

# Sound

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and Kayak Racing Association, is \$10 per boat. Entrants will receive a Sound Country Celebration T-shirt.

Race categories include Skilled/Novice divisions and a pair of Chowan County Business Challenge races. The winners of the Business Challenge races, said Bogus, will claim possession of a Sound Country Cup for one year, in similar fashion to the America's Cup.

"The winner of the Business Challenge must come back to defend the cup next year," he said.

So far, Sue Clark, Chowan Arts Council Director, has staked a preliminary claim to the kayak division in the business races.

"She has sent a challenge to anyone who wants to compete against her," said Bogus.

Pre-registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday at the Tréstore House Inn located at 632 Soundside Rd. Racers will leave the inn at 9 a.m. and finish the course at the Edenton waterfront. Trophies will be awarded to the winners of the canoe and kayak races in the Skilled and Novice classes.

When the racers begin to reach the finish line at approximately 11 a.m., the festival's activities will kick into high gear. Two North Carolina bands, Rebecca and the Hi-Tones and Mike Hamer & the Rhinoceroses, will join Michigan's Superfastrunners for live music performances. Bogus said the three bands all specialize in swing and pop music.

He said that kids, and some

adults, can also get close to an alligator to be brought to the festival Saturday by US Fish and Wildlife staff.

With dozens of local and regional vendors scheduled to be on hand for this first-ever event, Bogus is counting on a strong turnout by local residents and tourists.

"It has really come together nicely. I specifically want to thank the sponsors that came on board," he said. By Friday, more than 40 sponsors had contributed services or money to the festival.

"Obviously, with the incredible attention we have gotten from our sponsors, this is a well-needed festival. We hope that more of our eco-businesses will get on board in the coming years. And we are still in need of sponsors and vendors this year."

The main idea of the festival, he said, is to promote eco-tourism in Chowan and surrounding areas. But Bogus said that the event also serves as a fundraiser for local youths and businesses interested in eco-tourism.

"Because we are a non-profit organization," he said, "the monies that are made from the festival, on an annual basis, will help protect significant lands in our area, our waterfront, and will help us offer small-grant money to eco-tourism businesses. Lastly, the monies will provide scholarships to students who are interested in eco-sciences."

A raffle will help the event raise funds for those programs, said Bogus. Raffle tickets are \$1 apiece, offering purchasers a shot at winning one of 10 prizes. Those prizes include: a kayak (donated by Pro Canoe), gift certificates by Overton's, a Greenville, NC sporting

goods store, gift certificates from Colony Tire, life jackets and paddles.

Food will be supplied by Nixon's Family Restaurant, Creekside Restaurant, the local Kiwanis Club, and Boy Scout Troop 164.

On Sunday, participants will travel to Bennett's Millpond at Valhalla for a recreational day. Canoeing, kayaking, bird-watching and educational programs will all take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the millpond, said Bogus. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be available on Sunday.

All in all, Bogus is pleased with the cooperation he has already received.

With tourism now firmly in place as the state's second-leading industry, Bogus feels that eco-tourists - those individuals who travel to natural areas to understand the cultural and natural history of the environment - will find plenty to do in the Albemarle. State tourism officials have predicted that eco-tourism and heritage tourism will increase by 30 percent annually in the coming years.

In the future, Bogus wants to see the festival expand. Next year, plans are to include a nationally-known band, a 10k run, a bicycle race, and perhaps have local sailing enthusiasts unfurl their sails for additional boating races.

Bogus also said that festival-goers can view a poem written by Chowan Middle School students at the waterfront. The near-continuous poem will be stretched along the railing at Colonial Park.

"We just want this to be a big party," he said. "It's really a way for us to show off the natural and cultural resources that Chowan County and Edenton have to offer."



