

**United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chesapeake Marshlands NWR Complex
BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Candy Rabbitt Performs at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge's Eagle Festival

Candy Lyn Rabbitt will sing and play at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge's 8th Eagle Festival and 75th Birthday celebration. Candy will be in the Visitor Center from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Candy is an accomplished and versatile artist. She is a composer, songwriter, lead vocalist, guitarist and founder of the popular Bluegrass/Gospel group, Chesapeake Wind. Candy also teaches and acts as personal coach and trainer for those interested in the entertainment industry.

She has written a number of songs about the Chesapeake Bay area, as well as songs about life in American both past and present. She has received international acclaim for her 2006 release, "Ghost of a Rebel Soldier", for which she was recognized by the Southern Heritage Music Awards as Female Artist of the Year, Songwriter of the Year, Up and Coming Artist of the Year and Single Release of the Year. Candy also received special recognition from Mayer C. Ray Nagin and the City of New Orleans for her 2004 release "Love Song for New Orleans", which was written for the Katrina relief effort.

Candy has been entertaining since age 6 and has delighted audiences throughout the United States. She has worked with some of the biggest names in the Classic Country and Bluegrass industry. Originally from South West Florida, Candy is retired from radio and television broadcasting and now makes performing, teaching and ministry her full time occupation bringing entertainment to nursing and long term care facilities, church or association meetings, and to local festivals and events, like Blackwater's Eagle Festival. Candy will bring some of her local compositions to the morning visitors at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.