



Culpeper Quarterly

Culpeper is Thriving! Choose from all kinds of events!

Spring 2024

2ND EDITION 2024 **CULPEPER COUNTY LIBRARY**

CULPEPER CON **DAYS OF FUTURE CULPEPER**

MARCH 22-23
Cosplay
Friday Night 6pm
Main Event
Saturday 10-5pm

FREE ADMISSION
22-23 MAR

CULPEPER CON

FEATURING
Keynote Speaker Saturday 9am
Zach Weinersmith

The poster features two comic-style characters: a male hero in a red and white suit with a star on his chest, and a female character in a white and red suit with a visor. They are standing on a glowing blue path that leads to an open book at the bottom. A large, multi-colored die is positioned between them. The background is a stylized cityscape with a pink and purple sky.



Culpeper County
Conference
The annual free
business summit
Monday, May 13
Daniel Technology
Center

See Page 31



A Message from the Board of Supervisors



Tom S. Underwood, Susan L. Gugino, Shelia Jane Weimer, David C. Lee, Kimberly Ellis, Paul W. Bates, John C. Egerton, Gary M. Deal, David E. Durr, Brad C. Rosenberger *Photo by William E. Martin, Jr.*

Dear Citizens,

Greetings from your Board of Supervisors. As Chairman for the Board of Supervisors for 2024, I have the honor of writing this cover letter for our Culpeper Quarterly newsletter. Before I go further, I do wish to recognize West Fairfax District Supervisor Gary Deal, who served as Chairman of the Board for the last four years. His leadership has been appreciated by all of his fellow Board members.

There are currently many issues facing the Board, with perhaps the most pressing issue being the development of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. By the time this issue is delivered, we will be getting closer to understanding the outlook for the Budget. This is a process that takes much of our time and attention, and that of our staff, each and every winter. As part of that process, every two years Culpeper County performs a reassessment of land values. The Department of Real Estate Assessments is responsible for the fair and equitable valuation of real property in Culpeper County. FY25 however, is not a reassessment year. This Budget, as always, will bring challenges, chief among them being the needs for public safety. Along with education, public safety is always a high priority. Road improvements are also a key need. The Board will strive to continue to keep taxes low while working to provide the best services and quality of life improvements for our citizens.

In addition to Budget development, the Board has a steady stream of land use applications to consider, and general County Business. There are discussions ongoing regarding the development of plans for a new elementary school, which is needed to relieve the pressure of crowding in our current schools. Architectural plans for the renovation of Culpeper Middle School are also being drawn up at this time.

As a local government, we seek to always act in the best interest of our community and its citizens. Every member of the Board is committed to doing what is best for the community as a whole. It is our greatest wish that 2024 will bring good health and prosperity to each and every one of our citizens.

For the Board,

David E. Durr, Vice Chairman
Cedar Mountain

Gary M. Deal
West Fairfax

Tom S. Underwood
Salem

Paul W. Bates, Chairman
Culpeper County
Board of Supervisors
Catalpa

Brad C. Rosenberger
Jefferson

Susan L. Gugino
Stevensburg

David C. Lee
East Fairfax

Culpeper County Board of Supervisors

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The Board meets
the first Tuesday of each month
10 a.m. General County Business
7 p.m. Public Forum
Planning Business
Public Hearings

Agendas and Minutes
are Available at:
web.culpepercounty.gov

Video coverage on Channel 10



The Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department annual fundraising fair will be held Wednesday August 7th – Sunday August 11th this year. It will once again feature the Amusements of America midway.

Amusements of America has been in the amusement business for over 70 years, and they travel from Vermont to Florida, bringing smiles to the faces of millions of Americans each year.

This is the largest fundraising event for the all-volunteer fire department that provides fire and emergency medical first responder service to the community.

Advance ride ticket purchases will be available on-line, later in the year. The annual firemen's parade will be on Thursday evening, August 8th, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The fair will once again have live music on the midway each evening. The annual lawn and garden tractor pull will be on Saturday August 10th. There will be cash prizes; along with numerous other prizes given away on Saturday evening; as usual.

The Brandy Station Firemen's Fair will have over 20 thrilling rides, numerous exciting games, delicious food choices and awesome fun during the 5-day fair.

There is no admittance fee to enter the Brandy Station fairgrounds, and there is plenty of free parking. The fairgrounds are located at 20057 Fleetwood Heights Road in Brandy Station.

Please follow us on our fire department Facebook page or website for additional information.



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This newspaper is a quarterly publication for the citizens of Culpeper County by the Board of Supervisors. It is designed to present and provide information about Culpeper events, issues and services. Over 23,000 copies are distributed, one to each mail address in Town, County, and to each U.S.P.S. Box within the Town and County of Culpeper.

The newspaper is also available online at web.culpepercounty.gov.
Email dhoffman@culpepercounty.gov with comments and suggestions or to unsubscribe.



Culpeper County Library

271 Southgate Shopping Center
Culpeper, VA 22701
540.825.8691 | www.cclva.org

For more information on current hours or library programs & events, visit our website or find us on social media.



Library News



National Library Week (April 7-13, 2024)

Celebrate libraries and our supporters. Libraries give us the green light to cross bridges together with new experiences.

