



# The SURFLINE

The Weekly Newsletter of 94.9 The Surf • WVCO FM  
Official Station of the Society of Stranders • CBMA Hall of Fame Radio Station

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## Ocean Drive Scene

### Mid-Safari on the Strand

We're in the thick of it. Five nights of Spring Safari are already in the books — five to go! The dance floors are busy, and Ocean Drive is doing exactly what Ocean Drive does.

There's more fun to be had (see “Spring Safari: The Backstretch” below), and in ten days, we do it all again at the Ocean Drive Beach Music Festival.

### SOS Spring Safari: The Backstretch

If you've been on the Strand since Wednesday the 15th, you've already lived through more than half of the 2026 SOS Spring Safari — Deb & Marlisa's opening night at Deckerz, Band of Oz and Zara Smith kicking off Thursday, the Catalinas Friday on the Galleon stage, the Castaways, the Tonez and Too Much Sylvia through the weekend, Craig Woolard taking Monday with the Embers, and the Embers themselves back out Tuesday afternoon at Fat Harold's and Main Event Band drew a crowd at the Galleon. A lot of dance floor has gone by.

But plenty of Safari veterans save their vacation days for the back half — and the back half is stacked. Here's what's left.

**Wednesday, April 22** — Jim Quick & Coastline open the afternoon at Fat Harold's (2–6 PM), bring-your-appetite edition. Sea Cruz takes Deckerz at 7. Band of Oz closes the night on the Spanish Galleon stage at 9.

**Thursday, April 23** — Rivermist plays a Fat Harold's afternoon (2–6 PM) — a Safari staple that the regulars know to clear the calendar for. Jim Quick & Coastline are back at it that night, headlining the Galleon at 9. Over at Duck's, Zara Smith Band at 9.

**Friday, April 24** — The heaviest night on the calendar. Gary Lowder & Smokin' Hot open the afternoon at Fat Harold's (2–6 PM). The Carolina Coast Band with Rhonda McDaniel plays a four-hour set at Deckerz (8–12). And North Tower — the band sitting in the Surf Countdown top five all year with “Pretty Lady” — headlines the Spanish Galleon at 9. Neon Moon Band closes Duck's. If you're picking one night to be downtown, this is it.

**Saturday, April 25** — A tighter billing, two strong stages. Carolina Coast with Rhonda McDaniel doubles up for a 7 PM set at Deckerz. Special Occasion Band closes the Galleon at 9. And don't miss the ACSC Clubs Parade — Main Street shuts down, floats roll, costumes come out, shag clubs compete for best in show.

**Sunday, April 26 — Last Call** — Safari winds down the way OD does best. Rick & Lesa play an afternoon Deckerz set at 3. Jeff James is back at Deckerz at 7. And Jim Quick & Coastline close out the whole Safari at Fat Harold's from 6 to 10. Be there early — last-Sunday crowds at Harold's don't disappoint.

Then the chairs come off the floors, the neon dims a notch, and Ocean Drive exhales — briefly. Because the Ocean Drive Beach Music Festival picks the whole thing back up exactly one week later with the Commodores, Jim Quick & Coastline, and Band of Oz.

*Schedule subject to change without notice. Double-check at your destination of choice. And save a shag for the rest of us.*

## Upcoming Events

- Saturday, May 2, 2026 — 9th Annual OD Beach Music Festival: Band of Oz, Jim Quick & Coastline, The Commodores. Tickets at [odmusicfest.com](http://odmusicfest.com)
- See the [Daily Calendar](#) for events happening today in the North Myrtle Beach area.

## This Week's Surf Countdown

Jay Kinlaw presented another Surf Countdown on April 18 at 10 AM on [949thesurf.com](http://949thesurf.com). Ella remains at the top of the chart with North Tower and Jim Quick and friends right behind. Don't forget to VOTE for your favorites for this weekend!

