

NEWS RELEASE
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MAY GOOD TIMES

SUFFOLK, VA: The following variety of good-time activities are offered during the month of May:

Suffolk Farmers' Market in Downtown Suffolk

W & S: Enjoy the best in locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables along with eggs, honey, homemade jams and jellies, baked goods, fresh cut flowers, plants and handmade jewelry and crafts. Market Park is located adjacent to the Seaboard Station Railroad Museum in historic downtown Suffolk. The market is open Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.; Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. For more information, or to become a vendor, contact the Suffolk Visitor Center. Suffolk Visitor Center, 514-4130.

Minds Wide Open: Virginia Celebrates Women in the Arts and Vibrant Spirits: the Art of Cronos & Innocents

1-6/11: Exhibits feature older and emerging female artists. The Suffolk Museum is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. Suffolk Museum, 514-7284.

Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Narrated Bus Tour

1 & 15: Discover the rebirth of the Great Dismal with a half-day narrated bus tour. The tour will highlight the changes in the ecosystem due to the fire and historical ties to the Underground Railroad. Tours depart from the Suffolk Visitor Center, 321 N. Main Street, at 9:30 a.m. and return at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and children. Suffolk Visitor Center, 514-4130.

Mirror, Mirror

1-6/30: View this part of the "Minds Wide Open" exhibit that celebrates women in the arts. Shooting Star Gallery, 934-0855.

Whaleyville Community Day

1: This annual community celebration includes a parade, business expo, arts and crafts, a tractor pull, live music, car show, kids' rides and activities. Free and open to the public. Whaleyville Village, 986-2282.

Tale of Two Cities

4 & 5: This performance by First Baptist Christian School is set in London and Paris

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during the French Revolutionary period. It deals with some of the most noble and vile parts of human nature. In the end, the power of love and the gift of self-sacrifice find victory over evil. The performances begin at 7:00 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$8 for students. Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts, 923-2900.

4th Annual Great Dismal Swamp Birding Festival

6-8: Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day at the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Enjoy guided bird walks, narrated bus tours, bird banding demonstrations, birdhouse building, educational workshops, nighttime owl prowls and much more. Beginner Bird Walks offered for new birders. This event has fun for the whole family! Free and open to the public. Reservations required for walks and bus tours. Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, 986-3705.

“Renoir’s Ladies” Lecture by Jeffrey W. Allison, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

13: Jeffrey W. Allison, Paul Mellon Collection Educator at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts will present an illustrated lecture. Renoir is probably one of the most popular today of all the artists who made up the Impressionist Movement and he is known above all for his paintings of lovely women. Mr. Allison discusses some of Renoir’s best loved paintings and his models including Nini de Lopez and Suzanne Valadon. The discussion begins at 7:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. Reservations suggested. Suffolk Museum, 514-7284.

American Cancer Society’s Rockin’ Relay for Life

14-15: The American Cancer Society Relay for Life is a life-changing event that gives everyone in communities across the globe a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost and fight back against the disease. The relay will be held at Nansemond Suffolk Academy. Kathleen Day, kathleen.e.day@live.com.

First Annual Craft Show & Sale

15: Enjoy this craft show and sale featuring crafters from Hampton Roads and Elizabeth City. The event begins at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m. Suffolk Seaboard Station Railroad Museum, 923-4750.

Shake, Rattle & Roll Spring Car Show

15: This festive Main Street event honors the racers, records and fans of the ol’ quarter mile concrete track at the Suffolk Executive Airport. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and the show begins at 10:00 a.m. Participant awards presented at 2:00 p.m. Music, food vendors and pedal-car racing for children age 6 and under. Free and open to the public. Suffolk Division of Tourism, 514-4130.

Cedar Hill Cemetery Lantern Tours

15 & 22: Shine new light on Suffolk history from historic Cedar Hill Cemetery to Riddick’s Folly House Museum, with a guided lantern tour. Tours depart from the Suffolk Visitor Center at 7 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person. Suffolk Visitor Center, 514-4130.

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Say Goodnight Gracie

16: The Love, Laughter, and Life of George Burns and Gracie Allen “Say Goodnight Gracie” is the hit Broadway play that invites you to spend a hilarious, heart-warming evening in the uplifting company of the world’s favorite and funniest centenarian.

George Burns, who spanned one hundred years of American entertainment history, is now miraculously alive and kicking in this stunning tour de force. The show begins at 3:00 p.m. Tickets cost \$35 and \$ 30. Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts, 923-2900.

Historic Suffolk Narrated Bus Tour

22: Sue Woodward, local historian, will take you through historic downtown Suffolk revealing the city's rich heritage, which dates back to the early 17th century. Discover why Captain John Smith came to our historic city. Learn about the Nansemond Indians and how the Nansemond River contributed to the city's economic growth. The Historic Suffolk Narrated Bus Tour will introduce you to the people of the past, while showcasing the city's rebirth. Tour departs from the Suffolk Visitor Center, 321 North Main Street, at 2:00 p.m. and returns at 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors and children.

Suffolk Visitor Center, 514-4130.

Holland Founders Day Parade and Celebration

22: A daylong celebration commemorating the founding of the first Ruritan Club in the Holland Community of Suffolk. Festivities begin at 10:00 a.m. with a parade at 11:00 a.m., followed by the Second Annual Ruritan Barbeque Cook-off with all-day entertainment concluding with fireworks at 9:00 p.m. Holland Village, 514-4130.

The 13th Annual Festival of Flight

22-23: View hundreds of homebuilt, antique, classic, military ultralight and powered parachute aircraft at the Suffolk Executive Airport during the largest aircraft "Fly-In" in the Mid-Atlantic. See Radio Controlled aircraft on display. Examine all the airplanes up close; talk with pilots and builders. Visit the Youth Tent for hands-on activities. Kids and parents, come fly Control Line Models with an instructor at your elbow! Participate in aviation-related forums and "do it yourself" workshops. Since there is no Aerobatic Air Show, aircraft will be free to arrive and depart all day keeping the air buzzing. The hours are Saturday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Admission fee required. Suffolk Division of Tourism, 514-4130.

Canoe in the Great Dismal Swamp

29: Join Liquid Lessons for a half-day, guided canoe tour of Lake Drummond in the Great Dismal Swamp. Tour departs from the Suffolk Visitor Center, 321 North Main Street, in downtown. All equipment for this in-depth tour is provided by Liquid Lessons. Participants must be 8 years or older and accompanied by a parent or legal guardian if younger than 12. Tours cost \$35 person. Suffolk Division of Tourism, 514-4130.

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