



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

March 2011

March 31, 2011

CONTACT: Kendra Young, Extension Agent
PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Extension now accepting applications for Junior 4-H Camp

The Henrico County Extension Office is accepting applications for the 2011 Henrico Junior 4-H Camp, scheduled for Aug. 8-12 at the Jamestown 4-H Education Center in Williamsburg.

Located along the James River, the 16-acre Jamestown 4-H Center is accredited by the American Camp Association and features air-conditioned lodges and cabins; basketball courts, athletic fields and a ropes course; and a medical clinic. Camp activities include swimming, canoeing, archery, shooting sports, marine science, forestry and crafts. Adult and teen counselors provide instruction and supervision; camp staff members include lifeguards, recreation leaders, waterfront directors and a medical attendant.

The camp is open to all boys and girls ages 9 to 14 as of Sept. 30, 2011. Space is limited; applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration forms are available online at www.co.henrico.va.us/extension. Contact the Extension Office at 501-5160 for more information.

March 31, 2011

CONTACT: Jeannie Murray, Special Events Coordinator, Henrico Recreation and Parks
PHONE: 501-5121

Henrico's 400th commemoration continues April 16 with Earth Day 2011

Henrico's 400th anniversary commemoration will turn its attention from local history to "going green" on Saturday, April 16 as the county celebrates Earth Day 2011. The free event is set for 1 to 4 p.m. at Three Lakes Park and Nature Center, 400 Sausiluta Drive.

Earth Day 2011 will offer a variety of family-friendly activities, including recycling games and contests, a gyrosphere, earth-friendly arts and crafts, air brush tattoos and face painting, a petting zoo, and educational displays by the James River Advisory Council, Virginia Conservation Network, Sierra Club and other organizations. The Wildlife Center of Virginia will give live-animal demonstrations and discuss animal rescue.

The exhibits and hands-on activities of Three Lakes Nature Center – one of the metropolitan region's most popular tourist attractions – will be available as well. The event also will feature live music by the J.R. Tucker High School Jazz Band and the Southern rock duo OminOtagO.

Parking is limited at Three Lakes Park and Nature Center. In the spirit of Earth Day, participants are encouraged to consider carpooling to the event.

Earth Day 2011 is sponsored by the county's Division of Recreation and Parks and Keep Henrico Beautiful. For more information about Earth Day and other upcoming 400th anniversary commemoration events, call (804) 501-1611 or log on to www.henrico400th.com.

March 30, 2011

CONTACT: Megan Brown Executive Coordinator Keep Henrico Beautiful
PHONE: 501-7277

Keep Henrico Beautiful seeks nominations for best-maintained properties

The Keep Henrico Beautiful (KHB) Committee is seeking outstanding residential and commercial properties for the 2011 Land Lover and Clean Business awards. Nominations for exemplary homes and businesses from each of the five magisterial districts will be accepted through Saturday, April 30.

To be considered for the award, properties should be attractively landscaped, well-maintained and litter-free. Homeowners should perform their own landscaping and lawn-care work. In addition, property owners must participate in an ongoing recycling program, such as composting, curbside pickup or drop-off service.

Winners will have an award sign posted on their property during June and will be recognized at a Board of Supervisors meeting.

Henrico residents and business owners may nominate their own properties as well as others. Forms and criteria can be accessed online at www.henricokhb.org or by calling KHB at 501-4502; nominations can be submitted online or by mail.

The Land Lover and Clean Business awards have been presented annually since 1995. Contact Keep Henrico Beautiful for more information.

March 29, 2011

CONTACT: Teddy Martin Extension Horticulture Technician
PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Extension to discuss SMART Lawns program April 12-14

The Henrico County Extension Office will continue its 2011 lawn-care seminar series April 12-14 with a session on its SMART Lawns program. The seminars are scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. at the following locations (each seminar will feature the same program): Tuesday, April 12, Sandston Branch Library, 23 E. Williamsburg Road; Wednesday, April 13, Tuckahoe Area Library, 1901 Starling Drive; and Thursday, April 14, Twin Hickory Area Library, 5001 Twin Hickory Road.

