

Upcoming Events

May 18

Homeownership class for veterans offered by the Hampton Roads Community Action Program at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. To register and get more information, call Terri Francis at 757-643-4086.

May 20

Building Better Credit Work Session hosted by the Hampton Roads Community Action Program. Attendees will receive a free credit report and score. For more information and to register, call Terri Francis at 757-643-4086.

Ongoing

The Hampton Roads Workforce Council is seeking individuals without a college degree who are unemployed or underemployed to participate in a NO-COST program with training tracks in manufacturing, community healthcare, and construction. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).



Your Choice

A Newsletter for the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood

April | 2021 | ISSUE 50

A Seafood Market and Commercial Kitchen is Coming to the Southeast Community!

The city of Newport News is developing a year-round Seafood Market and Commercial Kitchen in the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood. A Seafood Market was identified as a priority for the community through the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) planning grant process and is one of the Critical Community Improvements being supported by the CNI funds.

The Market will be located at the beginning of the city's existing Seafood Industrial Park. It is anticipated that the market will include fresh raw seafood and produce as well as other food and beverage products for on-site dining or take-out. Plans also may include events and entertainment, and an anticipated commercial kitchen component could provide an opportunity for culinary training, community classes and demonstrations in nutrition, food handling, culinary skills and more.

Community input is playing a large role in the development of the operating plan for the Seafood Market, and we want to hear from you. Please complete an [online survey](#) by Friday, April 30.

The Fall 2019 cohort of the Neighborhood Leadership Series II (NLS II) took a leadership role in researching and evaluating the market's feasibility and worked to define the concept for the market further as part of its class project. This diligent work is serving as a foundation for developing the operating plan and the design and function of the seafood market.

The city has contracted with Hill Studio PC to create an operating model for the market. The Hill Studio PC team includes: Virginia Tech's Office of Economic Development; Richmond-based CarverCo, a real estate development and advisory company; Sterling Solutions, a national leader in seafood handling solutions; and, Patrick Arnold, owner of the New England Seafood Cluster and Icelandic Seafood Cluster.

To learn more about CNI and the city's Transformation Plan, visit www.newportnewschoice.com.



MARSHALL-RIDLEY

A CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD

SEAFOOD MARKET



Cover photo: The upgraded entrance of the new co-working space, The Offices @ 25 & J, located at 2506 Jefferson Avenue.

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 newportnewschoice@nnva.gov

 757-928-2620

Community Updates



Submit Your Name Entry Now through April 30, 2021!

Great Things are Happening in the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood!

The first new housing in the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood will be under construction in Spring 2021. Two new multi-family buildings will be constructed on Jefferson Avenue between 27th and 29th Streets. The buildings will contain 81 mixed-income apartments and townhouses as well as a community room, an open air terrace and retail space.

The buildings, currently called Carrier Point I and Carrier Point II, need a new name and we would like your help in selecting a name that reflects the history, culture and exciting future of the Marshall-Ridley neighborhood.

To Submit Your Entry

Visit nnva.gov/2639, call (757) 928-2655 or scan the QR code. Entries are limited to business owners or residents in the 23607 zip code.

For more information, please contact Lynne Carruth at lcarruth@nnrha.org.



If you are a business owner or resident in the 23607 zip code, click [here](#) to submit your entry today!

All Newport News Public Library Branches Are Open In-Person to the Public

Earlier this month, the Newport News Public Library (NNPL) officially reopened its branches to the public! Select in-person services are now available including holds, pickups, browsing and checkout, as well as computer use, printing, copying, faxing and scanning.

Guests are asked to continue practicing COVID-19 safety protocols when in the library. Masks or face coverings are required to enter and six feet of physical distance should be maintained.

Curbside pickup is still available and the procedure remains the same, with appointments available from:

- 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday,
- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays and
- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

For more information about curbside pickup and how to get your order started, [click here](#).

To find details regarding branch locations and hours, or to contact your branch with any questions, visit nnpl.org.



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Community Opportunities and Events

Artists Needed for the New Co-Working Space

The Offices @ Two Five & J is in full bloom and the city is looking for artists to participate in the first art exhibit in the new co-working space coming to the Southeast Community. The "Uncommon Area" Art display for The Offices @ Two Five & J, celebrates the talent of Newport News artists and the style, flavor and rich history of the Southeast Community. Each work should reflect the artists' personal perspective and appreciation for the lively and bustling treasure that is Downtown Newport News.

