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Crystal Hilliard



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Jennifer Ringwald

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Dear Neighbors,

As the chill of February fades and whispers of spring dance on the breeze, we find ourselves on the cusp of March – a month brimming with significance for our community. Witness the coastal landscape awaken, adorned with blossoming wildflowers and the invigorating calls of returning birds. Explore our vibrant parks, beaches, and trails, feeling the sunshine warm your face and the sand between your toes.



As you peruse the pages of our March issue, make sure to take a moment and get to know The Chau Family, a local family who has found a beautiful balance of community, family, business and culture. Their story and desire to give back is a beautiful testament to the amazing individuals who make up our community.



This month marks a vital moment to recognize the extraordinary contributions of women throughout history and in our present lives. Check out our list of 12 of the most notable female Virginians throughout history.

As we move towards that first taste of spring, the team at *Great Bridge Living* implores you to get out and enjoy the rich diversity and variety of activities our area has to offer, check out our Calendar of Events for ideas and more.

We also hope you'll remember the backbone of our community – our local businesses. From artisanal shops and family-run restaurants to our reliable and hospitable service providers, these businesses give Great Bridge its distinct character and charm.

This month, we have three incredible new sponsors joining our team. Please help us welcome Chesapeake Regional Medical Center, Casual Home Furniture and Emerlin Custom Storage Sheds & Outdoor Buildings to *Great Bridge Living*. As members of this community, we know first hand how important it is to support these businesses and the passionate individuals behind them who breathe life into our community.

Finally, we are excited to recognize and celebrate our 2024 high school and college grads! If you have a senior you'd like to see featured, please send a non-professional photo with their name, school, honors, and degree where applicable to: annablake@bestversionmedia.com

Let's make March a month of celebration, appreciation, and community engagement. Together, we can honor the past, support the present, and embrace the future as we ensure that our coastal haven continues to thrive and inspire. Let's embrace the vibrancy of this season with open hearts and engaged minds.

Cheers,

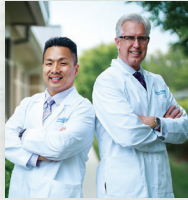
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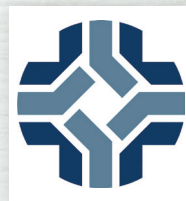
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Nonprofit Feature:

Great Bridge Fisherman's Association

BY ANNA BLAKE



GBFA is currently operating under the leadership of club president Butch Pierce. Pierce is passionate about the sport as well as the organization and its impact on the residents of Hampton Roads.

“Our club, located in Great Bridge, is over 25 years old and we currently have 152 members,” Pierce said of the organization. “The club provides many events and benefits throughout the year for residents of Chesapeake and the surrounding cities. Just this past year we bestowed 13 scholarships to high school seniors to help in continuing their education.”

Did you know that Chesapeake is home to the largest one-day fishing flea market on the East Coast? The Great Bridge Fisherman's Association has put on their Fishing Flea Market event for over 15 years. This year's event, to take place on Saturday, March 2nd, is set to be the most impressive yet with over 140 vendors selling fishing items, accessories, and accouterments and a welcoming, friendly atmosphere attendees can enjoy as they browse.

The club also sponsors various charitable events and fishing tournaments each year including Wish-a-Fish and inshore party boat fishing for senior and disabled residents of the Hampton Roads area.

According to the association's website, The Great Bridge Fisherman's Association (GBFA) is a family oriented organization working to introduce new anglers to recreational fishing while promoting the conservation of local resources. GBFA's members practice a diverse range of recreational fishing including freshwater to saltwater, surf to pier, and inshore to offshore fishing.

The club's meetings, which occur monthly, offer members the opportunity to learn from knowledgeable speakers who present on various local fishing topics. Membership is open to anyone with a passion for fishing, and they have members hailing from North Carolina all the way to Maryland and West Virginia. Members enjoy many perks, but the most notable is friendship and a common love of the sport.

