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## **Celebrate 400 Years of History at Henricus Historical Park During Publick Days**

### ***Join Henricus for the unveiling of 17th-century ship replica, Phoenix***

CHESTER, Va., August 24, 2010 – Henricus Historical Park will begin its 400th commemoration with Publick Days, a signature annual event which celebrates the establishment of the second successful English settlement in the “New World.” In 1611, Sir Thomas Dale, along with soldiers, tradesmen and farmers, ventured from Jamestown to create the Citie of Henricus. Leaders of Henricus developed the first English hospital, chartered the first college in North America, established tobacco as the first cash crop in Virginia, and created a place where Pocahontas lived and met John Rolfe. This year, Publick Days will take place September 18 and 19, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free and parking is \$5.

Set among a recreated Arrohateck Indian village and English settlement, visitors to Henricus Historical Park are encouraged to step back in time and experience life in 1611 Colonial Virginia demonstrated by period-dressed interpreters. Activities planned for Publick Days include living history reenactments; English and American Indian weapons demonstrations; craftsmen and blacksmiths; 17th-century medicinal demonstrations; Virginia Indian songs and dance; historical children’s games and crafts; storytelling; food and craft vendors, and more. This year, 17th-century ship replica, Phoenix, will be docked at Henricus on both days of the event. The sailing vessel is meticulously detailed for the period and will be on display to the public for the very first time.

“Publick Days is the first event in a year-long celebration recognizing the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Citie of Henricus,” said Charles Lewis Grant, acting executive director. “We encourage the public to visit during Publick Days and come back throughout the year to learn about other significant historic milestones which took place at Henricus.”

“The Year of Henricus” will begin with Publick Days 2010 and run through the following September. Commemorative events for the 400th anniversary will conclude with the arrival of 17th-century ship replica, the Godspeed from Jamestown Settlement, at Publick Days 2011. For more information about all events during “The Year of Henricus”, visit [www.henricus.org](http://www.henricus.org) or call (804) 748-1613. Reporters and photographers are encouraged to schedule tours in advance and attend all events.

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Throughout the year, general park admission is free for members, \$8 for adults and \$6 for children aged 3-12. 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.

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**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 begin its year-long 400th commemoration in September 2010. Henricus Historical Park is a living history museum located within the Dutch Gap Conservation Area with Pre-K–12 education programs available to students and teachers and indoor and outdoor meeting and special event space available for rental. Henricus operates in partnership with the Henricus Foundation and counties of Chesterfield and Henrico. For more information about Henricus Historical Park visit [www.henricus.org](http://www.henricus.org)