



CITIZENS FOR A BETTER EASTERN SHORE SHORELINE

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TM

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Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Unity Day Celebration Incorporates S.O.U.P.

ShoreLine Staff

CBES joined the Northampton Branch of the NAACP, led by President Jane Cabarrus, to organize and support the 33rd Annual Community Unity Day on January 16, 2023, celebrated in the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy.

The program began with a morning broadcast on WESR hosted by Kelley Gaskill, with opening comments by CBES Executive Director Donna Bozza, followed by a rendition of the traditional rallying cry, "Lift Every Voice and Sing." Following a prayer by Reverend Jeanette Lee was a Children's Introduction by Denai Griffin, Stacy Griffin, Jennifer Griffin, and Bruce Griffin III.

Other presenters included Joan Wilson, James Applegate, and the Broadwater Academy Varsity Voices. A poem about Martin Luther King, Jr., was recited by Tasha Hoffler. The program also included remarks by local businessman Willie Randall, as well as representatives from Pender & Coward, Attorneys at Law, and the Cooper Hurley Law Firm. To round out the program were the Reverend Roland Major from Mount Calvary Baptist Church and the Reverend Felton Sessoms.

S.O.U.P. Was Served

The traditional Unity Breakfast, held for many years at Northampton High School's cafeteria, was suspended due to COVID in 2020. This year's event included a new community service element, dubbed S.O.U.P., or

"Serving Our United People." Headquartered at Giddens' Do Drop Inn in Weirwood, volunteers dished out and delivered soup, crackers, and desserts to seniors – to remind them that their contributions to the Shore have not been forgotten.

This year's event included a new community service element, dubbed S.O.U.P., or "Serving Our United People."

Preparing the vats of delicious and hearty soup was spearheaded by perennial volunteer Joanne Fitchett. A lively crew of local volunteers made sure that the soup and other items were packed into paper bags and carefully counted; subsequently, the lunches were delivered to various locations throughout the Shore. Volunteers included a team from Pender & Coward, who came from Virginia Beach, plus several CBES Board members and friends, current and former Northampton County Supervisors, and diverse members of the Eastern Shore community.

The Northampton County Branch of the NAACP and CBES want to thank our friends at WESR for again providing this community celebration with a public voice; event sponsor, Pender & Coward, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law; and donors Anne Hallerman, Nancy Kinzinger, Lisa Kong, and Jene Radcliffe-Shipman.

This event could not have happened without the help of: Eastern

Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency; Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Beta Alpha Pi Zeta Chapter; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Pi Epsilon Omega Chapter; and Accomack Northampton Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Poster Contest

"Together We Can Be the Dream" was the theme of this year's student poster contest. The contest was open received entries from Accomack and Northampton County Public Schools, Broadwater Academy, Cape Charles Christian School, and homeschoolers.

More than 120 entries were received from Elementary- and Middle School-age students, the most entries the event has ever attracted. All participants receive a certificate of participation. The winners will receive a \$25 gift card.

See Community, Cont'd on p. 3

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Risk Factors by County Over the Next 30 Years

By Sue Mastyl

As noted in the November 2022 *ShoreLine* (“How RGGI Helps Waterfront Property Owners Preserve Property Value”), property owners in coastal areas can find their address on <https://riskfactor.com/> to learn the risk for their property. An interactive flood map shows Inundation estimates for the largest annual tidal floods, as well as hurricane storm surge, with projections for how those levels will change over the next 30 years.

Risk Factor is a free tool, created by the nonprofit First Street Foundation, to calculate the comprehensive risk (including flooding, wildfire, and extreme heat) for a property or a locality. The website states the “growing need for environmental risk data,” with flooding as the most expensive natural disaster (more than \$1 trillion [inflation-adjusted] since 1980), wildfires as the fastest-growing disaster (on pace to cost \$16 billion by 2029), and extreme heat as the deadliest (an average of 1,373 deaths/year).