"Make Your Lawn a SMART Lawn" will cover a variety of general lawn-care topics, including irrigation, fertilization, soil acidity and weed control. In addition, attendees can learn about SMART Lawns – Henrico Extension's seasonal, comprehensive program that offers a step-by-step approach to growing a healthy lawn. SMART Lawns, which teaches environmentally friendly practices, provides participants a plan tailored to fit the specific needs of their lawn. Participants learn how and when to aerate, how to select and apply the appropriate fertilizer and preventive maintenance practices.

"Make Your Lawn a SMART Lawn" is free and open to the public. Each seminar will be led by an Extension staff member or a Henrico Master Gardener. Attendees

should pre-register by calling 501-5160.

Additional information about the SMART Lawns program, as well as enrollment forms, is available online at www.co.henrico.va.us/extension.

March 28, 2011

CONTACT: Lisa Sanderson Extension Agent
PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Extension accepting applications for two community gardens

The Henrico County Extension Office is accepting applications for Gardens Growing Families, the community garden program for qualifying county residents. For a nominal fee, families can grow their own vegetables in a plot maintained at the Lakeside Garden, located at the intersection of Vale Street and Michael Avenue, near Lakeside Avenue; and at the Alma Avenue Island Garden, located near the intersection of Alma and Laburnum avenues.

Gardens Growing Families is designed to help families reduce their grocery bills by learning to grow, prepare and store fresh vegetables. The program offers free classes on topics such as the importance of fruit and vegetables for a healthy diet, organic insect and disease control, and freezing and canning. Henrico Master Gardeners are on site regularly to offer advice; tools and water are provided. Participants follow organic practices, contribute time to community garden projects and meet other requirements.

Residents must apply to participate in Gardens Growing Families. Fees are based on a sliding scale, ranging from \$5 to \$65 annually, depending on household income and garden plot size. Fees will be refunded for cancellations before June 30. Residents living in neighborhoods near the gardens will receive priority consideration for plots.

Applications are available online at www.co.henrico.va.us/extension and at the Extension Office, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive. Call 501-5160 for more information.

March 24, 2011

CONTACT: Marvis W. Marshall, CPPB Supplier Relations Coordinator
PHONE: 501-5689

Annual Henrico conference for SWAM businesses set for April 18

Henrico County will host its fifth annual conference for small, women- and minority-owned (SWAM) business representatives on Monday, April 18, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Deep Run Recreation Center, 9910 Ridgefield Parkway. Advance registration is required.

"Henrico County Connections 2011" is a regional conference designed to inform SWAM companies of resources and support available to them as they consider doing business with the county. Participants will have the opportunity to meet with procurement staff and other officials from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Richmond International Airport and Henrico's general government and public schools agencies.

Keynote speaker John Vithoulkas, Henrico's finance director, will discuss the county's fiscal condition. Speakers also will provide a forecast of county procurements through June 2012, major term contracts for the state and area local governments, and anticipated activity at Richmond International Airport.

The registration fee is \$25 per person through Thursday, March 31, after which it will increase to \$35. Cost includes conference admission, workshop materials, continental breakfast and a box lunch. Participants must register online by Monday, April 11; on-site registration will not be available at the event. To register, participants should follow the link for Henrico County Connections 2011 at www.co.henrico.va.us.

For more information, contact Marvis Marshall at 501-5689 or mar28@co.henrico.va.us.

March 24, 2011

CONTACT: Karen Carter County Agent
PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Extension's 'Tree Smarts' seminar series continues April 4-6

The Henrico County Extension Office and Henrico County Master Gardeners will offer the second installment of its "Tree Smarts" seminar series April 4-6 with a program on growing healthy trees. The seminar is scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. each night at the following locations (each session will feature the same information): Monday, April 4, Dorey Recreation Center, 7200 Dorey Park Drive; Tuesday, April 5, Deep Run Recreation Center, 9910 Ridgefield Parkway; and Wednesday, April 6, Belmont Recreation Center, 1600 Hilliard Road.

"Raising a Healthy Tree" will highlight the importance of proper planting and early care for the successful growth of a young tree. The seminar will provide information about watering, fertilizing, mulching, pruning and protecting young trees from insects, diseases and other stresses.

The Tree Smarts seminar series is designed to increase understanding of trees, the role they play in the community's landscape and how homeowners and others can improve their care of them. The programs are free and open to the public.

Participants are encouraged to pre-register by calling Henrico Extension at 501-5160. Additional information is available online at www.co.henrico.va.us/extension.

