

the Heart of
the Chesapeake

shorelines



News on visiting, living in, and doing business in Dorchester County, Maryland

FALL/WINTER 2009

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CHOPTANK RIVER
LIGHTHOUSE COMMITTEE

Downtown Cambridge

Building toward
a strong future.

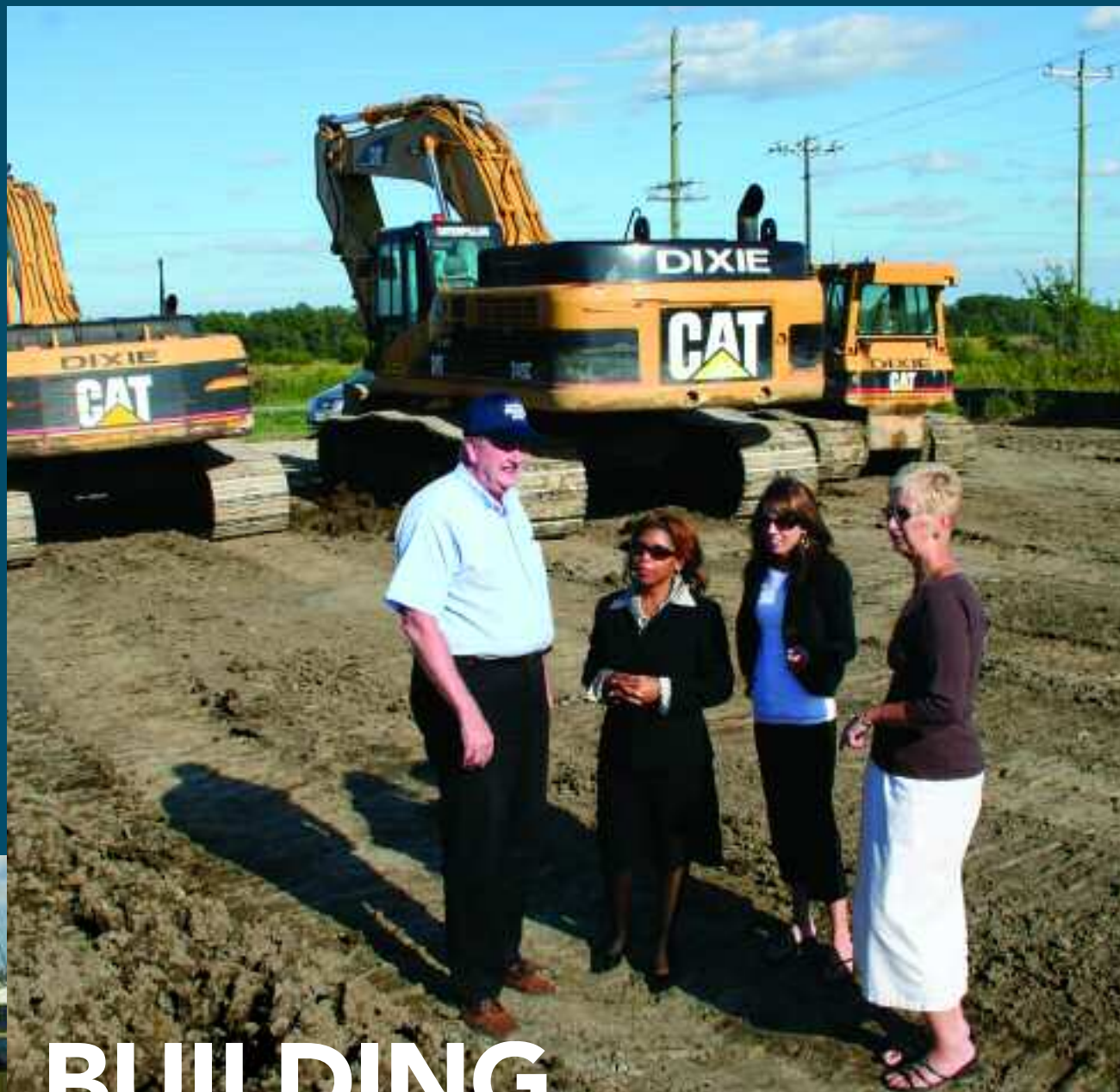
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BUILDING DORCHESTER'S TECH PARK

The county's first-ever Tech Park has the potential to bring in more jobs and new investment.

Airport and Economic Development staff discuss plans for the new Tech Park. From left are Engineer/Airport Manager Bob Tenanty, Dorchester County Economic Development Director Keasha Haythe, Administrative Assistant Tiffany Collins, and Technical Assistant Joy Loeffler.

