Currituck County Department of Travel and Tourism Quarterly Report July 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019

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\*This report shows some of the measurables that the Tourism Team tracks on a daily basis. These data points help determine our success as a department and hopefully will provide further insight into the strategies and effort that is put forth to help bring visitors to our area.

## **Department Highlights**

The Currituck County Department of Travel and Tourism attended the Annual DMANC Leadership Conference and Awards Banquet in Concord in September 2019. The Tourism Team submitted several marketing campaigns/initiatives for award consideration in the large budget category. This category includes destinations such as Asheville, Raleigh, Wilmington, Charlotte, Dare County and Winston Salem. Currituck Travel and Tourism won 2 awards this year: Platinum (1st Place) for Leisure Marketing and Gold (2nd Place) for Community Relations.



Two TV shows came to the area to film episodes for their series. Eric the Travel Guy, which airs on PBS, filmed during the early part of the summer and should air sometime in 2020. A.W.O.L (Air, Water or Land) is a new streaming show available on Amazon Prime that focuses more on millennial travel and adventure. The crew was here in September to film an episode for their second season, which will also air in 2020. Both episodes would not have been possible without the help of local businesses and Tourism Department staff. Part of the Tourism Director's responsibility is to represent the tourism industry throughout the community and the state by attending board meetings, conducting interviews and sitting on various advisory boards. Tourism is the #1 economic driver for Currituck County and it is important for the department to be involved in the community as much as possible.

Organization	# Meetings 🝷
Civic/Community Meeting	22
HJCS Board Meeting	3
Currituck Chamber Meeting	3
Historic Albemarle Trail	2
YMCA Board Meeting	2
Industry Meetings	2
CCHS Meeting	1
Tourism Advisory Board Meeting	1
Historic Boat Advisory Board Meeting	1
Martime Museum Meeting	1
Coast Host Meeting	1
Radio Interview	1

## Parking Permit Sales

## Visitor Center Guest Counts



Retail Sales Stats: Only the top 15 products are shown in the chart. Over 50 different items were sold for a total of \$6404.68



Item	# Sold ╺	<b>Gross Sales</b>	# Refunded	Refunds	Discounts	Net Sales
Magnet	197	197	0	0	-0.3	196.7
Decal	110	110	0	0	0	110
Water	72	101.28	0	0	0	101.28
Mug	41	414.65	0	0	-5.47	409.18
Lip Balm	37	109.15	0	0	0	109.15
Corolla V-Neck (S-XL)	30	420	0	0	0	420
Bucket Hat Wide Brim Adult	28	483	0	0	0	483
Corolla LongSleeve (S-XL)	24	384	-1	-16	-9.6	358.4
Plush Toy	21	241.5	0	0	0	241.5
Beach Towels	21	357	0	0	0	357
5 x 7 Prints	20	200	0	0	0	200
Currituck Crew (S-XL)	19	266	0	0	-4.2	261.8
Sweatshirt (S-XL)	17	340	0	0	-6	334
Beach Bag	17	365.5	0	0	0	365.5
Corolla Crew (S-XL)	16	224	-1	-14	0	210



6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

#### Users Pageviews Avg. Session Duration Bounce Rate Goal Conversion RAZe VisitCurrituck Website Statistics 224.6K 488,133 00:02:39 32.57% 13.51% **Page Title** Pageviews • 7.9% Fall - The Best Time To Visit The Outer Banks | Currituck County, ... 24,477 1. 4.8% 29.1% 2. Visitors Guides - Currituck Outer Banks 8,940 5% google / organic 3. Currituck OBX Tourism | Find Things To Do, Beach Rentals, and ... 7,577 visit\_currituck / facebook google / cpc Outer Banks Wild Horses | Corolla Horse Tours | Currituck North ... 4.203 4. (direct) / (none) Outer Banks Vacation Rentals | Currituck County, North Carolina 2,991 5.

