

# The Virginia Beach Sun

December 2014

Virginia Beach's News and Leisure Magazine and Website

Free - Citywide

HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

## Back yard chickens getting no respect

City Council still banning the gentle birds, despite 4 Virginia Beach Hens' best efforts

By Linda McNatt

A citizens' group determined to see chickens roaming the back yards of Virginia Beach homes hasn't given up trying to convince Virginia Beach City Council members to see it their way, Bryan Stevenson, a member of the group, said recently.

The group, 4 Virginia Beach Hens, has been campaigning for months and attending City Council meetings to promote the idea. The last meeting was held just before the most recent elections, after the group had been petitioning the council for two years, Stevenson said in an email.

"But, so far, they are unwilling to consider allowing back yard hens in Virginia Beach" he said.

Please see Chesapeake, Page 7

## The "Hot" Stuff

"News of the day, in case you missed it!"

**DOME SITE** – The city has given Fairfax-based The Peterson Cos., until May to submit a proposal on how to develop the 10-acre site at 19th Street and Pacific Avenue, which is now used for resort parking. This effort follows Texas businessman Michael Jenkins' unfruitful attempt to deliver a \$172 million complex at that location.

**BROCK CENTER** – The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's 10,000 square foot, \$5 million Brock Environmental Center opened recently at Pleasure House Point, nestled between Shore Drive and the Lynnhaven River, just west of the Lesner Bridge. Despite some environmentalists' protests, the "green" environmentally-friendly venue features marshes, beaches and forests. The foundation and Lynnhaven River NOW have offices in the center.

**BURTON STATION** – One of the city's most historically well-known communities, Burton Station, is on tap within the next six months to receive sanitary sewer and water improvements. The community, located between the Norfolk International Airport and Northampton Boulevard, was built by freed slaves.

**VOTING PROBLEMS** – The city's voter Registrar's Office reports that \$1.4 million will be spent to go from using voting machines, which were used in last month's elections, with a new system using paper ballots and scanners, beginning with the 2015 primary elections. Some 25 voting precincts reported malfunctioning machines, which are not accurately registering each voter's vote. In at least one past election, the city has also been criticized for long lines at the polls.

**SPORTS CLUB** – This past Veterans Day, The Virginia Beach Sports Club had as its guest luncheon speaker Jim Richards, who graduated from Virginia Tech on a football scholarship. He was drafted by the New York Jets and played in the 1969 Super Bowl against the Baltimore Colts, the team favored to win. But



Beads and Rocks owner, Jim Goldstein, stands before a \$10,000, 721-pound amethyst he has for sale at his Virginia Beach Boulevard store. (Photo by Tayler Valladares)

## Heal me, stones!

But Beads and Rocks at the Oceanfront sells "tons" of minerals and rocks to help the body and mind

By Tayler Valladares

With a good mix of customers and an even greater mix of minerals, Jim Goldstein, owner and founder of Beads and Rocks, has seen it all, from the confused wanderers to the aware healers seeking tools.

"We constantly have people who are interested in the energy," said Goldstein, a Bay Island resident. "There are two or three people a day who come in that are energy enthusiasts."

Please see We, Page 10

## Buddhist, Jewish, Baptist, Methodist, Pentecostal, Christian VB communities active during the holidays!

A quick look at some local houses of worship and how they celebrate the holiday season!

By Jennifer K. Strout, MA

Many people relocate to Virginia Beach each year from a myriad of religious and spiritual backgrounds. With the deep connection that is built within a religious/spiritual community, it can be difficult to seek out a new relationship in a seemingly foreign location.

Additionally, everything from tourism, to visiting family and friends, and facing challenges in life, can lead to seeking a place of refuge. Luckily, Virginia Beach offers many supportive congregations for people to engage in during the holiday season and year around!

One such refuge is the **Keajra Kadampa Buddhist Center** on Newtown Road. The resident teacher for the Sangha, or spiritual community, is ordained nun, Kelsang Kalden.

"Buddhism is about training the mind to be more positive," he said. "Everyone wants to avoid suffering, yet most people don't have any sense of how their mind is involved in it. They think that it's (suffering) from external causes. The mind determines how we feel and the way we feel determines the way that we act."

The center is open to everyone, whether they are non-religious or practice an alternative faith, as the teachings and meditations offered do not conflict with other religions. Instead they present "practical advice to bring people a little inner peace." As Kalden points out:

"Everyone wants to truly become happy and by understanding their mind,

Please see Virginia, Page 7

## Those We Love At Christmas

Memories are precious when Christmas time is here. Each Christmas brings its blessings which are always near and dear.

We fondly think of lovely gifts and decorated trees,

But also of the people, who mean even more than these.

Each person adds his special touch, his way of sharing love.

God has given each a gift, a blessing from above.

All gifts aren't wrapped, some come as smiles, or as a gentle touch.

How great the twinkle in the eye of one who means so much.

The gift of understanding from those who know and care,

The gift of those who listen and who are always there,

The gift of those who help us with the burdens that we bear –

We cherish the gift and giver, we hold dear the love they share.

What we recall from those we know, let's lovingly become.

Let's be the patient, understanding, kind and helpful one.

The more that we exemplify great qualities we've seen,

The more that we can change the world; the greater blessing we can be.

Poems by Linda Keener - Page 2 Profile on Page 5

# *The Virginia Beach Sun Holiday Poems*

## *by Linda Keener*

### *My Christmas List*

“Dear Lord, instead of Santa Claus, you get my list this year,  
For when I search my heart and soul, I find the things most dear  
Cannot be wrapped or placed beneath a decorated tree,  
They can only be applied, and become part of you and me.”

“Solomon asked for wisdom; it seems I need this, too.  
At times I get confused and don't know what to do.  
Infuse me with your wisdom; enhance my inner voice,  
So that when I make decisions, I will make the wisest choice.”

Yes, when things go wrong, I've been known to fuss and fret,  
But with your help I'll change this; we're not finished with me yet.  
Help me to grow closer, and delight in Your embrace,  
May I find peace and comfort in Your eternal love and grace.”

“When another does me wrong, help me to understand,  
He doesn't need a nasty word; he might need a helping hand.  
This is a beginning, Lord, Your loving guidance every day  
Will help me as I change my life and find a better way.  
It's not about what I can have; it's about what I can be.  
With Your help, my gift to all will be a new and better me.”

### *What Gift?*

What gift can I give that will make Christmas day  
A time to be cherished; a time that will stay  
In our hearts and our minds as a day to recall  
The love and the peace Christmas brings to us all.

Gifts wrapped in bright paper with ribbons and bows  
Will not be remembered the same way as those  
That are part of ourselves and then become part  
Of those who receive these gifts from the heart.

For friends who have problems they can't seem to bear,  
I'll be there when needed; their sorrows I'll share.  
To friends who are weak when life's battles are strong,  
I'll give courage and strength to help them along.