To learn more about GBFA, its events, scholarship opportunities, and membership please visit FishGBFA.org. ■

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Virginia's Most Notable Women



BY ANNA BLAKE

In celebration of Women's History Month, the team at *Great Bridge Living* is thrilled to shine a light on some of Virginia's most influential, recognizable, and beloved women throughout history.

SANDRA BULLOCK: ARLINGTON

Bullock is a versatile actress and producer who has charmed audiences for decades. She began her career on stage before transitioning to film, where she rose to prominence in action comedies like "Speed" and "While You Were Sleeping". Throughout her career, she has showcased her range in dramedies like "Miss Congeniality" and "The Proposal," as well as acclaimed dramas like "The Blind Side," for which she won an Academy Award for Best Actress.

PATSY CLINE: WINCHESTER

Patsy, a country music legend whose career tragically ended too soon, dazzled audiences with her soulful voice and heartfelt songs like "Crazy" and "Walkin' After Midnight". A pioneer in bridging the gap between country and pop, she remains an iconic figure, influencing generations of singers and leaving an indelible mark on music history.

KATIE COURIC: ARLINGTON

Couric, a pioneering journalist, shattered glass ceilings as the first solo female anchor of a network evening newscast. Beyond breaking barriers, she's captivated audiences for decades with her sharp wit, insightful interviewing and dedication to health advocacy, leaving a lasting mark on American media.

SHEILA CRUMP JOHNSON: LOUDOUN COUNTY

Sheila is a multi-faceted businesswoman, she co-founded Black Entertainment Television (BET) and became the first billionaire African-American woman. Now, she leads Salamander Hotels and Resorts, champions the Washington Mystics WNBA team and remains a philanthropist, particularly towards veterans and the arts.

MISSY ELLIOT: PORTSMOUTH

Elliot is a groundbreaking rapper, singer, songwriter, and producer who shattered boundaries in hip-hop. Starting with her 1997 debut "Supa Dupa Fly," her innovative beats, infectious hooks and futuristic music videos like "Get Ur Freak On" and "Work It" redefined the genre and made her a global icon. With Grammy wins, countless hits and collaborations with Beyonce, Katy Perry, and more, Elliott's influence on music and pop culture continues to inspire generations.

ELLA FITZGERALD: NEWPORT NEWS

Known as the "First Lady of Song," Ella captivated audiences with her unparalleled vocal range, improvisational "scat" singing, and timeless elegance. From gracing the Apollo stage to collaborating with jazz legends, she dominated the scene for over six decades, earning 13 Grammy Awards and leaving an indelible mark on music history.

MARY JACKSON: HAMPTON

Jackson is a trailblazer in both race and gender. She shattered NASA's glass ceiling in 1958 by becoming its first Black female engineer. Beyond calculations and wind tunnel tests, she championed equal opportunities, paving the way for future generations of women and minorities in STEM fields. Her inspiring story, captured in "Hidden Figures," continues to empower and inspire.

KATHERINE JOHNSON: HAMPTON

Cementing her place as a brilliant mathematician, Johnson defied segregation and gender barriers to become a star at NASA. Her meticulous calculations helped launch Alan Shepard into space and guided the Apollo 11 astronauts to the moon, proving the power of a mind fueled by passion and unwavering determination.

SHIRLEY MACLAINE: RICHMOND

MacLaine is a Hollywood iconoclast who carved a path with captivating performances in “The Apartment” and “Terms of Endearment,” earning an Oscar for her acclaimed performance. Beyond the screen, she has delved into mysticism and activism, becoming a symbol of free-spirited individuality and intellectual curiosity.

HAZEL O’LEARY: NEWPORT NEWS

O’Leary, a history-maker twice over, shattered glass ceilings by becoming both the first woman and first African American U.S. Secretary of Energy under President Clinton. A champion of environmentalism, she steered the department towards renewable energy and plutonium cleanup.

