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*City of Southport*

# August 2022 Newsletter

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## A Community Update from Mayor J.P. Hatem, MD, MPH

August 1, 1944, the last entry in the Diary of Anne Frank. As I write each month, whether the Newsletter or a Mayor's update, I write with a passion, a depth of truth and knowledge as if it was going to be my last entry. This month is no exception.

Southport is blessed in so many ways. The beauty of the Cape Fear River, Historic Heritage, 230 years, chartered as Smithville in 1792. From Fort Johnston to the Yacht Basin, thousands make the pilgrimage to our city's waterfront to shop and dine, surrounded by the salubrious breeze, southern hospitality, and the setting sun. As the river makes its way to the Atlantic Ocean, as the tides rise and fall, they do so unassisted by mankind. We cannot enhance the beauty of nature, but we can disrupt its fragile environment.

That which is true for the river and the sea is also true for the land of our city and our quaint village. Our blessings and success are also our burdens. There are so many people who want to join us. Growth and development not only in Southport, but in Brunswick County, continues at a rapid rate. If these developments cannot be stopped, they must be guided in the right direction, in the Best Way Forward for our city and our citizens. We are guided by principles of Historic Preservation;

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# August 2022 Newsletter

## A Community Update from Mayor Hatem

### *Continued*

Public Health and Safety; Quality of Life; Protecting Our Unique Neighborhoods and Quaint Village Atmosphere. It is now time for the Board of Aldermen to review the work of the Planning Board and their recommendation of denying the rezoning request for Project Indigo. A Town Hall is being scheduled and I look forward to the continued discussion and the continued comments and questions from our citizens. I will make sure that your voices are heard and your comments will be my next entry.

Until that time, stay vigilant, four more months remaining in Hurricane Season, as we approach the two-year anniversary of Hurricane Isaias, and as we continue to mitigate the pandemic. Southport is strong, with great resolve and resilience. Our city has been overflowing and festive with families, tourists, and locals, all blending into one great summer memory. Enjoy each day and the Blessing that is Southport.

**Do you have questions or  
comments about Indigo?**



Scan the QR Code for  
Project Indigo  
Information and  
Resources found on the  
city website, including a  
form to send your  
questions and comments  
to the planning board.

# August 2022 Newsletter

## Meet... ChyAnn Ketchum

### Communications/Public Information Officer



I started with the City of Southport on June 20th and just recently obtained my FEMA Public Information Officer certification on July 21st to officially become the Communications/Public Information Officer for the City. My role is housed under the Department of Community Relations but focuses on the Communications aspect of the department. Our mission as Community Relations is to keep our residents and visitors connected to the City in an accessible, informative, and entertaining manner using various communications and outreach methods.

Over the past month, I have been working on various projects and presentations which have included presenting at the Hurricane Expo, attending FEMA training, and updating the City's Brand and Communications Strategy. I should be finishing up the Brand Strategy soon which will streamline our Communications efforts across the board! In the meantime, I would love to continue meeting my new coworkers and our community members.

Just like many others, my job can be difficult and is not always sunshine and rainbows. I very much enjoy what I do, not everything can be done at the drop of a hat, although I try my best. The sincerity of this job is one of the things I love most about it! It can be strictly business or lots of fun, but I like to meet somewhere in the middle and make sure we are able to humanize and personify our work as best we can.

I am excited to see our Communications strategy become streamlined and even more stoked to create a more welcoming and accessible environment for our community members and visitors. Communication is more than "making things pretty." There are specific steps and protocols that we must follow as a government entity, but we do make sure to get out information as soon as possible to our community. We are truly here to keep you engaged and informed! We try to share information as soon as we can to make sure the public is well-prepared for anything that may happen in our quaint City, but please be patient as some things may take more time to share than others.

After graduation from Pfeiffer University in 2018, I completed a Disney College Program and opened Toy Story Land in Walt Disney World. I then spent 22 months at my alma mater in Undergraduate Admissions before returning to Johnston County to join the Health Department staff. During that time, I completed a graduate certificate from ECU and

# August 2022 Newsletter

## Meet... ChyAnn Ketchum

*Continued*

enrolled in a Master's program at UNCW - which I should complete in March 2023.