For each person I meet as I travel life's way  
I'll do all that I can to brighten their day.  
I'll try to do right – an example I'll be  
For all those who might be depending on me.

These things are the spirit of Christmas to me.  
They mean more than anything under the tree.  
The gift of yourself through the life the that you live  
Is the most generous gift any person can give.

### *Christmas Through The Years*

A beautiful girl, just turned three, was bubbling with life and youthful glee.  
What a touching sight for all to see, as she sat and laughed on Santa's knee.  
Ten years later, as an active teen, she was both athlete and beauty queen.  
She liked sports, music, boys and school, and thought that Christmas was “very cool.”

In ten more years, as a loving young mom, she tenderly held her newborn son.  
On his first Christmas, this mother and wife sincerely thanked God for this precious new life.  
Years went by and on Christmas day, she and her family found a way  
To help the forgotten and those in need, they helped to comfort, to love, serve and feed.

Many years later, as Christmas grew near, a doctor advised her family, so dear,  
“Tell her you love her, and tell her today; she won't be with us on this Christmas day.”  
Heaven's gate opened and an angel went home; with new eyes she was our earth as a globe.  
She saw all the people – a beautiful sight; around many she saw a bright light.

With new ears she heard a kindly voice say, “These are the people you helped on the way,  
They're now helping others; your good travels on, well done, dear daughter, and welcome home.”  
On each Christmas day and for all the year through, there's a sacred importance to all that you do.  
Hold fast to all that is honest and true; those you love from above might be watching you.

### *Christmas Love*

Christmas love is special;  
It's from deep within the heart.  
It knows our secret thoughts and fears;  
With each response it plays a part.  
It reminds us to be gentle,  
To be kind in word and deed.  
It asks us to give freely,  
To be a friend to those in need.

Love tells us to speak softly,  
To calm the anger and the fears.  
It asks us to be tender,  
To soothe the pain and dry the tears.  
Christmas love is special,  
For it asks our souls to grow.  
It's as we help each other that  
Heavenward we grow.

Fill your heart with Christmas love,  
And be a blessing every day.  
Be kind to everyone you meet,  
And help the Christmas spirit stay.  
Be generous and caring,  
In all you say and do.  
Christmas love can fill the world,  
And it can start with you!



*See Profile on Page 5*

# Joy lives in the holiday spirit, when we count our blessings

By Jennifer K. Strout

There are very few times a year when everyone is constantly presented with a positive message to wish others good tidings and happy holidays. The winter season affords us with the unique opportunity to discover what we are all grateful for and if we are lucky enough, we may be given the grace to recognize when we can reach out and assist others as well.

During this time, we are given a pause to acknowledge all of the blessings that we may have overlooked throughout the year. While it is a great hope for many of us, that we take notice of our blessings year-around, too often we get caught in the fast pace of life and forget to truly put things into perspective.

The holidays are not about counting how many things we have, although few may make that mistake as demonstrated by the madness of holiday shopping. Instead, it is a time for us to recognize the re-

lationships we have, to mend the ones that may have been damaged along the way and to seek out new ways to share the gifts we have inside ourselves. And of course, to take the time to sip some hot chocolate

with family or friends in front of the Yule log, even if it is just the one on television. While the holidays may be difficult for many people due to strained relationships or the loss of loved ones, which many of us

struggle with every year, it is a time to reflect on all you do have, and not what you have lost. If you still find yourself having trouble discovering the joy in this holiday season, spend some time volunteering.

When you see the smiles on children's faces or hear a "Thank You" from those in need, the appreciation they have will open a place in your heart.

Let us not forget, we live in

season's holidays come with surplus food, which offers a wonderful chance to donate food to people in need. Instead of having a few servings of food and then worrying about the health effects of those extra holiday pounds, why not share a meal with another person, whom, without it would not even have one serving of food. Or next time you are considering buying a candy bar, instead consider buying a canned good or two for a holiday food drive.

Going forward, let us not forget the messages of gratitude, compassion and sharing that are continually brought forth during the holiday season. May our New Year's resolution be to let the wisdom of the holiday season be pervasive throughout 2015 and for years to come.

*When you see the smiles on children's faces or hear a "Thank You" from those in need, the appreciation they have will open a place in your heart.*

## *"In The Line of Duty" - What are police officers to do, fist fight their attackers?*

*Time to reduce racial profiling, add more body cameras and tasers in light of recent tragedies*

By Greg Goldfarb

There must come a time, when all good men, women and children, make better, more responsible decisions in their everyday lives.

People have to realize that most, if not all actions, and all decisions that they make, indirectly and sometimes directly, affect themselves and society around them.

Most well-parented children don't go into public places flaunting anything that even resembles a fire arm or any device that could harm people, unless they have no regard for what other people might think of them or the public fear they might engender. Most well-raised children don't walk down the middle of the street, and possibly create an unintentional run-in with the law. Why not use sidewalks? Unless there aren't any.

These two, general scenarios illustrate, in the most simplistic forms, what recently happened in recent, highly publicized, tragic events happening in Ferguson, MO, and Cleveland, OH, respectively. In both cases, private citizens took actions that

drew worried reactions from the public and the police. In the Ferguson case, most people by now have formulated an opinion as to who was more in the right: The police officer or the citizen. In this case, the officer prevails. Here's why:

Here in Virginia Beach, generally if a uniformed officer asks a citizen to comply with the law, he or she usually complies. If they don't, they are obviously not co-

operating with the officer's public safety requests and run the risk of incurring the officer's reaction. There seems to be no dispute that the officer was armed and the citizen unarmed. But when push comes to shove, in the heat of the moment, and an officer feels that their life is in eminent danger, that officer is not going to drop his or her weapon and fist fight the attacker, they are going to protect themselves in the most efficient, reactionary manner possible. In other words, if a citizen doesn't want a cop to pull a gun on them, don't

violently, physically provoke them. Someone is either going to get hurt, go to jail, or both. Despite society's ills, culturally, socially or otherwise, this is a country ruled by rules, laws and regulations. This is also a country where citizens are proud of their freedom to move around its cities and towns freely. But personal freedom comes at a price: Society must have structure,

Center, hears grievances, complaints and other observations and comments from community members and refers them to specific people, groups and agencies who may be able to help citizens who feel that their human rights may have been violated.

Sure, not everyone appreciates and respects police men and women. Most people don't like to be told what to do. But

to racial profiling, which is akin to stereotyping and no one likes to be lumped together with everyone else. Everyone is different. Criminality and criminal intent can't be determined by skin color. Secondly, as this contentious, media and culturally driven press coverage of citizen vs. law enforcement continues, the only way to separate truth from fiction beyond a reasonable

doubt is by issuing every uniformed street officer what is described as a "body camera;" after all, a picture is sometimes worth 1,000 words and if no one has anything to hide, there

should be no objections to the measure. Finally, all uniformed officers should be expertly trained in the split-second use of Taser weapons, as well as other fire arms.