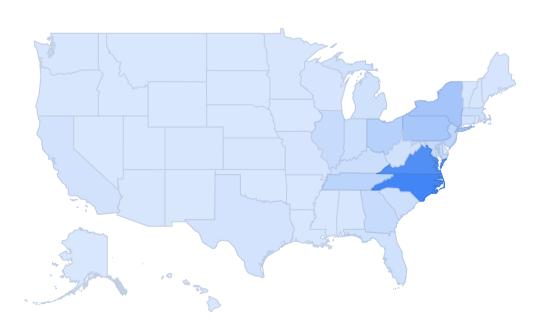
2,418

2,296

2,293

1,941

1,372



Corolla Outer Banks Weddings | Beach Weddings in Currituck C...

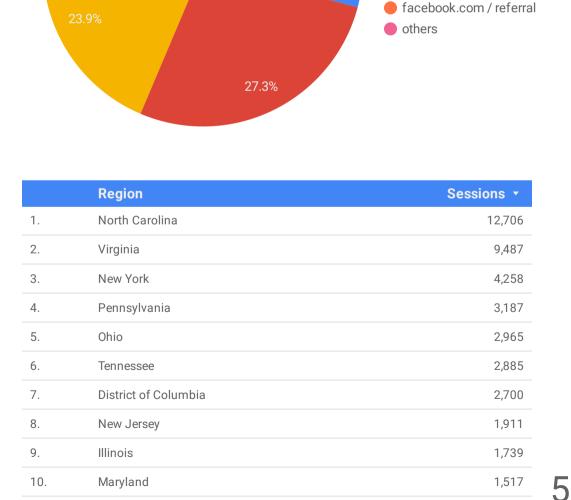
Currituck Outer Banks Maps | Corolla Maps | Moyock Mainland ...

How The Wild Horses of Corolla Survive Storms, Snow and Bad ...

Whalehead in Historic Corolla - Currituck Outer Banks

Currituck Heritage Festival - Currituck Outer Banks

51,367



bing / cpc

:

Page Likes

Page Likes Growth

Link Clicks

314,770	<b>4,056</b>	112,428	58,722	7.8M		
Post Message				Post Likes(On Post) 🔹	Post Shares	Post Comments
Good morning 🤎 #Sunrise, #	currituckobx, #corollanc			55,682	12,871	5,283
Happy #wildhorsewednesday	🕈 🖤 #corollanc, #currituckobx, #w	ildhorses4x4 www.corollanc.	com	36,770	9,522	3,843
Just horsing around 🧡. Happ	by #wildhorsewednesday #corol	llanc, #currituckobx, #wildhor	ses4x4, #beac	9,568	3,107	1,130
Happy Independence Day! 💙	📷 Eve Trow Turek			4,047	898	295
What a day! 🎔 www.corolland	c.com			3,786	684	384
Happy National Lighthouse D	ay to Currituck Beach Lighthouse	:)		3,672	669	403
•				3,254	336	161
Beauties <3				3,187	672	238
Silhouettes 🤎				3,178	640	230
So majestic 🤎				3,150	430	256
Hope you have a wonderful #	WildHorseWednesday :) <3			2,908	624	261
#StaySafeSunday Please help	o us keep the Corolla wild horses v	vild and free. For the safety o	f the horses as	2,785	566	139
Playing chase <3 ;) #WildHo	orseWednesday www.corollanc.co	m		2,724	669	188
<3				2,598	911	682
Awwww love this so much!	Such a beautiful photo! Thank you	ı for sharing Corolla Outback	Adventures,	2,542	702	156
Beautiful! Happy #WildHorse	Wednesday <3			2,515	533	148
The sky was so pretty this mo	orning 😍			2,514	327	171
Steps to happiness :) www.c	corollanc.com			2,506	365	242
To the moon and back <3				2,496	839	438
Playful ♥♥ Happy #WildH	orseWednesday! www.corollanc.c	com		2,427	575	178
Happy #WildHorseWednesda	У			2,422	484	162
Enjoying this beautiful day <	<3 :)			2,412	452	186