### Surf Countdown April 18th Chart • Presented by Jay Kinlaw on 94.9 The Surf

| #  | SONG TITLE                       | ARTIST  | LW |
|----|----------------------------------|---|----|
| 1  | "Choosin' Texas"                 | Ella Langley                                    | 1  |
| 2  | "Pretty Lady"                    | North Tower                                     | 2  |
| 3  | "Wait For Me"                    | Jim Quick with R. Mark Black and Allie Privette | 3  |
| 4  | "I Just Might"                   | Bruno Mars                                      | 7  |
| 5  | "I'm Going to Make Her Mine"     | Gary Lowder & Smokin' Hot                       | 6  |
| 6  | "My True Love"                   | The Tams  | 9  |
| 7  | "In Her Own Way"                 | The Boogah Brothers                             | 4  |
| 8  | "I Shiver"                       | Main Event Band                                 | 5  |
| 9  | "Hit Me with Them Horns"         | Swingin' Medallions                             | 10 |
| 10 | "Every Road"                     | Rick & Lesa                                     | 14 |
| 11 | "Pretty Women Everywhere"        | Craig Woolard                                   | 11 |
| 12 | "Cruisin' Down the Boulevard"    | Andy & Oneida                                   | 8  |
| 13 | "Baby, You're the Melody"        | Ken Knox and the Chairmen of the Board          | RE |
| 14 | "Carolina's Home"                | Jennifer James                                  | 12 |
| 15 | "Be Thankful For What You Got"   | The Magnificents                                | RE |
| 16 | "Catch a Ride"                   | Pink Slips Band                                 | 17 |
| 17 | "I'll Be There"                  | Too Much Sylvia                                 | NE |
| 18 | "Late Great Heartbreak"          | Old Dominion                                    | 13 |
| 19 | "Love Is What I'm Talkin' About" | The Castaways                                   | 18 |
| 20 | "Patience"                       | Harold Smith with Gary Lowder & Smokin' Hot     | 15 |

*LW: Last Week • RE: Re-Entry • NE: New Entry • Rate songs for next week at [surfcountdown.com](http://surfcountdown.com)*

## Behind the Song

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### Spotlight: “Wait For Me” — Jim Quick with R. Mark Black and Allie Privette • #3

Some beach records announce themselves with a hook. Others just settle in and refuse to leave. “Wait For Me” is the second kind.

Released November 18, 2025 on KHP Music, the track has been a fixture near the top of the Surf Countdown ever since — charting at #2 on the January 31 chart and still sitting at #3 on this week’s count. Four months in the top three, with no sign of fatigue. That’s the kind of staying power you don’t buy. You earn it one shag floor at a time.

And the reason it has that staying power is right there in the billing: three of contemporary beach music’s most respected artists, on one three-minute-forty-four-second record.

### Three names, equal weight

The first thing to notice about “Wait For Me” is what it’s not. It’s not a Jim Quick & Coastline track with guest appearances. It’s not an R. Mark Black solo cut with support. It’s not an Allie Privette feature. It’s a co-billed record — all three names above the title — and it sounds like one. This is a summit meeting of three careers that have been running in parallel across the Carolina circuit for years and have finally landed in the same studio at the same time.

### Jim Quick

The swamp-soul frontman from Laurinburg, North Carolina. The Gum Swamp kid who started out as a 14-year-old DJ on a 500-watt AM station and now holds a record-setting stack of CBMA Entertainer of the Year trophies with Jim Quick & Coastline. More than eleven albums in — Down South with Delbert McClinton and Bekka Bramlett among the high points — and still writing. On “Wait For Me,” Jim is the writer and the lead vocal: the architect of the song and the voice that sets its terms.

### R. Mark Black

One of the strongest soul voices in the modern format, with a solo catalog that includes “Shag Shack,” “Let Me Make Love to You,” “Whispers (Getting Louder),” and “Who’s Lovin’ You,” plus high-profile features with Phil Wilson, Rhonda McDaniel, and the Rhythm and Beach Superband. But Mark is also a horn player — and on this record he sets the vocal aside and takes the tenor chair, delivering the ad-libbed solo that rides the song home. Allie Privette described watching him work on Wayne Troutman’s Surfside Stories podcast: “He can turn some songs around just with his sax. There’s nothing like it. And the way he ad-libs on the end of that song was just amazing. He just came up with it.”