Police officers are not paid extravagantly, they work hard hours and know that they're placing their lives on the line every day to protect good people and catch the "bad guys." They shouldn't have to work so hard to tell the two groups apart. That's where effective parenting and personal decision-making come in.

*Society must have structure, where citizens respect and obey law enforcement authority figures and the laws they are paid to enforce. If a citizen's human rights have been violated, tell the media, tell a community leader, tell an elected local representative, tell a preacher. Virginia Beach is fortunate that it offers its citizens a full-time Human Rights Commission.*

where citizens respect and obey law enforcement authority figures and the laws they are paid to enforce. If a citizen's human rights have been violated, tell the media, tell a community leader, tell an elected local representative, tell a preacher. Virginia Beach is fortunate that it offers its citizens and visitors a full-time Human Rights Commission, under the leadership of Cliff Rice, a retired police chief; and before that, under Father James Parke and Faye Silverman. The commission, which meets monthly at the Virginia Beach Municipal

citizens should also be mindful that in a civil society, local police departments are sworn by oath, and paycheck, to follow the rules, and protect and serve all members of the public. If they break that oath, there are procedures in place for civilized, legal justice.

Maybe, just maybe, as the number of controversial, police officer-involved deaths continues to climb, three actions called for by human rights and civil rights activists can build more momentum: Police departments should be more sensitive

## For Sale

### '82 Benz 380 SL

Too Sharp! Ready To Roll!  
Garage-Kept Since New

1982 Mercedes Benz  
380 SL, hard top/soft top,  
22,000 miles, garage-kept  
since new, silver with black  
leather interior, high quality  
sheep skin seat covers, full  
power, AC and heat.

**\$19,000 or best offer!**

Call 1-757-338-3239

## P. G. Thomasson FUNERAL SERVICES

PERRY G. THOMASSON, DIRECTOR  
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.*

## 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



## 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!

## BEACH BAY HAIRCUTS

Barber & Beauty

BARBARA KOVACS  
OWNER-STYLIST-BARBER

BARBSFACE4B@AOL.COM • 757.412.1105 • 2973 SHORE DRIVE #109

## WE LOVE OUR MILITARY



# LAGNIAPPE

Noun /: LAN-YAP

*A small gift given • A little something extra*

Unique Gifts, Accessories, Clothing and Home Goods  
There's always a little something extra waiting for you!

518 Laskin Road Virginia Beach, VA 23451 • [lagniappevb@gmail.com](mailto:lagniappevb@gmail.com)  
(Formerly Garden Art)



400 32<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451  
(757)422-3637

### Full-Service

Barber Shop & Hair Salon

[info@gregorysbarbershopandsalon.com](mailto:info@gregorysbarbershopandsalon.com)

**10% Off**  
Offer valid on any service  
for first-time customers



ENJOY  
PROFESSIONAL HAIR CARE

## PART-TIME SOLDIER. FULL-TIME BENEFITS.

- Money for College
- Student Loan Repayment
- Job Training
- Affordable Healthcare
- Monthly Paycheck



**Virginia National Guard**

**Contact:**  
**SSG Percy**  
**(757) 377-5951**



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

# The Sundowner

December 2014

An Arts and Entertainment Supplement to The Virginia Beach Sun

Free - Citywide

## From the Dutch Country, poet Linda Keener stays busy writing, volunteering, sharing

By Jennifer K. Strout

Linda Keener is a believer. She believes in hope and the power of the human and spiritual connection.

A 22-year Virginia Beach resident, she is originally from a small town in Dutch Country Pennsylvania. She first moved to the city in 1982 when she had the opportunity to participate on the research and writing team for the Edgar Casey Encyclopedia of Healing that is featured in the Association for Research and Enlightenment (ARE), which houses the largest metaphysical library in the world, second only to the Vatican, she said.

After moving back to Pennsylvania to take care of her family from 1992 to 2003, Keener returned to Virginia Beach, now residing in the Oceanfront's Birdneck area. She enjoys writing mostly inspirational and spiritual poetry and has had both poetry and articles published in church newsletters and a variety of Pennsylvania newspapers. She has submitted poems to The Virginia Beach Sun for about a year.

"I wrote my first poem when I was 10 years old," she said. "We had a long bus

ride to school and one day on the ride, me and a classmate decided to write a poem."

Keener's poetry comes from a deeply personal place.

"(It was) a reaction to so many deaths in my life, including this year: My aunt and uncle, many friends, a coworker and my brother," she said about her poem, "My Christmas List". "My desire was to incorporate some of their virtues into my life."

During her freshman year of college, after the passing of her paternal grandfather, Linda read a poem entitled: "Rose Beyond the Wall."

"It put a beautiful meaning to death," she said. "I hoped that I could help people deal with it as well, to help people cope and think about life."

The holidays are a special time for Keener.

"A chance to take a breather after life has been hectic," she said, "and time to reflect."

She also remembers enjoying the time with her family and now her friends, as well as all the wonderful holiday food such as turkey, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes and minced meat pie.

Since having graduated with a major in Elementary Education, Linda has kept involved in a wide-array of activities from being a first grade teacher and church piano player in Pennsylvania, to the former president, and now member, of the local Virginia Beach Gamma Zeta chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an honorary society for teachers.

Linda also enjoys gardening, traveling, playing music, reading both nonfiction and fiction with an emphasis on metaphysical readings and volunteering both at the ARE and Audrey Sheppard Ministries, which is a Judeo-Christian Outreach Center on Virginia Beach Boulevard.

*"I wrote my first poem when I was 10 years old. We had a long bus ride to school and one day on the ride, me and a classmate decided to write a poem."*

*Oceanfront resident and poet Linda Keener*

Archers should be out and about during the holidays; they're extroverted and like socialization

During this holiday season, Virginia Beach residents born in December, who are also known as Sagittarius or the "ar-

cher," should definitely be enjoying the cold and festivities that come along with the festive season. Archers typically are

those that like to remain active and spontaneous, so 'tis the season to throw a party that's sure to bring the winter socialites

together.

Being "half animal-half human," Sagittarius' are more inclined to bring their

extroversion to the surface via social gatherings during their month of brutal cold since they are all forced inside to spare themselves hypothermia. However, if one is feeling extra "out there" this season, it may be a good time to polar plunge or have a snow "battle royale" if the icy crystals ever decide to fall.

The archers of the city are bound to be out and about, whether it's a music show or the just the football game at the local watering hole.



For the new year, big things are always planned, but especially for this outgoing zodiac. Now will be the time for big change and moving forward toward that pipe dream that's always in the back of their mind as they day dream at their day job.

The local Sagittarius' are in for a busy holiday, spreading their social wings and going toward new times to come. Look to the sky one of these chilly, indecisive, Virginia Beach nights and try to find the complex constellation of the archer, because they are sure to be everywhere in

For Sale

**Ford 1989 Bronco II**  
Eddie Bauer pkg.

Extra nice. 4x4. Cold AC fully-equipped. Excellent tires. 1-time professionally painted. Fully equipped. No rust. Great mileage. D6 engine.

