

HENRICO



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Summer 2010

TODAY

Henrico ready to launch 400th anniversary — Kickoff is the 2010 Harvest Festival

It's a party four centuries in the making. And all of America is invited.

One of the biggest birthday celebrations in Henrico's history — the county's own 400th — is just a few months away. Residents can catch a preview of the upcoming events



and activities planned for Henrico's quadricentennial anniversary at the 2010 Harvest Festival, set for noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16 at Meadow Farm at Crump Park, 3400 Mountain Road. The event is free.

Board of Supervisors Chairman Patricia S. O'Bannon, who heads the 2011 Commemoration Commission, noted that the roots of Henrico's history run deep, tracing all the way back to 1611 when Sir Thomas Dale built the Cite of Henricus — named for Henry, Prince of Wales, the son of King James — on a peninsula upriver from Jamestown. Henricus became the second English settlement in North America at that time.

"The story of Henrico County is deeply connected to the growth and development of Virginia and the United States as a whole," O'Bannon said. "The county's history is a tremendous resource, matched only by its people."

"We look forward to celebrating this history throughout 2011 and honoring the many diverse people who played a role in it," she said. "The kickoff activities and the Harvest Festival will give everyone a glimpse of what lies ahead."

Events throughout the year will

highlight the county's extensive history, which predates the Declaration of Independence by more than one-and-a-half centuries. Special activities for all ages will be held each month. Henrico County Public Schools has developed a curriculum that studies the county's history as well.

Although the Cite of Henricus — **—CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE—**

area bounded by West Broad Street, Gaskins Road and Interstate 64. The land-use study also includes 166 acres of nearby residential properties bounded by Sadler and Dublin roads, I-64 and I-295.

The IAS encompasses approximately 7 million square feet of office space, 1.7 million square feet of commercial space, 225,000 square feet of residential space and 270 buildings. It is the largest such study undertaken by the Planning Department.

Increasing efficiency, reducing sprawl

The county's Board of Supervisors requested the land-use study in September 2009 as vacancy rates in the office park and nearby properties grew to more than 25 percent. With more than 20,000 people working in Innsbrook and the vicinity, the increased vacancy was a cause for concern.

"Innsbrook is a vital employment center for Henrico, and we need to maintain it as an economic engine for the county," said Planning Director Joe Emerson. "We want to be proactive now so we don't have to react to circumstances 20 years down the road."

Currently the single-largest concentration of office space in the county, Innsbrook could be asked to play an even larger role in the near future. Henrico's 2026 Comprehensive Plan estimates that in less than two decades an additional 60,000 employees will be working in an office environment in the county; those new employees will need another 15 million square feet of office space.

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Examining Innsbrook — New study looks at land-use changes for office hub

Henrico officials are taking a fresh look at Innsbrook — a key component of the county's economy for nearly 30 years — with an eye to helping the employment center adapt to changing market conditions and maintain its economic vitality for decades to come.

Henrico's Planning Department continues work on the draft Innsbrook Area Study (IAS), an examination of future land uses within a 1,351-acre area that contains the 850-acre Innsbrook Corporate Center as well as an adjacent office and commercial

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400th — continued —

was destroyed a decade after its founding during the Anglo-Powhatan War, its name survived. In 1634, Henrico became one of the eight original shires, or counties, of the Virginia colony, with boundaries extending on both sides of the James River westward to the Blue Ridge Mountains. Ten counties and three independent cities ultimately were carved from within Henrico's original boundaries.

The quadricentennial kickoff will present several of the participating organizations and activities that will be featured in 2011. The Virginia Intertribal Drum and Dancers will perform traditional and contemporary tribal dances, while church and school choirs will offer music that highlights the history and tradition of the church in the African-American community. A replica Indian village will demonstrate how Henrico's first residents cooked and lived.

For the kids, face painting, artwork, balloons and temporary tattoos — all with the 400-year anniversary theme — will be available. In addition, informational brochures, booths and commemorative items will be on hand.

The 400th Anniversary kickoff activities make up only a part of the 2010 Harvest Festival, which typically attracts some 8,000 visitors to Meadow Farm, a working farmstead circa 1860.

This year's event will feature a variety of hands-on corn activities, such as corn shelling and husking contests and cornhusk-doll making. Corn is prominently featured on the county seal and has been harvested in the area for centuries. The festival will demonstrate a variety of traditional harvest-time practices, including cider making, bee keeping, candle dipping, blacksmithing and wood-working. There also will be a corn maze and "Great Pumpkin Patch," as well as live entertainment that includes clog dancers and bluegrass music.

