

5 THINGS

every North Carolinian should do this month

1. Wake Tech Culinary Arts Showcase

Who will take home the Golden Whisk? Find out on April 30 at the Raleigh Convention Center, where professional bakers and culinary students will compete in the cake challenge, a Triangle tradition. The theme of this year's challenge is "Golden Moments," in recognition of Wake Tech's 50th anniversary. Other highlights include food demonstrations, an ice-carving exhibition, and plenty of opportunities for tasting. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. (919) 866-5991 or culinaryartsshowcase.waketech.edu.



PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



2. Diamond Jubilee Azalea Garden Tour

Celebrate the spring season with the Cape Fear Garden Club as they hold their 60th annual Azalea Garden Tour from April 12-14. Following a ribbon-cutting ceremony and garden party on Friday, April 12, 13 gardens around Wilmington will be open for

self-guided tours, including one garden that was part of the first tour 60 years ago. \$20. azaleagardentour.org.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MILLIE MARREADY, COURTESY OF CAPE FEAR GARDEN CLUB

3. Grand Opening of Kure Beach Oceanfront Park

Plan an early trip to the coast to celebrate the opening of Kure Beach's oceanfront park on Friday, April 26, and stay for the town's annual street festival on Saturday. Enjoy food, music, and dancing in honor of the new park, which has an open-air pavilion, a toddler play area, rain gardens, and bench swings. (910) 458-8216 or townofkurebeach.org.



Bench Swing by RAGS Signs & Graphics
Wilmington, NC 910-793-9087

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MANDY CUMMINGS, COURTESY OF TOWN OF KURE BEACH



PHOTOGRAPHY BY GAVIN ASHWORTH, COURTESY OF OLD SALEM MUSEUMS & GARDENS

4. "Art in Clay: Masterworks of North Carolina Earthenware"

North Carolina boasts an impressive history of pottery craftsmanship. This exhibition at the North Carolina Museum of History through September 1, comprises nearly 200 objects made by Piedmont potters in the 18th and 19th centuries. View a collection of slipware dishes and clay animals, and let the kids create their own designs at a hands-on activity area. Adults \$10. Seniors, military, and college students \$8. Children \$5. (919) 807-7900 or ncmuseumofhistory.org.

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF PIEDMONT WINDS

5. Badin Centennial Parade

A little more than 100 years ago, the Southern Aluminum Company sought to build a dam at the narrows of the Yadkin River. The town of Badin was founded to accommodate workers' families. This year, Badin celebrates its centennial anniversary with a parade including local bands, floats, and classic cars. Jazz musician and Badin native Lou Donaldson performs following the parade. (704) 422-6900 or badin100.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF ALEX MATISSE

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