

# The Sun

Virginia Beach

Local News & Leisure Magazine & Web Site

Vol. II, No. 15, April 10, 2014 - Citywide - Free

## Cover Story: Kayaking Your Cares Away!



It's Wet, Wild, Fast, Slow, Peaceful, Exciting, Scenic, Environmentally-Friendly And A Ton Of Fun In The Sun: Enjoy Ashley Hall's Outdoors Leisure Photo Feature On The Popular Water Sport Pastime Of Kayaking  
Please See Pages 4 and 5



Owned by Virginia Beach resident Charles White, "Lotus Elise" won a Top 25 award at the car show.

## 757iLLEST car club benefit show at St. Matthews School attracts 200

Thousands raised to benefit Catholic School's Parisian student trips

By Ashley Hall  
Correspondent

The sun's heat shimmies off of the pavement and chrome, as red hot engines roar, gray exhaust smoke fills the air and cool music sweeps through the packed parking lot.

Welcome to Saint Matthews Catholic School and the International Spring Fling Auto Show and benefit, a special fundraising event hosted by the Virginia Beach car club known as 757iLLEST.

"We are an open car club that hosts local charity events, includ-

ing car shows, scavenger hunts and holiday toy drives for Children's Hospital of the Kings Daughters," said Mark Evans, 40, who founded 757iLLEST in March of 2012.

With cars ranging from classic Chevrolet Bel Airs to modified Hondas and Subarus, motorcycles and even custom bicycles, the benefit offered something for everyone.

More than 200 spectators came out to see the show's 115 paid entrants, with all proceeds benefitting the school's International

Continues on Page 8

## Burton Station residents caught in the middle

They'd like to get basic services  
before a \$75 million mall arrives

By Nathan Denny  
Staff Writer

It's called "Burton Station." But despite its distinguished name and rich history, many locals may never have heard of it.

Many others have.

That's because lots of people living in this small Bayside neighborhood, located off Northampton Boulevard near the Norfolk city line, are descendants of two freed slaves who were given the land where the Burton Station com-

## The Future

munity now sits. It's low-density, with only about 30 homes, but with a large amount of nearby undeveloped agricultural and forested land.

The area is not usually in the spotlight, but locals are now speaking out, expressing strong feelings about Norfolk's new plans to build a \$75 million premium outlet mall

Continues on Page 2



Doug Clarke, a plein artist and Kempsville resident, paints outdoors.

## Artist interview: Plein art master Doug Clarke

Most creative at night, listens  
to it all, paints local scenes

By Randall Jordan  
Sun Columnist

For this exclusive local artist interview, I was able to catch up with super-talented "plein" air artist Doug Clarke, who works outdoors in all kinds of weather and will be out working even more with the summer coming on.

"Plein" art is a French expression meaning "in the open air" and

## Artist Interview

is particularly used to describe the act of painting outdoors, which is also called "peinture sur le motif" ("painting on the ground").

Continues on Page 3

## The Tide, the Surf, still no decision

Will it be one train, two trains or no trains arriving and departing in Virginia Beach in the future? Hampton Roads Transit, which owns and operates The Tide, says it can extend the line from where it ends in Norfolk at Newtown Road several miles easterly to Rosemont Road, which is centrally located, eight miles from the ocean and would cost up to \$470 million. Other companies say they can extend it to Rosemont Road for less than \$250 million. Extending to the Oceanfront could cost more than \$1 billion. Stopping at Town Center

## The "Hot" Stuff In Case You Missed It

doesn't seem likely, given the already existing heavy vehicular and pedestrian traffic there. The maglev train line could begin at the Dome site at 19th Street and Arctic Avenue and run .8 miles to the convention center, or 2.5 miles to the corner of Birdneck Road and Laskin Road, costing up to \$60 million. Some say a maglev line can be run from Newtown Road to the Oceanfront for \$235 million. Still other plans call for Town Center to be a regional transportation hub, with lines running to the Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek and the Norfolk International Airport. No final decisions have been and aren't expected until after a Draft Environmental Impact Statement from HRT is submitted to the city later this year. - G.G.

# Burton Station residents caught in the middle

Continued from Page 1

near their homes, concerned that the big commercial development will disrupt their quality of life and local history.