For more information about the 2010 Harvest Festival, contact Recreation and Parks at 501-7275 or log on to www.henricorecreation.com.

For more information about Henrico's 400th anniversary celebration, log on to www.henrico400th.com or call the information line at 501-1611. And watch your Henrico County utility bill for a special insert listing dates and times of upcoming 400th anniversary events.

Innsbrook — continued —

To preserve and enhance Innsbrook's economic vitality, the draft IAS recommends a more flexible land-use framework that encourages redevelopment of existing properties. The area has strong potential for urban mixed-use development — such as the integration of retail, office and residential uses within the same multistory building — that takes advantage of existing infrastructure and uses land more efficiently while reducing sprawl and impact to the environment.

Many of the area's buildings were designed to meet the specific needs of a single, large user. More than 60 percent of the area's office and industrial facilities are one- and two-story structures; many are surrounded by large parking lots — an inefficient use of valuable real estate, Emerson noted. Thirty percent of the office and commercial space included in the study area — more than 350 acres — currently is devoted to surface parking lots and internal drives.

Redevelopment efforts in the study area over the next 10 to 20 years would likely feature more vertical growth with higher-density use, Emerson said.

"Mixed-use development can help this area transition into a more modern urban employment center," he said. "This is the next stage in the evolution of Innsbrook Corporate Center."

Evolving Innsbrook

Innsbrook Corporate Center was

part of a nationwide trend of office centers shifting from traditional downtown bases to new suburban sites when its development on western Henrico farmland got under way in the late 1970s. With a West Broad Street location, proximity to interstate highways and other advantages, the center grew quickly, providing a home for large corporate offices and major employers such as Dominion Virginia Power, Markel Corporation, Capital One, LandAmerica, Wachovia Securities and others.

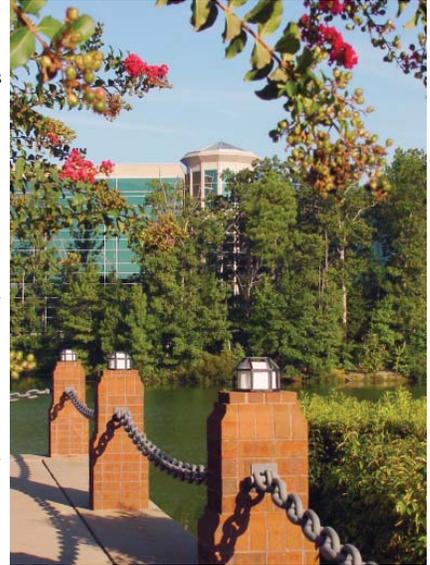
Along the way, the employment center became a community, adding restaurants, retail businesses and hotels, and offering quality-of-life features such as jogging and nature trails, scenic lakes, recreation leagues, festivals and an outdoor concert series for employees that developed into a regional attraction. The center had a multiplier effect as well, helping spur additional growth nearby.

The recession of 2008-09 took a toll, however. Bankruptcy produced significant job losses at LandAmerica and shuttered the doors at the Circuit City corporate headquarters, located south of Innsbrook; Wachovia Securities left the center as well. As the area enters a transition period, the land-use study provides recommendations to help it emerge into its next phase.

Upward, not outward

That next phase could take advantage of a new nationwide trend of individuals wanting to live closer to their jobs, reducing their reliance on vehicles and enjoying greater opportunities to walk or use public transportation to get to work. The IAS demonstrates that the study area developed with the automobile in mind and suffers from a lack of "pedestrian connectivity" — its design can deter workers from walking to lunch or other services, for example.

Mixed-use structures offer an alternative, encouraging vertical growth



Innsbrook Corporate Center, which opened in 1982, still boasts the single-largest concentration of office space in Henrico.

while discouraging sprawl. Integrating apartments or condominiums with restaurants, shops and offices in a single building produces denser development and better use of space.

The IAS highlights the potential benefits of mixed-use facilities for Innsbrook while remaining sensitive to nearby single-family residential neighborhoods. The study recommends height and density limits for development closest to neighborhoods at the edges of the study area, with the limits easing toward the interior of the area.

The mixed-use designation is not new to Innsbrook, Emerson said, noting that the 36-acre Markel site has been zoned for urban mixed-use development since February 2005.

