



Hampton

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU

Media Release

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Contact: Elizabeth Severs, 757/728-5326
elizabeth.severs@hamptoncvb.com
Donnie Bonivich, 757/727-1276
dockmaster@downtownhampton.com

Tall Ship *Providence* at the Downtown Public Piers June 27-29

--Take a tour of this incredible reproduction of John Paul Jones' ship--

Hampton, VA – All aboard the Tall Ship *Providence*! Blackbeard's Crew, Inc. and the Downtown Public Piers will welcome *Providence* to the docks at approximately 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 27. From 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 28 and from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 29, *Providence* crew will offer tours of the ship. Tours begin at the Hampton Maritime Center at 710 Settlers Landing Road in Downtown Hampton, and are free and open to the public. *Providence* is scheduled to depart around 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 29.

The Tall Ship *Providence* is a replica of the American Revolution-era sloop, *Providence*, captained by John Paul Jones for six months in 1776. The original *Providence* served the Continental Navy from 1775 until intentionally burned by Continental forces 1779, so it would not fall in to the hands of the British.

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1919 Commerce Drive, Suite 290 | Hampton, Virginia 23666
757.722.1222 | 800.487.8778 | fax 757.896.4600 | www.hamptoncvb.com

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The current Tall Ship *Providence* was completed in 1976 in Rhode Island. For most of its history, the ship has participated in tall ship events and was even seen in some of the films from the *Pirates of the Caribbean* franchise. In 2017, *Providence* was purchased by the Tall Ship Providence Foundation to become the centerpiece of a new maritime museum experience in Alexandria, Virginia.

On June 19, following the completion of its restoration in Wiscasset, Maine, *Providence* began its journey to its new home in Alexandria. Once in its new homeport at the Old Town Marina in Alexandria, *Providence* will be available for daily tours and evening cruises.

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.

During 2019, Hampton commemorates the 400th anniversary of the first African landing in English North America at Hampton's Old Point Comfort on Fort Monroe National Monument. In addition to honoring the men and women who arrived in 1619, the city will also celebrate the contributions of African Americans have made to our city, state and nation. A commission has planned events across the entire year to recognize and celebrate African American impact, including a three-day long Commemoration event, August 23-25.

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