



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

September 2011

September 29, 2011

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

Henrico names Luther to head Recreation and Parks

Henrico County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. announces the appointment of Edwin C. "Neil" Luther IV as director of the Division of Recreation and Parks, effective Oct. 8.

Luther, who currently serves as the division's acting director, is succeeding Karen K. Mier, who retired in June after a career of 34 years with the county.



As director, Luther will lead an agency with more than 185 full-time staff members, as well as hourly and seasonal employees, and a total budget of more than \$17.3 million for the 2012 fiscal year. Recreation and Parks provides comprehensive leisure and recreational programming for all ages, offering a variety of classes, workshops and activities in the cultural arts, nature and the environment, outdoor and therapeutic recreation. The division manages an extensive system of adult and youth sports leagues, tournaments and special events; it also coordinates the county's historic preservation and museum services. The division oversees a park system of more than 3,600 acres and operates more than 40 recreation centers, athletic complexes, community centers and other facilities, including Meadow Farm Museum, Glen Allen Stadium at RF&P Park and Three Lakes Nature Center and Aquarium.

A Henrico employee since 2002, Luther previously worked as a planner and served as assistant director of Recreation and Parks before being named acting director. Luther, a member of both the National and the Virginia Recreation and Park societies, received his bachelor's degree from Davidson College and earned a master's degree from the University of Wyoming.

September 29, 2011

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

Henrico's 400th anniversary activities continue with Harvest Festival Oct. 15

Henrico County will continue its 400th anniversary commemoration with live music, hands-on activities for children and demonstrations of 19th century domestic and farming activities at the 2011 Harvest Festival. The free event is set for noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15 at Meadow Farm Museum at Crump Park, 3400 Mountain Road.

The upcoming edition of the popular annual event — based at Henrico's 1860 living-history farm museum — will feature a variety of traditional harvest-time activities from the era. Costumed interpreters will demonstrate tasks such as dyeing, blacksmithing, woodworking, beekeeping, cider making, candle dipping and corn shelling.

Children ages 3 to 12 can visit the Great Pumpkin Patch, decorate a miniature pumpkin, make a cornhusk doll or find their way through the hay-bale maze. They also can enjoy a petting zoo and pony rides.

In addition, the festival will offer tethered hot-air balloon rides and will feature live musical entertainment by A Good Natured Riot, the Barbara Martin Band and the Richmond Indigenous Gourd Orchestra. Commemorative items and refreshments will be available for purchase.

The 2011 Harvest Festival is part of Henrico's yearlong celebration of its 400th anniversary. For more information, call (804) 501-1611 or visit www.henrico400th.com.

September 28, 2011

CONTACT: Anna McRay, Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management, Division of Fire
PHONE: 501-7183

Henrico residents, businesses eligible for federal disaster loans

Henrico County residents and businesses working to recover from Hurricane Irene are eligible to apply for low-interest disaster loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

To answer questions and help individuals complete loan applications, the SBA is operating Disaster Loan Outreach centers through Thursday, Oct. 6 at the New Kent Visitor Center, 7324 Vineyards Parkway in New Kent; and at Petersburg Station, 100 W. Washington St. in Petersburg. Both centers are open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. except Saturday, when they will open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The centers are closed Sunday.

New Kent County and the City of Petersburg received federal disaster declarations following Hurricane Irene. Residents in contiguous localities also are eligible for assistance through the SBA.

Homeowners can obtain loans up to \$200,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters can apply for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Businesses and nonprofit organizations of any size are eligible for loans up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets.

Additional information is available from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management at www.vaemergency.gov.

September 27, 2011

CONTACT: Jim Carey, Foster Care Supervisor
PHONE: 501-4029

Henrico Foster Care program sets orientation session for Oct. 19

Henrico residents interested in becoming foster parents can learn about the county's Foster Care program at an orientation session scheduled for 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at the Human Services Building boardroom, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive.

Participants will receive information on a variety of topics, including the special needs of foster children; what it takes to be a successful foster parent; working with program staff and the biological parents of a foster child; and the application and approval process. There will be a question-and-answer period as well.

Henrico's Department of Social Services currently has a special need for families interested in serving as foster parents for sibling groups and teens. Pre-registration for the information sessions is encouraged. Participants can register or obtain additional information by calling Vickie Ladd at 501-4245 or Georgia Phillips at 501-7496. Information also is available online at www.henicocares.org.