Shares of Posts Added

Organic Reach

6

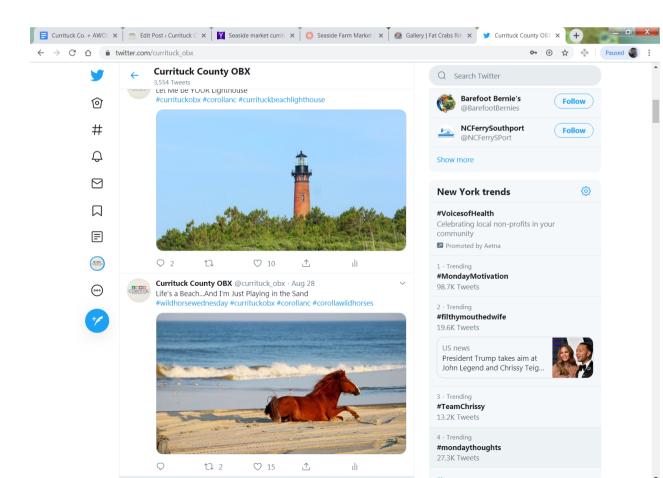
## **Public Relations**

Travel Shows	Leads -
Ohio	1,754
Chicago	1,141
New York	1,100
Philly	935
DC	889





### Gained 345 followers Post twice a week (Wed & Fri)



## Travel Writer Fam Tour Sept 25-28, 2019

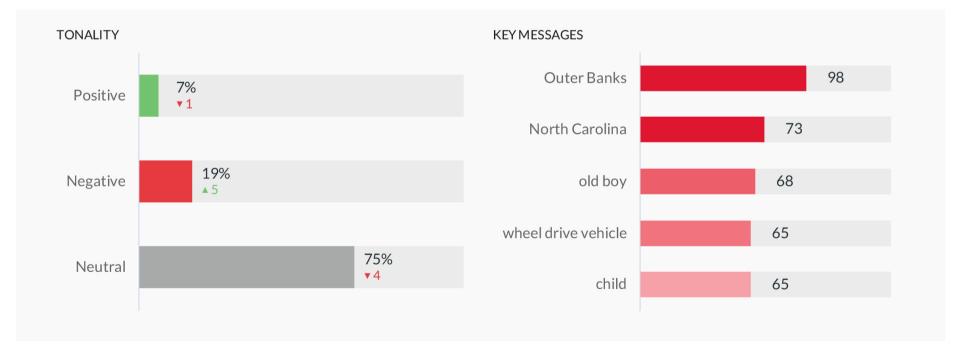
Two travel writers were welcomed to Currituck County and enjoyed a mini-stay at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Corolla. Thom Nickels from Philadelphia, Pa and Lynne Brandon from Greensboro, NC were handpicked and invited to the area. During their visit, the writers visited the following businesses/attractions:

- Wild Horse Tour
- Whalehead in Historic Corolla
- Sanctuary Vineyards
- Weeping Radish Brewery
- North Banks Restaurant
- Mike Dianna's Grill Room

## **Organic Media Mentions**

Daily Advance	52
Associated Press	41
WTKR.com	21
OBX Voice	19
Coastland Times	13
WNCT.com	11
13NewsNow.com	9
Charlotte Observer	8
WFMY News 2	8
CBS17.com	8

