

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, September 13, 2026.

Day at the Docks is happening Friday and Saturday, September 18 and 19. The two-day celebration concentrates on commercial fishermen, charter captains, and maritime traditions, which are so much a part of Hatteras village.

Events start at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, with a Hurricane Preparedness Forum at the Hatteras Community Building. The fifth annual Seafood Under the Stars dinner follows at 6:30 at the Hatteras Civic Center. The five-course dinner showcases locally sourced seafood, with a non-seafood option also available. A few tickets may be available.

Reservations can be made through the [Seafood Under the Stars ticket form](#).

Saturday's schedule starts early with the Fishy 5K and Dock Dash at 7:30 a.m. at Hatteras United Methodist Church. The race course takes runners, walkers and strollers through historic Hatteras Village before finishing at the church. Register with \$40 at the church.

The main waterfront festival runs along the Hatteras docks from 10 to 4 with competitions and educational exhibits. On the main stage, Day at the Docks founder Lynne Foster starts the show with a welcome. Clifford and Company performs local music followed by Grateful Dead tribute act Le Salty Dead.

A presentation on oyster farming and the Oyster Trail is on the stage along with Nashville singer-songwriter Mary Joy McDaniel. The youth fishing tournament at Hatteras Harbor Marina is open to all children, with no fishing gear or experience required. Registration will be held from 12:30 to 1:30 at Jeffrey's Seafood, followed by fishing from 1:30 to 2:30. Prizes are awarded on the main stage at 4 o'clock. At 2:30 p.m., a Seafood Throwdown brings chefs from Island Bites and Burger and Froggy Dog, both in Avon, to the main stage.

The day finishes with a boat parade and the annual Blessing of the Fleet at 6 o'clock at the harbor.

Day at the Docks was established following Hurricane Isabel in 2003, when Hatteras Village emerged from the storm as an intact commercial and charter fishing community. The festival was created to celebrate the community's recovery and the inherent "Spirit of Hatteras."

Additional schedules and updates are available at [hatteras day at the docks dot com](#).

After the fleet blessing, the Friends of the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum invites all to an evening of live music, food and drinks on Saturday, September 19, at the museum in Hatteras village.

"Graveyard After Hours" is scheduled for 6:30 to 8:30. The event will feature live music by Jackie Burns. Food provided by Lee Robinson General Store, Hatteras Seafoods and Made with Love: Hatteras Island Chef Services. The Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum is located at 59200 Museum Drive, near the southern end of Hatteras Island. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Dare County Sheriff's Blotter for August 2026 has been released. The blotter reports felonies committed in unincorporated areas of Dare County.

Two incidents of stolen firearms on Roanoke Island are reported.

Felonies of forgery, larceny, obtaining property by false pretenses, and breaking and entering total about \$73,700. Additional cash crimes are listed without dollar amounts.

Crimes are reported in Colington 4; Roanoke Island 4, Buxton 2, Avon 2, Frisco 1 and Manns Harbor 1.

Crimes listed for Hatteras Island are:

August 3: Obtaining Property by False Pretenses. 47000 block of Rocky Rollinson Rd., Buxton. The victim sent scammers \$5,300 in Apple gift cards as part of a romance scam. Under investigation.

August 15: Obtaining Property by False Pretenses. 46000 block of NC 12, Buxton. The victim was tricked into sending a scammer money after they threatened to release compromising photos of the victim.

August 15: Larceny. 41000 block of NC 12, Avon. E-bike stolen. Under investigation.

August 20: Obtaining Property by False Pretenses. 52000 block of NC 12, Frisco. Victim reported about \$2,100 of fraudulent transactions on a bank account.

August 20: Larceny. 40000 block of Methodist Church Road, Avon. Household items reported stolen after the tenants were evicted. Under investigation.

Dare County Schools annual scores available. Dare County Schools reported academic gains across the district during the 2025-26 school year, including a record four-year graduation rate of 96.4%.

All schools met or exceeded expected academic growth, according to data reviewed and approved by the North Carolina State Board of Education on September 2.

On Hatteras Island, Cape Hatteras Elementary School and Cape Hatteras Secondary School maintained C performance grades while meeting or exceeding expected growth, reports Island Free Press.

Dare Early College and First Flight High School earned A performance grades, marking the first time two Dare County schools received the designation in the same year. Four schools earned B grades, including two that finished within two points of an A, while the district's remaining six schools received C grades.

North Carolina school performance grades are based 80% on student achievement and 20% on academic growth. Schools receive an A for scores from 85 to 100, a B for 70 to 84, a C for 55 to 69, a D for 40 to 54 and an F for scores below 40. For an in-depth analysis of the scores, visit Island Free Press.