### Allie Privette

The Fayetteville-born vocalist who stepped into one of beach music’s toughest seats in October 2011 — the Sea-Cruz chair left open by five-time CBMA Female Vocalist of the Year Molly Askins — and held it. She earned her own CBMA Female Vocalist nomination by 2015, founded Midnight Alley, released “Ain’t Nobody” on The Surf in 2022, and is now based back home in North Myrtle Beach. On “Wait For Me,” her voice threads through and around Jim’s in a way that suggests the two have been singing together for years — which, as it turns out, they have.

### The session

Despite a 25-year friendship — Jim was the first person ever to pull Allie on stage, back when she was a Raleigh dental assistant hitting karaoke at TJ’s — he and Allie had never actually cut a record together before this one. Allie told Wayne Troutman’s January 22 Surfside podcast that watching Jim build the track from the inside was its own education: “To watch him work in a studio just amazed me. And it made me realize how fun it is when it is your own song.” She also said Jim stretched her further than she knew she could go. “There’s notes in that song I never knew I could hit, period. Until Jim said, ‘go hit this note.’ I said, ‘I’ll try it.’”

Mark tracked his parts separately — standard for his sessions — which makes what he delivered all the more impressive. Three artists, three voices, three different days in the booth, and the record sounds like they cut it live in one room.

The experience lit a fire in Allie, too. “It gave me really an incentive to write my own music,” she told Troutman — and she’s told anyone who’ll listen that a first original Allie Privette single is her goal for 2026. We’ll keep an eye and ear out for that.

## Behind the board

Production is co-credited to Jim Quick and Keith Houston at KHP Music. Houston — named CBMA Engineer of the Year 22 times — is the engineer Allie calls the only producer she’s ever recorded with. “He knows my voice,” she told Troutman. “I don’t even really have to do a soundcheck anymore.” That kind of studio shorthand is how three busy artists with three full calendars make a record that feels this unified.

## The Laurinburg thread

There’s one more piece of geography worth noting. Jim Quick is Laurinburg born. Allie Privette has been a regular at Laurinburg After Five for years. That same stretch of southeastern North Carolina — Scotland County into the sandhills — has quietly fed an outsized share of the beach-music vocal tradition. “Wait For Me” is another entry in that ledger.

## On the chart

“Wait For Me” held #2 on the January 31 Surf Countdown behind North Tower’s “Pretty Lady,” slipped to #3 on April 4 as Ella Langley’s “Choosin’ Texas” vaulted into the runner-up spot, and continues to anchor the top five. For a beach single released in late November to still be doing top-three business in mid-April is the closest thing to a modern standard the format produces — and a fair reward for three artists who put their names on something together and got it right.

*“Wait For Me” — Jim Quick with R. Mark Black and Allie Privette*

*Written by Jim Quick • Produced by Jim Quick and Keith Houston / KHP Music*

*Tenor solo: R. Mark Black • Released November 18, 2025*

## HOF Spotlight • Behind the Music

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### **“Sixty Minute Man” — The Record That Shouldn’t Have Crossed Over — The Dominoes**

On the morning of April 28, 2022, at 11 AM on WVCO 94.9 The Surf, Cammy Awards President Peter Carpenter made an announcement that had never been made before in the history of Carolina Beach Music. He named the first song ever inducted into the Carolina Beach Music Hall of Fame.

It wasn’t “Under the Boardwalk.” It wasn’t “Carolina Girls.” It wasn’t “My Girl.” Four other records would go in that day — each one a pillar of the music — but Peter reserved the top spot in the charter class for a record that had been cut on the last day of 1950 by a New York vocal group.

