

# A-NPDC Newsletter

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## Eastern Shore Heritage Tourism Workshop— June 24th

The A-NPDC, in cooperation with the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program, will hold the annual Eastern Shore Heritage Tourism Workshop on Tuesday, June 24, 2003, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This year's Heritage Tourism Workshop will be a familiarization tour of the 10 Northampton County sites on the Virginia Coastal Birding and Wildlife Trail. The familiarization tour will give restaurant, bed and breakfast, motel, and campground proprietors the opportunity to learn about the Eastern Shore's Birding Trail sites in order to

provide better information to their customers.

The workshop will begin at 9:00 AM at the Eastville Inn and continue through the day with short visits to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, Eastern Shore National Wildlife Refuge, GATR Tract - Mockhorn Island Wildlife Management Area, Kiptopeke State Park, the Town of Cape Charles, Seaview Farm, Indiantown Park, Brownsville Seaside Farm, Maplewood Gardens, and Willis Wharf. During the tour, Birding Trail site representatives will brief

workshop participants on the wildlife observation opportunities and facilities at each site. The tour will include a lunch stop in the Town of Cape Charles, where participants can eat at the restaurant of their choice or bring a brown bag lunch.

The 2003 Eastern Shore Heritage Tourism Workshop is free and open to all. The Eastville Inn is located at 16422 Courthouse Road (Business Route 13) in Eastville, VA. For further information about the Heritage Tourism Workshop, call the A-NPDC at 757-787-2936.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **June 16**—7:30 A-NPDC meeting, 23372 Front Street, Accomac
- **June 19**—2:00 Economic Development Commission—Eastville Inn
- **June 19**—4:00 Public Service Authority—Eastville Inn
- **June 23**—4:00 Regional Partnership—Chamber of Commerce, Melfa
- See calendar on page 3 for complete listing

## Webpage of the Month—[www.NewRavenna.com](http://www.NewRavenna.com)



**New Ravenna**, “America’s Premier Mosaics” located in Exmore, is listed in the Virginia Fantastic 50.

The Fantastic 50 contest is organized by the Virginia Chamber of Commerce and, to be eligible, companies must be privately owned and headquartered in Virginia.

Each contestant needed revenues of at least \$200,000 in 1998, the year used as a baseline on which to measure the company’s growth over four years. By 2001, each company had to have a net posi-

tive income, and revenues in its most recent fiscal year of less than \$100 million.

New Ravenna placed 48th with 2001 revenues of \$4,370,940, representing a 105.7% growth rate since 1998.

Congratulations to this very successful Eastern Shore manufacturer!

## A-NPDC News Summary

### Chincoteague

Fisher Marine Construction has begun Phase I improvements to the Waterfront Park which include a bulkhead, piers and a boardwalk. In addition, the town received \$15,000 for landscape improvements to the park from the Virginia Department of Forestry. The money will be used to create a "rain garden," an environmentally sensitive way to

channel stormwater runoff into planting beds that filter out parking lot contaminants.

### Savagetown/Cats Bridge

Housing rehabilitation/construction continues on five units. One substantial reconstruction is 95% complete, and one is 75% complete. Of the three units being rehabilitated, one is 100% complete, and the other two are about 75% complete. Legal and survey work is not yet complete for the condemnation of four right-of-ways

needed for the Beckett Lane street improvements.

### Tangier Disaster Recovery Initiative Program

Six replacement houses are being built in this project. One is nearly complete and only needs to have the trim installed. Four more houses have had sheetrock installed, and the sixth house will receive sheetrock after more materials are delivered to the island. All six homes are now connected to sewer and water lines.

## Staff News

Congratulations to **Kat Edwards** who was promoted to Director of Housing Development following Darlene Burton's resignation. Kat is no stranger to this work. She held the position of Director of Housing and Redevelopment at the A-NPDC before she left in 1997 to accompany her husband on his U.S. Navy assignment in Florida. When she returned in 1999, she was hired as a Community Development Coordinator. As a CDC, Kat developed and managed the *Build for the Future Program* and has been assisting Chincoteague, Exmore, and other Eastern Shore towns with their downtown revitalization efforts.

Due to Kat Edwards' promotion, the A-NPDC now **seeks a new Community Development Coordinator**. The Community Development Coordinator is responsible for providing project management for various federal and state community development projects. Experience in housing and community development, grant applications and grant administration is preferred. A Bachelors degree or four years related experience is required. The



*Kat Edwards,  
Director of  
Housing Development*

salary range is \$20,000-\$45,000 depending upon qualifications.

Interested applicants should send a resume that arrives no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 20, 2003, to Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, PO Box 417, Accomac, VA 23301. 757-787-2936. EOE.

Best wishes to **Leslie and Bob Savage** who were married on May 24 at Hollies Baptist Church in Keller. The A-NPDC's receptionist/secretary, formerly Leslie Cunningham, is the daughter of Sam and Holly Swift of Bloxom. Her husband, Robert C. Savage, son of Carroll and Jean Savage of Painter, is an Environmental Health Specialist Senior with the Eastern Shore Health District.



**ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON  
PLANNING DISTRICT  
COMMISSION**

23372 Front Street  
P.O. Box 417  
Accomac, VA 23301

Phone: 757-787-2936  
Toll Free: 866-787-3001  
Fax: 757-787-4221  
Email: [anpdc@esva.net](mailto:anpdc@esva.net)  
Webpage: [www.a-npdc.org](http://www.a-npdc.org)

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## **VDOT Awards Grant for Northampton Transportation Plan**

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has awarded the A-NPDC a \$15,000 Rural Transportation Planning Grant (RTP) to prepare a Northampton County Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element. Through the grant, A-NPDC staff will assemble and analyze Northampton County transportation and land use data, conduct a county transportation planning workshop, conduct a transportation facility needs assessment, develop transportation goals, objectives, and recommendations, and help Northampton County with the public hearing and adoption process.

The Northampton County Comprehensive Plan was last updated in 2000, almost two years before the U.S. Route 13 / Wallops Island Access

Management Plan and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel Commuter Toll Impact Study were completed. The A-NPDC is currently completing development of the Eastern Shore Bicycle Plan. These studies contain a wealth of transportation and land use data that should be incorporated into the Northampton County Comprehensive Plan. Other new data sets, such as Northampton County's tax parcel maps, updated 911 data, and the Virginia Base Mapping Project's new digital orthophotography, also need to be analyzed. When adopted, the comprehensive plan transportation element will help Northampton County and VDOT coordinate county growth with transportation facility development. The VDOT RTP grant application was prepared by Jim McGowan, A-NPDC Director of Planning.