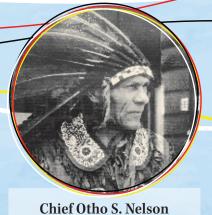


First Lady Gladys Nelson interpreted Powhatan History to Queen Elizabeth II at the Jamestown Festival in 1957

Celebrating Generations of Strong Leadership



Chief George L. Nelson 1919 - 1925 Reconstituted the Powhatan Confederacy



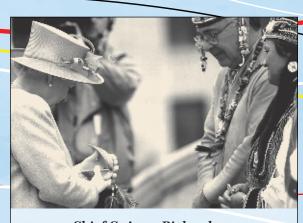
1926 - 1963

Fought to achieve recognition and education



1963 - 1998
Fought for education and filed for Federal recognition in 1971





Chief G. Anne Richardson presents a gift to Queen Elizabeth II at the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown Settlement in 2007



Thank You from Chief Anne

I would like to first acknowledge and honor our brilliant leaders who navigated us through 400+ years of genocide, broken treaties, removal, Our
God given
sovereignty is
a sacred and
ancestral
legacy.

paper genocide and erasure, boarding schools, assimilation, and a string of US and Virginia Indian policies that repeatedly failed to force us to disappear. Many generations of Rappahannock stayed strong, held on to their sovereignty, strategized to keep our tribal community together, and secured our traditions and culture so that they could be passed on. Thank you for your sacrifice so that we could stand up today to see the US Government finally acknowledge our sovereignty and treaties with England and the Colony of Virginia, prior to the establishment of the US Government in July of 1776.

Our God given sovereignty is a sacred and ancestral legacy that embodies our inherent right to self-determination, self-governance, and self-preservation of our rich cultural heritage. To all of those who worked so hard and gave up their families and lives to help us keep these important virtues alive for our Tribe, we gratefully give an enormous thank you. We could never repay you!

I am incredibly grateful to our Tribal Council for their tireless dedication, wisdom, and care in guiding the standing up of our government and restoration of our Tribe into the future.

We have been blessed to have divinely acquired a group of highly skilled and industrious staff who are focused on implementing and managing with excellence the collective vision developed in our Master Plan by our Tribal Council and Citizenship.

The Tribe's success has been hallmarked by a cadre of luminaries who have donated, advised, consulted, and partnered with us to light the path to the dreams of our people. A heartfelt thank you for your amazing support. We could not have done it without you.

I appreciate the love and support of the Rappahannock citizenship who faithfully volunteer and provide the challenging work it takes to realize our vision for the community.

I want you all to know how much your work and support is appreciated and valued by our leaders, who depend on all of you to help meet our collective goals with success. We are thankful to you because we know that It Takes A Village to accomplish our large vision. Please know that your contributions have impacted the Rappahannock Tribe for generations to come.

G. Anne Richardson, Chief Rappahannock Tribe

100 Years of Discrimination Still Impacts the Tribe Today

- Lack of education
- Economic disparities
- General health disparities
- Mental health disparities
- Lack of land base
- Fewer enrolled citizens because so many left the state during the era

The Racial Integrity Act of 1924

Passed one hundred years ago, the Act prohibited interracial marriage, and defined a white person as one who has no trace whatsoever of any blood other than Caucasian.

The Virginia Registrar of Vital Statistics, Dr. Walter Plecker changed, erased, destroyed, and attacked as questionable any racial classification marked as Indian.

The one-drop rule was a state-endorsed policy of erasure, or paper genocide, on all Indians in Virginia.

They could no longer exist if every official record erased their Indian identity. Indians were not white and did not fit into Plecker's model of black and white in the eugenics movement. According to Virginia's Ethnic Cleansing Laws, Indians literally did not exist!

The Commonwealth of Virginia has taken steps to address its history of racism toward native communities. There are

now eleven state-recognized tribes in Virginia, and seven of those are recognized by the federal government. In 1982, House Joint Resolution 97 created the Virginia Commission on Indians, later called the Virginia Council on Indians.

We honor
our brilliant leaders
who navigated us through
400+ years of genocide,
broken treaties, removal,
paper genocide,
and erasure.

2023

Building the Reputation of Our Leadership and Our Tribe's Ability to Make a Difference Across the Country

We have met with elected officials throughout the year to build relationships and find common ground on our objectives. Chief Anne attended a luncheon for the Chiefs hosted by Governor Glenn Youngkin and First Lady Suzanne Youngkin. Later in the year the Commonwealth's Director of Natural Resources, Travis Voyles, and his staff visited the Cat Point Creek Lodge and Fones Cliffs. Senator Tim Kaine and his team joined us for lunch and a boat tour to Fones Cliffs in the spring. Throughout the year, Senators Warner and Kaine, Congressman Wittman, and Virginia Delegates Krizek and



Senator Kaine joins Chief Anne on a boat tour of Fones Cliffs.

Hodges have written letters of support for grant applications to raise funds to purchase additional land at Fones. We appreciate the support of our Virginia Delegation.



Chief Anne with President Biden at the White House Tribal Summit.



Chief Anne at the White House Tribal Summit.

The third annual Sovereignty Conference was attended by almost 400 people in-person and virtually. Our Tribe conceived the event and has hosted it each year for the benefit of all area tribes and the public officials with whom we work to provide services for our citizens and the public. This yearly event focuses on educating both the tribes and the public, and it creates space for partnerships, resource-sharing, and for building trust and relationships. We will continue to plan and raise funds to keep this valuable educational event going.



Rappahannock Dancers and Maskapow Drum Group participating in Indigenous Peoples Celebration at Machicomoco State Park in Hayes, Virginia. Photo by Greg Galfo, Williamsburg.

We share the
Tribe's history,
culture, and
experience in the
work we do for the
good of all.



Chief Anne speaks at National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Event.

Requests come to the Tribe every week for speaking engagements and interviews, as well as participation in events in local communities and schools. It is impossible for us to meet all the needs but we do as much as possible to share the Tribe's history, culture, and experience in the work we do for the good of all.

Chief Anne serves on several regional and national boards and is a sought-after speaker, which signifies that the Rappahannock Tribe is a leader in the LandBack movement and the fight to decolonize relations with tribes.

Secretary Deb Haaland appointed Chief Anne to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Board and to the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee.



Chief Anne with Deb Haaland Secretary of the Interior.

Chief Anne also continues to serve on the boards of United South and Eastern Tribes, National Congress of American Indians, the Chesapeake Conservancy and she is Chair of the Indigenous Conservation Council for the Chesapeake Bay. The Tribe's representation on these boards brings national and international awareness of our mission and accomplishments and serves as a model for other newly recognized tribes.

Tribal Officers



G. Anne Richardson
Chief



Joseph Mark Fortune Assistant Chief



Faye Fortune Secretary

Tribal Council



Barbara Williams Tribal Council Chair



Teresa Custalow



Colonel John Fortune



Herbert Vincent Reynolds

We embrace our elders' proven methods of management, strategy, and care for our Tribe and the community around us.