No matter where you find yourself on your personal road map, Culpeper County Library provides a supportive community where everyone belongs.

National Volunteer Week (April 21st – 27th)

Spotlighting those who sow invaluable seeds in their community.

Thank you, Friends of the Culpeper County Library, Foundation, and the Library Board for volunteering your time in helping to make the Culpeper County Library a great place for all to enjoy.



2024 Summer Reading Program - Adventure Begins at Your Library

ADVENTURE *BEGINS AT YOUR* LIBRARY™ LA AVENTURA *COMIENZA EN TU* BIBLIOTECA™



Be ready for the 2024 Summer Reading Program with the theme of *Adventure Begins at Your Library*. Enjoy music, movies, games, activities, and a whole summer of great book titles available at your Culpeper County Library.

Celebration Kicks off May 18th!

© CSLP

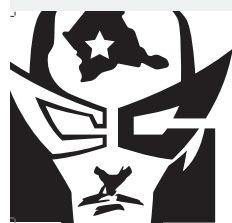
Friends of the Library



Do you enjoy The Friends of the Library's sponsored events shown here in the Quarterly? Consider becoming a member to help keep programs like these alive.

Memberships are only \$10 for an individual or \$15 per family.

Visit www.cclva.org and click Friends of the Library for more details.

CulpeperCon 2nd Edition: Days of Future Culpeper - March 2024

**MARCH
22-23
2024**



CULPEPER COUNTY LIBRARY

WWW.CULPEPERCON.ORG



CULPEPER OBSERVER

CULPEPERCON EXCLUSIVE NEWSPAPER

CULPEPERCON, DAYS OF FUTURE CULPEPER TO GRIP THE COUNTY MARCH 2024

(CULPEPER) – Travel into Culpeper’s past to save its future - one graphic novel at a time.



**DAYS OF
FUTURE
CULPEPER**

Who will join the call from the Captains of Culpeper at the Culpeper County Library as we embark on a mission to promote

literacy, inclusiveness, and community at the Second Annual “CulpeperCon, Days of Future Culpeper?”

Sponsored by the Friends of the Culpeper County Library, “CulpeperCon, Days of Future Culpeper” is a free event held on Friday, March 22 from 5-9pm and Saturday, March 23 from 9am-5pm as a celebration of graphic novels, comic books, and all things nerd, geek, and pop culture.

SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

For the full details & schedule, scan the QR code or visit www.culpepercon.org.

Fri, Mar 22

- 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cosplay Runway & Contest

Sat, Mar 23

- 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Speaker Neil Weinersmith
- 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM Display Youth Graphic Novel Creation Showcase
- 10:00 AM - 4:40 PM Game Pokémon
- 10:10 AM - 11:00 AM Game Pokémon Training
- 10:10 AM - 12:10 PM Game Introduction to Dungeons & Dragons
- 10:10 AM - 4:40 PM Workshop Character Creation
- 10:10 AM - 4:40 PM Game Magic: The Gathering
- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Discussion Comic Creation



The keynote speaker on Saturday, March 23, will be Zach Weinersmith. Weinersmith is the cartoonist of the webcomic Saturday Morning Breakfast Cereal. He also writes popular science books with his wife Kelly, including Soonish and A City on Mars. He

illustrated the graphic novel Open Borders and wrote the poem for the kids’ graphic novel Bea Wolf.

New this year is an opportunity for ‘Con goers to visit local businesses and nonprofits by participating in “Extraordinary Superhuman Activities” which include an Activity Card to win prizes the day of CulpeperCon and a Back-of-Card promotions at the local businesses.

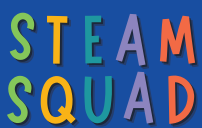
Events featured this year include the popular Cosplay contest on Friday, March 22, Star Wars Lightsaber training, Youth STEM/STEAM activities, comic book discussions, tabletop games, demonstrations, and more!



- 10:40 AM - 11:40 AM Panel Geek Wellness
- 11:10 AM - 12:00 PM Game Magic: The Gathering Training
- 11:40 AM - 1:50 PM Panel Non-Profit Superheroes
- 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Presentation Director Shane Felux
- 12:10 PM - 1:00 PM Game Pokémon Training
- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Game Introduction to Dungeons & Dragons
- 1:10 PM - 2:00 PM Game “Magic: The Gathering” Training
- 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Demo Culpeper LARP
- 2:10 PM - 2:50 PM Game Pokémon Training
- 2:10 PM - 3:10 PM Presentation Comics & History
- 3:00 PM - 4:10 PM Workshop Jedi Academy Lightsaber Training
- 3:10 PM - 4:00 PM Game Magic: The Gathering Training
- 3:30 PM - 4:40 PM Workshop Cartooning
- 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM Closing Extraordinary Superhuman Activity Raffle

Youth Services

3rd-5th grade





STEAM SQUAD

Science, technology, engineering, art, & math
Hands on activities!

One Tuesday a month
4pm-5pm

To register, call 540-825-8691.

1000 BOOKS
Before Kindergarten
Read it and Reap!

Who can participate? Any child from birth until they enter kindergarten.

How does it work? Read a book, any book with your child and mark it on your log.

Turn in your log after every 100 books read and receive a free book!

Visit the Culpeper County Library to pick up your reading log today!