Brief news items. 1) The 2026 Buxton beach nourishment project is approaching the halfway point, with roughly 930,400 cubic yards of sand placed along the shoreline since pumping began on July 31. The new total, included in Dare County's September newsletter, represents about 47% of the approximately 2 million cubic yards planned for the project. 2) Hatteras Island Meals has launched its annual raffle to help fund weekday meal deliveries for elderly, homebound, and recovering residents from Rodanthe to Hatteras Village. Tickets are just \$10 each, or four for \$35. Buy them after Labor Day, Fridays at Conner's Supermarket in Buxton. The drawing is October 3. Learn more at Hatteras Island Meals dot Org.

The Dare County Veterans Advisory Council and Outer Banks VFW Post 10950 Auxiliary invite members of the Outer Banks community to participate in the second annual Dare County Wreaths of Honor project, which will take place Saturday, December 5, 2026, and Sunday, December 6, 2026.

Through this project, volunteers will place seasonal wreaths on more than 600 veterans' graves in 12 cemeteries located across Dare County. The goal of the Wreaths of Honor project is to honor and remember the brave men and women who served our nation by placing wreaths at their final resting places in Dare County during the holiday season.

In preparation for the upcoming project, the Dare County Veterans Advisory Council is currently seeking volunteers to assist with wreath placement and wreath removal, raise funds and accept donations to purchase wreaths to ensure every veteran is honored, and to hold a respectful wreath-laying event, which is scheduled to be held on Saturday, December 5, 2026 and for the Manteo Cemetery downtown, Sunday, December 6, 2026. The wreath removal will take place on Saturday, January 9, 2027.

Individuals are also invited to sponsor a wreath for a veteran. With a donation of \$25 to Wreaths of Honor, a wreath will be placed on the grave of a local veteran in December 2026.

Check donations for this project may be made out to Outer Banks VFW Post 10950 Auxiliary, c/o Brittany Phillips, 172 Colingwood Lane, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948. Please include "Wreaths of Honor" in the memo.

For more information about the Wreaths of Honor project, contact Dare County Veterans Services Officer Patricia O'Sullivan at 252-475-5604 or Lisa Lloyd, at 415-246-4790.

For more information about the Dare County Veterans Advisory Council, please visit DareNC dot gov slash veterans.

Speed limits return to off-season

NC Department of Transportation crews will soon reinstall off-season signs to again raise the speed limit along sections of NC 12 in Currituck and Dare counties.

On Tuesday, September 15, if the weather permits, speed limits in areas through Rodanthe, Waves and Salvo, Avon and Frisco, as well as in Corolla, will return to 45 miles per hour from their seasonal speed limits of 35.

Off-season speed limits also will resume in several areas of Cape Hatteras National Seashore, such as the area south of Avon to Buxton and between Frisco and Hatteras Village.

Motorists are advised to continue driving with caution, as there are typically many motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians on the Outer Banks in the fall.

Seasonal speed limits are scheduled to return on May 14, 2027.

Beach night driving

Also, night driving is scheduled to return to Cape Hatteras National Seashore beaches. Routes with active nests will continue to close at 9 o'clock at night.

The transition to 24-hour access will occur on a route-by-route basis.

All designated ORV routes will open for 24-hour access beginning November 16, subject to any temporary safety or resource-protection closures, according to the National Park Service.

Sea Turtle nesting activity has produced 409 nests as of September 10. Some 128 nests are still incubating.

Sound-side ramps, Inside Road and Pole Road are not subject to the seasonal night driving restrictions. While restrictions remain in place on oceanside routes, visitors may park in designated parking areas and walk onto the beach at night.

Topless Labor Day Lighthouse 5K

The third annual Labor Day Lighthouse 5K brought runners and walkers to Buxton on Labor Day Monday, September 7.

The event raised more than \$2,500 for Hatteras Island community organizations and causes.

Race director Tom Amatucci said 157 people registered for the event and 138 crossed the finish line. Go to Island Free Press for a link to the racer names, home towns and times.

The 2026 event was called the "Topless Labor Day Lighthouse 5K," a reference to the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse's missing lantern room and balcony, due to restoration of the historic structure

Organized by the Barrier Island Group, or B.I.G., the race benefited the Frisco-Buxton Pathway, Buxton Civic Association, Buxton Food Pantry and the fundraising campaign for "Mighty Milly," a 6-year-old Buxton resident undergoing treatment for B-cell leukemia.

REAL Watersports served as the title sponsor.

The top three winners are first place David Kiser, Rocky Mount, Virginia with time of 17: 50; second place Bryon Strewsberry, Daniels, West Virginia at 20:47; and Bryant Ballance Hatteras, with 21:17. Four other Hatteras Islanders made the top ten: 4th Pablo Marques, Frisco; 6th Gage Byrd, Buxton; 7th Max Davis, Avon; and 9th Jason Forrest, Buxton.

Brief power outage Saturday afternoon.

A roughly 45-minute power outage occurred Saturday afternoon, September 12, 2026. The outage was caused by Dominion Power, which was already working on the failure.

Be careful out there. This is Radio Hatteras.