BUILDING DORCHESTER'S TECH PARK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Work is moving forward on Dorchester County's first-ever Technology Park, a project that is expected to spur major business investment in the county and create new employment opportunities. The park is being developed on a 113-acre parcel on Bucktown Road, across from the Cambridge-Dorchester County Regional Airport.

The project recently took a major step forward with a \$3 million award from the U.S. Department of Commerce-Economic Development Administration. The funds will be used to extend water and sewer service to the Technology Park, as well as build necessary infrastructure inside the park. The County Economic Development Office began the grant application process in August 2008, and received official notification of the award on September 18, 2009.

"The County is truly grateful to Senators Barbara Mikulski and Ben Cardin for their support in helping make our vision for a better Dorchester County move closer to reality," said EDO Director Keasha Haythe. "The federal funding further provides the financial resources to move forward with the project."

A prime strategic location

Dorchester County is located in the center of the New York/Richmond "Mega Market" and is accessible via major north/south and east/west highways. The Tech Park represents a prime strategic location for domestic and international companies desiring to locate in the County, or existing County companies contemplating expansion projects.

Haythe noted that established and start-up companies locating in Dorchester County from outside the region, as well as existing County businesses utilizing new technology, are crucial to the County's future economic stability.

"To use a sailing analogy, the new Tech Park could well be the ship that takes the County into a prosperous economic future," she said. "The wind that moves the ship is the effective leadership and spirit of collaboration among the stakeholders. The Tech Park project is coming to fruition as a result of the outstanding leadership and support of the Maryland Congressional Delegation; the Eastern Shore State Delegation; Dorchester County Council; the Mayor and City Council of Cambridge; Federal agencies such as EDA and USDA; State agencies DBED and MEDCO; the Mid-Shore Regional Council; and local leaders in education and the



An architectural rendering of the Tech Park.

business community."

Business attraction and retention is crucial to the County's economic future. The continued support of government, education, and business, as well as the community at large, is key to the success of this effort.

The new Technology Park will be marketed to diverse business sectors in information technology, geographical information system (GIS), value-added agriculture and aquaculture, advanced manufacturing, and green technologies. Conservatively speaking, the park is projected to create 480 jobs with an average annual salary of \$45,000.

The county also continues to move forward with the development of the Eastern Shore's first business incubator, which will be located in the new Technology Park. The incubator will provide an ideal location for technology-based micro-businesses. The incubator is projected to create an additional 105 jobs. It is anticipated that private investment dollars for both projects will reach more than \$30 million.

To learn more about future development within the County, call the EDO at 410.228.0155.

"The Tech Park could well be the ship that takes the County into a prosperous economic future."

—KEASHA HAYTHE, DIRECTOR, EDO

TECH PARK AT A GLANCE

Why is Dorchester County creating this Technology Park?

In addition to providing a venue for local companies to expand and for out-of-County prospects to find an excellent location, the park will foster diversification of the County's traditional manufacturing, maritime, and agriculture sectors by adding high-tech opportunities.

How many jobs could this mean?

The Tech Park will have 15 lots, 13 of which will be available for sale. The four-to-five-acre lots will be served by municipal water and sewer. The Park will also have fiber optic access, which is so important to technology companies. One lot will be reserved for the Mid-Shore Business and Technology Incubator, providing space and support to aspiring entrepreneurs. Dorchester County hopes to lease space to 15 start-up companies within the incubator. The total potential employment in the Park could exceed 500.

What kind of businesses are being targeted?

The emphasis is on recruitment of businesses in environmental and marine science, information technology, medical technology, value-added agriculture and aquaculture, geographical information system (GIS), advanced manufacturing, and green technologies.

What long-term impact could this Tech Park have?

The hope is that the focus on technology-related businesses will bring educational, training, and career opportunities to the workforce that will support a new, stronger, and more diversified economy in Dorchester.



“This federal investment [in the Tech Park] means critical improvements to the water and sewer infrastructure in Dorchester County that will lead to jobs while also taking the burden off local taxpayers. It will create and sustain construction jobs in the short term while spurring economic growth and innovation on Maryland’s Eastern Shore in the long run.”

—U.S. SEN. BARBARA MIKULSKI

New Career & Technology Center in the works

Dorchester County is working to strengthen its economic future on multiple fronts. While plans move ahead on the county's Tech Park, construction crews are working on the Dorchester County Career & Technology Center (DCCTC), a facility in Cambridge for high school students County-wide.

After the groundbreaking, which occurred August 20, construction is expected to take about 18 months to complete. The new facility will increase program capacity from 11 classes to 18 with the addition of criminal justice, interactive media production, CADD, computer repair and networking, cosmetology, industrial/digital electronics, and the Teacher Academy. The additional classes will increase the student capacity to approximately 440 students per day. The project will provide the opportunity for students to develop skills in many high technology careers. It will also provide skilled workers for local employers.

