

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2020

Contact: Leslie Baker, 757/728-5316

[leslie.baker@hamptoncvb.com](mailto:leslie.baker@hamptoncvb.com)

Seamus McGrann, 757/727-6841

[mmcgrann@hampton.gov](mailto:mmcgrann@hampton.gov)

## Hampton History Museum Hosts Two Virtual Events for October 2020

**Hampton, Virginia** – Join the Hampton History Museum in October for their monthly Port Hampton Lecture and Front Porch Music series. Learn about the revitalization of Hampton through seafood after the Civil War on October 5. Enjoy as Jackie Merritt and Resa Gibbs sings Piedmont blues on October 21. Both of the events will be held virtually on the Hampton History Museum's [Facebook](#) page.

### Virtual Port Hampton Lecture Series

#### Depleting the Immense Protein Factory that was Chesapeake Bay

**Hampton History Museum Facebook Live - Monday, October 5, 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

The seafood industry revitalized Hampton after the Civil War. The innovation and success of the city in this arena led to the nickname "Crabtown." Waterfront seafood businesses operate in downtown Hampton to this day, though not to the extent as during its heyday.

Join Dr. Kennedy, Professor Emeritus, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, University of Maryland for an enlightening overview of the environmental history of Chesapeake Bay to explore how resource-rich the Bay was when Europeans arrived and how it has been over-exploited since the 19th Century. In the late 1800s, Virginia and Maryland supplied more oysters each year than any other region in North America and Europe, yielding nearly 20 million bushels in 1885 compared with about 800,000 bushels today. The bay's oyster industry employed thousands in harvesting and processing the region's bounty. Dr. Kennedy uses eyewitness reports by early colonists as well as historical newspaper articles and federal and state management reports from the 1800s to paint a picture of a cornucopia that we can now only imagine.

Read more: <https://hampton.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=4659>

### Virtual Front Porch Music Series

#### Jackie Merritt & Resa Gibbs

**Hampton History Museum Facebook Live - Wednesday, October 21, 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

Grab a seat on the virtual front porch to share an hour with the two local members of the acclaimed M.S.G. Acoustic Blues Trio, Jackie Merritt and Resa Gibbs. Renowned as the premier purveyors of Piedmont Blues tradition, they are adept musicians and songwriters. They've been known to raise the roof with old-fashioned house party tunes, make you laugh with their witty originals, then make you

weep with blues ballads!

Read more: <https://hampton.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=4660>

The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. There is free parking in the garage across the street. Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Wednesday & Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m. For more information, visit [www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org](http://www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org) or <https://www.facebook.com/HamptonHistoryMuseum>, or call 757-727-1102

Photo attached: J.S. Darling and Son oyster shell pile, Downtown Hampton, c. 1900, Hampton History Museum

###

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.