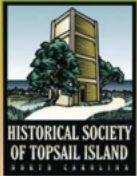


From Turtle Talks to Historic Walks... We Have Something for Everyone!

2026 Events Schedule



June 1-August 31 NO TALK JULY 6 MONDAYS 9:00 AM  Turtle Talks OUTSIDE BEHIND THE ASSEMBLY BUILDING BRING A CHAIR, TOWEL, OR BLANKET TO SIT ON. *WEATHER PERMITTING	Year Round Self Guided Historic Top Secret Walking Tour TOPSAIL BEACH FREE ONE MILE WALKING TOUR 
Museum Tours HOURS VARY Missiles & More Museum VISIT WWW.MISSILESANDMOREMUSEUM.ORG FIND US ON INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK. 	June 24 July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 WEDNESDAYS 1:00 PM  HSTI Summer Aquarium Program THE NC AQUARIUM AT FORT FISHER OUTREACH CATERS TO FAMILIES WITH SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN, BUT EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN.
June 4-August 20 THURSDAYS 5:45 PM  Bingo FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY! ASSEMBLY BUILDING *CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE ON SITE	July 2 THURSDAY 10:00 AM  One Ocean + One Planet with Blair Northern Williamson ASSEMBLY BUILDING CRAFTS, SNACKS & GIVEAWAYS FUN FAMILY PROGRAM FEATURING THE ISLAND GIRLS AND THE OCEAN PROTECTORS, FOLLOWED BY A BOOK SIGNING. CO-SPONSORED BY THE KAREN BEASLEY SEA TURTLE RESCUE AND REHABILITATION CENTER AND HSTI, WITH SPECIAL GUEST PLASTIC OCEAN PROJECT.

www.topsailhistoricalsociety.org
720 CHANNEL BLVD. · TOPSAIL BEACH, NC 28445

Bumblebee Buzz June 2026

Preserving the Past, Enjoying the Present, Building the Future.

A Note From The President:

Summer is here in the beautiful town of Topsail Beach and HSTI is excited to welcome residents and visitors to another season of community, learning, and island history.

Join us at the Historic Assembly Building for family-friendly programs including Turtle Talks, the Aquarium Program, and *Bingo*!

At the Missiles & More Museum, we are proud to feature a new replica of the historic Control Tower, built by Dallas Smith for his Eagle Scout project.

Thank you for supporting HSTI and our mission: the collection, preservation and promotion of the history of the Greater Topsail Island area.

Your President,
Kathy

Join or Renew Your Historical Society of Topsail Island Membership Today

Help preserve the stories, landmarks, and traditions that make Topsail Island special. Your membership supports educational programs, scholarships, monthly Luncheons & Lectures, the Historic Assembly Building, and the Missiles & More Museum. Together, we can keep history alive for future generations.

Click on the button below to become a member or Renew your membership today!
(Via credit card or print and mail)

Become or renew your membership here!!

We appreciate your support and participation.
Every Membership and Donation helps us fulfill our Mission!

Historical Society of Topsail Island *Presents*

BINGO

THURSDAYS JUNE 4 - AUGUST 20, 2026

Doors Open at 5:45 PM
Early Bird Games at 6:30 PM - Main Games 7:00 PM

Historic Assembly Building 720 Channel Blvd, Topsail Beach, NC
TopsailHistoricalSociety.org

Patriot Night
JULY 2



All proceeds support
The Historical Society
of Topsail Island's
mission to preserve
and promote the
history of the Greater
Topsail Island area.

Pirate Night August 6

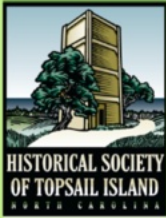


Bumblebee
Night
June 18



PLEASE NO OUTSIDE
FOOD OR BEVERAGES
CONCESSIONS
AVAILABLE ON SITE

HSTI SUMMER AQUARIUM PROGRAMS PRESENTED BY THE NC AQUARIUM AT FORT FISHER OUTREACH, SPONSORED BY THE TOWN OF TOPSAIL BEACH



These engaging programs cater to families
with school-aged children, but everyone
is invited to join in!