**\$3,995**

Call 1-757-338-3239

Wade Insurance Agency  
Go Ahead. Ask for Foremost.®  
Auto • Home • Life • Business  
Workers Compensation  
1700 Pleasure House Rd. #103  
Virginia Beach, VA 23455  
**757-200-4036**  
rwade@wadeinsuranceagency.com

**BEACH PHARMACY**  
LYNNE KILGORE  
Pharmacist  
501 Laskin Rd  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451  
757-965-3036 Phone  
757-965-3039 Fax  
beachrx@cox.net beachpharmacyvb.com

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

Your premier venue for local art & artists!  
"Making Memories Last a Lifetime"  
757-363-3464  
Right on the Shore Drive Corridor  
across from the Leaping Lizard  
"Local Artists"  
**Artistic Creations**  
**Art Gallery & Classroom**  
Paintings-Photography-Jewelry  
Sculpture-Pottery-Blown Glass  
Open Daily  
Art Classes  
Kids - Adults  
• Oils  
• Watercolors  
• Acrylics  
• Collage  
• Jewelry  
• Sip & Paint  
• Pottery  
(kiln & wheels  
in Gallery)  
Originals  
Fine Art Prints  
Limited Edition Giclees  
425 Shore Drive (across from Leaping Lizard)  
Virginia Beach Va 23455  
Randall Jordan - Owner

**Guaranteed to Pay CASH On the Spot!**  
No Checks. No Bull.  
No Collection too large or too small  
**WANTED**  
• US Gold & Silver Coins & World Coins of all shapes & sizes  
• Rolex Wrist Watches  
• Animation Art  
• Diamonds & Fine Jewelry  
**WE BUY PLATINUM, GOLD & SILVER IN ANY FORM**  
**Silver Eagle**  
COINS & COLLECTIBLES  
**(757) 351-1105**  
2724 N. Mall Drive, Suite 102 (Corner of N. Mall Dr. & Lynnhaven Mall Dr.)  
www.silvereaglecoinsva.com Licensed-Bonded-Insured

# Virginia Beach offers many supportive congregations

Continued from Page 1

it can help them to navigate through the challenges they face," Kalden said. "The principles are based on logic and reasoning."

During the holiday season, there are numerous special events planned: *Saturday, December 13, a meditation workshop titled, "The Secret of a Joyful Holiday: Beat the Stress," which focuses on viewing the holidays in a positive manner and how to work with family dynamics; Sunday, December 21, an open-house potluck; Wednesday, December 31: alternative NYE for families and Thursday, January 1 at 11 a.m., a teaching on taking by means of compassion and giving by means of love.*

**Temple Emanuel Synagogue** is an all-inclusive Jewish community center located at the Oceanfront. Affiliated with the United Syn-

agogue of Conservative Judaism, they offer weekly worship services and educational and cultural programming in addition to a religious school.

"Judaism is one of the world's oldest spiritual paths," said Rabbi Marc Kraus. "It believes that our role is to manifest love in the world and see the divine in every living thing. At the core of Judaism lies a fountain of spiritual practices, designed to help us grow and change."

This synagogue is also open to new believers of all ages.

"Temple Emanuel is an intimate and relaxed Jewish community at the oceanfront," Kraus said. "We pride ourselves on our welcoming atmosphere, inspiring worship and a Sunday school that kids love! *Visitors are always welcome, but we invite you to join us for our monthly 'Shabbat Shirah' and 'Friday Light' services.*"

**Congregation Beth Chaverim** offers a reform Jewish congregation in central Virginia Beach, off Rosemont Road, near Green Run Elementary School. It prides itself on being a very welcoming and diverse community. As Rabbi Zoberman explained:

"Its friendly embrace reflecting its name Beth Chaverim, "House of Friends." It is the only Jewish congregation in the world that is home to two African American churches."

Zoberman offers insight into the Jewish religion, noting its history.

"Judaism was the first religion to proclaim the oneness of God and humanity," he said. "It regards ethics as paramount and rejoices in diversity. Judaism is the mother religion of both Christianity and Islam."

As for the holidays, *Beth Chaverim has those covered as well, offering: "Tradition, creative*

*programming, food and hugs." Services are regularly held on Friday nights.*

As far as Christian religious services, there are more options available than regions of Virginia Beach. **All Saint's Episcopal Church**, on Woodside Lane in Virginia Beach, offers an "Advent Wreath-Making Breakfast" on Sunday December 7 at 8 a.m., and a Christmas pageant at the 10 a.m., service on December 14.

**Bayside Baptist Church** on Pleasure House Road has services three times each Sunday, including a traditional service at 8:30 a.m., coffee house at 9:45 a.m., and contemporary service at 11 a.m.

One of the Pentecostal churches in the region is **Christ Gospel Church** on Indian River Road, which offers worship services both in person and available on the church's website.

**Lynnhaven United Methodist Church**, in

the city's Little Neck area, *has bible study and choir throughout the year. For the holidays, the church has a "Breakfast with Santa" and a "Children's Christmas Shop" on Saturday, December 6 from 9 a.m. to noon; and a children's Christmas pageant on Sunday, December 14 at 6 p.m.*

**The Catholic Church of the Ascension**, in the city's Princess Anne area, *holds mass every day of the week with the exception of Monday. On Saturday, December 6, from 9 a.m., to 3 p.m., the church is holding a "Jingle Bell Craft Show." "Breakfast with Santa" is on Sunday, December 7 from 9 a.m., to noon; an Advent retreat is set for the weekend of December 14, 15 and 16, and there will be a Christmas concert at 3 p.m., on December 21.*

Reach Jennifer K Strout at [TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com](mailto:TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com)

## Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Richmond have hen laws

Continued from Page 1

He said the group worked to modify the state's depredation law so that animal control officers are no longer required to kill dogs that attack chickens

"Other than that objection, which we have resolved, they (the council) haven't given us any good reasons for denying our request," said Stevenson.

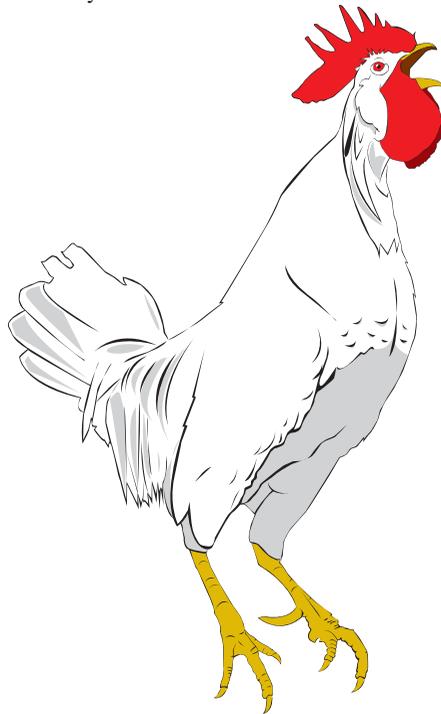
Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Richmond have all passed reasonable backyard hen ordinances recently, according to Stevenson.

