



Contact: Jackie Foreman
(804) 249-1707
jackie.foreman@jforemanpr.com

400th Commemoration Continues at Henricus Historical Park with America's First Hospital Event on May 7-8

Children May Enjoy Hands-On Medical Activities on the Bluff Overlooking the James River

CHESTER, Va., April 13, 2011 – Henricus Historical Park continues its 400th commemoration with the fourth major event in a series called “The Year of Henricus” with “Mount Malady– America’s First Hospital” on May 7 and 8. This event details the science of 17th-century medical care and the planning and building of Mount Malady. Topics include the role of women as primary healers within the home in colonial and Virginia Indian cultures. America’s first hospital will be explored through family-friendly historical interpretations and demonstrations.

Virginia Indian activities will feature how Powhatan people used herbal and organic resources to make medicines and highlight their spiritual beliefs in healing the sick. English activities include the making of home brews, remedies, and potions; demonstrations featuring the role of technical doctors or barber-surgeons; and Sir Thomas Dale’s orders for a hospital and theories on promoting good health.

On Saturday and Sunday, children are invited to participate in “A Medical Legacy,” a series of hands-on activities from early colonial remedies through modern medicine today. On the bluff overlooking the James River, children will learn about planting, drying and making herb sachets. For a modern lesson, families may take CPR training and meet medical service animals.

“What better way to spend Mother’s Day weekend than at a family-friendly educational event which recognizes the important role of women in 17th-century medical care,” said Charles Lewis Grant, acting executive director of Henricus Historical Park. “Families will enjoy learning about the significant medical milestones which took place at Henricus through fun activities and live demonstrations.”

“The Year of Henricus” began with Publick Days 2010 and will continue to lead up to the site’s 400th anniversary which will be commemorated in September 2011. Events will culminate with the arrival of 17th-century ship replica, *Godspeed from Jamestown Settlement*, at Publick Days this September. For more information about all events during “The Year of Henricus”, visit www.henricus.org or call (804) 748-1613. Reporters and photographers are encouraged to schedule tours in advance and attend all events.

- MORE -

Admission for Mount Malady, which takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, is free for gift club patrons, \$8 for adults and \$6 for children ages 3-12. The 2007 historic reconstruction of Mount Malady was made possible by a generous gift to the Henricus Foundation from HCA Virginia Health System.

Henricus Historical Park is located on 32 acres along the scenic and historic James River and is surrounded by the 810-acre Dutch Gap Conservation Area. Only 20 minutes from Richmond, the park is located at 251 Henricus Park Road, Chester, Virginia 23836.

###

More about Henricus Historical Park:

Founded in 1611 by Sir Thomas Dale, the Citie of Henricus is the second successful English settlement in North America and will commemorate its 400th anniversary in September 2011. Henricus Historical Park is a living history museum located within the Dutch Gap Conservation Area with Pre-K–12 and adult education programs, including indoor and outdoor meeting and special event space available for rental. Henricus is a non-profit organization which operates in partnership with the Henricus Foundation and counties of Chesterfield and Henrico. For more information about Henricus Historical Park visit www.henricus.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).