Kirk Richardson



Reeva Tilley



Fones Cliffs. Photo by Lisa Hull.

Our Mission

To preserve Rappahannock Culture while elevating the social, economic, and spiritual well-being of our people.

Vision

To re-create a thriving community where we will be able to enjoy social, economic, and political equality once again.

Our values are
best represented by
the Law of Reciprocity:
one should take nothing
without giving something
back, taking only what
is needed to ensure
enough for others.

Values

We are all servants of the earth, first to ourselves then to family, next to our tribal community, and then to humanity.

We are a mere link in the circle of life. Reciprocity recognizes our responsibility to ourselves, but also to the remaining links in the circle by providing for others along the journey of life.

Our values are best represented by the Law of Reciprocity: one should take nothing without giving something back, taking only what is needed to ensure enough for others. This deeply embedded belief embodies the spirit of our people and shows the way we approach tribal development.

Freedom of the spirit to be, move, and work without restrictions from the dominant society leads to an increase in creativity, respect, and responsibility to the entire community.

Through kinship relations, citizens share a greater sense of peer responsibility for future development and success of projects they have designed.

Because our elders have brought the Tribe thus far, we have tremendous respect and honor for their contributions to the survival of the Tribe. Therefore, we embrace their proven methods of management, strategy, and care for our Tribe and the community around us.

Building a Solid Foundation to Provide Essential Services to our Tribe and Region

Tribal Constitution

Cultural Heritage Partners has assisted the Tribe in developing the foundational structures required for the establishment of our Sovereign Government. A part of that responsibility is to establish the governing documents of our Tribal Nation, which is built upon the three branches of government model:

- A. Executive: led by elected Chief Anne Richardson and Assistant Chief Mark Fortune
- B. Legislative: led by elected Tribal Council
- C. Judicial: led by elected Tribal Council

The constitution draft has been completed and it is now under legal review. The Tribal Council's goal is to complete the governing documents in 2024.

Establishing Tribal Codes

This is the business of adopting laws that govern both our citizens and the work we do on tribal lands. These codes are essential in protecting our Tribe and exercising our tribal sovereignty. Cultural Heritage Partners and

Drummond & Woodsum are assisting us in establishing our codes. We also have assistance from the Harvard Law School. Neil McGaraghan, Clinical Instructor of the Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program, has engaged students with the Tribe to help develop codes for our Indian Child Welfare Act needs as a class project.



Harvard Law School instructor and students met at the Tribal Center to discuss their project of assisting the tribe to develop Indian Child Welfare Codes. From left: John Fortune, Teresa Custalow, Chief Anne, Reeva Tilley, Professor Neil McGaraghan, Barbara Williams, Visala Alagappan, Madeleine Matsui, and Faye Fortune.



Building the Capacity to Do the Work to Strengthen Our Tribe

Two new people joined the Rappahannock staff team in 2023. Aniyah Mulligan serves as Communications Assistant in the IT department. Bobbie Todd joined the environmental team as Policy and Planning Coordinator.



Aniyah Mulligan

Mark Fortune (river programs) and Jack Ryan (environmental and natural resources) undertook heavy equipment



Bobbie Todd

training to prepare them for the work they will be doing at the river. Jack also attended a US Fish and Wildlife Service training session on electro fishing, which is a common scientific survey method used to sample fish populations that does not cause any permanent harm to the fish.

Carolyn Fortune and Brian McCann completed the eight-week Keystone Development Center



A mural of the Rappahannock River created in the Operations Center to honor the Tribe's ancestral homeplace.

Adding staff and building facilities to better serve our Tribal citizens and the public.

(KDC) Co-op Academy to prepare them for our new co-op business.

We also want to thank ongoing consultants, who have added to our operational capacity:

- Terry Ammons historic architect
- Harry Edwards agribusiness co-op



Installing generators.



Creating a new drainage retention area.

Donors and Friends Have Helped Us Along the Way



The family of William Dodge Angle provided \$4 million to rematriate 464 acres of the Tribe's ancestral homeland on the Rappahannock River at Fones Cliffs. Pictured are Chief Anne, Secretary Haaland, and Dr. Carole Angle.



Delegate Paul Krisek from Alexandria has been a champion for the Tribes. Pictured with Chief Anne and Reggie Stewart (Eastern Chickahominy).



Pat Morris attended the National Fish and Wildlife's Chesapeake Wild Awards Ceremony in Baltimore on behalf of the Tribe.

The National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation is thrilled and
honored to be able to support the
Rappahannock Tribe's efforts to
protect and restore habitat on
their ancestral lands.

— Amanda Bassow, Northeast Regional Director National Fish and Wildlife Foundation



May 2023 Fones Cliffs Tour.



June 2023 Fones Cliffs Tour.



Senator Tim Kaine visited Fones Cliffs. From left: Senator Kaine, Chief Anne, Jack Ryan, Mark Fortune, Joel Dunn.

The expansion of the Refuge along the iconic Fones Cliffs, one of the most important eagle habitats on the East Coast, and the transformation of the Cat Point Creek unit into a center where visitors can enjoy wildlife and learn about environmental conservation, are tremendous steps to fulfilling the Refuge's mission of preserving fish and wildlife resources throughout the Rappahannock River basin.

The growing partnership with the Tribe will honor the cultural heritage of the Tribe in its ancestral homelands and help the Refuge co-manage the natural resources entrusted to it.

Building Parterships to Help Us Achieve Our Goals









































Our Partners Are with Us Every Step of the Way

Secretary Haaland continues to highlight and support the work that the Rappahannock Tribe is doing in conservation. She mentions our partnership approach frequently in her remarks to tribes and agencies across the country.



Kitcki Carroll, Executive Director for United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. speaks at the Sovereignty Conference. Photo by Duane Berger.

United South & Eastern Tribes, with Kitcki Carroll's leadership, has proven to be an invaluable asset to the Rappahannock Tribe. Kitcki brought several of his senior team leaders to the Sovereignty Conference to meet with our tribes and share information. He also participated in the organizational meeting of the Indigenous Conservation Council and provided critical input on the bylaws draft and organizational structure.

We are also strengthening our partnership with the Chesapeake Conservancy: Joel Dunn, CEO, and the fundraising team headed up by Matt Provost help us raise funds for the river and Jodi Causer is joining the Tribe's Communications Committee. Our

We are
co-stewarding
the Fones Cliffs lands
as the eagles fly,
not as the
boundaries lie.
— Marcie Kapsch

growing partnership with the Refuge, led by Marcie Kapsch and Bill Crouch, and the Refuge Friends, led by Steve Colangelo, is the foundation upon which we are building our presence at the river. They have worked with us in our efforts to reacquire our ancestral river lands, and they are sharing their expertise enthusiastically.