“We feel that with the new and existing programs, we will be able to provide a workforce that will be more prepared than ever for high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand careers,” said DCCTC Principal Kermit R. Hines.

Students from Cambridge-South Dorchester and North Dorchester High Schools attend DCCTC's programs during the regular school day as part of their regular curriculum core program.

Tubman Byway named an All-American Road

On October 16 the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway was named an All-American Road by the U.S. Transportation Department. Only the most significant roads in the National Byways Program are designated All-American Roads. To be named an All-American Road, a byway must provide travelers with an experience that evokes two of the following intrinsic qualities: archaeological, cultural, historical, natural, recreational, or scenic. The Tubman Byway was recognized for its nationally significant historic and cultural qualities.

Nationwide, there are only 31 All-American Roads. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway becomes only the second All-American Road in Maryland (the other is the Historic National Road). The Tubman All-American Road is 125 miles through Dorchester and Caroline Coun-

ties that includes places where significant events related to the Underground Railroad happened. The byway also includes recreational opportunities, such as biking, hiking, kayaking, and birdwatching.

"This is a great honor for Dorchester County," said Amanda Fenstermaker, director of Dorchester County Tourism. "It means that our landscapes rank among the most historically and culturally significant in the nation. Many people and organizations worked together for years on this project, and it wouldn't have happened without their commitment to honoring the legacy of Harriet Tubman."

For an overview of Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad plans in Dorchester County, see back cover.



PHOTO BY AMANDA FENSTERMAKER

William Layton (right) leads a tour of Layton's Chance Vineyard & Winery in Vienna, opening in spring 2010, during the Legacies of the Land tour.

Legacies of the Land tour promotes land preservation

About 50 organizational representatives and local, state, and federal officials joined the Legacies of the Land tour in September to experience a sampling of the culture, history, and landscapes of Dorchester County. Stops on the tour included Layton's Chance Vineyard & Winery, the Bucktown Store, the Fork Neck Community, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, the town of Church Creek, and the community of Woolford. The purpose of the event, sponsored by Dorchester County Tourism, Dorchester Citizens for Safe Energy, and the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, was to continue a dialogue about threats to this nationally significant place.

Visitor Center opens new audio-visual exhibit

People who stop by the Visitor Center at Sailwinds Park East can now enjoy three new videos about Dorchester County. The first video, "Dorchester County: Heart of Chesapeake Country," displayed on a high-definition wide-screen TV, captures the beauty and unspoiled nature of Dorchester's landscapes, the appeal of its cultural traditions, and opportunities for recreation and heritage tourism. It contains enthusiastic commentaries by those who know and love the area, including Cambridge Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley. DVDs of the 12-minute film are for sale at the Visitor Center for \$12.



The other two videos focus on distinctive aspects of Dorchester's cultural heritage. "Oystermen of Chesapeake Bay" captures the rugged elegance of the once numerous skipjacks and their crews in original footage from a 1950s documentary. The other evokes the pre-Civil War era of Underground Railroad conductor Harriet Tubman, as convincingly portrayed by Dorchester resident Vernetter Pinder. Each film runs about five minutes.

The videos were supported in part with funds from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority, Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area, and Dorchester County. Bay County Communications also contributed to the project.

Vienna Waterfront Park named Gateway site

The Vienna Waterfront Park joins a network of more than 160 natural, cultural, historical, and recreational sites around the Chesapeake Bay through its recent designation by the National Park Service as a Chesapeake Bay Gateway site. Gateway sites are destinations where people can access, experience, learn about, and appreciate Bay-related resources and contribute to stewardship activities.

The Vienna Waterfront Park offers a riverwalk trail along the Nanticoke River, floating docks for visiting and resident boaters, a boat launching site, re-created marsh, and views of the meandering river. Recent additions include landscaping and interpretive signage about Native American culture, the English explorer Captain John Smith who visited the area in 1608, and the local flora and fauna. The Captain John Smith Nanticoke Discovery Center is planned for a nearby site along the river.

Powerboat races prepare for 100th anniversary



The 2010 Cambridge Classic Powerboat Regatta will mark the 100th running of inboard powerboat racing at Cambridge—the oldest active race in the country. To recognize the significance of this historic event, the American Power Boat Association, the nation's sanctioning body, awarded the first-ever running of the Triple Crown

(World, Canadian, and U.S. Summer National Championships) in the nation to Cambridge. More than 150 race teams from all over the United States and Canada will converge on Cambridge for four days, July 22–25, 2010.

Dorchester organizations benefit from grants

Local nonprofit groups, municipalities, and county government received nine matching grants from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority for FY 2010 to support efforts to enhance historic sites and promote heritage tourism in Dorchester's Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area (HCCHA).

