

Mark your Calendar

March

- 14 SPArK*les Series-Theatre IV's "Rumplestilskin," North Street Playhouse, 1:30 p.m. www.northstreetplayhouse.org
- 20 Exhibition Opening Reception: When the Morning Comes: A Timeline of African-American History on the Eastern Shore, 6 p.m., through July 31 at Ker Place, www.kerplace.org
- 21 Arts Council of the Eastern Shore (ACES) presents the Bowen McCauley Dance Group, 8 p.m., Nandua High School, Rt. 13, Onley. Tickets: 757-302-0366, www.acesva.org
- 21 Ker Place reopens for the season with daily tours Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.
- 27-29 Sneak Peek Studio Tour of the Lower Eastern Shore will include Onancock's Jack Richardson Gallery, www.sneakpeekstudiotour.com
- 27-28 Studio Series- Noel Coward's "Songs at Twilight," 8 p.m., North Street Playhouse
- 29 "Women in Blues," 3 p.m., Historic Cokesbury Church. Tickets at Book Bin or C.D. Marsh Jewelers or call C. Mayers at 757-3885.
- 29 10th annual Taste of the Eastern Shore to support our local Foodbank, 3-6 p.m., Moose Lodge, Belle Haven. Tickets: 757-787-2557. Mallard's Johnny Mo will do live cooking demos.

April

- 3 First Friday in Onancock. Shops and galleries stay open 5-8 p.m. Enjoy dining and entertainment. 757-789-3151. www.onancock.org
- 9 Onancock International Film, Roseland Theater, 8 p.m. "The Visitor" (PG-13) \$7.50. 787-8805.
- 18 OBCA Spring Clean-Up. Meet at Onancock Wharf at 8 a.m. to help clean up the downtown district.
- 18 Arts Council of the Eastern Shore (ACES) presents Virginia Handbell Consort, 8 p.m. Franktown Methodist Church. Tickets: 302-0366, www.acesva.org
- 24-25 "Steel Magnolias," 8 p.m., North Street Playhouse Main Stage
- 25 The Eastern Shore of VA House & Garden Tour, www.esgardentour.com
- 26 Arbor Family Fun Day at Onancock School, to benefit Project Playground. Contact Robert Misuna, 710-2805

May

- 8 Second Friday in Onancock (formerly "First" Friday). Shops and galleries stay open 5-8 p.m. Enjoy dining and entertainment. 789-3151, www.onancock.org
- 1-2, 8-9 "Steel Magnolias," North Street Playhouse Main Stage, 8 p.m.
- 10 "Steel Magnolias," North Street Playhouse Main Stage, Sunday matinee 2:30 p.m.
- 9 Onancock's Annual Super Saturday Town-wide Yard Sale. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 787-2551 (Rain Date May 16th)
- 14 Onancock International Film, 8 p.m. Roseland Theater. "Slumdog Millionaire" (R) \$7.50. 787-8805.
- 28-29 "Duck Hunter Shoots Angel," North Street Playhouse Studio Series, 8 p.m.
- 31 Habitat for Humanity Small Garden Tour, includes an Onancock home and others in Accomack County. 442-4687, www.easternshorehabitat.org

June

- 11 Onancock International Film, Roseland. \$7.50. "I've Loved You So Long" (PG-13) 787-8805.
- 12 Second Friday in Onancock. Shops and galleries stay open 5-8 p.m. Enjoy dining and entertainment. 789-3151, www.onancock.org
- 19-20 & 24-27 "Greater Tuna," North Street Playhouse Main Stage, 8 p.m. and June 21 at 2:30 p.m. www.northstreetplayhouse.org

July

- 3 Annual Ice Cream Social & Patriotic Band Concert, 6:30 p.m., Onancock Town Park. Sponsored by Onancock Business and Civic Association. Music by the Accomack Community Band. www.onancock.org
- 10 Second Friday in Onancock

Membership Corner

The Onancock Business and Civic Association (OBCA) welcomes these new and renewing members!

