

the hanover review



Tax relief is available for elderly, disabled

Hanover County has a tax relief program for the elderly and permanently disabled. In order for the tax relief to be reflected in the real estate tax bills that go out later this year, applicants should file by June 30.

Hanover's program provides for tax relief of 100%, 75%, 50% or 25%, depending on income level. Relief is available for those elderly and disabled residents who have annual incomes of less than \$50,000. The maximum tax relief is \$900.

More than 1,100 households in Hanover currently participate in the tax relief program. The average annual savings per household is \$697, with 612 of the participating households getting the maximum relief.

"We encourage first-time applicants to contact us at any point during the year," said Scott Harris, Hanover's Commissioner of the Revenue.

For more information about this and other tax relief programs offered by Hanover County, call the Commissioner of Revenue's office at 365-6125.

Inside This Issue

STORIES

- Good Stuff on the Web Site 3
- Important Road is Opened 3
- Outstanding Volunteers for 2006 . . 4
- 28th Annual Tomato Festival 6
- Hanover Veterans Memorial 8

FEATURES

- From the Chairman 2
- From the Administrator 2
- "Interview": Donna Douglas 5
- Public Servant 6
- "Hanover Happenings" 6

Breaking ground at the Veterans Memorial



U.S. Congressman Eric Cantor (left) joined with many others to break ground for the Hanover Veterans Memorial at Wayside Park last month. Pictured to Cantor's left are Gloria and John Clodfelter, Sen. Ryan McDougle, and Emmie and Joe Teal. The Clodfelters and the Teals have lost sons in the war against terrorism. Donations are helping to finance this memorial. For more information on how you can help establish the Hanover Veterans Memorial, see pg. 8.

The most important things

Board's top priorities for this Fiscal Year

Bond Referendum projects, the Comprehensive Plan update, and looking for ways to advance road construction timetables are among the County government's top priorities for the coming Fiscal Year.

The Board of Supervisors adopted the ambitious list this spring. Some of the initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Plan update and planning for the Richmond Region 2007 celebration, may be completed by next spring. Others, such as the new communications system approved by voters in the 2005 Bond Referendum, will be multi-year projects.

There have already been some developments on Bond Referendum projects. For example, in late May

the Board approved lights for athletic fields at Courthouse Park on U.S. Rt. 301 that were part of the Parks and Library Bond Referendum question.

In March the Board selected a site for the new Mechanicsville Library. The new library, also part

— continued on page 5.

"It's a very ambitious list, but if we could accomplish it, it would mean a lot to the citizens of Hanover County."

John Gordon
Board of Supervisors



Hanover - where a family of communities, inspired by its people, traditions, spirit and history, is the foundation for its future

County of Hanover
Board of Supervisors

Charles D. McGhee
Chairman

Henry District
779-2875

cdmcghee@co.hanover.va.us

Robert R. Setliff
Vice Chairman

Chickahominy District
746-5553

rsetliff@co.hanover.va.us

Timothy E. Ernst
Ashland District

798-9333

ternst@co.hanover.va.us

John E. Gordon Jr.
South Anna District
798-3879

jgordon@co.hanover.va.us

Aubrey M. Stanley
Beaverdam District
449-6606

amstanley@co.hanover.va.us

Elton J. Wade Sr.
Cold Harbor District
781-0044

ejwade@co.hanover.va.us

J.T. "Jack" Ward
Mechanicsville District
746-9126

jward@co.hanover.va.us

Administration

Cecil R. Harris Jr.
County Administrator
365-6005

rharris@co.hanover.va.us

Harold Thomas Harris Jr.
Public Information Officer
365-6402

htharris@co.hanover.va.us

the hanover review

The Hanover Review is published quarterly by the County of Hanover and is distributed to all addresses in the County.