Susan Cooper, an eight-year Burton Station resident, says the community is a close-knit one, concerned and emotional about preserving the community's African American cultural heritage.

"The people here look out for each other," she said, speaking for herself and others. "There are a lot of people who have been here for 20 or 30 years and a lot of them know each other very well. Families have been here for generations."

In addition to worrying about the new mall, she's frustrated over an ongoing struggle with city officials to gain city water and sewage services, which some residents would like resolved before other kinds of construction occur.

Burton Station was identified in 2003 as one of Virginia Beach's eight Strategic Growth Areas (SGA). In 2008, a revamped plan included provisions for utilities

and services, something residents have been requesting for many years, Cooper said. As plans for the proposed mall move forward, residents are still waiting to hear about their utilities.

"Hopefully the homeowners will speak up about their concerns and the city will listen," Cooper said.

Some Northampton Boulevard businesses view redeveloping the Lake Wright Golf Course property as a potential boost for commerce.

"A lot of our business comes from tourists leaving the (Chesapeake) Bay area and heading toward Interstate 64," said Tristan Lee, general manager of the Jersey Mike's Subs at Northampton Crossings on Northampton Boulevard. "Having an outlet mall would be a good opportunity to drive business to this area of Virginia Beach and make it more of a destination, rather than people passing through on their way to the interstate."

Northampton Boulevard, also known as U.S. Route 13, heads straight from I-64 toward the Chic's Beach area of the Ches-

apeake Bay and connects to the Eastern Shore via the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. Virginia Wes-

*In addition to worrying about the new mall, she's frustrated over an ongoing struggle with city officials to gain city water and sewage services, which some residents would like resolved before other kinds of construction occur.*

leyan College is also located nearby. Lee predicts that an outlet mall the road would attract consumers from the Eastern Shore in addition to locals who don't want to drive to Williamsburg or North Carolina for outlet shopping.

Commerce in the Burton Station area of Northampton Boulevard is almost strictly dining,

hotels and industrial. The vicinity is not a well-known shopping destination, Lee said. Local malls on the Southside, however, may be the ones to suffer from the increased number of new retail stores that may open.

The most commonly identified concern from residents and businesses in the area is the traffic. Increased congestion on an already busy roadway like Northampton is a less-than-desirable side effect that an attraction like the outlet may create.

Joe McRae, manager of the Norfolk Florist on Baker Road, just off Northampton Boulevard, is not sure a nearby mall will help his business like it may help others.

"Norfolk Florist is a destination spot, so I don't think people heading to the outlet mall will necessarily bring us more business," he said. "But the traffic will be the bad part. Northampton Boulevard and Wesleyan Drive is already a bad intersection and it will get worse."

Susan Cooper lives on Northampton and knows firsthand how congested it can become during certain hours and frets that increased traffic and increased noise will negatively impact her community.

"Traffic is bad on Northampton, it backs up on and off the interstate," she said. "More traffic and more noise could create a hardship, especially for those in Burton Station who can't move, or like many of the people here who don't want to move."

Virginia Beach officials met

with Burton Station residents in February to discuss these types of issues that would impact their neighborhood. Both the city and the community want to keep the neighborhood's history and deep-seeded connection intact. Still, some worry that both may suffer.

Virginia Beach and Norfolk staffers are working toward developing an area that straddles the cities' border at Lake Wright off of Northampton Boulevard. The development centers around building an outlet mall on a portion of the existing Lake Wright golf course.

The proposed outlet mall of Simon Property Group, Inc., would be its second premium mall and home to 90 stores and will require the Virginia Beach side of the property to be used as a parking lot.

"Redevelopment of the Lake Wright Golf Course property also would include about 65 acres that Norfolk would retain for green space, walking trails, a possible amphitheater to host open-air music concerts, picnic areas, a pedestrian bridge over the lake and boat rentals," according to the Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance's web site.

Norfolk International Airport, JEB Little Creek, Airport Industrial Park and various business and commerce centers are in the area. The Simon Property Group is currently refining some of the project details and plans to begin construction this year and open the mall in 2015.

