



# TOWN of BEAUFORT

NORTH CAROLINA



Town of Beaufort Newsletter

[www.beaufortnc.org](http://www.beaufortnc.org)

January 2024

## 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

Town Hall closed:  
Jan. 1 & 15, 2024

Town Hall is accessed via Pollock Street.



## Mayor

**Sharon Harker**

[s.harker@beaufortnc.org](mailto:s.harker@beaufortnc.org)

## Commissioners

**Melvin Cooper**

[m.cooper@beaufortnc.org](mailto:m.cooper@beaufortnc.org)

**Bucky Oliver**

[b.oliver@beaufortnc.org](mailto:b.oliver@beaufortnc.org)

**Paula Gillikin**

[p.gillikin@beaufortnc.org](mailto:p.gillikin@beaufortnc.org)

**John LoPiccolo**

[j.lopiccolo@beaufortnc.org](mailto:j.lopiccolo@beaufortnc.org)

**Sarah Spiegler**

[s.spiegler@beaufortnc.org](mailto:s.spiegler@beaufortnc.org)

## Town Manager

**Todd Clark**

[t.clark@beaufortnc.org](mailto:t.clark@beaufortnc.org)

## Newsletter

### Submissions:

Due 5 p.m. Jan. 15, 2024

Send to  
Rachel Johnson, PIO at  
[r.johnson@beaufortnc.org](mailto:r.johnson@beaufortnc.org)

*The Town reserves the right to  
edit all submissions.*

## Dear Residents of Beaufort,

As we bid farewell to the old and welcome the new year's promise, I am honored to extend my heartfelt wishes for a prosperous and joyful 2024. Beaufort, our beloved town, has thrived through the past year's challenges, showcasing the resilience and unity that define our community.

In 2023, we achieved significant milestones, from the Cedar Street overhaul and enhancement of local infrastructure to fostering a vibrant culture. The collective efforts of our citizens have made Beaufort not only a place to live but a community that cares deeply for its residents. We've seen neighbors supporting neighbors and witnessed the strength that comes from standing together.

Looking ahead, we are committed to building on this foundation. Our focus remains on sustainable development, ensuring that Beaufort continues to be a place where families flourish, businesses thrive, and the natural beauty of our surroundings is preserved.

I encourage each of you to actively participate in shaping the future of our town. Your input and engagement are invaluable as we work collaboratively to address local needs and aspirations. Community involvement drives our success, and I am confident that we can achieve even greater heights together.

It is with great pleasure that I warmly welcome our newly elected commissioners, Paula Gillikin, John LoPiccolo, and Sarah Spiegler. Their commitment to public service, alongside Commissioners Cooper and Oliver's dedication to our community, will undoubtedly contribute to the continued growth and prosperity of Beaufort.

As we embark on this new chapter, I have full

confidence that their diverse backgrounds and fresh perspectives will enrich our town's governance. Together, they form a dynamic team poised to address our residents' needs and aspirations and reflect our town's diversity and strength.

I look forward to working closely with them to ensure Beaufort remains a wonderful place we all proudly call home.

In addition to welcoming our newly elected commissioners, I would also like to express my gratitude for the continued service of outgoing Commissioners Marianna Hollinshed, John Hagle, and Bob Terwilliger.

As we move forward, let us celebrate the collaborative spirit that defines Beaufort and look forward to a future filled with progress and unity.

Let kindness be our compass, understanding our guide, and compassion our currency as we navigate the uncharted waters ahead.

Together, let us write another chapter in the story of Beaufort, where the well-being of every citizen is cherished, and the bonds that connect us grow stronger with each passing day.

In closing, let us approach the new year with optimism, determination, and a commitment to making Beaufort the best it can be.

Wishing you a Happy New Year!



Sincerely,

*Sharon E. Harker*

Mayor, Town of Beaufort, NC

## January Town Meetings & Events

Meetings are conducted at the Beaufort Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, unless otherwise noted. Visit the Town's website at [www.beaufortnc.org/calendar](http://www.beaufortnc.org/calendar) for meeting agendas. Regular Monthly Meetings of the Board of Commissioners are livestreamed on the Town's Facebook page.