WEDNESDAYS AT 1:00 PM

**HISTORIC ASSEMBLY BUILDING
720 CHANNEL BLVD. TOPSAIL BEACH, NC**



**JUNE 24
SEA TURTLE 911**



**JULY 8
SCALY SURVIVORS**



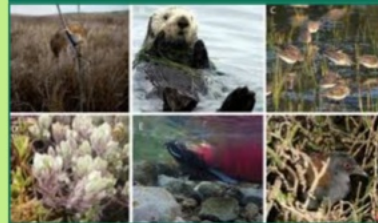
**JULY 22
TURTLE TIME**



**JULY 1
FANTASTIC FISH**



**JULY 15 – HIDDEN
BENEATH THE WAVES**



**JULY 29
WILD WETLANDS**



PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

One Planet + One Ocean

WITH AWARD-WINNING CHILDREN'S AUTHOR

BLAIR NORTEN WILLIAMSON

and

PLASTIC OCEAN PROJECT

July 2, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

THE ASSEMBLY BUILDING
720 Channel Blvd. | Topsail Island, NC




THIS EVENT IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



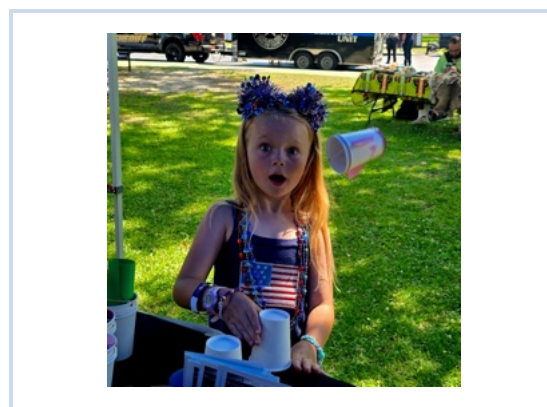
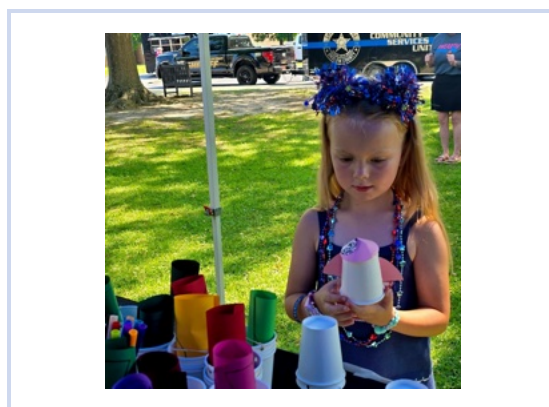
The Karen Beasley
SEA TURTLE RESCUE
& REHABILITATION CENTER
SURF CITY, NC USA



HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF TOPSAIL ISLAND

FUN FOR EVERYONE!

- Meet the author
- Book Signing
- Crafts
- Snacks
- Giveaways
- Ocean Education



We were there...OCPL AMERICA250 STORYTELLING FESTIVAL—

A special event that launched the library's Summer Reading Program, *Unearth a Story*. It was a day filled with stories, creativity, and community fun. We enjoyed live storytelling, interactive activities, hands-on experiences, themed stations, performances, and more as we celebrate the voices, history, and imagination that shape our community.

Lorraine Makey lead our Missiles & More Museum team. They helped kids build rockets that could blast off! Super fun day!

The Missiles & More Museum

Open 26 May thru 9 October

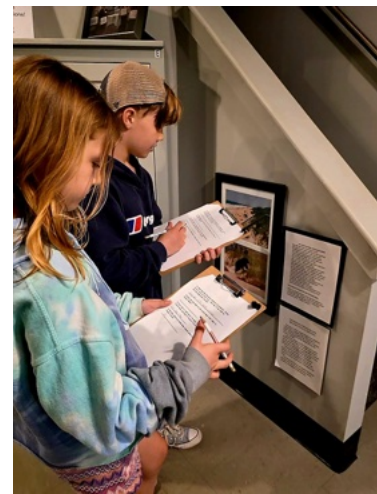
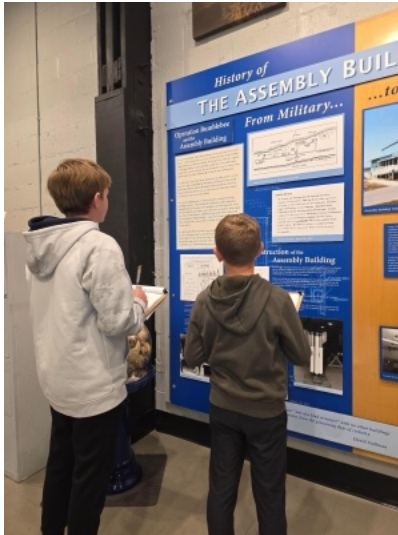
🚀 Monday Through Friday 10 AM to 2 PM. 🚀

*Closed 7 September Labor day

Close for the season 9 October

The Historical Society of Topsail Island invites you to EXPLORE pirate legends, sunken Spanish treasure, and the history of Operation Bumblebee. **Discover** the WASPs and their impact on women's roles in aviation and **INVESTIGATE** the history of Greater Topsail Island.

Grab a Clipboard and let the Scavenger Hunt BEGIN!



Meet Lorraine Makey

Lorraine is the Manager of the Missiles & More Museum. With more than ten years of community experience and three years at the museum, she is dedicated to preserving history. A history enthusiast, avid reader, and sunshine seeker, Lorraine enjoys uncovering stories from the past and finding adventure in the present. Her love of history inspires her to connect the past to the present and keep those stories alive.



History at High Noon: Operation Bumblebee

Wednesday, August 26, 2026 | 3:00 p.m. | Virtual event on Zoom

The NC Museum of History's popular *History at High Noon* series returns with a fascinating look at Operation Bumblebee, a top-secret U.S. Navy project that helped transform missile propulsion and modern naval defense.

