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Working in partnership with all citizens to achieve a quality community

New leadership elected

Roberts Supervisor Bruce Goodson is the new chairman of James City County's Board of Supervisors. Stonehouse Supervisor Jim Kennedy is the new vice chairman. Both were elected Jan. 2 during the Board's organizational meeting. Their terms of service are one year.

This is Goodson's third time leading the Board; he also served as chairman in 2004 and 2006. He was recently re-elected in the Roberts District to a four-year term. Goodson is President of the Diamond/Goodson Equipment Corporation, a regional industrial equipment dealer with locations in Norfolk and Richmond. He attended Walsingham Academy, and received a bachelor's degree from Virginia Wesleyan College in Norfolk.

Jim Kennedy was elected to his second full term as Stonehouse Supervisor. He also served from 2000 to 2003 and was chairman in 2002. He is a business owner/chef and served as an at-large representative on the Planning Commission from 2005 to 2008.

Mary Jones was elected this past fall in the Berkeley District. She has been a James City County resident for 10 years and was appointed to the Planning Commission in January 2005. Jones attended Towson State University where she majored in Mass Communication. She served as vice chairman of the Planning Commission and DRC Chairperson in 2007. Her work as a member of the 2003 Comprehensive Plan Community Participation Team earned her the James City County, Virginia, Outstanding Service Award.



Bruce Goodson, chairman (top); Jim Kennedy, vice chairman (middle); and Mary Jones, bottom.



The Norge Train Depot was named to the Virginia Landmark Register, which recognizes historic sites.

What's new on JCC TV48

The latest edition of "FYI," JCC TV48's news program, highlights the County's animal control department, the Comprehensive Plan and more.

Other features include a wild turkey release at Freedom Park, the County's "Top Cop" award and a special look behind the scenes of the show. The show airs daily at 8 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.



Water conservation tips

Long range weather predictions call for a hot, dry growing season. The JCSA advises to:

- Conserve water from infrequent rainfalls in your new rain barrel. Receive \$50 back per rain barrel: limit four. For rebate and details, visit www.bewatersmart.org and look for the “Rebates” link, call 253-6859 or e-mail bewatersmart@james-city.va.us.
- If your irrigation system was installed in James City County and supplied water by the JCSA after March 8, 2005, then you are required by County ordinance to have a rain sensor set to a quarter inch or less.
- If you have an older irrigation system, install a rain sensor on your home irrigation system. Visit www.bewatersmart.org and look for the “rebates” link.
- Investigate ET-based controllers for your home irrigation system. Using satellite and on-site weather data, they provide a hands-off, hassle-free option for the ideal level of irrigation.
- If your shower can fill a one gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model. Look for the EPA’s new WaterSense label and visit www.epa.gov/watersense when shopping for high-efficiency toilets, landscape irrigation services, irrigation control technologies, showerheads and more.
- Minimize turf area and do not overwater. Frequent, shallow watering encourages shallow root growth, which is not healthy for your lawn. For other outdoor water-saving tips, lawn care calendars, guides and suggested plants, visit www.bewatersmart.org.



Indoor water conservation

- Repair leaky toilets. To find out if you have a leak, put a little colored liquid, such as food coloring or coffee, in the toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color appears in the bowl within 30 minutes, then you have a leak. Even a small toilet leak can cost \$50 or more per year in higher water and sewer bills. Large leaks waste much more.
- Turn off the water when you don’t need it while brushing teeth, shaving or washing dishes.
- If you time your shower to keep it under five minutes, you can save up to a thousand gallons water monthly.

For more information, go to www.bewatersmart.org or call 253-6859. For free water conservation materials and supplies, e-mail bewatersmart@james-city.va.us.

Neighborhood Connections

Opportunities are offered year-round for residents who wish to learn more about the County and neighborhood and homeowners’ association issues. For more information or to register, call 259-5422.

These seminars made possible in part by assistance from The Real Estate Board.

■ Understanding Governing Documents

Feb. 20, 7 to 9 p.m.

James City County Library, 7770 Croaker Road

Neighborhood Connections and Spirn, Tarley, Robinson and Tarley, P.L.L.C.

Learn about how documents form the legal foundation for association operations and how they interrelate and influence association decision making. JCC residents, free; non-residents, \$10.

