

The Virginia Beach Sun

Vol. II No. 8, November 14, 2013

Virginia Beach's Hometown Newspaper

A Free Independent Newspaper!



Elected Leaders!

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*"Our Roots" concert
at Regent University*

See Page 11

The music was prepared by Maestro Jorge Aquirre, conductor of the Hampton Roads Chamber Player, seen here performing at the concert. (Photo by Krista Dorrel)



At-a-Glance

2010 census population (rank): 437,994 (39)
 Male: 214,441 (49.0%)
 Female: 223,553 (51.0%)
 Caucasian: 296,670 (67.7%)
 African American: 85,935 (19.6%)
 American Indian and Alaska Native: 1,685 (0.4%)
 Asian: 26,769 (6.1%)
 Other race: 8,622 (2.0%)
 Two or more races: 17,656 (4.0%)
 Hispanic/Latino: 28,987 (6.6%)
 2010 percent population 18 and over: 76.0%; 65 and over: 10.6%;
 Median age: 34.9.
 2012 population estimate (rank): 447,021 (39)
 Land area: 248 square miles (642 sq km)
 Altitude: 12 ft.
 Avg. daily temp.: Jan., 39.1° F; July, 78.2° F
 Churches: Protestant, 235; Catholic, 13; Jewish, 5;
 City-owned parks: 208 (4,000+ ac.);
 Civilian labor force (MSA) June 2012: 863,8001;
 Unemployed: 57,8001,
 Percent: 6.71;
 Per capita personal income 2010: \$30,873
 Chamber of Commerce: Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 327, Norfolk, VA 23501
 1. Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Va.-N.C.

HISTORY

Virginia Beach, the most populous city in Virginia, is located in the southeast part of the state on the Atlantic coastline. It is independent and is not part of any county.

The first English settlers to set foot in America landed at Cape Henry at the tip of Virginia Beach on April 29, 1607. They were led by Captain Christopher Newport and a rebellious John Smith, who barely avoided execution at the hands of his fellow colonists. Newport and Smith would battle for control of the new settlement, known as Jamestown, until Smith was forced back to England by the colonists two years later. The first permanent settlement within the city limits was made at Lynnhaven Bay in 1621. Cape Henry became an important port for British merchant ships calling on America, and it was here that the French fleet led by Admiral Comte de Grasse blockaded the British fleet during the American Revolution.

Virginia Beach gained its reputation as a famous vacation resort in the 19th century, following the building of a railroad connecting its oceanfront with Norfolk and the construction of its first hotel in 1883. Virginia Beach was incorporated as a town in 1906 and as a city in 1952. In 1963, Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach merged.

Tourism is a mainstay of the economy; more than 3 million people visit Virginia Beach each year. Virginia Beach's economy is also supported by four military bases and diverse industries, including agriculture, computer software, engineering, and technical services

For more information: Virginia Beach, Va.: Population, Weather, Demographics, Facts, History, Mayor, Landmarks | Infoplease.com <http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/a0108617.html#ixzz2hiOitxmO>

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Seatack Elementary home to An Achievable Dream Academy

By Lauren Wicks

Seatack Elementary School will be the host school for An Achievable Dream (AAD) program beginning in July 2014. Earlier this year, the School Board approved a contract with AAD to locate a program in a Virginia Beach public school. After much research and dialogue with parents and community members, school administration has selected Seatack Elementary School as the host school. This will be the first expansion for An Achievable Dream, which has operated as part of Newport News Public Schools for 20 years.

"We are eager to see this dynamic program come alive in our classrooms. It will provide a multitude of new opportunities for our students," said Dr. Sheila Magula, interim superintendent for Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

Seatack will begin An Achievable Dream Academy for students in kindergarten through second grade and will add a grade



Seatack Elementary School

level each year until the program reaches grade 12. Students in this program will still be learning the Virginia Beach curriculum.

The same performance standards other public schools must meet will remain in place as well. The difference is that AAD will provide additional resources beyond the Virginia Beach content and objectives including a Social, Academic and Moral Education (SAME) curriculum. This custom-built curriculum includes classes on personal finance, ethics, conflict resolution and etiquette.

Providing these expanded resources will take additional time. Consequently, the school year will begin earlier, next July, for Seatack Elementary School students in the AAD program. Eventually, beginning with grade

3, AAD will have a longer school day. This additional time will allow students to enjoy the benefits of clubs, field trips and enrichment and remediation activities.

Seniors who graduate from An Achievable Dream program will receive a \$2,000 annual scholarship for each of the four years of their college education. In addition, four colleges — Norfolk State, Old Dominion University, University of Virginia and Virginia Tech — have partnered with the program to close the financial gap.

"We are thrilled to see this partnership with Virginia Beach Schools come to fruition," said Aubrey Layne, president of An Achievable Dream. "We believe VBCPS and An Achievable Dream together will help make the college and career dreams of Seatack students and parents a reality."

For more information about the program, visit www.vbschools.com/laad or [achievabledream.org](http://www.achievabledream.org); call 757.263.1234; or email: lauren.wicks@vbschools.com.

Register now for the seventh annual African American male summit

By Yolanda Jones-Howell

The school system's annual African-American male summit is slated for Saturday Jan. 11 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bayside High School. Now in its seventh year, the summit celebrates the life and accomplishments of the great civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This year's theme is "Transforming the Dream through Service - 50 Years Strong."