6:30 p.m. Jan. 4—Parks & Recreation Advisory Board  
6 p.m. Jan. 8—Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting  
6 p.m. Jan. 9—Historic Preservation Commission  
6 p.m. Jan. 16—Planning Board  
4 p.m. Jan. 22—Board of Commissioners Work Session  
6 p.m. Jan. 22—Board of Adjustment  
2 p.m. Jan. 24—Chat with the Chief  
8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 30 & 31—Board of Commissioners Annual Retreat—Location: Beaufort Hotel

**Sunshine List:** Sign up for meeting notifications by emailing Town Clerk Elizabeth Lewis at [e.lewis@beaufortnc.org](mailto:e.lewis@beaufortnc.org).

## Mayor's Corner

Visit the Mayor's Corner on the Town website for updates on Town projects, information on the Mayor's Conservation Program, monthly Manager's Reports, Project Updates and more. [www.beaufortnc.org](http://www.beaufortnc.org).



## Christmas Tree Recycling

Christmas trees are picked up annually by the Town of Beaufort Public Works Department.

Please place your live Christmas trees curbside and separate from Yard Debris by 7 a.m. on Monday mornings during the month of January for pickup.

Trees are taken to Atlantic Beach for the recycling program. The last day for pickup is Monday, Jan. 29, 2024.





**Mayor  
Sharon Harker**

**Mayor Pro Tem  
Melvin Cooper**

**Commissioner  
Bucky Oliver**

**Commissioner  
Paula Gillikin**

**Commissioner  
John LoPiccolo**

**Commissioner  
Sarah Spiegler**

## Board of Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners (BOC) met Dec. 11 for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting as well as for their organizational meeting. The BOC took the following actions:

- Approved Nov. 13, 2023, Meeting Minutes.
- Approved FY 2024 Budget Amendment #5.
- Accepted the 2023 Town of Beaufort Municipal Election Results as presented by the Board

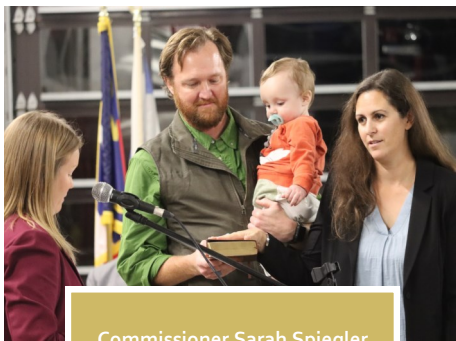
of Elections.

- Newly elected officials were sworn in and took their seat.
- Recognized outgoing Commissioners: Bob Terwilliger, Mariana Hollinshed, and John Hagle.
- Melvin Cooper was elected as the new Mayor Pro Tempore.

For more information about the Board of Commissioners, contact Town Clerk Elizabeth Lewis at [e.lewis@beaufortnc.org](mailto:e.lewis@beaufortnc.org)



Mayor Sharon Harker is sworn in for a second term by Town Clerk Elizabeth



Commissioner Sarah Spiegler



Commissioner John LoPiccolo



Commissioner Paula Gillikin

## VOLUNTEER BOARD VACANCIES

The Town is currently accepting volunteer board applications. Online applications are at [www.beaufortnc.org/bc](http://www.beaufortnc.org/bc).

Applicants are required to live within the corporate limits of the Town of Beaufort. Members who are currently serving and would like to be reappointed must complete a new application. Application deadline is January 15, 2024.

- ♦ Board of Adjustment: (1) Member & (1) Alternate Member, 3-year terms ending 2027
- ♦ Historic Preservation Commission: (2) Members, 3-year terms ending 2027
- ♦ Parks & Recreation Advisory Board: (1) Member; Term Ends Sept. 30, 2026
- ♦ Planning Board: (1) Member, 3-year term; (1) Member, Term Ends Feb. 13, 2026

## Historic Preservation Commission

The Town of Beaufort Historic Preservation Commission met on Dec. 5 and heard the following items: Case # 23-26: Request to install a Beaufort style fence along the frontage of Sunset Lane and a 6-foot fence along the rear/west property line. Approved with the condition that the rear/west fence be at a height of four feet instead of six.