Chuck McGhee

Hanover County. Recently, I had two such ceremonies in two days, cutting the ribbon to open North Lakeridge Parkway on May 31 and speaking at the deed transfer of "Rural Plains" and the Totopotomoy battlefield to the National Park Service on June 1.

North Lakeridge Parkway speaks to our future. The opening of this corridor is going to provide additional sites for businesses, starting with Sheehy Ford. Northlake, our most successful business park, is located along North Lakeridge Parkway and we expect having this new connection

from the Chairman of the Board

One of the privileges of being a member of the Board of Supervisors is having the opportunity to participate in ceremonies and events that are historic for

between Lewistown Road and Rt. 1 will be a great asset for Northlake. What helps our business parks and our businesses helps all of us.

Northlake and North Lakeridge Parkway both represent great examples of public/private partnerships. The County has worked closely with the developer of Northlake and as a result of this partnership, Northlake has grown from about 120 acres six years ago to about 400 acres now. What started as a couple of buildings along Lewistown Road now consists of 11 buildings, with two more under construction. This is an impressive business park and I invite you to drive along the new North Lakeridge Parkway corridor and check it out.

On the other hand, the deed transfer of "Rural Plains" speaks to our past. One of the speakers at this ceremony quoted remarkable

— continued on page 7.

from the County Administrator

It's been a successful 12 months for Hanover County government. In the pages of "The Hanover Review" you've read that we established a permanent decal for motor vehicles, conducted a citizen survey with very favorable feedback and distributed information for our successful Bond Referendum. We've also been able to establish a blight abatement and property maintenance program, adopt a long-term transportation strategy and improve our working relationship with Federal and State legislators, to name just a few very significant accomplishments.

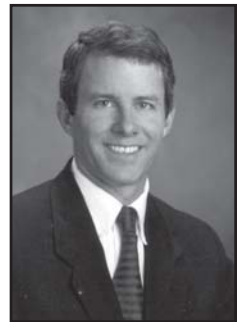
Another one of the initiatives established by the Board of Supervisors a year ago was to conduct an Economic Development Competitiveness Assessment. The Board, Planning Commission and Economic Development Authority conducted a regional tour of our surrounding localities and met with businesspeople from across

the County. We conducted a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis to review our current programs and

discuss our future direction. Out of the tour and the SWOT analysis came the recommendation that we review and update our Comprehensive Plan. One of the primary objectives of this update will be to determine how best to accommodate the need for our current businesses to grow as well as provide sites and opportunities for new businesses.

We have had a great year in economic development with the opening of Owens and Minor's headquarters and \$78 million in

— continued on page 7.



Rhu Harris

Checking out the web site

Site re-design makes it easier to access the information you need

The Hanover County web site at www.co.hanover.va.us has been redesigned to enhance not only its appearance but make it easier for readers to find the information they want with a minimum of 'clicks'.

A news story is at the top of the home page each day. These "News Flashes" are updated regularly on both the home page and at the "Hanover News and Events" page at www.co.hanover.va.us/pio/default.htm. If you would like to be notified when the "News Flashes" are updated, please press the button in the upper right-hand corner of the "Hanover News and Events" web page.

Dynamic 'drop-down' menus have been added at the upper-right top of all the pages. These drop-down menus are organized by "Quick Links", "County Government" and "Online Services".

The "Quick Links" drop-down provides links to the most frequently requested web pages. The "Online Services" drop-down provides an easy-to-find list of links for such electronic/online services as applying for a job, viewing the status of your building permit or paying your utility bill. You can also pay your taxes online.

There also is a new "Upcoming Meetings" calendar on the home page. Listed on this calendar are Hanover County government meetings that are staff-supported and which involve citizens who make decisions. Click on the calendar icon to view scheduled meetings.

For those who want to read the **text only**, that feature can be accessed in the top left-hand corner of all pages on the web site. The text-only version is most helpful to persons with disabilities using assistive reading devices to browse the Internet. This feature also helps those who are using handheld devices such as Blackberries or Palm Pilots to access the information.

