

Calendar

of upcoming events

Welcome to springtime in Brunswick County, a time of quickening and of renewal for all of nature, not only humankind.

Spring is an especially fine time to relax and enjoy the natural beauty of the area—from sandy beaches scoured clean by winter storms to waters, meadows and pocosins teeming with life. Enjoy leisure pursuits that range from a challenging round of golf to an evening of laughter, courtesy of the Brunswick Little Theatre. Slip away from the madding crowd and play a while; you'll return to the daily routine refreshed, relaxed and ready to go!

April

ROBERT RUARK CHILI COOK-OFF, sponsored by the Robert Ruark Foundation, offers a chance to compete with the best chili cooks around, or, if you'd rather, sample the results in the relaxing atmosphere of Franklin Square Park, downtown Southport. April 10. Contact Bette Leggett, 1-919-457-5494.

BRUNSWICK LITTLE THEATRE presents "Jigsaw," an adult comedy, at the Centennial Center, Lord Street, Southport, April 23-24, 8 p.m., with champagne and dessert. Admission is \$8, single; \$15, couple. For more information contact Stuart Callari, 1-919-457-6790 or Bob Hrdlicka, 1-919-278-4212.

May

THE BRUNSWICK CONCERT BAND performs in concert May 2 at Centennial Center, Lord Street, Southport, p.m. Contact Paul Pittenger, 1-919-457-4488.

THE NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY performs May 10 in concert at Hatch Auditorium, N.C. Baptist Assembly, Oak Island. For more information about tickets contact the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce, 754-6644.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND in Southport May 28-30 features the Black Pearl Pageant, a parade, arts and crafts and more.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT of the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce will be played at Brierwood Golf Course, Shallotte, May 22. Contact the chamber, 754-6644.

THE SOUTHPORT-OAK ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE presents the "Folies," May 29. For more information contact the chamber office, 1-919-457-6964.

June

THE SOUND AND LIGHT SPECTACULAR "The Immortal Showboat", evenings June 1 through Labor Day, tells the dramatic story of the *USS North Carolina* in World War II, at the USS North Carolina Battleship Memorial, Wilmington. For information on the ship or the program contact the battleship at 1-919-762-1829. Admission charged.

SHALLOTTE POINT VFD FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT will be held June 11-12, Tripp's Fishing Center, Shallotte, Point, to benefit the fire department. Registration is 6 p.m.-10 p.m. June 10 at the fire station, or until 7 a.m. June 11. Contact Joyce Land, 754-6985.

THE LITTLE/TINY MISS N.C. FOURTH OF JULY PAGEANT will be held June 19. Contact Pam Tyner, 253-5891.

July

THE N.C. FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVAL celebrates the nation's birthday with a splash—a parade, arts and crafts, street dance, beach day, road races and children's games, July 2-

5, Southport-Oak Island. Contact the N.C. Fourth of July Festival Committee, 1-919-457-9761, or the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce, 1-919-457-6964.

September

THE SOUTH BRUNSWICK ISLANDS KING CLASSIC TOURNAMENT will be held Sept. 3-5. Contact the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce, 1-919-754-6644.

THE LABOR DAY ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR will be held Sept. 4 by the Oak Island Arts Guild, Middleton Park, Long Beach. Contact Frances Allen, 1-919-278-3708.

THE 13TH ANNUAL U.S. OPEN KING MACKEREL TOURNAMENT offers cash prizes for anglers and live entertainment at the awards ceremony, Small Boat Harbor, Southport. Contact the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce, 1-919-457-6964.

October

THE N.C. OYSTER FESTIVAL will be held at Sunset Beach, Oct. 15-16, featuring the state oyster shucking championship, seafood, entertainment, tall tale contest, arts and crafts, road races and more. Contact the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce, 754-6644.

THE N.C. FESTIVAL BY THE SEA will be held Oct. 29-31, Holden Beach, featuring a parade, Halloween carnival, entertainment, arts and crafts festival, foods, games, road races and more. Contact the Greater Holden Beach Merchants Association, 842-6433.

November

ENJOY ALL THE ROASTED OYSTERS you can eat, Dixon Chapel Oyster Roast, Nov. 6, Dixon Chapel United Methodist Church, Varnamtown. For more information on this community tradition contact Marlene Varnam, 842-6425.

THE ROBERT RUARK FESTIVAL features a writers' competition and celebration of the arts sponsored by the Robert Ruark Foundation, downtown Southport, Nov. 26-27. Contact Bette Leggett, 1-919-457-5494.

CHRISTMAS BY THE SEA is the theme of a month-long (Nov. 27-Dec. 20) holiday celebration in the Southport-Oak Island community, with a flouilla, Dec. 4 parade, home tours, concerts and other activities. Contact the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce, 1-919-457-6964.

December

A COMMUNITY TREE-LIGHTING highlights Hometown Holidays in the South Brunswick Islands, downtown Shallotte. Contact the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce, 754-6644.

A PARADE WELCOMES THE CHRISTMAS SEASON to Shallotte, Dec. 4 at 10 a.m., Main Street. To enter contact Town Hall, 754-4032.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE will be held in early December at Fort Fisher State Historic Site, Kure Beach, with traditional decor, special music, refreshment and guided tours. Date to be announced. Call the site, 1-919-458-5538.

BRUNSWICK TOWN STATE HISTORICAL SITE on N.C. 133 north of Southport, observes a colonial Christmas in early December with period costumes, music, refreshments and decorations, and candlelight vespers in the ruin of old St. Philip's Church. Date to be announced. For more information call the site, 1-919-458-5538.

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