FY 2010 grant recipients:

- Town of East New Market, development of heritage tourism plan
- Dorchester Center for the Arts, restoration of the second floor of its downtown Cambridge building
- West End Citizen's Association, rehabilitation of the 19th-century Wallace Office Building in Cambridge
- Dorchester County, marketing of heritage area sites and activities, HCCHA operations, Bestpitch Ferry Bridge wayside signs, and, in partnership with

other heritage areas, a regional cultural arts guide and Harriet Tubman/Underground Railroad Byway waysides and audio tour.

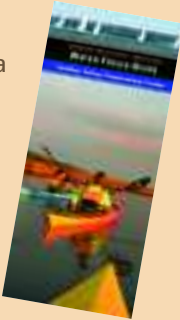
The Maryland Heritage Area Authority was formed in 1996 to help strengthen and revitalize communities by combining heritage tourism and small business development with historic preservation, conservation of cultural traditions, natural resource protection, recreation, and marketing of Maryland's unique history, culture, and landscapes.

The next round of grant applications is due in mid-February 2010. To learn more, go to www.TourChesapeakeCountry.com (click on Heritage Area Program/Grant Opportunities) or contact Linda Cashman at 410.228.1000 or linda@TourDorchester.org.

Tourism & Heritage IN BRIEF

New water trails guide

Dorchester Tourism has produced a new water trails guide. Funded by a grant from the National Recreational Trails Program, the guide includes information on paddling, sailing, powerboating, and other water activities in the county. It is available at the Visitor Center.



Show your love for Dorchester on Facebook

facebook

Dorchester County Tourism is now on Facebook with the

"I Love Dorchester County" fan page. Since the page was started in September, more than 600 people have signed up as fans. Fans can share comments and photos about the county and can also keep up with news, events, and interesting tidbits. Become a fan at www.facebook.com/DorchesterCounty.

Seafood Feast-I-Val draws record crowds

The Seafood Feast-I-Val in August drew a record-breaking crowd this year, with more than 2,200 people coming from 16 different states to enjoy all-you-can-eat crabs, fish, clams, and more. Many of the attendees came to Governor's Hall at Sailwinds Park in Cambridge on 18 buses—the largest number of buses in the 30-year history of the event, which benefits the Cambridge Rescue Fire Company. The Feast-I-Val was named one of the top 100 Events in North America by the American Bus Association in 2009. Next year's Seafood Feast-I-Val is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 14, 2010.

Job growth projected in Dorchester

The Dorchester County Economic Development Office (EDO) projects job growth in fiscal year 2010, with much of that growth being a direct result of the County's moving forward with development of the new Technology Park (see story on page 1).

Dorchester County lost about 800 jobs between FY 2007 and 2008, compared to 246 jobs in FY 2009. This may indicate that the worst of the County's economic downturn could be over, according to EDO Director Keasha Haythe.

In the past fiscal year, the county experienced a net gain in micro-business startups, and also a gain in the following industry sectors: finance, education, health services, and leisure and hospitality.

So where are new jobs coming from? In addition to attraction efforts for the Tech Park, the following existing businesses in Dorchester County have the potential to create more than 150 new jobs in FY 2010.

Marvesta is a domestic shrimp farm located in the Hurlock Industrial Park. They raise shrimp in a controlled environment, and currently have five enclosed grow-out facilities. Shrimp are harvested daily, unlike outdoor farms, where shrimp are harvested twice a year and then frozen. The Economic Development Office is assisting Marvesta with financial solutions to further expand their operation. They presently have seven employees, and anticipate the expansion will create 12 additional jobs.



The Dorchester County Economic Development Office encourages job growth through events such as the Minority & Small Business Workshop held earlier this year.

Waterland Fisheries in Hurlock raises tilapia organically in an enclosed aquaculture facility. The fish are shipped live and are never frozen. Waterland has just completed a 35,000-square-foot expansion, making it the largest enclosed fin fish aquaculture facility in the State. A third expansion, proposed for 2011, would bring their total production space to 200,000 square feet, making it the largest in the United States. They currently employ five people and expect to bring that number to 12 by the end of fiscal 2010.

LWRC in Cambridge manufactures machine guns and small rifles for the military, FBI, Secret Service, and State Police. The company has 45 employees and anticipates expanding to create an additional 50 jobs.

FoodSwing is the only U.S. private-label manufacturer that offers products in both glass and aseptic packaging. The company has closed its Northumberland, Pennsylvania, facility and relocated employees to Cambridge. This has brought the current job total to 85 full-time employees.

