



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 24, 2020

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### FESTIVAL COMMITTEE RECOGNIZES NANCY SPHAR

SOUTHPORT-OAK ISLAND AREA, N.C. – On February 19, the 2020 North Carolina Fourth of July Festival Committee kicked off its first meeting with a very special award ceremony recognizing Mrs. Nancy Sphar for her 20+ years of dedicated service volunteering as the Arts and Crafts Chair.

“In my opinion, the Arts and Crafts Chair is one of the most important positions in the festival committee”, said Mary Ellen Poole, Secretary of the Fourth of July Festival Committee. “As the chairperson, each year Nancy received and processed hundreds of applications, reviewing each of them and approving those that meet the festival’s requirements including details such as wares being handmade, crafters insurance, etc.”.

If that’s not all, for over 20 years, Nancy was responsible for drawing up where the many arts and crafts booths are placed and directed the marking of the grounds for each booth and made sure each craft vendor received all information about requirements, times, where to park, etc. During each year’s festival, Nancy was the main point of contact for all crafting vendors during the festival.

Now in its 225<sup>th</sup> year, the 2020 festival will feature a firefighter’s competition, nightly live entertainment, children’s games, arts and crafts, a naturalization ceremony, parade and great food. Additionally, Oak Island, N.C. will host Beach Day which will feature a corn hole tournament, sand sculpture contest, bocce ball, volleyball and skate competitions, shag dance contest, and an evening concert featuring a live band and dancing.

The festival starts June 26 and ends July 4, with a huge fireworks display overlooking the Cape Fear River on the Southport waterfront. The Southport Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce serves as the administrative organization for the festival.

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[Click here](#) to watch a promotional video for the official North Carolina Fourth of July Festival sponsorship opportunities.