

Oyster Fest artwork unveiled

The Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce unveiled the 2004 North Carolina Oyster Festival artwork July 22, 2004 at Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash.

Local artist Deborah Cavanaugh created the artwork featuring scenes from the festival.

Her familiar use of bright colors and playful themes displays the atmosphere of the festival perfectly, chamber officials said.

Cavanaugh is a self-taught artist who began painting on Mother's Day in 1992 after her children gave her a box of watercolors, chamber officials said.

What started out as a hobby to make her children smile has turned into a full time venture.

Today, she is a well-versed artist who has enjoyed much

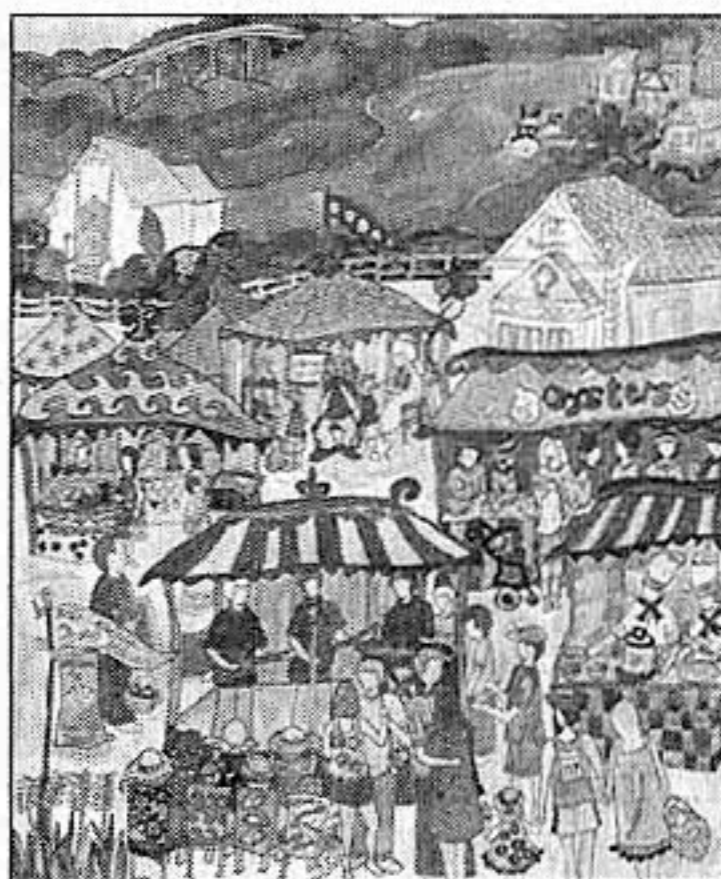


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Deborah Cavanaugh's print captures the Oyster Festival 'exactly as it is—a fun, fun festival,' says chamber board chair Janet Sanders.

success out of her "fun" hobby. She has had over 50 shows and her work has been displayed in galleries from Maine to Florida.

When asked about the N.C. Oyster Festival artwork she

said, "It is a rare privilege to be asked to create a memory of an event and a place that so many love."

Janet Sanders, board chair for the chamber, has been part of the planning committee for the Oyster Festival for four years, during which time she has seen several versions of artwork for the festival.

Having been an admirer of Cavanaugh's work for years, she said, "Deborah Cavanaugh has captured the Oyster Festival exactly as it is—a fun, fun festival."

Prints of the artwork may be purchased at the chamber or Collectors Corner, both on Main street in Shallotte; Sunset River Marketplace or at the N.C. Oyster Festival, which will be held on Oct. 16-17 on Ocean Isle Beach.

For more information, call the chamber at 754-6644.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOMMY KOPETSKIE

Artist Deborah Cavanaugh unveils the 2004 North Carolina Oyster Festival artwork at Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash last Wednesday afternoon. 'In the print, I wanted to portray a place where we come to have fun and enjoy ourselves,' Cavanaugh said. 'I wanted the piece to say why we have come to love this place and this festival.'