■ Essentials of Community Association Volunteer Leadership

March 15, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Ford’s Colony Swim and Tennis Club, 302 St. Andrews Drive
Central Virginia Community Association Institute

Designed for new homeowners’ association boards and committee members, this course will provide information about the creation, legal foundation, organization and financial structure of community associations.

JCC residents, \$25;

non-residents, \$35.



Keep fire in its place

Isn't it great to be snug and warm inside your home when outside the weather is awful? Heating equipment is the second-leading cause of home fires in the United States, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

Here are a few simple ways you can decrease the risk of a heating fire in your home:

- Keep or maintain a three-foot space between all heating equipment and anything that can burn.
- Do not use your oven to heat your home.
- Inspect and maintain heating equipment regularly for safety.
- Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room and before going to bed.
- Have your chimney inspected each year and cleaned if needed.

Avoid 'silent killer'

Carbon monoxide is created whenever something burns. It can be your oil stove, gas or propane heat, woodstoves or any engine such as a generator or vehicles in an attached garage.

Carbon monoxide is often called the "silent killer" because it cannot be detected by sight or smell. It will deprive your organs of oxygen, with the brain being affected first. This is why people will "pass out" from carbon monoxide exposure.

At low levels of exposure, carbon monoxide causes flu-like symptoms. If you feel drowsy, have headaches and feel nauseous at home but then feel fine when you leave home, you may have a low level exposure to carbon monoxide! Over time, this can severely damage your organs. It's easy to avoid; carbon monoxide alarms are available for purchase wherever smoke alarms are sold.

Budget meetings

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the proposed biennial budget on April 22 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 and recommended tax rates.

The Board will hold work sessions on the budget proposal at 7 p.m. April 28, May 1 and May 6. The budget is expected to be adopted on May 13. All meetings will be shown on JCC TV48 and www.jccEgov.com.

Lawn care tips

March is the month for crabgrass control. March is not the month to fertilize your cool season lawn. You can seed cool season lawns and still control crabgrass. For answers to turf questions, join us for Turf Love "U" on March 1 from 10 a.m. to noon at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center, 5301 Longhill Road. Call the Virginia Cooperative Extension at 564-2170 to pre-register.



Special events offered

For more details, pick up the latest Destination Recreation brochure at the community centers, County offices and online at www.jccEgov.com.

■ Summer Camp Expo

Feb. 23, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

James City/Williamsburg Community Center, 5301 Longhill Road

Make summer camp plans early for your preschool to school age children. Informational booths, interactive demonstrations, hands-on activities and raffles are just a few great features of this community event. Games, snacks and activities will keep your children active while you gather information about sports, outdoor education, drama, arts and crafts, Rec Connect, and preschool and inclusion camps.

■ Easter Egg Extravaganza

March 22

Warhill Sports Complex and James River Community Center

Remember to bring your basket and camera to capture the excitement. The event takes place rain or shine.

Warhill: 10 a.m.....walking to 2 years
10:20 a.m.....3-4 years
10:40 a.m.....5-7 years

JRCC: 1 p.m.walking to 7 years



Co-sponsored by the City of Williamsburg Parks and Recreation.

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

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County offices will be closed Presidents' Day, Feb. 18.

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Comprehensive Plan update

The Comprehensive Plan, the County's master plan for guiding future growth, is updated every five years and is used to evaluate development proposals. It covers all aspects of the community, including economic development, population growth, public facilities, parks and recreation, and transportation. The process is scheduled over nearly two years, with a final version ready for adoption in 2009.

The Board of Supervisors appointed the Community Participation Team (CPT) in November 2007. It is comprised of citizens and Planning Commission members who assist with efforts to encourage, collect and report citizen input on the future of the County. The meetings, held weekly on Thursdays at 4 p.m. at the James City County Government Complex, 101 Mounts Bay Road, in Building A are open to the public.

One of the CPT's first tasks was to develop a title and logo for the process. "Historic Past, Sustainable Future" was chosen because it shows the County's ties to its rich heritage while also putting a focus on leaving the County in good shape for future generations.

To learn more, see www.jccplans.org, JCC TV48 or the FYI newsletter.