King often encouraged others to improve the status of their communities by serving their neigh-

bors. To honor King's legacy of service, the summit will highlight the work of various service organizations throughout our community and opportunities to volunteer. In addition, there will be numerous small group sessions focusing on college preparation, goal setting and school achievement, to name a few. Similar topics will be covered during special parent institute sessions. Representatives from local colleges and universities, military branches, community agencies, businesses and Virginia Beach City Public Schools' aca-

demic programs will also be present to meet families and answer questions throughout the day.

The event is open to all VBCPS high school students as well as select middle school students, who will be invited to participate. Students can register for the summit in their school's guidance department.

The keynote speaker for this year's summit will be Dr. Brian Williams, a 1990 Kempsville High School graduate and the direc-



Prior to Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe's successful bid for the state's highest office, he, pictured in the middle, joined Virginia Beach Mayor Will Sessoms, on the left and Norfolk Mayor Paul Fraim, on the right, recently for a tour of the Virginia Beach Advanced Technology Center where the then-gubernatorial candidate pledged his support for the Hampton Roads region on several levels, including education. (Photo by Toni Guagenti).

Mayors proud of Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe

Virginia Beach Mayor Will Sessoms and Norfolk Mayor Paul Fraim were among the first local dignitaries flying to Northern Virginia to offer Virginia Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe their personal congratulations following his hard-fought victory over Ken Cuccinelli in the recent gubernatorial race for the state's highest office. He takes office on Jan. 14, succeeding Governor Tim Kaine.



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Continues on Page 8

Knotts Island fire under control

There was a residential fire recently in Knotts Island. The Virginia Beach Fire Department sent a full working fire response and VBFD Battalion 4 was in command, said Amy Valdez, a department spokesperson. There were no fire hydrants in the area and crews were required to bring water in via tanker operation. The fire was a defensive fire. No reported injuries at this time.



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The Virginia Beach Sun

Virginia Beach's Hometown Newspaper Since the 1920s

Letters to the Editor Welcome

Do you have questions, comments or suggestions for *The Virginia Beach Sun*?

Call 757 363 SUNN (7866) during normal business hours to speak with its editor and publisher, Greg Goldfarb, or send your thoughts to *The Virginia Beach Sun*, P.O. Box 5103, Virginia Beach VA 23471. You may also e-mail: TheVirginiaBeachSun@gmail.com. If you'd like for your written comments to be considered for publication, please include your full name and phone number for personal verification.

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“Mystery” waitress is Beth Pimentil at The Beach Pub

The mystery began as an anonymous letter to the editor.

“At The Beach Pub . . . ,” the letter read, “. . . there are so many wonderful waitresses and waiters . . . (but) one stands out and her name is Beth . . . efficient, a consummate professional . . . that rare breed of professionals that we need more of in all professions.” – signed, Anonymous.

After a little research, it was determined that the praiseworthy waitress is Beth Pimentil, a Virginia Beach native, 1995 Princess Anne High graduate and Salt Marsh Point resident, where she lives with her husband, Paul, and their daughter Marcy.

A 20-year professional server, Pimentil worked at numerous local restaurants before starting at the Pub many years ago. She doesn't plan to work anywhere else.

“I love the clientele,” she said. “I love my fellow employees. I am 100 percent into my job; I leave all of my problems behind. I'm very surprised that someone would write a letter about me, it would have been anybody.”



Beth Pimentil

TVBS Friendly Reminders

Happy Thanksgiving (Nov. 28)

Happy Hanukkah (Nov. 27)

Pearl Harbor Day (Dec. 7)



Please visit TVBS's web site, TheVirginiaBeachSun.com, Monday through Friday for daily news updates.

Restaurant Review:

Plenty of food, spicy if you like it, at Tida Thai in VB and NN

Don't be embarrassed to ask for numerous glasses of water!

By Nathan Denny
Staff Writer

TIDA THAI CUISIN

Are you stuck in your “cycle” of lunch and dinner spots in the city? You have three or four that you know you like, so rather than venturing out to try something new, you invariably fall back on the old reliables. It’s an easy habit to fall into, but with the abundance and variety of Virginia Beach’s dining, you are truly doing yourself a disservice by shying away from bold exploration.

I recently tried a new place, one I had driven by many times, on each occasion thinking, “I should try that someday.” That place is Tida Thai Cuisine, serving authentic dishes inspired by the culinary culture of Thailand.

There are a handful of Tida Thai restaurants in Virginia Beach and Newport News. I tried the one in the Town Center section of Virginia Beach, nestled in the corner of one of the older shopping centers behind the Pembroke

Mall. It’s not on the main road, but just seconds off the Boulevard.

The blandness of the shopping center where the restaurant is housed is no reflection of the well-kept and attractive appearance of the interior. The shop presents an almost seamless blend of the contemporary and the customary model orient. Colorful pendant lights hang down over each table, each one a unique mix of colors. The tables are surrounded by modern wooden chairs and each table is ornamented with faux orchids. Eastern-themed murals tie in the traditional.

I find that many people who frequent Thai restaurants do it for the spiciness. They like that peppery sting that can clear your nasal passages from the first bite. Or maybe they just like the challenge of getting through a meal that has most people hightailing it to the nearest source of water. Under this category, I’d say I’m in the middle—I like spicy, but I’m not trying to prove anything to anyone.

