

NAPS News

Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship
"Northumberland is going to grow. Let's help it grow with order and beauty."

Spring 2016

Volume 25, Issue 2



Welcome to the Spring 2016 Issue of NAPS News.
Here's what was happening this season.

First, a couple of dates to mark on your calendar:

Fall Highway Pick-up. Wednesday, October 26 at Wicomico Church at 10:30.

NAPS Annual Social and Distinguished Citizen Award. Saturday, October 29 at Bay Quarter Shores Club, 4 to 7 p.m.

NAPS Scholarships Awarded. Five scholarships were presented this year. > > >

Next Stage Planning for Callao Revitalization.

Theresa Lambert, Executive Director, Northumberland County Economic Development Commission, provides an Op-Ed update.

Library Vestibule Display. Dr. Greg Haugan describes the six sections of the climate change display at the Northumberland Library in April.

Going Solar at Northumberland Elementary School. Lee Allain offers a proposition for the school that could extend to the Middle School and the High School.

School Team Eco Visits with Crew of Hōkūle'a on Tangier Island. Pam Hagy reports on the effort to deal with sea-level rise and the visit of the Polynesian messenger boat.

Earth Day Highway Pick-up. Not enough volunteers to do the job as promised, warns Janice Mahoney, adding, join the team or . . .

Middle School Scores at National SeaPerch Challenge. Two young men from Northumberland made the school proud against very tough competition from large schools around the country. NAPS helped send them to the LSU gathering.

Out and About with NAPS. Check out the photos from NAPS at the Earth Day Celebration and the Master Gardeners annual convention.

NAPS Financial and Membership Reports. Treasurer Greg Haugan files the figures.

NAPS Calendar.

To keep up with NAPS on a regular basis, check out our web site: www.napsva.org.

– Jay Walker, Editor

NAPS Presents Five 2016 Scholarships

By Myrtle Phillips

Five Northumberland High School seniors received NAPS scholarships



NAPS scholarship recipients (left to right) Macy Swift, Korty Swift, Kellee Ramsey, Zachary Hamilton, and Mary Hall.

of \$500 each during the Senior Recognition presentation ceremony at the High School Auditorium, June 2. The winners are Mary Hall, Zachary Hamilton, Kellee Ramsey, Korty Swift, and Macy Swift. Ordinarily, NAPS awards four scholarships, however, John and Sandy Henbest donated \$500 to add one more.

The process begins with the scholarship application forms. School Guidance Councilor

Melissa Hipple worked with the seniors to fill out the forms and to prepare for the interviews conducted by four NAPS representatives. She also coordinated the procedures with NAPS. There were 11 applications for the NAPS awards.

The interviews focused on high school grades, which were excellent, college interests, and most important community service. This year's group clearly worked hard to get to the final selection.

All of the NAPS scholars had applied to colleges, usually three to four. They all listed Virginia colleges this year. Mary Hall was President, Zachary Hamilton was Vice-President, and Kellee Ramsey was Secretary of the Class of 2016. Hall spoke at the Senior Recognition program and Hamilton delivered the closing comments. Ramsey was part of the Class History Team.

You can help support NAPS Scholarships by contributing to the NAPS Endowment. Just mark your check "Scholarship" and the treasurer will allocate it to the proper account. Make the check payable to NAPS and mail to P.O. Box 567, Heathsville, VA 22473.

OP-ED

Next Stage Planning for Callao Revitalization

By Theresa Lambert – Executive Director, Northumberland County Economic Development Commission

In May, the Northumberland County Economic Development Commission, with assistance from the Northern Neck Planning District Commission in Warsaw, began the process to secure funding from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for a revitalization project aimed at enhancing commerce in Callao.

Similar projects are underway in Colonial Beach, White Stone and Warsaw. Revitalization efforts in Montross were recently completed with significant impact, including enhanced storefronts, new street lighting, a vibrant business environment, an increase in commerce, and new business opportunities.

To date, the County has received a total of \$15,000 in incremental state grants for revitalization planning as a result of meeting certain qualifications as it progresses with the project. Among those requirements was the establishment of a management team for the project, comprised of key stakeholders

reflecting a cross-section of the area's government, as well as general population and economy, business community, and cultural and social interests of Callao. The role of the Management Team is to provide leadership for the development of the revitalization project to ensure it reflects the needs and priorities of the community.

A second requirement was a to convene a public meeting to give citizens a comprehensive overview of the proposed project, as well as the county's intentions to identify economic and physical improvements required for the Callao area, and to involve businesses, residents and other potential beneficiaries in expressing their needs and desires. The Public Meeting, held in September, was widely promoted and over 130 citizens attended and expressed support for the initiative.