In addition to an individual’s real estate properties, the tool also assesses risk at the county level. Although wildfire risk is low on the Eastern

Shore, both flooding and extreme heat pose significant risks for both Counties.

Flooding Risk

The risk of severe flooding over the next 30 years is considered extreme for Accomack County, and

Both flooding and extreme heat pose significant risks for Accomack and Northampton Counties.

moderate for Northampton County –

- 16,039 (43%) of all properties in Accomack County have a >26% chance of severe flooding in the next 30 years. This includes –
 - Extreme risk for residential properties (8,899 out of 20,171 homes)
 - Moderate risk for roads (1,069 out of 2,382 miles)
 - Extreme risk for commercial properties (365 out of 1,024)
 - Major risk for critical infrastructure (26 out of 66 facilities)
 - Major risk for social facilities (26 out of 70 facilities)
- 2,092 (18%) of all properties in Northampton County have a >26% chance of severe flooding in the next 30 years. This includes –
 - Moderate risk for residential properties (1,078 out of 6,316 homes)
 - Minor risk for roads (296 out of 1,244 miles)
 - Moderate risk for commercial properties (86 out of 378)
 - Moderate risk for critical infrastructure (11 out of 27 facilities)
 - Minor risk for social facilities (3 out of 25 facilities)

Heat Risk

Both Accomack and Northampton Counties are considered to be at extreme risk from heat in the next 30 years (health caution days are those above 90°; dangerous days are those

above 100°), including –

- Accomack County is estimated to see 12 more days above 80°, 19 more days above 90°, and 12 more days above 100° in 30 years compared with today.
 - “Hot days” (with a heat index above 101°) will increase from 7 days/year to 18 days/year in 30 years, a 157.1% increase.
 - The likelihood of a heat wave (3 or more days with a heat index above 101°) will increase from 50% to 78% in 30 years.
- Northampton County is estimated to see 13 more days above 80°, 20 more days above 90°, and 15 more days above 100° in 30 years compared with today.
 - “Hot days” (with a heat index above 102°) will increase from 7 days/year to 19 days/year in 30 years, a 171.4% increase.
 - The likelihood of a heat wave (3 or more days with a heat index above 102°) will increase from 47% to 85% in 30 years.

The website also provides suggestions for property owners, businesses, and localities to prepare for these risks. 

Help Your Neighbors! Help Yourself, Your Business, and Your Eastern Shore!

Citizen involvement in local government is crucial to a healthy Eastern Shore community. Local media and websites are informative – but this year, why not increase your personal leverage by attending public meetings at the County level, and adding your voice to discussions?

Regular Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission meetings include time for you to speak on any county issues. Times, dates, and specifics are available on each county’s website and are posted in the *Eastern Shore Post’s* Legal Ads..

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Community, Cont'd from p. 1

Community Service Awards

Janice Langley announced the following 2023 Community Service Award honorees: Deborah Giddens Griffin, Luke Kellam, Bill Payne, Bill Shockley, and Francis W. Williams. In addition, a Trailblazer Award was given to Dr. Paul E. Bibbins, Jr., PhD. Honorees were awarded plaques during the S.O.U.P. event at Giddens' Do Drop Inn.

Deborah Giddens Griffin is a graduate of Northampton High School in Eastville and further matriculated at Virginia State University, graduating with a BS degree in Business Administration. She's married to Bruce K. Griffin, Sr and they have 3 sons. She is an active participant in her church and other Shore organizations.



Deborah Giddens Griffin

Integral to Luke Kellam's



Lucius 'Luke' Kellam IV

personality is his eagerness to always help others and make a difference in his community. Luke is very generous with the time and resources he dedicates to our area. Many Shore organizations count Luke as a supporter, including the Boys and Girls Club, several local youth sports organizations, and several local nonprofit groups.