Culpeper County Library

Arts & Crafts

Open to K - 5th grade
COMING SOON



Preschool Storytime
For 3-5 year olds

Thursdays

Enjoy stories, songs and activities specifically for preschoolers and their caregivers.



Registration opens two weeks before each storytime.
To register, call 540-825-8691.



Storytime STEAM Squad


Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math

Join us as a librarian reads a story and then complete hands-on STEAM activities related to the story!

Kindergarten-2nd grade

One Wednesday a month
4:00pm - 4:45pm

Please call 540-825-8691 to register.



Music and Movement

One Friday a month
10:30 a.m.

All ages!

Enjoy a high-energy storytime designed to get kids up and moving. Music, dancing, instruments, and interactive books and activities may be featured.



To register, call 540-825-8691.



Tiny Tots
For infants - 2 years old

Tuesdays

Enjoy stories, songs and rhymes specifically for babies, toddlers, and their caregiver.



Registration opens two weeks before each storytime.
To register, call 540-825-8691.



READ TO A THERAPY DOG
K-5TH GRADE
First Saturday of the month
2-3 p.m.



SIGN UP FOR A 15 MINUTE TIME SLOT TO READ TO A CERTIFIED THERAPY DOG.

TO REGISTER, CALL 540-825-8691.

Alliance of Therapy Dogs
sharing smiles and joy™



Inspire a **Love of Reading**



Dolly Parton's IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Enroll today at ImaginationLibrary.com



Get Outside and Enjoy Spring in Culpeper, VA by Rose Deal, Town of Culpeper

The daffodils are blooming, the farms are bustling again with new life, the sun is shining, and outdoor patios are filling up in restaurants and café's all-over Central Virginia. Spring has sprung! Whether you need a Spring Break itinerary for the whole family or a quick, weekend excursion to soak up some rays, there are a plethora of options to get outside and enjoy the scenery in Culpeper, Virginia. Here are a few Spring Activities to try:

- Embark on a scenic hike and more at Lenn Park – Lenn Park is an 80-acre park with a 2.5 mile walking trail that's perfect to bid farewell to the winter months and witness the first peaks of spring in Culpeper. Other activities include Purple Martin bird watching, a dog park, playgrounds, picnic areas, and more. For more information visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/things-to-do/lenn-park/>.
- Explore Culpeper's rich history and heritage by planning a visit to a battlefield, museum, or historic district. For more information visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/things-to-do/history-heritage/>.
- Attend an outdoor concert at the Culpeper Depot on the 3rd Thursday's of every month (May-August) for Culpeper Renaissance Inc.'s Summer Concert Series. Visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/events/> to learn more.
- Head to the waters of Lake Culpeper or Mountain Run Lake for some spring-time fishing fun. Watercraft rentals become available in May. Visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/things-to-do/outdoors-adventure/> for more information and to see other outdoor adventure options.

- Sip on local craft beverages and visit any one of Culpeper's finest breweries, wineries, or distilleries. Visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/food-and-drink/> to plan your trip.
- Camp out in a tent under the stars at Rappahannock River Campground or Verdun Adventure Bound. Visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/places-to-stay/> to plan a stay.
- Channel your inner artist and stop by Wine and Design Culpeper to create DIY memories and masterpieces. Visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/things-to-do/wine-and-design/> to book a workshop or find an open studio paint date.
- Challenge your friends and family to a challenge course at Verdun Adventure Bound. Available for youth, adult, and ADA adaptive. Visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/things-to-do/verdun-adventure-bound/> to plan your adventure.

Visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/> for more events, activities and fun things to see and do. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram at @visitculpeperva to stay up to date on upcoming happenings.

Are you a Culpeper business interested in promoting your events?

Visit <https://visitculpeperva.com/events/community/add> to submit your event for consideration to the Culpeper Tourism website.

*** Please note all events must be open to the public, visitor focused and are subject to Department review and approval prior to publishing.*

Culpeper Renaissance Events Spring into Motion! by Candice Hayes, CRI Special Events Coordinator

Anyone else ready for chirping birds and blooming dogwoods? March 19th marks the start of spring in Virginia, and while event season exists all year long, it is always a little more fun spending time outside, under the shade of the trees on East Davis Street, with pleasant temperatures and smiling faces abounding in Culpeper Downtown.

First things first, be sure to visit www.culpeperdowntown.com and sign up for Culpeper Renaissance, Inc.'s monthly newsletter. What is Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. (CRI)? We are your local nonprofit Main Street program, constantly working on promoting and highlighting our downtown, community events, as well as strengthening economic vitality for small businesses located in our historic district. The monthly newsletter will keep you abreast of all events, activities, specials, and even volunteer opportunities in Culpeper Downtown.

As far as upcoming events to look forward to, be sure to make reservations for Culpeper Downtown's Spring Restaurant Week, taking place March 18th through March 24th. Experience the best in local dining, with pre-fixed menus and special pricing, the hardest part will be picking just one (or two) options to savor!

Next up, find Culpeper Renaissance in the Depot District on Saturday, April 27th, from 12pm to 5pm, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Gnarly Culpeper Block Party & Brew Fest, CRI's biggest annual fundraiser! While



the name may have changed a little over the years, the love of local and regional craft brews has not. Join us for beer tastings galore, delectable food and snack options, live music, local artisans, a kids corner and more. Support CRI and Culpeper Downtown, while enjoying great beer with good friends!