Marcie Kapsch, project leader Eastern Rivers Division, National Wildlife Refuge, with Assistant Chief Mark Fortune, Chief Anne, and Bill Crouch, Deputy Refuge Manager, Eastern Rivers Division. Photo by Duane Berger.

Harvest Festival and Powwow

Belle Grove Plantation hosted the 2023 Powwow, providing vital services like marketing, ticketing, and infrastructure.

- Approximately 1,200 attended the 2023 Powwow
- 67 Dancers from ten states
- 22 Drummers from five states including Zotigh, Red Clay, and Stoney Creek











PHILIP MORRIS
USA

WATTS RV & BOAT STORAGE







Powwow Committee

Reese Fortune, Chair Mark Fortune, Assistant Chief Jacob Fortune-Deuber, Chad Fortune, Leah Fortune, Jerry Richardson, Ericka Pitts, Skylar Tilley



Youth Council Officers

Jacob Fortune-Deuber, Chair Reese Fortune, Assistant Chair Katie Walsh, Secretary Leah Fortune, Treasurer



Photography Volunteers

Dr. Chioke l'Anson (VCU Media Center) and his daughter, Amaya Zaslow, worked with Kenny Richardson and Aniyah Mulligan to document the Powwow with candid shots

Department of River Programs

Assistant Chief Mark Fortune was hired in January 2023 to build a new, important department that will celebrate and implement the Tribe's Return to the River. We recognize the importance of biodiversity, ecosystem engineers, and ecosystem services provided by terrestrial and aquatic organisms. Therefore, we will share not only traditional knowledge and sustainable practices of stewardship of land and natural resources, but also stories of the Tribes historical life along the Rappahannock River and in Indian Neck.



A private donor enabled the purchase of a pontoon boat that will accommodate 12 people for our planned Rappahannock Tribe History and River Tour business. Jack Ryan and Mark Fortune will collaborate to offer history and environmental information for participants.

The Knowledge
Exchange Program
will ensure that
our Tribe's
Return to the River
is sustainable.

We will teach about our traditional historical practices that relate to what is now known as permaculture, as well as how we approached farming of food sources (like the Three Sisters method of planting corn, beans, and squash together). We will engage the services of Dr. Julia A. King (Professor of Anthropology, St. Mary's College of Maryland) to teach about archaeology and the Indigenous Cultural Landscape. Virginia Master Naturalists and Refuge Friends will be engaged to share their knowledge of different ecological systems, such as aquatic systems, forests, wetlands and streams, coastal systems, as well as

Working side by side with the Rappahannock Tribe to reconnect to the river and heal the soil, land, and waters while educating future generations to care for our natural resources is just one benefit of the Knowledge Exchange Program."

> Marcie Kapsch, project leader Eastern Rivers Division, National Wildlife Refuge



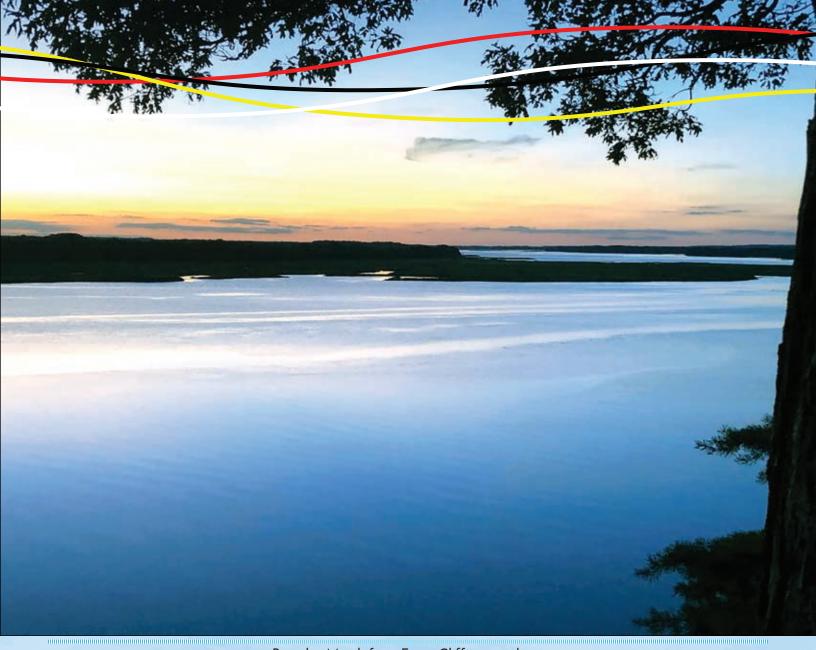








VIRGINIA S WARNER FOUNDATION INC



Beverley Marsh from Fones Cliffs at sundown.

mammals, birds, plants, amphibians, etc. Our Environmental Resources Department will bring Tribal Youth and volunteers to work in the field alongside the Refuge staff and volunteers to learn about identifying and managing invasive species. Our Return to the River Program Youth Education Program will teach how the ancestral Tribe lived, fed their families, and thrived along the River.

The partnership between the Tribe and the Refuge adds to the opportunities for the public to develop an appreciation for wildlife and wild lands – something that our country's first peoples already cherish in their culture, spiritual practices, and wellbeing of their communities.

Mark Fortune

Assistant Chief Mark Fortune, Director of River Programs and a Tribal citizen, has worked with mechanical systems business for 40 years. He began serving as assistant chief in 1994, was project manager of the construction of the Tribe's 3-building government complex and is responsible for the Youth Leadership Council. Mark and Chief Anne developed the Return to the River Youth Education Program together, so it was a natural fit to assume the role of director.



Chiefs House Project

The Otho S. and Susie P. Nelson House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It served as the heart of the 20th century Rappahannock Tribe and the home of three chiefs: Chief Anne, her father Chief Captain Nelson, and her grandfather, Chief Otho Nelson. The family lived there until the late 1960s.

Fundraising is ongoing to fully fund the rehabilitation of the Chief's House. Current funding was able to winterize the house – exterior siding and painting and a new roof. We are hopeful that Spring 2024 will bring additional grant awards to finish the rehabilitation work and to develop interior historical interpretation through exhibits in each room.

The project's goal has been to reuse and repurpose as much as possible. The house has a new foundation, but original brick pilings remain. About 15% of the house's original wood lap siding was salvaged and has been incorporated on the rear wall.



Chiefs house before rehabilitation project work began.



Chiefs House project work progress in October, 2023.



Chiefs House has a new foundation, but original brick pilings remain.



Chiefs House interior in September, 2023.

We are maintaining the look and feel of authenticity while giving the house a structure and foundation so it can last. We want to respect and respond to the vernacular of the original home. This is the kind of building that is important, and these kinds of buildings do not usually have champions.