All Hampton Roads localities – with the exception of Newport News and Virginia Beach – allow back yard chickens, said Marcus William, a Virginia Tech extension agent in the city of Suffolk. There are certain regulations with which each locality must comply, he said.

For example, in Suffolk, a property must be zoned agricultural, rural estate or rural residential. In Portsmouth, a resident can have a maximum of only 10 chickens. But in Suffolk, the maximum is "not over 20,000," said Williams, who recently sponsored a workshop to help people understand the responsibilities of chicken ownership.

"No matter where you are, you've got to consider zoning first," said Dr. Brigid McCrea, an extension poultry specialist at Delaware State University, who spoke at the Suffolk meeting. "And they need

a dose of reality, the practical stuff about chickens they need to know. They are dealing with birds with a life expectancy of 15 to 18 years, even if they stop laying after five years."



They are dealing with birds who are typically gentle, easy to manage, good with children and basically clean, if given ample room to roam and a healthy pasture, said

Dr. Jon Moyle, a University of Maryland poultry specialist, who also spoke at the Suffolk meeting.

"A lot of people want to get back in touch with their food," said Moyle. "That's what it's all about. It's something that's sweeping the nation. I understand people are renting chickens in D.C."

4 Virginia Beach Hens is shifting its efforts away from politics somewhat and toward education, said Stevenson.

"We've met with the S.P.C.A., a few Kiwanis clubs, and we attend various sustainability events in the area," he said. "We will also be meeting with the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations and other civic leagues over the course of the coming months."

4 Virginia Beach Hens will begin holding back yard chicken keeping classes in the spring, said Stevenson, and the group will be giving families in Virginia Beach information about getting hens, despite the prohibition against the birds.

"There are many families with hens illegally," he said. "Hens are already a vibrant, unobtrusive part of the community of Virginia Beach. Hopefully, the city council will catch up to the times at some point and stop standing in the way of sustainability and progress."

Reach Linda McNatt at [TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com](mailto:TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com)

## History



Archived issues of The Virginia Beach Sun are available online and in bound editions at the Meyera E. Oberndorf Central Library, 4100 Virginia Beach Boulevard. The Sun is also available at all of the city's neighborhood branch libraries in each one's periodicals section; and a limited number is available to the public each month. Call the Central Library at 757-385-0150 for more information.

# PLAZA AZTECA : MEXICAN CUISINE

2272 W Great Neck Rd | Virginia Beach, Va 23451 • 757.961.5298 • [www.plazaazteca.com](http://www.plazaazteca.com) • [PlazaAztecaShoreDr@gmail.com](mailto:PlazaAztecaShoreDr@gmail.com)



E N J O Y   G U A C A M O L E   F R E S H L Y   M A D E   A T   Y O U R   T A B L E

**\$5 OFF DINNER | 2 MEALS & 2 DRINKS**

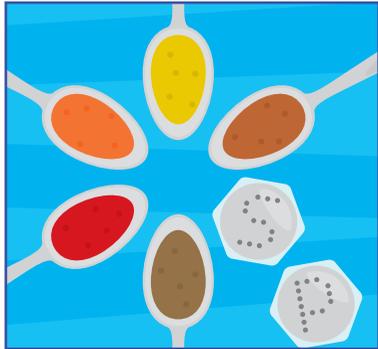
Minimum \$5 Entree Purchase - Dinner Only Valid Sun-Thurs ONLY. Limit one coupon per table/party. Valid at Great Neck Location. Dine-In only. Not valid with any other offer.

# Food, Dining and Fresh Recipe: Sunny Holiday Veggie Soup

Simple seasonal soup warms the soul on those cold, cold nights at home

By Tayler Valladares

During this upcoming chilly winter, many Virginia Beach locals enjoy a warm bowl of soup to snuggle up with. The hot steam from a freshly made pot of seasonal soup, opening the senses up to ready the cook for a tasting, turns



into a love affair of warmth and comfort. Even from the beginning, of gathering the ingredients, cooks of all levels of experience watch as the simple masterpiece forms. Letting the rich, flavorful stock start to boil, and chopping each vegetable to bite-size pieces, sneaking a piece here and there, only for quality control reasons of course, most local cooks or first-time cooks, will be pleased with themselves for having created such an easy, delectable and inexpensive meal. Served best piping hot, being sure not let the heat of the moment burn one's tongue, this basic vegan dish is even good a day or two later as leftovers.

## Ingredients

- √ 2 10oz boxes or cans of vegetable stock  
(cooks may use less or more as desired)
- √ 2 cups cooked rice  
(to ensure it doesn't absorb all the liquid)
- √ 2/3 cup lentils, rinsed
- √ 1/4 head cabbage, chopped
- √ 2 spring onions
- √ 4 carrots
- √ 1/4 white onion
- √ 2 cloves garlic, minced
- √ 1 bay leaf
- √ Salt and pepper
- √ 1 tbsp olive oil
- √ 1 cup sliced black olives (optional)

Makes four to six servings; prep time – 10 minutes; cooking time – 50 minutes

Start heating dutch oven or sautee pan on medium heat, adding the oil and garlic. Add in the spring onions and the bay leaf. After chopping the vegetables to desired size, add all except the cabbage to the pan and continue to cooking through. While those are cooking, start the stock in a large pot and bring to a boil. Add the lentils and let cook for 20 to 30 minutes. After vegetables have softened, take out the bay leaf, turn off heat and let rest for a minute. After the lentils are tender, add vegetables and cabbage to the pot and reduce to medium-low heat. Let simmer, covered, for 15 to 20 minutes or until cabbage is tender. Once everything is thoroughly cooked in the pot, add the rice to the soup and let heat through. Add olives, if desired, at the same time as the rice. Once all is heated, and to the cook's liking, serve with bread or chicken if desired and enjoy!

**Flour Child Bakery**

FLOUR CHILD BAKERY

1716 Pleasure House Road #104  
Virginia Beach, VA 23455  
757.464.1455  
facebook.com/flourchildbakery

Full service bakery specializing in baking from scratch!