In addition to its land-use proposals, the IAS advocates the creation of technology zones to help retain and expand businesses within the study area. Technology zones — similar to enterprise zones, except for being created and funded by a locality instead of the state — would allow the county to offer businesses greater regulatory flexibility, reduced permit and user fees and tax incentives.

Ongoing process

Planning staff held community meetings on the IAS in May and July, and the Planning Commission recently held a public hearing on the study as well. Residents' comments have played an important part in the study's development, Emerson said. More than 240 comments had been received prior to the public hearing.

"The Innsbrook Area Study is not a finished product," he said. "We continue to receive public input, and we encourage our residents to share their insights and opinions."

Following its public hearing, the Planning Commission recommended the study to the Board of Supervisors. The board will hold another public hearing in September and consider it for adoption later in the fall.

The Innsbrook Area Study is available on the Planning Department website at www.co.henrico.va.us/departments/planning. Comments and questions can be directed via e-mail to InnsbrookAreaStudy@co.henrico.va.us. For more information, call 501-4602.

Leading the way, one more time —NACo honors 18 Henrico programs

The central Virginia heat isn't the only thing breaking records this summer. Henrico employees again have been recognized by a national association for developing a number of innovative programs in the past year.

Henrico County has received 18 awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award program, more than any Virginia county and seventh-most nationally. The awards were presented at the 2010 NACo annual conference, held July 16-20 in Reno, Nev.

Henrico now has led Virginia counties in NACo awards for the last five years.

The NACo Achievement Award Program recognizes groundbreaking

county government programs annually in a broad range of service areas, including education, administration, parks and recreation, health and human services. The award program began in 1970 as part of a nationwide effort to modernize county government and improve its level of service.

County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. said that staff remained resourceful despite a severe economy that led to one of the most difficult budget years in Henrico's history and produced cuts to most departmental budgets. He noted that the county did not pass along the cuts to residents in the form of service reductions or a tax increase, however — in large part due to the efforts and innovations of county staff.

"I'm extremely proud of Henrico employees," Hazelett said. "Regardless of the economic uncertainty and budgetary limitations, they continue to seek out new and better ways to serve our residents."

NACo honored Henrico programs created and implemented by eight county agencies. The awards extend the county's tradition of providing cutting-edge programs to residents. Henrico programs have received 149 NACo Achievement awards since 2000. For more information, log on to www.co.henrico.va.us or www.naco.org.

Programs receiving awards were:

- **"Households Facing Economic Crisis: Regional Employment Transition Center,"** County Manager's Office; when the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression led to unprecedented job losses throughout the metropolitan area, county officials coordinated a regional response in March 2009 with the opening of the Regional Employment Transition Center; the center offers a broad range of employment services, combining the efforts of several agencies into one location, and has received more than 11,000 visits from individuals seeking services;
- **"Automating Vehicle Registration Withholding,"** Finance; this project significantly enhanced the county's processing of delin-

quent vehicle personal property taxes and offers residents more options for paying delinquent taxes;

- **"Reforming the Business Inspection Process,"** Finance; Henrico's business inspectors implemented several measures, including the field use of wireless laptop computers and operating within better-defined territories, that improved efficiency and customer service and produced a 30 percent increase in revenues;
- **"SWAM Outreach Collaborative,"** General Services; this project to bring more SWAM (small, women-owned and minority-owned) businesses into Henrico's procurement process expanded to include several area localities, nonprofit organizations and the Commonwealth of Virginia in a daylong conference and networking event;
- **"Fitness and Wellness Certification,"** Human Resources; a comprehensive effort to encourage employee participation in fitness and wellness activities, this program provides fitness trainers and nutrition classes for employees; in one 17-week session, 72 participants lost a total of 580 pounds;
- **"Employee Retention and Career Enhancement Program,"** Planning; this initiative utilizes cross training and career-development principles to help the Planning Department retain employees while providing a process for their advancement within the department;
- **"Online Development Plan Review System,"** Planning; this Internet application, created in-house, converts review comments on development plans into instant e-mail notifications that are sent to other county agencies,

developers and interested residents, enhancing the monitoring of development projects around the county;

