



ELIZABETH CITY AREA CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Spring Events Are Fresh for the Picking in Elizabeth City, N.C. *Mark your travel calendar for the Downtown Waterfront Market, N.C. Potato Festival and More!*

(Elizabeth City, N.C., March 23, 2010) – Whether it’s a celebration of the locally-grown potatoes farmed in abundance, the arrival of fresh asparagus and early peas at the outdoor market or the chance to sip and savor wines crafted from grapes grown on a family farm, Elizabeth City has a great line-up of spring events that are yours for the picking! Mark your calendar now for any of these fresh, home-grown festivals and happenings.

April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2

Wine Down in the Country – Monthly Tastings at Weeksville Vineyards

Taste red and white wines from featured countries the first Friday of each month at Weeksville Vineyards. Tasting tickets are \$25 per couple and include a souvenir glass and light fare. For reservations and a schedule call (252) 330-2622 or visit www.WeeksvilleVineyards.com

April 17, May 22, National Pull June 4 – 5

Morgan’s Corner Truck and Tractor Pull

Drawing hundreds of spectators to Morgan’s Corner, these exciting truck and tractor pull events feature showroom stock 4x4s, antique tractors, national trucks and more. Held monthly. Gates open at 5 p.m., and the pulls start at 7 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults,

half-price with military ID and free for kids 12 and under. Call (252) 331-3466 or go to www.mcttp.com for the complete spring and summer schedule.

April 23, 24, 30; May 1, 7, 8

Encore Theatre Company Presents “Harvey”

When your best friend is a pooka named Harvey, in the form of a six-foot tall rabbit, you should think about your safety! Elizabeth City’s resident theatre company presents this comedy on the Maguire Theatre stage at The Center. Show time is at 8 p.m.; admission is \$15. Call (252) 338-3382 or (252) 338-6455. www.encoretheatre.org

April 24

17th Annual Tarwheel Century Bicycle Ride

More than 250 cyclists will convene in Elizabeth City for this annual bicycle ride (33- 62- and 100-mile routes) through the scenic countryside of Pasquotank and neighboring counties. For ride information visit www.rivercitycyclingclub.com

May 1 (opening day) – October

Downtown Waterfront Market

Saturday is market day in Elizabeth City! Choose from home-grown fruits, vegetables, herbs, dairy products, baked goods, plants and flowers, handcrafted wares and organic foods. Bringing together local farmers from northeastern North Carolina, the market is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the green at Mariners’ Wharf Park. Go to www.DowntownWaterfrontMarket.com for the weekly market schedule.

May 15

North Carolina Potato Festival

Whether you like your potatoes mashed, scalloped, hash browned or fried, there will be a spud for every taste—and fun for every age—when the North Carolina Potato Festival opens May 15 along the downtown waterfront. A tribute to the region’s potato farmers, the day-long event features the National Potato Peeling Contest, “Anything But Fries” restaurant challenge, potato sack races and the crowning of the Little Miss Tater Tot Queen. Shop and dine among nearly 60 food, arts and crafts vendors lining the Main Street thoroughfare, and enjoy live music on the festival’s main stage. Call (252) 338-4104 or visit www.ncpotatofestival.com

June – July

Mariners' Wharf Film Festival

With the Pasquotank River as backdrop, enjoy classic American films on a large outdoor screen. The Mariners' Wharf Film Festival presents films Tuesday nights beginning June 1 through July 27. Bring a blanket or low beach chair and enjoy a free flick! 8:30 p.m. Call (252) 338-6389 or visit www.marinerswharffilmfestival.com for a schedule.

June 4 – 5

Bluegrass Festival at North River Campground

Enjoy two days of great bluegrass music featuring performances by Bluegrass America, Strings Attached, Tidewater Bluegrass, Sunnyside and more. From 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Call (252) 336-4414 or visit www.northrivercampground.com

June 5 – 6

International Cup Regatta

Powerboat excitement comes to the Elizabeth City waterfront, June 5-6, when the International Cup Regatta features two days of music, food, family fun and speed on the Pasquotank River! See nationally-ranked powerboat competitors race at speeds in excess of 170 mph. Concessions and children's play area available. For race info, go to www.carolinacupregatta.com. Admission for spectators is free.

Elizabeth City

Elizabeth City is located in Northeastern North Carolina on the Intracoastal Waterway, halfway between Virginia Beach and the Outer Banks. Known as the "Harbor of Hospitality®," the city has six National Register Historic Districts and is home to the Museum of the Albemarle, The Center at Arts of the Albemarle, Elizabeth City State University Planetarium, Port Discover Hands-on Science Center and the nation's largest U.S. Coast Guard base. Nature-based travelers are drawn to the area's proximity to the Dismal Swamp and the abundance of outdoor recreational offerings. For additional information, call Elizabeth City Area Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1-866-ECity-4U (1-866-324-8948) or (252) 335-5330 or visit www.DiscoverElizabethCity.com

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