Foster parents are "professional parents," available around-the-clock to bring children into their homes and provide temporary and potentially long-term care in a safe, stable environment. Parents must be at least 21, have their own source of income and sufficient living space in their house or apartment to care for a child. They can be single or married, with or without children of their own, male or female, and from all backgrounds, races and nationalities.

September 26, 2011

CONTACT: Tim Foster, P.E., Director, Public Works
PHONE: 501-4395

Henrico storm debris removal entering final stage

Henrico's Department of Public Works (DPW) is nearing completion of its initial countywide sweep to remove debris produced by Hurricane Irene from public roadways and rights of way.

Henrico is beginning a second pass through all county neighborhoods and roads, concentrating on the removal of residential yard debris produced by the storm. There is no charge to residents for the service.

DPW is continuing its efforts along with Omni-Pinnacle, a contractor specializing in disaster response and debris removal. Crews already have removed more than 8,000 tons of debris.

"Our first priority was public safety," said DPW Director Tim Foster, P.E. "Now that county roads have been cleared we can redouble our efforts in county neighborhoods. We thank residents for their patience as we complete the cleanup process."

Residents who haven't already done so should place storm-related yard debris — brush, leaves, small trees, limbs, branches and similar woody debris — curbside or on the edge of a nearby public road by Monday, Oct. 3. Debris should not block roadways or drainage ditches. Residents cannot schedule a pickup time. Storm-related household waste is not included in the free curbside service.

Henrico anticipates completion of debris-removal efforts by mid-October, depending on weather and the amount of debris set out for collection.

September 26, 2011

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

Bus tour Oct. 22 will give overview of Henrico history

Henrico's 400th anniversary commemoration will survey four centuries of county history with a daylong bus tour of significant sites on Saturday, Oct. 22.

Coordinated by the Valentine Richmond History Center and the county's Division of Recreation and Parks, "Henrico's 400th Anniversary Tour" will run from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and originate at Dabbs House, 3812 Nine Mile Road. The \$30 fee includes a box lunch. Reservations are required; contact the Valentine Richmond History Center at (804) 649-0711, ext. 301.

The final in a series of historical bus tours, "Henrico's 400th Anniversary Tour" will take a big-picture look at 400 years of Henrico history. With stops at several prominent landmarks and key sites, the tour will tell the story of the county's development from a tenuous English outpost in 1611 into one of Virginia's leading localities today. Locations on the tour include Deep Run Schoolhouse, Armour House and Gardens at Meadowview Park, Walkerton Tavern and the Henrico Theatre.

For more information about the tour, visit the Valentine Richmond History Center website at www.richmondhistorycenter.com.

For information about Henrico's 400th anniversary, call (804) 501-1611 or go to www.henrico400th.com.

September 16, 2011

CONTACT: Melvin Slough, Community Liaison, Public Utilities
PHONE: 501-7540

Henrico announces new customer service system for Public Utilities' customers

Henrico County's Department of Public Utilities (DPU) is launching today an automated voice response system designed to provide water, sewer and refuse-collection customers around-the-clock access to account and service information.

Customers calling DPU's standard customer service number at (804) 501-4275 can obtain through the automated service information such as account balances, last payment received, instructions for paying by credit card, payment locations and DPU hours of operation. Callers also will have the option of speaking to a customer service representative during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Intended for residential as well as commercial and industrial customers, the automated voice response system is similar to systems currently used by the county's Department of Building Construction and Inspections and the real estate division of the Department of Finance. Henrico has more than 94,200 water, sewer and refuse-collection customers.

"The automated voice response system enhances the service options available to our customers," said DPU Director Arthur D. Petrini. "It gives them a fast and effective way to obtain information any time of day."

For more information, visit the DPU website at www.co.henrico.va.us/utility.

September 16, 2011

CONTACT: Lisa Sanderson, Extension Agent
PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Master Gardener training program accepting applications through Oct. 28

The Henrico County Extension Office is accepting applications for its 2012 Master Gardener training program, an in-depth course that offers instruction in all aspects of horticulture.

Participants will learn about lawn care, tree and shrub maintenance, vegetable gardening, soils, pest management and other topics. After completing classroom training, participants will serve a 50-hour internship with the Extension Office and will help conduct educational programs for the public. The training program costs \$135 for materials.

Extension will accept applications through Friday, Oct. 28. Classes are scheduled for each Tuesday and Thursday from Jan. 24 to March 22 in the Human Services Building demonstration kitchen, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive.

To obtain an application or additional information about the Master Gardener training program, call the Extension Office at 501-5160 or go to www.co.henrico.va.us/extension and follow the link for agriculture and natural resources.

