‘Bayshore at Buckroe Beach’ exhibit, virtual event explores the premier Chesapeake Bay Resort for African Americans during the Jim Crow Era

This year’s program will shine a light on the first two decades of the resort 1898-1918

Hampton, Virginia - Organizer Reginald Robinson presents the 6th Annual “BayShore at Buckroe Beach” event, live on the Hampton History Museum’s Facebook page on Saturday, Sept. 19, 6 p.m. This year the public can view a special BayShore exhibit for free in the Hampton History museum’s Great Hall on Friday, Sept. 18, and Saturday, Sept. 19, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (originally scheduled for Sept. 18-21).

The Facebook Live event hosts Reginald Robinson and Judy Leonard will take viewers on a stroll down memory lane of the premier seaside resort for African Americans on the Chesapeake Bay during the Jim Crow Era. This year’s theme, “The BayShore Beach Experience. A to Z,” shines a light on the first two decades of the resort 1898 to 1918.

The hosts will induct this year’s members into the BayShore Beach Hall of Fame. The 2020 recipients include historian and former Hampton History Museum curator Michael Cobb; Hampton History Museum promotions director Seamus McGrann; retired businessman Raymond Jarvis; BayShore Beach arcade game owner William Terrell; and Jack Jones, a valued employee of The BayShore Hotel and Resort, who along with his wife, Zenobia, was instrumental in the day-to-day operations of the BayShore amusement rides and Dance Hall.

Also as part of the program, the Charles H Williams award of leadership will be presented to NASA mathematician Dr. Christine Darden whose work helped break the sound barrier. The award will be presented by Charles H Jones M.S.ED, nephew of Charles H Williams.
Following the awards, there will be a presentation by special guest African/African American Studies scholar, Norfolk State University professor of social work Dr. Colita Nichols Fairfax.

On Sept. 18-19, visitors can view a plethora of rare BayShore Beach artifacts on display in the museum’s Great Hall, along with hundreds of vintage photos from the resort’s heyday that give a glimpse into “The BayShore Experience.” A highlight of the display will be a guitar that belonged to legendary performer Chuck "Guitar" Chavis. Those who visit the exhibit will have the opportunity to submit their name for prizes to be drawn during Saturday evening’s virtual event.

The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. Masks are required to view the exhibit which will be marked to help visitors maintain social distancing. For more information visit "BayShore Memories" on Facebook, visit www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org, or call the Hampton Visitor Center at 757-727-1102.

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Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America’s first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.