



GLOUCESTER COUNTY
Economic Development
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**Rural Town
Creates a Revolutionary
Business Incubator**

Gloucester, Virginia best known for seafood and daffodils is also now, leading the nation in creative ways to foster entrepreneurship. The County is teaming up with a private group to build a state-of-the-art Business Incubator.

The Incubator which opens Friday May 20th, will feature 8 mini warehouses in which start-up businesses can open and make their dreams come alive. In addition to having a roof over their head, the businesses will have access to an on-site business attorney, introductions to venture capitalist and bankers, and business coaching. On a monthly basis, the businesses will have an after work happy hour where ideas will be exchanged.

The private group behind the project is headed by Catesby Jones. Jones is not new to entrepreneurship. He is the founder of Peace Frogs which he started in a dorm room at the University of Virginia over 30 years ago. Since then, Peace Frogs has been featured on TV shows, seen on celebrities and found in some of the most remote areas of the earth ranging from Tibet to Argentina.

“I have always been an entrepreneur and want to help others make their dreams come true” said Jones. “This incubator checks off all the boxes that I wish I had had available when I founded Peace Frogs” said Jones when asked about how he came up with the concept.

Sherry Spring –the Gloucester Economic Development Director- has been instrumental in helping Jones develop the concept of the Business Incubator. “I believe this is the first of its kind and is a bit revolutionary in the world of Business Incubators” said Spring. “We see this as a great economic engine for not just Gloucester but for the entire region.” said Spring when asked about the impact the Incubator will have on the community.

Incubators have traditionally been attached to Universities or Local Governments. This concept is breaking ground and the fact that a small rural Virginia town is making waves is truly revolutionary.

On Friday May 20th at 4pm there will be a ribbon cutting. If you are curious to see what can be done when good local government works with private entrepreneurs, come by 7546 John Clayton Memorial Highway in Gloucester, Virginia.

To find out more on the Gloucester Business Incubator, please call Catesby Jones at 202-255-6039 or Sherry Spring- Gloucester Economic Development Director- 804-693-1415.

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