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Working in partnership with all citizens to achieve a quality community

FY08 budget meets challenges of growth, maintains quality of life

James City County's Board of Supervisors approved a fiscal year 2008 budget that reaffirms the County's strong commitment to maintaining our excellent quality of life, providing quality education and meeting the challenges of growth while keeping the real estate tax rate steady. The budget, which runs from July 1 to June 30, 2008, strikes a balance between available funding levels, diversified revenue sources and first-rate police and fire protection, public schools and other services.

The \$173 million General Fund budget is \$18 million or 11.7 percent more than the current FY07 budget. The FY08 budget contributes \$91.4 million to Williamsburg-James City Schools – the largest single-year increase in County funding. This allocation represents 53 percent of the General Fund budget going to public schools, which includes funding to operate the new Warhill High and Matoaka Elementary schools, which will open this fall. The budget's remaining 47 percent will go toward County operations, contributions to other agencies, debt service and investments in capital improvement projects.

Other highlights

- Maintains current real estate tax rate at 77 cents per \$100 assessed value
- Home reassessments expected to average between 8 to 10 percent
- Strong commercial growth projected

Since the State provides limited County funding and ways in which County governments can raise revenues, the FY08 plan proposes alternative revenue sources to keep the current real estate tax rate steady. New user fees will be implemented to enhance stormwater management and to partly recover the costs of providing emergency medical services.

For complete details, go to www.jccEgov.com.



County officials helped Thomas Nelson Community College break ground recently on a three-story, 120,000-square-foot building for its Historic Triangle campus.

The new campus, near Route 60 and Centerville Road, is being built on 74 acres of land offered by James City County. It is adjacent to Warhill High School (shown below, foreground), which will open this fall, and James City County Stadium, due to open in August.

The \$6 million stadium will be used for community activities, major field sporting events and for varsity athletic competitions held by the County's high schools. It will provide fixed seating for 3,000 spectators.



Photo courtesy Casey Staub

Community Centers fees increase

Access pass fees at the James City/Williamsburg and the James River community centers will increase July 1. Youth access pass fees will remain the same.

The County Administrator approved the increase to support facility and equipment maintenance and repairs at the centers. Fees at the community centers have not increased since 2002. More than 75 percent of the community center's operating costs are recouped through the user fees. The complete fee schedule can be found in Parks and Recreation's summer brochure available at the Community Centers, County government buildings and online at www.jccEgov.com, under Parks and Recreation. The brochure also details all of the division summer programming such as sports and specialty camps, teen trips and excursions, arts and crafts and special interest classes.

Note: Parks and Recreation camps, classes and trips do not require an access pass to the community centers.



Enjoy the beautiful sunset on the water and listen to music on Friday nights at Chickahominy Riverfront Park. Here is the schedule:

- **July 13, 7 p.m., The Junkyard Prowlers** – blues and rock-n-roll
- **July 27, 7 p.m., Static** – jazz, funk and improvisational
- **Aug. 10, 6:30 p.m., Runaway String Band** – bluegrass and swing
- **Aug. 24, 6:30 p.m., The Delvers** – blues, country and acoustic rock

10th Annual Park to Park Bicycle Tour

- **July 14, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Upper County Park**

This bicycle tour starts at Upper County Park with visits to Little Creek Reservoir Park, Chickahominy Riverfront Park and Freedom Park. Choose your ride option – 15, 28 or 51 miles. Pre-register for \$7 or \$10 on site. There is no registration fee for children 10 and younger but they must ride on a trailer bike, tandem or in a trailer.

Registration fee includes refreshments at rest stops, admittance to the Upper County Park pool, canoe rentals at Little Creek, highlighted maps and support vehicles to help tired riders and lunch at Upper County Park. Forms are available at local bike shops and at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center. Sponsored by JCC Parks and Recreation and Williamsburg Area Bicyclists.

Teen recreation

Teen nights are the “spot” to be every other Friday from 8:30-11:30 p.m. for students in grades 6-12 with W-JCC student ID. Swim, play basketball, listen to music, dance, make crafts and hang out with your friends.

- **James City/Williamsburg Community Center**
5301 Longhill Road
June 22 and July 13
- **James River Community Center**
8901 Pocahontas Trail
June 8, July 27 and Aug. 24

Kids' All-American Fishing Derby

- **Little Creek Reservoir Park**
180 Lakeview Drive
June 2, 9 a.m. - noon

Bring your bait and tackle and enjoy the “Big Fish, Small Fish” contest, prizes and fun! Register early or on-site. Free.

Discover Our New World

James City County has published for the first time an historical map designed to help residents and visitors discover the County's people and places that formed the foundation of Virginia and America. The map highlights historic landmarks, historically important roads and a timeline of significant James City County dates from 1607 to the present.

This brochure is one of many “legacy” projects that the County has undertaken as part of the 400th Anniversary. *Discover Our New World* is available at many County buildings or may be viewed at www.jccEgov.com.





James City County residents recently graduated from the 2007 Citizen Leadership Academy and received certificates from the County's Board of Supervisors.

■ Neighborhood Connections is accepting applications for next year's Citizen Leadership Academy, which will meet from January to March. For more information, call 259-5422.

■ County Administrator Sandy Wanner recently spoke to residents who participated in James City County 101, sponsored by Neighborhood Connections. Participants learned more about government services and programs, visited area sites and toured County facilities.

■ Free legal services will be offered July 21 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the William & Mary Law School, 613 S. Henry St. Please call 229-9332 to schedule an appointment or if you need transportation.

W-JCC Community Action Agency and the Williamsburg Bar Association are sponsors.



Legal Clinic held recently at the James River Community Center.

Prepare for bad weather

It's never too early to prepare your family for a storm that may leave your home without power and telephone service and a shortage of supplies.

These are supplies you should have available:

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery-powered radio
- Extra food and water
- Extra medicine and baby items
- First-aid supplies
- Prescription and non-prescription drugs
- Pet food and supplies
- Important family documents

Prepare for 3 days minimum; 7 days is best.



Emergency Preparedness



Help conserve water

Outdoor water use regulations are in effect through Sept. 30 for James City Service Authority (JCSA) customers.

Outdoor water use is not permitted between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., or at any time on Mondays, which is a recovery day. Odd number houses may water Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays and even numbers on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Watering is permitted any time with a container or with a hose with an automatic shutoff nozzle that is attended.

For more information, call 259-4152 for a recorded message, visit www.jccEgov.com or tune into JCC TV48.

'FYI' comes to JCC TV48

Stay up-to-date on local events and happenings by tuning into JCC TV48's news show "FYI," based on this newsletter.

The County's new community stadium, hurricane preparedness and new fees will be discussed in the latest show, which will air daily on Cox Channel 48 starting July 1. Archived news shows also can be viewed online at www.jccEgov.com.



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Chickahominy Riverfront Park, Route 5
30th Anniversary!

Dedicated to America's 400th Anniversary!



FRIDAY 4-10 p.m.
SATURDAY 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION! PARKING \$5/CAR

For more information, visit www.jccgov.com and look for the Fair notice or call Virginia Cooperative Extension at 757-564-2170.

Be a part of the Fair! We need volunteers! Call VCE 757-564-2170!



for your information

James City County's Citizen Newsletter

www.jccEgov.com

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For more information, call 253-6864 or e-mail pubinfo@james-city.va.us.

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