The menu at Tida Thai provides an icon next to its spicier dishes: a little red pepper. According to the menu, the designation indicates “traditionally spicy, but can be made to suit your

required the friendly waitress to stop by our table several times with the water pitcher to top off my glass). All elements had that zing from the chili and garlic, the vegetables had a good crispiness to them, and the chicken was nice and tender. The meal came with a crunchy spring roll as well. For me, the amount of spiciness was just right. But I have a feeling some Thai fanatics might be left wanting more. Not to worry—they have spicier meals available. And you can request the cooks to up the ante.

After about 10 minutes of eating, I looked down at my plate—I had barely put a dent in it. A compact clump of rice is deceptive, let me tell you. There is more there than you expect. Once your fork starts to break it up, it multiplies somehow, if not in reality than at least in perception. And it didn’t take long for me to start feeling full.

The dinner entrees at Tida Thai start at about

\$10, and some of the specialty plates (duck, lamb, salmon, tilapia) are in the range of \$15 to \$18. For some people, this might provide two meals: what you finish at the restaurant and what you take home in a carry-out container.

Tida Thai Cuisine is located at 336 Constitution Drive in Virginia Beach. Other beach locations include Red Mill Commons and Hilltop Square Shopping Center.

For more information or delivery, call 757-490-0515 Nathan Denny, 757-748-2898, njdenny@vt.edu

The meal was very good and required the friendly waitress to stop by our table several times with the water pitcher to top off my glass.

palette.” Feeling a little bold, I decided to order a spicy dish, the Thai Spicy Fried Rice, a chicken stir-fry with Jasmine rice, bell peppers, garlic, fresh basil, and the kicker, chili. It was out in about five minutes.

The thoroughness of the meal presentation imitated the attention to detail in the restaurant itself, down to the flower garnish hand-cut from a carrot. The sleek white plate was heavy from the amount of food on it. I could almost taste the spice before I even took a bite—the aroma is that robust.

The meal was very good (and



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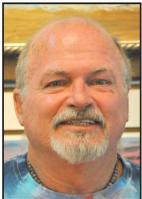


Art in an insecure world

Society needs fresh art in order to progress

Down through the centuries, the role of art in our human existence constantly changes

as our interpretations of life evolve simultaneously. The caveman, whose main concern was day-to-day survival, etched out rudimentary animals on walls explaining his crude understanding of his world around him. These early efforts proved to be the forerunner of later civilizations looking to artists to explain the mystical and unknowns surrounding our lives. With the emergence of written knowledge,



Jordan

critical thinking, and shared ideas globally, the artists began to look inward, as the question of "our place" in the world became an inspirational goal.

From Realism by the early masters, to Impressionism by my favorite, Renoir, and now to contemporary and avant-garde Abstract, the art world no longer has defined guidelines for up-and-coming artists to base their pursuits on. Luckily, in my opinion, this leaves the door wide open for limitless self-expression and previously unexplored avenues thirsty for new interpretations. A field with no boundaries, our concepts of art expands beyond previous walls on a daily basis. From the simplest still-life's, to the myriads of imagined beach scenarios, to the plain air scenes of our local surroundings, to total abstract forms left to the viewer to interpret, our local artists deliver a huge diversity for art patrons everywhere.

Now don't get me wrong, art patrons themselves

SunArtsNews

A behind-the-scenes look at what's happening in the local arts community!

By Randall Jordan

play an important role in the transformation of art as we know it. Due to the rising costs of existence itself, the "whys, whens and how oftens" an art patron makes a purchase can more often than not dictate what our local 2D & 3D artists create, and how they go about representing their art. For many who like to stay in their comfort zone, flowers and floral scenes are timeless traditions, resulting in endless purchases as an accepted standby defining beauty. Magnificent blown glass sculptured vases and pottery pieces compliment these as well. As we live in a coastal community, ocean life, lighthouses and boats are widely popular, filling many a rental and private home walls throughout the Tidewater region.

Commercial patrons often look for large abstracts that inspire critical thought for board members, or patients awaiting Health services. The animal world, with a major part of our locals a pet-owning society, is portrayed in numerous mediums, be it paintings, sculpture or even jewelry. The venues that our local art inhabits are endless.

As our local community becomes more globally affected, and uncertainties about our future seems to grow with each passing day, art is a medium that can bring peace of mind, hope and a better understanding of what it means to be human. If for even a second, an art

piece can distract us from the daily stresses that we face, our local artists have scored a victory for art patrons everywhere as well as themselves. Relieve yourself of some stress; buy some local art that has meaning for you and at the same time you will be thanking artists every-

where for their priceless contributions to our insecure world.



"Frog Commission"

By Randall Jordan



A real crowd-pleaser since forming in 1969, the Doobie Brothers are known for such popular hits as "Listen to the Music," "Jesus is Just Alright" and "Long Train Runnin'." Having sold more than 40 million records, they were inducted in the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in 2004 and have earned two Grammy awards for their original music. (Photo by David Beloff)

Doobie Brothers rock Sandler Center

It was a full house at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts recently as the San Jose-based rock band the Doobie Brothers shook the stage. A real crowd-pleaser since forming in 1969, they are known for such popular hits as "Listen to the Music," "Jesus is Just Alright" and "Long Train Runnin'." Having sold more than 40 million records, they were inducted in the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in 2004 and have earned two Grammy awards for their original music. Originally named "Pud," the super group was created by John Hartman, Tommy Johnston, John McFee and Dave Shogren; the lineup changed several times over the years, but eventually included other multi-talented musicians, such as Pat Simmons, Jeff "Skunk" Baxter and Michael McDonald. In the early years, as they were honing their musical skills, they sent a demo tape to the big record company, Warner Brothers, and later added Ted Templeman as a producer. The band finished the night before an enthusiast audience which was ready for them to play forever. It's not known when they will return to Virginia Beach. (Research by Danielle Holbrook)