**HOW MANY TICKETS WOULD YOU LIKE?**

Edenton Woman's Club member Nancy Winslow delivers tickets to Chowan Herald Publisher Pete Manning for the club's upcoming "Oysters at the Mill" fundraiser. The oyster roast will take place Saturday, Nov. 14, at 5 p.m. In addition to oysters, fried chicken will also be available. A week at a lovely beach house in Duck, NC is also being raffled. Chances are \$5 each or three for \$10. Tickets for the oyster roast are \$20 each. To purchase roast or raffle tickets, call 482-2512. (Staff photo by Rebecca Bunch)

# Moore

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Edenton Cotton Mill. Special guests will include John G. Zehmer, executive director, Historic Richmond Foundation, Richmond, VA; and speakers Catherine W. Bishir and J. Myrick Howard.

Bishir is the author of the award-winning North Carolina

Architecture and the recently published A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Eastern North Carolina, and architectural survey coordinator for the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. Her topic will be "Historic Architecture of Edenton and the Region."

Howard is executive director of Preservation North Carolina. He will speak concerning "Edenton: A Center for Preser-

vation Studies?"

Following the program a portrait of Elizabeth Vann Moore will be unveiled.

Then, the celebration moves to the Barker House on the Edenton waterfront, where a tea will be held starting at 4 p.m.

For more information or to make your reservations to attend, call PNC office at (482-7455).

# Survey

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the property on "B" Lane.

"From what I understand, this guy (Looney) said, 'This looks like a good spot for a Wal-Mart store,'" Griffin said.

When word of Looney's desire to bring a Wal-Mart to Edenton spread through the town last summer, most of those willing to publicly voice an opinion said they opposed the move. Griffin said an associate of Looney's claimed that the developer was not willing to build where he was not welcome.

"I do know that these people are not interested in coming here with the way things are now," said Griffin, noting that Looney's option to buy the property expired last month.

The Edenton native said he decided to publish the survey because he felt the public had not had the opportunity to have a full say in the matter.

"I certainly wouldn't want to do anything to hurt Edenton's downtown business district," said Griffin. But Griffin, who is still compiling the final vote tally of his survey, said those in favor of a new shopping center indicated there was a need in Edenton for increased business hours and more competitive prices.

Griffin estimated that 75 to 80 percent of the more than 250 responses were in favor of a big-box retail store coming to Edenton. The survey ran for four weeks in the newspaper.

Those in favor of a new shopping center said lower prices and extended business hours are needed in Edenton. Those against a new shopping center said that the town already has two shopping centers, neither of which is thriving.

"A lot of people feel they (vacant spaces) should be filled up before other ventures take place," said Griffin.

The majority of those opposing the idea did not sign their names to survey responses, said Griffin, adding that favorable responses were, for the most part, signed.

Griffin said he was surprised to receive responses from area towns such as Roper, Creswell, Columbia and Hertford. Those responses were also strongly in favor of having a new shopping center built in Edenton, he said.

His bid to have the land rezoned is currently stalled while town officials sort through recommendations from an urban design firm regarding Edenton's Land Use Plan and zoning

map. While officials strive to create a more comprehensive zoning policy, all rezoning requests have been put on hold until the new policy is approved by the Town Council. But Griffin vowed to stay with the process until the town council ren-

ders a final verdict on his application.

"Hopefully it will be beneficial to everybody," Griffin said of the new zoning ordinances, "and not put too many restraints on developers and land owners."

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## Oysters at the Mill

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## Preservation North Carolina

*invites the public to a special program honoring*

**Elizabeth Vann Moore**  
of Edenton

*for her commitment and achievements in historic preservation.*

**2:00 o'clock p.m. Friday November 20th**  
**Edenton Cotton Mill**

Catherine Bishir, author of *North Carolina Architecture* and *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Eastern North Carolina*, will speak on "Historic Architecture of Edenton and the Region". Mrs. Bishir will be introduced by John G. Zehmer, Executive Director of the Historic Richmond Foundation.

*Please call 482-7455 to reserve a seat for this special program!*