According to Web Administrator Claire Newman, many visits to the web site are to view employment opportunities and assessments, but other highlights include:

The Parks & Recreation page (www.co.hanover.va.us/parksrec/default.htm) features information on all the County's parks, summer programs and special events.

Animal Control's Rabies Control page (www.co.hanover.va.us/anmlctrl/rabiesct.htm) has an interactive map of confirmed

rabies incidents. When your mouse rolls over an incident, additional details pop up on-screen.

Want to see who has been recognized by the Board of Supervisors? Photos are at www.co.hanover.va.us/board/proclamations.htm.

The Emergency Information page (www.co.hanover.va.us/emergency.htm) features many links to help you get prepared before a disaster occurs.

Animal Control's Adopt-A-Pet page (www.co.hanover.va.us/anmlctrl/adoptpet.htm) has pictures and information about many adorable pets that need a good home.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court's page (www.co.hanover.va.us/circuitct/default.htm) features a wealth of information on topics ranging from land records to genealogical research to jury service and more.

The e-Gov Online Services page (www.co.hanover.va.us/egov.htm) is a portal to the County's web-based online services for such things as checking building permit status, planning and zoning status and accessing your utility account online at any hour of the day or night.

North Lakeridge Parkway is opened

Hanover and Ashland officials celebrated the opening of North Lakeridge Parkway on May 31. The two-lane divided section provides another connection from Lewistown Road to Rt. 1 and opens about 75 acres for additional business development. North Lakeridge Parkway provides full access to Northlake, which is the County's most active business park. The road extension was administered by the Hanover Department of Public Works and was constructed in partnership with the Northlake developer. Pictured from left are County Administrator Rhu Harris, Ashland Supervisor Tim Ernst, Board of Supervisors Chairman Chuck McGhee, Northlake developer Gibson Wright, South Anna Supervisor John Gordon, Ashland Mayor Faye Prichard and Chickahominy Supervisor Bob Setliff.



Outstanding Volunteers honored by Board

Volunteers donated 426,150 hours of service in Hanover County last year. That's worth more than \$9.2 million, according to Virginia's average hourly rate for volunteer service.

Those inspiring individuals were recognized in May, first by the Board of Supervisors during an official ceremony on May 10 and then at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic at Paramount's Kings Dominion on May 18.

Awards were sponsored this year by Rappahannock Electric

Cooperative, Woodmen of the World Lodge #468, Patrick Pontiac Buick



Amy Duncan was named Outstanding Youth Volunteer for her help at Ashland Convalescent Center.



Wendy Dishman (above) and Norm Sulser (right) were named Outstanding Volunteers. Wendy has volunteered approximately 500 hours for Pearson's Corner Elementary School in the last six years.



Norm Sulser has been a Reserve Deputy for 24 years and is a founding member of the Sheriff's Reserve Program.



The Hanover Humane Society, here represented by Suzanne Wolstenholme, was named Outstanding Volunteer Group. The Humane Society provides safe houses for lost and stray animals, staffs two adoption stands each week and provides community education.



The Carroll and Yancey family were named Outstanding Family Volunteers. Kathy Carroll, Craig Carroll and Kathy's mother Deb Yancey (from left to right) are leaders at West Hanover Volunteer Rescue Squad.

GMC and Battlefield Press Inc. Each sponsor provided a \$250 contribution to the organization that nominated or is served by the outstanding volunteer in each category.

