

EMERALD TIDINGS- June 2020

South Swell Surf Shop helps protect Emerald Isle Ocean Lifeguards

Toward the end of the 2019 summer, discussions between EIFD Captain Bruce Norman and South Swell Surf Shop owners kicked-off. The topic centered on South Swell's desire to provide uniforms for the 2020 Emerald Isle Ocean Lifeguards. Doug Starke, owner of South Swell Surf Shop, wanted to donate \$2,000 toward outfitting and protecting the guards.

Several meetings followed, between EIFD and South Swell Surf Shop. In early April, EIFD Ocean Rescue Coordinator Billy Matthias and South Swell Surf General Manager Parker Bell finalized the design for the lifeguard uniforms. Immediately following, South Swell Surf Shop provided the Ocean Rescue Team with premium outerwear for the season.

"The Town of Emerald Isle cannot thank SSSS enough for such a generous contribution! Our lifeguards are ecstatic about the protection that the new premium apparel will provide," said Matt Zapp, Town Manager.



To date, South Swell Surf Shop has contributed T-shirts, UV Sunshirts, Hooded Sweatshirts, and Toga Hats. The apparel will provide (1) warmth during the early months of the season and (2) valuable UV protection from the sun while monitoring the populated beach strand.

EI 30for30 Campaign: #EIFamily

The Town of Emerald Isle recognizes the unprecedented disruption that COVID-19 is causing upon our normal way of life. A special thank you to those that live, work, and/or own property on Emerald Isle. We are certainly glad you are here.

In an effort to help our local brick and mortar businesses, the Town will launch a campaign entitled EI 30for30. Visit the Town's official Facebook page for 30-consecutive days during the month of June 2020. Each day, view a new 30-second promo video of a local EI based business.



As we reopen the west end of the island, please take every precaution to protect you and yours. Wash your hands often. Consider wearing a protective face covering when in public. Maintain a minimum of 6-foot distance from others.



Together, we will get past the COVID-19 threat and enjoy the wonder and beauty of Emerald Isle. And remember to shop local!

Make it trend... #EIFamily

New Lifeguard Stands in place

During the 2019/2020 offseason, it was determined that Emerald Isle's wooden Lifeguard Stands had reached the end of useful service life. The EIFD and Public Works department secured multiple replacement quotes. Ultimately, the Town contracted for new aluminum Lifeguard Stands with sunshade style tops.



The next time you visit the EORA or the newly renovated WORA, please take a moment and stop by the new stands. While you are there, be sure to read the daily conditions report posted at the stand!



Outdoor Aerobics comes to EI Parks!

The Emerald Isle Parks and Recreation Community Center may be closed, but we are very excited to start up some Aerobics classes again. All classes will be held outside at the beautiful Senator Jean Preston Park.

For a schedule calendar, please follow [this link](#).

For a site map related to the class locations, please follow [this link](#):

There will be no equipment. So please bring your own water and mat if needed. We hope to see you there!

Transportation Impact named a 2020 Best Employer!

“[Business North Carolina](#) has named Transportation Impact of Emerald Isle as a 2020 Best Employer in the medium employer category. The honor reflects a company culture that emphasizes a supportive atmosphere, giving and humanity, and approachable leaders and managers, as well as a commitment to North Carolina, where the company has been located since its inception in 2008. This is the third consecutive year that TI has earned a place on the list.

“Our employees have honored us by once again earning us a place on the NC Best Employer list,” said John Howard, COO at Transportation Impact. “We are grateful to them for being the amazing employees they are and for chasing opportunities every day to go above and beyond in what they do. We truly appreciate the motivation, energy, and creativity each brings to carry out our mission with such dedication.”



Read entire press release here:

https://transportationimpact.com/transportation-impact-named-business-nc-best-employer-2020/?fbclid=IwAR3O_GlvxIHMF7vw6Cogg_2gRQyzG_fJYjCeN1vuFWnAnCMoxBvQuQc1UEg

American Red Cross Blood Drive- Giving Hearts Needed!

Carteret County Chapter of the American Red Cross is holding a blood drive at Emerald Isle Parks and Recreation Community Center on June 19th from 2-7pm (at 203 Leisure Lane). Please give!

Date: Friday, June 19, 2019

Start Time: 2:00 PM

End Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Emerald Isle Community Center, 203 Leisure Lane, Emerald Isle, NC 28594

Due to COVID-19 precautions, appointments are mandatory and can be made at: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>

Remove and Replace: James Street Public Beach Access

The James Street wooden public beach access replacement is in motion. A complete tear out has occurred. Reconstruction is now underway. Based on weather, the wooden walkway is expected to be complete in early June.