Bill Payne has been an

active member of the Eastern Shore community for many years. He has served as President of the Cape Charles Rotary Club, a Board Member of the Northampton County Education Foundation and New Roots Youth Garden, and as the Vice-Chair of the Northampton Economic Development Authority.

W.E. "Ted" Shockley III of Belle Haven is editor and co-owner of the weekly *Eastern Shore Post* newspaper and the monthly news magazine, *Eastern Shore First*, the Virginia Shore's only 2 print publications. Shockley is a board director of A&N Electric Cooperative, is a former chairman of the Eastern Shore Public Library Board of Trustees, and is a former member of the advisory board of Eastern Shore Community College.



Ted Shockley

Francis Wayne Williams began his Law Enforcement career with the Northampton County Sheriff's Office in 1982. Promoted to Correctional Officer in 1985, he became Lieutenant in charge of the operation of the Jail in 2000. With 40 years of service, he is the longest-serving deputy with the Sheriff's Office. He mentored countless deputies with the Sheriff's Office and other Law Enforcement agencies in both Shore counties. Williams officially retired in 2022.



Francis Wayne Williams

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Trailblazer Award

Paul E. Bibbins, Jr., PhD, DHL (Hon.) is a retired scientist, educator, and administrator. He was appointed to the Eastern Shore Community College Advisory Board by the Northampton County Board of Supervisors in 2016. Among other community activities, Dr. Bibbins joined other Shore citizens to form the Shore Delivery Corps, which gave support to high-risk individuals to minimize their exposure to COVID. He is the liaison between Northampton County Public Schools and Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) for the EVMS Health Sciences Academy.



Paul E. Bibbins, Jr., PhD, DHL (Hon.)

Thoughts on Community Unity

By Donna Bozza

Though the 2023 Community Unity Day was a bit different, its purpose carried on. At the dawn of each year, this event acts as a kind of collective Shore New Year's resolution, a reminder of who we are now and who we want to be in the future. With all the division, negativity, and darkness we see in the world today, it's understandable to want to become frustrated – how can it possibly be stopped?

It starts right here in the towns, the villages, the hamlets, and anywhere members of the community interact every day.

We make choices.

We choose to include instead of exclude. We make the choice to lift up and encourage, rather than tear down and dismiss. We decide to love, not hate.

Working together, we can carry the spirit of Community Unity Day through to the months ahead.

Will Realtors Control Local Short-Term Rental Regulations?

By Mary Miller

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. It was just over a year ago that State Senator Bill DeSteph (who recently presented a workforce apartment project in Exmore, which his company would build) offered a Bill to prohibit cities, counties, and towns from enforcing their regulations affecting Short-Term Rentals (STRs). Following strong opposition, SB602-2022 was withdrawn.

Not to be deterred, in January 2023 proponents of gutting localities' STR regulations reappeared. This time, it was Senator Lynwood Lewis, the Shore's Senator, and Delegate Danny Marshall, a former race car driver, who were the sole sponsors of SB1391 and HB2271.

The Bills are identical and seek to amend the VA Code Short Term Rental Chapter. This time, instead of using the blunt force approach, the Bills were more unequivocally worded – they would exempt from enforcement of many local regulations only if the STR was “managed by a Virginia realtor.” Some of the regulations that a locality could no longer enforce – prohibiting commercial STRs anywhere, including in residential neighborhoods, restricting occupancy and parking standards, limiting months and number of days per year of operation, and restricting the use of noise and other off-site monitors by owners.

Winners and Losers If Amendments Are Adopted

There appears to be little misunderstanding about who and how the Bills would benefit. The creation of a new, legal, privileged class of STR owners that would be exempt from local ordinance enforcement, would be those who choose Virginia realtors to manage their properties. This would appear to benefit not only the real estate management industry but also the growing STR investment industry. Out-of-area commercial STR owners would be able to hire local real estate management and benefit from the lack of local restrictions.