To learn more about the many opportunities to volunteer in Hanover County, please call the Department of Community Resources at 365-4300 or visit www.co.hanover.va.us/commres/default.htm

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

2006 Outstanding Volunteers nominations are listed below.

Outstanding Individuals:

◆ Janice Berger, Deborah Breedlove, Wendy Dishman, Sharon Donahue, Cathy Easter, Rusty Edwards, Patti Gould, Georgie Green, Jerry Hall, Stacy Harksen, Jo Horner, Rachel Kelly, Patricia Leed, Dwight Leonard, Victoria Meyst, Waverly Moore, John Peck, Fay Perry, Donald Propst, Lisa Satterwhite, Norman Sulser, Terri Tatum, Sherrie Tribble, Carmen Turkoff, Berkeley Whitley, Christina Williams

Outstanding Youth:

◆ Battlefield Park Elementary School Student Council, Cassie Baudean, Amy Duncan, Katy Groover, Brittany Smith

Outstanding Family:

◆ Bernas family, Carroll and Yancey family, Stanley family, Taylor family, Weis family

Outstanding Group:

◆ Advanced Master Gardener Land Care Stewards (LCS), Beaverdam Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, Cool Spring Elementary School PTA, Friends of the Rockville Library, Hanover Bonds for Progress Committee, Hanover Humane Society, Pharmacy Connection Program

BOARD INITIATIVES continued from page 1.

of the 2005 Bond Referendum, will be located behind the Arby's off U.S. Rt. 360. An architect has been hired and preliminary design work is underway.

Status updates on the 2005 Bond Referendum projects can be read at www.co.hanover.va.us.

THE BOARD'S PRIORITIES

- ◆ Contract for the new Emergency Communication radio system and complete the system design
- ◆ Design the initial Bond Referendum projects, including the Mechanicsville Library, Farrington and Ashland Fire Stations and a number of parks improvements
- ◆ Review and update the Comprehensive Plan, with emphasis on the Suburban Services Area, Economic Development areas and rural areas
- ◆ Explore the development of a land preservation program which would access Federal and State funds
- ◆ Establish Succession Planning and Leadership Development programs for County staff
- ◆ Assist the School Board with establishing the Trades-Based Center behind Hanover High School
- ◆ Prepare a plan for Hanover's participation in the Richmond Region 2007 celebration
- ◆ Develop a Public Safety Strategic Plan that advances the concept of a safe community
- ◆ Develop a Human Services Strategic Plan to establish priorities for delivery of needed services
- ◆ Develop funding alternatives for road projects, in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Transportation, with the goal of advancing construction timetables

Did You Know?

Hanover's crime rate dropped by 6.6% last year and the Sheriff's Office cleared 45% of all crimes, more than twice the national average.

INTERVIEW: Department of Social Services

DONNA DOUGLAS has been Director of Hanover's Department of Social Services since 1993. She was recently elected chair of the Local Council of the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA), becoming the first woman to chair the Local Council in over 75 years.

Douglas serves on a variety of State and local advisory committees on program development and community involvement and is on the adjunct faculty of Virginia Commonwealth University, from which she holds a Master's in Social Work. The department received an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties for its "Continuous Quality Improvement" program in 2004 and an Achievement Award from the Virginia Association of Counties for its "Care for Kids" program in 2003.

Donna, the Department of Social Services partners with various public and private organizations to offer a variety of services. What are some of the best examples of this?

Collaborating with public, private and faith-based organizations and individuals has helped us develop great partnerships. It's through these partnerships that we share information and resources so we can better meet the needs of Hanover's citizens. Almost every group or individual with whom we work provides us with a sense of sincere compassion, interest and commitment to helping others. It is difficult to prioritize the "best" examples of these partnerships because we have so many, but I can point to a couple that reach the largest number of citizens.

Our early childhood intervention initiative involving Hanover schools and our child day care centers is one of the most successful partnerships. By leverag-

ing State Child Day Care Quality Initiative Funds administered through the schools, we can improve

the quality of care and education provided to children in the County's child care environments and increase the skill level of child care employees. About 500 people representing over 37 child care programs throughout the County attended workshops and a Countywide conference. We estimate that perhaps 500-800 children will benefit from this increased level of training.

