



For Immediate Release
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Plans for RivahFest 2006 Announced

Tappahannock, VA (March 27, 2006) – The fourth annual RivahFest is anticipated to draw thousands of residents and visitors to downtown Tappahannock on Saturday, June 17. The already successful event will be even better this year, say RivahFest organizers.

“We spend a lot of time listening to the community,” said Steering Committee Chair Sharon James, Assistant Vice President at the Bank of Essex. “You’ll see more of what you loved about last year’s RivahFest, and some exciting new things, too.”

For example, James said, the popular Hole-In-One-On-The-Water contest will be easier for everybody with a new floating platform. Even more vehicles will be on display in an expanded Car Show. And thrill-seekers can try the Bungee Bounce, a popular attraction at King’s Dominion and Six Flags, which will replace last year’s hot air balloon rides.

As in previous years, the 2006 festival will include a huge arts and antiques section, children’s activities area, farmer’s market and merchant’s row, and the “Treasures of Tappahannock” historic walking tour. There’s also a maritime area and nautical activities like the June Parker Marina/Rivah Marine Croaker Fishing Tournament, as well as the “Taste of Tappahannock” food area, featuring local seafood and festival favorites.

Two entertainment stages will feature a wide variety of local and regional performers. Back by popular demand, classic country band “The Honky-Tonk Experience” and the smooth R&B sounds of the legendary Steve Bassett will be in the main stage spotlight.

RivahFest offers merchants and community groups an outstanding opportunity to gain visibility, make sales or raise money. Vendor applications still are being accepted for the arts and antiques area (Terry Brooks, 443-4321), “Taste of Tappahannock” food court (Libbie Franklin, 443-4343), and farmer’s market and merchant’s row (Len Stewart, 333-5095). While vendor applications will be accepted as long as space is available, exhibitors are encouraged to sign up by May 1 so they may be included in the RivahFest program.

Spearheaded by the Tappahannock-Essex Chamber of Commerce, RivahFest benefits from support by a score of local businesses that have encouraged their employees to serve on festival committees. In addition to James, Steering Committee members are Thomas Bradshaw, David Broad, John Clickener, Kevin Dolan, Libbie Franklin, Tim McKinley and Glenn Morse.

Committee chairs are Phil Stinchcomb, logistics and safety; Patricia Gallagher, promotions; David Broad, publications; Glenn Morse, sponsorships; Libbie Franklin, Taste of Tappahannock; Tyler Lowery, maritime area; Straton Beamer, croaker tournament; Len Stewart and Kathy Kirila, farmer’s market and merchant’s row; Jennifer and Tyler Lowery and Dale Bonhaus, children’s activities; Terry Brooks and Marsha Wadsworth, arts and antiques; Peyton Guest, car show; George and Sandy Longest and Niki Davis, entertainment; Pat Martin, beer garden; Liz Martin, Rivahfest Idol; and Suzanne Rennolds, Treasures of Tappahannock.

For more information or to download vendor applications, visit RivahFest online at www.rivahfest.com.

-30-

Photo Caption – Rivahfest 2006 is anticipated to be even more successful than last year’s event, which drew thousands to downtown Tappahannock.