GEORGEANNA SEEGAR JONES: NORFOLK

Dr. Georganna Seegar Jones is a pioneer in reproductive

endocrinology who paved the way for countless families. From her early research on pregnancy hormones to co-leading America’s first successful in vitro fertilization, her dedication transformed the field and empowered women. A respected mentor and leader, she served as the first female president of the American Fertility Society, leaving a lasting legacy on medicine and society.

WANDA SYKES: PORTSMOUTH

Sykes is a powerhouse comedian and actress who rose to fame writing for “The Chris Rock Show,” winning an Emmy in 1999. With a sharp wit and social commentary, she’s slayed stand-up stages, made guest appearances in numerous sitcoms and movies and voiced a multitude of characters; all while advocating for LGBTQ+ rights and earning laughs wherever she goes. ■



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MEET THE CHAU FAMILY:

Weaving a Vibrant Tapestry of Cultural Heritage, Hard Work and Community.



Nestled in the heart of Chesapeake, the Chau family embodies the richness of cultural heritage, unwavering dedication, and a deep sense of community. Led by Thai Chau, a veteran, entrepreneur, and cybersecurity expert, the Chaus weave a tapestry of Vietnamese traditions, American values, and a passionate commitment to family.

“We are passionate about our Vietnamese culture, but we are also very patriotic. We love our community and love helping others, especially our older vets,” Thai said. “We remember where we came from (Vietnam) and we appreciate where we are (America). We always treat others the way we want to be treated and teach our kids how to work hard and respect others.”

The Chaus’s story begins with a spark of love at a family wedding in Tampa, Florida. Thai met Tina Tran, his future wife, and their journey together blossomed into a marriage

of over two decades. Their two children, Kyle and Kitty, later came along and blessed their union, each carving their own paths in life. Every year, the Chaus return to Florida, reconnecting with family and enjoying the vibrant energy of their old stomping grounds.

Thai’s background is a testament to his hard work and dedication. A graduate with a bachelor’s degree and pursuing a Master’s in cybersecurity, his career spans from serving in the Navy to cybersecurity roles at prominent institutions like Stanford Children’s Hospital. Now, he runs his own pressure washing company, Atlantic Softwash, using its success to serve veterans in a unique way.

Tina, equally driven, brings her business acumen to L.A. Nails, where she works as a nail tech. Over her decade-long employment there she has built a loyal and steadfast clientele. ▶





But the Chau's story transcends their personal pursuits. Their cultural roots hold immense significance and their love of both their cultural heritage and their patriotism translates into respect for others, which Thai and Tina have worked hard to instill in their children. Kyle, an honor student with a passion for culinary arts, attends Grassfield High School, and Kitty, a successful dental hygienist in Florida.

For the Chau family, their business, Atlantic Softwash, has become a powerful tool for expressing their gratitude.

"My company, Atlantic Softwash does help the older veteran community out. We service older, disabled Veterans homes and we do it for free," Thai shared with pride. "We love our men and women who have served and given part of their life to the country. We try to perform these services at least once every month at absolutely no cost to them. It's just our way of saying thank you and we care about you."

By offering free pressure washing services to older, disabled veterans, the Chau family bridges the gap between their

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cultural values and service to the community they now call home. This act of selfless giving echoes Thai's own military service, a tribute to those who sacrificed for their country.

Community forms another vital thread in the Chau tapestry. In their neighborhood, Forest Lakes, where they've found a haven of safety, community, and friendly neighbors. While work keeps them busy, knowing they can return home to a loving community is a comfort for each member of their family.

"We love our neighborhood," Thai shared. "Everyone is very friendly and looks out for one another. The kids are always out and about when they are home from school. It is a great place to raise kids. Our neighbors take pride in where they live and we do too."

The Chaus are a living testament to the power of cultural identity, family bonds, and service. Their story inspires us to remember our roots, appreciate our communities, and extend kindness to those around us, creating a stronger and more vibrant life and community, together.