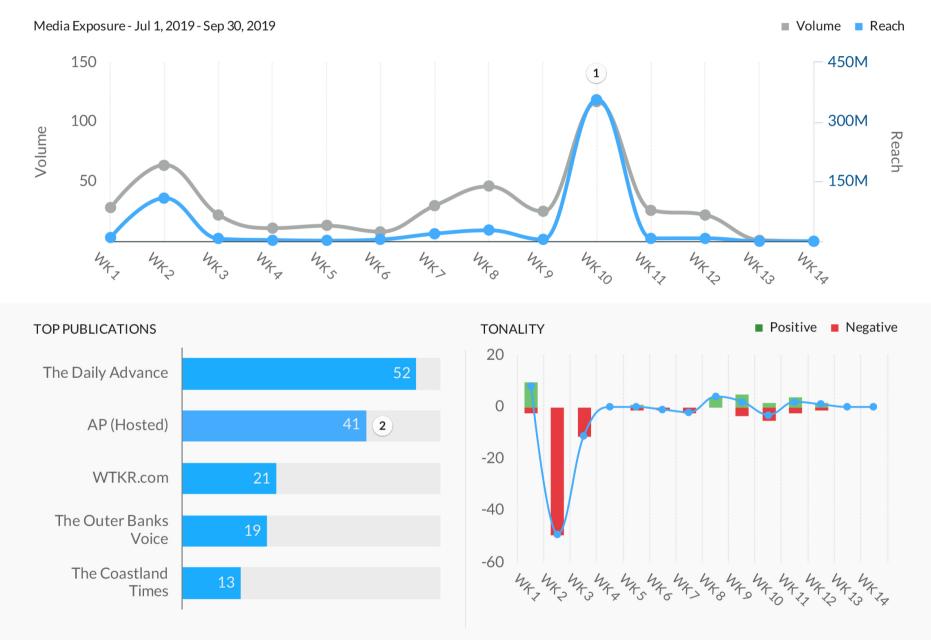
■ Editorial Mentions The number of appearances in articles	413 •4%	mSCORE <b>49</b>
<b>Potential Reach</b> Approximate number of article views you appeared in	555M •37%	▲ 2 Jul 1, 2019 - Sep 30, 2019
•• Net Tonality Score The net change (up or down) in sentiment over the time period	-12 •7	All deltas in this report show change compared to last time period



\*Meltwater is a media tracking software that assigns a value and a sentiment (tone) to each news piece that is produced. This includes both paid and unpaid coverage. Coverage is compared to the previous quarter and given an mSCORE, which is an internal tracking score for us to compare coverage from month to month.

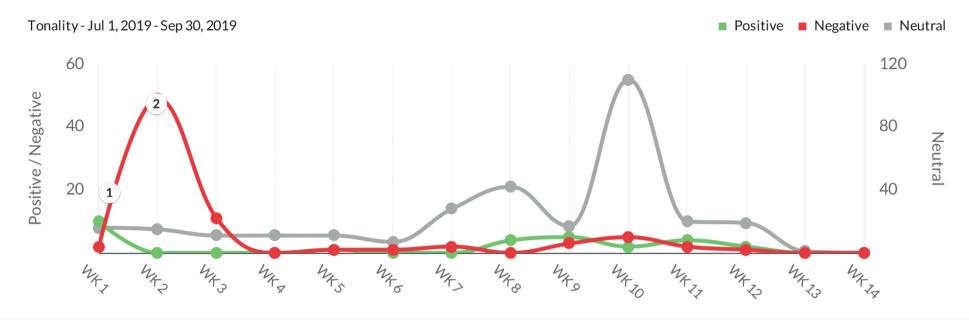
# **Public Relations**

# Currituck County's exposure decreased 4%



\*Exposure decrease is compared to previous quarter

# Currituck County's net tonality decreased 7 points



#### ARTICLES WITH MOST IMPACT



#### Miami Herald | Aug 23

Good aim? Lightning strikes NC golf course and makes a 'hole in 1,' business say...

Lightning safety tips Watch a NOAA video about being safe when thunderstorms and lightin...

Reach 3.5M • Positive

#### Associated Press | Jul 14

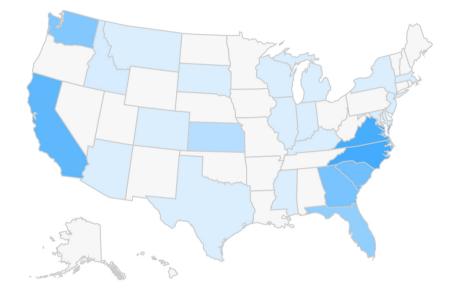
#### Child stuck by sheriff's vehicle on Outer Banks beach

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — A 7-year-old boy vacationing in the Outer Banks has been flown to a Virginia hospital after being struck by a sheriff's department vehicle. Currituck County Fire and EMS Chief Ralp...