Case # 23-31: Request to paint the front door and porch ceiling and add exterior lights beside the front door at 120 & 120 A Craven Street. Approved.

Case # 23-33: Request to install fencing, pavers, landscaping, and exterior lighting at 100 Sunset Lane.

Approved with the condition that the shrubs along Sunset Lane would be dwarf yaupon holly and the applicant submit a revised parking plan at a later date.

Case # 23-35: Request to demo the existing concrete walk and replace it with a new walkway with brick pavers. Approved.

Three members of the Commission and staff, participated in a Certified Local Government and School of Government training session on Dec. 7 in New Bern on protecting Historic Structures and developing a historic structures resiliency plan.

If you have any questions about Beaufort's Historic District, please contact Kyle Garner, Planning Director, at (252)728-2141 or at [k.garner@beaufortnc.org](mailto:k.garner@beaufortnc.org).



## 2024 Small Vessel/ Kayak Lottery

The Town of Beaufort will have a lottery for small vessel storage permits at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, 2024. The lottery will be live streamed on the Town's Facebook page.



All applications must be received by 5 p.m. Monday, March 4, 2024 to be entered into the lottery. All applications must be submitted electronically. If you need assistance, please

registered with the Town of Beaufort to be lawfully operated within the city limits. Golf cart safety inspections and registration are to be completed at the Beaufort Town Hall located at 701 Front Street. For more information, please call the Town of Beaufort Town Hall at (252) 728-2141 ext. 229.

## 2024 Golf Cart Registration Decals

Per the Town of Beaufort's golf cart ordinance, safety inspections, proof of insurance and registration are required annually and are valid per the calendar year in which they are registered (Jan. 1-Dec. 31). There is a \$75 registration fee at time of registration or renewal. All golf carts must pass a safety inspection and be

## Fats, Oils & Greases

Many overflows, or SSO's, are caused by the accumulations of fats, oils, and greases (FOG) in the wastewater collection system. While the collection system is designed to handle and safely transport sanitary waste to the wastewater treatment plant, too much FOG placed into the system can cause clogs and result in an overflow, especially after high flow events such as heavy rains. Dumping fats and oils derived from animal and vegetable sources, including

email [r.johnson@beaufortnc.org](mailto:r.johnson@beaufortnc.org) or call (252) 728-2141 ext. 231.

The rental rate for the 2024 lottery is \$100. Applications are now being accepted for the 2024 lottery. Please read the rules and regulations carefully for both eligibility and vessel requirements.

Spaces will be assigned in the order selected during the lottery.

REMINDER: ALL VESSELS REGISTERED TO SPACES IN 2023 MUST BE REMOVED BY 1 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2023.

Read the eligibility guidelines and apply under the "Residents" tab at [www.beaufortnc.org](http://www.beaufortnc.org).

meats, nuts, cereals, and beans, down any drain, in either a home or business, can cause a stoppage that forces raw, untreated waste to spill into our yards, streets, and streams. The Town has adopted a sanitary sewer ordinance in an attempt to reduce the frequency of grease-related overflows.

## Fats, Oils & Grease Buildup



**Do Not Pour Down the Drain!**

## Beaufort Town Flags

Beaufort 3' x 5' flag (\$70) and 12" x 18" garden flags (\$30) for sale at Ace Hardware, 1511 Live Oak and Cousins Bed & Breakfast, 305 Turner. Also available online at [BeaufortWomansClub.org](http://BeaufortWomansClub.org). Proceeds bene-

fit the community through the Beaufort Woman's Club.



## Chat with the Chief

**2p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24**

**Train Depot & Live on Facebook**

Chat with the Chief is an opportunity for citizens to engage with the Beaufort Police Chief Paul Burdette, Jr. to learn more about what is happening in the community, discuss neighborhood issues, identify problems, discuss police/community relations and to deepen community partnerships.

