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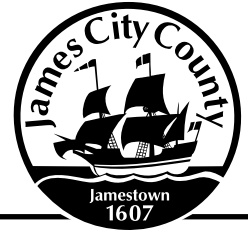
A report to the citizens of James City County

www.jccEgov.com

Vol. 15 No. 6 October - November 2004

## For Your Information

Working In Partnership With All Citizens  
To Achieve A Quality Community



### Emergency information

Stay tuned to County information sources and your local news for the latest information during a hurricane or other emergency situations.

Information sources include [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com), local government channel JCC TV48, community Channel 46, school information Channel 47 and recorded emergency hotline, 875-2424. The County also has a Citizen Inquiry Line, 566-4315, which residents may call to get and verify information. The County also provides information to local and Richmond area newspapers and radio stations, including WMBG AM740 in Williamsburg.

Don't wait until an emergency to pick up a refrigerator magnet with important emergency phone numbers. The handy magnet is available at County offices and at the libraries. For large orders, contact Emergency Management at 566-4315.



Fire Chief Richard Miller (left) and Assistant County Administrator Bill Porter discuss strategy in a recent major counter-terrorism exercise. James City County was a participant in "Determined Promise 04," conducted by the U.S. Department of Defense's Northern Command (NORTHCOM).

### Human Services Center adds phone, Web access

Social Services recently installed a courtesy telephone and computer in the Human Services Center, 5249 Olde Towne Road.

*The courtesy telephone is available to all visitors who need to call:*

- for a cab or other transportation,
- an employer or doctor to verify information,
- help agencies such as the Salvation Army, or
- other business related to receiving services such as the Division of Support Enforcement or Social Security.

The telephone, located at the security guard desk at the entrance to the building, is limited to local or toll-free calls.

A computer has also been installed in the lobby for visitors to access many Web sites. The sites include the Virginia Employment Commission, Commissioner of Revenue, Williamsburg Area Transport bus schedule, Williamsburg Regional Library, James City County government offices, and the Virginia Department of Social Services.

The Virginia Department of Social Services' Web site, [www.dss.state.va.us](http://www.dss.state.va.us), offers a screening tool citizens can access from a home computer to help determine whether they may be eligible for Food Stamps, Medicaid/Children's Health Insurance/FAMIS, General Relief, State/Local Hospitalization, or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families prior to visiting the office. Look for the screening tool under "Am I eligible for assistance?" A benefit/eligibility application may also be printed from the Web site under a link labeled "Forms, Applications, Grants." For more information, call 259-3100.

#### INSIDE *this* ISSUE

- Voting information
- Leaf collection schedule

## New commuter bus service started

A second commuter service is now available between Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) and Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT). Riders can commute for \$1.50 one-way between the Peninsula and Greater Williamsburg Monday through Friday, five times daily. Service time connections at the Williamsburg Transportation Center are the following: 7:35 a.m., 7:45 a.m., 5:06 p.m., 5:31 p.m., and 5:53 p.m. Travelers or riders can continue their trip on any of WAT's five color-coded routes for \$1.25 base fare or 50 cents for senior or disabled riders.

For more information, call HRT at 1-800-700-RIDE or WAT at 259-4093.

## Neighborhood of the Quarter

Does your neighborhood deserve recognition? Does your neighborhood have a welcoming committee, picnic, newsletter, food drive or publish a directory? You still have time to be recognized in 2004! Submit an application now and your neighborhood could be selected Neighborhood of the Month or Quarter. A simple display board or a short essay describing your neighborhood's activities is all that's required. Call Neighborhood Connections at 229-7630 or check out [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com) for more information on how your neighborhood can get the recognition it deserves.

## Neighborhood Connections matching grant available

Want to spruce up your neighborhood? The 2005 Matching Grant program offers up to \$500 in matching funds to neighborhood and homeowner associations for physical improvement/beautification projects, social activities or multi-neighborhood project partnerships. Priority will be given to neighborhoods developing neighborhood watch or emergency plans.

A workshop on how to complete an application is scheduled for 7 p.m., October 19, at Neighborhood Connections, 5248 Olde Towne Road. PRIDE (Protecting Resources in Delicate Environments) will also conduct a presentation at the workshop detailing Mini-Grant information, requirements and how to complete an application. The PRIDE Watershed Education Program offers four Mini-Grants yearly of up to \$500 each with the option of funding advancement or reimbursement.

PRIDE Mini-Grants are available to County neighborhoods, stormwater facility (BMP) owners, and community groups seeking to improve water quality through watershed restoration and/or protection projects such as tree planting, wetland planting, BMP restoration, and stream bank stabilization.