September 15, 2011

CONTACT: Steve Yob, Director, Division of Solid Waste and Recycling
PHONE: 727-8217

Henrico to offer electronics recycling events Oct. 1 and 8

Area residents can recycle home electronic items at events set for Saturday, Oct. 1 at St. Paul's Baptist Church, 4247 Creighton Road; and Saturday, Oct. 8 at Virginia Center Commons Mall, 10101 Brook Road, and Twin Hickory Area Library, 5001 Twin Hickory Road. Each event is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Items recycled free of charge include computer systems — monitors, hard drives, central processing units, keyboards, speakers, mice, cables and other accessories — as well as printers, scanners, copiers, fax machines, videocassette recorders and DVD players, telephones, stereos, camcorders and microwave ovens.

A \$7 fee will be charged for televisions, which require special handling due to the leaded glass and mercury they contain. Payment may be made by cash or check.

Refrigerators, air conditioners, dehumidifiers and fluorescent light bulbs will not be accepted.

The events are sponsored by the Henrico County Department of Public Utilities' Solid Waste and Recycling division and Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA).

For more information, call the CVWMA recycling hotline at 340-0900 or log on to www.cvwma.com.

September 13, 2011

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

Varina town meeting Sept. 19 to discuss plans for Varina Area Library

The next town meeting of Varina District Supervisor Jim Donati will provide information about the proposed Varina Area Library. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19 at the Henrico Theatre, 305 E. Nine Mile Road.

Henrico County Public Library Director Jerry McKenna will give an update on planning for the Varina Area Library, a proposed 40,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility slated for construction near the intersection of Interstate 895 and New Market Road/Route 5. Funding for the \$16.7 million project was approved by Henrico voters in the county's 2005 bond referendum. McKenna will join Donati for a question-and-answer period as well.

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

September 12, 2011

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

Fairfield meeting Sept. 19 to review Alzheimer's support services, education foundation

The next constituent meeting of Henrico County Board of Supervisors Chairman and Fairfield District Supervisor Frank Thornton will review local support services for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and also will examine the work of the Henrico Education Foundation (HEF). The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19 at the Eastern Government Center, 3820 Nine Mile Road.

Sherry Peterson, CEO of the Greater Richmond Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, and Deputy County Manager George T. Drumwright, Jr. will discuss the disease and other dementia-related ailments and their impact on individuals, their caregivers and the community. They also will provide information about support services available in Henrico and the metropolitan area. The officials will join Thornton for a question-and-answer period.

In addition, Susan Stanley, executive director of the HEF, will be on hand to discuss the work of the foundation and its impact on Henrico County Public Schools. The HEF is a private, nonprofit organization that provides supplemental funding such as instructional grants and learning support for specific initiatives in county schools.

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

September 6, 2011

CONTACT: Robert K. Pinkerton, P.E., Deputy County Manager
PHONE: 501-5470

Henrico ceremony to mark 10th anniversary of Sept. 11 attacks

Henrico County will honor the victims and heroes of Sept. 11 in a special ceremony set for 9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 9 on the steps of the county's Public Safety Building, 7721 E. Parham Road. The public is invited to attend.

The September 11 Tenth Anniversary Memorial Commemoration will remember victims of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon and the airline passengers. It also will salute the first responders from the police and fire units who provided emergency services in the wake of the attacks.

"This commemoration is an opportunity to remember those who lost their lives in the tragic events that took place 10 years ago," said County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. "We want to honor and salute their sacrifices for our country."

The program will include remarks from the Henrico County Board of Supervisors, the Henrico County Sheriff and the chiefs of Henrico's divisions of Police and Fire. It also will feature memorial music and tributes.

September 1, 2011

CONTACT: Mike Jennings Traffic Engineer
PHONE: 501-4397

Henrico Public Works advises motorists to plan for heavy traffic Sept. 9-10 for NASCAR

In preparation for the upcoming Virginia 529 College Savings 250 and Wonderful Pistachios 400 NASCAR events at Richmond International Raceway (RIR), the Henrico's Department of Public Works will modify traffic patterns on major routes to the raceway on Friday, Sept. 9 and Saturday, Sept. 10. The temporary changes should help minimize traffic congestion during the races.

Motorists should expect extremely heavy traffic and delays all day Friday and Saturday in the raceway area, especially from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. before the races and from 10:15 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. after the races.

