

News Release**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****DATE: September 28, 2023**

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Hampton, VA –Get ready for spooky season in Hampton. The Hampton History Museum is thrilled to announce a series of captivating events throughout October, designed to entertain and engage history lovers and spook-seekers alike. From a bone-chilling, myth-busting lecture on the Witch of Pungo to the immersive Hampton Horror Tours, there's something for everyone at the Hampton History Museum this month.

Grace Sherwood, the History Behind the Witch Legend**October 2, 2023, 7-8 p.m.****Hampton History Museum****Members free, general attendance \$5**

Almost everyone in Coastal Virginia has heard of Grace Sherwood, the Witch of Pungo. People have been sharing stories about her since she was ducked in Lynnhaven Bay during her trial for witchcraft in 1706. This event will reveal the history behind these stories. Using colonial records, including many available in local libraries, this informative discussion will describe the life of Grace Sherwood and her accusers. It'll also help to explain why so many thought she was a witch.

This event is presented by Scott Moore, an associate professor of history at Eastern Connecticut State University. Moore teaches a range of classes on European history, including a course on European folklore. A native of Virginia Beach, he earned a BA from the College of William & Mary; a MA from Old Dominion University; and a PhD from the University of Maryland, College Park. His book, *The Witch of Pungo: Grace Sherwood in Virginia History and Legend*, will be published by the University of Virginia Press in spring 2024.

Hampton Horror Tours**October 26-30****Hampton History Museum****120 Old Hampton Lane**

Our Horror Tours are back to bring tales of mystery and the macabre to the streets of Hampton...and with more fun and fright than ever before! Even if you've been a regular on our Horror Tours in the past, you won't want to miss their reincarnation! There are new stories, new personages to meet from the mists of time and plenty of surprises in store!

Leaving from the museum, these 60-minute tours include eerie tales of old Hampton and the Coastal Virginia area. Each tour will include the grisly side of Hampton history, a

spooky lantern tour of the St. John's Church graveyard, and other points of fright along Queen Street and around Downtown Hampton.

Adult tickets: \$14 in advance, \$16 at the door; children 12 and under \$12 (not recommended for children under 8).

Proceeds benefit the Hampton History Museum. Call 757-727-6824 or visit www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org/donate.

Hampton History Museum

The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. There is free parking in the garage across the street from the museum. For more information call 757-727-1102 or visit www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org.

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[Photo Library](#)

All photos are courtesy of the 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 Science Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.