During the meeting, Chief Burdette will provide an in-depth look at data from the last quarter. He will share statistics and trends as well as information on the daily operations within the Beaufort Police Department.

Citizens and business owners are encouraged to submit questions in advance to [p.burdette@beaufortnc.org](mailto:p.burdette@beaufortnc.org) or to ask them live during the meeting.

The meeting will be in person at the Beaufort Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, and broadcast Live on the Town of Beaufort Police Department's and the Town of Beaufort's Facebook pages.



Beaufort Police Department  
215 Pollock Street, Beaufort  
(252) 728-4561



## RECYCLE FOR REEFS

## Oyster Shell Recycling Program

**Carteret County:**  
Hibbs Road Convenience  
Site, Newport  
Otway Convenience Site,  
Otway

### Why Recycle Shells?

Oyster reefs are needed in our sounds. Shells are used to build or restore oyster reefs. Baby oysters attach to reefs and grow more oysters.

### New and Restored Oyster Reefs:

Provide important habitat for fish, crabs, shrimp, and other seafood. Reduce sound side erosion. Clean our estuaries as more oysters filter the water.

### Did you know?

In the state of North Carolina, it is illegal to dispose of oyster shells in landfills or use them as mulch for landscaping since they are needed for reef building in our sounds.

### Recycle for Reefs

The Coastal Federation is working to restore wild oyster populations by recycling oyster shells and putting those shells back into the water. It's a critical step in ensuring that North Carolina's coastal ecology and economy continue to thrive. Shell recycling partners are a crucial part of the Federation's recycling efforts, and there are several resources available to help support shell recycling.

# BEAUFORT *Picture Show*

ALL HAIL THE GRAND NEW YEAR Beaufort Picture Show will NOT go dark in 2024, with specially-selected features coming every month. BPS directors are taking a break over the holidays to work up the list of features to be shown in the coming year, at the Mill Space venue (next to Safrit's Building Supply off Lennoxville Road in midtown Beaufort) in celebration of the (hopefully) Happy New Year..

COMING IN JANUARY: "One Pint at a Time," the award-winning documentary describing how craft beer generates tens of billions of dollars annually for the U.S. economy, but Black-owned breweries make up less than 1% of the nearly 9,000 breweries in operation.

## Candlelight Labyrinth Walk

11 a.m.-1 p.m. & 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 6 at Ann Street UMC Eure Building, 500 Ann Street. This Candlelight Labyrinth Walk can create a sacred opportunity to walk with God while you pray, meditate and reflect on the year past and the one ahead. The multi-circuit walk to

COMING IN FEBRUARY: "Force Majeure," the drama about how a Swedish family deals with acts of cowardice as an avalanche breaks out on a holiday in the Swiss Alps. Comedy/drama (PG-13). Keep checking the BPS website <https://www.beaufortpictureshow.org/> for the latest updates, as titles, dates and showtimes are subject to change.

As always, Beaufort Picture Show would like to thank the many kind patrons, sponsors and generous good folks out there who are supportive of BPS. It wouldn't happen without you, and we look forward to bringing you new movie adventures in 2024.

the center of the labyrinth and return is done at your own pace with your personal intention. Prayer Guides available. NOTE: The canvas labyrinth is delicate, plan to remove your shoes and wear socks. All are welcome!

We have a meeting of the minds with our local yarn crafter community. All those who wish to share and create are invited. No skill required!

**Ages 18 & Up: Mahjong Club:** Every Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. Have you ever wanted to learn the Chinese tile game, Mahjong? Now's your chance! Discover what makes this game so addictive! All experience levels are welcome!