- **"Senior Outreach Program,"** Public Library; the Friends of Twin Hickory Area Library and staff collaborate to host monthly programs — such as musical performances, travelogues and film screenings — for residents of area assisted living facilities;
- **"Teacher Cadet Day,"** Public Library; staff at Twin Hickory Area Library conducted a motivational workshop for more than 150 high school students considering a career in education;
- **"Collaborative Action Plan to Protect Children with Allergies,"** Schools; a task force of parents and school administrative staff worked together to develop a comprehensive plan addressing the safety, health and social needs of students with severe allergies;
- **"Community-Led Approach to Strategic Planning,"** Schools; a new approach to strategic



planning, this initiative brought community stakeholders into the early stages of plan development and maintained their involvement throughout the three-stage process, producing a strategic plan that better reflects community perspectives;

- **"Biodiesel Production: Going Green in High School,"** Schools;

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students at Varina High School convert used cooking oil into biodiesel fuel that powers equipment ranging from lawn mowers to school buses and produces cost savings for the system;

- **“EL/Civics Program,”** Schools; this effort provides adult ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages) students with the academic and civics instruction necessary to help them transition into a traditional GED class and obtain U.S. citizenship;
- **“Harmony Park,”** Schools; located at Colonial Trail Elementary School, this outdoor musical classroom — Virginia’s first — features weatherproof instruments from Indonesia and South Africa and helps students learn about world cultures;
- **“Mock Interviews: Preparing Teens for Tomorrow,”** Schools; nearly 350 juniors and seniors at three high schools have worked with community business leaders to hone their career preparation and job interview skills through this mock interview program;
- **“Pandemic Influenza: Community Approach to Prevention,”** Schools; a number of government agencies worked together to ensure access to H1N1 vaccine for every school-aged child in Henrico through school-based clinics and other means;
- **“CTE Showcase Expo,”** Schools; this daylong event — featuring dozens of exhibits, guest speakers and demonstrations — introduced students to the system’s Career and Technical Education programs;
- **“Web-based Case Management and Appointment Scheduler Systems,”** Social Services; developed and implemented in partnership with the county’s Department of Information Technology, this user-friendly system significantly enhanced Social Services’ efficiency in managing clients’ cases as well as workers’ caseloads.

Bang for the buck —Sports tournaments boost county economy, reputation

Here’s a quick quiz: Can you name the industry that pumped \$30.8 million into the local economy while bringing at least 60,000 visitors from across the nation into Henrico last year?

A couple of hints: The labor force included teenagers as well as adults, and they worked at multiple locations throughout the county. In addition, the workers provided their own tools and uniforms while on the job.

Answer: Youth and adult sports tournaments.

Henrico Recreation and Parks facilities played host to 102 sports tournaments last year, including 61 youth events. Some 56,407 players from 3,674 teams — boys and girls, women and men — competed in the tournaments; the bulk of those competitors, more than 43,500, were youth.

That translates into more bodies in the beds of Henrico hotels, more hungry mouths at tables in Henrico restaurants, and more open wallets and pocketbooks in Henrico shopping centers. And that means more income for local businesses and more tax revenue for county coffers.

“The impact of sports tournaments on Henrico’s economy is tremendous,” said Gary McLaren, executive director of Henrico’s Economic Development Authority. “It supports our local businesses, which in turn create jobs and capital investment.”

The impact goes beyond dollars and cents. McLaren noted that the website *Parenting.com* recently placed the Richmond metro region at the top of its list of America’s healthiest communities.

“Sports tournaments project a

healthy image and a high quality of life for Henrico,” he said. “That’s a powerful message for the thousands of people and families who travel here from around the country (for a tournament).”

The tournaments feature a variety of sports, ranging from adult softball, flag football, weight lifting, rugby and ultimate Frisbee to youth baseball, basketball, softball, lacrosse and soccer. Competitions providing the biggest economic boost last year



Glen Allen Stadium at RF&P Park is a big draw for youth baseball tournaments.

were the Softball Nation and National Softball tournaments at just under \$5.6 million and the Jefferson Cup soccer tournament at more than \$5.1 million.

Games are played county-wide at Recreation and Parks venues such as Glen Allen Stadium at RF&P Park,

Dorey Park, Lakeside Little League and the Deep Run soccer complex. Henrico’s sites are a big attraction, said Recreation and Parks Director Karen Mier.

“Henrico has earned a great reputation for the quality of our facilities with tournament organizers as well as the players and their families,” she said, noting that Recreation and Parks has never marketed its venues. “Our reputation has spread by word of mouth, and that can be attributed directly to the tournaments we host.”

Successful tournaments depend on more than just a premier site, however. Mier noted that staff reline fields and remove trash between games, maintain clean concession and restroom facilities and take other measures to ensure the safety and comfort of players and fans.