Warwick Enterprises in Hurlock has been in the bulk transportation brokerage business for 23 years, employing nine people and 50 owner-operator truck drivers. Approximately nine years ago, Warwick built a warehouse for full-pallet-in/full-pallet-out storage. Recently Warwick expanded into Warwick Fulfillment Solutions, which provides direct-to-consumer and store distribution services. Collectively, they employ 20 people with the anticipation of adding at least five new positions this year.

Job outlook looking up for Dorchester

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Delmarva Community Services is a multi-service agency that provides the following programs and services: transportation, senior services, mortgage and foreclosure counseling, housing rehabilitation, community action, and weatherization programs. The company has 350 employees. They recently purchased a 13,000-square-foot building to jointly house two of their programs, and are planning a 4,800-square-foot addition in the future. This expansion will result in the creation of 15 to 20 new jobs.

Black Gold Potato in Rhodesdale is a global agricultural production and marketing company specializing in potatoes. They contract with several local farmers to grow potatoes. They also have a processing facility. They plan to expand the processing operation, with the potential to create 10 new year-round jobs in Dorchester County.

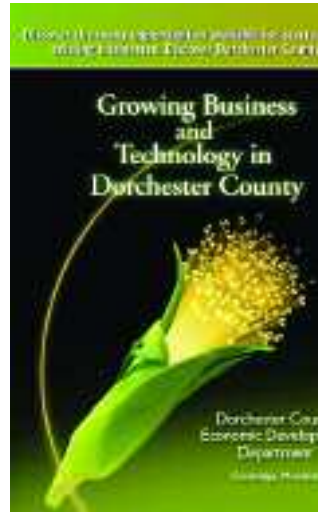
Existing businesses in Dorchester County have the potential to create more than 150 new jobs in FY 2010.

Dorchester brochure wins top honors

The Northeastern Economic Developers Association (NEDA) awarded the Dorchester Economic Development Office top honors at the Awards for Excellence in Literature and Promotions held at NEDA's 53rd annual conference at the Hyatt Regency in Philadelphia in September.

Dorchester County's "Growing Business and Technology in Dorchester County" brochure scored a "Superior" in NEDA's Literature and Promotions Competition.

"The department is proud that our work has met the test of our colleagues and competitors throughout the Northeast," said Keasha Haythe, Director of



the Dorchester County Economic Development Office.

NEDA's Literature and Promotions awards recognize the very best and most effective marketing communications, in categories ranging from general purpose marketing to targeted industries strategies to annual reports and websites. The entries are judged by an outside

panel of marketing experts. The award recognizes creative and effective marketing worthy of being considered an example of the profession's best work.

In addition to declaring the superior rating, the judges made positive comments regarding the quality and potential effectiveness of the brochure.

EDO at work securing nearly \$6 million

One of the objectives of the Dorchester County Economic Development Office is to work with federal and state partners to obtain a range of funds that will equip the department with financial resources needed to assist with various projects currently in the pipeline. In FY 2009 the Economic Development Office:

- secured recommitment of \$1.75 million from Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) for the development of the Tech Park.
- secured recommitment of \$1 million from TEDCO for the development of the incubator at the Tech Park.
- secured recommitment of \$52,000 from USDA and \$61,000 from DBED for the Revolving Loan Fund.
- secured commitment of \$30,000 in training funds from Maryland Business Works Program for FoodSwing through Workforce Investment Board (WIB).
- secured commitment of \$50,000 in training funds from Partnership Workforce Quality Program for FoodSwing through DBED.
- secured commitment of \$4,200 in training funds for Warwick Enterprises from Maryland Business Works Program through WIB.
- secured \$3 million from U.S. Department of Commerce-Economic Development Administration (EDA) for Dorchester's Tech Park.
- is working to secure \$40,000 from DBED to create a strategic plan for Dorchester County Economic Development.

Building toward a stronger future



COURTESY CHOPTANK RIVER LIGHTHOUSE COMMITTEE

This photo illustration shows what the re-created Choptank River Lighthouse will look like once it's constructed and in place at the Municipal Yacht Basin in Cambridge.

Several downtown Cambridge attractions that celebrate the area's heritage have ambitious plans to build, expand, or carry out other improvements. That's good news, because the more the downtown is able to attract residents and visitors, the stronger the core becomes. The plans will add to the work that has already happened in recent years—from millions of dollars in private investment for building rehabilitation to the completion of the Cannery Way mural. Here are some of the major projects in the works:

Choptank River Lighthouse

Local citizens have banded together to build a replica of the historic Choptank River Lighthouse, a screw-pile, cottage-style lighthouse that stood from 1920 to 1964 near the mouth of the Tred Avon River. The cottage portion of the lighthouse will be built by volunteers on the grounds of Sailwinds Park. It will then be lifted by a crane, placed on a barge, and taken to its platform and screw-pile legs at the Municipal Yacht Basin at Long Wharf Park in Cambridge.

