

MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**DOWNTOWN WILL “SHAKE RATTLE & ROLL”
WITH A SPRING CAR SHOW IN TRIBUTE TO THE OL’ SUFFOLK RACEWAY**

SUFFOLK, VA: Historic downtown will showcase classic autos of yesteryear when a Main Street car show honors the racers, records and fans of the ol’ quarter-mile concrete tract that formerly operated at Suffolk Airport. Produced by the Suffolk Division of Tourism, the Saturday, May 15, event is free and open to the public and will highlight pre-1975 vehicles, exhibits from the former raceway in a “Bill Gwyn Tribute Tent,” special guest Brian Hankins and live music by *The Rhondels* and local Elvis impersonator Ernie Hefferon. Main Street eateries will be open for sidewalk service and additional food and other vendors will be on site to “re-fuel empty tanks.” Children (age 6 and under) can try pedal-car racing down Main Street, and children of all ages can shake, rattle and roll in hula-hoop contests at the event stage.

The Shake, Rattle & Roll car show has been “Jack Approved” by Jack Redd, a renowned drag racing news columnist. It is a very appropriate endorsement, as the very first “JA” drag meet took place at Suffolk Raceway in 1967 under the ownership of Hank Hankins.

“Many memories were made at the Suffolk Raceway, and the Shake, Rattle & Roll is a fun occasion for the whole family to enjoy the nostalgia,” said Suffolk Mayor Linda Johnson.

The car show begins at 8 a.m. with awards presented at 2 p.m. on the event stage at Main and Market Streets. Main Street between Washington Street and Finney Avenue will be closed to through traffic from 6 a.m. through late afternoon. One block of Market Street and one block of Bank Street, both adjacent to Main Street, also will be closed to traffic. The event will conclude at 3 p.m.

The car show is sponsored in part by the Suffolk Rods & Muscle Car Club, Beamon & Johnson NAPA, Blanchard's Suffolk Tire & Auto, Matco Tools, Bronco Federal Credit Union, Suffolk Automotive Service and photography by A Twisted Lens.

The host hotel is the riverfront Hilton Garden Inn at Constant's Wharf. For sponsor and vendor opportunities, contact Sonia McDonald, event coordinator, at 757.597.7667. For general information, contact the Suffolk Visitor Center at 757.514.4130.

The Suffolk Visitor Center is located at 321 N. Main Street in the historic Prentis House. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and around the clock at www.Suffolk-Fun.com.

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