

Blume's Balloon Round Up

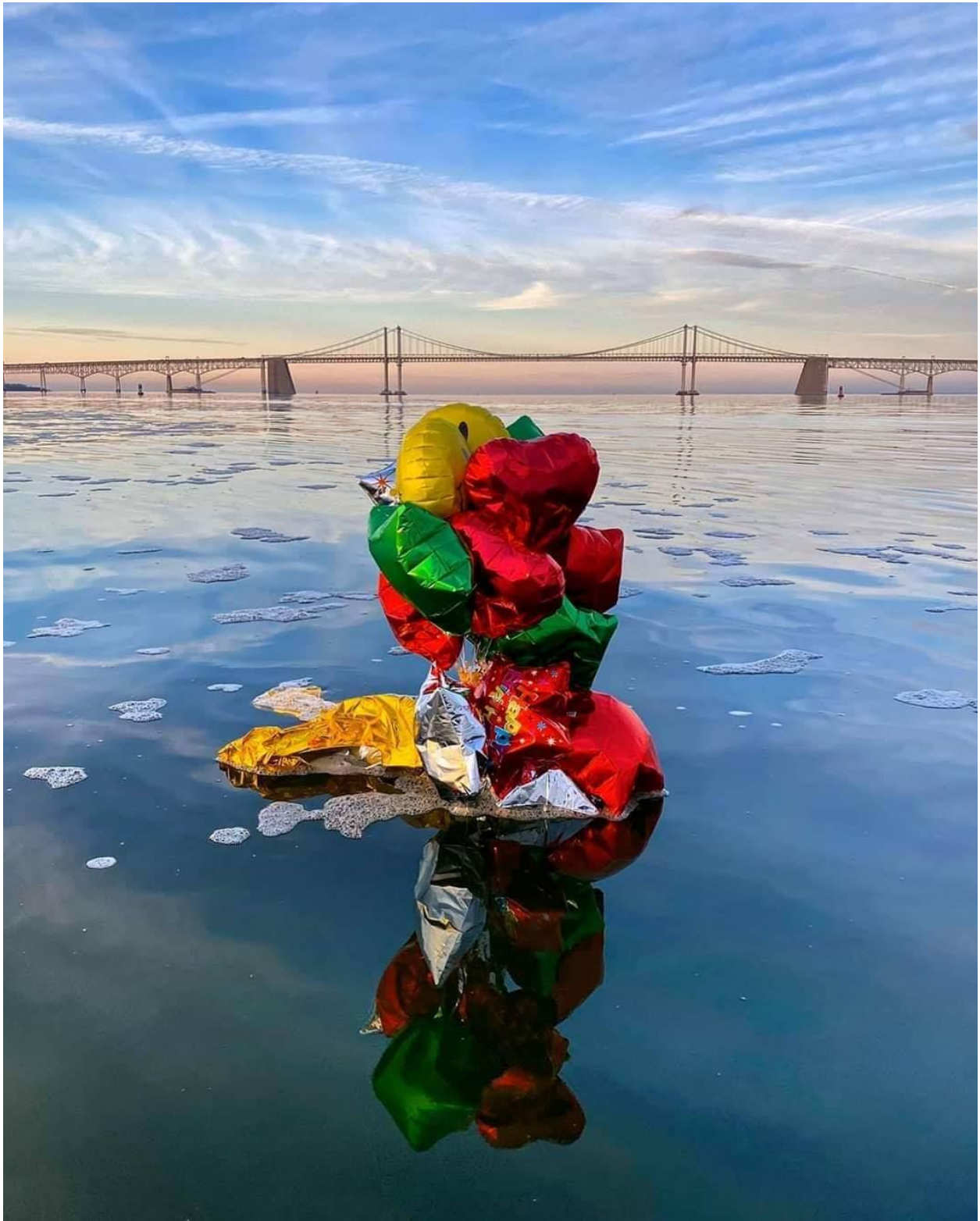
Josh and Emily Blume started Blume's Balloon Round Up in June of 2018. They challenged people to pick up all balloons they find in our waterways and on our beaches. We offered prizes to the people that picked up the most balloons. Prizes were donated by local businesses. In about 19 months since we started our participants have **removed over 2,800 balloons** from our waters and beaches. We have had balloons collected from New York to the Bahamas and also from the Great Lakes.



These 20 balloons were picked up by Ann Mettee Richardson off of the beach at Assateague Island National Sea Shore on 4/19/19.



These are my kids Josh and Emily with balloons picked up by some of our participants. The balloons came from the Atlantic Ocean approximately 60 miles off of OC Md.



David Sites picked these up in the Chesapeake Bay on Dec. 25.



These 10 balloons were picked up by the boat Reel Lucky in the Baltimore Canyon on 7/16/19



These 25 balloons were retrieved by the Reel Toy 20 miles off of Ocean City Md.



A bundle of balloons recovered by the Reel Lucky in the Canyons off of Ocean City Md on 7/25/19.



14 balloons retrieved by the Morning Star 15 miles off of Ocean City in October of 2019.



A bundle of balloons picked up in the Washington Canyon in July of 2019.



This is the mouth of a Leatherback Turtle. They eat jellyfish. They often mistake balloons for jellyfish. As you can see, once a balloon starts to get eaten there is no getting it back out.



Assateague Island Pony with balloon ribbon tangled in its mouth.