"Love one another and be kind to each other," Thai said. "We all come from different backgrounds and have differences but we also have similarities as well. Let's not let the differences separate us, but rather, bring us together so that we may learn from each other." ■

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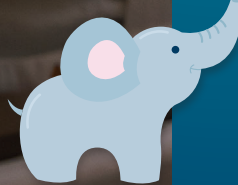
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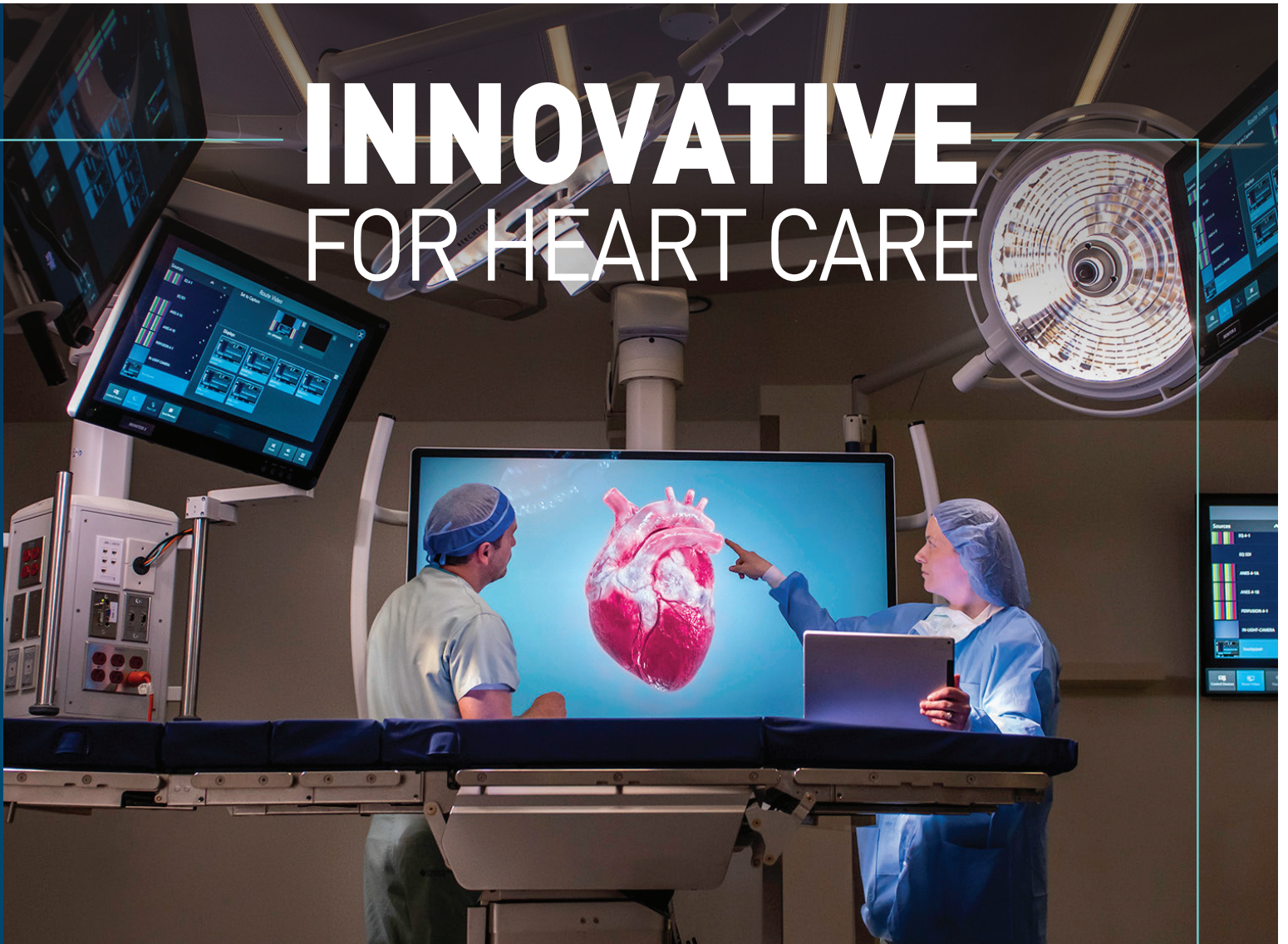


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MEET CHELSEA BENNETT

BY ANNA BLAKE



“Being Dual Military parents we choose for me to separate and be the consistent parent.”