March 18, 2011

CONTACT: Barbara Herzog, Executive Director, Henrico CASA
PHONE: 501-1671

Henrico and Chesterfield CASA to hold 'Superhero Run' April 9

The Henrico County and Chesterfield County Court Appointed Special Advocates programs (CASA) will host the second annual Superhero Run on Saturday, April 9, at St. Joseph's Villa, 8000 Brook Road.

The Superhero Run, which works to raise awareness and support for local victims of child abuse, will feature a 5K race, kids' mile and post-race fair. The Martin Agency is the lead sponsor of the event.

Participants of all ages are encouraged to dress and run in the costumes of their favorite superhero characters, said Barbara Herzog, executive director of Henrico CASA.

"Henrico and Chesterfield CASA are excited again to hold the Superhero Run and help increase awareness of the special needs of abused and neglected children in our community," Herzog said. "We are grateful for The Martin Agency's support of this special event."

Inspired by The Superhero Foundation, an Austin, Texas-based organization working to prevent child abuse, the CASA event is one of several Superhero runs nationwide. The race is being held in conjunction with national Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Activities begin at 8:30 a.m. with the kids' mile; the 5K race will follow at 9 a.m. Cost before April 9 is \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ages 5 and older; fees

increase \$10 on race day. Prizes will be awarded by age group for best costumes and top finishers. Registration and additional information are available at www.henricocasa.org and www.chesterfieldcasa.org.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Henrico and Chesterfield CASA, which are private, nonprofit organizations that work closely with their counties' Juvenile and Domestic Relations courts. The programs train community volunteers to serve as advocates for abused and neglected children in the court system. Last year, CASA volunteers served 434 children in Henrico and Chesterfield, donating 15,800 hours to their cases.

For more information, e-mail superhero@henricocasa.org or call 501-1671.

March 14, 2011

CONTACT: Veta Herbaugh, Executive Assistant, Board of Supervisors
PHONE: 501-4208

Varina town meeting March 21 to discuss county economy

The next town meeting of Varina District Supervisor Jim Donati will examine how Henrico County is managing the sluggish economy. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, March 21 at the Henrico Theatre, 305 E. Nine Mile Road.

"State of the Economy in Henrico" will provide insight into how Henrico is weathering the current economy and will give an update on the county's fiscal condition as it prepares the budget for fiscal year 2012. Finance Director John Vithoulkas will join Donati for a discussion and question-and-answer period.

Varina town meetings are open to the public. Call 501-4208 for more information.

March 11, 2011

CONTACT: Linda Leigh, Executive Assistant, Board of Supervisors
PHONE: 501-4208

Fairfield constituent meeting March 23 to examine General Assembly session

The next constituent meeting of Henrico County Board of Supervisors Chairman and Fairfield District Supervisor Frank Thornton will feature a review of the 2011 session of the Virginia General Assembly. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 23 at Belmont Recreation Center, 1600 Hilliard Road.

State Sen. Donald McEachin and Dels. Jimmie Massie, Jennifer McClellan, Joe Morrissey and John O'Bannon have been invited to attend and discuss new legislation produced during the recently completed General Assembly session. The officials will join Thornton for a question-and-answer period as well.

Fairfield constituent meetings are open to the public. Call 501-4208 for more information.

March 8, 2011

CONTACT: Karen Carter, County Agent
PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Extension to begin 'Tree Smarts' seminar series March 22-24

The Henrico County Extension Office and Henrico County Master Gardeners are set to launch "Tree Smarts," the free annual seminar series designed to increase understanding of trees, the role they play in the community's landscape and how homeowners and others can better care for them.

The series gets under way March 22-24 with "Choosing the Right Tree," a seminar about selecting appropriate trees for landscape planting. The program is scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. each night at the following locations (each session will feature the same information): Tuesday, March 22, Dorey Recreation Center, 7200 Dorey Park Drive; Wednesday, March 23, Deep Run Recreation Center, 9910 Ridgefield Parkway; and Thursday, March 24, Belmont Recreation Center, 1600 Hilliard Road.

"Choosing the Right Tree" will discuss the importance of planting trees best suited to the local environment, for the health and longevity of the tree as well as the success of the landscape. The program will provide information about tree species common to Virginia and their specific cultural needs.

The Tree Smarts series is led by Henrico County Master Gardeners. Seminars are free and open to the public. Participants can register or obtain additional information by calling Henrico Extension at 501-5160.

