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April-May 2007

Working in partnership with all citizens to achieve a quality community

## Make history!

Love history? Just want to have fun helping your community? Be a part of exciting, once-in-a-lifetime volunteer opportunities during America's 400th Anniversary Weekend, May 11-13.

It's not too late to sign up to help at this spectacular event. Applications are available online by visiting the Volunteers section at [www.Americas400thAnniversary.com](http://www.Americas400thAnniversary.com). Completed forms may be mailed to Lynn Smith, Volunteer Office, Historic Triangle Host Committee, 412 W. Francis St., William Byrd III Stable, Williamsburg, VA 23185. For more information, call 220-7008 or e-mail [vols2007@cwf.org](mailto:vols2007@cwf.org).

For information on purchasing tickets or attending the event, go to [www.Americas400thAnniversary.com](http://www.Americas400thAnniversary.com).

## Learn about history at Freedom Park

The first of three black domiciles at Freedom Park is open to visitors who want to learn more about this site of one of the nation's earliest free black settlements. Freedom Park, 5535 Centerville Road, is open daily during daylight hours.

This re-created historical site dates back to 1803 when William Ludwell Lee bequeathed his slaves their freedom and set aside a place for them to enjoy their new-found liberty. Lee's former slaves formed the core of a Free Black Settlement that endured for more than 60 years. It also explores the social and cultural implications of this gift and its impact upon these newly freed black Americans.

The Revolutionary War Battle of Spencer's Ordinary in 1781 also took place at the site of Freedom Park.

In November 2005, James City County voters overwhelmingly approved a bond referendum, which included funding for several park improvement projects, including Freedom Park and the development of historical interpretive areas and an interpretive center. Completion of the remaining two houses is expected by December.



Photo courtesy of Ralph Earnheart

*Music, pageantry and more will mark the 400th Commemoration.*



*County officials and others recently dedicated this re-created home of freed black Americans.*

## Watch Channel 48 for County news

Do you have a question you've always wanted to ask about James City County services and programs? Don't have time to watch Board of Supervisors' meetings but want to know what is going on?

JCC TV48 has launched "Conversation with the County Administrator" featuring Sandy Wanner. He answers selected questions sent to him by citizens and highlights actions taken by the Board of Supervisors at their monthly meetings.

"Conversation" airs daily on Cox Channel 48 or may be viewed on-demand at [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com). Call Wanner at 253-6603 or e-mail [sbwanner@james-city.va.us](mailto:sbwanner@james-city.va.us) with your questions.

## Easter Egg Extravaganza

Remember to bring your Easter basket and come early, rain or shine to enjoy all the festivities April 7!

The Easter Egg Extravaganza will include a special visit from the Easter Bunny. Pre-hunt activities begin 9 a.m. at the Warhill Sports Complex and at 12:30 p.m. at the James River Community Center:

- **WSC, 5700 Warhill Trail**  
10 a.m., walking to 2 years  
10:15 a.m., 3-4 years  
10:30 a.m., 5-7 years



Cosponsored with Williamsburg Parks and Recreation

- **JRCC, 8901 Pocahontas Trail/Route 60 in Grove**  
1 p.m., walking to 7 years

For more information, call 259-3200.

## Recreation opportunities for disabled

Parks and Recreation provides reasonable accommodations for program participation to individuals with disabilities. Individuals and parents of individuals with disabilities may complete an assessment that helps identify accommodations to assist with participation.

Accommodations provided range from helping participants attend camps and school-age programs to individual assistance. These are provided at no additional cost to the participant. Once an assessment is completed it may take up to three weeks to make the necessary accommodations. If you or someone you know would like to participate in a recreation program and are in need of assistance, contact Danah Kaigler at 259-5354.



*Sandy Wanner tapes "Conversation with the County Administrator."*

## Neighborhood Connections

Contact Neighborhood Connections, 259-5422, to register for the following:

- **Reserve Studies**  
April 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
Williamsburg Regional Library,  
7770 Croaker Road  
Learn the steps involved in conducting a reserve study, which is a physical and financial analysis of your neighborhood's amenities.
- **Role of Property Manager**  
April 18, 7:45-8:45 p.m.  
Williamsburg Regional Library,  
7770 Croaker Road  
Participants will explore relationships between boards and property managers.
- **James City County 101**  
April 21, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
JC/W Community Center,  
5301 Longhill Road  
Newcomers and longtime residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the County. Hear a short presentation by County Administrator Sandy Wanner and then board a bus for a tour around the County. Lunch is provided. Registration deadline: April 14.

