

MAYOR

Jason Buelterman

CITY COUNCIL

Shirley Sessions, Mayor Pro Tem
 Wanda D. Doyle
 Bill Garbett
 Frank Schuman, Sr.
 Kathryn Williams
 Paul Wolff

**CITY MANAGER**

Diane Schleicher

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Vivian O. Woods

CITY ATTORNEY

Edward M. Hughes

CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND

PRESS RELEASE:
 For immediate release

CONTACT: Patricia Miller Wann, Media Liaison,
 (912) 398-0706
 Chantel Morton, Better Hometown Coordinator,
 (912) 786-4573, x126

"Third Thursdays on Tybee" Begins Feb. 18

Tybee Island, GA – (February 9, 2010) The *Third Thursdays on Tybee* Grassroots Art Program begins this month near the Tybrisa/Strand roundabout next to the Walter J. Parker Pier & Pavilion. A panel of invited professionals selected three out of the eight submissions received for these free family-friendly outdoor music concert series.

Beginning at 4:30 PM on February 18, the renowned Viguba Trio will perform. Viguba is a word mix of violin, guitar and bass, and the members of the Trio are former members of the Savannah Symphony. They will bring to the area an enjoyable mix of jazz, tango, classical and pop music. The music will serenade shoppers, diners and spectators until 5:30pm near the Tybrisa/Strand Roundabout.

On March 18 from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM, nationally known Contemporary Folk artist Lauren Lapointe will amaze those joining the musical celebration in the lot at Tybee Oaks. Lauren tours nationally, and her new CD, "Butterfly", is being played on 80 radio stations in eight different countries.

The final performance for this series will be April 15 from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM back at the Roundabout with a focus on young musicians. The feature will be Tybee's very own Lacey Caldwell, an award winning sixteen year old junior at Savannah Arts Academy. Enjoy Tax Day this year with this free musical performance while strolling around Tybrisa and The Strand.

Residents, merchants and guests are all encouraged to take advantage of these one-set, one hour concerts while enjoying the shops, restaurants and outdoors during the late afternoons.

These concerts are made possible by funding provided through the City of Tybee Island's Better Hometown Initiative, the 2009/2010 Grassroots Arts Program grant, area organizations, private donations and many local businesses. A portion of the Better Hometown Initiative's mission is to "support and encourage the arts as a cultural endeavor and economic engine on the Island." With assistance from a variety of sources, Third Thursdays on Tybee will continue the awareness that Tybee Island is an inviting and thriving arts community. For more information, visit <http://www.cityoftybee.org/BetterHometownProgram.aspx>.

About Tybee Island, GA.: The City of Tybee Island, Georgia is on the outermost barrier island off the Savannah area coast. With a wild bird sanctuary, over three miles of ocean beaches, and salt marshes on the back river, outdoor recreation activities abound for visitors to the island. As a key defense point to the important Savannah port, Tybee's Fort Screven, Tybee Fort Theater, Fort Pulaski, and the Tybee Island and Cockspar Lighthouses combine with the unique architectures of the island's raised cottages to form a rich backdrop for history buffs. Attracting a strong artistic community, there are several local supporting art galleries. Keeping the island interesting year round are several arts festivals, the Annual Pirate Fest, the Beach Bum Parade, St Patrick's Day celebrations, the Hot Rod Run, the Beach Bash, and the Christmas Parade, as well as fireworks displays on Independence and New Year's Days off the Parker Pier and Pavilion. The Marine Science Center cooperates with Georgia's DNR to protect threatened sea turtle species by searching for nests, protecting their eggs, and making sure hatchlings make it to sea. For visitor information, stop by <http://www.tybeevisit.com/>, and to find more about the City of Tybee Island, visit our web site at <http://www.cityoftybee.org/>.

P.O. Box 2749 – 403 Butler Avenue, Tybee Island, Georgia 31328-2749
(866) 786-4573 – FAX (866) 786-5737
www.cityoftybee.org



About Tybee Island's Better Hometown Initiative: Tybee's Better Hometown initiative follows a comprehensive revitalization process that improves all aspects of a commercial district. Better Hometown is a self help approach to economic development for downtown areas designed to grow business and improve a community's quality of life. With broad based community support, it integrates a practical management strategy with the physical improvements of buildings and public spaces, promotion and image building, and economic development in the area. For more information, visit <http://www.cityoftybee.org/BetterHometownProgram.aspx>.

The Grassroots Arts Program (<http://www.gaarts.org>) is supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia Assembly and administered by the City of Savannah's Department of Cultural Affairs. GCA is a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

#

P.O. Box 2749 – 403 Butler Avenue, Tybee Island, Georgia 31328-2749
(866) 786-4573 – FAX (866) 786-5737
www.cityoftybee.org

