

# MEDIA RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **The Finest Hours: The True Story, and the Making of the Book and Disney® Movie**

**NORFOLK, VA** – Slover Library presents a two-part event featuring author Michael Tougias and his book *The Finest Hours*, a re-telling of an astonishing, true-life maritime event. On February 18th, 1952, a ferocious nor'easter split in half a 500-foot long oil tanker, the *Pendleton*, approximately one mile off the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Incredibly, just twenty miles away, a second oil tanker, the *Fort Mercer*, also split in half. On both fractured tankers men were trapped on the severed bows and sterns, and all four sections were sinking in 60-foot seas. Thus began a life and death drama of survival, heroism, and a series of tragic mistakes. Of the 84 seamen aboard the tankers, 70 would be rescued and 14 would lose their lives.

### **The Finest Hours: Film Screening – Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 2 PM to 4 PM, Room 305**

Enjoy a screening of the 2016 film *The Finest Hours*, starring Chris Pine and Casey Affleck, where the Coast Guard makes a daring rescue attempt off the coast of Cape Cod after a pair of oil tankers are destroyed during a blizzard in 1952.

### **The Finest Hours: Author Talk – Tuesday, April 30, 2019 from 6 PM to 8 PM. Room 640**

*The Finest Hours* author Michael Tougias will discuss this true-life event and the development of *The Finest Hours* book and movie. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

#### **About Slover Library:**

Slover Library blends traditional library functions with the best of contemporary library resources and services. The innovative space design creates a vital and dynamic center of community learning, leading-edge technology and civic engagement, available to all citizens of the region. More than just a public library, it is known as an attraction for residents and visitors alike.

Slover Library is located in beautiful downtown Norfolk on the corner of Plume and Atlantic Street near MacArthur Square and the MacArthur Memorial. Call (757) 431-7491 for more information.

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