Fast forward to 2022, Chelsea and her husband started Leave A Mark llc, woodworking and laser engraving.

“I get to enjoy making my art and working on commissioned pieces and drive my husband nuts with project ideas. And when retirement comes for my husband *fingers crossed* in the next couple years, he will be able to work with me in the shop full time.” ■



Chelsea Bennett is a United States Navy Veteran who joined the Navy fresh out of high school and waited in DEP until her Active Duty date of Feb 14th, 2006 which concluded Feb 2013. She checked into her first command “The Good ‘ol CVN 75 Harry S Truman” in July, 2006. Before deployment, she switched ships and went to DDG 81 Winston Churchill.

During her time on the Churchill she not only had duties in her rate but she was also part of the Flying Squad and was DC Central Phone talker. Out of all the ports they hit that deployment, Jordan was her favorite, as an E4 overnight liberty wasn’t approved unless with an MWR visit so she went on the safari MWR trip.

Bennett’s 3rd command was CMAA (Command Master At Arms) Restriction Barracks on NOB. She was there during her pregnancies. In 2011 they had their son and she had to decide to reenlist or separate.



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813 Gloss Street	Fentress Gardens	4	2	0	1700	399,000	
1629 Whittamore Rd.	Hickory	4	2	1	1792	425,900	
333 Old Drive	Wilson Heights	4	2	1	2182	477,500	
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844 Taft Rd.	Hickory	4	3	1	3700	750,000	
501 Long Point	Cedar Lakes	2	2	0	1550		289,000
109 Glovers Ct	Castlewood Terrace	3	3	0	2950		385,000
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COASTAL DRYER VENT AND CHIMNEY CLEANING:

Keeping Families Safe, One Chimney and Dryer Vent at a Time

BY ANNA BLAKE



For over a decade, Jarrett Hagwood, a dedicated firefighter and family man, has witnessed the dangers lurking within unmaintained chimneys and dryer vents. Driven by a passion for fire safety and honesty, he founded Coastal Dryer Vent and Chimney Cleaning, a company built on integrity and a commitment to keeping families safe.

The company offers comprehensive services in Hampton Roads, North Carolina and the Outer Banks, catering to both residential and commercial clients. From inspections and cleanings to repairs and installations, their team tackles it all. But what truly sets them apart is their unwavering commitment to transparency.

“I won’t recommend unnecessary work,” Jarrett said. “Preying on people’s lack of knowledge goes against everything I stand for.”

This honesty shines through in every interaction, ensuring customers receive the services they truly need. At the heart of Coastal Dryer Vent and Chimney Cleaning lies a deep-seated desire to prevent tragedies.

“A lot of people don’t realize the dangers of uncleaned vents and chimneys,” he explained. “Yearly cleanings and inspections can prevent devastating fires.”

This mission to educate and protect resonates with every member of the team, who shares his dedication to safety.

Beyond his entrepreneurial venture, Jarrett cherishes his role as a husband and father. His wife, Kelsey, has been his rock, supporting him throughout his journey. Together, they’ve built a beautiful life for their three children, Jayce, Hadley, and Everly. Providing for his family and enabling Kelsey to stay home fuels his drive to succeed.

