

# Regional Update

A Monthly Report of Activities on the Eastern Shore of Virginia



November 2007

## A-NPDC Sponsors Lead Safe Work Practices Training

The Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (A-NPDC) and the National Paint and Coatings Association sponsored a Lead Safe Work Practices Training Course on Friday, October 19, 2007 at the Eastern Shore Community College lecture hall. The trainer was Martanaz Hancock, of the Alice Hamilton Center. His presentation was engaging and informative. This Course was approved by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH) for 1.0 Certification Maintenance (CM) Points, (Approval No. 05-2656); and is eligible for Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) Continuance of Certification (COC) Points.

The class, which was presented at no cost to attendees, was attended primarily by contractors, real estate agents, and A-NPDC staff. The goal of the 8-hour class was to teach attendees lead-safe work practices and the strategies for implementing them. Many attendees inquired about additional training. Such training would also benefit in-



*Attendees at Lead Safe Work Practices Training*

spectors, contractors undertaking renovation, repainting, or remodeling work where lead-based paint may be encountered, maintenance workers, building supervisors and landlords, state and local municipal agencies, community and social service organizations, and do-it-yourself homeowners.

Most homes built before 1978 contain lead-based paint, so it is important that renovation, remodeling and repair activities use methods that reduce and control dust and debris created during work. Even a small amount of dust can pose a serious health risk to children and families. The A-NPDC administers the Lead Safe Homes Program, a grant available to income-eligible homeowners and tenants with children under age 6

and who live in pre-1978 housing. Under the grant, qualifying participants may have lead hazards in their home reduced. For information on the program or to apply, call Patti Merritt at 757-787-2936, ext 119.

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*Martanaz Hancock,  
Trainer*

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## A-NRHA and A-NPDC Establish Pre-Purchase Homeownership Education Program for Shore

The Accomack-Northampton Regional Housing Authority and the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission are gearing up for the establishment of a pre-purchase homeownership education program for Accomack and Northampton Counties. The A-NPDC has been contacted by NCALL, a 501c-3 non profit organization, based in Dover, Delaware that specializes in affordable housing development and education. NCALL, who is celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, has the ability to train and assist organizations interested in establishing or enhancing existing homeownership programs.

This initiative has been funded by a NeighborWorks America Expansion Grant designed to reach underserved areas. NCALL would enter into a part-

nership with the A-NPDC to help establish and implement a program of pre-purchase homeownership education on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Additional funding will be provided through a \$27,230 HUD grant awarded last month.

The preliminary phase of this initiative has already begun by starting the assessment of the the market, determining feasibility and the start of training for the staff. Kat Edwards, Director of Housing Services and Patricia Connolly Grove, Community Development Coordinator traveled recently to NCALL's facility in Dover for training and to attend an all day homeownership workshop. The trip proved to be educational and very enlightening. Kat Edwards and Patricia Connolly Grove will begin informal marketing of the pro-

gram in the next couple of months and possibly hold a small orientation workshop for existing families from the Section 8 program. Patricia Connolly Grove will be attending, in early December, the NeighborWorks Portland Institute for training and certification. The kick off for the full scope of the homeownership initiative will begin in January 2008 subject to approval of the Board of Directors. For more information contact Patricia at 757-787-2936 ext. 124.



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## Accomack Manor Broadens Eligibility Policy

The all-new Accomack Manor has broadened its eligibility policy to make the facility available to people 45 and older. At this time, there are vacancies in one bedroom/one bath and two bedroom/two bath apartments. Accomack Manor is handicap accessible (there are handrails in the hallways) and allows



one pet per apartment. It is located at 26463 Metompkin Road on the corner of Route 13 and Route 679, behind the Zion Baptist Church, and is on the Star Transit Blue and Green Express routes. The facility offers a community activity room with kitchen, a computer room, a fitness room, 2 laundry rooms, and a



security code entry system. Each unit contains a stove, refrigerator and dishwasher and is pre-wired for cable TV. Although Accomack Manor is not an assisted living community, the on-site manager will cooperate with health care or social service agencies if tenants require such assistance. For more information call 757-665-5848 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. The email address is [accomanor@aol.com](mailto:accomanor@aol.com).

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# Habitat for Humanity Aluminum Can Drive

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Eastern Shore Habitat for Humanity recently placed a collection box on Front Street in Accomac adjacent to the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission building. The public is invited to deposit their empty aluminum cans in the house-shaped box. Proceeds from the sale of the cans go directly to fund Habitat for Humanity projects here on the Eastern Shore. For information on other locations of boxes or how to participate in the drive, call Executive Director Nancy Gonzalez at 757-442-4687 or visit their website at [www.habitat.esva.net](http://www.habitat.esva.net).



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