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"I am excited Nicole and I are being honored together. Nicole is amazing and I am glad she has a business in Dorchester County. It is truly a humbling experience to be recognized," said Haythe.

Haythe and Robertson-Van Schaik were chosen from a group of 400 women. A panel of judges comprised of business professionals and past Maryland's Top 100 Women winners from throughout the state reviewed the applications and selected this year's honorees.

Dorchester County Council President Ricky Travers stated, "Ms. Haythe is a great asset to Dorchester County. She is innovative and always works hard to promote business development, expansion and

retention initiatives in our county. We are proud of her accomplishments and thrilled that she has been named as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women for 2015."

According to *The Daily Record*, the awards will be presented at a cocktail reception on Monday, May 4, starting at 5 p.m. at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore. The awards will be presented at 6:30 p.m. and followed by a dessert reception. Winners will be profiled in a special magazine that will be inserted into the May 8 issue of *The Daily Record* and available online.

To learn more about Maryland's Top 100 Women or to purchase tickets to the event, please visit thedailyrecord.com.



Nicole Robertson-Van Schaik

DORCHESTER Currents

A monthly publication of Dorchester County Maryland

TOP STORY

MARCH 2015

Haythe Named in Maryland's Top 100

Congratulations to Keasha Haythe, director of Dorchester County Economic Development, and Nicole Robertson-Van Schaik, president of The Robertson Group, for winning spots in *The Daily Record's* 2015 listing of Maryland's Top 100 Women. Haythe was awarded 40 Under 40 in 2012, and Robertson-Van Schaik was a recipient of the 2014 Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise Award.

Susan Banks, business development manager for

Dorchester County Economic Development said, "The recognition is a tremendous honor and adds to the growing professional buzz the county is experiencing. Their talent, hard work and leadership has not gone unnoticed."

"This year's Maryland's Top 100 Women are extraordinary. They go above and beyond in everything they do. They lead companies, create change, break barriers, chart new territory and make a difference at home, at work and in their communities," said Suzanne Fischer-Huettner, publisher of *The Daily Record*. "They



Dorchester County Economic Development Director Keasha Haythe

inspire those around them to be the best they can be. *The Daily Record* is pleased to honor them."

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~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR ~

April 26-28, 2015: MEDA Annual Conference
Maryland Economic Development (MEDA)
www.medamd.com

August 12-15, 2015: MACo Summer Conference
Maryland Association of Counties (MACo)
www.mdcounties.org



Don't Miss

www.ChooseDorchester.org

Currents is the monthly newsletter of the Dorchester County Economic Development Department. For information or suggestions, contact info@ChooseDorchester.org or call 410-228-0155.

FEATURED STORY

Brief Economic Facts is Valuable Marketing Tool

Did you know that Dorchester County is one of the largest land/water mass counties in Maryland? Have you ever wondered who the major employers are in the county or

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what the hourly-wage rates are for select occupations? The newly updated report of Brief Economic Facts created by the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) has the answers.

According to DBED Business Research Analyst Joyce Takeno, who has dedicated hundreds of hours toward producing the reports, "Much has changed over the past 45 years in the way business development data is packaged and delivered, but site selectors still expect economic developers to be able to provide an easily comparable profile of their jurisdictions."

"Our office uses the Brief Economic Facts report as a valuable marketing tool to prospective businesses, startups, and those evaluating relocation. This detailed county

snapshot highlights the economic benefits of working and living here," said Keasha Haythe, director of Dorchester County Economic Development.

Dorchester County boasts more than 1,500 miles of beautiful shoreline and is one of Maryland's largest counties with nearly 600 square miles of land. Its close proximity to Baltimore and Washington D.C. attracts small to large businesses and entrepreneurs due to cost advantages, business assets, and unique quality of life. With well over 740 businesses, employing approximately 8,600 workers, the county continues to diversify its industry mix.

To learn more about Dorchester County and to download a PDF copy of the Brief Economic Facts report, please visit www.choosedorchester.org.

SMALL BUSINESS New Structural Welding Company in East New Market

Dorchester County welcomes new business Aledak Metalwork's, Inc. They specialize in the fabrication of structural steel, steel erection, and other miscellaneous metals such as stairs and handrails. Aledak is a minority-owned, full-service shop located in East New Market.

Owners Stephanie and Donald D. Robbins have lived in Dorchester County all their lives



Donald and Stephanie Robbins

and have 20 years' experience in the field. Donald said, "We take pride in producing quality work completed on time to meet today's demanding construction schedules." Stephanie added, "We are fulfilling a lifelong dream of starting our own business in Dorchester County."

Donald is a certified CIC crane operator, certified in all types of structural welding, and has a vast knowledge of stairs and handrail codes and regulations.

To learn more about Aledak Metalwork's, Inc., please visit www.aledakmetalworksinc.com or call 443-205-0030.