**NO FORKS**  
CHEESESTERKS & MORE

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

5045 Virginia Beach Boulevard #101  
Facebook.com/NOFORKS101

**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

**Restaurante Ole**  
MEXICAN FLAVORS WITH SPANISH ACCENT

**JOIN OUR AMIGOS de OLE CLUB**

Visit our webpage [www.olevb.net](http://www.olevb.net) to join our email list OR Text: Ole TO 40691

5191 Shore Drive, Virginia Beach, VA | [ole@olevb.net](mailto:ole@olevb.net) | 1-757-460-0555

**FREE** LEGENDARY TABLESIDE GUACAMOLE OR CHEESE DIP **FREE**

• We match all Competitors Coupons •

WE DELIVER!  
456-5678  
TakeoutHR.com

**ABERDEEN BARN STEAKHOUSE**

Family owned and operated  
SINCE 1966

**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.

**Frankie's**  
PLACE FOR RIBS

**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**

# The Virginia Beach Sun

Virginia Beach's Hometown Newspaper Since the 1920s

News and Advertising  
757-363-7866

P.O. Box 5103, Virginia Beach VA 23471

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 8:30 a.m. TO 5 p.m.

Next issue: Thursday, January 1  
Next deadline: Wednesday, December 24

Online: [TheVirginiaBeachSun.com](http://TheVirginiaBeachSun.com)  
Email: [TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com](mailto:TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [Facebook.com/TheVirginiaBeachSun](https://www.facebook.com/TheVirginiaBeachSun)

News Editor: 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.

Member, Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce

## Citywide Distribution to Almost 100 Locations

All 11 public libraries  
All 12 high school libraries  
10 Starbucks and 50 to 60 business  
and restaurant locations three outdoor boxes  
and the worldwide web  
(not all locations listed; new ones  
added regularly; some dropped)

Oceanfront/Hilltop/North End: The Beach Pub; Pelon's Baja Grill; Heritage Health Food Store; Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel; Bonehead's Beach House; Nick's Restaurant; Beach Pharmacy; Starbucks at Hilltop Shopping Center; Quality Inn Pavilion Hotel; Cerca Del Mar Hotel; Corinne's Salon 3200; Gregory's Oceanfront Barber Shop; Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art; Virginia Beach Information Center; Flowers – Wayne Jones; Vinyl Daze Records; Starbucks on Pacific Avenue; Lagnia Pie; Wave Works; Beach Gallery; Stravitz 30th Street Art Gallery. Shore Drive/Chic's Beach/Great Neck: Artistic Creations Art Gallery; Leaping Lizard Restaurant; Froggie's Restaurant; Starbucks; CP Shucker's; Charlie's Seafood Restaurant; Plaza Azteca; Famous Uncle Al's Hot Dogs; Shore Break; Dish; Beach Bay Haircuts. Bayside/Thoroughgood: Farmers Insurance – Rodney Wade; Gateaux Bakery; Flour Child Bakery; Eddy's Business Services; Starbucks at Haygood; Starbucks on Northampton Boulevard. Timberlake: Starbucks; Towne Center/PembrokeThalia: Conjetti Café and Gelato; No Forks Cheese Steaks; Tijuana Flats. Kempsville/Centerville: Frankie's Place for Ribs; Starbucks at Kemps River II. Lynnhaven: Eve's Hair Studio; Ryoshin-Kan Karate School; Silver Eagle Coins and Collectibles; Deluxe Nails and Spa; Las Palmas; P.G Thomasson Funeral Services; Little Neck/Thalia/Rosemont: Starbucks on Virginia Beach Boulevard; Harold's; Tijuana Flats. Princess Anne/Pungo/ Courthouse/Dam Neck: Starbucks at Landstown Shopping Center; Starbucks on Nimmo Parkway; Red Barn Food Store; Virginia Beach City Hall First Floor Reception Desk. Red Mill: Malbon Brothers Corner Mart. Oceanfront Outdoor box locations: 37th Street and Pacific Avenue; Birdneck Road at the I 264 exit; beside the front entrance at The Beach Pub; Town Center on Independence Boulevard in front of Town Center Station shopping center.

OFFICE PHONE: 1-757-363-7866 (SUNN)

EMAIL: [TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com](mailto:TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com)

## Enlightenment

*“We sell collectible objects. We don't sell energy” - Jim Goldstein, Beads and Rocks*

*Continued from Page 1*

A long time New Age advocate, Goldstein's customers come from all over the city and from all walks of life.

“We sell to very few Navy people, but we get every kind of economic and financial standing,” said Goldstein, “The people who do come in may not have a (college) degree, but they are definitely educated.”

The majority of his customers visit his Virginia Beach Boulevard store for the claimed physical benefits of the minerals, also known as crystals, not as many are drawn to the spiritual aspects. The idea of using crystals for certain physical ailments is intimidating to some people who are looking for alternative medicines and therapies.

“Some of the Christians believe it's demonic, and that's a large group around here,” said Goldstein. “Because the Wiccans use a lot of crystals and that has demonic attributes. A lot of time when people have cancer, it's too scary.”

Even though there are non-believers, there are still many other collectors looking for new and interesting minerals, including new-comers with no knowledge about the mineral kingdom, as well as jewelry-makers gathering more materials. The rocks and minerals often sell more than beads, but that's only because of the unique variety and large number of minerals he keeps in stock.

“I've got about 20,000 (minerals) just looking around the store and probably 100,000 in my warehouse,” said Goldstein. “I've got a tremendous amount, I mean tons and tons, and that's not an exaggeration.”

Tumbled, polished, or raw, Goldstein sells by the stone's weight, along with an equal mix of pre-priced stones. Just outside the store walls there's 30,000 pounds of raw rocks waiting to be rummaged through for an interesting find, he said. He also sells original local art, jewelry and crafts.

“We have over 200 different varieties of quartz, which is

the most sold,” said Goldstein. “We've got more clear quartz, smoky and rose quartz.”

Among the popular quartz crystals, customers mostly are attracted to azurite, garnet, aquamarine and fossils of every kind from quartz to sandstone. With the numerous amounts of minerals available, the store has seen an increase in business.

“In terms of the store, we've seen an upward trend over the past 23 years,” said Goldstein. “I don't follow other stores but I know I've had more people come in over the years.”

There's a 721-pound amethyst, selling for \$10,000, right at the front door of the shop awes customers of all ages. It could be the smallest one-karat Herkimer diamond, or the enormous amethyst, that healers, collectors, and curious people alike are drawn to the store's eclectic selections.

“Some people come in walking around and saying ‘huh?’ with that glassy look in their eye,” said Goldstein.

About 10 percent of locals are intrigued by the mineral kingdom and the uses for them, Goldstein said, adding that he has sold to at least half of that number during his 23 years that the store has been open at its current location. His personal energy work and mineral collection have been a part of his life since the mid-1970s and he continues sharing his knowledge with anyone who has a curiosity.

Although Goldstein is an “energy sensing” person and can feel the physical energies of the minerals, he said, he doesn't push his use of crystals on any of his customers.

“The store is not a healing store; we're not trying to sell healing,” said Goldstein. “We sell collectable objects. We don't sell energy.”

Reach Jim Goldstein at Beads and Rocks, located at 335 Virginia Beach Boulevard, at 1-757-428-9824. Email him at: [beadsandrocks@yahoo.com](mailto:beadsandrocks@yahoo.com). Online: [www.beadsandrocks.com](http://www.beadsandrocks.com).