Almost There Vacations, 73 Market St.
The Bistro, 25A Market St.
The Book End, 165 Market St.
Crockett Gallery, 39 Market St.
Crockett Realty, 39 Market St.
Dawn, 63 Market St.
Dan Lawrence Studio, 6 College Ave (Room 103 in the old Onancock School)
Dragonfly Studio Gallery, 6 College Avenue (in the old Onancock School).
Encore!, 34 Market St.
Friends of Onancock School, 6 College Ave.
Gallery Onancock, 8 North St.
North Street Playhouse, 34 Market St.

If you know of a business or resident within the 23417 zip code who might like to join, there are new member applications at www.onancock.org. Or contact Bill Burnham, 787-2933, bill@burnhamink.com, for a new members packet. Dues are \$50 per year per family, pro-rated for new members. Current members are reminded that dues renewals were due Jan. 1.

Come meet us! Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m., Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church, Market St., Onancock.

Onancock News

Onancock Business & Civic Association

Spring 2009

First Fridays are Moving!

Our downtown shops and galleries have found that the **Second Friday** of the month is a better night to attract out-of-town visitors to Onancock. First Fridays in Berlin and Snow Hill, Md. attract many of the same clientele, plus now we'll be able to tie-in and cross-market with Chincoteague's Second Saturday!

But we're giving you one month to get used to the change! **April 3** is the season opener of First Friday, then on **May 8**, it will change to the Second Friday every month through December.

Friday evenings in Onancock are the bomb! Shops and galleries are open until 8 p.m. featuring artists, demonstrations, and a 'Yappy Hour' for pets. There's noshing with friends, restaurants bustling with patrons, many with musical entertainment.

First Friday, April 3, highlights include: The Bistro will donate 10% of the proceeds that night to Project Playground, an effort to build a playground at Onancock School; a reception for a group show of local artists at Jack Richardson Gallery; fiber artists show at Gallery Onancock; and at The Red Queen Gallery Fred Miller's whimsical clam creatures, and Kim Miller's magnificent stained glass items. Don't forget to visit the many artists in their studios at the Onancock School.

Second Friday, May 8, will feature: Holly Grove Vineyards, the shore's newest winery, serving tastings at gardenART on King St.; Chincoteague carver Jennifer Daisey brings her passion for birds to the Red Queen Gallery. Gallery Onancock's *Art on the Digital Edge* brings David Douglas' large scale images of the Eastern Shore to refresh our eyes to the natural beauty that surrounds us. The Jack Richardson Gallery will hold a reception for Helen Bongiovanni, showing paintings with a western desert spirit.

Again this year, Lulu invites well-behaved leashed pets and their owners to **"Yappy Hour"** at gardenART on King St.

Plan to see and be seen at these special Friday events every month. Featured events are listed on the OBCA website; www.onancock.org, and on rack cards about a week in advance located in restaurants and businesses around town.



(photo by BurnhamInk.com)

5th ANNUAL SUPER SATURDAY SIDEWALK SALE May 9, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Super Saturday in Onancock means sidewalk sales up and down the main streets: Market, North and King, and Yard Sales in backyards, garages and front yards all over town!

Start gathering that "stuff" you've been moving from place to place and put a price tag on it! Get a big box and label it Super Saturday. By the time it's full it will be May 9, and you will be ready for the most fun sidewalk/yard sale event anywhere. Lots of businesses will have big bargains out front and more inside. Vendors will be out there with everything from antiques to zithers.

Got Stuff? Call Pam Reid Neilsen at 757-787-2654 to sign up now for a primo space. It's the best deal going, only \$10 for your space or \$15 if you need a table. The event is sponsored by the Onancock Business & Civic Association (OBCA).

There is no charge, of course, to hold your own yard sale. Neighbors will be yakking over coffee and the neatest "stuff" you've ever seen! Lots of folks will be in town from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. so remember, one man's junk is another man's treasure!