Terry Ammons, Historic Architect











Since the inception of Norman Company over 25 years ago, one of the core values for our family and company has been the preservation of historic structures so that their original function and stories might inspire and inform generations to come. The Norman family has deep roots in King & Queen County, and we have restored many historic homes and buildings in the community and surrounding areas. Restoring the Rappahannock Tribe's Chief's house has been especially rewarding for us because it is literally in our backyard. It has been a genuine pleasure to work with Chief Anne and many others on this project and to see this old, dilapidated dwelling lost to time rise again.

David Norman, Norman Company



Chiefs House project work progress in April, 2023.



Chiefs House project work progress in June, 2023.



Chiefs House project work progress in October, 2023.



Chiefs House project work progress in October, 2023.

Indigenous Environmental Education Center

The Rappahannock River Valley Refuge transferred to the tribe (through interagency cooperation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs) the title to the 5,600 square foot lodge at the Cat Point Creek Refuge unit. We are renovating the facility to house office space for the River Programs and **Environmental Resources** department, plus programming space for Return to the River Youth Education Program. It will become the Tribe's Indigenous Environmental Education Center.

The Center will bring together Rappahannock Tribal citizens and non-native people for education and recreation. Environmental education and interpretation with school groups has typically occurred at the Refuge with prior coordination with teachers, schools and partner agencies, and organizations for field trips. The growing partnership between the Refuge and



Indigenous Environmental Education Center.

the Rappahannock Tribe is expected to result in additional, more regular environmental education and interpretation opportunities, especially associated with the Lodge. With the addition of Traditional Native conservation and land management practices to the curriculum, the educational programs are enlarged for the benefit of all.



New kitchen installed in the Center.



Chief Anne spoke to an audience of about 75 Tribal citizens, government, and organizational representatives.









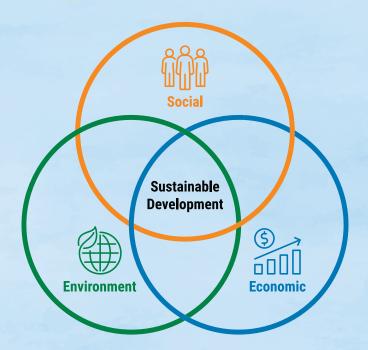
Economic Development

The Economic Development Department's goal is to build sustainable financial security for tribal programs and services. Most of what we accomplished in 2023 was to build a foundation upon which these programs can grow.

Our new Agribusiness Program will create sustainable economic development opportunities, provide training, create jobs, and provide a marketplace for the agricultural goods of the larger rural community. We established a five-member steering committee for the program that includes two Tribal citizens. The committee members completed an eight-week training program through the Keystone Development Center Co-op



Consultant Harry Edwards, of My Neighbor's Gardens, is assisting the Tribe with visioning and business planning for our community cooperative venture.



Academy. Key benefits of the training include a significant boost to chart our progress in this planning process, and it has allowed us to focus on the most important aspects of building our community co-op business. Similarly, the lessons learned from other teams participating in the training have been invaluable.

Competitive Edge

Our agribusiness addresses community health needs by helping to close the nutritional gap by making fresh, local, and organically grown produce more accessible to the communities we serve. Our co-op provides communal marketing and logistical support to enable members to serve larger markets. Our goal is to provide same-day fresh vegetables to consumers from local growers and sellers. This means more secure and resilient, pesticide-free vegetables of higher value, documented and backed up by certified organic growers.









We are also pursuing federal contracts where tribal members have skills and abilities to generate sustainable revenue, create jobs, and build experience in various areas for future growth. The 8(a) certification from the Small Business Administration allows us to effectively compete and receive set-aside and sole-source contracts. Our pipeline of Federal Opportunities includes Program Management, Conference Planning and Logistical Support, Medical and Administrative Staffing, Financial and Accounting Services, and Support Services

We purchased an existing dental clinic building in King William County to offer dental services to the community and tribal citizens. The building is currently under renovation, and when ready, will create job opportunities for tribal citizens for the positions of dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant, and office manager.



Front of the dental clinic building.

Carolyn Fortune

Ms. Fortune is a Tribal citizen and has over 30 years of experience in executive leadership and management positions for strategic business growth and overall operations. Her proven history resulted in exceeding corporate revenue growth and profit goals and future development opportunities. Previously she worked with other Tribal organizations and Government contractors to provide leadership and guidance for operations, business development, and best practices which resulted in corporate growth of \$100 million dollars in revenue and double-digit profit on a yearly basis.

Brian McCann

Mr. McCann joined the Tribe's economic development team to assist with the development of tribal business ventures and government contracting. He has more than 30 years of successful experience in directing business development, executive sales, and developing strategic partnerships to solve complex customer problems across the higher education, government, and environmental industries. Brian holds a BA in in Biological Sciences from Rutgers University and an MS in Technology and Human Affairs from Washington University in St. Louis. Brian also served as a high school science teacher with the Peace Corps in Ghana, West Africa.



New roof installation at the dental clinic building.

Environmental Resources

2023 was an incredibly busy year for our team in Environmental and Natural Resources. With the variety of projects in the works and the recent hire of our new Policy and Planning Coordinator Bobbie Todd, the year has been fast paced.

River Herring Migration Monitoring

Herring are a key food supply to many keystone species including striped bass, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, bowfin, catfish, osprey, Bald Eagles, otters, and more. Their spawning runs supply nutrition for larger predator species, without which their populations would not sustain themselves. For the Rappahannock Tribe, river herring has been a cultural food source for thousands of years. However, overharvesting, invasive species, and mismanagement by Virginia laws led to



herring populations crashing. This crash in population, coupled with the loss of ancestral lands with access to the river or any tributaries

has effectively barred the Rappahannock people from harvesting herring. Now, hundreds of years later, the Rappahannocks have returned to the river and tributaries. Through a partnership with the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Jack Ryan and Mark Fortune were able to assist in the collection of 100 Alewife Herring in March of 2023. These fish were dip-netted and surgically given acoustic telemetry tags. This technology



Rob Aguilour from Smithsonian Environmental Research Center with Mark Fortune and Jack Ryan working on herring tagging project.

allows receiver stations placed at various points in the Rappahannock River to track the movements of river herring as they leave the river for the year and as they return in 2024.

