

Contact: Dave Callis
Debbie Mahanes
Phone: 868-3588

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

29th ANNUAL POQUOSON SEAFOOD FESTIVAL **SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 16-18, 2009**

The City of Poquoson presents the 29th Annual Poquoson Seafood Festival October 16-18, 2009 in Poquoson Municipal Park, 830 Poquoson Avenue, Poquoson, VA 23662. The Festival honors the Working Watermen of the Chesapeake Bay and the rich coastal heritage of Poquoson. It includes musical entertainment, juried arts & crafts show, dozens of food vendors, a children's area, and nautical events including a Work Boat Race and a Fishing Tournament. The event is family-oriented and offers something for everyone.

Holding with its rich tradition, the festival will feature outstanding national and regional musical entertainment on the BB & T Municipal Stage. Local and Regional Legend *Slapwater* will appear on Friday night, October 16, 2009. On Saturday, October 17, 2009, join us for a great musical line-up including Everyday Circus and Soul Patch. On Sunday, October 18, 2009 dance to the sounds of The Original Rhondels. Additional regional entertainment will include Tim Morgan and The Mojo Brothers, Made From Scratch, the Poquoson High School Band, The Heather Edwards Band and The Super Jazz Band Combo all appearing on the Taylor's Do It Center Food Pavilion Stage.

As in years past, the Poquoson Seafood Festival hosts the *Poquoson Art League Juried Arts & Crafts Show*, one of the larger arts and crafts shows and sales in the state of Virginia with over 165 artisans expected to exhibit a myriad of outstanding crafts and original art work.

The Langley Federal Credit Union Heritage Display Exhibit will feature numerous activities showcasing the history and heritage of the Chesapeake Bay Working Watermen. Also expected to participate: the Poquoson Cultural Museum who will provide background and static display information on the Museum and Poquoson's history.

THE FESTIVAL FEATURES SPECIAL EVENING HOURS IN ITS ARTS AND CRAFTS AREAS AS WELL ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY. MANY ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBITORS WILL BE OPEN UNTIL 10:00 PM ON THESE EVENINGS AND PATRONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE EXTENDED HOURS.

Living up to its name, the Poquoson Seafood Festival offers some savory dishes from the surrounding waters in the Poquoson Seafood Festival Food Pavilion. Crab cakes, shrimp, oysters, clams, clam chowder, soft shell crabs, catfish, she crab soup, and many other festival favorites will be available for purchase.

Another popular favorite slated for return is the Kid's Korner Children's Area featuring strolling entertainment, an arts and crafts area and amusement rides.

Also in 2009: The 3rd Annual Poquoson Seafood Festival "Catch of the Day" Baby Contest for newborns to 4 years of age. The Baby Contest will take place on Saturday, October 17, 2009 on the BB & T Municipal Stage.

Please note: Guests are encouraged to bring beach chairs and blankets for all concerts on Municipal Field.

Festival Hours:

<i>Friday, October 16, 2009</i>	<i>5:00-10:00 PM</i>
<i>Saturday, October 17, 2009</i>	<i>10:00 AM-10:00 PM</i>
<i>Sunday, October 18, 2009</i>	<i>12:30-6:30 PM</i>

FESTIVAL DIRECTIONS & PARKING INFORMATION

\$5.00 Parking Fee All Areas

GENERAL PARKING

From I-64 take the Poquoson Exit (256B) to Victory Blvd./Rt. 171. Remain on Rt. 171 for approximately 5-6 miles. Follow signs leading into the Festival Parking Area.

PARKING FOR THE DISABLED

From I-64 take the Poquoson Exit (256B) to Victory Blvd./Rt. 171. Remain on Rt. 171 for approximately 5-6 miles. Turn left on Wythe Creek Rd. Turn right on Hudgins Rd. Bear right on Hudgins Rd. onto Poquoson Ave. Turn right on Municipal Drive. Parking attendant will direct vehicles at this point. Handicapped sticker and accompanying identification will be required.

SHUTTLE PARKING

Should available on-site parking be full, you will be directed to one of our nearby shuttle parking lots. Bus transportation is provided at these locations for you. Festival staff and Police officers will direct you to the shuttle lot when appropriate.

Poquoson Seafood Festival Kick-Off Events

Please make plans to attend these outstanding events as well
(Event Times Subject to Change):

7th Annual Mackenzie's 5K Run/Walk for MPS

9:30 AM, Saturday, October 10, 2009 at Poquoson High School. Registrations accepted through day of. Registration fee: \$15.00. Check-In Time: 9:00 AM. **T-Shirts to the first 200 registrants.** Awards to 1st, 2nd, 3rd place male & female finishers overall and in the following age groups: 12 & under, 13-19, 20-34, 35-49, and 50 and over. Business Sponsorships available. Registrations available at Poquoson Parks & Recreation. Information: Steve & Jen Clarke at 868-7569. For additional information you may also visit the website: www.poquosonseafestival.com. Come join in the fun for a great cause!

2009 Annual Fishing Tournament

Saturday, October 10, 2009, 6 AM-4:30 PM, Messick Point, Poquoson. The tournament will feature a rockfish, speckled trout, and Back River Division and pay 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in cash prizes. \$50.00 per boat entry fee for the rockfish and speckled trout divisions, and \$35.00 per boat for the Back River/Poquoson River division. There will be a FREE youth class in each division. Captain's Meeting will be held on Friday, October 9, 2009, at 6:00 PM, in the Poquoson Parks & Recreation Building, 830 Poquoson Ave (Old Municipal Building). Tournament information will be posted on the website with registration information soon. Tournament is in memory of former chairman, Eric Mungo

Messick Point Kick-Off Event

Saturday, October 10, 2009, 5-10 PM, at Messick Point featuring live musical entertainment and refreshments available for purchase. **Of Special Note: *The Workboat Dock Exhibit at Messick Point.* Dozens of Workboats are expected to dock at Messick Point pier and welcome the general public to see authentic Chesapeake Bay Deadrise Boats and other working water craft first hand. This event provides patrons with an up-close look at the boats of the Chesapeake Bay. For more information please call 868-4744.**

Poquoson Seafood Workboat Race at Messick Point

Sunday, October 11, 2009 at 1:00 PM

Poquoson's Back River hosts one of the most prestigious Workboat Races in the Hampton Roads area with dozens of Chesapeake Bay Dead Rise Boats and other working craft competing for King of the Bay. Hundreds of spectators enjoy this annual salute to the Working Watermen of Hampton Roads. Refreshments will be available for purchase on-site. For more information about the race please call 868-4744.

The 29th Annual Poquoson Seafood Festival continues October 17-19, 2009 with a full weekend of great food, musical entertainment, arts and crafts, Chesapeake Bay exhibits, the 3rd Annual Baby Contest and children's activities. For more information please visit our website at www.poquosonseafestival.com.