

Photo: Angelique James



# Mudflats

WINTER 2024

**ELIZABETH RIVER PROJECT** 4610 Colley Ave., Norfolk, VA 23508 | ElizabethRiver.org

## Why 2025 could be the Elizabeth’s most promising and challenging year yet

*Best scores yet, plus global resilience model, set the stage to tackle new challenges - with you aboard*

**We started at the bottom.** The Elizabeth River: One of the three most toxic tributaries on the Chesapeake Bay.

That was back in 1991, when the Elizabeth River Project began around a kitchen table.

Imagine our delight with this year’s Bay Report Card. The University of Maryland calls out three regions for scores showing “strong improvement:” The Choptank (in the lead; 15-point increase), then, neck-and-neck, the Upper Eastern Shore and the Elizabeth River – each with 13-point gains. In fact, our urban river landed a solid C from the university’s Center for Environmental Science. That’s despite four centuries of intense industrial and urban development.

**Hooray, you!** Thank you to our 2,130 members and major donors. You’ve made the Elizabeth River Project a world model for environmental collaboration. Get ready for 2025:



**Our most promising era** together yet, thanks to landmark progress you made possible in 2024.

- Our global model for urban coastal resilience, the Ryan Resilience Lab, opened June 1 in Norfolk. The steady stream of visitors has included NBC’s TODAY show, and shows no sign of abating for unique experiences inspiring hope and action, from “Otter Spotters” to the region’s first seed bank for native wetlands.
- A record 164 River Star business and government facilities and 6,937 River Star

Homes are now doing their part to reduce pollution, restore wetlands, oysters and native plants – including 15 businesses in our new EcoDistrict next to the Ryan Lab.

- More students than ever – more than 2,000 - visited Paradise Creek Nature Park, the 40 acres you make possible in Portsmouth, this past school year, thanks in part to our expanded education facilities there. Another 6,600 boarded our Dominion Energy Learning Barge. And – news flash – in 2025 we will introduce the Blocker Program for (Cont’d p. 8)



Dolphins (like the one above), otters, seahorses and more are now common in the Elizabeth - thank you members! Photo: Erin Koch.

Dolphins delight the Old Dominion University Rowing team on a September foray. Photo: ODU Women’s Rowing

## Officers – Board of Directors

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Jamie Ramsey, Youth Resilience Educator

Katherine Reader, Special Projects Accountant

Diego Rosario, After School Program Leader

Joshua Sawyer, Environmental Field Foreman

Casey Shaw, Director of Marketing & Communications

Susan Smith, Director of Development

Ru Williams, Environmental Justice Coordinator

Hailey Wilson, Park Educator

Shannon Yerabek, Learning Barge Education Manager

## From the Executive Director



Scan for Marjorie's farewell video

**I just got my first tattoo, age 69.** Yes, it hurt; and even that adds to the rightness for this moment.

I'm retiring as Executive Director of The Elizabeth River Project around the end of this year. The tattoo, by my friend and the Elizabeth River Project's long-time graphic artist, Deb Colvin, features our enduring symbol, the Brown Pelican.

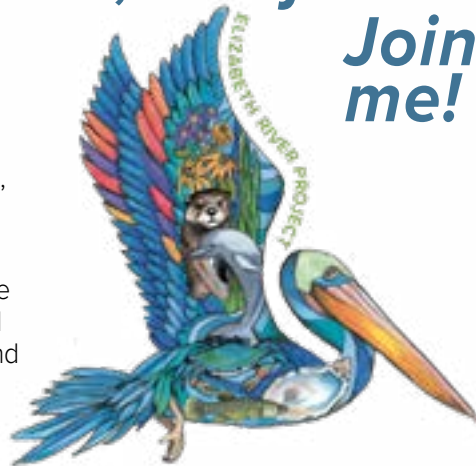
We chose the pelican in 1992, when the Elizabeth River Project was just a handful of volunteers. The first few of these huge birds were returning to the East Coast from the brink of extinction. DDT had been banned and their nests were succeeding again. We thought: If the Brown Pelican can recover, maybe our urban river can too, one day.