Forestry Management on Tribal Lands

The 465 acres of Fones Cliffs that the tribe acquired in 2022 contain mostly healthy deciduous forests. These forests will be inventoried using a USDA EQUIP grant in 2024. A few areas of the 465 acres need maintenance, namely those with invasive species or significant issues flagged by agriculture or forestry professionals. In April 2023, the Tribe

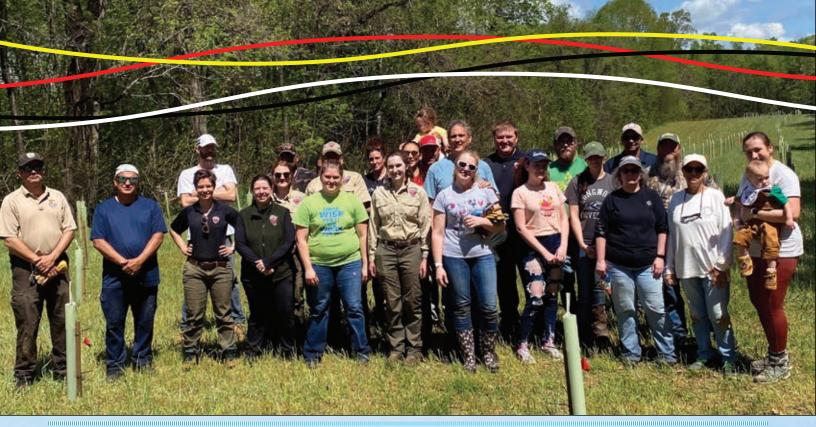












Over 20 Tribal citizens and employees helped plant 1700 trees in a former soy field of the Fones Cliffs land.

applied for and was awarded a Trees for Clean Water Grant from the Virginia Department of Forestry. This allowed the Tribe to plant 1,700 on the eastern portion of the 465 acres. To give our 1,700 trees a good head start, Jack and personnel for the Rappahannock River Wildlife Refuge conducted herbicide treatments along the 7-acre border to the field.





Bioretention structure at the Tribal Center to prevent flooding, under construction on left, completed on right.

Stormwater Management on Tribal Lands

The Rappahannock Tribe partnered with Friends of the Rappahannock for a DEQ 319 grant. This grant focused on reducing

stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution in the upper Mattaponi Watershed. The Chapel Creek watershed that surrounds the Tribal Center is listed as an impaired waterbody. The Tribe worked with Friends of



Cistern installation.

Rappahannock and Hirschman Environmental to design a bioretention structure at the rear of the Tribal Center which will prevent flooding. The same grant was used to install a 1,700-gallon rainwater collection cistern on the Tribe's property. This system collects water from the roof's downspouts and pumps it back to the building for grey water use.









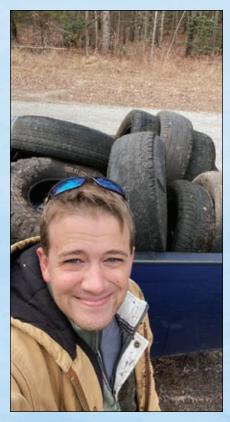




Trash Cleanup and Outreach Events

One of the greatest parts of this job is seeing the hard work and ingenuity of Rappahannock

citizens, and Jack had the opportunity to help the Youth Council's trash cleanup in February of last year. An ongoing side project in the environmental department has been to eliminate trash build-up on the edges of Tribal land. There have been several occasions where substantial



amounts of solid waste have been illegally dumped and just in the last year alone, Jack has taken 20-30 tires to a local recycling center.



Focus on Protecting the Tribe's Resources

Bobbie Todd was hired to ensure that the Rappahannock Tribe's interests in protecting tribal cultural, historic, and environmental resources are upheld, focusing on critical areas such as the proposed data centers and offshore wind projects. Her strategic planning and coordination skills are instrumental in navigating the intricate landscape of policy development, where she combines her legal insights with effective communication strategies.

Environmental Advocacy

The Department of Environmental and Natural Resources spends a considerable amount of time working with government agencies at the local, state, and federal levels advocating for the needs of the Rappahannock Tribe. This encompasses many public issues; pollution regulation, groundwater withdrawal permits, zoning regulations, species reintroductions, wetland permits, fisheries, and harvesting, just to name a few.

John Reid (Jack) Ryan

Mr. Ryan holds bachelor's and master's degrees in environmental studies from VCU. He has worked for the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service in the restoration of endangered aquatic species including river herring and freshwater mussels. He worked to grow and release these critical species back into their native habitats after years of extirpation and published his restoration project in a scientific journal. Jack's passion is growing, building, and protecting habitat for native species. His goal is to work in the field planting trees, hatching fish, removing invasives, and supporting biodiversity so the ecosystem that supported the Rappahannock people can do so again.

Bobbie Todd

Ms. Todd serves as the Policy and Planning Coordinator for the Rappahannock Tribe. She holds a Juris Doctor (JD) degree with an Alternative Dispute Resolution certificate from Chapman University, Fowler School of Law, and a Bachelor of Arts in English with a minor in Jewish Studies from California State University, Northridge. Throughout her career, Bobbie has demonstrated a passion for community well-being and justice. Her unique combination of legal expertise, communication prowess, and commitment to tribal interests makes her an invaluable asset in the pursuit of safeguarding the Rappahannock Tribe's cultural and natural resources.



Thanks to a private donor, the Tribe was able to purchase a professional YSI Water Quality Probe to help us in our river monitoring.

However, the critical issue this year is the new threat of Data Center developments throughout the Rappahannock River Watershed. There are currently five planned data centers across four counties in the Rappahannock Watershed (Spotsylvania, Caroline, King George, and Orange). This industrial development requires enormous amounts of water and electricity. The impact of data centers on the Rappahannock will be felt for generations.

Over the past two years, the Rappahannock River Valley and its water resources have become a target for industrial development. A little-known secret is that the state of Virginia has the largest concentration of



Planned data center in Central Virginia Photo from Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

data centers (industrial computer facilities) in the entire world. Over 300 facilities exist in Northern Virginia alone. The Virginia State Government has offered tax breaks for facilities that use more than 1,000 acres of land on top of additional tax breaks from county governments themselves. King George County lowered the property tax value on industrial centers from the \$3.25/\$100 value that resident homeowners pay to \$1.25/\$100 value. Counties in the Rappahannock watershed are encouraged by revenue from industrial property taxes, a false perception of low environmental impact, and the potential construction jobs brought to their localities.

Thousands of square feet of computer systems require enormous volumes of cooling fluid. Estimates put water needed for data centers as high as 2 gallons of water per kilowatt hour of energy demand. In the Rappahannock River Valley, this has consequences, as almost the entire watershed lies in the Potomac Aquifer. This aquifer encompasses several of Virginia's major population centers including Fredericksburg, Richmond, Williamsburg, Warsaw, Tappahannock, Newport News, Hampton Roads, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach.

Plans for 2024

The environmental department has many things planned for 2024 as we continue our commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable resource management.

Our 2024 agenda involves more engagement from tribal citizens on environmental projects, enhancing aquatic biodiversity, partnerships with the program Friends of the Rappahannock, and many other environmental aspirations. The department is beyond thrilled for the upcoming year!

Tribal Citizen Services

In the last year, noteworthy progress has been made in Tribal citizen information management through the utilization of the software Progeny. This software allows tribal citizens' data to be recorded including, addresses, contact information, birth date, enrollment number, mapping of address locations, and genealogy spreadsheets to connect to family history and to print out information on tribal ID cards.