Local officials see how the loss of year-round rentals is creating more housing hardships for families and workers, and creates employee shortages for small businesses,

schools, and medical facilities when workers can't find affordable rental housing. The lack of ability to manage STRs through local ordinances will probably spur the growth of STRs and increase the growing year-round rental shortage. It appears that those who would benefit the least if the Code amendments are adopted are most of the Senators' and Delegates' constituents, including small businesses.

A review of voting records, political affiliations, and district similarities/differences reveals little in common among the lawmakers, 2 Republican and 1 Democratic, who sponsored the Bills to limit restrictions on STRs. One common denominator among them are substantial campaign contributions for all 3 from the National Association of Realtors and the VA Realtors.

As a result of redistricting, Lynwood Lewis and Bill DeSteph will face each other in the November election in the newly created 20th State Senate District, which includes the Shore and part of Virginia Beach.

General Comments and Fiscal Impact Statements

Included in the History section of each Bill's publication is a Fiscal Impact statement from any locality that chooses to provide input. The Towns of Luray and Chincoteague and Rappahannock County all projected decreased revenues. Roanoke County and the Town of Luray projected increased expenses, mostly the need for more staff.

There was very little actual input on this Bill – which might be due to the lateness of the Bill's submission. However, there were comments regarding the “severe” restriction of zoning authority from Alexandria, Augusta, and Rappahannock Counties and the Town of Luray. Comments included the possibility of severe local restrictions leading to elimination of STRs and its Transient Occupancy Tax revenue, property value decrease and loss of businesses near uncontrolled rental properties, and a possible loss of year-round residents.¹

There are 19 comments posted in thoughtful

See STR Regulations, Cont'd on p. 5

2022 Political Contributions to STR Bill Sponsors

	De Steph	Marshall	Lewis
Virginia Realtors	\$35,250	\$85,561	\$25,680
National Association of Realtors	\$36,000	\$21,600	\$60,000
Home Builders	\$11,000	\$44,308	\$11,300
Virginia Association of Commercial Real Estate		\$15,500	

<https://www.vpap.org/money/>

Community Unity Poster Contest Winners



K – 2
Caroline Marshall
(Broadwater Academy)



3 – 5
Hayden Cornish
(Occohannock Elementary)



6 – 8
Avonnah Brady Fitchett
(Kiptopeke Elementary)



6 – 8
Dominic Franco Ramirez
(Kiptopeke Elementary)



STR Regulations, *Cont'd from p. 4*

opposition to the Bill from Eastern Shore residents whose communities would be impacted by the proposed zoning changes. Many questioned the legality of state interference with local ordinances; others objected to zoning authority being transferred to an independent group that would reap financial benefits. Several mentioned the disappearance of year-round rental housing for local workers. A question was raised about a locality's right to locate commercial STRs only in commercial districts. And there were questions raised about the lack of information from Senator Lewis before the Bill was submitted.²

NB: *The Northampton County Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution in opposition to SB1391.*

Ed. Note. SB1391 was voted on in January and passed to another committee for future study, so it's not on the front burner; but it could be considered in the future. Stay tuned!

¹<https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?231+oth+SB1391F164+PDF>

²<https://legiscan.com/VA/bill/SB1391/2023>



PAID HELP WANTED

Part-Time CBES Bike Tour Coordinator*

Be a part of the oldest, most popular bike tour on the Eastern Shore!

The 2023 Between the Waters Bike Tour is scheduled for October 28, 2023. The successful candidate for the job of Bike Tour Coordinator will be detail-oriented and unflappable, with keen organizational skills to handle the many moving parts of the Bike Tour process. These include: reviewing the 4 tour routes for functionality and viability; planning/managing pre-event setting up, morning sign-in, Lunch/Rest Stops, and finish; facilitating sponsorships and sign-off for VDOT Permit; and helping to recruit and coordinate volunteers.