The lighthouse will house the Dockmaster's Office, a small museum, a welcome center, and a Wi-Fi hotspot. The U.S. Lighthouse Society predicts the Choptank River Lighthouse will attract 20-30,000 visitors annually. To donate or volunteer, go to choptankriverlighthouse.org or call 410.228.2121 or 410.476.4445.

Richardson Maritime Heritage Center

Work is proceeding on a new Ruark Boatworks building, the first step in developing the Richardson Maritime Heritage Center at Maryland Avenue and Hayward Street.

Ground was broken in March.

Design plans call for a 35,000-square-foot facility, completed in three stages, that will accommodate large ship construction, shop and material storage facilities, archival areas, research facilities, museum display areas, and educational interpretive spaces. The Ruark Boatworks building is the first stage, and will be built, in part, reusing the walls and doors of a post-and-beam structure from the old Gannon Farm in Easton. The present brick warehouse will become the Brannock Education and Research Center. The completion of the center is expected to take a number of years. Find out more at richardsonmuseum.org or 410.221.1871.

New space for Dorchester Center for the Arts

The Dorchester Center for the Arts received a \$100,000 grant that will help transform the second floor into a performance hall and reception area. The space will allow the DCA to plan for large theater productions, concerts, and other performances. The center will also be able to rent the space for special events, seating up to 250 for dinner. The grant from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority is a matching grant, so the DCA must raise \$100,000 in order to receive the funds.

"Cities with a cultural center like this have proven that the added programming the second floor will allow us to provide will draw more people to the downtown, meaning restaurants, shops, hotels, and other area businesses will see increased traffic," said Mickey Love, executive director of the DCA. Find out more at 410.228.7782 or dorchesterarts.org.

Harriet Tubman Museum & Education Center

By the end of the year, work should be complete on a new façade for the Harriet Tubman Organization Museum and Education Center at 424 Race Street in downtown Cambridge. The estimated \$160,000 project, which will also support some interior improvements to the building, is being funded by a Community Legacy grant through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Find out more at 410.228.0401.

In coming years, a new lighthouse, maritime heritage center, and more could draw thousands of new visitors to downtown Cambridge.

Major planning efforts seek to improve life downtown

Downtown revitalization can look like a bricks-and-mortar affair, but efforts could end up in a chock-a-block mishmash for downtown if not properly planned and coordinated.

The planning process in downtown Cambridge has been very active and productive, with four major efforts in the last four years—the R/UDAT, Waterfront 2020, a new city comprehensive plan, and Cambridge Lives!

Cambridge Lives! is an effort to build community consensus around an action plan to advance revitalization of the historic Pine Street community. Led by Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley and supported by community partners, including Cambridge Main Street, Cambridge Lives! got off the ground last summer with the hiring of consultants Donya Maria Twyman and Vince Leggett of Virtual Office Associates. Both have extensive experience working on community-planning issues in African-American communities.

Preliminary community meetings have been held, leading up to a two-day community planning workshop scheduled for Nov. 6 and 7.

“We are seeking to hear the many voices of Pine Street,” said Twyman, “so we can help the people of the community establish a clear vision for the future of this historic neighborhood.”

This effort comes on the heels of two significant developments. In 2008, Cambridge Main Street applied for and won designation as a state “Maple Street” community for a key section at the heart of the Pine Street neighborhood. In 2009, Governor Martin O’Malley toured the community and designated the “Maple Street” section a

“Smart Site” with priority access to special grant funds and state assistance. The City of Cambridge now has more than \$500,000 in grant applications for projects in this neighborhood pending with the state.

“For these programs to truly benefit the neighborhood, we have to have participation of the residents and property owners,” said Mayor Jackson-Stanley. “Cambridge Lives! is a unique opportunity to bring together the many voices of Pine Street to create a strong neighborhood advocacy group.”

The Cambridge Lives! project fits well with the city’s proposed new comprehensive plan, which is undergoing review by the City Planning Commission in preparation for presentation to the City Council. The plan envisions a “Downtown Development District,” where tax and other incentives encourage the development and rehabilitation of residential properties and spur a population increase in the city’s core.

Another planning effort, “Waterfront 2020,” undertaken last year by the city government, sought to develop a clear vision for the future development of Cambridge’s waterfront, including strategies to create stronger links with downtown and its businesses and cultural institutions.

All of these planning efforts build on the May 2006 R/UDAT project, which brought a team of nationally known planners, architects, and other experts to Cambridge for an intensive planning workshop. That Regional/Urban Design Assistance Team developed a report that has served as the starting point and foundation for all the efforts that followed.