**Nestled with Deb's pelican**, in my tattoo, is also a mummichog, the little fish that had high rates of cancer in too many hotspots of the Elizabeth when I quit my reporter job to help start the Elizabeth River Project. That cancer is down dramatically, thanks to you, supporters and partners. Deb also added a dolphin and an otter (see her design, right). How happy I am that these are now common, joyful sights on the Elizabeth.

But leaving still hurts (just like the tattoo needle). People assume I've set sights on a hammock and books. Maybe soon. For now though, I ache because I don't love our home river any less, nor am I any less enamored of you, marvelous river community.

# How I'll keep this mission close to me, always.

## Join me!



**I ache with the hope** that I've chosen that golden moment when there is so much momentum for our mission that a new director – inevitable at some point on this mortal journey - can scarcely help but succeed to new heights.

Our board has launched a national search for my successor. Make no mistake, though. The dolphins and otters are here only because YOU gave your generous support. Your support will be more critical than ever through this transition.

My tattoo will keep our Elizabeth and our progress together close to me always. Mark this milestone with me and set up the next director for success at the same time.

**Return a special Year-End gift** for a long-sleeve T-shirt and a temporary tattoo\* both sporting Deb's design.

Fair winds and following seas,

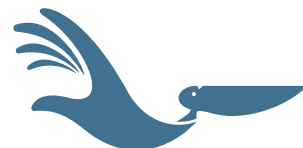
Marjorie Mayfield Jackson

\*Not fond of tattoos? Bet there's someone on your holiday list who is!

This entire mailing was printed on recycled paper with soy ink

**Mission** – To restore the Elizabeth River through equitable collaboration with diverse communities, businesses and governments.

**JOIN the Elizabeth River Project.** Our mission is made possible by generous members like you. *Email Susan Smith, [ssmith@elizabethriver.org](mailto:ssmith@elizabethriver.org), for membership questions.*



**ELIZABETH RIVER PROJECT**

757-399-7487 | [elizabethriver.org](http://elizabethriver.org)



# Milestone year approaches for Money Point cleanup & the Learning Barge

*Pioneer projects started together, mature together, thanks to your support.*

**A**van full of professors from the University of Virginia unloaded amid giant petroleum tanks and chain link fences. They had come to Money Point in Chesapeake, lined with facilities shipping world-wide, to advise the Elizabeth River Project on cleaning up one of the most contaminated hotspots on the Chesapeake Bay.

Despite the high security along these shores, Phoebe Crisman, architecture professor, thought there should be a way to bring the public to see the river improve first-hand. She looked up-river. Underway: An icon for the Elizabeth River, one of America's most industrialized waterways – a barge.

**Thus was born** the Elizabeth River Project's Dominion Energy Learning Barge, the world's only barge with a live wetland on board.

Thanks to you, generous supporters and partners, 2025 will mark a milestone year for both Elizabeth River education, aboard campuses including our Learning Barge, now entering its 15th school year welcoming children aboard for hands-on experiments, and the Money Point cleanup – now entering its third and final phase.

**“Our wild idea** seemed like an impossible experiment, but we made it happen” says



Students meet river life, often for the first time, on the Elizabeth River Project's Dominion Energy Learning Barge.

Crisman. She and her partner, Michael Petrus, designed and helped build the barge with many of their students, winning more than a dozen national awards for the self-sustaining systems and eco-learning stations.

The barge has remained consistently popular, typically booking to capacity with more than 6,000 K-12 students a year. Many are from urban schools with limited funds to pay for the field trips. Starting this January, the Blocker Foundation in Suffolk has stepped up to the plate to help fill the gap. Blocker has awarded almost \$300,000, the largest private gift yet for

the Elizabeth River Project's education programs, to launch the Blocker Program for Excellence in Environmental Education.

**Meanwhile, US Rep. Bobby Scott** along with VA Sen. Angelia Williams Graves and VA Del. Alex Askew have put together \$15 million (\$3 million state and \$12 million federal) for a project getting into full swing in 2025 to address the last nine acres of contamination in the river bottom at Money Point.

Secured at the request of the Elizabeth River Project and building on initial studies funded by YOU, our generous donors, the funds carry out our “Goo must go!” campaign and go to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to clean up polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) correlated with cancer in fish. The contamination is a legacy of a wood treatment plant defunct since the 1970s.