The following weekend, find Culpeper Renaissance with the Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market delighting in opening day festivities on Saturday, May 4th. The Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market is a central hub for enjoyable family friendly shopping and discovery every Saturday, May through October, from 7:30am to 12pm at 318 South West Street (Culpeper Baptist Church parking lot). Shop from the best local farmers, growers and makers, all in your very own backyard.

The fun is just getting started as we inch our way closer to warm weather, and the 3rd Thursday Summer Concert Series is the place to be May through August (September rain date)! Culpeper Renaissance, Inc.

and the 3rd Thursday Event Committee look forward to delivering a great season line up full of exciting music, delicious food trucks, crisp adult beverages, a kids corner and more. Jump start your summer weekends by celebrating 3rd Thursday with CRI May 16th, June 20th, July 18th and August 15th, from 5pm to 9pm at the Depot in Culpeper Downtown. Lawn chairs, dancing shoes or both; come one, come all for 3rd Thursday summer fun!

Learn more about all the events above, including ticket prices, vendors in attendance, band line ups and more by visiting www.culpeperdowntown.com or liking and following Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. on Facebook and Instagram. Interested in volunteering or sponsoring an event, email crievents@culpeperdowntown.com today!

Transforming Homes for Heroes: A Marine Corps Veteran's Journey to Accessibility

by Seth Whitten, Deputy Director disAbility Resource Center

For lots of folks, home is more than just a place; it's like a cozy and safe haven. But in a world where making things accessible isn't always top of mind, homes might not keep up with people's changing needs, especially for our valued veterans. That's where the disAbility Resource Center (dRC) steps up to make a real difference.

Meet Michael, a Marine Corps veteran facing the challenges of 100% disability, including PTSD and physical balance issues. Michael's bathroom, once a source of difficulty, has now become a symbol of triumph, thanks to the dRC's home modification grant programs. Michael received a grant through the Granting Freedom Program that facilitated the installation of a walk-in shower, not only improving his safety and reducing the risk of falls but also playing a crucial role in easing the anxiety associated with those challenges.

For veterans like Michael, a partnership between Virginia Housing and the Virginia Department of Veteran Services makes the Granting Freedom program possible. This initiative offers grants of up to \$8,000 per residence or rental unit, specifically for Virginia veterans and service members who sustained a line-of-duty injury resulting in a service-connected disability.

Transforming Lives, One Home at a Time

We're proud that we've been able to help so many veterans in the communities we serve, and glad to have home modification grant programs available to veterans and civilians alike. One of these is the Rental Unit Accessibility Modification (RUAM) Program, a program crafted to enhance accessibility in rental units for low-income tenants in need. We also administer an Owner-Occupied Modification Program that empowers low-income homeowners to tackle obstacles that limit the accessibility of their homes and make their space more functional.

Home modification grants serve as a lifeline for individuals striving to make their homes safer and more accessible. They guarantee that heroes like Michael can relish the comfort and security of their own space, irrespective of age or physical condition. To embark on this transformative journey, take the first step by reaching out to the disAbility Resource Center. Let us help you explore the available resources that can help turn your house into a haven of accessibility.

These grants are not just about modifying homes; they are about changing lives, offering a brighter, more accessible future for individuals with disabilities in our communities. If these grants could help you or someone you know, give us a call today at 540-373-2559 or email us at drc@cildrc.org.



Welcome Home Baby | Healthy Steps | Parent Education

We are a non-profit program with three **FREE** and **PRIVATE** services to families of Culpeper.

Parenting Education Program

A parenting class offered to support parents and caregivers of children ages 2 to 12.

Come and join for an interactive and educational look at active parenting. The classes are held in person 5:30-7:30 pm on three evenings of each month. Contact us to get signed up!

Upcoming Schedule:

March 7, 14, 21 (virtual)

May 2, 9, 16 (in person)

Programa de Educación Parental

Para padres de niños de 5 a 12 años.

Una vez que esté registrado, se proporcionará información sobre cómo asistir a la clase, y los materiales GRATUITOS para la clase estarán disponibles para que los recoja.

Fechas de Clase:

Abril 11, 18, 25

Junio 13, 20, 27

INSCRIPCIÓN: healthyfamiliesculpeper@gmail.com

Are you or someone you know expecting a baby, or have a newborn?

Then Families First - Healthy Families Culpeper is perfect!

Welcome Home Baby - community resource connections & gift bag!

Healthy Steps - ongoing parenting & child development support.

Nuestros servicios también se ofrecen en Español.

Call or text us: 540-222-6320

Look for us on Facebook: Families First - Healthy Families Culpeper

Visit our website: healthyfamiliesculpeper.org

Email us: healthyfamiliesculpeper@gmail.com

We are always accepting donations of any kind, including new or slightly used donations to share with families.



THE SUPREME SAGE

THE MOST POTENT SUPERPOWER IS WISDOM, AND WISDOM ONLY COMES WITH AGE.



AGING TOGETHER
five communities creating choices

Aging Together's Super Hero!