Reach 13M • Negative

\*Net tonality compared to previous quarter. Tonality is a value placed on the overall tone of the press coverage. This value is defined by our media tracking software, Meltwater. Each article is rated as varying degrees of positive, negative or neutral.

# North Carolina and Virginia had the most coverage



#### TOP STATES/REGIONS

North Carolina	34%	▼8
Virginia	13%	▼1
California	5%	▲ 1
South Carolina	3%	▼2
Georgia	2%	▶ 0

Washington	2% 1
Florida	2% ►0
Kansas	1% ►0
Idaho	1% ►0
District Of Columbia	1% 1

\*This chart represents the states where media covered stories about Currituck County.



**130 total pieces** of collateral were designed in house for use in print publications, digital campaigns, event promotion, signage and brochures. This does not include total outsourced quantities of individual designs that may have been printed in bulk. In addition to the creative design of each piece, the creative director is responsible for copy writing, formatting image requests, logo request fulfillment, event staffing, team/brand meetings and creative oversight.

# Videography / Commercials

## TV Commercials - Fall Campaign

Market	Views
DC	4,067,000
Richmond	1,770,000
UNC TV	5,136,000
Norfolk	1,190,841

## Top videos

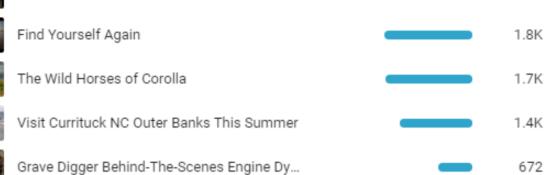
Views · Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2019