Join Lorraine Makey, Manager of the Missiles and More Museum on Topsail Beach, for the incredible story behind the seven concrete towers that still stand on a North Carolina barrier island as reminders of this once-secret operation.

Speaker: Lorraine Makey, Manager of the Missiles and More Museum on Topsail Island

Registration: This free virtual event will take place on Zoom. Click on button below.

Questions? Contact Stacey Smith at (919) 814-7032.

Register here for this free virtual event on Zoom

Assembly Building Sunroom Dedicated in Memory of Gwen Whitehurst Ward

Topsail Beach, NC 14 May 2026

The Historical Society of Topsail Island gathered with family, friends, and community members to dedicate the Assembly Building Sunroom in memory of Gwendolyn Whitehurst Ward, honoring her remarkable legacy of service and leadership.

Gwen was one of the original founders of the Historical Society of Topsail Island and was the first person to sign its articles of incorporation. She served as one of the Society's three inaugural Board of Directors members and, in 1985, became its first President. Over the next four decades, Gwen continued to serve the Society in many roles, offering steady guidance, deep institutional knowledge, and unwavering commitment. Her long-standing dedication made her the Society's longest-serving board member.

In 2024, she was honored with the North Carolina Governor's Volunteer Service Award, recognizing her exceptional volunteer service to the Historical Society and the broader community.

The dedication of the Assembly Building Sunroom is a fitting tribute to Gwen's lasting impact. Within the Society she helped establish and nurture, this special space will stand as a reminder of her leadership, generosity, and enduring commitment to preserving the history of Topsail Island.



Volunteer Spotlight: We'd Love to Have You Join Us!

Looking for a fun and meaningful way to get involved? We're inviting volunteers to share their time, talents, and energy with our upcoming programs and events.

How would you like to help?

Volunteer opportunities include luncheons, education programs, Golf Classic, Autumn with Topsail, fundraising, the Jingle Bell Ball, Missiles & More Museum roles, and Bingo!

We're also looking for volunteers with computer, online, or virtual platform skills—and if you have a flair for graphic design, we'd love to hear from you!

Your skills can make a real difference.

Whether you enjoy welcoming guests, supporting special events, helping behind the scenes, or bringing history to life, there's a place for you on our volunteer team.

Click below for info, questions and to sign up!

Ready to join the fun? Let us know how you'd like to be involved—we need you!





OCTOBER 16-18, 2026

Become a Festival Sponsor

Celebrate Topsail's coastal charm and community spirit while putting your business front and center.

Your sponsorship supports the Historical Society of Topsail Island and brings your brand to festivalgoers before, during, and after the **Autumn with Topsail Festival**.

Choose Your Sponsorship Level

★ Double Platinum \$5,000 Presented-by spotlight, premium banners, ads, online recognition, thank-you ad, certificate, 20 tickets	◆ Platinum \$3,500 Stage and main banners, ads, online recognition, thank-you ad, certificate, 15 tickets	◆ Diamond \$2,500 Stage and main banners, online recognition, thank-you ad, certificate, 12 tickets
● Gold \$1,000 Banner, online recognition, thank-you ad, certificate, 10 tickets	◇ Silver \$500 Banner, online recognition, thank-you ad, certificate, 5 tickets	■ Bronze \$250 Banner, online recognition, thank-you ad, certificate, 3 tickets

Be part of the tradition. Be seen by the community.

Questions or in-kind donation opportunities?

Steve Gordon • 610.914.5477 | Gaylene Branton • 910.389.8776

marketing@autumnwithtopsail.com

Autumn with Topsail • 720 Channel Blvd., Topsail Beach, NC 28445

www.autumnwithtopsail.com

Reserve your sponsorship today!

The Historical Society of Topsail Island is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Tax ID #56-1501496

THE
ASSEMBLY
BUILDING

Topsail Beach

ELEGANT VENUE FOR
UNFORGETTABLE
Celebrations

Schedule your tour today and
see how your celebration
can come to life in our space.









www.topsailislandevents.com

910-328-8663

Start Your Celebration Here!



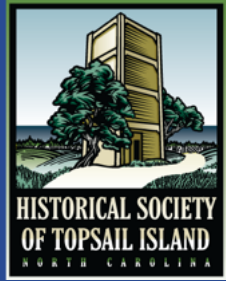
Historic Top Secret Walking Tour of Topsail Beach

This easy, free, one-mile walking tour will take you on a fun, historical adventure through the downtown area of the Town of Topsail Beach. This hike will accommodate strollers and folks with limited mobility.

[Learn More!](#)

Mission Statement

The Historical Society of Topsail Island is dedicated to the collection, preservation and promotion of the history of the



[Visit our website](#)

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Historical Society of Topsail Island, Inc. | 720 Channel Blvd | Topsail Beach, NC 28445 US

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