March 8, 2011

CONTACT: Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E., County Manager
PHONE: 501-4386

Henrico names Douglas A. Middleton as Chief of Police

Henrico County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. announces the appointment of Lt. Col. Douglas A. Middleton as Chief of Police, effective April 9.

Middleton, a 38-year veteran of Henrico Police who has been serving as deputy chief since 1998, will succeed retiring Chief Col. Henry W. Stanley, Jr. He will assume command of a nationally acclaimed force with some 800 personnel, including more than 600 sworn officers, and a total annual budget of more than \$65 million.

Middleton was chosen from a field of 37 candidates from 18 states who applied for the position.

"Dep. Chief Middleton has had a long and impressive career in Henrico," Hazelett said. "He is a strong leader and communicator and readily accepts challenges. I look forward to him continuing his dedication and service to Henrico County as our chief of police."

Middleton joined Henrico Police as a patrol officer in November 1972, rising steadily through the ranks to become captain in 1994 and major in 1995 before being appointed deputy chief. His service includes stints in the Special Action Force, Police Personnel, Inspectional Services, Police Planning, Communications and Records and as a pilot in the Aviation Unit.

A graduate of Henrico's Hermitage High School, Middleton earned a bachelor's degree from St. Paul's College. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the Senior Management Institute for Police at Harvard University, the Police Executive Leadership School at the University of Richmond and the Administrative Officers Course of the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville.

A native of Tocomo Park, Md., Middleton is a veteran of the U.S. Army. He received numerous combat decorations for his service in the Vietnam War, including the permanent award of Flight Wings, two Bronze Stars and 14 awards of the Air Medal for Combat Missions.



March 7, 2011

CONTACT: Kim Sicola, Assistant Supervisor, Historic Preservation and Museum Services, Recreation and Parks
PHONE: 652-3404

Virginia Indian Cultural Program to feature tribal art, dance March 19

The history as well as the contemporary culture of the region's earliest inhabitants will be presented through art, dance and exhibits at the Virginia Indian Cultural Program, 3-8 p.m. Saturday, March 19 at The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen, 2880 Mountain Road.

The Virginia Indian Cultural Program, a free event, is part of the county's yearlong 400th anniversary commemoration. Whereas Henrico traces its beginnings to 1611 and the founding of the City of Henricus, Indian artifacts discovered in the county date to 6,500 B.C., indicating a native presence in the area more than 8,000 years before the first English settlers.

The program will include the exhibit "By Our Hands: Virginia Indian Cultural Arts," featuring pottery, beadwork, leatherwork, painting and sculpture by contemporary Indian artists and artisans. The artists will demonstrate their creative processes and discuss their work with the public.

Beginning at 6 p.m., the Virginia Indian Intertribal Dance Group and Drum will tell the story of native history and culture through a performance of traditional and contemporary tribal dances. Dancers will explain the regalia they wear and the meaning of each dance. The program also will feature the photographic exhibit "Family Portraits: Virginia Indians at the Turn of the 20th Century" (this exhibit continues through May 8).

In addition, the event will offer a variety of children's activities, including workshops on making pinch pots and corn husk dolls.

For more information about the Virginia Indian Cultural Program and other upcoming 400th anniversary commemoration events, call 501-1611 or log on to www.henrico400th.com.

March 3, 2011

CONTACT: Ralph J. (Joe) Emerson, Jr., Planning Director
PHONE: 501-4602

CONTACT: Joseph P. (Joe) Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
PHONE: 501-4342

Henrico Board schedules public hearing on redistricting for March 8 meeting

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing to receive residents' comments and proposals regarding 2011 magisterial redistricting at its regular meeting on Tuesday, March 8, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Government Center Board Room, 4301 E. Parham Road.

Information about Henrico's reapportionment process is available at www.henricoredistricting.com. Comments and questions may be submitted by email to redistricting@co.henrico.va.us or by calling 501-4427.

March 2, 2011

CONTACT: Ralph J. (Joe) Emerson, Jr., Planning Director
PHONE: 501-4602

CONTACT: Joseph P. (Joe) Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
PHONE: 501-4342

Henrico schedules public meetings March 15 and 17 to discuss redistricting

Henrico County will hold public meetings on the county's 2011 magisterial district reapportionment process on Tuesday, March 15, at 6 p.m. in the Government Center Board Room, 4301 E. Parham Road; and on Thursday, March 17, at 6 p.m. in the Eastern Government Center multipurpose room, 3820 Nine Mile Road.