The Henrico Division of Police will have officers on duty to direct traffic around the area before and after the races. Police encourage race fans and other motorists to

consult message boards on interstate highways and roadways approaching RIR for traffic information. WRVA 1140 AM will broadcast traffic reports as well.

The following traffic patterns will be in effect Sept. 10 during peak hours:

Carolina Avenue between Laburnum and Azalea avenues will be one-way inbound before the race and one-way outbound after the race. Access to businesses along Carolina Avenue will be maintained from Laburnum Avenue.

Meadowbridge Road between the Henrico/Hanover county line and Azalea Avenue will be one-way southbound beginning at approximately 9 a.m. and continuing until the race starts.

Meadowbridge Road north of Azalea Avenue will close to northbound traffic; however, in Hanover County it will remain a two-way road at all times.

After the race, Laburnum Avenue between Carolina Avenue and Mechanicsville Turnpike will be one-way eastbound. Eastbound Laburnum Avenue between Richmond-Henrico Turnpike and Carolina Avenue will be closed until race traffic disperses. Two-way traffic will be maintained west of Richmond-Henrico Turnpike.

After the race, Meadowbridge Road north of Azalea Avenue will be one-way northbound between Azalea Avenue and Atlee Road, beginning at approximately 10 p.m. and continuing until race traffic disperses.

After the race, three lanes on Azalea Avenue between Richmond-Henrico Turnpike and Henrico High School will be routed westbound and one lane eastbound. This change will require all median crossovers on Azalea Avenue between Richmond-Henrico Turnpike and Henrico High School to close at approximately 10 p.m. until race traffic disperses. Police will assist motorists turning from Azalea Avenue to Thrush Lane and Pony Farm Drive.

While these traffic patterns are in effect, median crossovers on Laburnum Avenue will be closed between North Avenue and Mechanicsville Turnpike, except at Pilots Lane and Austin Avenue. Only right turns will be permitted to and from Laburnum Avenue. Police will be positioned at these intersections before and after the race to assist motorists turning onto or crossing Laburnum Avenue.

On-street parking on major routes to RIR is prohibited each day. Additional parking will be available Sept. 10 for \$6 at the Richmond Coliseum parking deck on North Seventh Street. Free shuttle bus service to and from RIR will be provided beginning at 1 p.m.

Parking also will be available at the Showplace on Mechanicsville Turnpike beginning at 11 a.m., \$10 per car and \$25 per recreational vehicle; free shuttle bus service to and from RIR will be provided beginning at noon.

The Henrico Division of Police has recommended the following routes for traffic approaching the raceway Sept. 9-10:

From the east (Hampton Roads area) — Follow Interstate 64 west to Interstate 295 north (Exit 200). Follow I-295 north and exit onto Mechanicsville Turnpike west (Exit 37B). Follow Mechanicsville Turnpike to Laburnum Avenue. Turn right and proceed to the raceway.

From the east (Route 360) — Approach Richmond on Route 360 west (Mechanicsville Turnpike), cross I-295, and continue west to Laburnum Avenue. Turn right and proceed to the raceway.

From the east (local traffic) — Follow I-64 west and take the Laburnum Avenue exit (Exit 195). Turn right and proceed to the raceway.

From the north — Follow Interstate 95 south to the I-295 east interchange (marked "To Norfolk — Williamsburg"). Follow I-295 east and exit onto Meadowbridge Road west (Exit 38B). Follow Meadowbridge Road (Richmond-Henrico Turnpike) and proceed to the raceway.

From the north (local traffic) — Use Route 1 (Brook Road) to Azalea Avenue. Turn left onto Azalea Avenue and proceed to the raceway.

From the west — Follow I-64 east to the I-295 south interchange (Exit 177). Follow I-295 south and exit onto Meadowbridge Road west (Exit 38B). Follow Meadowbridge Road (Richmond-Henrico Turnpike) and proceed to the raceway.

From the west (local traffic) — Follow I-64 east to the Powhite Parkway/Laburnum Avenue exit. Take the Laburnum Avenue exit, turn left and proceed to the raceway.

From the south — Follow I-95 north to the interchange with I-295 south of Petersburg. Follow I-295 north and exit onto Mechanicsville Turnpike (Exit 37B). Follow Mechanicsville Turnpike to Laburnum Avenue. Turn right and proceed to the raceway.

From the south (local traffic) — Follow I-95 north to the I-64 east interchange (Exit 75). Follow I-64 to Route 360 east (Mechanicsville Turnpike). Follow Route 360 east to Laburnum Avenue. Turn left and proceed to the raceway.

[Return to Public Relations & Media Services Page](#)

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