The blend of experience and passion is evident in Coastal Dryer Vent and Chimney Cleaning’s success. Jarrett’s 11 years as a Norfolk firefighter has equipped him with invaluable expertise, while his service as a Captain in the Virginia Army National Guard instills leadership and

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So, if you're looking for a company that prioritizes your safety and well-being, look no further than Coastal Dryer Vent and Chimney Cleaning. With their commitment to honesty, expertise, and family values, you can trust them to keep your home safe and your loved ones protected. Remember, prevention is key, and a clean chimney or dryer vent could be the difference between a cozy evening and a devastating fire. ■

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March calendar of Events

**Tues. Feb 9 through
Sun. May 5**

**The Pigeon Comes to
Portsmouth:**

A Mo Willems Exhibit

**@The Children's Museum
of Virginia**

Enter the whimsical world of picture book author and artist Mo Willems. Characters from his beloved, award winning books come to life. Children are invited to: Make art inspired by Mo Willems, put on a wearable bus and take a drive around the exhibit, make Elephant and Piggie dance with old-time animation

Time: Wed. through Sun.

9am to 4pm

**Cost: Included with regular
museum admission, must be
purchased in advanced**

Fri. March 1

**First Day of Women's History
Month**

Sat. March 2

**Great Bridge Fisherman's
Association's 16th Annual
Fishing Flea Market**

@Virginia Beach Field House

The largest Fishing Flea Market in the area, hosted by Great Bridge Fisherman's Association. Over 3,000 customers attend this event annually. A great event for shoppers looking for a good deal

on fishing equipment as well as an opportunity to meet local fishing mates, get ideas, join clubs, learn the area, meet local organizations, and meet local marine authorities.

Time: 8am to 2:30pm

**Cost: \$5 admission
(children 12 and under
are free)**

**Fishgbfa.org/events/
gbfa-annual-fishing-flea-
market-2024**



Thank you to The Agency Chesapeake for sponsoring the calendar of events.

Feelin' Lucky Great Bridge?



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Thurs. February 29 to Sun. March 3

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival @Hampton Roads Convention Center

Join us as we celebrate the 35th annual Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival, the largest quilt festival on the eastern seaboard. The Merchants Mall will feature everything for quilt, fiber, wearable & textile artists, and home sewers. In addition, MAQF will present the finest collection of quilt, garment, and fiber art exhibitions including quilt and wearable art prize money competitions. Rounding out the event will be workshops and lectures presented by leading instructors along with demonstrations throughout the Merchants Mall.

Time: Thursday through Saturday

10am to 5pm

Sunday 10am to 4pm

Cost: \$18 daily,

\$15 on Sunday

(children 15 and under are free)

Quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/mid-atlantic-quilt-festival

Sun. March 3

Norfolk Flea Market @Waterside District

Norfolk's thriving community of vintage enthusiasts, crafters, artists, and families are set to celebrate the launch of the Norfolk Flea Market, an exciting monthly event slated to take place every first Sunday starting in March.

This curated market promises a dynamic fusion of curated vintage finds, artistic creations, and antique treasures brought together by 100 or more passionate vendors. The Norfolk Flea Market will transform Waterside District into a haven for aficionados of oddities, curiosities, and all things unique.

Time: 10am to 5pm

Cost: Free

Norfolkfleamarket.com

Thurs. March 7

Chesapeake Planetarium Presents, "When a Dragon Eats the Sun"

@Chesapeake Planetarium

On October 14th the Sun will appear to be eaten by a Dragon... Explore this event recurring weekly on Thursday. Due to limited seating, reservations are necessary and may be made by telephoning Chesapeake Public Schools between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM weekdays at (757) 547-0153. Reservations will cancel if arriving later than 7:50 PM. Programs start promptly at 8:00 PM and late arrivals are not allowed to enter the dark theater.

Time: 8pm

Cost: Free with reservation

Visitchesapeake.com/event/chesapeake-planetarium-presents-when-a-dragon-eats-the-sun/9856

Fri. March 8 and Saturday March 9

Matilda JR

@Sandler Center for the Performing Arts

Rebellion is high in Matilda JR., a gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination! This story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have audiences rooting for the "revolting children" who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson. Packed with high-energy dance numbers and catchy songs, Matilda JR. is a joyous girl power romp. Children and adults alike will be thrilled and delighted by the story of the special little girl with an extraordinary imagination.