“The Parks Services and Sports staff members provide first-rate customer service,” she said. “That makes tournaments and fans want to come back to Henrico. The way you care about people says a lot about you as a locality.”

McLaren agreed, noting a potentially broader benefit.

“You never know when one of the visitors to a tournament could be a CEO looking for a community to relocate a business,” he said. “You get one chance to make a good first impression, and these tournaments do just that for Henrico.”

Role reversal —Young people honored for academic, life progress

More than a dozen Henrico youth were saluted for overcoming significant adversity and setting the stage for future success in their young lives at the seventh annual Stepping Stones awards ceremony, held in May by Henrico’s Juvenile Probation and Social Services departments.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court judges, social workers, probation workers, school resource officers and others — the same adults who previously had placed the young people in foster homes, or developed their probation regimens, or confronted their truancy and substance abuse — joined together to praise the once-troubled youth and celebrate their stories of turnaround and redemption.

“You have responsibility for your choices in life, and you’ve decided to make decisions in the best interests of your families, your loved ones and yourselves,” said keynote speaker Dr. Patrick Russo, superintendent of Henrico County Public Schools. “You are now role models for other young people who are trying to deal with obstacles of their own and do what you have done.”

The Stepping Stones honorees received recognition certificates, tickets to a Richmond Flying Squirrels game and a savings bond to help fund their tuition and continuing education, apartment fees, savings or other future plans. Two honorees — Tony Sutton and Keyanna Williams — were awarded scholarships by J. Sargeant Reynolds Community Col-

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HCTV–Channel 17 schedule

For program descriptions or more information, tune to the Comcast TV Guide channels 20 or 100 or go to www.co.henrico.va.us/departments/pr.



Even Hours	Odd Hours
12 a.m., 2 a.m., 4 a.m., 6 a.m., 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon, 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m.	1 a.m., 3 a.m., 5 a.m., 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m.

Aug 9 through Aug 15	Mon Wed Fri Sun	Never Forget IV: Gilliam Cold Case — mins TBA	Skin Cancer and Melanoma — mins TBA
	Tue Thu Sat	Native Fish Species of the James River — 39 mins	Angels of Agriculture: Henrico's Honeybees — 20 mins
Aug 16 through Aug 22	Mon Wed Fri Sun	Hurricane and Disaster Preparedness — mins TBA	No Limits: The Work of Supported Employment for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities — 17 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	John Marshall: In the Opinion of the Court — 29 mins	Digging the Truth: Archaeology In and Around Henrico — 21 mins
Aug 23 through Aug 29	Mon Wed Fri Sun	Henrico's Role in World War I — mins TBA	Inside Henrico: Summer 2010 — mins TBA
	Tue Thu Sat	When Seconds Count: Henrico's Emergency 911 Operations — 18 mins	Collecting Yourself: Hoarding Disorders — 26 mins
Aug 30 through Sep 5	Mon Wed Fri Sun	Mills E. Godwin: Virginia's Statesman — 30 mins	Henrico Wildlife: Sharing the Habitat — 26 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	Understanding Spinal Cord Injuries — 33 mins	The Armour House and Gardens at Meadowview Park — 20 mins
Sep 6 through Sep 12	Mon Wed Fri Sun	Securing Your Digital Self: Identity Theft — 13 mins	The Iron Horse: Stories of Central Virginia Railroading — 32 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	No Way Back: Coping with Alzheimer's — 29 mins	Henrico S.W.A.T.: Ready for the Call — 20 mins
Sep 13 through Sep 19	Mon Wed Fri Sun	Taking Flight: Stories of Modern Virginia Aviation — 51 mins	Living With Autism — 28 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	Missing Pieces: Henrico Police Forensics Unit — 26 mins	Voices from Mountain Road: The Historic Mountain Road Corridor — 36 mins

lege (JSRCC).

Young people recognized at the ceremony were:

- **Mia Bailey**, a New Orleans native who initially struggled with school attendance and other problems after moving to Henrico, had since earned certification as a pharmacy technician and graduated from Highland Springs Technical Center. She plans to continue her studies in the fall at JSRCC.
- **Mary Brandon** earned A-B honor roll status at Virginia Randolph Community High School, excelling in many programs — including brick masonry — and was the only student to obtain residential brick certification; a new wife and mother, she plans to seek a nursing degree after high school.
- **Alison Carlin** struggled with alcohol abuse and periodic run-ins with Henrico Police while in high school. Working closely with her probation officer and others, she completed an inpatient substance-abuse program and probation requirements and turned a corner. She now volunteers with the McShin Foundation, mentors young people with alcohol and substance-abuse problems and is a student majoring in social work at Virginia Commonwealth University.
- **Joseph Clemons** didn't enjoy school and decided to stop attending. With the help of his foster parents and social worker he enrolled in a private school, where he flourished with additional individual attention. The high school student now is a regular member of the A-B honor roll and serves as a representative on the Virginia Youth Advisory Council for Foster Youth, participating in workshops where he advises state and local officials about the needs of young people in foster care.
- **Brandon Sprouse** missed nearly 40 school days during the 2008-09 academic year but since has tackled his truancy problem, thanks to the ongoing support of his social worker, school principal and his own determination. He now is looking forward to high school and taking over his uncle's business after graduation.
- **Heather Haigler** endured homelessness and chronic housing problems that impacted her attendance at Highland Springs High School; despite the barriers, she recently earned her GED.
- **Christina Lawson** had attendance problems at her high school, where she endured bullying and harassment. Her attendance and grades improved significantly after she transferred to Virginia Randolph Community High School, earning a place on the honor roll; she now plans to enroll at JSRCC and participate in the school's horticulture program.
- **Sterliesha Morris** graduated on schedule from Highland Springs High School despite housing instability, living with and caring for her ailing grandmother, taking care of her own one-year-old child and maintaining a job; she earned a place on the A honor roll in the last reporting period. She plans to study nursing at JSRCC.
- **Katie Pine** is a rising senior at Highland Springs High School and has made significant progress since transferring from Henrico High School while also working a part-time job.
- **Susie Ragland** maintained a yearlong position on the A-B honor roll at Virginia Randolph, where she participated in the nurse aide and culinary arts programs and planned to earn her GED; she was praised for her work ethic, maturity and leadership among her fellow students.
- **Chante Rhodes** has made significant progress in his attendance and academic work at Henrico High School, where he plays the cymbals in the marching band and is a member of the Navy Junior ROTC program.
- **Christie Sam** is preparing to earn her GED while living in foster care and raising her infant son.
- **Tony Sutton**, the recipient of a

scholarship from JSRCC, graduated from Highland Springs High School while working and living independently.

- **Keyanna Williams**, the recipient of the second JSRCC scholarship, lost her father at an early age and was troubled as a middle school student, spending time on probation and participating in therapy to resolve her problems. With the support of her probation and social workers she focused her energy and determination on school and on becoming a leader for her younger siblings and family. She now has earned her GED, works full time and plans to pursue a nursing degree at JSRCC.

The Stepping Stones award ceremony combined the efforts of several county agencies, including the Community Corrections Program, James River Juvenile Detention Center, Henrico Juvenile Detention, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court and the 14th District Court Service Unit. Henrico County Community Partners, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides fund-raising support for local criminal justice programs, sponsored the event.

Welcome to Henrico

Henrico County is proud to announce its first Tourist Info Center will be opening on Friday, September 17. With so much to see and do in Henrico, it's a welcome addition. The center will help increase

awareness of the county and promote why Henrico is a great place to live, work, play and visit, especially with the 400th anniversary just around the corner in 2011. The Tourist Info Center will reside at the county-owned Dabbs House Museum in the East End and will provide information on local attractions and feature displays about Henrico's past and present.

Built in the 1820s, Dabbs House was originally known as High Meadow, and much like Henrico County, it has a rich history. In June 1862, as the Civil War was being waged nearby, Gen. Robert E. Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, established Dabbs House as a temporary field headquarters and used it periodically throughout that summer. In 1883, Henrico County purchased the property to use as an almshouse for the poor. Before opening as a museum in 2008, Dabbs House served as Henrico County's police headquarters from 1941-2005.

The lobby of Dabbs House will serve as the reception area for both the existing museum and the new info center. The county is adding display racks and other components to turn this historic home into a full-fledged information center, offering brochures from 60 other local and regional certified visitor centers across the state. The Tourist Info Center will also provide maps and other publications from the travel industry as well as information about the county's history, attractions and upcoming events. Henrico souvenirs will be for sale, including specialty items commemorating Henrico's 400th anniversary.

Finding the Henrico County Tourist Info Center will be a breeze, large signs on Interstate 64, both east and west, and directional signs on local roads will direct visitors.

