

F Y I

A report to the citizens of James City County

www.jccEgov.com

Vol. 16 No. 1 December 2004 - January 2005

For Your Information

Working In Partnership With All Citizens
To Achieve A Quality Community



Winter weather watch

If severe weather causes County offices to delay opening or to close, details will be available from local news and County information sources. Look for the latest information on the County's Emergency Hotline, 875-2424, County Government Channel JCC TV48, and at www.jccEgov.com. School information will be posted on Channel 47. Local radio station WMBG 740 AM will broadcast County information during weather-related closings. The County also has a Citizen Inquiry Line, 566-4315, for citizens to get and verify information if the County's Emergency Operations Center is activated.

Holiday closings

James City County offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

- Christmas, December 23, 24, 25, and 26
- New Year's, December 31
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 17

Community Centers will be closed Dec. 24 and 25 and January 1. Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT) bus service will not run December 24, 25, and 26, and January 1 and 2. WAT buses will operate January 17.

Convenience Centers will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Curbside recycling will be collected on regularly scheduled days.

Christmas tree recycling

Christmas trees may be recycled at Convenience Centers. Remember to remove the tree stand and decorations. The trees are ground into mulch, which is available at no charge to County residents at the Jolly Pond Convenience Center. The following may be recycled curbside: gift boxes made of paperboard, cardboard boxes, and cardboard tubes from rolls of gift wrap. Gift wrap is not accepted. Remember to flatten boxes.

Prepare yourself, others with CERT

County residents who received Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) training this past fall learned how to prepare themselves, their families, and their neighborhoods

for potential disasters. The 20-hour course covers fire safety, medical operations, search and rescue, terrorism, and more. The next monthlong training session will start January

11. For more information or to register, call the public fire education office at 253-0574.



CERT participants help 'victim' in mock emergency staged at the Fire Training Center.

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Energy help for those in crisis

Crisis Assistance helps households in heating emergency situations by assisting with heat security deposits, utility heating bills, heating equipment repairs/replacements, or emergency sheltering.

To be eligible, household income must be less than the maximum allowed for the number of people in the home and you must have a heating emergency. All benefits are based on availability of funds. Applications are available by calling 259-3100 or may be picked up at Social Services, 5249 Olde Towne Road, through March 15.

Citizens welcome to attend meetings

The Board of Supervisors will hold its annual organizational meeting to elect a new chair and vice chair at 4 p.m. on January 3. In addition, the Board's 2005 meeting calendar will be determined.

Citizens are also invited to make comments on the FY 2006 budget at the public hearing at 7 p.m. on January 11. Both meetings will be held at the County Government Center, 101 Mounts Bay Road, Building F. For details, see www.jccEgov.com or JCC TV48.



County Administrator Sandy Wanner (left) and Board Chairman Bruce Goodson (right) honor Wythe Will Distributing, Inc. for outstanding business achievement. Gordon Angles, president of the candy and foods distribution firm, accepts the Captain John Smith Award.

Abandoned well? County can help

For the fourth consecutive year, the James City Service Authority (JCSA) has been awarded a Department of Environmental Quality Source Water Protection Grant for its well abandonment program. Cap It educates residents about the dangers of open wells and provides funding to properly abandon wells at no cost to the well owner. JCSA has abandoned 132 wells since the program's launch in 2002. In 2005, JCSA plans to abandon an additional 35 wells. Learn more at www.bewatersmart.org/capit or call 253-6859.

Get involved: Citizens Leadership Academy open

Sign up for the Citizens Leadership Academy, an annual program sponsored by Neighborhood Connections and Community Services.

The Academy will be held on Monday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. January 24 through April 4. Topics will include individual leadership, strengthening relationships, networking, group decision making, moving from talk to action, and celebrating successes. Classes are free and open to all residents. Call Neighborhood Connections at 229-7630 for an application

'Tis the season for fire hazards

The County Fire Department reminds everyone to water live Christmas trees. Trees that become dry are extreme fire hazards; the slightest amount of heat or a spark could ignite it like a torch.

Now's also the time to strongly consider putting a carbon monoxide detector in your home, particularly if you heat with fuels such as oil, kerosene, wood, propane or natural gas or if you use an emergency generator during power outages. Carbon monoxide, an odorless, colorless gas that displaces oxygen in the blood, can be quickly lethal. The Fire Department has a limited number of carbon monoxide detectors available on a first-come basis. For more information, call the public fire education office at 253-0574.



Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT) Director Richard Drumwright (left) presents a plaque to Ray Wingfield, Support Driver of the Quarter.



Drumwright also congratulates Bill Reynolds, Driver of the Quarter. It's easier than ever for WAT riders to find schedule information. Brochures with information for key bus stops are available at all color-coded routes.

Did you know?

A neighborhood liaison is available to each "connected" neighborhood in the County. This dedicated volunteer is trained to help neighborhood leaders plan meetings, resolve conflicts, and identify guest speakers on topics of interest to your neighborhood. Call 229-7630 for more information.

Welcome C&F!

C&F Bank has purchased a 60,000-square-foot facility at Stonehouse Commerce Park for its new Operations Center. The bank plans to relocate its operations departments and approximately 50 employees to the new facility in 2005.



Plan your escape

Did you know that Americans underestimate their risk of fire? Only 25 percent have planned their escape route and practiced it. Of all disasters, fire is the most common... and the most deadly! Find out more at www.nfpa.org. Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Neighborhood of the Quarter



Neighborhood of the Quarter, Kristiansand Homeowners' Association, maintains a three-acre park, hosts seasonal events, publishes

a quarterly newsletter, sponsors a "yard of the month" and welcomes newcomers. Joan Ranson (left), secretary, and her husband Bob Ranson, president, are shown with board member Mary Ann Henzel. Check out www.jccEgov.com or call 229-7630 for more information on how your neighborhood may receive recognition.

Change of address?

Are you receiving FYI addressed to a former occupant? Help us update your mailing information by calling 229-7630 or go to www.jccEgov.com and click on "Stay Informed" to receive an electronic version of the newsletter. Don't forget to remove your name from the paper copy list.

Matching grants available

There's still time to apply for up to \$500 in matching funds for projects that can benefit your neighborhood. Priority will be given to neighborhoods developing neighborhood watch or emergency plans. Call 229-7630 or stop by Neighborhood Connections, 5248 Old Towne Road, to pick up a matching grant application. Applications are due January 31.



Junior Girl Scout Troop 1239 earns their Eco-action Badge with assistance from the James City Service Authority. The Scouts distributed almost 200 bags of environmental education material to residents of Kristiansand, Longhill Station, and Norge Court.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Berkeley District

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James City County

General Information: (757) 253-6728

Emergency Hotline Number: (757) 875-2424

Web Site: www.jccEgov.com



Volunteers construct a rain garden at Fire Station 5 on Monticello Avenue to demonstrate water quality improvement practices.



Rain garden conserves water

Creating a rain garden and rain barrel can reduce pollution, flooding, and erosion while conserving water. See a slide show illustrating how to install a rain garden at Protecting Resources in Delicate Environments' web site, www.protectedwithpride.org. For more information, contact PRIDE@james-city.va.us.

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101-F Mounts Bay Road
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