Scan code below to learn about Sage or go to www.agingtogether.org/supreme-sage.html



Celebrating CULPEPER CON

PO Box 367, Culpeper, VA 22701 540-829-6405 agingtogether.org

AGING TOGETHER is a non-profit organization created over 20 years ago in response to the steadily increasing demographic of older adults in our five-county region. Aging Together through partnerships connects people to communities and resources to improve quality of life as we age.

Grief & Loss Support

A program to help find hope and comfort on your journey

There are many kinds of loss: losing a person recently or in the past, a caregiver losing the one they cared for, anticipating a loss when a person is dying, or one of many other types of loss. Our group is a place to belong, find comfort and start to heal.

Everything is confidential. There is no commitment.



If there ever comes a day we can't be together, keep me in your heart, I'll stay there forever.
Winnie the Pooh

starting Tuesday, March 12 at 6:00 PM
every Tuesday until April 16
Culpeper County Library Conference Room
271 Southgate Shopping Ctr. Culpeper, VA 22701
Contact us:
grief@culpeperbaptist.org

sponsored by Culpeper Baptist Church

MARCH IS
COLORECTAL
CANCER
AWARENESS
MONTH

schedule your
colonoscopy!



March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Colorectal cancer is a disease in which cells in the colon or rectum grow out of control. Sometimes

it is called colon cancer, for short. The colon is the large intestine or large bowel. The rectum is the passageway that connects the colon to the anus.

Sometimes abnormal growths, called polyps, form in the colon or rectum. Over time, some polyps may turn into cancer. Screening tests can find polyps so they can be removed before turning into cancer. Screening also helps find colorectal cancer at an early stage when treatment works best.

Rappahannock Rapidan Health District by Mary E. Chamberlin, Community Engagement Specialist

Your risk of getting colorectal cancer increases as you get older. Other risk factors include having:

- Inflammatory bowel disease such as Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis
- A personal or family history of colorectal cancer or colorectal polyps

There are also lifestyle factors that may increase your risk of developing colon cancer:

- Lack of regular physical activity.
- A diet low in fruit and vegetables
- A low-fiber and high-fat diet, or a diet high in processed meats
- Being overweight or obese
- Alcohol consumption
- Tobacco use

The most effective way to reduce your risk of colorectal cancer is to get screened for it routinely, beginning at age 45. If you have colorectal cancer and have symptoms, they may include:

- A change in bowel habits
- Blood in or on your stool (bowel movement)
- Diarrhea, constipation, or feeling that the bowel does not empty all the way
- Abdominal pain, aches, or cramps that don't go away
- Unexplained weight loss

If you have any of these symptoms, talk to your doctor. They may be caused by something other than cancer.

For more information, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal>.



The Museum of Culpeper History

113 S. Commerce Street
Culpeper, VA 22701
(540) 829-1749



From the dinosaurs who walked the earth, to Culpeper's role in our country's founding and the ongoing struggle for equal rights, to the challenges of an ever-changing modern world, Culpeper has a story to tell. Find your story at the Museum of Culpeper History!

The Museum of Culpeper History is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that collects, preserves, interprets, and promotes the history of Culpeper by engaging and educating diverse audiences with our collections to create an increased understanding of the significant historical events that formed the community we know today. The museum's goal is to tell the stories of all Culpeper residents by highlighting our community's shared past through our exhibits and programs. Our core values of education, stewardship, community, integrity, and preservation guide our efforts.

Located in downtown Culpeper's historic train depot adjacent to the Culpeper Visitor Center, the museum is open seven days a week from 10AM-4PM. Admission is free for all Culpeper County residents and all children under the age of 18.

TOURS & PROGRAMS

Guided Tours

Guided tours for adult or school groups may be scheduled by calling the Museum's Education Coordinator at (540) 829-1749. Tours can be customized to suit your group's interests and time constraints. Home school groups, after-school groups, scout groups and clubs are all invited to experience the Museum through a specialized tour. A minimum of two weeks advance notice is required. A program fee is charged for guided tours.

Walking Tours

The museum leads a number of tours of historic areas in the town and county of Culpeper. Group walking tours are available on request subject to the museum's schedule and the availability of its staff and volunteers. Minimum group size is 7 people; maximum group size is 14. Two weeks advance notice is required and a program fee is charged.

Little Learners

Little Learners is the museum's interactive series of children's programming that brings fun facts, objects, and activities out of the past to your family today! The series, targeted at ages 2-5, will be held monthly. Each month will feature a different craft inspired by local history. Past programs have included flying kites, drawing maps, and making your own dinosaur tracks! Programs are offered the last Wednesday of the month at 10:30 and 11:30 AM. Admission to this program is FREE. Advance reservations required

March 27 – All Aboard the Culpeper Express: Trains - Learn about trains, build a train set and make a train to take home

April 24 – Planet Earth - Learn about Earth and recycling, do a recycling activity, and make a craft to take home

May 29 – Museums - Learn about museums, go on a scavenger hunt through the museum, and make a craft to take home

Elementary Explorers

A NEW monthly program for children aged 5-9 years old. Similar to our Little Learners program, each month features an age-appropriate activity to explore the past as well as a craft for the participants to take home. Programs are offered the last Thursday of every month at 10:30am. Advanced reservations required. Admission \$5/child; FREE for members.