FEATURED EVENT Dorchester to Attend SelectUSA Summit

The Dorchester County Economic Development (DCED) Office will be attending the 2015 SelectUSA Investment Summit in Washington D.C. this month. Over 80 countries and 26 ambassadors, who will lead delegations of foreign investors, are registered to attend the



summit. DCED will have the chance to network with global investors. Also in attendance will be economic development organizations from every corner of the United States, high-level government officials, and others working to facilitate investment in the United States.

Keasha Haythe, director of Dorchester County Economic Development, said, "We are excited to showcase Dorchester County at the 2015 SelectUSA Investment Summit and look forward to the potential and opportunity it may bring." According to the SelectUSA website, 1,300 investors looking for locations for their business operation will be in attendance.

About the 2015 SelectUSA Investment Summit: The event will be held March 23 – 24 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor MD. The SelectUSA program was established by President Barack Obama in 2011. It is a U.S. government-wide program that promotes and facilitates business investment

in the United States in order to create jobs, spur economic growth, and advance U.S. competitiveness.

If you are attending the summit, please visit us at Booth #734. To learn more about the summit, please visit selectusasummit.com.

SMALL BUSINESS Tech Company Opens in Cambridge

Group Z, Inc. recently opened its new principal office in downtown Cambridge. Group Z provides full system development life cycle (SDLC) services, with a core focus in application development and project management. Additional services include hardware maintenance, network and help desk support. Customers and partners have relied on Group Z's expertise and experience in delivering cost-efficient, scalable solutions for over 13 years.

Owners Anthie Zairis and Nora Presti closely manage the company, overseeing all projects, operations and client relationships. Integrity, honesty and commitment influence all decisions. Their corporate conscience ensures a culture where all partners, employees, customers and vendors are treated ethically, respectfully and fairly. Group Z proudly promotes a business culture that supports continuing education, professional development, and encourages collaborative team-

work and work-life balance, while offering competitive benefits to ensure the retention of top talent.

The Dorchester County Economic Development Office provided Group Z a site-selection tour, and they chose the perfect location. When asked about their choice of Cambridge for their new location, Anthie and Nora responded, "The charm of Cambridge enticed us from our first visit. We recognized the potential to grow our business here while also being involved in the growth and development of a community. It is very important to us that we continue to share success and to provide assistance where we can."

"Our office is excited to welcome Group Z to the business community. We look forward to the partnerships they will form," said Susan Banks, business development manager for Dorchester County Economic Development.

For more information, please call 410-772-0888 or visit their website at www.group-z.net.



Anthie Zairis and Nora Presti

Brief Economic Facts

DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

Dorchester County boasts more than 1,500 miles of beautiful shoreline and is one of Maryland's largest counties with nearly 600 square miles of land and 70% of water by area proximity to Baltimore and Washington attracts large and small businesses and entrepreneurs due to cost advantages, business assets, and unique quality of life. With 740 businesses employing approximately 8,600 workers, the county continues to diversify its industry mix. Dorchester County is a minority-owned, full-service shop located in East New Market.

near open harbors, and is located adjacent to the Cambridge-Dorchester Regional Airport. The park is one of the county's two State Enterprise Zones, with the other zone in Harford. As a federally designated HUB Zone, a Dorchester County business receives federal contracting opportunities for qualified small businesses located in the zone. Amdak Park's move operations resulted in a capital investment of \$15.3 million and 50 additional jobs.

LOCATION	Miles	Estimate
Driving distance from Cambridge		
Atlanta, Georgia	703	1,131
Baltimore, Maryland	70	132
Boston, Massachusetts	424	683
Chicago, Illinois	749	1,222
New York, New York	213	342
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	135	201
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	236	407
Richmond, Virginia	186	296
Washington, DC	87	139

POPULATION*	Dorchester County	Upper	Midland
	Hancock	Sevier	Sumner
2010	12,756	39,674	199,408
2010*	13,322	35,618	224,771
2020**	14,725	34,880	246,700
			6,234,850

*Population
**Population (2010 Census) (2010 Census) 12,326 Hancock 3,092 Allegany 1,240

CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY	POPULATION DISTRIBUTION (2010)
Yearly Precipitation (inches)	44.1
Yearly Snowfall (inches)	5.5
Summer Temperature (°F)	77.2
Winter Temperature (°F)	39.1
Days Below Freezing	107.7
Land Area (square miles)	592.2
Water Area (square miles)	57.8
Shoreline (miles)	1,539
Elevation (feet)	we level to 57

Population Distribution (2010): Age, Number, Percent

Age	Number	Percent
Under 5	1,980	6.1
5 - 19	5,597	19.0
20 - 44	9,146	28.0
45 - 64	7,674	24.4
65 and over	6,305	19.5
Total	32,682	100.0

Median age (2010): 41.2 years

Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development
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