To determine Callao's eligibility for a revitalization implementation grant, an inventory of the open spaces and buildings, both vacant and occupied,

was conducted—along with a description of their condition and included photographs. DHCD then authorized the County to move forward in determining what the Callao community wanted to see for its future. Toward that end, the community engaged in a facilitated Visioning session to set the parameters and priorities for types of revitalization activities that will be needed.

With the completion of this “pre-planning” phase, the County submitted an application for a \$35,000 grant to bring in experts – designers, engineers, landscapers, lighting specialist – to assist in developing an implementation plan with projected costs to achieve the vision of the community. If the application is approved, the goal is to have the plan completed and submitted for implementation funding by early 2017. Residents and businesses in Callao and across the county are excited by the potential of the project to expand commerce in the area.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Library Vestibule Display

By Dr. Greg Haugan

During the month of April, a display of climate change literature was on view in the vestibule of the Northumberland Public Library. A picture of part of the display is shown to the right.

The display consisted of seven categories of books with a page description of each display. The seven categories were as follows:

1. Classic Environmental including *Silent Spring* (1962) and *The Lorax* (1971);
2. Climate Change Science, Impacts, Solutions including the International Panel on Climate Change, IPCC, reports and reports from the National Academy of Sciences, National Science Foundation and the Royal Academy of Science, among others; this category was included in the display case across the vestibule from the display pictured;
3. Climate Change and Global Warming Explanations including examples of the many books written based on the scientific documents in category 2 above; included is *An Inconvenient Truth* (2006);
4. Impact and Solutions include the Pope's *Laudato Si'*, *On Care for Our Common Home* (2015) and Steven Nash's *Virginia Climate Fever* (2014); these and others in this category describe the impact of “business as usual” emissions on the earth and actions we should be taking;
5. Doubt and Deniers category of books addresses the 40 years of deliberate disinformation by the fossil fuel industries and their captive think tanks and media outlets. Their purpose is



6. to spread “doubt” and press Congress to not take any actions.
6. Likely Future Scenarios address the dangers of continuing “business as usual”; a leader is James Hansen's *Storm of my Grandchildren* (2009); and Elizabeth Kolbert's *The Sixth Extinction*; (2014); and
7. Fiction: Cli-Sci_Fi a growing new category is Climate Science Fiction that either sets the story in a future that is or was impacted by climate change or us undergoing the severe effects of climate change.

Some of the books are from the Library collection, but most belong to me.

The display, although it contained only books that were based on the acknowledged science of climate change received a complaint that it was overtly political and not suitable for the Library. The Library response was to quote the first amendment to the Constitution and offer the complainant the opportunity to create an alternate display.

ENERGY

Going Solar at Northumberland Elementary School: A Proposition

By Lee Allain

After reviewing Northumberland School building power usage and costs, it is proposed that a solar array providing most of the power used by the Elementary school be considered. The following discussion frames that possibility.

The minimum month utilization over school year 13-14 was 78,000 kWh. Let's shoot for an array that provides about 60,000 kWh per month, or well less than minimum usage. Net metering from Dominion will provide payback at the normal cost of power as long as power saved is less than total kWh actually used. Excess kWh's provided back to the grid are compensated by Dominion at a much lower rate. Net savings with the proposed array are about \$6,000/month. (\$72,000/Year)

Assume that an array provides an average of 10 watts per square foot for 2000 hours per year. That is, every square foot provides 20 kWh/year. We need 720,000 kWh/year. That is we need 36,000 square feet to capture 360,000 watts, or 360 kilowatts. This will consume about an acre of space.

Using a rule of thumb array cost of \$3.00 per watt, investment would be about \$1.1 million. Government rebates of 30% could reduce total investment by more than \$300K and result in a payback

time less than 10 years. Grants to support initial investment may be available. Most arrays are guaranteed for 20 to 30 years so that

total power cost over 20 years is about half what it would have been with continued Dominion supply. That is, invest a million now, pay that back and save an additional million in the future. Of course increases in the power rate will not affect the base usage of 60,000 kWh provided by the array.

If this works, expansion to a second array for the Middle and High School could also make sense. That could save another \$2 million if implemented for all schools.

FYI & consideration. We certainly get more sun than NJ, NY and New England where this is being done. Should we look at a 3rd-party financing source and possible providers and run the real economics? Are we in contact with the National Solar Schools Consortium? <<http://www.solarschools2020.org>>

- This could save money,
- educate students,
- get local contractors up to speed,
- increase community solar participation,
- provide emergency power when grid is down,
- and do our part relative to reducing carbon dioxide release.