March 28 – All Aboard the Culpeper Express: Trains -

Learn about trains, build a train set and make a train to take home

April 25 – Planet Earth - Learn about Earth and recycling, do a recycling activity, and make a craft to take home

May 30 – Museums - Learn about museums, go on a scavenger hunt through the museum, and make a craft to take home

Hands on History

This monthly Saturday program provides hands on opportunities for adults and children alike to take a closer look at different topics in history. Programs may be held at the museum, or at an off-site location as we explore Culpeper county.

March 16 – X Marks the Spot: Surveying and Mapmaking - Did you know that George Washington's first job was to survey parts of Culpeper when he was 17? Learn more about how that was done and then try to "survey a bit of land" yourself.

April 21 – Can't Stop the Beat: Music and Dancing - Join us at Culpeperpalooza to learn about historical instruments and learn an old fashioned line dance.

May 11 – An Apple a Day keeps the Doctor Away: Civil War Medicine - More soldiers died from disease than anything else in the Civil War. Visit us at Salubria's Spring Open House and learn about Civil War medicinal practices and try to "patch" up a soldier.

Lecture Series

The museum is excited to continue its monthly lecture series in 2024. Lectures are usually scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Past topics have included historic cemeteries, the impact of Civil War medicine, and the history of brewing in Virginia. Admission is \$5; FREE for members.

March 12 – Incredible Women in Culpeper

April – TBD

May 7 – History and Legacy of Culpeper National Cemetery

For more information on the museum's current and upcoming programs, hours of operation, and admissions, and to learn more about supporting our efforts by becoming a member, visit our website at culpepermuseum.com or follow us on Facebook!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Museum of Culpeper History is seeking volunteers to help with its daily operations and ongoing programs. Are you interested in local, state, or national history? Do you like teaching and sharing information? Do you enjoy meeting new people every day? Our volunteers allow us to put visitors in touch with the story of Culpeper's past every day, seven days a week. Without their hard work and support, we would not be able to do the work we do!

The museum is continually seeking docents for our admissions desk to welcome visitors, process admissions, convey information, and make gift shop sales. Docents provide a brief orientation to visitors upon request, and may be asked to assist with museum programs taking place during the day. Volunteer docents must make a minimum monthly commitment of six hours of volunteer work (two 3-hour shifts).

As we expand our programming, the museum is looking for experienced creators of educational content to expand and improve our available school, children's, and family programs. Program assistants are sought who can help develop new activities and aid in their delivery to audiences. Volunteers in this position must undergo a background check.

John Christiansen, Executive Director

OPTIONS by *Tiffany N. Diggs, Program Supervisor*

Working with youth is never a dull moment. When youth are referred to our agency for community service, we want them to understand the work they will be doing is more than just a requirement they must fulfill, but the opportunity for them to learn new skills as well as find new areas of interest. During the intake process we find out a lot about the clients we work with. Many of our clients report they spend a great deal of time on social media, spending time with their friends, playing video games, and sports. Some have reported having part time jobs and working outdoors or have an interest in automotives. The Back to Nature project gives our youth the chance to break out of their comfort zone. The program gives the youth opportunities to give back as well as

being outside in nature. The program also gives staff the opportunity to reminisce of their childhood. Growing up my grandparents had a garden and every summer my cousins and I would assist with picking vegetables. As much as I would have liked to be in the house reading or watching a movie, the memories spent with my grandparents are something I will treasure. The memories and this project also gave me the opportunity to become a Master Gardener Volunteer. Our clients recently completed a community service project in which they worked with the Master Gardeners at the Carver Center Garden cleaning debris. These clients worked on this project. With all the projects we assigned the clients to, we want our youth to know and understand the work they are doing is more than just giving back, but we are teaching them skills and positive memories.



OPTIONS is a county program for youth ages 11-17. OPTIONS staff evaluate and determine a youth's risk of getting into further trouble with the legal system, in school, at home, in the community or with the use of illicit substances. OPTIONS then implements evidence-based programs to assist youth in developing personal skills to become productive, respectful, and responsible members of the community.

Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue by *Joshua Hall and Matthew Duckwitz*

Founded in 1995, the Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department has grown from being a small "station" run from a member's garage, to a large independent structure consisting of approximately 40 active members. The department maintains and operates a fleet 8 apparatus and one MCI trailer. In 2023 alone, Reva VFR ran over 300 emergency medical calls and over 100 fire related calls in support of the local community, the county of Culpeper, and the state of Virginia.

Reva VF&R is a community focused and driven department. We provide community education and outreach through local programs and schools. We provide hall rentals that assist with a variety of needs such as home-business growth and even children's birthday parties. We also host the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank's Mobile Pantry monthly on the fourth Wednesday. Since we no longer have Bingo as our main fundraiser, we have taken to new opportunities, we have recently started to host craft shows to show off our local vendors. This summer we will be hosting our first car show in conjunction with a craft fair. We are always looking for new ways to raise money and awareness and be more in touch with the community.

Reva recently assisted Madison County and Virginia Department of Forestry with the Quaker Run Forest fire. We had multiple units and members there for extended periods of time to help supplement and fight the almost 4,000-acre fire.

