

Rappahanock Record, Kilmarnock, Va. May 17, 2007

Exhibit to focus on Northern Neck lifestyle of 400 years ago

The Reedville Fishermen's Museum's upcoming multimedia exhibit, *The Spirit of 1607-8*, is part of the museum's salute to the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown.

Emphasis will be on what life was like on the Northern Neck when Capt. John Smith and his crew began exploring the Chesapeake Bay.

Video presentations by Daniel Firehawk Abbott will be a centerpiece. Abbott is a noted artisan and consultant in prehistoric Native American tools, architecture, and life skills. He also is a direct descendant of the coastal Virginia Algonquian tribe that lived in the region when the colonists arrived.

Abbott had featured roles in PBS' *Nova* production about the founding of Jamestown and the



From left are Grayson Mattingly and Daniel Firehawk Abbott.

National Geographic/Sultana project. He presents annually at the Oregon Ridge Primitive Tech-

nology Weekend, and has delivered custom presentations to the National Archives and the Central

Intelligence Agency.

Mattingly Productions of Irvington shot the documentary with Abbott discussing and demonstrating the making of stone tools, methods of grinding, clothing, the typical lodge, and fire making. The edited segments will be placed on a touch-screen system in the exhibit.

"This presentation is highly educational," said museum executive director Chuck Backus. "Seeing these life skills performed helps us understand the harmony between Native Americans and the pristine coastal Virginia that was their world."

Curator George Frayne and museum volunteers are hard at work on other aspects of the show. The exhibit is scheduled to open in early June and will be on view through 2008.