Nathan Denny, 757-748-2898, njdenny@vt.edu



**Best Oysters  
Rockefeller & Finest  
Seafood In Town**

**(757)464-1580**  
Call for Reservations Today

**5805 Northampton Blvd.  
VA. Beach (just East of I-64)**  
[www.aberdeenbarn.net](http://www.aberdeenbarn.net)

**Book Your Next  
Private Event With Us!**  
Rehearsal Dinners, Company Parties,  
Birthdays, Retirements etc.







**Hogan's  
NOW & THEN**  
Antiques • Collectibles

Open 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday through Saturday.  
In the Thalia Village Shoppes

4100-182 Bonney Road  
Virginia Beach Va., 23452



757-306-1325  
sigbee@msn.com  
[hogansnowandthen.com](http://hogansnowandthen.com)



# "Nature is a great teacher"

Continued from Page 1

His beautiful work is highly sought after by collectors, businesses and friends, as he paints almost every day at locations all over Hampton Roads that are very familiar to many locals.

A Virginia Commonwealth University Magna Cum Laude graduate with honors, Doug is an active member of the Norfolk Drawing Group and strives for excellence in his figure drawings and paintings.

His past gallery exhibits include the Art Institute of Charlotte, NC, the Visual Arts Gallery of Portsmouth, VA, the Virginia Museum of Modern Art and the Charles H. Taylor Arts Gallery.

Recently awarded first place in the Plein Air 757 and first place in the Historic Fort Monroe Plein Air Event, as well as winning a Merit Award for Cape Charles Plein Air Exhibition, his art is collected locally and internationally and he's currently represented by Richard Stravitz Gallery and Harbor Gallery. Here is my interview with Doug Clarke:

**What is your name?** Doug Clarke.

**Age?** 43.

**Occupation?** Painter.

**Family?** Lovely wife, Cindy and two kids, Cole and Elena.

**Where Born?** Chicago; I'm a Cubs fan.

**Where raised?** Virginia Beach. I now live in Kempsville.

**Were parents artists?** Great grandmother was a painter and taught at the Chicago Art Institute.

**Hobbies?** Surfing.

**What kind of music do you listen to when creating art?** I

listen to everything, jazz, folk, bluegrass, metal, punk, reggae, classic rock, alternative, Americana, etc.

**What time of day or night are you the most creative?** Night time. My brain is wired for nocturne. I've always been a night owl; as a kid I used to stay up watching SNL and Doctor Madblood.

**After a meal? With beverages?** I'm ready to paint anytime.

**Where do you work/create art (home office studio, outdoors)?** In the man cave and outdoors whenever possible. If the weather is bad, I'll paint from inside of the truck.

**Do you share your work before it's completed?** All the time, I post on my blog, Facebook and Flickr.

**Do you find you work fast or slow?** I like to work alla prima, (all at once) whenever possible.

**How long have you been in the art field?** I've been drawing

since I was little. It's all I've ever wanted to do is to be an artist.

**What inspires you when creating art?** I love the process of painting. Being outdoors and painting plein air is about as good as gets. Nature is a great teacher to learn out.

**Has being involved with art changed you?** Painting has always been a part of what I do. It's a constantly learning process to become a better painter.

**Which art groups are you involved with?** The Norfolk Drawing Group.

**What is the most satisfaction you get from your art?** A job well done; and knowing I was able to knock out a good painting outdoors and achieve what I visualized at the beginning, is a great feeling.

**Where can the public enjoy your art?** My website, [www.liquidmethod.com](http://www.liquidmethod.com), Harbor Gallery and the Richard Stravitz Gallery

**At this time what mediums are your main concentrations?** I primarily paint in oil; occasionally, gouache, ink and watercolor.

**Where do you see your art career taking you in the future?** I try to focus on my next painting and to continue to grow and develop as a painter.

**Have you seen a change in the public's reaction to your art**



"Blue Bel Air"



Doug Clarke



"Southern Boulevard Crossing"

as your art pursuits open new doors and why do you think this happens? Seeing people having a connection to your paintings is very rewarding. When someone has a connection to art they like to share it with their friends and family. Word-of-mouth spreads just like any other business.

**At art receptions where your work is on display does the public ask you what inspires you?** Painting plein air has me painting local places. That local connection helps find buyers to collect my paintings. They share an affinity with me through that painting.

**What is your best advice to**

**new and upcoming artists?** Paint small, paint often and surround yourself with artists that are better than you. That's how you learn.