NAPS FINANCIAL REPORT

NAPS is in relatively good financial condition. The financial statement indicates a current year net of \$519.00 to date and \$5,065.84 in the checkbook that includes \$4,546.84 carryover from 2015. As shown in the Membership Report, we are running a little behind in our membership dues payments, nothing serious, but we would prefer to have a net to date of over \$1,000.00 to minimize any net loss for the year. We have made our major expenditures for the year, \$2,500.00 in Scholarships, \$425.00 in support of the SeaPerch project at the Middle School and \$832.00 to support Christopher Hall in his Eagle Scout Project at the Elementary School and \$300.00 to support an EcoTour on May 9. All of these are discussed in more detail elsewhere in this Newsletter.

We also have received donations of \$110.00 for the Endowment that totaled \$16,337.17 at last reporting from Wells Fargo, our Investment Manager organization. We also received a generous donation from Sandy and John Henbest to enable us to provide a fifth scholarship to a needy High School graduate.

NAPS Financial Report – 5/30/2016

Starting Balance	(1/1/2016)		\$4,546.84
REVENUES	Dues	\$5,295.00	
	Endowment	\$110.00	
	Other	\$630.00	
	Total Revenues		\$6,035.00
EXPENSES	Admin	\$978.67	
	Donations & Scholarships	\$2,610.00	
	Membership & Newsletter	\$46.11	
	Events	\$624.22	
	Projects	\$1,257.00	
	Other	\$0.00	
	Total Expenses		\$5,516.00
Current Year Net			\$519.00
Current Cash Bal.			\$5,065.84
OTHER ASSETS	Certificates of Deposit 12/31/15	\$9,368.95	
	Endowment (WF) 3/31/16	\$16,337.17	
	Total Other Assets:		\$25,706.12
	TOTAL ASSETS		\$30,771.96

ECOLOGY

Northumberland Team Eco visits with crew of Hôkûle'a on Tangier Island*By Pam Hagy*

A team of 14 sixth-graders trying to help raise awareness about Tangier Island's struggle with climate change traveled to the island in May to meet with Tangier's sixth graders and the crew of the Polynesian *Hôkûle'a* that is circumnavigating the globe.

The Northumberland Middle School Community Problem Solving Team Eco is learning about the island's problems with sea-level rise, erosion and subsidence and to help raise funds for a living shoreline that would allow Tangiermen more time on their island or to use the money to leave if it becomes necessary.

The *Hôkûle'a*, operated by volunteers of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, is on a four-year sailing tour to educate and inspire students and their communities about respecting and caring for themselves, each other and their natural and cultural environments. They have met with other schools in Virginia, as well as local Indian tribes to talk about a variety of issues including pollution in the ocean, rivers and bays and the importance of preserving a community's cultural heritage. Most of the crew hails from Hawaii and other Pacific Islands with issues similar to Tangier.

The *Hôkûle'a* docked overnight in Reedville on its way to Tangier. Students were lucky enough to meet up with it just before entering Tangier's channel. Upon arrival, they toured the handmade, 62-foot, 20 foot-wide, double-hulled canoe, built in 1975.

After lunch, the Northumberland team, Tangier sixth-graders, crew and engineers and scientists sat in a circle at the Tangier Combined School and discussed climate change and how it is negatively affecting the heritage, culture and history of communities like Tangier by forcing whole communities to move. They also talked about the importance of trying to preserve those communities. Students learned about the different jobs and avenue of studies they might take to become a scientist, engineer or navigator.

The team decided to "Save Tangier Island" last year after ventur-



Greeting the Hôkûle'a as it arrived at Tangier Island from a stop-over in Reedville.

ing on a three-day Chesapeake Bay Foundation education program on the adjacent island of Port Isobel. That trip was partly funded by a Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant and Omega Protein. After partnering for an awareness campaign with Tangier Town Manager Renee Tyler, she invited them to the island to see the *Hôkûle'a*.

After a bake sale, generous donations by NAPS, their school superintendent and relatives, team members hired Heritage Waterman Captain Danny Crabbe and wife Bonnie to take them to Tangier on May 9.

Earlier in the year, students learned about living shorelines from the Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk Division and participated in a webinar through a new education outreach program there. Invited to accompany them on their trip was Norfolk Commander Col. Jason Kelly and Corps Marine Biologist David Schulte, author of a report last year about ways Tangier might hold back erosion. The team also invited Molly Mitchell, a researcher and marine scientist with the Virginia Institute for Marine Science who has advised the governor and Congress on coastal flooding issues and how to improve the resiliency of Virginia's coastal communities. NAPS co-President Lee Allain was invited to accompany the team as well.

Students from both schools presented a copy of William B. Cronin's "The Disappearing Islands of the Chesapeake Bay" to the crew and a team t-shirt designed by Team Eco and drawn by team member Mia Bundy. Tangier Island and the team will continue to sell the shirts to raise awareness and money to help Tangiermen. To purchase a t-shirt go to the www.tangierislandva.com and hit the "Take Action" button or email: tgitownoffice@gmail.com

Member Report	2016 2/18/16	2015 Paid-Up Total
Business	4	4
Family	59	62
Individual	28	41
Patron	5	5
Sustaining	22	28
Student	1	1
Total	119	141

NAPS MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The table presents the current membership status versus 2015 as reflected in the numbers of paid-up members this year to date. As can be seen, we are running behind in the Individual and Sustaining categories.