When the barge welcomed its first students in fall 2009, Robin Dunbar, our Deputy Director Education, knew “from the first day that the barge would change students' lives.”

That was when she heard a student coming up the gangway saying, “All I want to do today is touch the river water – I've never touched the river water.” (Cont'd p. 8)



Local, state and federal officials join Marjorie Mayfield Jackson, Executive Director (3rd from R) at Money Point to celebrate full funding of the final phase of cleaning up contamination.



Scan the QR code to join a barge field trip with News 3 WTKR



# Join the river revolution

## Art meets science at the Ryan Resilience Lab



Events held at Elizabeth River Project's Ryan Resilience Lab, 4610 Colley Avenue, Norfolk.

Registration required: [ElizabethRiver.org/events](https://elizabethriver.org/events).

Consider a \$10 donation with each registration to support our mission. Questions? Jamie Melvin, [jmelvin@elizabethriver.org](mailto:jmelvin@elizabethriver.org).

Volunteers harvest seeds in the restored wetland at the Ryan Lab to start a seed library, with your help.

## Help launch region's first wetland seed library

**N**ot so long ago, we were slogging uphill to convince people to garden with native plants. It's refreshing to now tackle a reverse problem, with your help.

"We have a supply problem for plants native to the Elizabeth. Growers are not meeting the local demand because of this great plant revolution we've had here," says our Luísa Black Ellis, Director of Resilience.

This fall, she helped launch an answer: Seed Keepers of the Elizabeth. The first seed bank for native plants in the region, the program will engage both volunteers and researchers in harvesting, saving and propagating native seeds, especially from wetland plants. The goal: Increase the availability and vigor of plants for river restoration.

Taylor Sloey and Eric Yando, Old Dominion University, and Stephen Via, Norfolk State University, will conduct research in tandem with the project. Diane Wilson, author of the novel *The Seed Keeper*, joins us as keynote for unveiling the seed library this spring.

*Special thanks to the Doherty Foundation, providing start-up funding for the Seed Keepers program.*

### Seed Keepers: Seed Processing Workshop

Join native plant experts in a hands-on learning experience, cleaning native plant seeds for long-term storage and propagation. Seeds were harvested from Ryan Resilience Lab, Paradise Creek Nature Park, and other sites on the Elizabeth River.

**Friday, December 13, 5:30pm-6:30pm**  
**Register at [ElizabethRiver.org/events](https://elizabethriver.org/events)**

### *The Seed Keeper* with Diane Wilson: Keynote for Seed Library Unveiling

Join Diane Wilson, Indigenous author of the novel *The Seed Keeper*, as she keynotes the unveiling of the region's first Community Wetland Seed Library. Wilson will explore the deep connections between seeds, Indigenous land stewardship, and wetland restoration.

**Thursday, April 3, 2025, 5:30pm**  
**Register at [ElizabethRiver.org/events](https://elizabethriver.org/events)**



## Discover River-Centric Resilience



"Prepare with Cher," Emmy-nominated Cheryl Nelson.

### Climate Fresk Game

Experience the "game" that's taking Europe by storm. In just three hours, this collaborative workshop will teach you the fundamental science behind climate change and empower you to make the most difference in daily life. Facilitator Marine Paulhiac-Pison learned Climate Fresk in her native France.



**Saturday, December 14, 10am-1pm**  
**Our workshop is one of many around the world. Register with Climate Fresk**

[climatefresk.org/world/registration-workshop/general-public](http://climatefresk.org/world/registration-workshop/general-public)

### Climate Adaptation Planning Workshop

Facilitated by Emmy-nominated meteorologist and TV broadcaster Cheryl Nelson and others with the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center at The University of Hawaii.

This hands-on disaster preparedness workshop is geared for emergency services and the community to begin to identify local strategies, vulnerabilities and resources. Cheryl Nelson promotes her efforts as "Prepare with Cher," representing her work to help keep families, workplaces and neighborhoods safe.