*“In terms of the store, we've seen an upward trend over the past 23 years. I don't follow other stores but I know I've had more people come in over the years.”*  
*Jim Goldstein, owner,*  
*Beads and Rocks*

*Pictured below, top two pictures, the proposed Oceanfront multipurpose arena; bottom two pictures, the new Brock Environmental Center*

*Continued from Page 1*

accurately registering each voter's vote. In at least one past election, the city has also been criticized for long lines at the polls.

**SPORTS CLUB** – This past Veterans Day, The Virginia Beach Sports Club had as its guest luncheon speaker Jim Richards, who graduated from Virginia Tech on a football scholarship. He was drafted by the New York Jets and played in the 1969 Super Bowl against the Baltimore Colts, the team favored to win. But "Broadway" Joe Namath, the Jets celebrity quarterback, predicted an upset and the Jets won. Richards entertained club members by sharing some of his experiences as a professional football player. Pictured, left to right: Tom Barnes, in red shirt from the Virginia Beach Sports Club; Jim Richards in the middle and Bill Swertfeger, from the Virginia Beach Sports Club.

**HUMAN RIGHTS** - The Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission (HRC) and Volunteers of America, in partnership with the Department of Housing and Neighborhood Preservation, the BEACH Community Partnerships, and the Rotary Club of Hampton Roads, will host Homelessness Awareness Week from Dec. 15 to 21 and recognize Homeless Memorial Day on Dec. 21. A donation drive will be held Dec. 15 to 21, when locals are encouraged to take part in this community outreach to assist fellow citizens experiencing homelessness. Needed donations include new or gently used blankets, twin size only; jeans, men's and women's, all sizes; socks, towels and toiletries, travel size. Volunteers of America will also accept monetary donations. Donated items can be dropped off Dec. 15 to 21, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m. to noon; Sunday, 7 a.m. to noon, at the Volunteers of America Lighthouse Center, 825 18th St., behind the Virginia Beach Police Department Second Precinct. "Please take a few moments during this awareness week to assist our homeless citizens," said Cliff Rice, HRC chairman. "We are asking business owners, civic leagues and organizations to join us in this effort of caring and sharing. Your acts of kindness are greatly appreciated." A National Homeless Memorial Day Vigil is set for Sunday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m., at the Volunteers of America Lighthouse Center parking lot. "We hope citizens will take a moment out of the longest night of the year to remember those who have died, and also to honor persons who are still facing the challenges of homelessness every day, by attending the National Homeless Memorial Day Vigil," said Debbie Maloney, director of Volunteers of America. For more information contact Bonnie Beni at [bbeni@vb.gov](mailto:bbeni@vb.gov) or 385-1158, or Debbie Maloney at [dmaloney@voaches.org](mailto:dmaloney@voaches.org) or 646-8599.

**\$29 M GOLF CENTER** - Golf entertainment leader Topgolf International, Inc., recently unveiled Virginia Beach as its third location planned in Virginia. Topgolf® will begin construction on the 65,000-square-foot new entertainment center in December and is expected to open to the public in fall 2015. Located at

I-264 and Newtown Road off of Greenwich Road, the facility will be a couple of miles from Town Center Virginia Beach and a 15- to 20-minute drive from the oceanfront resort as well as downtown Norfolk. The company plans to invest \$29.9 million in Virginia Beach during the next three years. Topgolf is the only entertainment center of its kind, according to city officials, offering competitive golfing games for all ages and skill levels and advanced technology to track players' shots. The new three-level location, constructed by ARCO/Murray, will include up to 3,000 square feet of private event space and 102 climate-controlled hitting bays that can host up to six players at one time. Estimates are that Topgolf Virginia Beach will serve approximately 450,000 visitors in its first year of operation. Nearly half of all Topgolf guests describe themselves as "non-golfers." Those who just want to relax can enjoy the upscale, laid-back ambiance that boasts more than 230 high-definition flat-screen TVs and an extensive food and beverage menu. The first Topgolf to open in the United States is located in Alexandria. In April, the company announced plans to build in Loudoun County. "Virginia Beach is an ideal location for Topgolf," said Topgolf Real Estate Director Zach Shor. "The tourism industry is booming, and the local business economy is also very strong, with more than 20 international companies headquartered here. It's just a great place to live and work, and we are thrilled for the opportunity to offer residents another option for entertainment." City officials are also excited. "This is an exciting announcement for the city of Virginia Beach and the entire region," said Warren D. Harris, director, Virginia Beach Economic Development. "Topgolf is one of the nation's most dynamic new entertainment concepts integrating technology with sports, recreation and dining. Virginia Beach is joining a select group of markets in the country welcoming Topgolf. This will definitely be an asset as we seek to attract and retain a talented workforce." The Virginia Beach Development Authority approved an Economic Development Investment Program grant in the amount of \$300,000 based on the capital investment in the city. Founded in 2000, Topgolf welcomed its 10 millionth visitor last November. Topgolf's economic impact in its local communities is also remarkable, creating 450 full- and part-time jobs at each location and serving as an anchor tenant that tends to attract other popular franchises to the area. In fact, its economic output in Virginia Beach alone is expected to exceed \$264.5 million over a 10-year period, according to a third-party audit. Residents can track Topgolf's site progress in Virginia Beach at [facebook.com/topgolfvabeach](https://facebook.com/topgolfvabeach) and [@topgolfvabeach](https://twitter.com/topgolfvabeach) on Twitter and Instagram. Topgolf is the emerging global leader in golf entertainment with 13 locations serving more than 2.7 million guests annually. Players hit golf balls containing computer microchips that track each shot's accuracy and distance while also awarding points for hitting targets on the outfield. To learn more about Topgolf, visit [www.topgolf.com](http://www.topgolf.com).

