



## CURRENTS

## "EMBRACING NARRATIVE"

## GLASS ART EXHIBIT OFFERS REFLECTIONS ON STORYTELLING



COURTESY PHOTO

Clay McGlamory's, "NO, ON," utilizes neon, one of the many media featured in the Portsmouth exhibit.

## If you go

**What:** "Embracing Narrative: Artwork of the Washington Glass School & Virginia Glass Guild"

**Where:** Portsmouth Art and Cultural Center, 400 High St.

**Hours:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays; 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays; and 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on the first Friday of the month April-June. The exhibit will feature demonstrations and gallery talks. An opening reception is scheduled for 5-8 p.m. Friday.

**Contact:** portsmouthartcenter.com or 393-8543.

By Arleen Spenceley  
Correspondent

This glass has stories to tell. A new exhibit, "Embracing Narrative," at the Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center pushes the boundaries of the art form, said Gayle Paul, the center's curator.

"It's a very seductive medium," she said. "It glistens, plays with light (and can) also be opaque."

The juried show, which opens March 4, features work by about 45 artists from the Virginia Glass Guild and the Washington Glass School, which is based in Maryland near Washington, D.C. The exhibit also serves as a precursor to the 2017 Glass Art Society Conference, which is June 1-3 in Norfolk, Paul said.

"They're all very skilled at their craft (and they've) pushed themselves in a variety of different directions to find new ways of expressing meaning."

Art in the show includes everything from neon signs to wall pieces, as well as pedestal pieces and installations that "overwhelm you

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ARLEEN SPENCELEY | FOR THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

Gauge fetches a ball in the 4,796-square-foot outdoor space at the Portsmouth Humane Society.

## Dogged determination

*That's what it took to get a new play yard at Portsmouth Humane Society*

By Arleen Spenceley  
Correspondent

Gauge, a pit bull mix, aimlessly roamed until he saw the ball – then he charged, full speed, toward it.

"Dogs want to run," said James McLaughlin, external affairs director at the Portsmouth Humane So-

ciety.

Until earlier this month, there was no place at the shelter where dogs could do that. But thanks to donations collected since the spring, there's a new play yard, McLaughlin said.

A fence surrounds the 4,796-square-foot outdoor space, which provides the

shelter's canine residents with exercise.

Staff and volunteers walk the dogs on leashes two to three times a day, McLaughlin said.

Prior to this, dogs had to use the shelter's two original play yards, but they weren't big enough "to have lots of room to play," he said. And animals coming to the shelter need exercise, he

See PLAY YARD, Page 2



IDA KAY JORDAN  
IDA KAY'S PORTSMOUTH

## NEXTGEN FAIR HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

IF YOU'RE between the ages of 16 and 24 and looking for something to do, here's a deal for you!

On Thursday, there'll be more than 50 people at the Chesapeake Convention Center who want to talk to you – whether you want part-time or full-time paid work or volunteer work, or if you want to go to school and learn how to do something new.

They'll be at the NextGen Opportunity Fair, which runs 6-8 p.m. The free event is sponsored by Opportunity Inc. and the Youth Career Center of Hampton Roads.

My friend Anne Davis, who served on the board of Opportunity Inc. back when it was first organized, said the fair was started by a group of business people and educators with a grant from the federal government aimed at helping former members of the military.

She said it was wel-

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**This week in Portsmouth...**

PortsVaEvents.com  
757.393.5111

**THRU MAR. 2**  
Multiple Abstractions Exhibit  
Tidewater Community College  
Visual Arts Center

**THRU JUN. 3**  
Dinosaurs: Land of Fire & Ice  
Children's Museum of Virginia

**TODAY FEB. 26**  
7th Annual Chevra  
Cinema: Biloxi Blues  
2p | Jewish Museum  
& Cultural Center



**TUESDAY FEB. 28**  
Preschool Storytime  
10:30a | Main Library  
**Teen Book Group**  
2:45p | Manor Branch Library

**WEDNESDAY MAR. 1**  
Basic Computer Help  
11a – 12:15p | Main Library

**THURSDAY MAR. 2**  
YOGA  
11a – Noon | Main Library

Preschool Storytime  
11a | Cradock Branch Library

**FRIDAY MAR. 3**  
First Friday Concert  
Series: Matt Thomas  
5 – 8p | Portsmouth  
Art & Cultural Center

Olde Towne Arts &  
Music Jam Night  
6p | Olde Town Arts and Music

Embracing Narrative: Artwork  
of the Washington Glass School  
& Virginia Glass Guild Opening  
Reception  
5 – 8p | Portsmouth Art &  
Cultural Center

**SATURDAY MAR. 4**  
Bank of America "Museums on Us"  
9a – 5p | Children's Museum of  
Virginia

First Saturday - Reflection in Glass:  
Hot Glasswork Demonstrations &  
Gallery Talk | 10a – 1p  
Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center

S.T.E.M. Studio  
10:30a – 12:30p & 2:30 – 4:30p  
Children's Museum of Virginia

Olde Towne Antiques to Flea Market  
10a – 2p | Middle Street Garage

