

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
January 31, 2012



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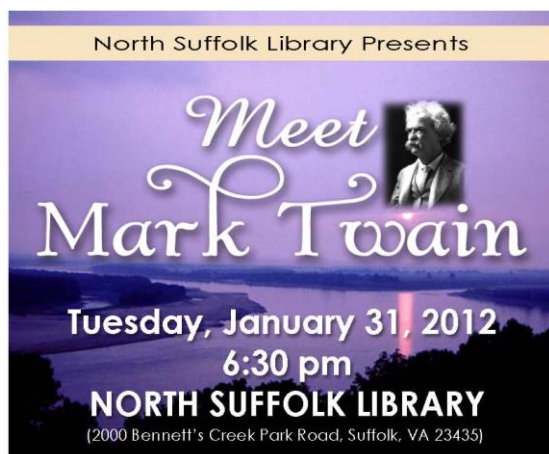
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## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SUFFOLK THIS WEEK...

SUFFOLK, Virginia (January 31, 2012)

**TUESDAY, January 31, 2011**

- *Mark Twain visits the North Suffolk Library*



Ever wanted to know more about Mark Twain but were afraid to ask? Your chance to talk to the literary legend “live and in person” is coming thanks to the North Suffolk Library.

“Meet Mark Twain” is being presented by the North Suffolk Library on

Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. Ryan Clemens, a relative of Twain’s, and an actor with the professional Virginia Stage Company in Norfolk will, for one night only, bring back the wit and wisdom of one of America’s most beloved authors. He will highlight a selection of Twain’s works from lectures to short

stories to timeless classics like *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *Life on the Mississippi*.

The event is free and open to all ages. The North Suffolk Library is located at 2000 Bennett's Creek Park Road. For more information, call 757-514-7150.

## **THURSDAY, February 2, 2012**

- *Groundhog Day Celebration*



Suffolk Tourism is partnering with the Early Childhood Education Center and the Suffolk Art Gallery to celebrate Groundhog Day on Thursday, February 2nd, from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at the Suffolk Visitor Center Pavilion. This free kid-focused event will include a petting zoo by The Teeny Tiny Farm, Groundhog Day crafts, Playdoh® and blocks stations, as well as storytelling. Attendees are encouraged to bundle up for the event, however outdoor heaters will be provided. Families and pre-school groups are welcome to provide their own snacks. The Suffolk Visitor Center Pavilion is located behind the Historic Nansemond County Courthouse at 524 North Main Street. Please call 514-4130 for additional information.

- *Goodwill Ribbon Cutting*



A new Goodwill retail store will open its doors February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9 a.m. in the Market Center at Harbourview at 6540 Hampton Parkway off College Drive in Suffolk. Mayor Linda T. Johnson, along with Goodwill representatives, will host the ribbon cutting event scheduled for 8:45 a.m.

“This store represents Goodwill’s third location in Suffolk,” commented Suffolk Mayor Linda T. Johnson. “We couldn’t be happier to have such a community-oriented organization, not to mention a great shopping alternative expanding in our city.”

Last year, Goodwill transformed gently used clothing and other items into career development and support services for over 15,000 individuals. When the community shops Goodwill, they are doing more than getting great value; they are supporting programs that change lives. Visit [www.goodwillvirginia.org](http://www.goodwillvirginia.org) to learn more.

### **FRIDAY, February 3, 2012**

- *Suffolk Youth Public Safety Academy Application Deadline*



The Suffolk Police Department and Suffolk Department of Fire and Rescue are accepting applications for the fourth “Suffolk Youth Public Safety Academy”.

The “Suffolk Youth Public Safety Academy” is an 11 week after school program focused on at-risk youth between the ages of 13 and 17. Students gain hands on experience on what it is like to be a police officer, firefighter, and CSI Technician. Participating youth are mentored by police officers and firefighters, while experiencing the value of teamwork and social responsibility.

Lessons and activities include topics such as how to use fire hoses, arson investigations, Police K-9 teams, fingerprint evidence, forensics (CSI), stress management and much more. Youth will be treated to a rope climbing and team building exercise. Each week, participants are also exposed to service learning, teaching them that they can make a difference in their community. The goal of the program is to provide positive role models, build interest in public safety professions, and increase confidence by expanding experiences.

The deadline for applications is Friday, February 3, 2012, at 5 p.m. The program will begin Thursday, March 1st and through the week of May 14th. Sessions are set for 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., each Tuesday and Thursday with a week off for Spring Break the week of April 9th through 13, 2012.

Transportation is provided to and from the program by the City of Suffolk Parks & Recreation Department. Youth will be picked-up from their respective schools and transported to the Kings Fork Public Safety Center on Kings Fork Road, where the Academy is held. Meals and snacks are provided at each session.

The academy is limited to Suffolk youth. There is no cost to participants.

Applications are available from school Resource Officers, the Kings Fork Public Safety Center located at 300 Kings Fork Road, Suffolk Police Headquarters

located at 111 Henley Place, Suffolk Parks & Recreation offices, and Juvenile Intake. Applications also may be obtained by contacting Fire Investigator Pam King at 757-414-4542 or Detective Joyce Williams at 757-514-7944.

For more information, please contact Fire Investigator Pam King at 757-514-4542.

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