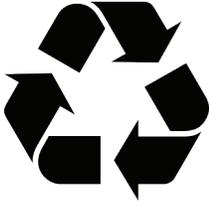
Event-planning experience is a plus, as well as good people skills. The job involves flexible hours throughout 2023, with a concentration of full-time hours needed during the 2 weeks leading up to the Bike Tour.

The job comes with a detailed manual and access to the previous Bike Tour Coordinator. A great project to share with a spouse/partner/friend.

Contact info@cbes.org or 757-678-7157 for more information.

**Mary Ehmann, 2021 & 2022 Bike Tour Coordinator, has returned to full-time teaching but has agreed to serve in an advisory role in 2023.*

Join or renew your membership now at www.cbes.org



RECYCLING CORNER

By Sue Mastyl

Recycling Task Force Issues Report

In 2020, the General Assembly directed the Department of Environmental Quality to establish a Waste Diversion & Recycling Task Force, to increase waste diversion and recycling. In 2022, Governor Youngkin’s Executive Order 17 asked the Task Force to find ways to encourage new recycling-related businesses. In November 2022, the Task Force issued its report (<https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2022/RD605/PDF>). The Task Force provided recommendations in 5 areas.

Waste Reduction & Diversion

- Explore moving towards an Extended Producer Responsibility framework, which removes the burden from localities. Candidate wastes could include batteries, carpet, gas cylinders, mercury-containing devices, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, and textiles. A separate analysis on solar panels is due from the State Corporation Commission in May.
- Increase the tire recycling fee, and prevent diversion of funds from the Waste Tire Trust Fund

Improve Recycling

- Establish a Recycling Business Assistance Center to provide permit assistance, conduct periodic impact studies, provide tools, and work one-on-one with companies
- Research siting of intermediate glass-processing facilities, and consider economic incentives to encourage a glass recycler to locate in Virginia
- Identify a better method of gathering recycling data in order to reach EPA’s goal of 50% by 2030. Virginia’s average recycling rate was 45.5% in 2020, although individual localities’ rates varied from 10% to 97%.
- Consider incentives to localities to create public recycling services
- Encourage multi-family housing complexes to provide information on recycling options for residents

Litter Prevention & Recycling Grant

- Make the litter tax proportional to business size (currently, big box stores and small corner stores pay the same rate), and increase the maximum fees
- Add reporting of the quantity of waste diverted/collected to grant requirements

Food Donation & Organics Management

- Explore financial incentives and regulatory changes to encourage food waste prevention and establish compost and anaerobic digestion facilities

Keeping Track

Wetlands Mitigation Updates

In October, 2021, a Land Disturbance Permit was issued by Northampton County for a 26-acre project. It wasn’t until the fall of 2022, when bulldozers started scraping topsoil off the Custis farm south of Exmore, that the community learned that a wetland was being constructed to offset wetlands being destroyed elsewhere. The words “wetlands mitigation credits” became part of the community language, at the same time elected officials learned about them. It was then learned that this farm drained to the Atlantic seaside watershed and only projects in Shore counties or a small part of Virginia Beach would be involved.



Fast forward a year. The Northampton County Board of Supervisors has sent a Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) to the Planning Commission to, among other things, “not allow off-site compensatory non-tidal wetlands within the County.” The Commission will provide the Board with a recommendation.

A Public Hearing for this ZTA will be held at the regular Planning Commission meeting on February 7, beginning at 6 PM in the Supervisors Chambers at the Northampton County Office Building in Eastville. When the Planning Commission sends its recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, the Board will schedule another Public Hearing at their regular meeting.

Meanwhile, Accomack County’s Planning Commission will conduct a Public Hearing on proposed ordinance amendments to allow wetland mitigation banks, subject to securing a conditional use permit, in the Agricultural, Residential, Industrial, General Business, Limited Business, Rural Residential, and Village Development Districts, plus proposed additional language, at 7 PM on Wednesday, February 8, at the Board Chambers in the County Administration Building in Accomac.

The public is urged to consider making statements at these meetings to let your County officials know your opinions.