I love taking my dog, Stella, down to the beach and playing in the ocean. I am also a big Disney girl, so I try to always have a Disney trip planned. If you see me (and Stella) out and about, please say hello! Recently my dad came to visit, and we ate at The Frying Pan. It has been the best meal I've eaten in Southport to date. I really enjoy going down to Waterfront Park, sitting on the swings, and watching the boats scoot by.

Southport is everything you want it to be. You just gotta make it yours.



ESTABLISHED 1792  
*Southport*  
\*N.C.\*  
*Community Building*

Whether you're planning your wedding, anniversary, family reunion, class reunion, or any other type of get-together which unites family, friends, or the community, Southport is the perfect setting.

To schedule a tour please contact us at (910) 457-0665

To find more information, visit [cityofsouthport.com/southport-community-building](http://cityofsouthport.com/southport-community-building)



Photography by Jaclyn Auletta, Provided by Blue Satin Bee

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# August 2022 Newsletter



## Southport Forestry Committee

### Summer is here – and it's dry (again)

Here we are again – the middle of summer. And, it's hot....and dry. While we tend to be pretty tuned in to seeing the signs of needing water on our lawns and garden plants, your trees may need a little assist as well to get through the summer.

What can we do? Well established older trees, particularly our large live oaks have seen this before. They may look a bit ragged and some leaves may fall, but they should make it through no problem. Besides, you can't water enough to make a difference on a full-grown oak. Younger trees, however, that don't have a well-established root system yet may need a little assistance to get through this extended heat and lack of rain.

The soil here in Southport is primarily sand as you know – easy to dig in but not very good at holding moisture. In fact, the "field capacity" of sandy soil is about 1 inch – meaning that its structure is such that it can only hold about 1 inch of rain in its pores; the rest drains away quickly. So, when we get a heavy rain of several inches, most of it just drains away and is not held in the soil. We'd be better off getting consistent, less heavy rains to keep the soil moist but that hasn't been the case this summer. So, in the absence of that, we may have to give a little supplemental water on a weekly basis to keep these trees viable.



If the trees in your yard are showing signs of a water deficit (yellowing leaves, brown-tipped leaves, drooping leaves, ETC.) some slow, deep watering once a week may be in order. Place a garden hose on a SLOW trickle, under the drip line (canopy) of the tree and let it run for several hours. You can move the hose around under the canopy during this time in order to give the fine fibrous roots which are close to the soil surface, a good soaking. The goal for a small tree that is in the 2-3" diameter range is 20 gallons of water per week.

To retain this moisture, mulching around the trees can have a big impact. Organic mulch, such as wood chips or pine straw, will insulate the ground around the base of the trunk, cool the soil, and help retain moisture. Place from the base of the trunk as far out as you feel comfortable – the further out the mulch goes, the more the roots are protected. Do NOT pile mulch around the trunk itself though – mulch "volcanoes" can actually harm the tree by creating an environment for insects to thrive.

A good source for additional information is this article by Davey Tree: [www.davey.com/arborist-advice/articles/how-to-help-your-trees-recover-from-drought](http://www.davey.com/arborist-advice/articles/how-to-help-your-trees-recover-from-drought)

Taking care of your young trees now will ensure they remain viable and healthy – they'll pay you back later by providing that all-important shade down the road.

# August 2022 Newsletter

## Meet... Kelly Tooley

### Finance and Utility Customer Service Representative



Hi there! My name is Kelly Tooley, and I am a customer service representative for the finance and utility department here at City Hall. My day-to-day duties include account setup, service request placement, utility payments, and much more! I've been working for the city for almost three months now and every day I get the chance to interact with residents both familiar and new! I've been living in Southport for 7 years and although I was not born and raised here, this city has always been home to the people and places that I love the most! In my spare time, I enjoy going on adventures with my significant other and our 2-year-old son. I also enjoy walking downtown to the waterfront to enjoy the scenic views and I always make sure to first stop by Spike's for their butter pecan ice cream!

"Southport is a city that has a way of making even the most lost feel at home."