Tribal citizens celebrating the Christmas holidays.

Since getting fully settled into the new building, Faye Fortune has successfully organized and labeled all files including citizen records ensuring efficient access to vital information. Faye has also completed all goals set in 2023 for elder visits and assisting tribal citzens with services. She plans to continue to meet these goals in 2024.

During 2024, Faye plans to fully complete all tribal citizen data in Progeny ensuring

- Two Tribal Meetings in 2023
- 98% of citizens' information entered into Progeny software
- 73% Adult Tribal ID Cards issued

everything is comprehensive and up to date. Another crucial goal for her department in 2024 is to spend more time connecting in person with our Tribal citizens. It is important that they feel supported and valued, and personal connection can help achieve this.

Faye has also committed to keeping up with recent technology and training in 2024. This will help enhance our work with tribal citizens and projects. Faye will also be dedicated to learning more about the Progeny Citizenship Software because this can be greatly beneficial to the Tribe. Progeny will allow for more extensive research in areas that may not be easily accessible, therefore enhancing our understanding of our Tribal history and lineage.

2024 is amped up to be a busy year in the Citizen Services department!

Faye Fortune

Ms. Fortune, Citizenship Services
Manager, was born and raised in
Indian Neck, VA and is a lifetime
member of the Rappahannock
Tribe. She earned her associate
degree in business administration from
Rappahannock Community College. She had a
career at Sony Music Entertainment. In 2019, Faye
started working for the Rappahannock Tribe as
the Citizenship Clerk and has served as the Tribal
Secretary for almost 30 years.







Tribal Archives



Lucy Hatcher

Lucy Hatcher, our VCU intern turned part-time archivist, did an amazing amount of work. She cataloged historical correspondence, photographs, official documents, invitations,

and newspapers dated from 1890s to 2000s. Over 800 of these items were digitized and added to our museum management software, which we use to digitally organize the documents and photographs to make access to these items easier for everyone.

Lucy organized the archives space with new storage shelves and boxes for the physical materials to be kept. She developed a finding aid template for the archives to use and have available for Tribal citizens. This finding aid is one document that includes each collection broken down with a brief overview for each section and the history of the Tribe at the time.

In addition to the general archives work, Lucy compiled a video concerning the citizens of the

Tribe in the armed forces for WWII, as well as an exhibit panel Honoring Our Heroes: They Would Not Bow. She also connected the exhibit panel with the selective service collection in the software system.

This exhibit, along with other panel exhibits developed with materials from the archives, travel to other organizations when requested.







In Our Own Voice: Preserving Rappahannock Tribal History

In Our Own Voice was designed to address the urgency of our need to pass down the wisdom and experiences of our elders to future generations of our Tribe and to educate the public. The primary objectives were to teach Tribal citizens, especially young people, to document Tribal and Tribal family stories for the purpose of restoration and preservation of our culture and to teach the public about Indigenous beliefs and traditions. VPM designed a curriculum that provded two days of training.

Our partnership with VPM, Virginia's public media provider, along with a grant from Virginia Humanities, made this project possible. VPM provided two full days of oral history and documentary training with media professionals. They also provided us with a list of basic camera and lighting equipment recommendations, some of which we were able to purchase through various grants.

A Day at the Tribal Center

A morning session allowed participants to learn interviewing techniques, video production, lighting, and sound. Afternoon breakout sessions offered practice time.



Media professionals gave tips on video production, lighting an sound.



Kassie Fortune practiced interviewing techniques with Colonel John Fortune.



Cheyene Beals practiced interview and sound techniques with Chief Anne.

A Day at VPM Studios

Participants were able to learn alongside the professional team as they film an interview with Chief Anne.



Video and sound professionals share their knowledge with Tribal citizens.

Story Weaving Workshops

Tribal citizen and theatre professional, Murielle Borst-Tarrant shared dramatization of our creation stories, scripting, staging, costuming, and performing for the public.



Murielle Borst-Tarrant (left) with Tribal citizens at the Story Workshop.





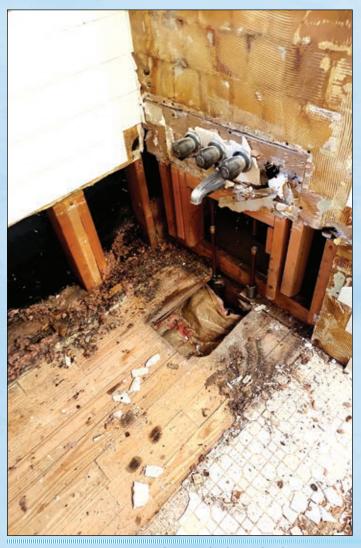




Housing and Elder Care Programs

- 130 visits with forty elders
- Rehabs on eighteen homes
- Well and septic installed on one home
- Assisted one first-time home buyer

The Housing Department was busy in 2023 and accomplished all the major goals set. Director Susan Johnson and Housing Project Manager Jerry Fortune continue to work together to determine the needs of our community. Additionally, the department has made considerable progress in repairing the homes of





Before and after - bathroom renovation with addition of a walk-in-shower.



tribal elders who were in need and prioritized the weatherization of homes.

In 2024, the housing department plans to complete ten home rehabs, providing essential support to our Tribal citizens. Furthermore, the department plans to assist 15-20 families, possibly more, by addressing their questions and concerns and ensuring they are equipped with the necessary knowledge to maintain their homes adequately.

Susan and Jerry also plan to continue to prioritize the safety of our citizens by installing and checking smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguishers. Along with their regular visits to elders, they will continue to make food donations to tribal citizens and plan to serve 8-10 families. 2024 is going to be a busy year, but we are thrilled to continue to be able to serve our community and its housing needs.

Susan also continues to administer the Housing Assistance Program, which is funded by the US Department of the Treasury. This program allows down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers provided by nonprofit or government entities for low-to-moderate income families





Entrance stiars repaired for senior Tribal members.

Susan Johnson

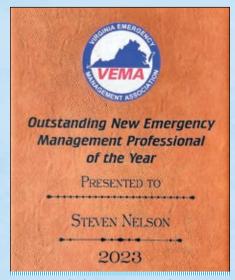
Ms. Johnson, Director of Housing since 2020, is a Rappahannock Tribal citizen who has devoted her life to volunteering in her tribal community. She was employed by the Federal Reserve System as a financial analyst for 20 plus years and employed by a non-profit as a housing counselor for 12 years. She served and managed ten counties, administering mortgages and rent, along with working with the homeless population.

Jerry Fortune

Mr. Fortune, Tribal citizen and project manager for housing and the lodge. His career includes 10 years with the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles as a license examiner, 10 years in maintenance in the Essex County school system, and 20 years as a self-employed contractor specializing in remodeling construction. He was also an inspector for the State of Virginia Highway Transportation with AMT Engineering Consultants. with AMT Engineering Consultants.