In December 2023, the department voted in a new Fire Chief, Matthew McClurg, while sending our best wishes to the outgoing Chief, Billy Hamm, on his new endeavors. Chief McClurg has been volunteering with the department since he was 17. This year will mark his 18th year with the department. In addition, Chief McClurg is a Lieutenant with Prince William County Fire and Rescue and has worked there for 16 years.

This past year we also welcomed 5 new released EMT's. This has greatly increased our response capabilities. We have two members who have just completed the EMT course with three more getting ready to start EMT class in the coming weeks.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the team, or donating your time or services, or have general inquiries, email info@reva16.org.

Brush 16 in service through the night in late October 2023, aiding the state forestry service on the Graves Mountain forest fire that burned almost 4,000 acres.



RVFR supporting A.G. Richardson Elementary School with their end of school year field day 2023.



Company 16 supporting fire operations of a house fire along with other county volunteer fire departments, August 2023.



Culpeper County Schools *by Laura M. Hoover, CCPS Director of Communication and the CTEC School News Team* New Firefighter Program Ignites Opportunities for CTEC Students

In an exciting development at the Culpeper Technical Education Center (CTEC), a new Firefighter Program is set to blaze a trail for rising 11th and 12th-grade students next year. The program, designed to be paired with the existing Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program, aims to equip students with the essential certifications required for a successful career in firefighting.

Culpeper County Public Schools (CCPS) Director of Career and Technical Education Randi Richards-Lutz said that the school division has considered adding this program for years, but explained that this is the perfect time to roll out this new program because, “at CTEC, we can pair the firefighter program with the EMT program. The employment field needs both, and students will now have the opportunity to graduate with both credentials,” she explained.

Students at CTEC now have the flexibility to enroll in either program independently or opt for a comprehensive education by undertaking both, one during their junior year and the second program during their senior year. The initiative is expected to provide a holistic learning experience that goes beyond traditional classroom instruction.

Eastern View High School (EVHS) junior Dylan Seay is currently enrolled in the EMT program at CTEC and plans to take the Firefighter course next year. He said, “I’m really excited for this program because I want to help people.” He continued, “My dad was a firefighter, I want to follow in his footsteps and many other schools do not offer this program.” Dylan said that he is looking forward to the hands-on components of the program because he has heard from many people that, “you can’t really experience firefighting without doing it.”

NEW @ CTEC
FIREFIGHTER I & II
FOR RISING 11TH AND 12TH GRADERS!

TRADITION - SERVICE - COMMUNITY

- Develops discipline and attention to standards for real-world firefighting, HAZMAT, and search-and-rescue.
- Hands-on Learning: Become familiar with equipment, procedures, and technologies used by fire departments.
- Challenging Curriculum: Pushes students academically, mentally, and physically.
- NFPA Standards Compliance: Meets National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001-2019 requirements.
- Certification Opportunity: Prepares students for Firefighter I & II certification.

Key features of the new CTEC Firefighter Program include:

- **Discipline and Real-World Preparedness:**
 - Develops discipline and instills a commitment to standards crucial for real-world firefighting scenarios.
 - Covers HAZMAT procedures and search-and-rescue techniques, preparing students for diverse challenges in the field.
- **Hands-On Learning:**
 - Offers hands-on experience with firefighting equipment, procedures, and cutting-edge technologies used by fire departments.
 - Provides a practical understanding of the tools and techniques that are essential for effective firefighting.
- **Challenging Curriculum:**
 - Pushes students academically, mentally, and physically, ensuring they are well-prepared for the demands of a career in firefighting.
 - Challenges students to exceed their limits, fostering a mindset of continuous improvement.
- **NFPA Standards Compliance:**
 - Adheres to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001-2019 requirements, ensuring that students receive training that meets industry standards.
 - Guarantees that graduates are well-versed in the latest protocols and practices endorsed by the NFPA.
- **Certification Opportunity:**
 - Prepares students for Firefighter I & II certifications, opening doors to various career opportunities within the firefighting sector.
 - Ensures that graduates are not only knowledgeable but also formally recognized for their expertise in firefighting.

CTEC Principal Shaun Summerscales and Richards-Lutz explained that this program will only be possible because of the great community support the school has received from the local community. Richards-Lutz said, “This program is community supported, our firefighters will now be able to complete their training right here in Culpeper.” Summerscales added, “Our students will be required to volunteer with the local volunteer fire departments and the local departments will also assist us with access to materials.” They also said that any student who completes the certification will be qualified to volunteer with any of our local volunteer fire departments.

The introduction of the Firefighter Program at CTEC is a testament to the institution’s commitment to providing students with practical and relevant skills. By offering this comprehensive program, CTEC aims to mold the next generation of competent and resilient firefighters, ready to serve their community with dedication and expertise.

Kids in the News



Main Office
1401 Old Fredericksburg Rd.
Culpeper, Virginia 22701
Phone 540-829-2124



Call 540-829-2124 for the most up-to-date information
Plus Check out Kid Central on Facebook for Important Updates

Why Kid Central?

- All Day Summer Camp
- Flexible
- Affordable
- Tuition Assistance
- Quality Childcare Since 1990
- State Licensed
- Located at Culpeper Elementary Schools
- Award Winning
- Middle School
- Culpeper Sport and Fitness Partnerships
- New Bus and Van
- Fun Staff
- Community Focused



Register for Camp!