**Wednesday, January 22, 9am-5pm**  
**Register at [ndptc.hawaii.edu/training/delivery/3889](http://ndptc.hawaii.edu/training/delivery/3889)**

## River Meets Art, Fashion



### Opening of Edge Effect

Opening reception of artist JJJJerome Ellis' photographic survey of the wetland grasses and seeds of the Elizabeth River's healing shorelines. A Norfolk resident, Ellis is a disabled multi-media artist whose work, informed by his stuttering, has been featured around the globe from the Whitney Museum in New York to Vienna, Spain, and France.

**Thursday, January 30, 5pm-7pm**  
**Register at [ElizabethRiver.org/events](http://ElizabethRiver.org/events)**

### Clothes Swap for the Planet

Get ready for spring and refresh your wardrobe sustainably. Echoing the past of Knitting Mill Creek (home of our Ryan Lab) as an historic textile district, this is your chance to trade your gently used pieces, reduce waste, and learn how fashion affects climate.

**Saturday, March 22, 1pm-4pm**  
**Register at [ElizabethRiver.org/events](http://ElizabethRiver.org/events)**

# Spend your winter in Paradise

Events location: Paradise Creek Nature Park, a 40-acre partnership of the Elizabeth River Project and the City of Portsmouth, 1009 Victory Blvd., Portsmouth, made possible through the generous support of our members. Questions? Larry LaPell, [llapell@elizabethriver.org](mailto:llapell@elizabethriver.org)



## Volunteer Service Days

Volunteers work with Elizabeth River Project staff on seasonal tasks such as weeding, planting, cleaning, pruning, and light maintenance. Dress for working outdoors. Bring your work gloves and a reusable water bottle.

**Saturdays, January 4 & 11; February 1 & 8; March 1 & 8, 9am-11am**

**FREE, registration required, [ElizabethRiver.org/Events](http://ElizabethRiver.org/Events)**

## Winter Bird Walk



Free guided birdwatching tour. Birdwatching is more than just a hobby - it's a way to connect with nature, reduce stress, improve your mood, and boost your brain power. You can bring your preferred binoculars or borrow some of ours.

The tour will cover a moderate distance on easy trails.

**Saturdays, January 18, February 15, March 15, 8:30am-10am**

**FREE, registration required, [elizabethriver.org/events](http://elizabethriver.org/events)**



## Youth Field Trips - Paradise Creek Nature Park

Student groups rotate through four outdoor learning stations to explore the park's forest, wetlands and our River Academy's green features. Hands-on, age appropriate, inquiry-based activities reflect Virginia Standards of Learning.

**Now scheduling for spring field trips, April 7 through June 6, 10am-11:30am.**

**Target Age:** Grades PreK - 12

**Cost:** Sliding Scale \$10 - \$15 per student (Financial assistance may be available)

**Contact:** Sarah McBride, [smcbride@elizabethriver.org](mailto:smcbride@elizabethriver.org) or

**Register at:** [elizabethriver.org/paradise-creek-nature-park-field-trips/](http://elizabethriver.org/paradise-creek-nature-park-field-trips/)

# Otters head for winter dens - watch for pups next!

“**O**tters are probably looking for dens to have pups right now,” says Victoria Dunch, our Resilience Research Coordinator. After consulting with Megan Isadore, our expert at the River Otter Ecology Project in California, Victoria reports that otters in our region generally give birth to pups in December or January. They don't build their own

dens, though. “They'll be looking for holes in the bases of trees, or their root systems, or holes in banks.”

The pups then stay in the dens about 10 weeks, meaning sometime around April, “the mom starts bringing them out to roam about with her.”

**Keep your camera handy.** Thank you to participants in our new Otter Spotter

program in cooperation with the project in California. So far, you've reported 71 observations on or around the Elizabeth since we launched this free community science program in March.

Otters are a keystone species. Their comeback here means this urban river's returning health, thanks to YOU, generous members.



Patricia Laverdure reported this otter sighting on the Western Branch, near Drum Point. Log your Otter Spotter sightings at [elizabethriverotter.fieldscope.org](http://elizabethriverotter.fieldscope.org).



# Calling our youngest river stewards!

## Schedule a Learning Barge Field Trip

Students rotate through six hands-on, inquiry-based learning stations aligned with Virginia Standards of Learning, where they identify species, record data, and use field tools like water quality equipment. Guided by educators portraying blue/green careers, this program inspires students to explore environmental job opportunities while learning how to help restore their home river.