Call 229-7630 or stop by the Neighborhood Connections office to register for the workshop or receive an application. The deadline is January 31 for the Matching Grant program.

## Appeals process deadline nears

County property owners who believe their property is not assessed at market value or has not been assessed equitably with other similar properties may appeal the assessment to the Board of Equalization. The filing deadline is October 28. Contact Real Estate Assessments at 253-6650.

## County tour

Don't miss your chance to learn more about your community and visit County offices. Sign up for the next County Tour, which will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday, October 22.

Participants will ride a Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT) bus and hear about needs, issues, and current and future developments in the County. A boxed lunch is included. Space is limited. Call 229-7630 for more details and to register.



## It's time to test your smoke alarms

It's time to "Test Your Smoke Alarms!" That's the theme this year for Fire Prevention Week, October 3-9.

For more information, contact the James City County Public Fire Educator at 253-0574 or go to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) Web site at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org). For information especially geared for children, look under "For kids and families" on the NFPA Web site.



## Smoke alarms available

*Are you deaf or hard of hearing?* Thanks to a grant from the Williamsburg Community Health Foundation, you can obtain a smoke alarm for the deaf or hard of hearing at no charge! The Fire Department also offers standard battery operated smoke alarms, free of charge. For more information, call the public education office at 253-0574.

## Fire Station 4 sets open house

Fire Station 4, 5312 Olde Towne Road, will hold an Open House for Fire Prevention Week. The open house will be from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. on October 9. Please come out and see the many exhibits, "freebies," videos, and of course, meet the firefighters and see the fire engines! In addition, stay tuned for details on the grand opening of the new Fire Station 2, 8421 Pocahontas Trail. There will be some very special fire educational materials for adults and children. Hope to see you there!

## Be ready: Sign up for CERT

The Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) helps you to be prepared for disasters such as Isabel.

Learn to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors by signing up for the next CERT training. Those who have had this training believe that every citizen should take the class! Of course, class participants also manage to have fun while learning potentially life-saving messages. For up-to-date information on the next class, visit [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com) or call the public education office at 253-0574.



## WAT attains milestone

Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT) reached a milestone in ridership by making more than a half-million passenger trips this past fiscal year which ended June 30. Total passenger trips were 517,935, a 43 percent increase over the previous year. "Thanks to the support of riders, staff efforts, and WAT's Board of Directors, we are pleased that citizens of our region are enjoying public transportation opportunities," Transit Administrator Richard Drumwright said. "This increase in ridership reflects that WAT is achieving its goals of providing a coordinated, regional transit system that serves residents, visitors, students, and the mentally and physically challenged."

## It's a Water Smart Parade of Homes!

Let's be Water Smart has partnered with the Peninsula Housing and Builders Association to bring you Water Smart homes and landscapes at this year's Parade of Homes October 30 through November 14 at Nottingham Place in Ford's Colony.

Landscapers and home builders have created landscapes and homes that are not only attractive, but can also withstand nature's elements, especially during the hot, and often dry summers in James City County. For more information, see [www.bewatersmart.org](http://www.bewatersmart.org) or contact the James City Service Authority at 253-6859.

## 2004 Water Smart Landscape Series

You can be a Water Smart gardener...let our experts show you how during the free 2004 Water Smart Landscape Series. Seminars are held at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center, 5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg. No reservations needed. For more information, visit [www.bewatersmart.org](http://www.bewatersmart.org) or contact Beth Davis, JCSA Environmental Education Coordinator, at 253-6859.

### Rain Gardens & Rain Barrels

Scott Thomas, PRIDE

Saturday, October 9

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### Designing with Nature –

*A New Aesthetic*

Joe Hertzler, Hertzler & George

Saturday, November 13

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

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### James City County

General Information: (757) 253-6728

Emergency Hotline Number: (757) 875-2424

Web Site: [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com)

# Wythe-Will opens \$5.6 million facility

James City County and Economic Development Authority officials attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Wythe-Will Distributing Company's \$5.6 million facility in Stonehouse Commerce Park. The distributor of candy and specialty food products plans to add 40 employees over the next few years, bringing its total employment to about 100 at the 101,000-square-foot facility.

Stonehouse District Supervisor Andy Bradshaw presented Wythe-Will President Gordon Angles with a commemorative gift on behalf of the County. "Wythe-Will has demonstrated the type of consistent growth, good business

practices, and community involvement over the years that have made it an excellent corporate citizen," Bradshaw said. "It represents James City County well in its business relationships with national and international vendors and customers. We are proud to have them located here."



*Wythe-Will's Gordon Angles (left) and Stonehouse District Supervisor Andy Bradshaw (right).*

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