace With your Past beginning late February - day/time determined by participants

Please call (252) 504-2441 to reserve your spot for any of these events.



We also offer free peer counseling for women by appointment. We are at 407 Live Oak Street Suite #5 in Beaufort. We've been where you are and would love to walk beside you-you are not alone!

BEAUFORT

Picture Show

"Paterson"

4 and 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 8

A quiet observation of the triumphs and defeats of daily life, along with the poetry evident in its smallest details.

"The Audience" 3 p.m. Sun., Feb. 9

For 60 years Elizabeth II has met each of her 12 Prime Ministers in a weekly audience at Buckingham Palace - a meeting like no other in British public life - it is private. Both parties have an unspoken agreement never to repeat what is said. Not even to their spouses.

"The Last Suit"

Sat., Feb. 15

With Miguel Ángel Solá, Ángela Molina, Martín Pirojansky, Natalia Verbeke. Abraham Bursztein, an 88 year-old Jewish tailor, runs away from Buenos Aires to Poland, where he proposes to find a friend who saved him from certain death at the end of World War II.

"Hidden Figures"

4 and 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 22

Hidden Figures is a 2016 American biographical drama film written by Mel-fi and Allison Schroeder. It is loosely based on the non-fiction book of the same name by Margot Lee Shetterly about black female mathematicians who worked at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) during the Space Race.

Tickets: beaufortpictureshow.com

All films are shown at The Mill Space, 1362 Lennoxville Rd.