Located at 3812 East Nine Mile Road, the Tourist Center will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday; tours of Dabbs House will be offered on the same days, but from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



The new Tourist Info Center will reside in historic Dabbs House

Recreation Roundup

Thu, Aug. 26: Henrico Community Band Summer Concert

Bring a lawn chair or sit in the bleachers and listen to a variety of festive music. 7 p.m. Deep Run Park. Free. Info: 501-5859.

Mon, Aug. 30: Henrico Concert Band Summer Concert

Bring your family and a blanket for flicks a casual evening in the park listening to your favorite band music. 7 p.m. Dorey Park. Free. Info: 501-5859.

Sat, Aug. 28: Under the Stars Summer Family Film Series presents "National Treasure, Book of Secrets" (PG)

Bring your family and a blanket for flicks in the park. 8:30 p.m. Walkerton Tavern. Free. Info: 501-5121.

Sat, Sept. 4: Dr. Sheppard's Orchard
Explore the fascinating history of apples and John Sheppard's orchard. 1-3 p.m. Meadow Farm Museum. Free. Info: 501-2130.

Sat, Sept. 11: Family Fun on Marion Hill

Enjoy lawn games, activities and house tours. Bring a picnic, join in the festivities and stay for the 8 p.m. outdoor movie. 6-8 p.m. Clarke-Palmore House Museum. Free. Info: Sheryl Mays, 652-3409.

Sat, Sept. 11: Under the Stars Summer Family Film Series presents "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (G)

Bring your family and a blanket for flicks in the park. 8 p.m. Clarke-Palmore House Museum. Free. Info: 501-5121.

Sun, Sept. 12: Civil War Harvest Time
War affects the civilian population as well as the soldier. Help the men left at home bring in the harvest and talk with Confederate soldiers. 1-3 p.m. Meadow Farm Museum. Free. Info: 501-2130.

Thu, Sept. 16: Ready to Do My Part, Henrico County in World War I

In this new exhibit, learn about Henrico native Sheppard Crump and the remarkable tales of those left behind on the home front. 5-7 p.m. Meadow Farm Orientation Center. Free. Info: 652-3409.

Sat, Sept. 18: Glen Allen Day
Hosted by the Glen Allen Ruritan Club in

association with Henrico Recreation and Parks. The day begins with a community parade at 9:30 a.m., followed by an arts and crafts fair from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Enjoy live entertainment, good food and a car show. Meadow Farm Museum/Crump Park. Free. Info: 257-9605.

Sat, Sept. 25: Bark in the Park

Bring your furry friend out for a fun day with Recreation and Parks and the Henrico Humane Society. Enjoy live entertainment and an expo of local pet vendors, products and services. Register for a 2K for Paws Walk (\$25) through the Humane Society (262-6634). 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Deep Run Park. Free. Info: 501-5121.

Sat, Oct. 16: Harvest Festival

This fun-filled event will kick-off the commemoration of Henrico County's 400th anniversary in 2011! The festival will feature many hands-on activities and demonstrations depicting typical home-making and farming tasks of the era and much more. Noon-5 p.m. Meadow Farm Museum/Crump Park. Free. (Rain date: Oct. 17.) Info: 501-5121.

Fri, Oct. 29: Monster Mash

Celebrate the Halloween spirit with a spooky trail, hair-raising arts and crafts, spooky contests and games and rocking monster music. 6-9 p.m. Dorey Recreation Center. Free. Call for reservations. Info: 501-5134.

Sat, Nov. 6: Corn Husk Doll Making

For ages 5+. With corn plentiful in 1860, children often made whole families of cornhusk dolls. Learn the technique and make your own. 1-3 p.m. Meadow Farm Museum. Free. Info: 501-2130.

Sat, Nov. 13: Blacksmithing-Too Many Irons in the Fire

Watch and listen to the blacksmith as the iron gets red-hot and he pounds and bends it into useful objects. 1-3 p.m. Meadow Farm Museum. Free. Info: 501-2130.

For additional programs, check out a copy of "At Your Leisure," our catalog of events and classes. Copies are available online, at your local library, or call the Division of Recreation and Parks at 501-7275 to be added to our mailing list. www.henricorecandparks.com

Library Lineup

Thu, Aug. 19: Author David L. Robbins Discusses "Broken Jewel"

As the war turned against the Japanese, treatment of their prisoners worsened into brutality and open murder. David L. Robbins will detail what it was like to be a guest of the Imperial Army in the Philippines during WWII. Tuckahoe Library. 7-8 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9100.