Time: Friday 7pm

Saturday 2pm and 7pm

Cost: \$25

Hurrahplayers.com/upcoming-shows





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Sat. March 9

7th Annual HHS PTSA Spring Artisan Craft Show

@Hickory High School

The Hickory Spring Craft Fair is an annual event hosted by the PTSA. Over 100 artisan vendors will showcase their unique and handmade goods for sale.

Time: 9am to 3pm

Cost: Free

[Facebook.com/events/s/hickory-high-school-ptsas-7th-/894251208837760](https://www.facebook.com/events/s/hickory-high-school-ptsas-7th-/894251208837760)

Sun. March 10

Daylight Saving Time Spring Forward

Sat. March 16 and Sat. March 23

Chesapeake EGGspedition

@Chesapeake City Park

Easter Bunny and Chessie will be busy along the Chesapeake Bunny Trail! Watch for the Big Event Announcement Videos for Saturday, March 16 and March 23. Then grab your peeps and hop on over to your local participating Chesapeake Park for some fun and EGG-citement! Participating Parks for each of the two Saturdays will be posted early in the morning on that Saturday. One GOLDEN EGG will be hidden at each participating park. Find it and return it to the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Administrative Office/Visitor Center during normal operating hours, 1224 Progressive Drive, Chesapeake, VA to claim a prize pack full of toys and activities!.

Time: TBD

Cost: Free

Cityofchesapeake.net/751/EGGspedition

Sun. March 17

St. Patrick's Day



Fri. March 15 through Sun. March 17

Yuengling Shamrock Weekend

@Virginia Beach OceanFront

The 52nd running of the Yuengling Shamrock Marathon Weekend will take place in Virginia Beach, Virginia on March 15-17, 2024. This St. Paddy's Day tradition has a race distance for every goal: Marathon, Half Marathon, 8K, and challenges. No matter the distance, you'll experience the best of Coastal Virginia on our flat, fast, and scenic course before you cross the finish line overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. The party continues after the race at our post race celebration on the beach with Yuengling Beer and live music.

Cost: \$30 to \$145 dependent on event

Shamrockmarathon.com/#

Wed. March 20

Crafts & Conversations with Acclaim at Greenbrier

@The Art and Craft Room

Join us at The Art & Craft Room for an afternoon of creativity and connections. While you're here, we'd love to share our vision of senior living with you. Space is limited. RSVP to 804-315-0719.

Time: 1pm to 3pm

Cost: Free

Seniorlifestyle.com

Sat. March 23

Chesapeake Shrine Club Oyster Roast

@Khedive Shrine Center

Come join us for the 45th Annual Oyster Roast. ALL YOU CAN EAT raw oysters, roasted oysters, fried oysters, fish, clam strips, cole slaw, baked beans, hush puppies, and beverages. Entertainment by Hotcakes. For Advance Tickets email Joe Ramsey (tireman1954@yahoo.com) or buy at Khedive Shrine Center Monday 9 AM - 12 PM and Tuesday - Thursday 9 AM - 3 PM and All Chesapeake locations of Old Point National Bank.

Time: 1pm to 4pm

Cost: \$60.00 by March 10; \$70.00 at the gate

Khediveshrine.org/khedive-shrine-events

Sun. March 24

Spring Engagement Bridal Expo

@Chesapeake Conference Center

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and pastel color schemes as one of the most romantic times of the year. Find everything you need to plan your big day featuring a myriad of spectacular vendors at the Spring Engaged Bridal Expo. Bring pre-printed address labels to participating exhibitors on their entry forms to win exciting prizes. While supplies last, each attending engaged person will receive with each free swag bag: bridal magazine, lifetime warranty wedding bands by JVLJewelry.com or zbjewelers.com, and a \$200 value QR code for acrylic photo glass prints by symbolizeit.com.