**SUMMER PET SAFETY TIPS**  
FROM THE ANIMAL REFUGE LEAGUE OF GREATER PORTLAND

From the Animal Protective Services Department

<p><b>KEEP YOUR PET HOME WHERE THEY ARE COMFORTABLE &amp; SAFE</b></p> <p>The temperature inside your car can increase quickly to life-threatening levels.</p> <p>Including your dog at the beach or lake? Be sure to stop to get your supplies in advance, to make stops on the way unnecessary.</p> <p>Have a day of unplanned summer adventures? Leave your pet at home where they are safe and comfortable.</p>	<p><b>LIMIT EXERCISE &amp; AVOID HOT PAVEMENT</b></p> <p>Limit your pet's walks and outdoor time on hot and humid days.</p> <p>Adjust the intensity and duration of their exercise dependent on the temperature.</p> <p>Avoid asphalt and choose a grassy or dirt path for your walks.</p>	<p><b>PROVIDE AMPLE SHADE &amp; WATER</b></p> <p>Make sure your pet has access to shade to protect them from the sun when outside.</p> <p>Have plenty of fresh, cold water to prevent dehydration. Add ice when possible!</p> <p>Use doggie pools or sprinklers to add fun in the sun.</p>	<p><b>WATCH &amp; OBSERVE</b></p> <p>You know your pet best.</p> <p>Be mindful of their actions and behavior and seek veterinary care if you suspect heat stroke.</p>
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# August 2022 Newsletter

## Bee City, USA

### What does Bee City USA mean?

Bees are central to our lives.

Thousands of native species sustain our environment and food supply.

Bee City USA & Bee Campus USA bring people together to make their communities better places for pollinators.



- Being an affiliate ensures the survival of vital animal species
- Builds community locally and nationally around a positive shared cause, along with the ability to connect with communities across the country that have made the same commitment
- Improves local food production
- Supports local communities and small businesses by creating awareness of pollinator-friendly landscaping
- Address pest issues with fewer pesticides by raising community awareness of the least toxic ways to tackle home & garden pest problems
- Build Community Awareness on the importance of using native plants instead of non-native invasive plants
- Heighten awareness of biological diversity of plant & pollinator species
- Learn more at [beecityusa.org](http://beecityusa.org)



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# August 2022 Newsletter

## Caswell Avenue Community Garden

### August is B-O-U-N-T-I-F-U-L

If July was a s-l-o-w time in the garden, August is just the opposite!

Although we continue to appreciate the bounty of our gardens and the beautiful pollinator flowers we have planted, August is the time to prepare our gardens for the next season. Coastal Carolina is a great place to be as we have yet another planting season for many, many vegetables. Some gardeners have already planted a second crop of tomatoes and beans to harvest well into October. Others will be seeding their gardens with broccoli, cauliflower, spinach, cabbage, and lettuces of all kinds. And let's not forget onions, garlic, and herbs that we plant now in order to harvest next spring!

We love our gardeners and how hard they work so starting next month we will feature a short piece featuring one of our members. It might be someone you already know!

Our garden is located on Caswell Avenue behind the Southport Campus of Brunswick Community College. Come by and see us. If the gate is open come on in and chat with a gardener and have a look around at the 40+ garden beds.



Find us on  
**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/483761655007537>

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# August 2022 Newsletter

## Staying Safe During Extreme Heat from [heat.gov](https://www.heat.gov)

*Extreme heat illness and death are largely preventable with proper planning and preparing at all levels.*

Exposure to extreme heat can have many direct effects on human health (heat stroke, reduced labor productivity), as well as indirect effects (promoting air pollution and increasing asthma attacks, overloading power grids requiring rolling blackouts). Negative health outcomes occur if an individual is exposed to the hazard and has not sufficiently adapted to reduce sensitivity.