**How would you rate the art scene in Virginia Beach on a scale of 1 to 10?** It's a 10. Opportunity is out there, just get out there and do your thing and share with as many people as you can.

Randall Jordan owns Artistic Creations Art Gallery, 4425 Shore Drive, Unit #104, Virginia Beach VA 23455.

Phone: 757-363-3464. Jordan



**Call Today!**  
**757-473-0087**

5045 Virginia Beach Boulevard #101  
[Facebook.com/NOFORKS101](https://www.facebook.com/NOFORKS101)

612 Norfolk Ave  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451  
<http://www.gringosvab.com>

**757-961-2987**

**BEST FISH TACOS IN TOWN!**  
**EAT FRESH, BUY LOCAL**

**THE BEST RIBS IN TOWN!**  
**CALL FOR TAKEOUT!**  
**757-495-RIBS**

**ORDER FROM OUR ONLINE MENU!**

**WWW.FRANKIESRIBS.COM**  
**5200 KEMPSVILLE AND PROVIDENCE ROAD,**  
**VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23464**

# Feel the cool, find the peace, on the water

Chesapeake Bay, Rudee Inlet, Stumpy Lake, Lynnhaven Among Kayakers' Favorite Hot Spots

By Ashley Hall  
Correspondent

Luke Hebert drags his ocean kayak across the Chesapeake Bay's soft warm sand to the shoreline, where cool, bluish green waves splash over his bare feet.

"I feel like an explorer when I'm kayaking," said Hebert, a Charlestown Lake South resident. "I love it."

An avid kayaker for the last 10 years, Hebert, 29, is often seen paddling on the bay and at Rudee Inlet, two of his favorite local kayaking "hot" spots. A ship-building specialist for a private company in Norfolk, Hebert and his wife, Katherine, are expecting their first child in June. Balancing a busy work schedule and family duties can be challenging, he said, but spending a few hours in his kayak is the perfect way to relax, unwind

and just get away from it all.

"You see things (on the water) that not many people see," said Hebert, who pilots a 14-foot, yellow, tandem craft. "It's great!"

Hebert is not alone in his love of the popular water sport. There were some 10 million kayakers nationally in 2012, with more than 20 percent of them in the South Atlantic region. Estimates are that there are thousands of kayakers in Virginia Beach, but statistics are scarce since they don't have to be licensed or registered to cruise around the city's 120 miles of boat-passable waterways.

Modern kayaks have no motor, emit no pollution, typically range in length from 8 to 20 feet and seat up to three people. There are three basic types: Recreational kayaks, useful for paddling rivers and other calm waters, are typically better for long distance journeys. White-

water kayaks are best for shooting rapids, while ocean kayaks are custom-tailed for sliding over sea waves; they also have holes in the bottom so sailors can take on water without sinking. Ocean kayaks also differ from recreational and whitewater kayaks in that pilots sit on top of the boat, rather than inside a cockpit.

Ranging in weight from 40 to 80 pounds, depending on length and construction, some kayaks are made from a composite plastic material, while others are composed of wood, fiberglass, carbon fiber and even bullet-proof Kevlar. They come in all colors. The plastic boats are usually less expensive, starting in price at about \$200, with higher end models costing several thousand. For beginners, used kayaks are an affordable option, allowing water sports enthusiasts to save money while finding the craft best suited for their desires and skills. Kayaking competitions are held in some parts of the world.

Kayakers are not required to take training courses, but are required to carry personal flotation devices (PFD) for each person on the water to prevent accidental drowning; those caught by the U.S. Coast Guard without them can be ticketed and fined.

Kayaks can travel in speeds anywhere from two to eight miles per hour, depending on winds, type of boat, weight in boat, water currents, paddler's physical and mental strength and overall weather conditions. Some kayak-



Kayaker Luke Hebert, a Charlestown Lake South resident, parks off of Shore Drive and pulls his boat across the sand to the Chesapeake Bay.

ers can reach speeds well over 10 miles per hour if the water current is in their favor and their boat is designed for speed.

**Floating inches above** the water, kayakers dip their hands into the cool water of the Chesapeake Bay while watching for the sleek, bluish gray-toned dolphins to pop up smiling beside them. They feel the awesome power of the mighty Atlantic Ocean beneath them while deftly maneuvering through breaking waves, or while gently paddling through Virginia Beach's

water web of lakes, rivers, bays and marshes.