Blindness prevention fundraiser set for the Oceanfront April 27

There will be a 5k (3.1 mile) walk, rain or shine, and no registration fee

Foundation Fighting Blindness, one of the world's leading eye research organizations dedicated to raising funds to drive research that will provide preventions, treatments and cures for people affected by the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases, will hold its third walk on Sunday, April 27, 2014 at the 17th Street Stage at the Oceanfront. There will be a 5k (3.1 mile) walk, rain or shine, and no registration fee. For more information visit VisionWalk.org, or www.FightBlindness.org.

Bill and Maggie Schratweiser, owners of Tin Soldiers Forgotten Treasures

By Nathan Denny
Staff Writer

It's not marked with a large marquee sign at the street side edge of its property. It is not in and amongst other stores in a strip mall or other commercial-heavy area. However, it is perhaps one of the most recognizable shops on all of Shore Drive, because of two unmistakable landmarks: a pair of 15-foot, larger-than-life tin soldiers standing guard on the lawn.

Beach residents know exactly what I'm talking about. Tin Soldiers Forgotten Treasures is the name of this furniture and gift store that sits on the corner of Shore Drive and Dupont Circle on the approach to the Lesner Bridge. What used to be a residence is now a cottage full of original and restored beach-themed décor.

Bill Schratweiser and his wife Maggie opened the store in early 2012. Virginia Beach residents of 21 years, Bill and Maggie were drawn here from sunny San Diego by family and by the city's renowned schools for their daughters Jennifer and Lauren.

"People would always say, 'How could you leave San Diego?'" Schratweiser said, "but we love Virginia Beach—this is a great town."

An artist as a kid and a house flipper for many of his adult years, Schratweiser sees creative opportunity in mediums that others might not even think to look. After being forced into retirement due to the economy, Schratweiser went in search of a new channel for his creative hand.

"My wife and I were driving by and we saw the house for sale," Schratweiser said of the Shore Drive property. "We went in to look at the inside. Instantly, we felt like this could be something. A million ideas went through my mind."

Purchasing the old beach cottage, Schratweiser and his wife decided they would turn it into a furniture and décor shop, one with unique gifts, original art, and shabby-chic furniture in the beach town style.

"I've always been a picker,"

Schratweiser said. "Every time I get a new piece, I get to be creative with it. We all have a piece of mom or grandma's old furniture. It's usually old and heavy and dark. I try to look past the darkness to see what it could be. I give it new life."

The shabby-chic technique is one that Schratweiser uses on much of the furniture in his shop. This involves giving the piece a fresh coat of paint, then distressing the furniture to give it an antique appearance. The colors used are generally soft and muted, beiges and pale blues and light pinks being the prominent palette. And the shop is packed with these unique pieces.

When they first started, Schratweiser was worried that they wouldn't be able to fill the front room of their new store. But after just a couple months, they had filled all seven rooms of the house with dressers, desks, tables, chairs, shelves, signs, and chandeliers—each piece looking all the part of a seaside cottage setting.

"When we started, we knew we didn't want to have something where we saw the same things all the time, every day. We price things well so that we keep things moving in and out. You can come back just about every day and find new things."

In addition to Schratweiser's work, the store sells art of several local artists.

"It is truly a local artist shop," Schratweiser said. "We have locals bringing in really creative, beautiful things. They are all really hard workers."

Every room is bursting with items you can't find anywhere

else, with the trademark of Schratweiser's own hand and the charm of local beach artistry.

Maggie Schratweiser is a school administrator, but helps out at the shop on weekends and all throughout the summer. The Schratweiser's grown daughters, Jennifer and Brooke, and even their little granddaughter, Lauren, come and help out from time to time as well. Schratweiser enjoys working with his family.

"I wish my wife could work at the shop full-time," Schratweiser said. "We've been married since '76, and we just really work well together and enjoy each other's

company."

A big part of Schratweiser's philosophy is giving back. He and Maggie have used the success of their shop to help others, hosting fundraisers and donating items to a deserving institution that means a lot to them, the Children's Hospital of the Kings Daughters in Norfolk.

The big question is: where did the 15-foot tin soldiers come from? Forgotten Treasures is only a year and half old, but we remember those giant soldiers being there for many years before that. According to Schratweiser, they came with the house.

Fifteen years ago, an old department store in Norfolk had six of the statues that they used during the holiday season. They auctioned them off in pairs. Two ended up outside a CHKD thrift store, two stayed in Norfolk, and the final set went to the previous owner of the beach cottage on Shore Drive.

"The previous owner liked them," Schratweiser said. "When we bought the house, we kept them. Everyone in Virginia Beach knows them and recognizes them."

Continues to Page 8

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Mayor Sessoms receives an Elks Lodge "Key."

Elks Lodge Presents the Mayor with a Key to Their Lodge

During the annual Virginia Elks Association Fall Convention, Virginia Beach Elks Lodge 2268 presented Mayor Will Sessoms, Jr., with a "special" key to their Lodge. Following an inspirational speech by the mayor to kick off the convention, and knowing that he already had the keys to the "Greatest City in the World," the lodge thought it would be appropriate for this "Honorary Member" to have his own key to the lodge to use at his convenience. Sessoms has been a staunch supporter of Elk charities and has been a regular guest speaker during an annual Flag Day ceremony held at the Flame of Hope in Virginia Beach in June.