**Now scheduling for spring field trips, March 10 through May 16**  
**9:30-11:00am, 10:00-11:30am, 11:00-12:30am or 11:30-1:00pm.**

**Target Age:** Grades K - 12

**Cost:** Sliding Scale \$10 - \$15 per student (Financial assistance may be available)

**Complete a field trip request form at**  
[elizabethriver.org/the-learning-barge](http://elizabethriver.org/the-learning-barge)

**Contact:** Shannon Yerabek, [syerabek@elizabethriver.org](mailto:syerabek@elizabethriver.org)



## Join Resilient River Star Schools

Join the Resilient River Star Schools program and empower your students to tackle the Elizabeth River's biggest challenges like flooding, sea level rise, and water quality.

With possible funding for supplies, students of all ages can create impactful Youth Resilience Projects and be celebrated for their efforts to help restore their home river. Submit projects by May 9, 2025, and be recognized as a Resilient River Star School!

**Contact:** Sarah McBride, [smcbride@elizabethriver.org](mailto:smcbride@elizabethriver.org)



## Become a Youth Water Monitor



Help track the Elizabeth River's health. Students ages 8-17 test water quality at their chosen river spot for eight weeks, measuring things like pH, salinity, and dissolved oxygen with a FREE testing kit. Submit your results weekly to help monitor the river's progress, identify threats, and

contribute to a healthier future for your home river. The next session starts on March 3rd, 2025—sign up today to become a steward of the Elizabeth River!

**Contact:** Hailey Lauritsen, [hlauritsen@elizabethriver.org](mailto:hlauritsen@elizabethriver.org)

**Complete an interest form at** [elizabethriver.org/youth-water-monitoring](http://elizabethriver.org/youth-water-monitoring)

**Annual River Star Businesses Recognition Luncheon**  
*Save the Date!*

**Registration Required**  
**Thursday, Jan. 23, 11:30am-2pm | Chesapeake Conference Center**  
**Saluting the finest environmental stewards on the Elizabeth**  
**Networking – Celebration of peer-reviewed achievements**

**More info:** Pam Boatwright, [pboatwright@elizabethriver.org](mailto:pboatwright@elizabethriver.org)

Photo: US Coast Guard Base Portsmouth – Model Level River Star

## Why 2025 (Cont'd from p.1)

Excellence in Environmental Education across both campuses, thanks to generous new support from the Blocker Foundation. As well as our most promising time, this is also a super challenging time for the movement to restore your home river. Sea level rise and climate instability

are escalating the urgency of conserving wetlands and reducing runoff pollution. And here at the Elizabeth River Project, we'll say goodbye shortly to our founding Executive Director as she retires, and welcome a new director.

**Dolphins accompanied** the Old Dominion University Women's Rowing Team on their glide through the Elizabeth this fall. No less than eight Brown Pelicans hung out on our dock at the Ryan Lab this summer. And 71 otter sightings have been recorded since we launched Otter Spotters in

the spring with the River Otter Ecology Project out of California.

**Do something beautiful this holiday.** *Keep the momentum strong for 2025 with your special year-end gift. Thank you.*

## Milestone year (Cont'd from p.3)

Thanks to Dunbar, who managed the barge's construction and design of its equally pioneer curriculum, students do much more on board, pulling up buckets to test the river water, touching live crabs and fish as they learn river ecology, experimenting with the barge's solar and wind power and exploring the Elizabeth's diverse history.

Prior to the barge, Dunbar believed, river children too often were growing up

isolated from their home river. "The barge welcomed them, provided an opportunity to engage their senses -- and the river did the rest... Magical."

Says Marjorie Mayfield Jackson, Executive Director, of the coming year: "The goo is going and more kids than ever are growing up in love with the Elizabeth.

**"If we can keep up this pace,** with ever stronger member support, at last the Elizabeth will move from the

list of 'most polluted rivers in the world' to sustainable stewardship."

**Please consider a tax-exempt year-end gift.** For a limited time, receive our special long-sleeve t-shirt featuring returning river life, and a fun, temporary tattoo when you reply with the enclosed card or give at [elizabethriver.org](http://elizabethriver.org).