Carving Out History In Currituck

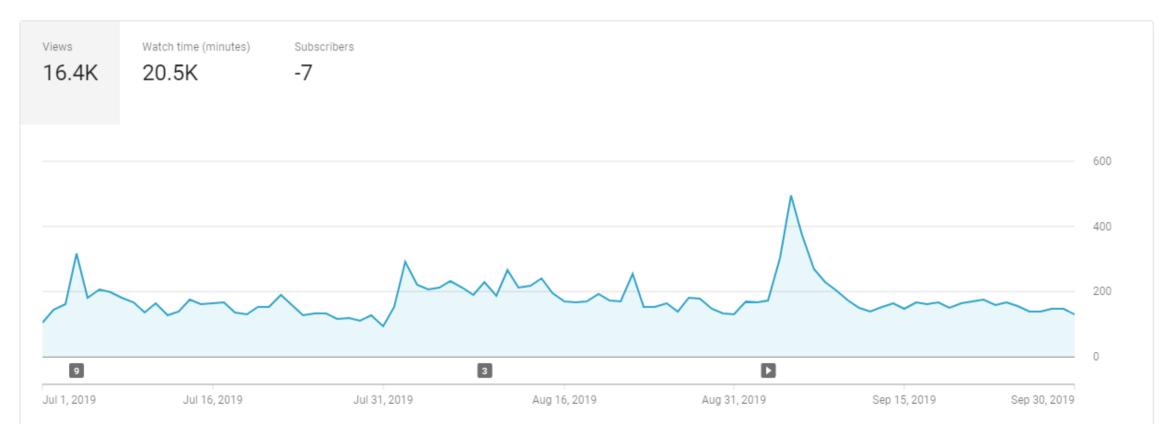






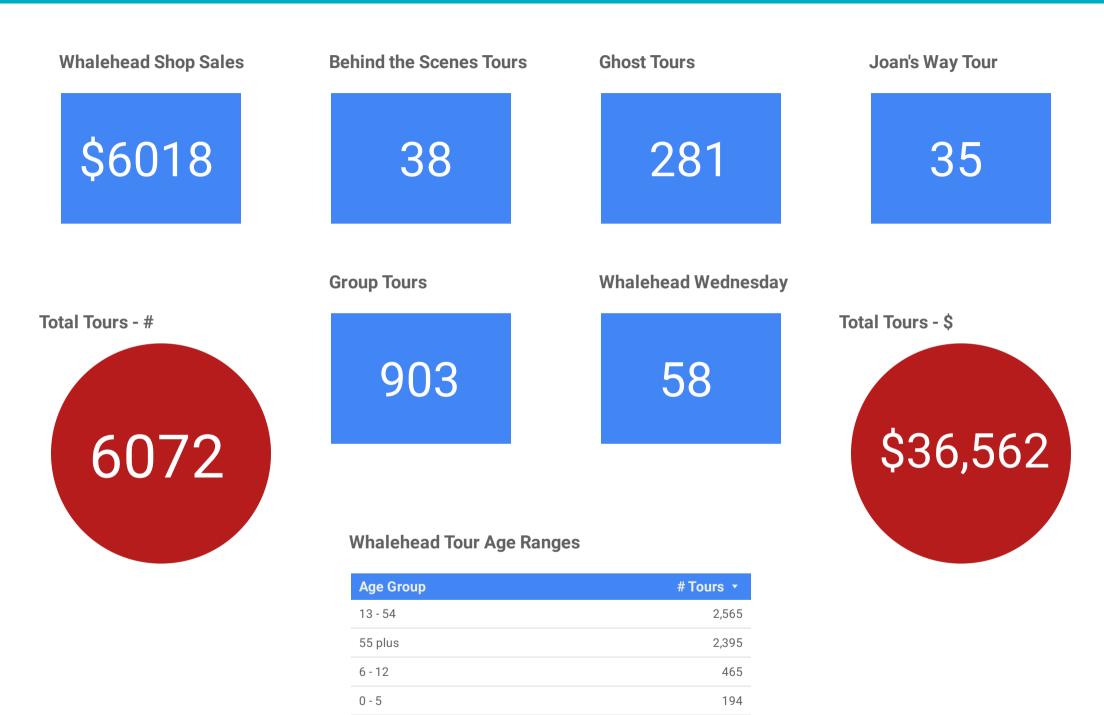


## YouTube Insights



2.6K

# Whalehead in Historic Corolla



77

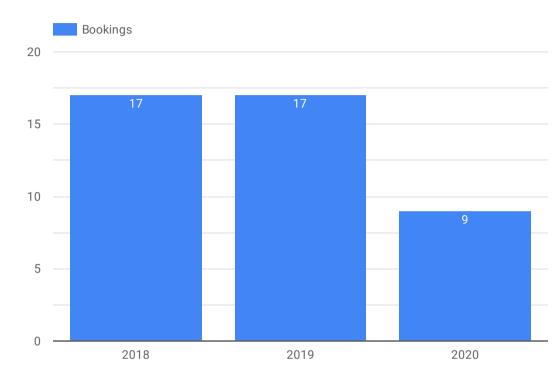
43

Group Tour

Military

# Weddings and Events

## Historic Corolla Park Weddings Booked





Staff attended the Outer Banks Wedding Association's Wedding Fest on August 25, 2019 to promote Whalehead and Historic Corolla Park as a ceremony/reception venue

### Whalehead Wednesday

Weather was an issue this year as it always seemed to rain on Wednesday throughout the summer. Total attendance for the event was 2302 (approx. 164 per week). Total profit earned was \$43,131.33.

Entry fee was raised from \$15 to \$20 for this year as well.

### **Under the Oaks Art Festival**

2019 Artist Attendance was 35, which is down a little compared to previous years. However, artist feedback was very positive with many commenting that it was the best show to date. Tourism will be working with the Currituck County Arts Council to enhance and update the format of the show to also include curated craft vendors and performance artists.