Heat Exhaustion	Heat Stroke
<div style="border: 1px solid #f4a460; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>ACT FAST</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move to a cooler area</li> <li>• Loosen clothing</li> <li>• Sip cool water</li> <li>• Seek medical help if symptoms don't improve</li> </ul> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid #e61e20; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>ACT FAST</b></p> <p><b>CALL 911</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move person to a cooler area</li> <li>• Loosen clothing and remove extra layers</li> <li>• Cool with water or ice</li> </ul> </div>
<p><i>Dizziness</i></p> <p><i>Thirst</i></p> <p><i>Heavy Sweating</i></p> <p><i>Nausea</i></p> <p><i>Weakness</i></p>	<p><i>Confusion</i></p> <p><i>Dizziness</i></p> <p><i>Becomes Unconscious</i></p>
<p><i>Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke.</i></p>	<p><i>Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.</i></p>

Heat-related illnesses happen when the body is not able to properly cool itself. While the body normally cools itself by sweating, during extreme heat, this might not be enough. In these cases, a person's body temperature rises faster than it can cool itself down.

- Heat Cramps - Muscular pains and spasms due to heavy exertion. Although heat cramps are the least severe, they are often the first signal that the body is having trouble with the heat.
  - What to look for: heavy sweating, muscle pains, or spasms
  - Actions to take: stop physical activity and move to a cooler place, drink water, or a sports drink. Seek medical attention if cramps last longer than one hour.
- Heat Exhaustion - Typically occurs when people exercise heavily or work in a hot, humid place where body fluids are lost through heavy sweating. Blood flow to the skin increases, causing blood flow to decrease to the vital organs. If not treated, the victim's condition will worsen. Body temperature will keep rising and the victim may suffer heat stroke.
- Heat Stroke - A life-threatening condition. The victim's temperature control system, which produces sweating to cool the body, stops working. The body temperature can rise so high that brain damage and death may result if the body is not cooled quickly. A person who is experiencing heat stroke needs medical attention.

# August 2022 Newsletter

## A Glimpse of History:

On the Way to Bald Head Island via ferry, you may have glimpsed to the side and wondered about the structure on the shoreline. Though many locals know of this structure as the "Prices Creek Lighthouse" the structure is actually a Range. Continue reading the article below to learn all about this "Lighthouse" which is more of a fond nickname than reality.

## Price's Creek Lighthouse

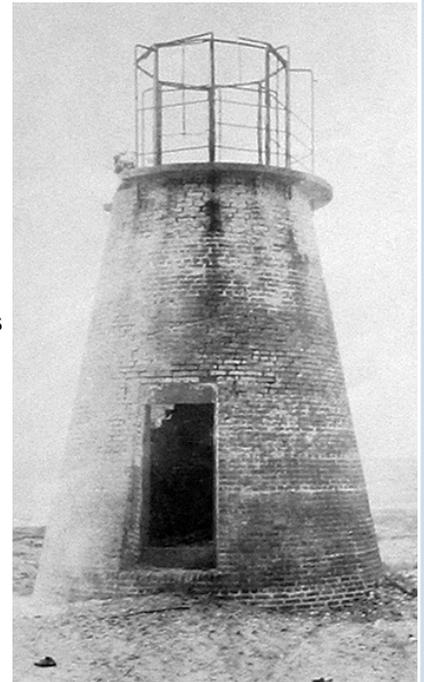
*from [lighthousefriends.com](http://lighthousefriends.com)*

This rather decrepit and inaccessible structure is the largest remaining piece of the system of lights that served the once-bustling trade route from the mouth of Cape Fear River to Wilmington. For years, merchants and mariners had lobbied for lights to mark this twenty-five-mile-long passage, and on August 14, 1848, \$35,500 was finally appropriated for seven beacons and a lightship. These navigational aids were, from south to north, range lights at Oak Island, range lights at Price's Creek, a lightship at Horseshoe Shoal, a beacon on Orton's Point, a beacon on Campbell's Island, and a beacon on Upper Jettee.

The range lights were built in pairs, with a shorter light in front of a taller light. By positioning their vessels so that the taller light appeared directly above the shorter light, mariners knew they were safely in the center of the channel. All the lights were built in 1849 and 1850, with the exception of the lightship, which was established in 1851, and Upper Jettee, which ended up receiving range lights in 1855.

