

*For immediate release*  
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## **CAROLINE COUNTY PALAEOANTHROPOLOGICAL DIG AND WHALE DISPLAY FEATURED IN MARCH 15 WASHINGTON POST**

**Bowling Green, Virginia**—The Caroline County quarry being excavated by the Virginia Museum of Natural History for a rich variety of Miocene animal remains and the Caroline Visitor Center display of the whale *Eobalaenoptera* are the subject of a cover story in the Health & Science section of today's *Washington Post*.

The quarry, the site of scientific digs by the Museum of Natural History, has yielded numerous skeletal remains of both land and ocean dwelling animals. The ocean levels in the Miocene period are thought to have been at least 30 feet deep at what is now Route 1 in Carmel Church.

Dr. Alton Dooley, paleontologist working at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, has led expeditions to the site since the 1990s. Dr. Dooley was instrumental in working with Caroline County staff to develop the world class display of the quarry's largest animal discovered, the whale *Eobalaenoptera Harrisoni*, at the County Visitor Center.

The Caroline whale display has won both the William Barton Rogers Award for support for natural history in Virginia (2010), and the Community Economic Development Award (along with the Visitor Center) in 2009.

*The Washington Post* story also maps the quarry location and the location of the Caroline County Visitor Center.

*The Washington Post* print edition has a circulation of approximately 800,000. The story can also be viewed on line at [Washingtonpost.com](http://Washingtonpost.com).

The Caroline County Department of Economic Development & Tourism is pleased that the County's unique prehistoric heritage and *Eobalaenoptera* display have received wide exposure from a leading national newspaper.

The Visitor Center has developed a gift shop where shirts, hats, stuffed whales and posters can be purchased to celebrate the scientific find.

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