The biggest problem is the dearth of new members. Our community is aging and we are losing members faster than we can replace them. We are also having problems staffing some of our events; we had to cancel our booth at the Strawberry Festival due to lack of members available to assist. We need individual member event support as well as financial support to enable us to continue our programs with the schools and the community.



NAPS Adopt-A-Highway crew for Earth Day (from left): Alice Imbur, Don Imbur, Bruce Craig, Bill Estell, John Henbest, John Lunsford, and Charles Smith. Not pictured were Janice Mahoney and Walter Brodtman.

ENVIRONMENT

Earth Day Highway Pick up

By Janice Mahoney

The NAPS spring highway pick up took place on Earth Day, April 22. Volunteers included Alice Imbur, Don Imbur, Bruce Craig, Bill Estell, John Henbest, John Lunsford, Charles Smith, Janice Mahoney and Walter Brodtman.

The team filled 14 bags of trash, plus hauled off several large pieces of cardboard and plastic. Because of a lack of volunteers, we only picked up four sections of Route 200 between Wicomico Church and the Tipers Bridge.

Lack of volunteers for this project is becoming the norm, rather than the unusual. The future of this project depends on participation by at least 14 volunteers. We can continue to do some of the highway with however many volunteers show up. But we are doing a disservice to the VDOT program by not fulfilling our commitment to pick up the entire length of the highway – what NAPS initially promised to do.

So the fall pick up is October 26 at 10:30 a.m. Please put it on your calendar and BE THERE!

STEM

Middle School Scores at National SeaPerch Challenge

By Holly Swann, Counseling Office Admin. Asst. and Registrar Northumberland High School

Two Northumberland Middle School students, Luke Swann and Chase Kitchen, competed in the National SeaPerch Challenge at Louisiana State University and scored in the tough competition. Sixth-grader Luke and seventh-grader Chase qualified for the Nationals at the District Competition at UMW in April. They were eager to take their under-water remote operated vehicle (ROV) to the pool at LSU

Calling themselves “Team Green Marine”, because they modified their SeaPerch ROV to be Indians Green and Gold, the boys competed in three portions of the overall challenge, including the poster/presentation, an underwater orbs challenge, and

an underwater rings obstacle course. They made the Top 10 finalists, placing seventh out of 96 middle school teams for their poster/presentation portion (See photo) of the competition. They placed 18th overall among competitors from huge schools and teams from Texas, Hawaii, Australia, Cayman Islands, New Jersey, and more. Luke and Chase said that they were thrilled with their outcome and are already thinking about how to make their ROV faster and better next year.

They gave huge thanks to their coordinator, Shauna McCranie, the NCPS School Board Office, the Middle

School, Dahlgren, and families and friends plus NAPS which was also a contributor to the cost of making the trip to LSU.



Chase Kitchen and Luke Swann scored in the Top 10 with their poster/presentation.

NAPS Calendar

NAPS Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 9 a.m. at the Union First Market Bank on Rt. 360 in Burgess, unless otherwise changed.

- July 13 Wed. NAPS Board Meeting
- Aug. 10 Wed. ... NAPS Board Meeting
- Sept. 14 Wed. .. NAPS Board Meeting
- Sept. TBD NAPS Creek Clean-up
- Oct. 12 Wed. NAPS Board Meeting
- Oct. 26 Wed. NAPS Highway Clean-up
- Oct. 29 Sat. NAPS Annual Social and Distinguished Citizen Award

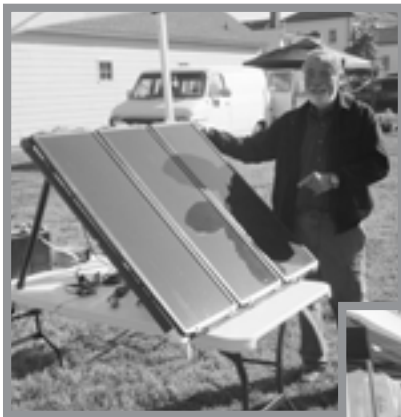


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NAPS – Out and About...



Lee Allain demonstrates the power of a sunny day at the Earth Day Celebration.



Bill Estell talks with an interested visitor at the NAPS booth.



Scene from the Earth Day Celebration in Heathsville.



Greg Haugan tends the Citizens' Climate Lobby booth.



Greg Haugan and Mike Harwood greet visitors to the NAPS table at the Master Gardeners event.

NAPS Officers & Board Members

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