The weather did not cooperate last year so we've got a rain date set for May 16, which will of course insure that the 9th will be a beautiful day!

The event is pet-friendly! You are invited to bring your well-behaved, leashed furry friend. Stop by the new Onancock Welcome Center, located next to the Corner Bakery, for the Petography Studio from noon to 2 p.m. Have your pet's photo taken and ready to take home on the spot; the \$4 donation goes to OBCA's pet-friendly efforts. If you've got aluminum cans saved for the SPCA Eastern Shore, there will be a one-time drop-off for your convenience.

The 2009 OBCA Onancock Pets & Flowers Calendar was a great success and went into two printings. To be sure you get yours, you can pre-order the 2010 on the spot. Some of the photos taken on Super Saturday will be used for the new calendar. Is your pet a star? Could be!


We'll have free drawings and special treats for your pooch. All of it is sponsored by the Onancock Business and Civic Association (OBCA), www.onancock.org





Would you like to get involved?
We meet the 1st Tuesday of every month,
7pm at the Naomi Makemie Presbyterian
Church, Everyone is welcome!

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Website www.onancock.org
www.onancock.com

Printed by:

410.548.7122
757.709.0955

Onancock Arts and Exhibits

The art scene in Onancock just keeps growing!



Richardson Gallery will be a host studio for the 3rd annual Sneak Peek Studio Tour March 27-29. This tour includes studios around the Eastern Shore presenting newly created work. Also included in the gallery on King Street will be Diana Davis, Buck Doughty and John Nyberg. www.sneakpeekstudiotour.com

Harmanson House, a new gallery opening this spring by local fiber artist Lynne Fowler, will be holding a workshop with award-winning teacher from Pennsylvania Sandra Brown. The theme of the workshop is "Places I Love," and will be held April 2-4, and 5-7 at the Charlotte Hotel. There are still openings in the second session due to cancellations. Contact: Lynne Fowler: lynne@raccoonpoint.com

In conjunction with Lynne's workshop, **Gallery Onancock** will feature a Fiber Art Show April 3 through May 7. Opening reception is during First Friday, April 3. Award winning fiber artists Lynne Fowler, Stella Rohde, Elissa Crouch and Sandra Brown will display their original hooked rugs. Jean Harrison will bring us her intricate fiber portraits. www.galleryonancock.com

Ker Place opens the 2009 season with a very special exhibit: *When the Morning Comes: A Timeline of African-American History on the Eastern Shore*. Curated by historian Frances Latimer, the exhibition will feature documents, artifacts, and photographs that shed light on the African-American experience on the Eastern Shore. The Historical Society will be presenting several programs this Spring and Summer to accompany the exhibit including a book signing with Frances Latimer, a genealogy workshop, and lectures. Check www.kerplace.org for dates.

Red Queen Gallery is open Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. March-May, with more hours in summer. On First Friday, April 3, meet Fred Miller who makes make whimsical creatures out of clams and Kim Miller who does magnificent stained glass items. **Second Friday, May 8**, will feature Chincoteague carver Jennifer Daisey. www.redqueengallery.com

The first floor of the **Onancock School** is now filled with artists/artisan studios, musicians and ping-pongers! In addition to Dragonfly Studios, Elizabeth Hunt Studio is now open in Room 116. Dan Lawrence Studio will be open on the First Friday, April 3, and subsequent Second Fridays, from 5 to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served. www.onancockschool.org

Book Signing and Kayak Kick-off



On Super Saturday, May 9, gardenART on King Street and SouthEast Expeditions will kick off the paddling season in Onancock with a book-signing by local outdoor writers and SE kayak guides, Bill and Mary Burnham.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the couple will be signing copies of their latest book, *Car Camping for Everyone*, as well as their award-winning *Hiking Virginia*, and *Florida Keys Paddling Atlas* (www.BurnhamVirginia.com).

