

# Our State<sup>®</sup>

CELEBRATING NORTH CAROLINA

JUNE 2020 \$5.99

ANNUAL  
COASTAL  
ISSUE

# TOPSAIL ISLAND

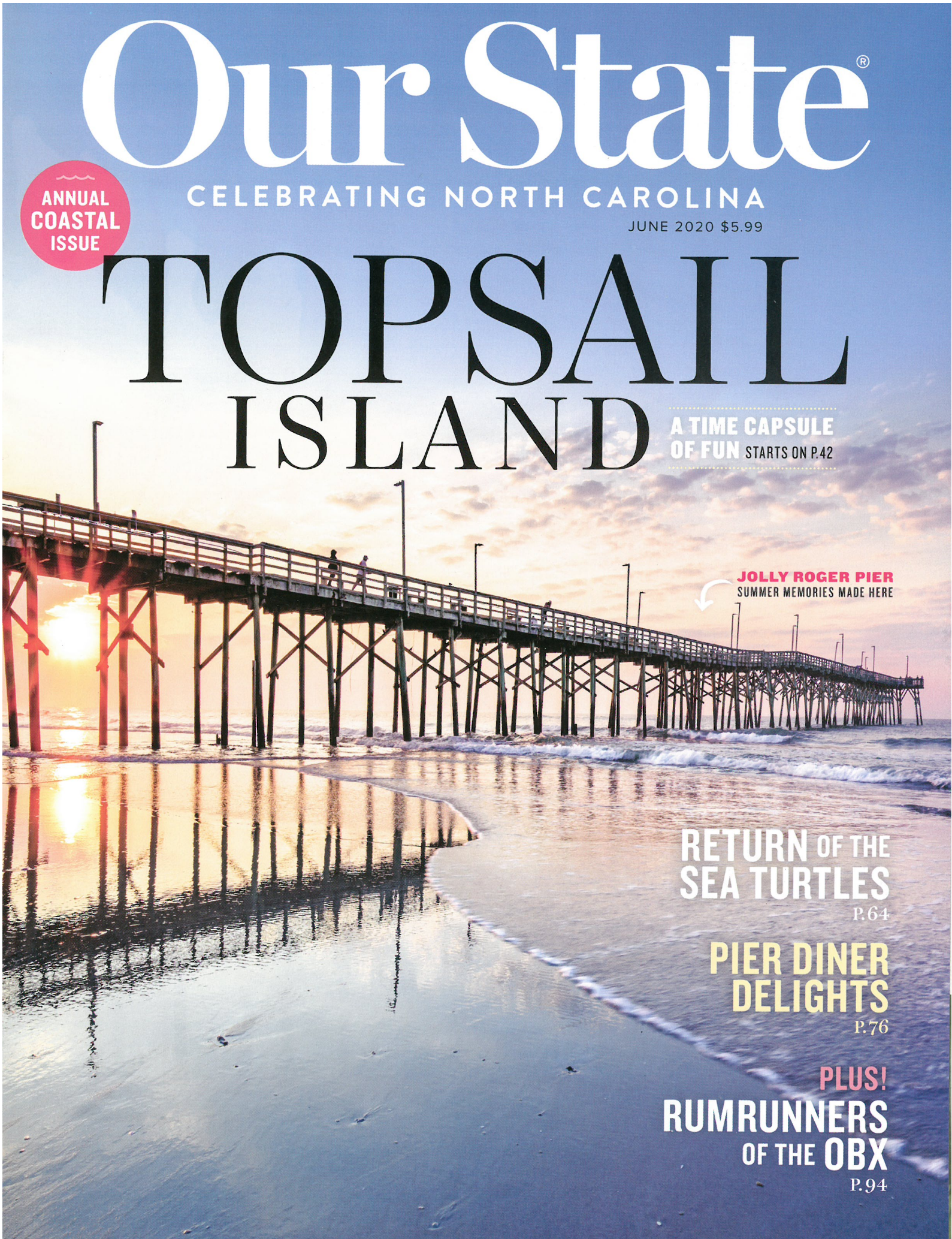
A TIME CAPSULE  
OF FUN STARTS ON P.42

JOLLY ROGER PIER  
SUMMER MEMORIES MADE HERE

RETURN OF THE  
SEA TURTLES  
P.64

PIER DINER  
DELIGHTS  
P.76

PLUS!  
RUMRUNNERS  
OF THE OBX  
P.94



WELCOME HOME  
drink up

CHARLOTTE

# Our State<sup>®</sup>

CELEBRATING NORTH CAROLINA

## Born to Brew

The first explorers on Roanoke Island likely made ginger beer. Centuries later, one of their descendants is bringing back this historic beverage.



**G**EORGIA DUNN'S HANDS DIG through crates of fresh ginger and citrus at a warehouse in Charlotte, inspecting the produce for any damage. For Dunn, the creator of Islander Ginger Beer, it's not just her business that fuels her drive for perfection — ginger beer is in her blood. Her ancestor Thomas Harriott, who represented Sir Walter Raleigh on one of his expeditions to Roanoke Island, is believed to have brewed ginger beer; other ancestors were among the first British settlers in Bermuda and Turks and Caicos, where ginger beer has been a household staple for centuries.



Eager to learn about her island heritage and to document the cultural history of the Caribbean, Dunn became passionate about revitalizing this once-thriving drink in the United States. She based her recipe on what she learned from interviews with elders close to her ancestral home in Turks and Caicos, striving to maintain as much authenticity as possible. Dunn's archival research eventually led her to an old handwritten recipe that almost exactly matched the one she'd been using. "I got chills," she says. Today, she uses that same recipe to make Islander Ginger Beer, a tangy, slightly spicy alcoholic beverage found in stores up and down the East Coast. "It feels like a form of ancestor worship," Dunn says. "It keeps them present with us today." — Allison Futterman

Georgia Dunn's Islander Ginger Beer is her way of preserving a cultural heritage. To find where it's sold, call (704) 451-8400 or visit [islandergingerbeer.com](http://islandergingerbeer.com).