### Special Programs:

Ages 12 & Up: Gold of the Gods: 4 p.m. Jan. 11  
Ages 10 & Up: Quilting Classes: 1 & 2 p.m. Jan. 20  
Ages 18 & Up: Short Story Soiree: 5 p.m. Jan. 25  
Ages 18 & Up: Classic Book Club: "The Old Man and the Sea" 3 p.m. Jan. 27  
Ages 12-18: Readers Theater: 5 p.m. Jan. 29

Carteret County Public Library System Beaufort Branch  
1702 Live Oak St. Suite 100  
252-648-7725

## Carteret County Public Libraries

### January at the Library

There will be no programs Jan. 1-6, 2024.

**Ages 5 & Under: Story Time:** Every Friday at 10 a.m.

You'll enjoy songs, stories, laughter, crafts, and you won't want to miss the teddy bear dance!

**Ages 4 & Under: Little Explorers:** 10 a.m. Jan. 16 & 30  
Little Explorers is a playtime for young children using sensory toys to learn concepts like sharing, making friends and picking up behind ourselves.

**Ages 6 - 12: Lego & Barbie Club:** 4 p.m. Jan. 18  
Both clubs will take place at the same time. We provide the materials and prompts; you bring your imaginations!

**Ages 12-18: Teen Dungeons & Dragons:** 5 p.m. Jan. 8 & 22  
If you are interested in role-playing and are an area teen, you are cordially invited to our Teens Dungeons and Dragons

**Ages 12 & Up: Yarn Club:** Every Wednesday at 2 p.m.

# MardiGras

Beaufort's Waterfront Mardi Gras Festival is a three-day celebration with feasts, parades, costumes, masks, and revelry. Highlights will include the Masquerade Ball, Street Carnival and Parade, and the Sinner's Remorse Brunch.

FEBRUARY 9TH

*Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball*

FEBRUARY 10TH

*Street Carnival & Parade*

FEBRUARY 11TH

*Sinner's Remorse Brunch*

VisitBeaufortNC.com








HOSTED BY THE BEAUFORT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

## The Old Beaufort Post Office Papers

Getting to grow up in Beaufort created the chance for lots of adventures and plenty of fun during the 1940's.

For those that lived close to the old Beaufort Post Office, it was a part of their everyday lives. Miss Paula Jones (now King) family

had a house along Front Street and their day would start with the rumble of the mail truck often waking everyone up. The Post Office dock was across from the building where the mail boat would head out making the rounds "down east." The "Orville G" was a version of FedEx during those days, not just taking the mail but people, animals, and ice, along with being a lending library and floating hospital. It even served as a



## Beaufort Historical Association's Annual Membership Meeting

Members and prospective members are invited to join the Beaufort Historical Association for the Annual Membership Meeting and potluck dinner, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The highlight of the annual Membership Meeting is the awards presented to the Volunteer of the Year and the Newcomer of the Year.

Before the awards are presented, Geoffrey Adair will present a program on "Palmer Davis - Beaufort's Most Beloved Waterman." Palmer Da-

wedding chapel for the marriage of Orville Gaskill. Some of the fun for the kids in Beaufort included roller skating behind the Post Office down the ramp and swimming from the government dock sometimes to the Inlet Inn which was only possible during high tide. (much safer to do after getting typhoid shot from Miss Hammer, the school nurse) And on the way to the Post Office to retrieve their mail from Post Office Box 365, Miss Jones and her brothers would often stop to watch the flag being raised and proudly say the Pledge of Allegiance before heading inside hoping for a possible surprise package and then on to another adventure. Share your memories by contacting Ranger Kathleen O'Grady at [kathleen\\_o'grady@nps.gov](mailto:kathleen_o'grady@nps.gov) and [katbird33@hotmail.com](mailto:katbird33@hotmail.com).

vis was a former slave who became the captain of the U.S. Mail boat for Beaufort, and was the "hero of the hour" during the 1879 hurricane that hit and damaged Beaufort and the old Atlantic Hotel.

Learn a bit of Beaufort's history and hear Geoffrey's accounts of the life and journeys of Beaufort's Most Beloved Waterman. For additional information on the upcoming Membership Meeting, stop by the Visitors Center at 130 Turner Street, call 252-728-5225, or visit [www.beauforthistoricsite.org](http://www.beauforthistoricsite.org).