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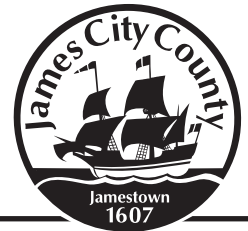
A report to the citizens of James City County

www.jccEgov.com

Vol. 15 No. 4 June-July 2004

## For Your Information

Working In Partnership With All Citizens  
To Achieve A Quality Community



### County cuts real tax rate

The James City County Board of Supervisors recently adopted a budget for the fiscal year that begins

July 1. The real estate tax rate drops a penny to \$0.85 per \$100 assessed value while some user fees for County services and taxes increase (see below). In addition, the current property tax exemption for low-income senior and disabled residents increases to a maximum annual exemption of \$656.

### New County Fee Schedules:

- Building permit fees increase by \$0.02 per sq. ft.
- Environmental single-family residential review fees will rise to \$75
- Dog tag fees for spayed/neutered dogs to \$5 and unaltered dogs to \$8
- Landfill coupon fees will cost \$4
- Consumer Utility Tax on a monthly phone bill increases to 10 percent of the first \$14

### Goals of the County's FY 2005 spending plan are to:

- Manage finances wisely and encourage a balanced economy
- Enhance the lives of citizens and foster a sense of community
- Plan responsibly for the needs of a growing, diverse community
- Steward the natural environment and historic heritage
- Provide outstanding customer service

*The County budget may be revised at a later date when final State budget figures are released for the County.*



*Community Services Manager Anthony Conyers (right) presents a plaque and gift certificate to Glenn Blanchette (center), Williamsburg Area Transport's Driver of the Quarter (January-March), and Jimmie Garris, Support Driver of the Quarter.*

### New water/sewer rates

The James City Service Authority (JCSA), which provides water and sewer services, is financed entirely by user fees and receives no tax revenues from the County. The sewer rate will increase to \$2.70 per 1,000 gallons. Water rates will increase as follows:

|                       |           |        |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------|
| <b>Residential</b>    | 1st Block | \$2.30 |
|                       | 2nd Block | \$2.71 |
|                       | 3rd Block | \$7.60 |
| <b>Nonresidential</b> | Flat Rate | \$2.70 |

### Water restrictions

From May 1 to September 30, James City Service Authority customers help the County manage water demand during the hot summer months. Odd number houses may water on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays and even numbers on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. There is no watering between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. For more information, visit the County web site at [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com), call the Outdoor Water Info Line at 259-4152 for a recorded message, the JCSA Environmental Education Coordinator at 253-6859, or JCSA Customer Service at 253-6800.

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Welcome New Businesses

## Best ticket in town

Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT) expands its operating hours to 10 p.m. during the summer and offers promotional all-day passes for \$1.50 to make it easier than ever to visit sites, work or shop in the County, the City of Williamsburg, and the Bruton District of York County.

Visitors and residents alike may visit all the area attractions this summer – and forget the hassle of parking. Riders can shop at area outlets, Colonial Williamsburg, Busch Gardens, The Williamsburg Pottery and more. Middle and high school students can travel WAT service routes for free with their student ID card. The transit service also provides a specialized service within the service area for disabled persons unable to use the bus. For information on routes and schedules, call 259-4093 or see [www.williamsburgtransport.com](http://www.williamsburgtransport.com).



## County Fire honors two

The James City County Fire Department recently honored two members of its Emergency Response Division for their contributions to the department and the local community during the past year. James City Volunteer Rescue Squad President Paul Reier received the Medal of Valor for quickly responding while off-duty to a motor vehicle accident on Richmond Road. Reier was able to free a person trapped inside a burning vehicle that had struck a tree before the fire truck arrived. Jackie Carroll, Training Supervisor of the Fire Department's Emergency Communications Division, received the Fire Chief's Award in recognition of more than 25 years' service. The County's first emergency 911

## Neighborhood Tour

A total of 39 residents recently took an interactive County tour with Neighborhood Connections' Best of Citizen Leadership Academy. Citizens learned more about planning, zoning, and their community. The tour began at the JCC Library with a presentation of the Neighborhood Knowledge Collection, which includes information about community organizing and homeowners associations. Community Services Manager Tony Conyers, the Planning Department's Marvin Sowers, and JCC Library's Alyssa Altshuler guided the tour, courtesy of Neighborhood Connections and Williamsburg Area Transport. The next tour will be held October 2. For more information about the tour or to sign up, call 229-7630.

## CERT classes start again

CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Team) classes will start again in June. This 20-hour class provides valuable information on how to prepare yourself and others for disasters. You will learn how to form a neighborhood team, and respond to help yourself and your neighbors in the event of a huge disaster, such as Hurricane Isabel, when County emergency response might be delayed.

Prior students have praised how the information they learn in CERT is useful in every day life in their evaluations of the program. Every County citizen should have this training.

The classes will be held June 8, 10, 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, and 26 at the James City County Fire Training Center, located on the grounds of Eastern State Hospital. To find out more or to sign up, please call the public education office at 253-0574.



*Fire Chief Richard Miller honors Jackie Carroll and Paul Reier.*

## County PRIDE

Taking PRIDE in improving water quality and wildlife habitat is the goal of the County's "Protecting Resources in Delicate Environments" watershed education program. PRIDE recently partnered with the James River Association (JRA) and the Sharpe Community Partnership Program on two projects to improve the environment.