It's this wide range of athletic and leisure options that make kayaking so versatile and popular, kayakers say. From children to senior citizens, solo paddlers to group excursions, there are virtually countless ways of making kayaking a personal experience. It offers the more adventurous outdoorspeople up-close wildlife encounters, as well as, peaceful seclusion, tranquility and an escape from gyms, long days of work, frustrating traffic jams and other stressful life- and work-related matters.

Richard Lawrence, 34, a salesman for Coastal Lighting in Chesapeake and an inventory specialist for Dollar Tree Inc., also in Chesapeake, resides in Virginia Beach's Indian Lakes neighborhood and is just a short drive from one of his favorite spots to paddle: Stumpy Lake. Kayaking gives him time for relaxation and reflection, he

*Continues on Page 5*

## The Virginia Beach Sun

Virginia Beach's Hometown Newspaper Since the 1920s

The Virginia Beach Sun, P.O. Box 5103,  
Virginia Beach VA 23471  
Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Next issue: Thursday, May 1**

**Next deadline: Friday, April 25**

The Sun publishes every three weeks.

News Advertising

757-363-SUNN (7866)

Online: TheVirginiaBeachSun.com

Email: TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com

Editor and Publisher: Greg Goldfarb

MISSION STATEMENT: The Virginia Beach Sun honors and serves the city of Virginia Beach, its residents, businesses, community leaders, public servants and institutions, volunteers, schools, houses of worship, visitors, the military, and more, by providing a free, trusted, independent local media outlet where opinions may be expressed and local information obtained.



Check The Sun Facebook Page for daily news, weather, surf reports and other information important to Virginia Beach residents, their friends, family and visitors.



**Rodney R. Wade**  
Agent  
Wade Insurance Agency



Auto • Home • Life • Business  
Workers' Compensation

1700 Pleasure House Rd. #103

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Bus: 757-200-4063

Fax: 757-226-9398

[rwade@wadeinsuranceagency.com](mailto:rwade@wadeinsuranceagency.com)



Cover photo: Richard Lawrence paddles at Stumpy Lake. Photos above, top to bottom, left to right: Luke Hebert raises his paddle as he coasts back to shore after exploring the Chesapeake Bay; Hebert unloading his kayak; Richard Lawrence pulls himself back onto the kayak launch at Stumpy Lake after a serene day on the water; and Jennifer Mapp checks the tide's height, with her paddle, at the Elizabeth River boat ramp at Carolanne Farm Park.

## Feel the cool, find the peace, on the water

Photos By Ashley Hall

Continued from Page 4

said, and for the past three years he's been hitting the water every chance he gets, usually frequenting Lynnhaven Inlet and the Oceanfront.

"Kayaking makes me feel relaxed," he said, looking out at Stumpy Lake's tranquil water from the cockpit of his solo 14-foot-long recreational kayak. "It makes me calm."

Sitting in the cockpit of a kayak gives paddlers an intimate connection with nature that could otherwise be missed, said Jennifer Mapp, 29, who's been kayaking for about a year. She lives in Chesapeake's Oscar Smith section and travels to Virginia Beach for what she says is some of the best paddling around.

"It's really fun to be on the wa-

ter and it's a great way to get away from the 'busyness' of the city for some quiet time," she said.

A teacher assistant at Indian River Middle school in Chesapeake, her favorite places to paddle locally are the Chesapeake Bay and the Elizabeth River. Her excitement is palpable when describing multiple encounters in the bay's marine wildlife.

"When the water gets warm enough it's almost a guarantee to see a pod of dolphins at sunset, swimming toward the Lynnhaven fishing pier," said Mapp. "It's just an amazing sight."

Writer and free lance photographer Ashley Hall lives in Chesapeake's South Norfolk section, owns a photography business and is a three-year kayaker. Reach her at [SilverLiningImages@Outlook.com](mailto:SilverLiningImages@Outlook.com).



Luke Hebert is making good time on the Chesapeake Bay.

# Huela la comida deliciosa con un sabor de cultura, la paella

¿Qué representa las exquisiteces de la cultura hispana? Vamos a explorar la paella y como puede compartir la comida especial, con los pescados, la carne o con todos los verduras, con todo sobre la mesa.