Cambridge IN BRIEF

Cambridge Main Street sets priorities for 2010

Working to build customer traffic in the downtown area emerged as the key priority for 2010 during a retreat attended by the volunteer members of Cambridge Main Street’s Board of Directors over the summer. The board identified four priority projects:

- **Engage Business/Building Owners.** This effort will develop a course of action based on conducting extensive surveys with key downtown stakeholders.
- **Bolster Hyatt Partnership.** This effort will work with the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort to improve efforts to make sure resort guests are coming downtown to dine and shop.
- **Evaluate/Improve Events.** This project will conduct a thorough review of Main Street’s key block parties and events, making recommendations for improvements going forward.
- **Bolster Fundraising.** This project aims to make sure that Cambridge Main Street has a strong and growing base of financial support so that the organization can continue to improve and expand its work on behalf of our downtown.

Cambridge is part of Eat, Drink & Buy Art

“Eat, Drink & Buy Art” is a new way to explore the arts, dining, and more in nine towns around the Eastern Shore, including Cambridge. The campaign includes a 16-page brochure in the October issue of *Maryland Life*, as well as a website—EatDrinkBuyArt.com. Eat, Drink & Buy Art was developed by the Eastern Shore TADD (Tourism, Arts, and Downtown Development) consortium.

IN THE NEWS



Dorchester in N.Y. Times travel section

- In a cover story about crab houses on the Eastern Shore, the July 12 *New York Times* travel section included Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Hoopers Island, J.M. Clayton Seafood in Cambridge, and the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort.
- The *Washington Post Magazine* ran a cover story in June featuring aerial photographs of the Chesapeake Bay watershed—including the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.
- Media across the state, from Frederick to Annapolis, covered news about the proposed Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park.
- The novel *Song Yet Sung*, based in Dorchester County and named the One Maryland One Book selection for 2009, was featured in a story by the *Baltimore Sun*. "Repeated visits to the region, including research at the Dorchester County Historical Society in Cambridge, helped the characters and events come to life," the *Sun* wrote.
- Layton's Chance Vineyard & Winery in Vienna was part of a story about Maryland wineries in the statewide *Business Gazette*.
- The dining scene in downtown Cambridge drew attention in September, when a review of Bistro Poplar appeared in the *Daily Times*, and *Chesapeake Life* magazine raved about Bella Luna.

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2009

NOV 12–DEC 3: Festival of Wreaths
More than 100 wreaths on display for Dec. 3 silent auction. Pleasant Day Medical Adult Day Care, Cambridge. 410.228.0190

NOV 14: Second Saturday, Cambridge
Stores and galleries open extended hours. Sneak preview of new public art sculpture marking Cambridge's 325th anniversary, 5 p.m., Main Street Gallery, 413 Muir St. cambridgemainstreet.com.

NOV 20: Grandtastic Jamboree
A Grand National Waterfowl Association event. Live entertainment from Grammy Award winner David Ball and local favorite Bird Dog Wheeler & the Road Kings. All-you-can-eat oyster fritters, pit beef, soft-shell crab sandwiches, crab soup, and more. Governor's Hall at Sailwinds, Cambridge. 4 p.m. For tickets, call 410.228.0111.

DECEMBER 2009

DEC 1–31: Christmas Garden of Trains
Holiday-themed train display by the Cambridge Rescue Fire Company, 307 Gay Street. 410.228.1670.

DEC 5: Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge Christmas Open House
Book signings, demonstrations, children's programs, food, and Eagle's Nest Book sales. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. 410.228.2677.



DEC 5: Cambridge-Dorchester Christmas Parade
One of Maryland's largest Christmas parades. Downtown Cambridge. The parade route begins on High Street. 5 p.m. 410.228.3092. www.christmasparade.org.

DEC 12: Hurlock Christmas Parade
Marching bands, floats, and more. Plus Christmas bazaar at the Hurlock Legion. 12 p.m. www.hurlockchristmasparade.org or 410.507.8799.

DEC 12: Second Saturday in Cambridge: Old-Fashioned Christmas
Step back in time in downtown Cambridge with luminaries, decorated windows, caroling, Santa, and more. 5–9 p.m. Stores and galleries open extended hours. cambridgemainstreet.com.

DEC 13: Holiday Candlelight Tour
Tour six beautiful Cambridge homes decorated for the holidays, plus stops at the Dorchester Historical Society, the Dorchester Center for the Arts, and the Cambridge Woman's Club. 4–7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10. 410.221.7868.

DEC 19: Vienna Luminaries and House Tours
More than 1,600 glowing luminarias will line the streets and homes will be open for touring in this quaint waterfront community. 6–9 p.m.

DEC 23–24: Bonnie Brook Luminary Display
More than 100 homes illuminated. Bonnie Brook near Cambridge. 443.225.5545.