In conjunction with SouthEast Expeditions, there will be sign-ups for kayak tours, some boats and gear to try out, and a mini "paddle school" in the courtyard! Mary and Bill are certified kayak instructors and guides for SouthEast.

View a continuous slide show of Eastern Shore paddling destinations including Historic Onancock Creek, a narrated tour developed by Bill, the seaside barrier islands, and SouthEast's signature Kayak Winery Tour, the only one in Virginia!

Come to gardenART at 44 King Street, to check out new outdoor-themed offerings and celebrate a new season of outdoor adventuring on the beautiful Eastern Shore. Bike rentals will be coming in May. 787-8818, www.gardenartonking.com

Onancock in the News

Many of our residents and friends have been busy voting for Onancock as America's '**Coolest Small Town**', sponsored by Budget Travel Magazine. 152 towns were nominated, Onancock being the smallest and the only one in Virginia to make the final cut! The voting will close **April 3**, so we have a few more weeks to try and move up (we're currently in 5th). Please vote often: Just wait five minutes between ballots. And PLEASE post comments, photos, even videos, all of which will have an impact on the editor's final decision. The instructions say to think "avant garde" rather than 'quaint.' Well, we have both! Keep voting at www.budgettravel.com, and look for a feature in Budget Travel's October issue.

On March 9, WBOC Salisbury debuted its new "Made in Virginia" series with a feature on a unique Onancock business. Bert LeCato's **In Tune Guitar Picks** (www.intunegp.com) supplies the world's most famous guitar players, from Slayer to Brad Paisley, with high-quality, custom-printed picks. Who knew?!

The February issue of **Chesapeake Life** magazine featured the Charlotte Hotel Restaurant as one of the top 20 on the Chesapeake Bay. Our thanks to Chef Ted Cathey for his culinary delights! We can't wait for Spring and the return of the local crab and Ted's crabcakes.

There was also a nice article about Onancock in the February issue of **Chesapeake Bay** magazine.

The May/June edition of **Bethesda (MD) Magazine** will be featuring our town as seen from the eyes of a freelance reporter on her visit this past January. gardenART on King St will have copies to sell when it hits the stands.

Around Town

Compiled by Joani Donohoe

Email news to: idonohoe1@verizon.net



Friend us! Onancock is on Facebook, with more than 100 friends in just the first month! You don't even have to live here: Go to www.Facebook.com and sign up as a friend of both Onancock VA and the group "Fans of Onancock." Meet new and old friends and fans and keep up with the latest happenings in our town. You can even post a photo and link to promote your Onancock business.

Squelch the rumors: **Harborfest is happening!** A committee made up of Town Council, OBCA and Onancock School representatives is working together to continue this town tradition. Dates are Sept. 11-12. Look forward to all the old favorites, plus some new offerings including a Watershed Walk by the Eastern Shore's Environmental Education Council. Look for details as they develop at www.onancock.com

Bob Swain, carver extraordinaire, has written a beautiful book of poetry born out of his life experiences. *Turn, Turn, Tern My Unfinished Business* is available at the Book Bin and gardenART on King St.

Just in time for tax season, we have a new bookkeeping business in town called **The Book End**. Joan Irwin, who with her husband Shane own the Computer Store in Peninsula Center, has now started a bookkeeping and income tax preparation business at that same address. Joan has more than 25 years in the financial field, including 15 as a tax advisor. She is an ERO, an authorized e-filer for the IRS and a Quick Books Pro Advisor. Give Joan a call at 787-3411; thebookend@verizon.net

New this season at **gardenART on King St:** bike rentals, along with kayak tour bookings and rentals through SouthEast Expeditions. Look for some new merchandise in the shop to tie in with this new 'Onancock Outdoors' theme, along with the usual seasonal plants, orchids, garden tools, pots, gifts and home accents.