“Sixty Minute Man.”

*“Sixty Minute Man’ was the most requested song for many, many years for mobile DJs, so it became strongly associated with Carolina Beach Music. DJs would always say it was their number one song to play.” — Peter Carpenter*

Now — how did a 1951 R&B record from a Juilliard-trained bandleader and a Detroit kid with a voice from the bottom of a well become the DJ’s number-one request on the Grand Strand? That’s where the story starts.

## The boss

Billy Ward — born Robert L. Williams, a Savannah, Georgia kid who turned into a classical music prodigy at fourteen and eventually a Juilliard-trained vocal coach — was the kind of bandleader who ran a doo-wop group like a Marine Corps platoon. Smoking was forbidden. Drinking was forbidden. Messy clothes and late arrivals drew fines. And every singer in the Dominoes, professionals in their twenties every one of them, had to drink a glass of warm milk before bed. For their voices. Ward meant it.

The day they cut “Sixty Minute Man” — December 30, 1950, at Federal Records in New York — the Dominoes walked into the studio with a song written by Ward and his partner Rose Marks that was going to change everything and nearly get buried for being too dirty to play. Ward made the unusual call of handing the lead not to his soaring tenor, but to bassman Bill Brown. Brown was twenty-four, built like a deacon, and possessed of a voice that sounded like it came from the bottom of a well. When he rumbled the boast — that he was Lovin’

Dan, that he could deliver fifteen minutes of kissing, fifteen of teasing, fifteen of squeezing, and a closing fifteen of, well, you know — it didn't sound filthy. It sounded inevitable.

## The crossover

Released in May 1951 on Federal 12022, the record hit number one on Billboard's R&B chart by the end of the month and squatted there for fourteen weeks. Then it did the unthinkable. It crossed over. "Sixty Minute Man" climbed all the way to #17 on the pop chart at a moment in American cultural history when Black vocal groups did not cross over and suggestive R&B records certainly did not sell a million copies to white record buyers. This one did both. Billboard readers voted it Song of the Year for 1951.

Mainstream radio fought it every step. Stations banned it outright. Parents confiscated copies. Preachers preached against it. Kids bought it anyway, under the counter, traded hand to hand, played low at parties their folks didn't know about. Sound familiar, Carolina? The song sneaked into the pavilions the same way it sneaked into white America — by being too good to keep out.

## Naming a genre

There's a story music historians tell about Alan Freed, the Cleveland DJ who popularized the phrase "rock and roll" on mainstream radio. Several sources suggest Freed pulled the term from this very record — from the line where Lovin' Dan vows, "I rock 'em, roll 'em all night long." Freed never confirmed it. He didn't have to. The phrase went on to name a genre, and the Dominoes' fingerprints are all over the cradle.

## A laboratory for royalty

The group itself was a laboratory for future royalty. The tenor soaring above Bill Brown's boasts belonged to a twenty-year-old Clyde McPhatter, who would leave the Dominoes in 1953, form the original Drifters, and launch one of the great solo careers in R&B before dying too young at thirty-nine. McPhatter's replacement in the Dominoes was a kid from Detroit named Jackie Wilson, who impressed Elvis Presley so thoroughly at a 1956 Las Vegas show that Elvis drove back to Sun Studios and, in front of Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, and Jerry Lee Lewis, did an impression of Wilson singing "Don't Be Cruel." That's the Million Dollar Quartet tape. That's the Dominoes' reach.

## Bill Brown's short run

Bill Brown himself didn't stay long enough to enjoy it. He and Charlie White grew weary of Ward's salary-and-fines regime, walked out at the end of 1951, and formed the Checkers. In 1954 Brown cut a sequel called "Don't Stop Dan" in which Lovin' Dan, inevitably, meets his match. A second answer record, "Can't Do Sixty No More," followed in 1955 — Dan older now, Dan winded, Dan defeated by arithmetic. Bill Brown himself would be gone by 1956, dead at thirty. He never saw a royalty check proportional to what he'd given the world.