Another example is our partnership with Hanover Children's Emergency Services. This non-profit organization donates over \$25,000 each year to assist our clients with emergency funding for food, shelter and utilities which cannot be funded by any other source. Every year this organization also hosts a holiday event for needy families and their children by providing toys and food and making a monetary contribution to our elderly.

We definitely have to mention our partnership with the Doswell Ruritan Club. Each year this organization provides holiday assistance to our Food Stamps and TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) recipients. We work with volunteers from Shady Grove United Methodist Church to provide information to the Ruritans so that our clients can pick up the appropriate food, clothing and toys. Last year the Doswell Ruritans served over 1,500



Donna Douglas

— continued on page 7.

Hanover Happenings

County Cannery opens on July 1

The Hanover County cannery opens on July 1, and will remain open through Oct. 31 (except on Wednesdays and Sundays).

During July and August, hours are 1-7 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays and 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The cannery is open by appointment only in September. The July and August operating hours resume in October, except that the cannery will be closed on Fridays.

It is recommended that you make an appointment before you bring any items to be canned. Staff is trained to answer questions and to assist you with the cannery equipment.

The charge for Hanover residents is 40 cents per can or 20 cents per jar. The rates for non-County residents are 55 cents per can or 30 cents per jar.

The cannery is located on Route 54 behind the Parks and Recreation building at the Taylor Complex.

For more information call the cannery at 365-6484 and leave a message, or call the Department of or Public Works at 365-6181. There is also information on the DPW web page at www.co.hanover.va.us.

Hanover County's Fireworks laws

Hanover Fire/EMS reminds you to be sure not to let improper use of fireworks ruin your Independence Day celebration.

Any type of fireworks that moves, either on the ground or in the air, is illegal in Hanover. Fireworks that explode also are illegal. Both violations are misdemeanor offenses. Those who use illegal fireworks are responsible for any property damage caused.

"It is much safer to visit the many fireworks displays available in our area," recommends Hanover Fire Marshal M.J. Flournoy.

For more information call 365-6195.

"Tomato Festival" will be held July 8

Hanover's most famous fruit will be celebrated at the 28th Tomato Festival at Pole Green Park on Saturday, July 8.

The celebration will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will involve a vast array of arts and crafts and other exhibitors, delicious food, live music and Hanover tomatoes (for as long as they last). The Parks and Recreation Department will also have a kids' area

with free activities and a "Best Dressed Tomato" contest for kids.

You are also invited to show off your tomato growing and cooking talents in the Hanover Tomato Contest. Awards will be handed out at the Tomato Festival. For more information on this contest or the Tomato Festival, call 779-7948 or visit www.co.hanover.va.us.

Citizens Police Academy deadline

August 1 is the deadline to apply for the 18th annual Citizens Police Academy, which will be held by the Hanover Sheriff's Office in the fall. Classes are expected to run from mid-September to mid-November.

Students are not trained to be police officers, but are informed about all aspects of law enforcement. Participants also experience practical and hands-on exercises, including ride-alongs and a day at the firing range. This is a great opportunity to meet many Sheriff's officers and learn what they do to prevent crime and protect all Hanoverians.

To apply or get more information, call Lisa Hancock at 365-6825 or e-mail her at lphancock@co.hanover.va.us.

PUBLIC SERVANT

Hanover County honored its Emergency Communications Officers in a recognition ceremony held at Hanover Tavern on April 12. During this ceremony, Stacey M. Lantz was named Emergency Communications Officer of the Year. Stacey is a graduate of King William High School and previously worked with the King and Queen and King William County Sheriff's offices. She was hired as a Hanover County Communications Officer in 1999. Stacey was nominated by her co-workers for her outstanding dedication, professionalism and service. "Stacey is one of the most productive members of the department and is consistently among the highest in the number of calls answered and dispatched each month," said Charlie Udriet, Deputy Communications Director. Also honored for their team performance during a critical incident last year were Becky Newcomb, Wayne Donovan, Kathy Cheeley, Sherrithia Lowe, Sean Howard, Kyle Piera and Dawn Drewry.