Community Resilience Planning and Preparedness

Our former Emergency Manager, Steve Nelson, established this office and developed emergency and cooperative plans to support resilience in the community.



Awarded to Steven Nelson at the 2023 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium

We continue to work towards renewable energy resources and food sovereignty in order to provide for our community in times of crises. We have designated our Tribal Center as a Community Shelter with almost 14,000 square feet with emergency cots and other amenities to accommodate large groups.

We will be raising funds to deploy solar energy at our Tribal Government Center and the Cat Point Creek Lodge, which will increase our ability to function during local power outages. 2024 will bring discussions of other ways we can be more resilient and prepared for weather events and emergencies, as well as increased cybersecurity.



Shelter supplies.



Shelter supplies and generators.

Information Technology

The IT Department priorities have been to restructure the Tribal website and monitor traction on the Tribal website. Kenny also continues to be the sign-on manager on all Tribal web services and applications and ensures secure access to the Tribe's files for the Tribal Council and staff. He also assisted VPM with providing the live stream of our annual Sovereignty Conference to virtual attendees. Throughout the year, Kenny set up and managed the audio-visual systems for all Tribal meetings and assisted staff and Tribal citizens with troubleshooting IT issues.

The IT department has also brought in Aniyah Mulligan as the Tribe's communications assistant. Anivah first joined our staff as a summer intern this past July. She has enjoyed working with Kenny and being able to publicize the progress the Tribe is making. Kenny and Aniyah look forward to being active



Kenny working with the new camera and lights.

participants on the Tribe's Communications Committee, where they will be developing a comprehensive communication strategy for the Tribe alongside other seasoned colleagues.

Kenneth Michael Richardson

Mr. Richardson, a Rappahannock Tribal citizen, joined the staff as Director of IT in July 2021. He is responsible for planning, coordinating, and controlling computer-related activities and systems. He helps the tribe to determine its IT needs and find effective, sustainable, secure solutions. He graduated summa cum laude from VCU with a degree in Computer Science in December 2020 and interned with a local non-profit, IT4Causes, in his senior year at college.

Aniyah Mulligan

Ms. Mulligan graduated from James Madison University in May 2023, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Relations while minoring in technical writing. During

her time in college, Aniyah wrote opinion pieces for her school's news outlet and assisted a non-profit organization in running its social media web page, which allowed her to develop skills in social media management and communication strategies. Aniyah began working for the Tribe as a communication intern in late June of 2023 and earned a part-time staffing opportunity at the beginning of fall 2023.









Fund Development

2023 brought us record funding for a variety of programs and projects, and we did it with everyone pitching in! Pat Morris led the effort, writing and submitting thirty proposals to government agencies, foundations, and corporations.

Mary Samsell, who was Director of Strategic Philanthropy and Impact at Feed More until mid-December, helped the Economic Development team plan for its new agribusiness farm cooperative venture with a significant grant from Feeding America.

Melissa Ehrenreich, executive director for the newly founded Indigenous Conservation Council, helped us raise operational funding that will support the organization for its first year. The ICC was founded by Chief Anne as a coalition of the seven federally recognized \$6,795,974 in total grants awarded in 2023 thanks to everyone who did their part. We can celebrate a momentous year together.

tribes in Virginia to raise awareness and resources for Land Back and conservation needs of the tribes. The ICC applied to the Internal Revenue Service for recognition as a separate 502(c)3 nonprofit organization, but until that is finalized, it still "lives" in the Tribe's Rappahannock Enterprises, LLC books.

Jacob Fortune-Deuber secured a new \$5,000 sponsorship from his employer, Philip Morris USA, for the Powwow, and Jerry Fortune renewed Powwow support from Watts RV & Storage. Kathy Jones and Chief Anne secured several grants from the BIA that included support for the Lodge kitchen renovation and legal/surveying costs for tribal lands being put into federal trust. Jack Ryan worked really

hard helping Pat write a number of grant applications for the environmental department that includes support for a new Mobile Aquaculture Unit, tree planting, herring research, and a new staff person for the department (Bobbie Todd) who is focused on the requests for the Tribe's consultation on many environmental issues.

The most exciting news is that we were awarded a total of \$2.6 million towards the \$3.7 million needed to purchase the 964 acres of river



Fones Cliffs from the River.









front land at Fones Cliffs and another \$750,000 for the 703 acres inland and adjacent to the 465 that the Tribe acquired in 2022. We expect to finish these two fundraising campaigns in the summer of 2024 and are hoping for a big celebration in the fall of 2024.

We were also among the lucky recipients of a \$1.7 million planning grant from the America the Beautiful Grant Program. This two-year funding will allow us to develop a master plan for all the river properties – cultural revitalization, economic development, environmental and natural resources, the lodge at Cat Point Creek, and tribal youth programs will all benefit from further planning and development.

The Tribe has learned over the past four years that raising money is something that everyone can help with. Spreading the word, building partner relationships, reaching out to employers, sharing opportunities with the development department that come across in emails or conferences – even making the ask itself – are all part of fundraising success. We are proud

of the work we have done together to build a strong fundraising foundation.

Changes Ahead for Fundraising and Outreach

Pat has served as a part-time fundraiser for the Tribe for four years. Due to our success in garnering support, its fast growth, and the many available fundraising opportunities, the need for a full-time fundraiser became clear. Pat is now shifting her focus to planning and marketing to ensure that the influx of new major funding in 2023 will be spent according to our Master Plan. Tribal citizens and partners can look forward to engaging in a comprehensive planning process for our new properties on the river that will begin in early 2024.

Pat introduced us to Mary Samsell, with whom she had worked years ago. Mary is a seasoned professional with an impressive 25-year career in fundraising and has consistently surpassed expectations in securing major gifts for special initiatives, capital assets, and new programs.

Patricia Morris, MPA

Ms. Morris has 30+ years of experience in board governance, fundraising, grant writing, communications, and marketing.
She has served on boards of 16 nonprofit organizations, most of them in leadership roles.
She holds a Bachelor of Fine Art in design and Master of Public Administration from VCU and earned her first National Certification in Ethical Fundraising in 1999. She was honored with the 2012 Nina Abady Award, which is bestowed by the Virginia Association of Fund-Raising Executives for excellence in ethical fundraising.

Mary Samsell

Ms. Samsell has an impressive 25year career in fundraising and has consistently surpassed expectations in securing major gifts for special initiatives, capital assets, and new



programs. She holds a Master of Arts in English Literature from VCU. With the funding for the Tribe's economic development department through Feed More, her employer in 2023, from Feeding America, her relationship with the Tribe began on a great note. She accepted the full-time position of Director of Development effective January 2, 2024.