By Stephanie Harron  
Sun Columnist

*This installment of El Sol en Español discusses the significance of spanish paella, a signature dish of spanish cuisine in hispanic culture.*

No hay otra mejor sensación como el olor delicioso de la comida cocinando en la cocina después de un día muy largo del trabajo, la escuela o finalizando una lista muy larga de muchas obligaciones. La comida significa una satisfacción del hambre y la comunión con la familia y los amigos. No tiene importancia de cual cultura, todas las culturas celebran la destreza de cocina en los restaurantes y durante las festividades.

El desarrollo de la destreza de cocina en la cultura hispana empieza con varios ingredientes distintivos. Estos ingredientes incluyen

el maíz, el aceite, las verduras, los frijoles, las papas y otros que crean una mezcla de picante y el relleno. La comida es un tiempo para reunir con la familia y los amigos. Es un momento para saber y compartir los recuerdos durante la vida loca e individual.

No es una sorpresa que hay comida en la cocina hispana que combina muchos ingredientes en una cacerola como la comida se une toda la gente. Hay una comida especial que representa está metáfora y esa es la paella. La paella se originaba en Valencia de España, pero hoy, la paella es presente en muchos restaurantes del mundo. El ingrediente fundamental de este plato es el maíz pero también está cocinado con una mezcla de ingredientes como la carne, el pescado y las verduras.

Se ha dicho de este plato fue desarrollado de los sirvientes de

## El Sol en Español

los moros cuando mezcla las sobras de los banquetes de la corte y cocinaba la comida en cacerolas grandes y regresaba a su casa para la familia. Éste es solamente una leyenda porque está recordada en el medio de siglo diecinueve los trabajadores de Valencia colectaban sus recursos en los campos



y cocinaba en una cacerola muy grande y sobre el fuego. Éste significa que esta comida es muy fá-

cil preparar y también hay muchas variedades en ingredientes.

Es verdad que los ingredientes de la paella depende de donde vive, entonces es mejor para considerar donde puede capturar sus recursos. Por ejemplo, si vive cerca del mar, su mejor ingrediente es probablemente el pescado, como los camarones o los mejillones. Por otro lado, si vive cerca del campo, come la paella con carne o pollo. En cada situación, necesita cocinar la paella en una cacerola especial que es grande, poco plano y tiene las asas.

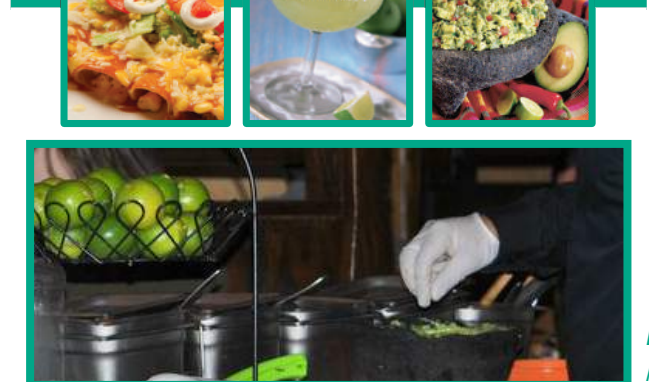
La paella representa más de la comida. Representa la historia, la cultura y el sabor de la personalidad español. Muchas familias ya come esta exquisitez un tiempo de la semana, como los domingos, cuando regresan sobre la mesa para compartir el sabor exquisito y la conversación beneficiaria de

las relaciones. La mezcla de los ingredientes de paella son como la mezcla de la vida. Todos son las diferencias y todos son de los mismos. Si no cocine la comida con cuidado y paciencia, como da estos practicas en la vida, es muy posible que puede quemar o reblandecer el maíz u otros ingredientes fundamentales.

*Stephanie Harron, srharron@vwc.edu, vive en la región de Rosemont y es una estudiante del segundo año a Virginia Wesleyan College en Norfolk. Ella quiere enseñar música o español como una lengua extranjera a los niños en la escuela secundaria.*



Harron



\$5 OFF DINNER

2 MEALS & 2 DRINKS

MIN \$5 Entree Purchase - Dinner Only

Valid Sun-Thurs ONLY. Limit one coupon per table/party

Valid at Great Neck Location. Dine-In only.