"National Night Out" on August 1

On **Tuesday, Aug. 1**, Hanover County will join in celebrating the 23rd anniversary of "America's Night Out Against Crime".

From 4-10 p.m. (or a time designated by your neighborhood), communities throughout Hanover will host a variety of special events, including block parties, cookouts and visits from Sheriff's Deputies.

To get involved, call Deputy Sheriff Jim McLaughlin at 365-6335.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN continued from page 2.

passages from a Union officer's journal in which he told of coming upon Rural Plains and "a bed of ripe strawberries" on May 28, 1864, and enjoying those strawberries while bullets whizzed over their heads. The entry went on to describe the soldiers sitting down for dinner with the women and children of the Shelton family (Col. Shelton being out in the field, perhaps a short distance away, with the Confederate army.) Truly it was a moment in which the veil separating us from the long-distant past opened for just a glimpse.

The Shelton family's ownership of the Rural Plains property dated back to 1609 and nine generations of the family lived in Rural Plains. They were great stewards of this property. Now it is left to us to carry on that legacy.

I am proud of the role the Board of Supervisors played in working with the late Mr. William Shelton, Dr. Robert Bluford, Andy Shield, the National Park Service, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the Civil War Preservation Trust to ensure that this unique historical resource is preserved forever. I said previously that "Rural Plains" speaks to our past; thankfully, now it will be part of our future as well.

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR continued from page 2.

new business investment. Our Department of Economic Development has directly helped 39 businesses in location or expansion plans. Our retail sales are growing at a rate of about 15% and our unemployment rate is the lowest in the region.

But we can't be complacent. The world is changing quickly and we have to be prepared to meet the future. Businesses play a critical role in funding services and providing employment for Hanoverians. This Comprehensive Plan update will help us to continue to be Open for Business.

Douglas

continued from p. 5

people through this program. Our faith-based partners - Ashland Christian Emergency Services, Western Hanover Emergency Services and Mechanicsville Christian Emergency Services - have served thousands of people over the years. Our department acts as a referral source to these organizations for clients we cannot fully serve, and together we leverage our funds and resources to assist needy families.

Two other significant community partnerships are with the VCU Graduate School of Social Work and the Americorps program. Our participation in these programs has increased our ability to make a difference in our community.

Does the Department have eligibility workers available to meet with people at any location other than the main office at the Hanover Human Services Center in Ashland?

Yes, currently we have satellite offices in Doswell (at Jerusalem Baptist Church), at Mechanicsville Elementary School and at Bon Secours Memorial Regional Medical Center. The hospital office is open five days a week, while Doswell operates one day a week and Mechanicsville Elementary one day a month. During those time periods, staff is available at these locations to assist citizens with their benefit(s) applications and provide information and referral services.

Does the Department of Social Services have any new programs?

Yes. Two of our most successful new initiatives are the Earned Income Tax Credit Program and the Pharmacy Connection

Program. We provided free tax assistance to over 30 eligible individuals totaling \$46,000 in refunds. The Pharmacy Connection Program is a free prescription drug service that is offered by the Greater Works Community Development Corporation (GWDC) located in Jerusalem Baptist Church in Doswell. To participate in the Pharmacy Connection Program, an individual must have no insurance or no other means to obtain their medication(s). They must also be income-eligible, have a chronic illness or condition and be a Hanover resident. If you meet the criteria, the GWDC will assist you in applying directly to the pharmaceutical company that manufactures the prescription drug and works directly with local pharmacies in the delivery and renewal of the medication. This program assisted over 292 people with their prescriptions last year. Those prescriptions had a wholesale value of \$916,198.

Summer is here. Is any kind of cooling assistance available to Hanover residents in need?