## The first one on the wall

Seventy-one years after Lovin' Dan first took his victory lap, Peter Carpenter put the record on the wall. Not just a charter member. The charter member. The first song ever inducted into the Carolina Beach Music Hall of Fame. And he did it on our station, in our town, for our music — at eleven o'clock on a Thursday morning in April, with the Grand Strand just beginning to wake up to another beach music season.

*"The Surf is the main hub for Carolina Beach Music in this age. Since its inception, it's been one of the only 24/7 beach music stations running since the demise of WRDX Beach 106.5. That's why it's called the flagship station of Carolina Beach Music." — Peter Carpenter*

Ask him why the record still moves a crowd three-quarters of a century after Bill Brown rumbled that opening boast, and the answer lands where every great beach record lives — somewhere between the floor and the heart:

*"People react to 'Sixty Minute Man' because they think of that song as being associated with the essential aspects of Carolina Beach Music and the Shag. It's one of the most perfect songs that fit both the serious beach music enthusiast and the hard-core shaggers." — Peter Carpenter*

Somewhere, Billy Ward is probably still counting the fines. And somewhere a shag floor is still moving in fifteen-minute increments, whether the dancers know it or not.

*"Sixty Minute Man" • Billy Ward and his Dominoes • Federal 12022, May 1951 - Written by Billy Ward and Rose Marks • Lead vocal: Bill Brown - First song inducted into the Carolina Beach Music Hall of Fame, April 28, 2022*

## Ocean Drive Beach Music Festival — 10 Days Away

Mark the calendar, charge the cooler, and let your boss know Monday's going to be rough. The Ocean Drive Beach Music Festival lands at 96 South Ocean Boulevard on Saturday, May 2, 2026 — 10 AM to 6 PM, and when this issue of The Surfline hits your inbox, we're just 10 days out.

The lineup is about as strong as Ocean Drive gets:

- The Commodores
- Jim Quick & Coastline
- Band of Oz

Fresh off the Surf Countdown with "Wait For Me" still in the top five, Jim Quick & Coastline take the ODBMF stage alongside Band of Oz and the Commodores — a one-day summit of three generations of the music.

Keeping the day moving between sets: Chad Sain, CBMA Hall of Fame DJ, serves as lead emcee, joined by the on-air team of 94.9 The Surf — the radio personalities and DJs who already soundtrack the Strand every day of the year.

Eight hours of music on the oceanfront, the only B.Y.O.B. music festival on the Strand, and the kind of crowd that turns the Boulevard into one long dance floor from lunchtime to sundown.

Get tickets at [odmusicfest.com](http://odmusicfest.com)

## 94.9 THE SURF PROGRAM GUIDE

Live shows 7 days a week from Ocean Drive, the Shag Capital of the World - Listen live [949thesurf.com](http://949thesurf.com)

| SHOW                  | HOST                           | TIME                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Morgan In The Morning | Jim Morgan                     | Mon-Fri, 7-11 AM          |
| Best Day Ever Show    | Jim Quick                      | Mon-Fri, 11 AM-3 PM       |
| The Traffic Jam       | DJ Heavy                       | Mon-Fri, 3-6 PM           |
| Southern Soul at 6    | DJ Heavy                       | Mon,Tue,Thu, Fri 6PM-7PM  |
| The Surf After Dark   | Old Soul Cole                  | Mon,Tue,Thus, 7PM to 11PM |
| The Surf Countdown    | Jay Kinlaw                     | Sat, 10 AM-12 Noon        |
| Live on Ocean Drive   | Old Soul Cole                  | Sat 12 Noon to 3PM        |
| Fat Harold's LIVE     | Surf DJs join Fat Harold's DJs | Wed, 6-9 PM               |
| A Joyful Noise        | Jim Morgan                     | Sun, 7-10 AM              |
| Swamp Soul            | Jim Quick                      | Fri, 7PM                  |

### The SURFLINE

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