**STARCHASE EXPANDS** - StarChase LLC, a company specializing in tagging and tracking for the law enforcement industry, is expanding its Virginia Beach headquarters. The company, founded in 2012, is located at 515 Central Drive in the Oceana East Industrial Park and needs more space to grow. The company manufactures a pursuit-reduction system, providing a safer pursuit strategy than high speed chases, according to city officials. The product contains a miniature GPS module and launcher that can be mounted on police vehicles. A compressed-air launcher deploys the GPS projectile/tag that adheres to a suspect's vehicle. The tracking tag continually transmits its position enabling dispatchers to track the vehicle's location and movements. Police can then create a safe interdiction strategy or perform surveillance on the suspect. StarChase's clients include the Iowa, Austin, Duluth and St. Petersburg Police and the Arizona Highway Patrol. Product lines include GPS Launcher, StarChase GPS Tag, StarChase Training Tag, Fleet and Covert Tracking Systems and StarChase System Accessories. Over the next three years, the company may add 35 new jobs to the existing 10 positions with average annual salaries of \$48,000. These jobs include management, manufacturing, engineering, finance, administrative, installation, customer service and sales/marketing functions. "This is an exciting project for the city of Virginia Beach," said Warren D. Harris, director of Virginia Beach Economic Development. "StarChase is the perfect illustration of how small innovative companies are impacting customers far removed from their home markets through the development and application of new technologies. This department has been expanding our programming initiatives over the past 18 months specifically to meet the unique needs of our small business community, and we're happy to see this is having an impact." The Virginia Beach Development Authority approved an Economic Development Investment Program grant in the amount of \$50,000 based on the number of jobs created and the capital investment of \$160,000 for real estate improvements, furniture, equipment and fixtures. StarChase President Trevor Fischbach stated, "StarChase is pleased to be recognized by Virginia Beach Economic Development, and we view the grant as an investment in our future here in Virginia Beach. The funds will allow us to expand at our existing facility as we ramp up to meet our 2015 sales forecast and deliver our tracking technology to law enforcement agencies worldwide." StarChase LLC ([www.starchase.com](http://www.starchase.com)) provides pursuit management and GPS tracking technology to law enforcement agencies worldwide. The tactical interdiction offers a safer alternative while still catching the offender. The StarChase system is a proven, less-lethal technology that provides a significant tactical advantage to law enforcement officers in failure-to-yield or high-risk flight situations. Once a vehicle is tagged, it enables a dispatcher to track the suspect in real time using a web-based mapping program. The officer remains on the street, a potentially dan-

gerous pursuit is avoided, and the suspect can then be safely apprehended.

**ARENA DETAILS** - Virginia Beach City Council members were recently briefed in closed session on a tentative term sheet regarding the proposed multipurpose Oceanfront arena. The council has not yet decided how to proceed. The term sheet spells out the responsibilities of each party – the city of Virginia Beach and United States Management, LLC, the Virginia Beach-based private group that proposes to build the arena. The \$200 million arena would be built entirely with private funds. The city would contribute \$53 million in infrastructure outside the arena, including parking, a plaza and utilities. The city council held a preliminary discussion Tuesday and will receive a formal briefing in open session next week on Tuesday, Nov. 25. For background information, visit [www.VBgov.com/arena](http://www.VBgov.com/arena).

**KHS EARNS AWARD** - Kellam High School was recently named a Silver Design Award winner in the 2014 Virginia School Boards Association's (VSBA) Exhibition of School Architecture. According to the VSBA, this competition is held in order to raise awareness among board members about the relationship between good design and effective teaching and learning. The VSBA invites construction firms to submit projects for the competition, which are then brought before a panel of judges for award consideration. Specifically, judges evaluate the school's learning ambience, sustainable design and multi-functionality, among other criteria. Winners were announced in conjunction with the VSBA annual convention. This year, seven winners were selected from 18 entries. "This is a wonderful accolade to receive from the Virginia School Boards Association," said Tony Arnold, director of Facilities Planning and Construction. "We would like to thank Mike Ross and the HBA Architecture team for partnering with us throughout this journey. With their insight and collaboration, Kellam is not just a school building; it truly has become an outstanding resource for our students and our school division." Kellam High School is a 336,410 square-foot building resting on 108 acres. The building itself boasts six learning communities with student project and demonstration spaces, an 800-seat auditorium as well as an 145-seat black box theater. In addition, Kellam has a roof rainwater harvesting system to irrigate its play fields and a vegetated roof and art courtyard. In fact, the school's courtyard was designed with the help of the school's AP Environmental Science class. "Without question, Kellam High School is an incredible building to visit and tour," said Dr. Aaron Spence, superintendent of Virginia Beach City Public Schools. "However, as an educator, the most impressive part of the school comes in the way our teachers use the purposefulness of the school's design to elevate learning in the classroom. With this innovative environment and creative staff in place, we are seeing our students working together, embracing new technologies and learning to view their world from new perspectives."

**SESSOMS IN HOT SEAT** - Virginia Beach Mayor William D. Sessoms, Jr., is embroiled in a public political battle with The Virginian-Pilot, the Norfolk, Va.-based daily newspaper and website, and others, based on the results of a recent Pilot journalistic investigation. Follow the ongoing coverage in The Virginian-Pilot and at [www.Pilotonline.com](http://www.Pilotonline.com). Sessoms, who is up for re-election in 2016, was first elected mayor in 2008, running against incumbent mayor, Meyera Oberndorf, and then-challenger, John Moss, who is now a city councilman. Sessoms bested Oberndorf, who was the city's first publicly elected mayor and its first and only female mayor, by some 10,000 votes and was re-elected in 2012. Moss, who placed third in that contest, is now calling for the mayor to suspend his mayoral duties until an inquiry is completed, following his suspension, with pay, from his professional duties at TowneBank, his employer.

Sessom's fighting against professional conflict of interest allegations, for voting on matters involving TowneBank, stating that he doesn't intend to step aside and that when all is said and done, there will be "sunshine" at the end of the day. The city's vice mayor is Louis R. Jones, a businessman. In the run-up to his 2012 re-election, TowneBank was a heavy advertiser in The Pilot, which recently named its first female publisher and has added new news and feature sections.

**HOLIDAY COOKING** - Cooking oil is the latest addition to items now accepted at the Virginia Beach Landfill and Resource Recovery Center. The new addition comes just in time to accept the grease from all of those fried turkeys this holiday season. It is important to dispose of cooking oil properly because when it is put into the garbage disposal, as is all-too-often the case, it can harden and cause many problems in the sewer pipes. Instead, residents can bring cooking oil in disposable containers, and staff will ensure that the oil is recycled for use in diesel fuel and heating oil. A wide variety of services are offered at the Virginia Beach Landfill and Resource Recovery Center to help Virginia Beach residents make the most of their discards that don't necessarily have to be trash. The city encourages residents to donate what can be donated, and recycle what can be recycled. Alternative recycling and donation options are continuously being developed at the facility. Materials that are currently accepted include metals, electronics, such as computers and cell phones, batteries, rigid plastics, oyster shells, dirt, concrete, and clothes, shoes, books and more. Resource recovery is good for the environment and reduces disposal costs. For more information about the Virginia Beach Landfill and Resource Recovery Center, please call 757-385-1980, or visit [www.VBgov.com/landfill](http://www.VBgov.com/landfill).

**CORRECTION** – The photo on Page 5 in the November issue of The Virginia Beach Sun of John Rochford was taken at the Norfolk Tap-house by Beth Austin.

Send local articles and photos to [TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com](mailto:TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com). Please include contact and photo information. Online: [www.TheVirginiaBeachSun.com](http://www.TheVirginiaBeachSun.com). Facebook.com/TheVirginiaBeachSun.



# WAVE WORKS

## SURF SHOP

**B • O • G • O**

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

**SURFBOARDS  
STARTING AT \$299**

20 Percent Off All Skateboards & Wet Suits

757-333-4004 • 301 25th Street | Virginia Beach, VA 23451 • [waveworkssurfshop.com](http://waveworkssurfshop.com)