## Citizens invited to speak on budget

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the proposed County budget on April 10 at 7 p.m. at the County Government Complex, 101 Mounts Bay Road, Building F. Citizens are invited to make comments on the budget plan for fiscal year 2008, which will be presented at the meeting. Copies of the proposed budget will be available at County offices or [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com) starting April 2.

The Board will also hold work sessions on the budget proposal April 12, 16 and 19. The Board is scheduled to adopt the budget on April 24.



## Earth Day planned

Learn how to shop green and keep our communities clean at the annual Earth Day Environmental Fair and Trade Show on April 20. This event will be held from noon to 2 p.m. at Legacy Hall, 4301 New Town Ave.

A variety of businesses and organizations will provide environmental information. Learn earth friendly tips from local businesses and organizations, and talk to environmental professionals about career opportunities.

The Counties of James City and York, City of Williamsburg, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Virginia Peninsulas Public Service Authority and Williamsburg Subsidiaries of Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. are sponsoring the event.

For additional information, contact James City County's Recycling Office at 565-4000.



Join us for a day on the farm and learn about the animals in the petting zoo at Family Fun Fest on May 19. The event will be held at Chickahominy Riverfront Park, 1350

John Tyler Highway, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Touch-a-Truck is back with big trucks for kids of all ages to play on. Bounce on rides,

laugh with the clowns and take part in the entertainment!

The Sentara Williamsburg Community Hospital Health Fair will show you why being healthy can lead to loads of fun. The County Fire Department will be there celebrating EMS week – get to know your local firefighters and find out why monthly fire drills are so important. Bring a lunch or visit our concession area, and enjoy the day!

## May is Bike Month!

See Williamsburg Area Bicyclists' Web site at [www.WABonline.org](http://www.WABonline.org) or visit your local bike shop for more details. Here are some of the scheduled bike rides to put on your calendars:



### ■ 11th Annual Pedal the Parkway – April 28, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Colonial Parkway between Williamsburg and Jamestown will be closed to cars and open to bicycles for this free event open to the public, rain or shine. Parking will be available off Newport Avenue and in the Jamestown Yacht Basin field. (Riders who wish to avoid hills should plan on starting from Jamestown.) Organized by the Williamsburg Area Bicyclists, this event is expected to draw more than 1,000 riders. Free helmets will be given to children while they last.

### ■ National Bike to Work Week – May 14-18

Bike to work, school, shop or the library. If your schedule doesn't allow you to bike to work all week, try to make an extra special effort to bike on Friday, May 18.

### ■ Family Bike Day – May 27, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Join other families of all cycling abilities at Little Creek Reservoir Park, 180 Lake View Drive. Children 10 and under must be on a trailer bike, tandem or in a trailer. Ride leaders from the Williamsburg Area Bicyclists will accompany riders on a 25-mile loop through scenic country roads at 1 p.m. and a 10-mile casual ride at 2 p.m. Free ice cream sundaes will be available at the park shelter after the rides. Free helmets for children while they last.

## Board of Supervisors

### Berkeley District

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### Jamestown District

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### County Administrator

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.....565-4196 (home)  
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### James City County General

Information .....253-6728  
Emergency Hotline .....875-2424  
Website..... [www.jccEgov.com](http://www.jccEgov.com)



*Chickahominy Tribe Chief Stephen Adkins spoke at the recent dedication of the mural "Arrival" at the Williamsburg/James City County Courthouse. The painting, by local artists Sharyn Simpson and Gary Robertson, shows how Native Americans might have reacted in Jamestown on that historic day in May 1607 when the Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery came ashore.*

**fyi** for your information  
James City County's Citizen Newsletter

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For more information, call 253-6864 or e-mail [pubinfo@james-city.va.us](mailto:pubinfo@james-city.va.us).

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**County offices closed May 28 for Memorial Day.**