The walkway project is part of the overall James Street rehab. The golf cart parking area of James Street (nearest Ocean Drive) is almost complete. Look for the newly poured concrete walkway and post/rope.



Thank you to the Emerald Isle public for your genuine patience during the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 has certainly contributed to delays experienced in many Town related construction projects.

Beach Nourishment- Dune Planting Continues

SCHEDULE/SEQUENCING- Due to the high volume of foot traffic expected for Emerald Isle, especially at the Town's Western Ocean Regional Access when opened, the beach nourishment planting subcontractor will mobilize in Emerald Isle very soon.

Forecasting a schedule on a weather-dependent project of this magnitude is difficult. In fact, it is nearly impossible to predict. However, if pressed and considering the progress Coastal Transplants is making in Atlantic Beach, the Shore Protection Office can envision starting Emerald Isle sometime next week.



Please wait until AFTER the mechanical dune planting phase is complete, if you do wish to install sand fencing. You must follow these sand fencing [GUIDELINES](#) and contact our Local Permit Officer beforehand (Josh Edmondson at jedmondson@emeraldisle-nc.org). Please Note: The planting phase may occur weeks or even months after the pumping and grading phase has been completed.



To learn more about the project, please visit <http://www.carteretcountync.gov/301/Beach-News> or contact Gregory Rudolph (Rudi) at the Shore Protection Office by dialing (252) 222-5835 or via email at grudolph@carteretcountync.gov.

Islander Drive redevelopment continues

The public-private-partnership and redevelopment occurring along Islander Drive is near completion. Local investors (The A-Team) are completing a privately funded mixed-use commercial development at the northwest corner of Louise Ave and Islander Drive. The development will consist of lower level retail sales sites and second floor residential units.



Along the public roadway, reconstruction of Islander Drive is complete. New curbing, parking spaces, sidewalks, roadway and underground electric service are in place. The \$750,000 public project includes a combination of grant funding and private investment dollars.



The roadway portion of the project is on schedule is now complete. A shift in traffic pattern is expected. The section of roadway connecting Reed Drive and Louise Ave (along Islander) is one-way. All other roads maintain a 2-way travel pattern.



For further details, please contact Matt Zapp at mzapp@emeraldisle-nc.org.

Cedar Street & El Woods Projects Complete

The Town of Emerald Isle is pleased to announce the completion of two long awaited sound side pier construction projects. The ever popular Cedar Street Park and Emerald Isle Woods are now available for your enjoyment. We hope you like the photos and will love the improvements!









EORA ADA ramp now installed!

Following Hurricane Florence, the ADA accessible ramp at the Eastern Ocean Regional Access was completely destroyed. Emerald Isle Parks Department is pleased to report that the new ramp is complete. Stop by the EORA at 2701 Emerald Drive and see the excellent craftsmanship.



WORA construction nears completion.

Following a grant received by the State of North Carolina, the Western Regional Ocean Access (WORA) parking area and beach access are receiving \$100,000(+) in improvements. A new 6' wide sidewalk now connects Louise Avenue to the wood access boardwalk. Additionally, a brand new 8'-wide wooden walkway is being built.



“The facility updates and new sidewalk construction at the WORA will help visitors make their way safely to the public beach access,” said Matt Zapp, Town Manager. “We truly appreciate the community’s patience, as our team works to complete \$100,000 in repairs before the grant deadline of July 1, 2020.”





Crews were severely delayed due to the heavy (monsoon-like) rain that fell on Emerald Isle during the past 14-days. Construction has resumed and the Parks Department will open the facility as quickly as possible. We anticipate work to finish up in the coming weeks.

Emerald Isle Fishing Tournament

The second annual Emerald Isle Fishing Tournament returns on Saturday September 19, 2020. Please consider fishing for a cause and help our community support scholarships to local high school grads. For more information about the event, visit the tournament's official website at: www.emeraldislefishingtournament.com or check us out on Facebook.

Emerald Isle Marathon, Half-Marathon, & 5K Races – Oct. 31, 2020!

Normally held every spring, the 2020 Emerald Isle Marathon was postponed due to COVID-19. The 7th Annual Emerald Isle Marathon, Half-Marathon, & 5K Races will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2020. Find a silver lining and start training now!



Set your personal record on our flat, fast course, and enjoy a beautiful fall weekend at the beach with family and friends! For more information and to register, please visit:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NC/EmeraldIsle/EmeraldIsleMarathonHalfMarathonand5K2020>