

## *What's New in Newport News?*

**Newport News, VA, Aug. 30, 2016** – The City of Newport News is continually evolving ... so much so that you may not recognize it on your next visit here! Below you'll find a sampling of "What's New" in Newport News:

### ***The latest "Brewhaha" in Newport News: City now has its first craft brewery!***

The craft beer industry in Virginia has boomed very quickly, from just a handful of craft breweries a few years ago to more than 100 today, and Newport News now has one! Called "Tradition Brewing Company," the establishment opened in June 2016 and features a 4,200-square-foot tasting room and a 6,700-square-foot brewing space. Patrons can observe the brewing process on tours or while seated in the first-floor tasting room, which accommodates 250. The second-floor mezzanine provides space for private parties, corporate events, reunions, etc., while the conference room offers a more intimate area for smaller groups. Brainstorming is in the works for themed events, such as "Paint & Pints," the "History of Hops," "Ladies Pint Nights," and "Breakfast & Brews." Because each of the partners of the brewery either lives in or is a native of Newport News, they recognized an opportunity to provide their community and hometown something new and unique. As such, they decided to name their startup "Tradition" to pay tribute to the fond memories and rich history of the region, but also as a nod toward "brewing" new memories and traditions in the future! [www.traditionbrewing.com](http://www.traditionbrewing.com)

### ***From Foam to Plate: Whole Foods Partners with Tradition Brewing Co. to Make Bread***

When the team leader of the bakery at Whole Foods in Newport News learned that a new microbrewery had just opened two miles away from her store, she proposed an idea to the brewery's owners: Provide Whole Foods with the brewery's spent grain and the grocer will make bread from it! Spent grain, the leftover malt that is a byproduct of the brewing process, is typically used as feed for chickens and cattle or as compost for fertilizing fields; however, Whole Foods in Newport News is one of only two stores in this part of the country that incorporates spent grain into its baking (the other is in Ohio). The bakery can make 300 pounds of dough out of two 5-gallon buckets of spent grain from the brewery. The loaves of bread, similar to a German-style sourdough, have become a popular item at Whole Foods. According to the bakery team leader, the bread – which is shaped into a boule and stenciled with a "T" from Tradition's logo – sells out quickly because shoppers love the "hyper-local" connection! [www.traditionbrewing.com](http://www.traditionbrewing.com)

### ***Micro-Distillery Partners with Museum to Tell the Story of the Battle of Hampton Roads***

In a nod to the *Battle of the Hampton Roads*, the city's first bourbon micro-distillery, dubbed *Ironclad Distillery*, will soon open in downtown Newport News. Its location – in a 102-year-old former dry goods warehouse – is near the site of the famous Civil War naval battle between the USS *Monitor* and the CSS *Virginia*. Interestingly, the owners of the distillery have partnered with The Mariners' Museum/USS *Monitor* Center to better tell the story of these and other ironclad vessels, which made wooden battleships obsolete and hastened the end of the Civil War. The label on each bottle of bourbon, for example, will feature blueprints provided by The Mariners' Museum of either the USS *Monitor* or the CSS *Virginia*. This partnership ties into the museum's mission, in part, to tell the story of the city's unique maritime heritage. [www.ironcladdistillery.com](http://www.ironcladdistillery.com)

***Why do museums have old dinosaur bones? Because they can't afford new ones!***

For more than 25 years, dinosaurs have been a popular summer exhibit at the Virginia Living Museum. This year, as part of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, the museum will open a permanent outdoor Dinosaur Discovery Trail in the fall. This permanent exhibit will showcase 16 of the majestic animals that ruled our earth for more than 150 million years. Visitors will walk through the woods to see realistic 1/3- to full-size dinosaurs from the Jurassic and Cretaceous eras. The dinosaurs will range in size from a mini Ankylosaurus to a 16-foot-tall Brachiosaurus. There will be a baby T. rex. photo op and a half-size T. rex. The \$500,000 project will also include a children's play area, dig pits for amateur paleontologists, including one with an actual whale specimen from Coastal Virginia, and displays of dinosaur and Ice Age fossils. [www.thevlm.org](http://www.thevlm.org)

***Newport News to Celebrate Ella Fitzgerald Centennial***

Ella Fitzgerald, nicknamed *First Lady of Song*, was born in Newport News on April 25, 1917. Ella made her first recording on June 12, 1935, and by the 1940s, Ella was known as one of the best scat singers in the world. Throughout her career Ella recorded at least 200 albums. She was the first African-American female to win a Grammy and went on to win a total of 13 Grammys and sell more than 40 million albums. Ella made a true impact on the world, and Newport News is honored to celebrate her in the place where she began. Because Ella Fitzgerald would have turned 100 in 2017, Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center will host a year-long celebration in her memory, beginning in September 2016. ***Reflections: 100 Years of Ella*** pays homage to Newport News' beloved native daughter with a series of performances and events that tell the story of her extraordinary life and legacy. [downing-gross@nnva.gov](mailto:downing-gross@nnva.gov) (for more information about national celebrations, visit [Ella at 100: the Centennial Celebration](#)).

***Virginia War Museum Receives Artifact from the 9/11 Attacks***

In commemoration of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, a three-foot piece of contorted metal from the Twin Towers (World Trade Center) will go on display at the Virginia War Museum beginning September 11, 2016. It will become part of the museum's new *Global War on Terror* exhibit, which features uniforms and equipment used by U.S. service members in Afghanistan and Iraq as a direct result of the attacks on 9/11, as well as those of Iraqi insurgents and Taliban fighters. The Virginia War Museum received the artifact (thought to be part of a vehicle bumper) in late July. It was one of the last items to be distributed by a program administered by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. By the time the program ended, it had disseminated more than 2,600 artifacts – ranging from steel beams, columns, and pieces of a parking deck to one tower's exterior, a fire truck, a subway car, and a Port Authority police car. The pieces were donated to museums and other organizations across the U.S. and in countries like Brazil, China, and Germany. [www.warmuseum.org](http://www.warmuseum.org)

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**Newport News Tourism Development Office**

Fountain Plaza Two • 700 Town Center Drive • Suite 320 • Newport News, VA 23606  
757-926-1400 • Toll Free 888-493-7386 • Fax 757-926-1441 • [www.newport-news.org](http://www.newport-news.org)