

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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December 10, 2009



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**THE WONDERS OF WINDOW SHOPPING**  
*~ Suffolk Storefront Displays Recognized ~*

SUFFOLK, VA: Stroll the sidewalks through historic downtown Suffolk and one will find unique shoppes, boutiques and restaurants nestled among business firms and financial institutions, many of which are glowing with the décor of the holiday season. For the fourth consecutive year, the Suffolk Division of Tourism sponsored a friendly window decorating competition for the downtown merchants and businesses to showcase their creativity and community spirit. The 2009 top honors were presented as First place—Lenette’s Floral Design, Second place—Embroidery Etc., Third place—Richardson & Nash Clothiers. Other noteworthy contenders included Blanchard’s Tire & Auto and UniquelyLeo’s. A *secret* panel of judges graded each participating storefront in the categories of traditional holiday spirit, illumination, creativity, concept, interpretation of (parade) theme and the overall display. Winners receive a custom plaque, bragging rights for a year and a pleasant and welcoming storefront to entice holiday shoppers.

The mission of the Suffolk Division of Tourism is to promote the city through creative marketing initiatives and cooperative programs which stimulate visitation and awareness of Suffolk as a tourism destination within the Hampton Roads region. The Suffolk Visitor Center is located in the historic Prentis House (c. 1800) at 321 N. Main Street and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 757.514.4130 or visit Suffolk-Fun.com.

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