As the school year draws to a conclusion it is time to start planning for summer fun. On April 1st registration for Kid Central's Summer Day Camp will begin.

Kid Central's Summer Camp has been a Culpeper favorite for decades. We pack more fun into a typical day than most—we have sports, games, art, field trips, special speakers, gardening, special sports camps and more. This year afterschool programs at all Culpeper County elementary schools are busy finishing up another exciting year. Space is limited so register in April to make sure your child has a spot.

CULPEPER HUMAN SERVICES

Head Start ♦ CHSKCEHS
Birth to 5

ENROLL IN HEAD START TODAY
1401 OLD FREDERICKSBURG RD. CULPEPER VA. 22701

**NOW ENROLLING CHILDREN AGES
BIRTH - 5 YEARS**

HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH

HEAD START PROGRAMS
are helping children get ready to succeed in school and in life

- Early Learning and Development
- Family Well-being
- Health and Wellness
- Family Engagement

Office of Head Start

TO ENROLL CONTACT US AT:
540-829-2330

ACCESS OUR APPLICATION ONLINE AT:
[HTTPS://CULPEPERHEADSTART.COM/](https://culpeperheadstart.com/)

PRINT AND BRING TO:
1401 OLD FREDERICKSBURG RD.
CULPEPER VA. 22701

OR EMAIL AT:
RECEPTION@CULPEPERHUMANSERVICES.ORG

Kid Facts

Kid Central has a new small and large bus available to meet our local transportation needs with comfort and safety.



Throughout the school year and summer Kid Central is thankful for our partnership with Culpeper County Schools—together we can meet any goal.



Each week at Kid Central Summer Camp there are fun and educational field trips to regional attractions like the Richmond Zoo



The Brandy Station Foundation

The Brandy Station Foundation (BSF) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) all-volunteer community organization dedicated to preserving the natural and historic resources of the Brandy Station area of Culpeper County. The BSF relies on tax-deductible donations and volunteers to meet its goals. While our focus is toward the Civil War history of the Brandy Station vicinity, our efforts are not limited to that time period. The Foundation website is www.brandystationfoundation.com.

GRAFFITI HOUSE TOURS

The Brandy Station Foundation operates the Graffiti House at 19484 Brandy Road in Brandy Station which contains Civil War graffiti and a museum. The Graffiti House is a two-story frame structure built in 1858. Soldiers at the Graffiti House wrote their names and messages on the walls using charcoal from the fireplaces. The walls of the house contain inscriptions, drawings, messages, and signatures of both Federal and Confederate soldiers, hence the name "Graffiti House." Graffiti House tour information is posted on our website, www.brandystationfoundation.com. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. The Graffiti House is open from 11AM to 4PM on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturdays beginning in March 2024. Tours by appointment may be scheduled year-round; those tours may be scheduled between 11AM and 4PM any day of the week by calling the Foundation at 540-317-5581 to leave a message or emailing bsfgh1862@gmail.com.



BRANDY STATION BATTLEFIELD TOURS



Tours of the Brandy Station Battlefield are available year-round with advance notice. Sections of the Battlefield to be toured will be based on visitor requests. Tour duration is two to four hours. The cost of these tours is \$30 per hour per group. To schedule a tour, please contact the Foundation at 540-317-5581 or email bsfgh1863@gmail.com with an advanced reservation time of five days. All proceeds go to the work of the Brandy Station Foundation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 19, 2024, 6 PM: Brandy Station Foundation Annual Dinner & Meeting at the Brewery Pub at Old House Vineyards, 18351 Corkys Lane, Culpeper. Public invited. Please check the Foundation website for reservations.

Our BSF Sunday lecture series resumes this spring. The series will be held monthly on the third Sunday from May through September at the Graffiti House beginning at 2 PM. Light refreshments are provided. Free, but donations are welcome.



Celebrating 40 Years!

WINDMORE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS

As Windmore celebrates 40 years of bringing art and art education to Culpeper and the surrounding areas, we welcome everyone in the community to celebrate with us and come check out the new experiences that are coming to Windmore!

Save the date and join us for our 40th Anniversary Black Tie Gala on November 2nd, 2024!

We are growing!

Windmore is working on expanding its programming, and bringing new and exciting classes, workshops and art experiences to the community. We are always looking for ideas and would love to hear from our community about things that you would like to see us offer!



Coming Soon



Thank you

Thank you!

The Windmore Foundation Board of Directors would like to thank everyone for their continued support of the foundation. We could not spread our love of art without you!

We would also like to give a special thank you to our founders, for their insight and dedication to Culpeper and their support of the arts that started our mission to make art accessible to all.



Windmore Foundation for the Arts, founded in 1984, provides the visual, literary, and performing arts through awareness, participation, and education. For more information visit: www.windmorefoundation.org or email: info@windmorefoundation.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Graffiti House and the Brandy Station Foundation are looking for volunteers. Flexible hours. No big commitment. Choose your days or volunteer every now and then, "on call". To volunteer or for more information please call the Foundation at 540-317-5581 to leave a message or email bsfgh1863@gmail.com. We are looking for volunteers to be friendly greeters and tour guides at the Graffiti House with its rooms of Civil War graffiti. Training is provided. Join us as we preserve our past for our future.