

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, December 15, 2024.

The 33rd Hatteras Village Christmas Parade brought lots of smiles to parade participants and viewers alike. Parade sponsor Hatteras Village Civic Association expressed appreciation for volunteers, parade participants and the crowd who gathered to watch.

This year, the parade had a revised route in order to work around the closure of Slash Creek Bridge on N.C. Highway 12. The bridge is now out and is undergoing replacement. The parade marched down NC 12 in Hatteras Village. The viewing area was from the Red and White Grocery Store to Eagle Pass Road.

Announced prize winners are: First place prize with \$500 was claimed by the award-winning Cape Hatteras Secondary Marching Band.

Second place was won by Surf or Sound Realty for its Fido Walk.

Third place was claimed by the Cape Hatteras Secondary's middle school cheerleaders.

The best dressed Golf Cart award was produced by Steve Alexander and titled Grinch and Cindy Lou Who.

For photos of the parade participants taken by Donna Barnett, visit [Island Free Press dot org](http://IslandFreePress.org).

Here's some more good news. Every year in November, Cape Hatteras Elementary School students bring in handfuls of spare change, bills, and checks in order to raise money for the Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation, and in 2024, the students came together to raise a staggering \$3,225.52 for their local friends and neighbors, reported by Island Free Press.

The Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization that assists Hatteras Island community members with medical bills not covered by insurance, and travel expenses for cancer treatments. Since it was founded in 2000, the HICF has assisted hundreds of islanders with cancer and their families, with grants in excess of \$1,000,000.

The annual "Coins for Cancer" event is a school-wide venture and competition that rewards the winning class (or the class that raises the most funds) with a cupcake party. This year, Kim Martin of KM Creations donated the cupcakes. In 2024, Ms. Johanna Hernandez's 5th grade class took home the first-place honor – and the cupcakes – by raising a total of \$483.85 for the foundation.

Second place went to Mrs. Jillian Willis' 2nd grade class with \$401.10 in donations, and third place went to Karla Willis' kindergarten class with a total of \$367.50.

The Coins for Cancer event was held during the week November 18-22, with the winning cupcake party held on December 6. For more information about the Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation, (and to make a donation in time for the holidays), please visit their website at [hief dot org](http://hief.org).

And more good news about helping others. Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men has issued its annual report in its 46th year. In 2024, the ecumenical group helped many families with food, rent, utilities, medical costs, and other emergency needs. Most requests for emergency and humanitarian assistance originate with the Dare County Department of Social Services and are then forwarded to CHUMM.

This year, the organization served over 200 family members every month from the Food Pantry.

For people in need, the organization paid rent and/or utilities, restored heating and air conditioning, provided new or good used appliances, paid for dental treatments, repaired or replaced leaking roofs, paid the co-pay for two people requiring eye surgery, helped purchase a used car for a single mother could get to work, installed a water line and paid the connection fee for a senior woman who kept getting sick because her well water was contaminated.

The organization continues to install wheelchair ramps or electric lifts. Wheelchair ramps are practical for homes that have a relatively low elevation, but, for homes with higher elevations, the wheelchair ramps are impractical.

The organization started installing wheelchair lifts in 2021 and just finished installing its fifteenth.

Ray and Claire Schaaf, a very special volunteer couple, are retiring after 24 years of tirelessly operating the organization's Food Pantry. Thank you.

The public can donate via the organization's website at hatterasunitedmethodistmen.org. Supporters can also donate by mail with checks written to "United Methodist Men" and mailed to Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men, P.O. Box 1591, Buxton, NC 27920.

About Buxton's Naval Station. A Restoration Review Board will be established for Buxton's formerly used defense site. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, is in the process of documenting its determination to establish a restoration advisory board, based on survey responses from the recent public interest survey, states a media release. "The preliminary survey results indicate an overwhelming desire to establish the RAB," said Col. Ron Sturgeon, USACE, Savannah District, commander.

As of December 11, the team has removed 4,599 cubic yards and 99,526 gallons of petroleum-impacted soil and water. Remaining the same are concrete, pipe footing and cable wire. The team will complete the response action by mid-December, returning in the spring to plant native vegetation along the dunes.

Additionally, the District's comprehensive sampling plans continue to progress. A kick-off meeting was held December 6, to discuss project objectives, scope and schedule. Once the timeline has been determined, it will be released to the public.

Planned power outage in Avon. Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative has scheduled a power outage for Avon on Wednesday, December 18. The power outage runs for four hours from midnight to 4 in the morning. The outage work will make upgrades to the Avon Substation.

Here's what's coming up this week.

Hatteras Library Christmas Party. On Thursday, December 19, 2024, the Hatteras Library is offering a Library Christmas Party starting at 5 o'clock. The Hatteras Library address is 57689 NC Highway 12, Hatteras village. Snow will fall and pizza will be offered along with cookie decorating, Santa and a model train. Create unique "potions" and fun treats for a magical family experience!

Hatteras Island Volunteer Fire Departments are active during this time of year. All village fire departments brought units and travelled the Hatteras parade route on Saturday. During the next week, several fire departments have schedule other events.

AVON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. At the Avon Volunteer Fire Department, on Wednesday, December 18, a community dinner is scheduled. The dinner starts at 6 o'clock at the fire station.

FRISCO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. On Monday night, December 16 at 6 o'clock, the department will light the first annual Christmas Tree for the Frisco Community. Come to the station. The department is excited to start this new tradition. Enjoy festive Christmas carols, delicious holiday treats, and a visit with Santa inside.

BUXTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. This year, the Buxton volunteer department is celebrating 60 years of service to village. On this past Saturday night, the department volunteers ushered Santa Claus around the village to the fire station for youngsters to visit.

CHICAMACOMICO BANKS VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT. The Chicamacomico Banks Fire and Rescue Department provides a full range of emergency services from Oregon Inlet Bridge to half way to Avon, including the villages of Rodanthe, Waves and Salvo.

The department runs a water rescue squad that patrols the village beaches from late spring through fall.

On Saturday night, the department held its annual dinner and presented awards and certificates for training hours.

Earning special 2024 recognition and congratulations are:

Firefighter of the year: Garrett Porter

Fire Rookie of the year: Nik Louvros

Lifetime Achievement: Gene Stoel

Community Service Award: Sabrina Hatfield

Chief's Award: Elaine Hooper

Water Rescuer of the year: Hayden Ray

Water Rescue Rookie: Noah Cullen

Water Rescue Captain Award: Garrett Porter

Hoping you enjoy this next week. Thanks for listening to this news report. Be safe. This is Radio Hatteras.