

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 16, 2012



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## What's Happening in Suffolk This Week...

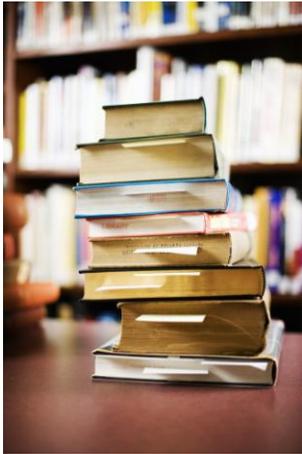
**TUESDAY April 17, 2012**

- *Sounds of the Tropics at the North Suffolk Library*



Nothing says “welcome to the islands” like the melodic tone of steel drum music! Join us at the North Suffolk Library on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for a free performance of the premier four piece steel band in Virginia. The band plays songs from Calypso traditions, Beethoven, Frank Sinatra, and many more. Everyone in the family will enjoy the music, history and fun of the “steel pans”! The North Suffolk Library is located at 2000 Bennett’s Creek Park Road, Suffolk, VA 23435. For more information, call 757-514-7150.

- *Snapshot Day in Suffolk Public Libraries*



Libraries all over Virginia will hold a Snapshot Day in April to collect information, photos, and patron comments that illustrate the impact that Virginia libraries make in their communities every day. In Suffolk, Snapshot Day is Tuesday, April 17, 2012.

Snapshot Virginia is a Virginia Library Association and Library of Virginia project. The goal is to use collected data, such as how many people visit the library, use computers, attend programs, etc., as well as candid photographs and comments, to demonstrate how essential libraries are within our communities. Virginia's libraries are busier than ever these days, with people coming in to check out books, use computers, look for jobs, and attend the many programs our libraries offer. All across the Commonwealth, libraries are the cornerstones of their communities, places where people come together to visit, learn, and share ideas. Visit [www.SnapshotVirginia.org](http://www.SnapshotVirginia.org) to find out more about this exciting project. Better yet, visit any Suffolk Public Library branch on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, and be a part of Snapshot Day.

## **SATURDAY, April 21, 2012**

- *Boater Safety Course*



The Suffolk Parks & Recreation Department will host a Boater Safety Course on Saturday, April 21, 2012, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Oakland Recreation Center, 5505 Godwin Boulevard.

Effective, July 1, 2012, all Personal Water Craft (PWC) operations, regardless of age, and motorboat operators 30 years of age and older will be required to have successfully completed an approved boating safety program. This course will be offered by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to meet

the General Assembly's requirement. The class will include a 45-minute lunch break; however, lunch is not provided.

Pre-registration is required for this free course. Please register early as seating is limited.

For more information, contact JJ Stephens at Oakland Recreation Center, 757-514-7246.

- *Global Youth Service Day*



On Saturday, April 21, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., hundreds of youth will take to the streets of Suffolk in support of “Youth for Change,” a Youth Advisory Council-led initiative designed to beautify our city. The youth of Suffolk will join millions of other young people around the world who are creating community change as part of *Global Youth Service Day*, the world's largest and longest-running service event. Now in its 24th year, *Global Youth Service Day*

(April 20-22, 2012) is celebrated in more than 100 countries, and recognizes the positive impact that young people have on their communities, not just for this one day, but 365 days a year. Organized by YSA (Youth Service America), a leader in the international youth service movement, *Global Youth Service Day* offers youth, ages 5 to 25, the resources and support to plan meaningful projects that improve their communities.

The Suffolk Youth Advisory Council hosted a Youth Empowerment Forum on January 30, 2012, and during that forum youth in our city indicated that they would like to see more volunteer opportunities made available to them. To address their concerns, the Suffolk Youth Advisory Council has partnered with the Suffolk Office on Youth, Suffolk Clean Community Commission, Suffolk Department of Public Works, City of Suffolk

National Night Out Committee, and Suffolk Parks & Recreation to launch a *Global Youth Service Day* in the City of Suffolk, Virginia. This citywide project will serve as the first of future annual days each year where youth across the city will engage in various community service projects.

Children, teens and young adults ages 5 to 25 will be recruited from various Scout Troops, faith-based and community-based organizations, schools and youth organizations, along with adults from City Departments, local businesses, civic leagues and community groups. Together, they'll address issues identified by youth in the January forum, including but not limited to recycling, community clean-ups, beautification projects, food drives, voting awareness, feeding the homeless and caring for the elderly. The youth council hopes to recruit a minimum of at least 250 youth and adults to participate in these youth-led projects. For more project information, contact Jennifer Branham, Youth Service Outreach Coordinator, at (757) 514-4503, or by email: [jbranham@suffolkva.us](mailto:jbranham@suffolkva.us), or Jason Pittman at (757) 514-7268, or by email: [jpittman@suffolkva.us](mailto:jpittman@suffolkva.us).

**Now through April 28, 2012**

- *Land of Our Fathers Exhibit – Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts*

The “Land of Our Fathers” exhibit features art from the Norfolk State University African

## *Land of our Fathers*



Art Gallery, the Doctors L.T. & Margaret Reid Collection from the Suffolk Art Gallery, and is accompanied by the photographs of Brenda C. Wright. Eight African Countries

are represented in a variety of mediums including: wood, metal, clay, and fiber.

This exhibit is on display Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., now through April 28, 2012 at the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts, 110 W. Finney Avenue. For more information, call 757-923-0003 or visit [www.SuffolkCenter.org](http://www.SuffolkCenter.org).

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