Artwork will be selected by a committee of local business professionals and residents who encourage, promote and support entrepreneurship, arts and culture in the city. All selected works will be on display with an opportunity to be sold to any interested parties. Applications must be submitted by Friday, May 14. Find more information and additional details on how to apply online, or call 757-247-8950 for questions.



Submissions Being Accepted for Juneteenth Youth Essay, Spoken Word, and Poster Contests

The Downtown Newport News Merchants & Neighbors Association, Inc. (DTNNMNA) in partnership with the city of Newport News have released plans for a [week's worth of activities](#) in honor of Juneteenth. Plans include a concert, bingo, a freedom festival, a theatrical production, and more. To help start the celebration early, the DTNNMNA has kicked off two youth contests. Youth in grades 3-5 may participate in the [poster contest](#) and youth in grades 6-12 may participate in the [essay and spoken word contest](#).

The theme for both contests is Unity in the Community: Education, Awareness and Commemoration. To participate in the poster contest, youth must visit one of the branches of the Newport News Public Library to pick up a registration packet. The packet will include a registration form and three sheets of cardstock in which the contestant must design and submit one as the contest entry by the deadline. To enter the essay contest, participants must use the electronic form to submit an essay no longer than one page. For spoken word entries, participants must compose a spoken word presentation and upload the file using the electronic form. **All entries must be submitted by Friday, May 14 and first prize winners will receive a gift card.**

To see a full listing of planned Juneteenth events and to learn more about the contests, visit www.nnva.gov/Juneteenth.



JUNETEENTH
SPOKEN WORD &
ESSAY CONTESTS
NEWPORT NEWS



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Community Updates

Newport News Partners with Hampton Roads Transit to Provide Bus Passes for Travel to Vaccine Clinics



The city of Newport News is partnering with Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) to make it easier for residents to travel to a vaccination clinic. Residents experiencing transportation issues can call the city's 311 Contact Center or visit nnva.gov to request a pair of HRT bus passes to use to get their first and second shot at any vaccine clinic in Hampton Roads.

"Access to reliable transportation is a barrier preventing some people from getting the COVID-19 vaccine," said Newport News Fire Chief Jeff Johnson. "The city's partnership with Hampton Roads Transit ensures everyone has the ability to access a shot, whether they travel to a Community Vaccine Clinic, pharmacy, doctor's office, or a clinic sponsored by a church or group. By offering this transportation assistance, we are protecting the lives of

our residents and are one step closer to moving out of the pandemic."

To receive the pair of HRT passes, residents should call the city's 311 Contact Center at 311 or (757) 933-2311 or complete a form on the city's website, www.nnva.gov. Residents should not contact HRT for passes.

When requesting passes, individuals will need to provide their name, address, phone number and indicate if they have already scheduled an appointment for the vaccine. Residents do not need to have a pre-scheduled vaccine appointment when requesting the pass, as many clinics are now offering walk-in vaccinations.

After completing a request, residents will be called and given information on where and when they can pick-up their bus passes. Pick-up locations will be at city buildings and facilities that are easily accessible to those requesting the passes.

The passes are valid for use on all HRT transit modes and routes to provide residents with numerous options on where they receive the vaccine. Residents age 16 and older experiencing transportation barriers are eligible to receive two bus passes, but they must be used to travel to and from a vaccination clinic.

HRT already provides a Vaccination Access Transportation Program that offers Paratransit customers free trips to and from vaccination appointments. All certified Paratransit customers are allowed up to four free trips to receive their vaccines. To use this service, individuals should call Paratransit Reservations at (757) 455-8010 after registering and scheduling a vaccination appointment. Under this program, trips will only be scheduled to and from known vaccination locations.

Operation Vaccinate the Peninsula Hosting Facebook Live

OPERATION
VACCINATE
THE PENINSULA



FACEBOOK LIVE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28 AT 6PM

As vaccine availability increases on the Peninsula and throughout the region, it's important residents know how, when and where to get a COVID-19 vaccine. It's also important that people understand that vaccines are safe and effective at preventing COVID-19. Newport News partnered with other Peninsula localities, local health districts and health systems to create Operation Vaccinate the Peninsula to provide one place for information and a unified message.

With additional clinics opening, Operation Vaccinate the Peninsula is hosting a [Facebook Live](#) this **Wednesday, April 28 at 6 p.m.** Panelists will share information on vaccines, including an update on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, and discuss area clinics.

To watch and interact visit the [Newport News Facebook Page](#), tune into NNTV (Cox 48 and Verizon 19) or go online to www.nnva.gov/nntv.