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The Quack is Back ... Virtually

WILMINGTON, NC – The quack is back as a Cape Fear area tradition returns for a virtual event. The 6th Annual Coastal Duck Derby will be held virtually on Friday, August 27th at 6 p.m. via Facebook Live on Coastal Horizons' Facebook page when the winners of the virtual duck race will be announced.

In a non-pandemic year, 20,000 yellow rubber ducks race down the water slide at Jungle Rapids Water Park and into the lazy river. The ducks that cross the finish line first win the people who adopted them some amazing prizes. The event raises between \$85,000 and \$100,000 to help fund the Crisis Intervention Services provided by Coastal Horizons.

"The community loves our annual Duck Derby and the great odds of winning a prize. We had hoped to conduct it in person this year. However, the Delta variant is proving to be incredibly contagious and putting too great a strain on our healthcare system, so we are announcing today it is in the best interest of all our volunteers, staff, and participants to hold Duck Derby virtually for 2021. The fact this event draws a tremendous number of children, many of whom aren't yet eligible for the vaccine, weighed heavily in our decision. We must all do what we can to prevent hospitalizations and save lives," said Coastal Horizons' President and CEO, Margaret Weller-Stargell.

"We can hardly wait until we get to host Duck Derby again with spectators present and hope the community will keep in mind why duck adoptions are so important. Funds raised from this event support our Crisis Intervention Services, which include our Rape Crisis Centers, Open House Youth Shelter, and Open House Transitional Living Program. If you adopt a duck, you really can change a life," remarked Ms. Weller-Stargell.

Duck adoptions may be made at www.coastalduckderby.com for \$5 per duck. The winner of the 6th Annual Coastal Duck Derby will receive a trip for four(4) to Disney World that includes roundtrip air, five days/four nights' accommodations at either the Disney Animal Kingdom or Wilderness Lodges, 3-day Park Hopper passes for four, and a \$400 Disney gift card. Travel is valid through December 31, 2022. Second prize is a Blockade Runner Beach Resort Holiday Getaway that includes tickets to Enchanted Airlie, and third prize is a getaway in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains in picturesque Meadows of Dan, Virginia.

The 6th Annual Coastal Duck Derby is sponsored by Jungle Rapids; American Coastal Development; The Hopkins-Dunn Group; JNC Partners; RE/MAX Executive; Steph the Banker; NHRMC; Jack Winterton; Corning Credit Union; Century 21 Sweyer and Associates; Lamar Advertising Company; Adams Southeastern Construction; Blockade Runner Beach Resort; Leigh Saunders, The Original Jeep Ducking Realtor; Kristin Gardner McGurrian; Meadows of Dan Campground & Cabins; WECT; Badger Box Mobile Storage; Greater Wilmington Impact Club; Nancy Scott-Finan; Sterling and Laura Swaim; DC Family Tree Chiropractic; Summerfield Custom Wellness, The Blue Ribbon Run; and Techniques in Motion School of Dance.

Coastal Horizons is the largest private non-profit human service organization in the region. Coastal Horizons Center provides a continuum of professional services to promote healthier lives, stronger families, and safer communities. These include substance use, mental health, crisis intervention, family preservation, school-based health, primary care, justice, and veteran services.

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