Ways to Encourage New Recycling-Related Businesses

- Work with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and localities to develop tools to assist industries in evaluating options for locating in Virginia, including possible tax incentives
- Work with State agencies to modify their procurement practices to include more recycled-content materials
- Develop workforce opportunities for the recycling industry in Virginia

Tangier Update

By Jeremy Cox

Reprinted, with permission, from the Bay Journal.

Lawmakers from Virginia pushed for securing \$25 million in December's federal omnibus spending bill to fortify Tangier Island against climate change.

They fell well short of that goal, getting \$300,000 instead.

The offices for senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, both Democrats, characterized the allocation as a necessary first step to move the project forward. The spending will enable the Army Corps of Engineers to complete a scoping and feasibility study that's necessary before construction can begin, they said.

Tangier Island, Virginia's only inhabited island not connected to the mainland by a bridge, is shrinking from erosion and sea level rise, climate scientists say.

The project, if finalized, would transport dredge material from Chesapeake Bay navigational channels to the island, where it would be used to create earthen barriers near the shoreline.

Ed. Note: For a free print and/or digital subscription to Bay Journal, go to https://www.bayjournal.com/site/forms/subscription_services/new_subscription/.

New Guide to Poisonous & Venomous Animals

A free guide to 32 poisonous and venomous animals in Virginia has been published by the University of Virginia. The guide, *The Cleopatra Project: Poisonous and Venomous Animals in Virginia* (<https://med.virginia.edu/brpc/>



the-learning-center/the-cleopatra-project/), was developed by Virginia Master Naturalists in collaboration with the University of Virginia Health's Blue Ridge Poison Center and the Division of Medical Toxicology at the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

It "deals with [species] that are the most dangerous to humans," and includes sections on ants, caterpillars, jellyfish, newts, scorpions, shrews, snakes, spiders, toads and spadefoots, and wasps and bees. Listings for each species include photos, a physical description, where they are found, what makes the animal venomous, and common symptoms.

A companion guide, *The Socrates Project: Poisonous Plants in Virginia*, was published in 2020. It lists 25 species common in Virginia, and is available at <https://med.virginia.edu/brpc/the-learning-center/the-socrates-project/>.

Candied Orange Peels



Delicious food recycling – using the beautiful oranges in the market this time of year. Carefully peeling the outer skin from the pith leaves a brightly colored, strongly flavored part of the orange that often ends up in the compost pail.

Add sugar, lots of sugar, then chocolate. For a tangle of sweet orange peels, slice them into narrow strips. But to add a generous dip of your choice of chocolate, leave the strips a little wider. A novel Valentine treat.

- Using a sharp vegetable peeler, carefully cut strips, top to bottom, from 2 large oranges. Cut only the orange peel – leave the white pith behind.
- Simmer the strips gently in 2 cups water for about 15 minutes to remove some bitterness. Drain and set aside – discard water.
- Combine 2 cups water and 1 cup sugar in a medium saucepan – heat until sugar dissolves. Add orange peels and bring syrup to *gentle* simmer. Set timer for 20 minutes – stir occasionally, and maintain gentle simmer. Syrup will start to thicken and peels will soften – check by testing with fork. Remove from heat and let sit for 5 more minutes.
- Put ½ cup sugar in flat bowl. Lift orange peels from syrup, let drain, then place in bowl of sugar. Working quickly, get all orange peels into sugar and toss until well coated. Place on rack to cool and dry.
- Melt ½ cup chocolate chips (any type) in a custard cup in simmering water.
- Dip one end of the sugared peel into chocolate, let drain, then set over edge of rack to dry.
- Store in airtight container.

Mary Miller, *The Kitchen Hive*

Reprinted with permission: <https://www.talkrealnow.com>

2022 Donors to CBES

(Gifts received during the 2022 calendar year)

“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”

Maya Angelou

In this, our 35th year, Citizens for a Better Eastern Shore is once again honored by a membership that invests in our efforts to INFORM – ENGAGE – EMPOWER our community. Some of you just joined the CBES team, others have been steadfast supporters for many a year. We count you all as friends as we work together for a better Eastern Shore for all.