Constructed entirely of brick, the walls of the twenty-foot-high Price's Creek front range tower taper from three feet thick at the base to two feet thick at the top, while the diameter of the circular tower shrinks from seventeen feet to nine feet. The tower's sister light, located around 700 to 800 feet away, also served as the keeper's quarters. It was a larger, square, brick structure with a lantern room on top and had an overall height of thirty-five feet. Both lights in the range were originally fitted with eight lamps and eight fourteen-inch reflectors, but these were replaced in 1855 by sixth-order Fresnel lenses that produced a fixed white light.

In 1855, the lighthouse inspector noted that introducing a Fresnel lens in each tower, powered by a single lamp, resulted in the saving of 198 gallons of oil each year, which amounted to nearly enough to pay the salary of the keeper.



# August 2022 Newsletter

## Price's Creek Lighthouse

*continued*

The glory days of Price's Creek Range Lights occurred during the early part of the Civil War when they served to guide daring Confederate blockade runners past Union ships stationed offshore. Additionally, the Confederate army turned the brick keeper's house into a signal station, which provided communication between Fort Caswell and Fort Fisher.

Hanson Ruark was serving as keeper of the range lights at the outbreak of the Civil War, and his daughter, Mary Catherine Ruark, later recalled climbing to the top of the lighthouse as a child and watching both the first and second battles for Fort Fisher.

The Union eventually gained complete control of the coast, forcing the Confederates to retreat inland. Rather than let the lighthouses remain for the enemy, Confederate soldiers dismantled or destroyed as many lights as they could.

The lighthouses along the Cape Fear River never recovered from the war. Perhaps



because of the crippled Southern economy, they were deemed unnecessary and never rebuilt. In 1867, the Lighthouse Board proposed constructing new towers at Price's Creek and refurbishing the old dwelling, but this work was never carried out.

By the end of the nineteenth century, the rear range light at Price's Creek had sustained such storm damage that it was torn down and

the bricks hauled off and used by locals. Now, none of the river lights remain except the front range light at Price's Creek, which is in a state of disrepair.

The lantern room is gone, the windows are missing, and the land is privately owned by the Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) Corporation, which operates a citric acid plant along the banks of the river. (In 1947, Colonel J.S. Crawford of Washington, D.C. was the owner of a three-acre plot that included the lighthouse.)

Jason Jennette visited the range light in October 2012 on a trip organized by the Outer Banks Lighthouse Society and provided pictures of the stairs in the tower and what is believed to be the foundation of the keeper's dwelling, a short distance away.

There is no public access to the lighthouse, but at least it still stands, a reminder of the days when the Cape Fear River was more actively used for travel and trade.

# August 2022 Newsletter

## Puff Pastry Salmon

<https://tasty.co/recipe/puff-pastry-salmon-salmon-wellington>

### Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- ½ medium onion, chopped
- 5 oz fresh spinach
- 1 teaspoon salt, for spinach
- 1 teaspoon pepper, for spinach
- ⅓ cup breadcrumb
- 4 oz cream cheese
- ¼ cup shredded parmesan cheese
- 2 tablespoons fresh dill, chopped
- 1 sheet puff pastry, softened to room temperature
- 1 salmon fillet
- 1 teaspoon salt, for salmon
- 1 teaspoon pepper, for salmon
- 1 egg, beaten



### Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 425°
- In a pan over medium heat, melt butter. Add the garlic and onions, and cook.
- Add the spinach, salt, and pepper, and cook until spinach is wilted.
- Add the breadcrumbs, cream cheese, parmesan, and dill, stirring until the mixture is evenly combined. Remove from heat and set aside.
- On a cutting board, smooth out the sheet of puff pastry. Place the salmon in the middle of the pastry and season both sides with salt and pepper.
- Place several spoonfuls of the spinach mixture on top of the salmon, smoothing it out so that it does not spill over the sides.
- Fold the edges of the puff pastry over the salmon and spinach, starting with the long sides and then the shorter ends. Trim any excess pastry from the ends, then fold the ends on top. Flip the puff pastry-wrapped salmon over and transfer to a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
- Brush the beaten egg on the top and sides of the pastry. Score the top of the pastry with a knife, cutting shallow diagonal lines to create a crosshatch pattern.
- Brush the top again with the egg wash.
- Bake for 20-25 minutes, until pastry is golden brown.
- Slice, then serve!