Phoebe Crisman and her UVA students help launch the Learning Barge in 2009. Thank you for 110,000+ educated since.

## Director retiring 2025

### *Feted across region for leadership*

**Portsmouth Mayor Shannon Glover proclaimed** Oct. 17, 2024 a "celebration day" for the Elizabeth River Project's founding Executive Director, Marjorie Mayfield Jackson.

She retires in early 2025 after helping found the Elizabeth River Project around a kitchen table in November 1991, then leading transformation of the urban Elizabeth River through what has become the largest locally based environmental non-profit in Hampton Roads.

Earlier this year, Jackson made the *Inside Business*

Power List 2024 as one of the most influential leaders in the region and was named to *CoVA Magazine's* list of the 25 most influential women leaders in Coastal Virginia. As well, the Garden Club of Virginia in November awarded Jackson the Dugdale award for outstanding conservation leadership.

The Elizabeth River Project's Board of Directors is concluding a national search for the next director, to be followed by a smooth transition.



Marjorie Mayfield Jackson is retiring after leading Elizabeth River Project since inception. Photo: Eric Lusher

**Let Marjorie know you'll keep the momentum strong.** *Get this cool T-shirt celebrating returning river life with your year-end gift. Return the enclosed card or visit [elizabethriver.org](http://elizabethriver.org).*





# Deepest thanks to our donor circles

The Elizabeth River Project is proud to recognize members of our leadership giving circles. Thank you for contributing \$250 or more annually to support our award-winning restoration and education programs. Join us! For more information, contact Susan Smith at (757) 828-1422 or [ssmith@elizabethriver.org](mailto:ssmith@elizabethriver.org).



## Pelican Circle

### \$500,000 and Above - Organizations

The Goode Family Foundation  
National Fish & Wildlife  
Foundation / NFWF  
Perry Family Foundation  
TowneBank Foundation

### \$500,000 and Above - Individual

Anonymous  
Louis F. and Prudence H. Ryan  
Frank and Aimee Batten Jr.  
Jane Batten  
Joan Brock

### \$100,000 - \$499,999 - Organizations

Alison J. & Ella W. Parsons Fund of  
the Hampton Roads Community  
Foundation  
Bradley Family Fund of the  
Hampton Roads Community  
Foundation  
Hampton Roads Community  
Foundation  
NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office  
S.L. Nusbaum Realty Co.  
Virginia Department of Housing  
and Community Development

### \$100,000 - \$499,999 - Individuals

Kay Abiouness  
Richard and Carolyn Barry III  
Richard and Shaune Meredith  
Jean and Chuck Townsend

### \$50,000-\$99,999 - Organizations

Birdsong Peanut Corporation  
Mary Morton Parsons Foundation  
Norfolk Southern Foundation  
PRA Group, Inc.  
Virginia Institute of  
Marine Science/VIMS  
Virginia Natural Gas  
Wells Fargo Foundation

### \$50,000-99,999 - Individuals

David and Helen Bernd  
Cynthia Faschini and  
Andrew Wallach  
Matthew and Karen Fine  
Peter and Penny Meredith  
W. Sheppard Miller and  
Georgia R. Miller III  
Chris and Chris Neikirk

### \$25,000-49,999 - Organizations

Dollar Tree Stores, Inc.  
Sentara Health  
Virginia Department of  
Conservation and Recreation

### \$25,000-49,999 - Individuals

David and Susan Goode  
John and Betty Trinder

### \$10,000-24,999 - Organizations

BAE Systems Norfolk Ship Repair  
Beazley Foundation, Inc.  
Cox Communications  
Dominion Energy Charitable  
Foundation, Inc.  
Eugene S. Field Family Fund  
James M. Cox Foundation  
Propeller Club of the United States  
Port of Norfolk

Robins Foundation  
Shearwater Foundation, Inc.  
TC Energy  
University of Virginia  
Virginia Environmental Endowment

### \$10,000-24,999 - Individuals

Jane Bashara  
Joe and Janet Covington  
Annette Field  
Michael and Lori Glasser  
Howard and Sandra Gordon  
Josh and Jennifer Harris  
Conrad Hall  
Ron and Sally Hartman  
James Squires and  
Karen Jones Squires  
James and Katherine Willyerd