Bald Eagle

Over \$2,000

Norman & Susan Colpitts
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\$1,001 to \$2,000

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Peter & Rachel Sengenberger
Grace Silverstein
Nancy Smithwick Bill & Diane Stramm
Dora Sullivan
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CBES cherishes donations made in remembrance
or honor of a loved one.

IN HONOR of
Meriwether Payne by Betsy Parks

IN MEMORY of
Mary & Jack Ordeman by Donna Bozza
Suzanne Wescoat by Lacy Dick

CBES does its best to acknowledge donors and
donations accurately, but errors can occur. We
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us with corrections: info@cbes.org or 757-678-7157.
Please note: If part of your donation was applied to
a CBES membership, IRS rules prevent inclusion of
that amount in your tax-deductible donation total.

CBES Activities & Initiatives

Trailblazer Awards

On Tuesday, March 22, CBES and the NAACP Northampton Branch saluted 4 Eastern Shore women who have demonstrated outstanding community service in the 2 Shore counties. Some known as prominent leaders of positive change, others work diligently behind the scenes to make a better Eastern Shore. The women were honored in a virtual celebration of National Women's History Month. Awardees Peaches Dodge, Ava Gabrielle-Wise, Finale Norton, and Nancy Russell engaged in a panel discussion, sharing their motivation and wisdom as Eastern Shore Trailblazers. This event was an engaging hour of celebration, with panelists giving their considerable insights in answer to a variety of questions regarding the past, present, and future of the Eastern Shore.



PICNIC@theBARN Celebrates CBES Volunteers

This year's gathering focused on celebrating the many volunteers who keep CBES biggest fundraiser, the Between the Waters Bike Tour, successfully rolling along. Thanks to the generosity of CBES Board Members Norman Colpitts, Lee-Ann Fick, and Mike Peirson, volunteers were offered complimentary tickets to the event. All attendees enjoyed the festive Mexican fare prepared by Kitchen Sync, tunes by the Corn Funk Revue, and plenty of Shore fellowship. The highlight of the laid-back afternoon was the presentation of the Suzanne Wescoat Award to Dr. Michael Peirson – Mike – for his community service, staunch dedication to CBES Mission, and his profound impact on the development of the Shore's now-thriving Aquaculture Industry.



The Corn Funk Revue entertains the 100+ partygoers at the annual Picnic@the Barn.

Clean the Bay Day

CBES, The Nature Conservancy, and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation have been partnering with other Shore groups and volunteers to clean areas of the 2 counties' shorelines for many years. Again in 2022, CBES Board Member Margaret Van Clief directed a group of volunteers in Oyster, who collected over a ton of trash along the harbor and trails. Held the 1st weekend of June, this event is a satisfying way to join neighbors and friends in a tangible exercise! Specifics on this year's event will be announced in the May issue of *ShoreLine*.



MLK Jr., Community Unity Day

CBES has been partnering with the Northampton Branch of the NAACP for decades, celebrating the spirit of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Although the traditional venue was the Northampton High School Cafeteria, since 2021, the event has been largely virtual, thanks to the generosity of the folks at WESR, 103.3 The Shore, especially Will Russell, producer, and Kelley Gaskill, moderator. In 2023, in addition to the radio broadcast, community members and friends joined forces to provide over 400 lunches to Shore seniors on January 16, 2023. The event exemplified one of the Shore's greatest strengths, our community's generosity.



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Join online at www.cbes.org



Would you like to play a major role in the 2023 Between the Waters Bike Tour?



Be a part of the oldest, most popular bike tour on the Eastern Shore!

See page 5 of this issue, and contact info@cbes.org or 757-678-7157 for more information.