Disability group accepting nominations

*Deadline for entries
November 3*

disabilities have full integration in the community in which they live.

The Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities is seeking nominations from the community for its 2013 annual awards program. The deadline for submission of nominations is November 30, 2013.

A printed application can be obtained at any City of Virginia Beach Public Library. If you have questions, call 757-461-8007.

The award recipients are chosen from nominations from the community for individuals and groups that have impacted the lives of Virginia Beach citizens with disabilities in a positive manner. Each recipient exemplifies the best of the Beach and has made significant contributions in time and resources to ensure that people with

Register now for the seventh annual African American male summit

Continued from Page 3

of the Alonzo A. Crim Center for Urban Educational Excellence at Georgia State University where he also serves as an associate professor in the Department of Early Childhood Education in the College of Education.

His work encompasses science education, urban education and education for social justice. Williams is especially interested in the ways in which equity issues related to race, ethnicity, culture and class influence science teaching and learning and access to science literacy. He holds degrees

Locals, feds release four sea turtles

The Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center along with the National Aquarium recently released four rehabilitated sea turtles along the Sandbridge shore to a crowd of nearly 400 people.

The city's Stranding Response Team released two juvenile loggerhead sea turtles, "Findlay" and "Grenada," while the National Aquarium Animal Rescue Team released two loggerhead sea turtles named "Rooney" and "Portsmouth."

Findlay was hooked in the jaw by a fisher at Little Island Fishing Pier on July 30. Grenada came to the Virginia Aquarium Marine Animal Care Center a little later on August 14. Grenada was hooked in the front flippers by a fisher at the Virginia Beach Fishing Pier. Both Findlay and Grenada presented with signs of severe anemia and carapace infections. Thanks to antibiotics and treatment for the anemia and carapace lesions, both Findlay and Grenada have made a quick recovery and have gained weight. Grenada was fitted with a



The city's Stranding Response Team released two juvenile loggerhead sea turtles, "Findlay" and "Grenada," while the National Aquarium Animal Rescue Team released two loggerhead sea turtles named "Rooney" and "Portsmouth."

Navy satellite tag. The tracks can be followed on seaturtle.org.

National Aquarium's Animal Rescue Team brought two loggerhead sea turtles that had passed their exit exams and "commuted" to warmer waters for their return to the ocean. Rooney was one of their first cold-stunned turtles of 2013. While in rehabilitation with the aquarium, Rooney gained 19.3

pounds, and is currently consuming a healthy diet of blue crabs, squid, shrimp and lean fish. The second National Aquarium loggerhead released was Portsmouth, who, due to an influx of sea turtle patients in Virginia Beach, was transferred to their facility in August in order to clear space for incoming turtles at to the city's Marine Animal Care Center.



For more information on Tin Soldiers Forgotten Treasures, call 757-228-3731

In the Sunshine: Bill and Maggie Schratweiser, owners of Tin Soldiers

Continued from Page 7

And now they are the namesake of the store and remain an icon in the community. And according to Schratweiser, the community has been welcoming to his business. He and Maggie have noticed that many of their visitors are becoming repeat customers and bringing friends along with them when they return, perhaps beginning to cement this shop of hidden treasures into the

fabric of Virginia Beach.

"The best part of this job is that I get to be creative and we get to meet a lot of fun people each and every day. People find that this is just a fun place to visit—there is something for everyone here."

For more information on Tin Soldiers Forgotten Treasures, call 757-228-3731

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

A night of superstitions at the historic Lynnhaven House

From witch Grace Sherwood to legends and lore, city's Halloween fright night may become annual event

By Nathan Denn
Staff Writer

The historic Lynnhaven House recently hosted a "Night of Superstitions", a thrilling walk-through, with roots deep in the history of our forefathers and the fantastical beliefs in the metaphysical that stirred them in the early years of our country's beginnings.

Museum Educator Kim Schmidtman, who works at the Colonial Education Center at the Lynnhaven House, said the event featured some common and some not-so-common superstitions that were part of colonial culture.

"Night of Superstitions addressed the mindsets of many of the early colonists," she said. "They believed things that happened were a direct cause of something good or something bad and that they could change these things. They used charms, amulets, and talisman to ward off bad things or to bring good luck."

Multiple stations were set up on the Lynnhaven House's grounds and even in the house itself. "Characters" at each station will give insight into the origin of the superstitions that dictated so much of early colonial life.

Many people have heard of Grace Sherwood, better known as the "Witch of Pungo." Sherwood was the unfortunate recipient of such superstitious mania as she was accused again and again of being a witch and practicing witchcraft. As a result she was imprisoned for eight years. Grace Sherwood was one of the "characters" encountered at the Lynnhaven House, speaking on the lore that is attached to her name - which of it is true and

which of it is embellished.

"Other characters told of the legend of the horseshoe and how that came to be a symbol of good luck, the bad luck associated with a wolf's paw print, and the origins of Halloween," Schmidtman said.

The tour, which wound through the site's nature trail and included a station inside the Lynnhaven House, was followed by crafts and games in the site's Colonial Education Center.