DEC 24: Classic Christmas Carols and Communion
At historic Old Trinity Church, 1 mile west of Church Creek. 4 p.m. 410.228.2940, www.oldtrinity.net.

JANUARY 2010

JAN 9: Second Saturday in Cambridge
Chase away the winter blues by heading downtown. Stores will have extended shopping hours. cambridgemainstreet.com.

FEBRUARY 2010

FEB 13: Second Saturday in Cambridge
Stores in downtown Cambridge will be open until 9 p.m. with special sales and events. cambridgemainstreet.com.

FEB 26–27: 65th Annual National Outdoor Show
Pageants, vendors, food, and contests celebrate Dorchester's heritage. Golden Hill. 410.397.8535.

MARCH 2010

MARCH 13: Annual Harriet Tubman Day
Dinner, tours of historic sites, and more. Elks Lodge, 618 Pine Street, Cambridge. 410.228.0401.

MARCH 13: Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge Eagle Festival
Children's programs, exhibits, bird walks, food, and more. 8 a.m.–4 p.m. 410.228.2677.

MARCH 13: Second Saturday in Cambridge
Stores in downtown Cambridge will be open until 9 p.m. cambridgemainstreet.com

INFO



If you want to open, move, or expand a business in Dorchester County

Dorchester County Economic Development
choosedorchester.org
410.228.0155

Cambridge Economic Development
www.choosecambridge.com
410.221.6074.

Dorchester County Chamber of Commerce
www.dorchesterchamber.org
410.228.3575

If you want to visit

Dorchester County Tourism
www.TourDorchester.org
800.522.TOUR

Cambridge Main Street
www.cambridgemainstreet.com
410.228.0020

If you want to help revitalize Historic Downtown Cambridge

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Dorchester County Tourism & Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area

A government agency that preserves local characteristics while broadening and deepening the local economy by strengthening ways to make a living with new opportunities through increased tourism.

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Dorchester County Economic Development

A government agency that fosters economic growth and a business-friendly environment within the county.

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shorelines

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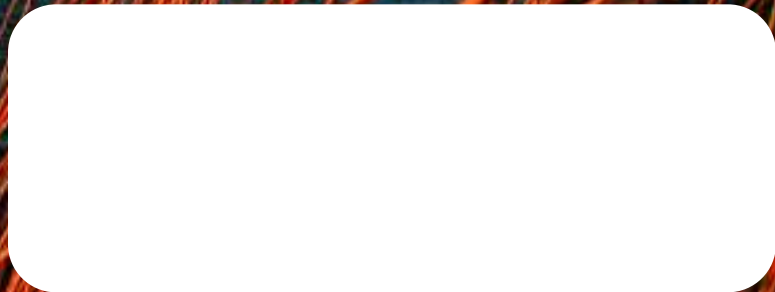
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FALL GRASSES IN DORCHESTER COUNTY. PHOTO BY JILL JASUTA



INSIDE

DID YOU KNOW?

Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad plans take shape

Plans are in the works in Dorchester County to commemorate the Underground Railroad and its most famous "conductor," Harriet Tubman, who brought scores of enslaved people to freedom. The National Park Service is supporting efforts to preserve the nationally significant resources related to her life so people can better understand and appreciate her contributions to the nation's history and culture. Here is an overview of those plans, which could have a sizable impact on county tourism, economic development, and revitalization.

All-American Road:

This 125-mile byway in Dorchester and Caroline Counties will include historically significant places along the Underground Railroad, with interpretive signage to share the stories, as well as recreational opportunities. (See story on page 4.)

State Park:

The planned state park and visitor center near Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge will help visitors learn about the Underground Railroad. They will also be able to hike, bike, and walk the lands that look much as they did in the 1800s. The park should be completed by

2013, the 100th anniversary of Tubman's death.

National Historical Park:

Pending federal legislation would designate certain lands deemed significant to the history of Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad as a national historical park.

What you can do now: You can learn about Tubman and the Underground Railroad now:

- Visit the Harriet Tubman Organization Museum & Education Center, 424 Race St., Cambridge.
- Stop at sites with interpretive signage about Tubman, including the Dorchester County Visitor Center, the Dorchester County Courthouse, the Church Creek Park and Ride, and the Brodess farm on Greenbriar Road, a significant site in Tubman's childhood.
- Take the "Finding a Way to Freedom" driving tour (pick up a brochure at the Visitor Center).
- Visit the website www.harriettubmanstudy.org for the National Park Service's Harriet Tubman Special Resource Study.

**DORCHESTER
COUNTY'S
TECH PARK**
SEE PAGES 1-3

PHOTO BY JILL JASUTA