# We're Hiring!



**COME  
JOIN  
OUR  
TEAM**

## OPEN POSITIONS:

- Public Services Technician
- EMS Captain
- Firefighter
- Police Officer
- Human Resources Director
- Payroll and Benefits Technician
- Part-time Grounds Maintenance Worker

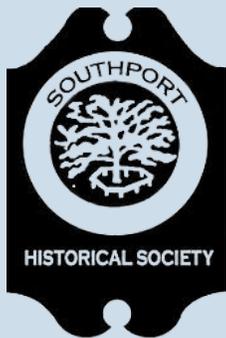
*Four positions available*

If you are interested in applying for a job with the City of Southport, please read the job post for which you are applying and submit the application accordingly.

Scan or click here to apply now!



# August 2022 Newsletter



## Art Newton CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION A 3-Evening Event



### **30-minute Tours of the Newton Family Home**

Art had a love for Southport's waterfront. He and his family lived on Bay St. in the old Walker-Pyke house where he made a studio in the top floor attic. Reservations are required.

**Wednesday, August 31st, 6 to 8pm**



### **Celebration of Art's Life and Work**

Photos, artwork, Christmas cards, original Cape Fear magazine, and family artifacts. Birthday Cake. Music provided by Up the Creek. Free. Open to all. At the Southport Community Building.

**Thursday, September 1st, 6:30 to 8pm**



### **Art Newton will be the Featured Artist at Ricky Evans Gallery**

On the first Friday of each month art galleries in the Southport area team up to promote a Gallery Walk. Art enthusiasts are welcome to participate in this cultural event each first Friday

**Friday September 2nd, 5 to 7pm**

Email [info@southporthistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@southporthistoricalsociety.org)  
for more information

# August 2022 Newsletter

**“Estonian Refugees in Southport” w/ Liz Fuller**  
**August 9th, 1 pm, Zoom**

In 1948 a 37-foot sloop sailed into the Lower Cape Fear, filled with 15 Estonian refugees. They had sailed over 7500 miles, navigating their route with a compass and a sextant, fleeing the Russian occupation of their country. Hear the story of their courageous adventure and what happened to them after they arrived in Southport.

Contact [info@southporthistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@southporthistoricalsociety.org) for Zoom link

**Southport Fire Department**  
**Remembering the 343**  
**Memorial Ceremony**

September 11, 2022  
Ceremony 9:00 am

1011 N. Howe St.  
Southport, N.C.  
28461

343 Fire boots will be displayed in Front of Headquarters  
In Remembrance of the first responders  
who gave the ultimate sacrifice  
9/11/2001

Southport City Hall, 1029 N. Howe Street, Southport, NC 28461

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# August 2022 Newsletter



# AUGUST

## AT A GLANCE



### UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

Forestry Committee  
2nd Tuesday of each month  
August 9, 5 pm - (ITMH)

Park & Recreation Board  
2nd Tuesday of each month  
August 9, 6:30 pm - (ITMH)

ABC Board  
2nd Wednesday of each month  
August 10, 6:30 pm - (ITMH)

Board of Aldermen  
2nd Thursday of each month  
August 11, 6 pm - (SCB)

Beautification Committee  
3rd Monday of each month  
August 15, 5 pm - (ITMH)

Planning & Zoning Board  
3rd Thursday of each month  
August 18, 6 pm - (SCB)

Board of Adjustments  
4th Tuesday of each month  
August 23, 4:30 pm - (ITMH)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Southport Summer Market  
August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
9 am - 2 pm, Franklin Square Park

Southport Summer Concert Series  
August 4, 11, 18, 25  
6 pm - 8 pm, Franklin Square Park

Flag Lowering Ceremony  
Nightly, at 7:30 pm, at the riverfront

City meetings are open to the public. The City of Southport does not discriminate based on disability. If you need an auxiliary aid or service or other accommodation to attend or fully participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk's office as far in advance as possible so that your request can be considered.

Southport Community Building (SCB)  
223 East Bay Street

Indian Trail Meeting Hall (ITMH)  
110 West Moore Street

Southport City Hall, 1029 N. Howe Street, Southport, NC 28461

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