### \$5,000-9,999 - Individuals

Carlisle M. and  
Priscilla Baird Wroton  
Dabney and Mary Baker  
Ed and Linda Bradley  
R. Bruce and Lilly Bradley

J. Robert Bray  
Gary and Deborah Bonnewell  
Dr. Brian Deutsch and  
Melissa Page Deutsch  
Herbert and Mary Haneman  
Burr and Jennifer Henderson  
Edward Inge  
Robert and  
Marjorie Mayfield Jackson  
Kitty Whitman and Louis Jaffe  
Ed and Kathy Keil  
James and Carolyn Key  
Alan Gollihue and  
Elizabeth Lane Killam  
Mike and Carolyn Kirsch  
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Harry and Dee Lester  
Michael and Andria P. McClellan  
Oriana and Colin McKinnon  
Johanna N. Perakes  
Nick and Kathleen Petrillo  
Cameron and Bria Robinett  
Deborah Rothstein  
Mark and Michelle Warden  
Wayne and Ashlin Wilbanks



## Mummichog Circle

### \$5,000-9,999 - Organizations

Dalis Foundation  
Enviva Port of Chesapeake  
Fine Family Charitable Trust of  
Hampton Roads Community  
Foundation  
General Dynamics NASSCO-  
Norfolk  
Hampton Roads Sanitation District  
/ HRSD  
J.L. Camp Foundation, Inc.  
K Plus Caulking & Waterproofing  
LS GreenLink USA, Inc.  
McGuireWoods LLP  
Norfolk Southern Foundation  
Matching  
Norfolk Tug Company  
Rivers Casino Portsmouth  
The National Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation  
Tidewater Children's Foundation  
WM

### \$2,500-4,999 - Individuals

Deborah Butler  
Phillip D. and Elaine Charney  
Graham Covington  
Jim and Frances Dille  
Pearl Windle-Drumwright and  
Richard Drumwright  
Joanna Fowler  
Christina Goode  
Dr. Charles and Mary Beth Horton Jr.  
Ray and Kathy King  
Martha Goode and Blair Mielnick  
Hon. Delceno Miles  
Pat McLaughlin and  
Pat Murphy  
Kevin Murphy  
Judy and Steve Perry  
Mia Lefkowitz Robinson  
Dr. and Mrs. C. Wood and  
Ellen Selig  
Dr. Theresa and Rob Whibley  
Blair and Jane Wimbush



## River Otter Circle

### \$1,500-4,999 - Organizations

Buckeye Partners, L.P.  
C.C.G. Fund of the Hampton Roads  
Community Foundation  
Crofton Industries  
D Baker Ames Charitable Foundation  
David R. Goode Trust  
Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race  
Hampton Roads Shipping  
Association  
Ideas by Mike, LLC  
Lawson Companies  
Legends of the Fly  
Microsoft Matching Gifts  
Norfolk FestEvents LTD.  
Norfolk State University/NSU  
Portsmouth Boat Club  
Portsmouth Service League  
Redwood Garden Club  
Redwood Junior Garden Club  
The Breeden Company, Inc.  
VHB  
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and Resilience  
Robbins Maritime  
Skanska  
Smartmouth Brewing Co.  
Starving Artist Cafe  
Stromberg/Garrigan & Associates, Inc.  
Work Program Architects: WPA  
Yuzhu Zheng, photographer