"The event was not meant to be scary," Schmidtman said. "The atmosphere may be spooky, but it will be a family-friendly event that everyone will enjoy"

The Lynnhaven House is one of the oldest surviving colonial homes in the state of Virginia. Built in 1725 by Francis Thelaball, the modest home is a representation of life for a common farmer of the time, rather than the opulent plantation owners.

On a lakeside lot in the neighborhood of Witchduck, this historical site has been passed down and sold to several families who have used it as a residence. The Boush family, relatives of the original Thelaball owners, has a cemetery at the back of the property, with five above-ground vaults and several unmarked graves.

Families and workers resided in the historic house all the way up to 1971, when the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (now known as Preservation Virginia) purchased the house and the lot from the Oliver family, who was using it to house tenant farmers.

Preservation Virginia operated the historical home up until 2008, when it turned the site over to the city of Virginia Beach. Schmidtman and the other historical house workers expect a great deal of community support and interest to allow this event to be not only successful this year, but able to continue in the com-

ing years.

"We've gotten a lot of interest with this," Schmidtman said. "We think this could become an annual event. We're already making plans to help this thing evolve and get bigger and better."

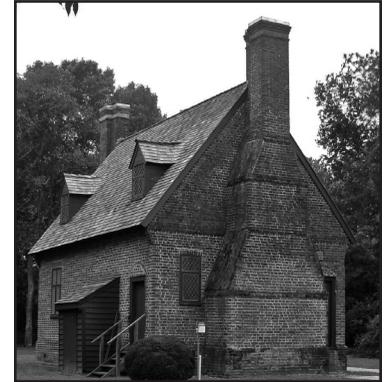
The historic houses of Virginia Beach have several other upcoming events including a craft fair in early November at the Francis Land House, the Yule Log program at the Adam Thoroughgood House in December, and on January 6th, the Francis Land House hosts 12th Night, one of the organization's biggest events.

Since 1969 the Lynnhaven House has been registered on the United States National Register of Historic Places as a National Historic Landmark. The house is located at 4409 Wishart Road in Virginia Beach, off Independence Boulevard near Haygood.

All three of the city's historical houses - the Adam Thoroughgood House, the Lynnhaven House, and the

Francis Land House - have offered free admission to furloughed workers from the government shutdown.

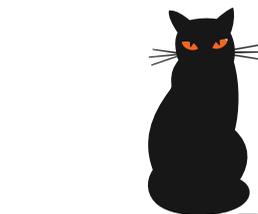
For more information, visit www.museumsvb.org
Nathan Denny, 757-748-2898,
njdenny@vt.edu



Lynnhaven House



Kim Schmidtman



R.I.P.
1830-1896



No matter where you work or play in Virginia Beach, it's likely you'll run into people from around the world, many of whom have lived cultural experiences different from those of people born and raised in the United States. One way to be more comfortable with people with different cultural backgrounds is to learn more about from where they came. Please enjoy the following "trip around the world" as TVBS learns more about some countries and continents that many of our local residents and visitors may call "home." Enjoy future TVBS's for more countries.

England

Geography The United Kingdom, consisting of Great Britain (England, Wales, and Scotland) and Northern Ireland , is twice the size of New York State. **Government** The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy, with a queen and a parliament that has two houses: the House of Lords, with 574 life peers, 92 hereditary peers, and 26 bishops; and the House of Commons, which has 651 popularly elected members. **Sovereign:** Queen Elizabeth II (1952) **Prime Minister:** David Cameron (2010) **Land area:** 93,278 sq mi **Population** (2012 est.): 63,047,162 **Capital and largest city** (2010 est.): London **Monetary Unit:** Pound Sterling.



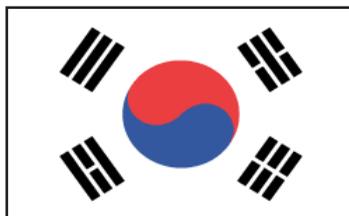
Spain

Geography Spain occupies 85% of the Iberian Peninsula, which it shares with Portugal, in southwest Europe. **Government:** Parliamentary Monarchy Spain, originally inhabited by Celts, Iberians, and Basques, became a part of the Roman Empire in 206 B.C. , when it was conquered by Scipio Africanus. In A.D. 412, the barbarian Visigothic leader Ataulf crossed the Pyrenees and ruled Spain, first in the name of the Roman emperor and then independently. **Ruler:** King Juan Carlos I (1975) **Prime Minister:** Mariano Rajoy (2011) **Land area:** 192,819 sq mi **Population** (2012 est.): 47,042,984 **Capital and largest city** (2011 est.): Madrid, 7,254,321 **Monetary unit:** Euro (formerly peseta)



South Korea

Geography Slightly larger than Indiana, South Korea lies below the 38th parallel on the Korean peninsula. It is mountainous in the east; in the west and south are many harbors on the mainland and offshore islands. **Government:** Republic. South Korea came into being after World War II, the result of a 1945 agreement reached by the Allies at the Potsdam Conference, making the 38th parallel the boundary between a northern zone of the Korean peninsula to be occupied by the USSR and southern zone to be controlled by U.S. forces. **President:** Park Geun-hye (2013) **Prime Minister:** Chung Hong Won (2013) **Land area:** 37,421 sq mi **Population** (2012 est.): 48,860,500 **Capital and largest city** (2009 est.): Seoul, 9.778 million