PRIDE, Parks and Recreation, and JRA conducted various environmental projects at Powhatan Creek Park and Blueway. Wetland plantings and litter clean-up efforts took place at the small boat/canoe launch.

The three agencies received certificates of appreciation from the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Stewardship Virginia Program. Governor Mark R. Warner and Secretary of Natural Resources W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr. signed the certificates citing the agencies' efforts in conserving and enhancing Virginia's lands and waters and ensuring the health of waterways for present and future generations.

Students from the Sharpe Community Partnership Program completed a storm drain inlet stenciling demonstration project in the Powhatan Creek Watershed. Students labeled each storm drain inlet with "Don't Dump - Chesapeake Bay Drainage" in Longhill Station, Mulberry



*Sharpe Community Partnership Program students complete storm drain project.*

Place, Ewell Hall, and the Hamlet. Students also distributed pamphlets to local residents to raise community awareness and sensitivity about the local causes of water quality impairment. The Sharpe program was developed by the College of William and Mary to link classroom knowledge with local, yearlong service projects.

For more information on the park and blueway on Powhatan Creek, with its scenic views of saltwater marshes and an abundance of wildlife, contact Parks and Recreation at 259-3200 or visit [www.jccegov.com/recreation](http://www.jccegov.com/recreation). For more information about watersheds and PRIDE, visit [www.protectedwithpride.org](http://www.protectedwithpride.org) or call 253-6859.

## Let's be smart (about water)

A Neal's Grant couple - Carter and Michele LeBlanc-Piché - are the winners of a landscape makeover in the *Let's be Water Smart's Landscape Challenge*. The couple won by describing innovative water conservation techniques such as placing an herb garden at the downspout of a rain gutter, attaching a PVC pipe to the air conditioning unit as a means to water gardens, using hardwood mulch around trees, and maintaining grass at a height of 2 to 3 inches. Unfortunately, the damaging effects of Hurricane Isabel completely destroyed their water smart landscaping efforts.

"Let's be Water Smart" is a public/private water management initiative of the James County Service Authority (JCSA) to promote responsible water usage. Stay tuned for television programs on



*Carter (from left), Michele, and Adam LeBlanc-Piché and JCSA Environmental Education Coordinator Beth Davis.*

## Cox Cable 74 broadcast dates

- 6/2, 7p.m.
- 6/6, 4 p.m.
- 6/12, 7 p.m.
- 6/20, 4 p.m.
- 7/1, 7 p.m.
- 7/3, 6 p.m.
- 7/12, 7 p.m.

the landscape makeover on JCC TV48. Broadcast times for Cox Cable 74 are listed above. For more information, visit [www.bewatersmart.org](http://www.bewatersmart.org) or contact Beth Davis, Environmental Education Coordinator, at 253-6859.

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### Berkeley District

Jay T. Harrison, Sr..... 229-3316  
E-Mail: harrison@james-city.va.us

### Jamestown District

John McGlennon ..... 220-0568  
E-Mail: jjmcgl@james-city.va.us

### Powhatan District

Michael J. Brown ..... 565-4414  
fax..... 565-3554  
E-Mail: mbrown@james-city.va.us

### Roberts District

Bruce C. Goodson..... 229-0190  
E-Mail: bgoodson@james-city.va.us

### Stonehouse District

M. Anderson Bradshaw ..... 566-1282  
E-Mail: andybrad@james-city.va.us

### County Administrator

Sandy Wanner..... 253-6605 (work)  
..... 565-4196 (home)  
E-Mail: sbwanner@james-city.va.us

### James City County

General Information, (757) 253-6600  
Emergency Hotline Number, (757) 875-2424  
Web Site: www.jccEgov.com

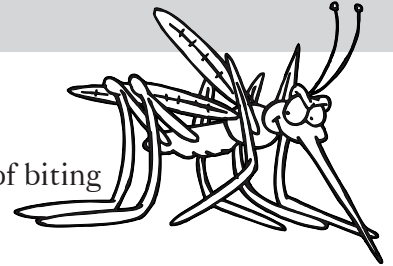
## County Fair

You could drive away from the James City County Fair in a 1981 custom Corvette. Raffle tickets are available at the County Extension Office located in the EOC Building in Toano. The raffle proceeds benefit the fair, which will be held August 13 and 14 at Upper County Park. The County's Virginia Cooperative Extension Office is also seeking volunteers to help Saturday morning with registering, displaying and judging entries, including crafts, cooked goods and fruits and vegetables. The fair will be held from 4 to 10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. Call 564-2170 for more details on volunteering or requesting raffle tickets.

## Zap 'em where they breed

Residents can help reduce the number of biting mosquitoes near their home by eliminating areas where they breed by:

- Turning over or removing containers in your yard where rainwater collects, such as potted plant trays, buckets, or toys
- Emptying birdbaths once a week
- Removing old tires from your yard
- Cleaning roof gutters and downspout screens
- Eliminating standing water on flat roofs, boats, and tarps



## FYI For Your Information

A report to the citizens of James City County

June/July 2004

James City County Communications  
5248 Olde Towne Road, Suite 11  
Williamsburg, VA 23188-1923

Copies of "FYI" are available at all government buildings, the Williamsburg Regional Library, or by mail. To get on the mailing list, call Communications at 229-7630 or log onto [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com).

- Editor: Ruth Richey
- Layout/Design: K. B. "Bernie" Winslow
- Distribution: Carole Giuliano

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Presort standard  
U.S. postage

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