Representatives from Henrico's Planning Department, County Attorney's Office and Voter Registration and Elections Office will be on hand to provide information, answer questions and receive public input as the county prepares to redraw its magisterial district lines. Residents are encouraged to participate in the process and submit their own redistricting plans and comments; staff will use input received at the meetings to help draft the county's plan. Maps and additional information are available at www.henricoredistricting.com; comments and questions also may be submitted by email to redistricting@co.henrico.va.us or by calling 501-4427.

Federal and state law requires localities to reapportion the representation in the governing body among the magisterial districts every 10 years. The 2010 U.S. Census counted 306,935 residents in Henrico, with Three Chopt District comprising the largest population at 72,035. The ideal population per district would be 61,387 residents.

Henrico's Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings later this spring to present a draft redistricting plan and adopt ordinances approving a final plan. The new districts will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice for preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

March 2, 2011

CONTACT: Michael D. O'Connor, Director, Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services
PHONE: 727-8585

Henrico mental health agency earns accreditation from international organization

The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) has awarded three-year accreditation -- the organization's highest measure of quality assurance -- to eight programs and services provided by Henrico Area Mental Health and Developmental Services (MH/DS).

An international, nonprofit body, CARF offers accreditation of human-service providers in the fields of rehabilitation, employment, child and family and aging services. MH/DS first earned CARF accreditation in 2001; it has now received four consecutive accreditations from the organization.

To earn accreditation, MH/DS underwent a rigorous peer-review process and an on-site examination that applied more than 1,800 standards. The survey noted the strong fiscal management of the agency, the stability and effectiveness of its programs and the high level of satisfaction of recipients of the agency's services. The survey also reported a "pattern of practiced excellence" in MH/DS programs.

"CARF surveyors praised the commitment of our staff to improving the quality of life of the people we serve," said MH/DS Director Michael O'Connor.

Programs receiving accreditation were Assertive Community Treatment; Case Management/Services Coordination; Community Housing; Community Integration; Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Community Services; Supported Living; Prevention/Diversion; Community Employment Services; and Organizational Employment Services.

March 1, 2011

CONTACT: Kim Edmonds, Extension Agent
PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Extension to hold free consumer information workshop March 9-10

The Henrico County Extension Office will offer a free workshop about the changing financial landscape of consumer rights and protection on Wednesday, March 9, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and again on Thursday, March 10, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive (the March 9 workshop will be held in the board room; the March 10 session will take place in the demonstration kitchen).

"Destination Information" will cover several consumer-rights topics, including how to manage credit during a difficult economy, ways to avoid financial tricks and traps, and steps to take to protect privacy and avoid identity theft. The workshop also will provide an update on the new U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

The Extension Office is holding the workshop in conjunction with National Consumer Protection Week, set for March 6-12.

"Destination Information" is open to the public. Space is limited, however, and registration is required. Call 501-5160 to register or to obtain additional information.

March 1, 2011

CONTACT: Barbara Herzog, Executive Director, Henrico CASA
PHONE: 501-1671

Henrico CASA seeks volunteers for child-advocacy training program

Henrico County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is seeking volunteers to serve as advocates for abused and neglected children in the court system.

Henrico CASA will conduct a free, four-week training program for volunteers from 6-9 p.m. each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday beginning Monday, April 4 at its office in the Hungary Spring Office Park, 3001 Hungary Spring Road, suite A. Potential volunteers must apply for the program; applicants will undergo interviews, background and reference checks as well as fingerprinting and local criminal checks.

To apply or obtain additional information, contact Jeannine Panzera at 501-1673, e-mail pan01@co.henrico.va.us or log on to www.henricocasa.org by Thursday, March 31.

CASA volunteers serve as the voice of abused and neglected children in the court system. Legal experience is not required. Participants receive training to conduct interviews, research and investigate cases, provide written reports for Juvenile Court judges and assist child welfare professionals and case attorneys.

Last year, volunteers served as advocates for 277 children, donating nearly 10,650 hours to their cases.

Henrico CASA is a private, nonprofit organization that works closely with the county's Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. For more information, visit the CASA website.

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