Not valid with any other offer.

PLAZA AZTECA

RESTAURANTES MEXICANOS

2272 W Great Neck Rd

Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Enjoy Guacamole Freshly

Made At Your Table

Find us on Facebook

# Famous Uncle Al's Hot Dog and Fries: 22 is record to beat

By Nathan Denny  
Staff Writer

In a strange sort of way, many of our favorite pastimes can be embodied by the simplest of food fares: a hot dog. Be it a summer-time back yard cookout, baseball game, country fair or church social – they can all be associated with tasty, crowd-pleasing, quality hot dogs and golden brown French fries.

Famous Uncle Al's Hot Dogs and Fries on Shore Drive is a mainstay when it comes to providing locals with fun on a bun.

There are only so many ways to make and present a hot dog, but there is a right way and a wrong way. Uncle Al's hot dogs are done the right way, a warm and classic taste that can be topped in a variety of ways. Smother it in chili, coat it in ketchup and mustard, bury it in cole slaw or keep it plain. No matter what your preference is, the end result is a delicious dog with that familiar taste.

And along with the dog, try a

basket of French fries, which Uncle Al's expertly creates as well with your choice of the crispy, salty classic crinkle cut or the seasoned curly fries.

While hot dogs are what made this restaurant famous, Uncle Al's offers a diverse menu. Burgers and deli sandwiches are also available, as well as soups, salads, sandwich

## Restaurant Review

wraps and subs.

Famous Uncle Al's Hot Dogs and Fries is a welcoming place with friendly staff in a comfortable diner setting. There are several locations around the city, including this one in the Cape Henry Center. A serving bar stretches from front to back, and tables and chairs sit next to a wall almost completely obscured by picture frames.

A banner, surrounded by an irregular montage of bumper stickers, many of them paying tribute to places and tokens of Virginia

Beach, adorns the stainless steel grill exhaust, reading "Famous Uncle Al's Hot Dogs Over a 'gazillion' sold!"

While that total may just be an estimation, there's no doubt that over the decades that Famous Uncle Al's has been a part of this community, many Beach residents and visitors have come through and enjoyed one of these famous hot dogs.

On the back wall is a collection of old wooden plaques, commemorating a particular achievement at the establishment by its customers. The dozen or so plaques show "the most hot dogs eaten in one sitting"



"Fun" on a bun at Uncle Al's Hot Dogs and Fries on Shore Drive

for those patrons whose appetite is not satisfied with just one or two, or who are simply looking for a challenge. The record at the time, at least for this location, appears to

be 22 hot dogs. Think you can beat it?

Nathan Denny, 757-748-2898, njdenny@vt.edu



BEACH PHARMACY

DAVID KILGORE

Pharmacist

757-965-3036 Phone

757-965-3039 Fax

501 Laskin Rd

Virginia Beach, VA 23451

beachrx@cox.net

beachpharmacyvb.com

Gateaux Bakery

French Pâtisserie and Full Service Bakery

Bread 🍞 Cakes 🍰 Pastries

Cookies 🍪 Tarts 🥧 Pies

Monday - Friday 7 am - 6 pm

Saturday 9 am - 6 pm

Sunday 9 am - 2 pm

1642 Pleasure House Rd

Suite 105 Virginia Beach

(757) 271-9220

www.gateaux-cakes.com

WAVE WORKS  
SURF SHOP

BOGO Buy One Get One Free on All Clothes, Sunglasses and Accessories

20 Percent Off All Skateboards & Wet Suits

SURFBOARDS  
STARTING AT \$299

757-333-4004

waveworkssurfshop.com

301 25th Street

Virginia Beach, VA 23451

EDDY'S BUSINESS SERVICE

Dwight Eddy, Owner

(757)363-9884

FAX (757)363-9784

1700 Pleasure House Rd - Suite #103

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

EDDYACTPY2@AOL.COM

Accounting Services

Payroll

Tax Preparation

Business Consultant



Artistic Creations

Art Gallery & Classroom

4425 Shore Drive

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

757-363-3464

1fineartist-randalljordan.com

# 757iLLEST has more shows on the horizon

Continued from Page 1

Studies Program's student trips to Paris, France.

