

WILLIAMSBURG

Alliance makes tourism an issue

By Tyra M. Vaughn

tvaughn@dailypress.com | 247-7870

WILLIAMSBURG— The Greater Williamsburg Chamber & Tourism Alliance is working with other organizations from around the region to make sure tourism is a top priority among state legislators.

The alliance partnered with the Hampton Roads and Virginia Peninsula Chambers of Commerce to develop the first-ever joint legislative agenda for the entire Hampton Roads region.

Tourism joins issues such as transportation, education and workforce development, which have been longstanding priorities among all the organizations. This is the first time that tourism has been a regional priority, alliance officials said.

“This joint agenda and partnership

Want to go?

The Alliance will host its annual Pre-General Assembly Program at 7:30 a.m. Friday at the Crowne Plaza Williamsburg at Fort Magruder, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, James City County. Sen. Tommy Norment, Del. Bill Barlow and Del. Brenda Pogge will discuss their positions on anticipated legislation impacting the Historic Triangle’s business community and economy.

provides us access to a larger number of legislators and greater weight for our issues than any one of our organizations can carry individually,”

said Dick Schreiber, alliance president and chief executive officer, in a statement.

“Together, we represent almost 6,000 businesses. At a time when our legislators are challenged by historic revenue declines, our combined voice will be stronger in reminding the General Assembly of the far-reaching impact of each issue as legislative proposals and budget decisions are being made.”

The agenda — which includes a list of priorities the organizations would like to see pushed when the General Assembly convenes next year — will be given to legislators that represent the entire region.

The organizations will also share a full-time lobbyist at the General Assembly to make sure that bills and committees are working to represent the region’s interests.