Purls Yarn Shop has a wide selection of yarns. Check out the cotton and cotton blends for summer knits. Classes are available for beginners as well as new techniques for the experienced knitter. Private instruction and help with your projects is available. 787-2277

Recycle! **Encore, Blue Crab Bay's** satellite shop located in the North Street Playhouse,

is now accepting foam shipping pellets, Styrofoam pieces and bubble wrap for re-use in their shipping department. Drop off clean materials, free of debris and packed in plastic trash or leaf bags (no boxes) on Fridays or Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Remember to **recycle** your household trash! The Tasley Convenience Center is open every day for drop-off of paper, cans, glass, plastic, all kinds of stuff. If you need containers for an event, call Betsy Pinder at 789-3612.

Thanks goodness, **OBS** is now a UPS package drop-off center, very likely the only one on the Shore! Get your packages in before the 4 p.m. weekday pick-up.

The winter session for '**Friends for Life' Basic Dog Obedience Classes** are already underway at the Onancock School. Reservations are being taken for the Spring session, as well as an Advanced/Therapy Dog class, which prepares for visiting nursing home, hospital and Hospice patients with your dog. It's a wonderfully rewarding experience for all! If you are interested in group or private obedience sessions for your dog, please contact Robin Savage, Animal Behaviorist, at 442-3981, or Nelda LoFaso, Assistant to Robin, at 787-2124.

The **Eastern Shore of Virginia House & Garden Tour** will be focused up our way this year, so Onancock can look forward to lots of foot traffic on April 25. Ker Place, 23 King Street, as well as several Accomac homes are on the tour (www.esgardentour.com).

Restaurant News



Can you believe the **Bistro** celebrated its one-year anniversary in February! Time sure flies. Open for lunch and dinner, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 25A Market Street. Drop in to meet owner Patricia Gardner, or call to order out: affordable entrees, pizza, salads and sandwich board. 787-1180.

Don Valerio's Steakhouse and Family Restaurant opened in January in downtown Onancock (in the former Stella's). Family dining downstairs and Sports Bar upstairs. The rack of ribs not only fall off the bone, they are so big, they fall off the plate!

Interactive dining: **The Charlotte Hotel Restaurant** wants to hear what you want on the menu! In addition to several "Chef Specials" changing each week, they have settled on several customer favorites, such as the bacon wrapped filet and the duck breast, as regular items. They are looking for additional input from patrons on which dishes to include for extended periods, so, stop on in and cast your vote! www.thecharlottehotel.com

Flamenco European Restaurant will feature Spanish Passion Night March 23 at 7 p.m. with Spanish cuisine, wine tasting, and live performance of classical Spanish guitar music. Seven courses and seven glasses of great wine, all for a great price! Look for upcoming events like Easter Sunday Brunch and authentic Portuguese cuisine and wine tasting. www.flamenco.com

Mallards at the Wharf will be opening the deck soon. Open daily at 11:30 for lunch, 5 p.m. for dinner. Look for this welcoming rite of spring: The Eggstravagant Easter Sunday Brunch, April 12, and Mothers Day Brunch, May 10. Memorial Day Weekend kicks off the 5th Summer Season at the Wharf with live entertainment all weekend! Mallards and Ker Place announce that a Museum of Shore History will soon be on display in the Hopkins and Bros. General Store Come check it out! Mention First/Second Friday and receive 10% off your dining check. www.mallardsllc.com

The Inn & Garden Café is representing the Eastern Shore in the 2009 Virginia Travel Guide's Portraits of Passion! Thanks to guests and friends for offering their support and encouragement. Now open for Sunday brunch, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Schedule your special event, be it a beautiful birthday celebration, wedding, or rehearsal dinner in the gazebo overlooking the gardens. Call Sandra or Paul for more information and reservations, and sign up for their newsletter: 787-8850, www.theinnandgardencafe.com

Behind the Racks Wine Bar at North Street Market is open Friday and Saturday evenings; reservations recommended. Steve has many special events planned this season, so be sure to look for details in his spring newsletter. If you're not on his mailing list call 787-8805 or stop by.