## Special Tribute Gifts and Memorials

### Honorariums

Patricia McKee in Honor of **All Veterans Past and Present**  
Luka Hamel-Serenity in Honor of **Andrew Lusher**  
Bob Read in Honor of **Ashley Sicinski**  
David Connito in Honor of **Austin Connito**  
Bob Read in Honor of **Ava Sicinski**  
Thurman Worthington in Honor of **BB Schenk's Birthday**  
Kathleen Brown in Honor of **Carter Mace**  
Walters Family Foundation in Honor of **Gene and Juanita Walters**  
Karen Moskowitz in Honor of **Grey McClain Moskowitz**  
John Patgorski in Honor of **His Mother's Stories of Growing Up on the River**  
Justin Smith in Honor of **Janelle R. Smith**  
Cecilia Merritt in Honor of **Jeff Merritt**  
Stephanie Foster-Cox in Honor of **Judy Perry**  
Robert Loomis in Honor of **Julia Dorsey Loomis**  
Friends of Indian River in Honor of **Kevin Finn**  
David Robledo in Honor of **Laura Delbrugge**  
W. Gary and Susan Ball in Honor of **Marjorie Mayfield Jackson**  
Karen and Brad Watkins in Honor of **Marjorie Mayfield Jackson**  
Luck Foundation in Honor of **Marjorie Mayfield Jackson**  
C. Hunter Costas in Honor of **Ms. Hunter Costas**  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Honor of **Ms. Hunter Costas**  
Rachel Godbout in Honor of **Natalie Godbout**  
Kathi Thomas in Honor of **Oyster Loving Friends**  
William L. and Sharon K. Nusbaum in Honor of **Pam Northam**  
George and Martha Raiss in Honor of **Pru and Louis Ryan**  
Rebecca Adams in Honor of **Susan Smith**

### Memorials

Diane Kasper in Memory of **BB Schenk**  
Ellen Comstock in Memory of **Bill Quinn**  
Sara Ann Miller in Memory of **Burnell Wayne Vincent, Jr.**

T Heywot in Memory of **Cecilia & Curtis Robertson**  
Janet Marvel in Memory of **Claire Beasley**  
Stephanie Catherines in Memory of **Daniel Lewandowski**  
Maria Cooper in Memory of **Daniel Lewandowski**  
Health Sciences Academy - Eastern Virginia Medical School in Memory of  
**Daniel Lewandowski, in Honor of His Collaboration with the Health Sciences  
Academy At EVMS**  
Penny Lewis in Memory of **Don Lewis**  
Tammy Lindquist in Memory of **Elmer E. "Tommy" Miller**  
Claus Ihlemann and Robert Roman in Memory of **Gabriel Christensen**  
James and Katherine Willyerd in Memory of **Gloria B. Thornton**  
Claudia Harrell in Memory of **Gurney Harrell**  
Kitty Whitman and Louis Jaffe in Memory of **Guy Friddell**  
Sherry Scheib in Memory of **Harriet Chapman Ervin**  
Jo Ann Goldman in Memory of **James "Jim" Alfred Walker, Jr.**  
Karen Rouillet in Memory of **Jane Lauter**  
Wanda Russo in Memory of **Jim Walker**  
Anonymous in Memory of **Kurt Charles Merklng, Sr.**  
Tanya and John Baggio in Memory of **Kurt Charles Merklng, Sr.**  
Grace and Hubert Barge in Memory of **Kurt Charles Merklng, Sr.**  
John and Katie Scinaldi in Memory of **Kurt Charles Merklng, Sr.**  
Laurie Szoke in Memory of **Kurt Charles Merklng, Sr.**  
Janet Davis in Memory of **Lawrence Sternfeld**  
Jean and Chuck Townsend in Memory of **Peter H. Coley**  
Nancy and George Tattersson in Memory of **Stephen W. Richard, III**  
Bob and Debbie Affeldt in Memory of **Steve Erickson**  
Robert Morris in Memory of **Steve Erickson**  
Wayne Wynn in Memory of **Steve Erickson**  
Thaddeus Wiedemeier in Memory of **Thaddeus Wiedemeier Sr.**  
Meridith Hurd Robinson in Memory of **Tyler Hurd**  
Ryan and Fiona Shea in Memory of **William Shea**



## Four fishermen find dinner - recovering deadzone

Dave Gibson created this photo montage of four fisher folk taking advantage of life returning at Money Point in Chesapeake. "An Osprey, a sport fisherman, a Brown Pelican, and an American mink (with an Oyster Toadfish) —all fishing in what used to be a dead zone," says Gibson, our favorite Elizabeth River bird photographer.

Elizabeth River Project has led two phases of cleaning up some of the most severe contamination in the world while restoring wildlife habitat at this site. A final phase is under design by our partners at the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Thank you, members, for helping us be the catalyst for so much returning life. Get the special edition T-shirt with your year-end Gift today.