You bet! Cooling Assistance applications are taken from June 15 through August 15. We are currently making arrangements to go to elderly housing facilities such as Covenant Woods and community fairs to give information about the Cooling Assistance program and help people complete their applications. We have a data base of citizens who have received energy assistance in the past. We are mailing out Cooling Assistance applications to each of those people, plus information about Medicaid and Food Stamps. Cooling Assistance helps vulnerable citizens (the elderly, disabled and families with young children) cope with the problems that too much heat can produce, including breathing problems and elevated blood pressure. In addition to helping with energy bills, this program can also buy fans and air conditioners for qualified County residents.

News Briefs

Construction began on long-awaited improvements to [Atlee Station Road](#), the Board of Supervisors' top secondary road priority. The road will be improved in phases and a traffic signal installed at the intersection with Cool Spring Road. Projected completion is in November 2007, according to the [Virginia Department of Transportation](#).

"Hanover's Promise" kicked off the first of its ongoing Rites of Passage Community Workshops with a program on "Beach Week" and alternatives for parents and teens interesting in planning for a safe high school graduation season. The [Community Workshop series](#) will provide a platform for parents and teens to openly discuss such independence issues as internet safety, dating, driving and grades. If your organization is interested in hosting a workshop session or if you have suggestions or questions, call Kara Dunleavy at the Department of Community Resources (365-4180).

The 4th annual "[Hanover Heritage Day](#)" was held at historic Hanover Courthouse on May 20. Children waited eagerly to ride the oxen and throw tomahawks and re-enactors from all eras of the County's rich history strolled the grounds of the government complex. Attendance was nearly 7,000.

Delegate and Mrs. Frank D. Hargrove Sr. received the "[Jean C. Harris Award](#)" given by Hanover Community Services for what they have done to improve the quality of life for people in need.

Hanover's 4th [Juvenile Drug and Alcohol Forum](#) was held at Hanover High School. More than 100 students heard speakers ranging from Col. V. Stuart Cook, Sheriff, and School Superintendent Stewart Roberson to former Lee-Davis softball player Brandi Buissett.

A historic event

Hanover's newest historical park dedicated

Rural Plains has long been one of Hanover County's most historic private homes. Now the 17th century home and 124 acres belongs to the National Park Service (NPS) and will one day be open to the public.

As a result of the Board of Supervisors' approval of the "Bell Creek" subdivision in 2000, the late Mr. William Shelton agreed to transfer his ancestral home and property to the NPS upon his death. On June 1 a ceremony marking the transfer of this unique historical asset was held.

Rural Plains is one of the oldest homes in Hanover County. Patrick Henry was married there in 1754 and 110 years later Civil War armies fought on the property en route to Cold Harbor.

Many of the furnishings that were in the home during the 1864 battle were purchased by the NPS and will remain with the home. The deed of transfer also preserves much of the Totopotomoy battlefield.

"Hanover County and the entire community will greatly benefit from the private and public efforts to preserve this treasured historic resource for generations to come," said Chuck McGhee, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

The property is the fourth in

Hanover County to be managed by the staff of Richmond National Battlefield Park, a unit of the NPS. The Civil War Preservation Fund helped raise funds for the purchase.

Richmond National Battlefield Park also manages the battlefields of Cold Harbor, Gaines Mill and Beaverdam Creek (Mechanicsville) in Hanover County. For more information about these parks, call 226-1981.

Hanover County manages parks near the Civil War battlefields of Cold Harbor and North Anna in the Doswell area. For more information about these parks, call 365-4695.

Veterans Memorial needs donations

The Hanover Veterans Memorial is being financed through donations. So far, more than \$100,000 in contributions have been received from hundreds of citizens and businesses.

However, that represents only about half the total cost of the Hanover Veterans Memorial. If you would like to contribute, please call Hanover Parks & Recreation at 365-4695 or visit

www.co.hanover.va.us/parksrec/default.htm.

the hanover review



County of Hanover
P.O. Box 470
Hanover, VA 23069-0047
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #6
HANOVER, VA

Postal Customer