"Several students will be chap-eroned to Paris for advanced studies and cultural experience," said Evans, a Brigadoon Pines resident who received his Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Old Dominion University in 2004 and now works as a home health physical therapist. "Families have to pay for their children to go on the trip. Our proceeds will be divided evenly among the participants to lessen the burden on each family."

Located off of Indian River Road in Virginia Beach, Saint Matthews is a private Catholic school relying on dedicated par-

ents, alumni and volunteers to provide its students with special opportunities, like the chance of studying abroad.

757iLLEST hosted a similar car show in November 2013 at Saint Matthews, generating \$900 for the program. The most recent show raised more than \$1,200 for the school, bringing the total to over \$2,000 for both events, he said.

Evans and his club have since 2012 raised funds for Relay for Life, the Autumn Lakes Boy's and Girl's Club, Susan G. Koman Fund and CHKD. Their holiday toy drives for CHKD have brought in over \$5,000 worth of gifts for children in-need. The members of 757iLLEST love their cars, but their actions show how much they love their community.

"The influence and brotherhood we share as clubs of enthusiasts allows us to gather and contribute to our communities, making chances to give back," said Evans, adding

that there are certain misconceptions and stereotypes that are often associated with car shows.

"The movies glamorize fast cars, run-ins with the law and reckless endangerment of the public. Mainstream media has reinforced the negative actions of our minority, while ignoring the positive efforts by the majority in our communities."

757iLLEST has plans for more shows through the rest of spring and summer for numerous charitable causes.

For more information about 757iLLEST and upcoming charitable events visit <http://www.757illest.com>, <https://www.facebook.com/757illest> or email Mark Evans at [757iLLEST@gmail.com](mailto:757iLLEST@gmail.com).

Writer and photographer Ashley Hall lives in Chesapeake's South Norfolk section and owns a photography business. Reach her at [SilverLiningImages@Outlook.com](mailto:SilverLiningImages@Outlook.com).



Owned by Jerry Nelson, this Chevrolet Bel Air won a Top 25 award at the recent 757iLLEST benefit car show at St. Matthews Catholic School. Inset: 757iLLEST club Founder Mark Evans, along with Sherry Tennant, who has a child enrolled in the school's International Studies Program.

(Photos by Ashley Hall)

**P. G. Thomasson**  
FUNERAL SERVICES

PERRY G. THOMASSON, DIRECTOR  
[pgthomassonfuneralservices.com](http://pgthomassonfuneralservices.com)

230 N. Lynnhaven Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
Phone: 757-486-4120  
Fax: 757-486-4710

**Decades of experience  
providing all levels of  
dignified service to  
those in need.**

**Flowers ~ Wayne Jones**

757-428-2901

329 Laskin Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

<http://www.flowerswaynejones.net>

*Beautiful flowers for all occasions!*

Anniversary • Congratulations  
Thanks • Get Well • Sympathy  
Wedding • And More!

**Eye HAIR STUDIO**

PROFESSIONAL HAIR CARE JUST FOR YOU

EVE COLÓN, OWNER

1104 GREEN RUN SQUARE,  
VA BEACH, VA 23452

(757)301-6500

[WWW.EVEHAIRSTUDIOVA.COM](http://WWW.EVEHAIRSTUDIOVA.COM)

\*WALK-INS ACCEPTED UNTIL 4 P.M. EACH DAY.

1917 S. Independence Blvd. • Virginia Beach, Va. 23452  
(Across from Green Run High School)

**ORDER FROM OUR  
ONLINE MENU!**

**ORDERSTART.COM/SALS**

Hours of Operation: Sunday through Thursday: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. - Midnight

**757-471-9888**

Sensei Tim Thompson  
8th Dan Master Instructor

**Ryoshin-Kan  
Karate School**

Home of the Dragon Force  
National Karate Demo Team

(757) 468-1643

1064 Lynnhaven Pkwy (ste 106)  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452

[ryoshin-kan@juno.com](mailto:ryoshin-kan@juno.com)  
[www.dragonforcekarate.com](http://www.dragonforcekarate.com)

World and National Karate Champions  
Dragon Force National Karate Demo Team  
Ryoshin-Kan Karate School

**\$25 Dollars off**  
on New Student Karate Classes