Administration

Chief Anne oversees tribal departments and has employed seasoned professionals with a track record of excellence to strengthen and build our capacity to administer funds, manage operations, and to develop and implement successful programs and projects.

The Finance team provides day-to-day management and oversight of government and nonprofit funding; the 2022 audit was completed in October 2023 without any findings or recommendations needed. Chief Financial Officer, Kathy Jones, is in charge of the staff team and operations when Chief Anne is out of the office on business or vacation.

Monthly all-staff meetings keep everyone updated on important happenings and help with team building. With the addition of Executive Assistant, Rex Jones, to our staff, administration is more efficient and effective, allowing Chief Anne to focus on planning and oversight. Rex also provides event management for the Sovereignty Conference and our Tribal events.



Name tags ready for participants at the 2023 Sovereignty Conference registration table. Photo by Duane Berger..

Rexford (Rex) Jones

Ms. Jones joined the Tribe as Chief Anne's executive assistant in early 2022. She assists in managing the administrative responsibilities, scheduling all events and speaking engagements for Chief Anne and staff members, and coordinates most meetings, including those of the Tribal Council. Her experience in administration includes serving as assistant to the operations manager of Goshen Farm Enterprises, as administrative and field support specialist for Virginia Tech: Eastern Virginia Agriculture and Extension Center. and as activities coordinator for the Tides Inn. She also served as a research assistant and historic interpreter for Stratford Hall. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Longwood University with concentration in history and minors in art history and literature. She studied abroad in Serbia, Romania, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegtro, Bosnia, and Herzegovina.



2023 Sovereignty Conference. Photo by Duane Berger.

Finance and Human Resources

With a dynamic team of two, CFO Kathy Jones and Senior Accountant Pam Davis have successfully handled all financial aspects in the finance department. They completed the 2023 audit without any recommendations or findings and have completed all other financial tasks, including paying invoices, grant management, HR duties, managing payrolls and procurements for all our staff.

Furthermore, the department converted our Rappahannock Enterprises, LLC and Tribal government financial data into MIP software and successfully negotiated an indirect cost rate through the federal government. Additionally, Kathy and Pam completed all grant reporting on time.



Rex Jones, Kathy Jones, and Pam Davis manage the registration table at the 2023 Sovereignty Conference. Photo by Duane Berger.

Kathy Jones, MBA, JD

Ms. Jones is Chief Financial Officer, is from Alaska. She worked at Deloitte and Touch CPA firm after graduating from University of Alaska Fairbanks, UAF with her bachelor's in accounting. She then worked for roughly 20 years at the major healthcare provider in Alaska. She managed all funding, donations, grants, and state and national funding. During that time, she received her MBA specializing in Information Technology and then her Juris Doctor JD, specializing in Contract and Healthcare Law. Kathy relocated to San Diego, CA, where she worked for the Campo Tribe of Mission Indians and brought them into compliance with all funding sources.

Pam Davis

Ms. Davis is a highly trained payroll professional with experience processing transactions, identifying problems, performing detailed analysis, and finding solutions. Her previous work experience includes twelve years as a payroll analysist at McGuireWoods LLP and she served as an operations specialist at Gander Mountain in Ashland. She also worked as a sales audit specialist and accounts receivable specialist at CarMax Superstores and a payroll specialist at Circuit City Stores, both in Richmond. She holds an associate degree in applied science with a concentration in Accounting from J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.

Government Department of The Rappahannock Tribe

December 31, 2022 Audited Finanicals

| Statement of Activities | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Governmental Activities | Expenses | Charges for Services | Operating Grants & Contributions | Total Revenues | Governmental Activities |
| General Government | \$1,299,520.00 | \$40,6130.00 | \$1,499,798.00 | \$1,540,411.00 | \$240,892.00 |
| Health and Social Services | \$117,613.00 | | \$112,949.00 | \$112,949.00 | \$(4,664.00) |
| Housing | \$156,086.00 | | \$155,153.00 | \$122,766.00 | \$(933.00) |
| Envirnomental | \$58,875.00 | | \$565,575.00 | \$565,575.0 | \$506,700.0 |
| Economic Development | \$259,906.00 | | \$259,906.00 | \$259,906.00 | - |
| Cultural | \$79,073.00 | | \$79,073.00 | \$79,073.00 | - |
| Total Governemental Activites | \$1,971,073.00 | \$40,613 .00 | \$2,672,454.00 | \$2,713,067.00 | \$741,994.00 |
| General Revenues (Expenses) | | | | | |
| Interest Revenue | | | | | \$11,405.00 |
| Donations | | | | | \$75,000.00 |
| Interest on Leases | | | | | \$(2,339.00) |
| Settlement, Net | | | | | \$200,000.00 |
| Total General Revenue (Expenses) | | | | | \$359,014.00 |
| Transfer Out to Component Uni | t | | | | \$(123,673.00) |
| Change in Net Position | | | | | \$902,387.00 |
| Net Position - Beginning of the Year | | | | | \$1,701,237.00 |
| Net Position - End of the Year | | | | | \$2,603,624.00 |

| Statement of Net Position | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| Assets | | | | | |
| Cash and Cash Equivalants | \$3,517,624.00 | | | | |
| Grants Receivable | \$16,338.00 | | | | |
| Prepaid Expenses | \$4,410.00 | | | | |
| Right to Use Lease Assets, Net | \$51,053.00 | | | | |
| Capital Assets, Net | \$2,330,290.00 | | | | |
| Total Assets | \$5,919,715.00 | | | | |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities | \$148,941.00 | | | | |
| Lease Liability | \$54,024.00 | | | | |
| Compensated Absences | \$40,681.00 | | | | |
| Unearned Revenue | \$3,072,445.00 | | | | |
| Total Liabilities | \$3,316,091.00 | | | | |
| Net Position | | | | | |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets | \$2,327,319.00 | | | | |
| Unrestricted | \$276,305.00 | | | | |
| Total Net Position | \$2,603,624.00 | | | | |

Many
generations
of Rappahannocks
stayed strong, kept our
tribal community together,
and secured our
traditions and culture
so they could be
passed on.











What's Next?

We will be spending our available resources and time to finish the rehabilitation of the Chief's House, the upgrades to the Cat Point Creek Lodge, and the renovation of our Dental Office building. While the construction is happening, we will be planning for the programs that will take place in each facility and marketing our new services and programs to the public.

We were also extremely fortunate to receive a \$1.7 million two-year grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's America the Beautiful competition to develop plans for our Return to the River. This includes data collection (herring tagging, floristic inventory, breeding bird studies, and archeology mapping), architectural plans for our Algonquian Indian Village that will be on the 465 acres, business plans for our history tours of the river, program plans for our Return to the River Youth Education at the lodge, and plans for other programs that will take place at the river. We will also be developing plans for an elder home on our Indian Neck property.