Vietnam

Geography Vietnam occupies the eastern and southern part of the Indochinese peninsula in Southeast Asia, with the South China Sea along its entire coast. China is to the north and Laos and Cambodia are to the west. Long and narrow on a north-south axis, Vietnam is about twice the size of Arizona. The Mekong River delta lies in the south. **Government:** Communist state. The Vietnamese are descendants of nomadic Mongols from China and migrants from Indonesia. According to mythology, the first ruler of Vietnam was Hung Vuong, who founded the nation in 2879 B.C. China ruled the nation then known as Nam Viet as a vassal state from 111 B.C. until the 15th century, an era of nationalistic expansion, when Cambodians were pushed out of the southern area of what is now Vietnam. **President:** Truong Tan Sang (2011) **Prime Minister:** Nguyen Tan Dung (2006) **Land area:** 125,622 sq mi **total area:** 127,244 sq mi **Population** (2012 est.): 91,519,289 **Capital** (2009 est.): Hanoi, 6.5 million **Largest cities:** Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), 7,396,446



Russia

Geography The Russian Federation is the largest of the 21 republics that make up the Commonwealth of Independent States. It occupies most of eastern Europe and north Asia, stretching from the Baltic Sea in the west to the Pacific Ocean in the east, and from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Black Sea and the Caucasus in the south. It is bordered by Norway and Finland in the northwest; Estonia, Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine, Poland, and Lithuania in the west; Georgia and Azerbaijan in the southwest; and Kazakhstan, Mongolia, China, and North Korea along the southern border. **Government:** Constitutional federation. Tradition says the Viking Rurik came to Russia in 862 and founded the first Russian dynasty in Novgorod. The various tribes were united by the spread of Christianity in the 10th and 11th centuries; Vladimir "the Saint" was converted in 988. During the 11th century, the grand dukes of Kiev held such centralizing power as existed. **President:** Vladimir Putin (2012) **Prime Minister:** Dmitry Medvedev (2012) **Land area:** 6,592,812 sq mi (17,075,400 sq km); **total area:** 6,592,735 sq mi **Population** (2011 est.): 138,082,178 **Capital and largest city** (2011 est.): Moscow, 11,514,300



Thailand

Geography Thailand occupies the western half of the Indochinese peninsula and the northern two-thirds of the Malay Peninsula in southeast Asia. Its neighbors are Burma (Myanmar) on the north and west, Laos on the north and northeast, Cambodia on the east, and Malaysia on the south. Thailand is about the size of France. **Government:** Constitutional monarchy. The Thais first began settling their present homeland in the 6th century, and by the end of the 13th century ruled most of the western portion. During the next 400 years, they fought sporadically with the Cambodians to the east and the Burmese to the west **Ruler:** King Bhumibol Adulyadej (1946) **Prime Minister:** Yingluck Shinawatra (2011) **Land area:** 197,595 sq mi **total area:** 198,455 sq mi **Population** (2012 est.): 67,091,089 **Capital and largest city** (2010): Bangkok, 8.28 million **Monetary unit:** baht



Finland

Geography Finland is three times the size of Ohio. It is heavily forested and contains thousands of lakes, numerous rivers, and extensive areas of marshland. Except for a small highland region in the extreme northwest, the country is a lowland less than 600 ft (180 m) above sea level. Off the southwest coast are the Swedish-populated Åland Islands (581 sq mi; 1,505 sq km), which have had an autonomous status since 1921. **Government:** Republic. The first inhabitants of Finland were the Sami (Lapp) people. When Finnish speakers migrated to Finland in the first millennium B.C. , the Sami were forced to move northward to the arctic regions, with which they are traditionally associated. **President:** Tarja Halonen (2000) **Prime Minister:** Matti Vanhanen (2003) **Land area:** 117,942 sq mi **total area:** 130,558 sq mi **Population** (2013 est.): 5,266, **Capital and largest city** (2009 est.): Helsinki, 1,107,000 **Monetary unit:** Euro (formerly markka)



Israel

Geography Israel, slightly larger than Massachusetts, lies at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea. It is bordered by Egypt on the west, Syria and Jordan on the east, and Lebanon on the north. Its maritime plain is extremely fertile. The southern Negev region, which comprises almost half the total area, is largely a desert. The Jordan, the only important river, flows from the north through Lake Hule (Waters of Merom) and Lake Kinneret (also called Sea of Galilee or Sea of Tiberias), finally entering the Dead Sea 1,349 ft (411 m) below sea level—the world's lowest land elevation **Government:** Parliamentary democracy. Palestine, considered a holy land by Jews, Muslims, and Christians, and homeland of the modern state of Israel, was known as Canaan to the ancient Hebrews. Palestine's name derives from the Philistines, a people who occupied the southern coastal part of the country in the 12th century B.C. **President:** Shimon Peres (2007) **Prime Minister:** Benjamin Netanyahu (2009) **Land area:** 7,849 sq mi **total area:** 8,019 sq mi **Population** (2012 est.): 7,590,758 **Capital and largest city** (2009 est.): Jerusalem, 768,000 **Source:** <http://www.infoplease.com/country/israel.html>



El valor de los festivales en culturas diferentes que reunir la sociedad

Una reflexión de los rituales comunes en los festivales de la cultura hispana y sus significados de los valores culturales y globales.