Time: 1pm to 5pm

Cost: \$5 to \$10 in advanced, \$12 at the door

Showbride.com/expo-events/mar-24-2024-spring-engagement-bridal-expo

Thurs. March 28

**Chesapeake Sports Club
11th Annual Jamboree**

@Chesapeake Conference Center

Join the Chesapeake Sports Club as they welcome "Rocky" Bleier for the 11th Annual Jamboree. Rocky Bleier's story is a gripping tale of courage on both the football fields of America and the battlefields of Vietnam - has held audiences in rapt attention for years. Yet, the motivational message

behind it, detailing how ordinary people can become extraordinary achievers, defines success in the new American century. With the same optimism, sense of humor and steadfast determination that were his trademarks as a Pittsburgh Steelers running back, Rocky Bleier takes audiences from his early years through his professional career and talks about the lessons he learned along the way...lessons from which we can all benefit from. Event benefits Chesapeake student athletes.

Time: 7pm

Cost: \$100-\$110

ChesapeakeSportsClub.com



Sat. March 30

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

@Historic Greenbrier Farms
Join the fun for a children's Easter egg hunt (bring your own basket), visits with the Easter Bunny (bring your own camera), farm tour hayrides, coloring crafts, barnyard animals, bounce houses, farm games, visit with live bunnies, and DJ with Astro events!

Time: 9am to 4pm

Cost: \$20 for children of all ages (Please purchase one

ticket per child). All adults & guests will need to purchase tickets for \$5.

Historicgreenbrierfarms.com/easter-egg-hunt

Sat. April 6

A6th Annual Autism Superheroes vs. Villains 5K

@Dismal Swamp Canal Trail

The Autism Society Tidewater Virginia (ASTV) is hosting the 5th Annual Autism Superheroes vs. Villains 5K and Family Fun Day to provide funding for 20% of our annual operations. Proceeds from the event will directly benefit the Autism Society Tidewater Virginia, a grassroots local non-profit organization connecting families and individuals with Autism to the resources and support that they need when they need them.

Time: Check in 8:30 to 8:50am, 5K 9am to 12pm

Cost: \$40.00 through March 29th. \$50.00 until registration closes

Tidewaterasa.org

At the time this magazine went to print, all event details were accurate to the best of our knowledge, but please check event websites or call ahead for the most current information.



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Who's luckier, Blake or his adoptive family?

Blake Cletus is a three year old pomchi, mixed with a little jack russell and Australian shepherd. He was adopted on June 6, 2021 at the Chesapeake Animal Services Unit. I honestly had no idea what kind of dog I really wanted and didn't expect to sign any papers that same day. When I saw this adorable little guy, I immediately stopped and said to the lady "I want him." She asked me if I wanted to play with him first, of course I said yes, but I already knew he was the one. We bonded immediately, even letting me hold him! He loves his dad Tyler, but he is a momma's boy through and through. Blake is very energetic and full of life. The facial expressions will say it all. He never passes up a good snuggle and nap though. He absolutely loves the beach and the water. The lambchop plush (Lamby) is his favorite toy. He's my best friend and I wouldn't trade him for anything. I really am the luckiest dog mom ever.

SUBMITTED BY Cynthia Evans

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22 • MARCH 2024

GREAT BRIDGE Living



Daisy and Buster: The Perfect Pair

Meet Daisy, or as we call her Crazy Daisy, our fun personality Beagle mix, and Buster, our old man Boxer that loves a good nap. They love to go “bye bye” and snuggle with each other. She keeps him young and he keeps her in check.

SUBMITTED BY *Crystal Hilliard*



Great Bridge's Very Own Bluey

Bluey is a miniature Australian Shepherd that just turned one a few days ago. He's spent his entire first year in Great Bridge, going to the shops around town, adventures in our parks, boating on the river. He's an adventurous spirit full of puppy energy.

SUBMITTED BY *Ashlynn Walker*

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