Tue, Aug. 24: MRC - Community Emergency Support Training

Sign up for one-hour emergency support training sessions for volunteers to learn how to assist public health officials during an emergency. Lunch will be provided. Sandston Library, 2-3 p.m. Registration required. Free. Info: 290-9900.

Mon, Sept. 13: Balkanize!

All are invited to an end-of-summer concert of Balkan and Near Eastern music played on wind, string and percussion instruments. Twin Hickory Library, 7-8 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9200.

Thu, Sept. 23: Legacy: Folklore, Legends & Family Stories

Explore techniques and strategies on how to compile family history research

for publication with Henrico native and author, Sylvia Hoehns Wright. Dumbarton Library, 12:30-2 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9400.

Thu, Sept. 23: "Scientific Jefferson: Revealed"

Martin Claggett will discuss his 2009 book "Scientific Jefferson: Revealed." Gayton Library, 7-8 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9600.

Sat, Oct. 2: Birth of Virginia's Aristocracy: Colonial Connections - Part 1

Historian and Batten Fellow for Jefferson Studies, James Thompson, uses slides to reveal the forgotten connections that linked the men who organized and financed the colonial movement in England. Dumbarton Library, 2-4 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9400.

Tue, Oct. 5: Wet and Wild: Building Backyard Birdbaths

Photographer and Richmond Audubon Society Board member, Bob Schamerhorn, uses video, audio and photos to demonstrate how a birdbath can attract more birds and keep them coming back, including step-by-step instructions on

how to install one. Twin Hickory Library, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9200.

Tue, Oct. 12: Tricks & Wisdom to Simplify Your Life

Pick up lots of time and money-saving ideas for your life and home. Find out where to go when you need those little problems solved around the house. Varina Library, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9800.

Wed, Oct. 20: Needle Arts Night

Bring your current knitting, crochet, cross-stitch or embroidery project to work on and share. Learn basic stitches. Fairfield Library. 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9300.

Thu, Oct. 21: Melissa Marr is "Wicked Lovely"

Teens are invited to hear Melissa Marr, author of "Wicked Lovely" at this special Teen Read Week event. Book signing and reception to follow. Tuckahoe Library, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9100.

Sat, Oct. 23: Make Your Own Greeting

Cards

Holiday card maker, Vicki Beahm, will conduct a hands-on workshop. Attendees will leave with new ideas, tips and a card of their own. North Park Branch Library, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9700.

Wed, Oct. 27: Annual Halloween Bash

Join us for tricks and treats at our annual Halloween party. Fairfield Library, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9300.

Tue, Nov. 2: Birth of Virginia's Aristocracy: Colonial Connections - Part 2

This narrated slide show by historian and Batten fellow for Jefferson Studies, James Thompson, describes the connections that linked the men who established the Virginia Company's colony at Jamestown. Tuckahoe Library, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 290-9100.

For additional programs or information go to our newsletter "Connections" available at local libraries and recreation centers and at www.henricolibrary.org. Questions: call 290-9000.

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Important County Telephone Numbers

Adult Protective Services.....	501-7346
Board of Supervisors.....	501-4207
Building Permits & Inspections.....	501-4360
Business Licenses/Personal Property.....	501-4310
Child Protective Services.....	501-5437
Community Maintenance.....	501-4757
Community Revitalization.....	501-7640
Fire, Non-emergency.....	501-4900
Food Stamps.....	501-4002
Health Clinic - East.....	652-3190
Health Clinic - West.....	501-4651
History/Historic Preservation.....	501-5736
Human Resources.....	501-4628
Human Resources 24-hour Jobline.....	501-5674
Libraries.....	290-9000
Magistrates.....	501-5285
Marriage Licenses.....	501-5055
Mental Health Emergency Services.....	727-8484
Permit Center, The.....	501-7280
Planning & Zoning.....	501-4602
Police, Non-emergency.....	501-5000
Real Estate Assessment.....	501-4300
Recreation & Parks.....	501-7275
Recycling Collection (CVWMA).....	340-0900
Schools.....	652-3600
Sheriff.....	501-4571
Traffic Ticket Court.....	501-4723
Trash/Bulky Waste/Leaf Collection.....	501-4275
Vehicle Licenses/Personal Property.....	501-4263
Volunteer Program.....	501-5231
Voter Registration.....	501-4347
Water and Sewer Service.....	501-4275



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4301 East Parham Road
501-4000



Eastern Government Center
3820 Nine Mile Road
652-3600

HENRICO TODAY

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Excited about our future.**