By Stephanie Harron
Columnist

In this issue, Sun Columnist Stephanie Harron, who studies the Hispanic cultural heritage at Virginia Wesleyan College in Norfolk, discusses popular holidays in Hispanic Culture. Despite each of our busy schedules, holidays unite the best interest of a culture. Even so, by appreciating each culture's rituals and celebrations, we will recognize how cultures in different societies share common values that unite people around the world.

Este momento del año es posible el más ocupado del año porque el horario de la familia está muy ocupado y formado. Especialmente porque los niños están en la escuela y los padres son trabajando al nueve de la mañana a cinco de la tarde, no hay mucho tiempo para reflejado en la importancia del viva ordinaria. También, necesitamos reconocido que este momento del año está

más ocupado para los días festivos hispanos y americanos como los días de los muertos, la acción de gracias y la navidad. Aunque la cultura hispana y americana han integrado muy bien, está importante para reconocer la herencia e historia los festivales culturales.

Durante el mes de noviembre, hispanos celebran un festival como muchos festivales en otras culturas como se llama el día de los muertos. Este festival ocurre durante el mismo tiempo del festival «Halloween» en los E.E.U.U., pero lo significa algo más importante de la relación de la comunidad.

En lugar de los niños que se visten en trajes de miedos o como princesas y héroes del teatro y colectan los dulces de casas en sus barrios durante la noche, como el «Halloween», el día de los muertos celebra la vida y el espíritu de los muertos que ya viven hoy en las vidas de sus parientes vivientes. La familia reúne para crear regalo, comidas especiales y ofrendas personales a los muertos.



Este festival está celebrado durante tres días. Empieza en el 31 de octubre y sigue durante la primera y la segunda de noviembre. Cada día está muy significada para todas edades participan; como los niños quienes crean las alteras para los espíritus jóvenes o las alteras que están creadas de la familia para celebrar la vida de sus parientes muertos.

En una altera tradicional, hay cosas que son siempre incluidas como las flores de calendulas, las calaveras de azúcar y el pan de muerto. También, hay muchas fotografías, las velas, las panerías que decoran una escena con muchos colores y memorias buenas de los muertos ascendidos.

Este día festivo está solamente

el principio del anual festivales del año, por ejemplo los festivales hispanos como la fiesta de nuestra señora de la Divina Providencia en Puerto Rico en el 19 de noviembre y la celebración de la revolución mexicana del año 1910 que está celebrado el 20 de noviembre. En el 8 de diciembre, los países españoles celebran la concepción inmaculada y en el doce de diciembre celebra el Día de la Virgen de Guadalupe quien es una santa patrona, la virgen maría, quien fue visto de un indio en el año 1531. También, los cristianos, que forman una religión muy popular en la cultura hispana, celebran la Nochebuena y la Navidad en el 25 de diciembre.

Aunque la historia de las culturas hispana y americana han originado bajo circunstancias diferentes, en este día, los dos culturas colaborar muy buenas. También, los dos son más aceptando de los similares y diferencias en sus culturas. Por ejemplo, cada año en mis clases españolas durante mi enseñanza primaria, yo

siempre aprendía de los aduanas culturas día de los muertos y el cinco de mayo. En el mundo de hoy, es más importante para reconocer las fuerzas en toda la gente del mundo, específicamente cuando tratar de comunicarse y entenderse cada persona, independiente de la raza, el color de piel, los aspectos físicos y las clases sociales. Especialmente, durante este tiempo del año, cuando todos son más



preocupados con los festivales y otras obligaciones importantes, recuerde que en todos, somos celebrar la vida.

Stephanie R. 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.

Regent University's Center for Latino Leadership's "Our Roots" concert series has international flair, led by Maestro Jorge Aquirre

Music filled the mid-October air all around the Regent University chapel much to the delight of all the onlookers. The "Our Roots" concerts, presented by the Center for Latino Leadership and featuring the Hampton Road Chamber Players and members of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra was a musical tour, meant to showcase our nation's diverse heritage.

The concert featured tunes from Europe, Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, North America, South America, and Central America.

The music was prepared by Maestro Jorge Aquirre, conductor of the Hampton Roads Chamber Player, but enjoyed by all. (Photos by Krista Dorrel)



Gabriel Campos Autumn Leaves



Justin Bettis O Sol Mio



Stephan Tang

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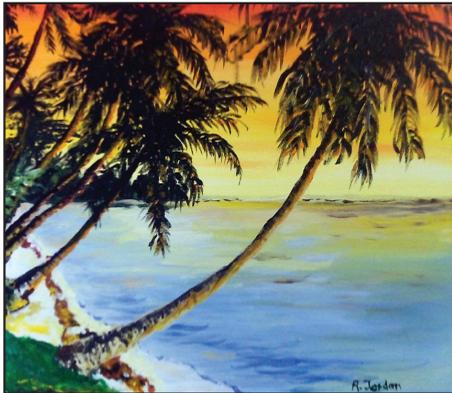
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Artist

LaVerna Leach

A visual artist specializing in Watercolor
scenes from beach to nautical to landscapes, as
well as local lighthouses.

Originally self-taught, she attended
workshops with world renown artist Tom
Lynch. She has received numerous awards for
her art in the south eastern U.S.

LaVerna's work is in Japan, Europe, South
America, Canada as well as throughout the US.
She is a member of the TAA and the
Chesapeake Bay Watercolorists.

Currently her work resides in Artistic
Creations Art Gallery at 4425 Shore Drive Va
Bch Va, as well as Lin-Lin Studio Gallery at
9569 Shore Drive Norfolk Va.



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