



# Culpeper Quarterly

Explore Culpeper County Parks!

Summer 2024

Image: Arts & Crafts (Culpeper County Parks & Recreation)



August 3rd - 11th • 2024

[www.BeACulpeperLocal.com](http://www.BeACulpeperLocal.com)

## SHOP LOCAL

Be A Culpeper Local Week is a chance to show your support for our small businesses. Small businesses add to the unique charm of Culpeper and offer residents amazing food, fun activities, and great shopping. Our Culpeper businesses not only provide jobs and significantly impact our economy but add to our sense of community in Culpeper. Don't miss out on supporting your favorite businesses

[www.BeACulpeperLocal.com](http://www.BeACulpeperLocal.com)



live here. play here.

Culpeper County Parks & Recreation 16388 Competition Dr., Culpeper, VA 22701

[culpeperrecreation.com](http://culpeperrecreation.com)



## 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:

We hope that this issue of The Culpeper Minutes finds you well, and that you are enjoying the onset of summer. Jumping right into County business, I will first address the fiscal year 2025 Budget which was adopted on May 7th. The budget commences July 1, 2024, and runs through June 30, 2025. The budget increased this year, to \$300,643,656. The budget includes some important capital improvement projects and fully funds the Culpeper County Public Schools' request. The total budget number is somewhat inflated by the fact that it includes \$69 million for renovation of Culpeper Middle School. The project will be debt funded, so while the total amount is shown in the budget, it will actually be paid back over a twenty-year period. This was not a reassessment year. The budget includes an increase of one cent in the Real Estate Tax, going from 0.46 to 0.47. This is the lowest tax rate in the region by far. Personal Property Tax rates are all remaining flat. The projected fund balance will be approximately 13% of the total operational budget, which is well within County financial policy. I am happy to say that the County is in fine financial condition.

In addition to the good news on budget and tax rates, the Board is proud of several projects which are coming to fruition. The public swimming pool project being largely funded by the Town of Culpeper has been designed and at least at the time of this writing, a contract award is expected soon. Improvements to The Carver Center are also continuing. In fact, the County was recently awarded \$500,000 in federal funds for improvements to the Auditorium there, and an additional \$132,777 in federal funds for improvements to the trails at Lenn Park. The Public Works Committee of the Board is working diligently on plans for future road improvements, working through VDOT to fund projects through both the Revenue Sharing Program and the Smart Scale Program.

There will be many community events this summer, and there have been many already during the spring. If you are one who enjoys visiting breweries, distilleries, and wineries, visit the County web site to learn about a new opportunity-- The Sips of Culpeper Beverage Trail. The Economic Development Department has recently launched this program in which you can reap rewards from visiting multiple establishments in our community and collecting a stamp on your passport at each one you visit. In general, keep an eye out for the activities and events that are going on and enjoy some recreational opportunities—our community is thriving! We hope that everyone has an excellent summer. On behalf of the Board, I invite you to let us know anytime that you have concerns, comments, or suggestions. The Board and the County staff are here to assist you.

David E. Durr, Vice Chairman  
Cedar Mountain

Gary M. Deal  
West Fairfax

Tom S. Underwood  
Salem

For the Board,

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**



bsvfd.com  
Brandy Station Vol. Fire Dept.  
**Annual FIREMEN'S Fair**

**AUG. 7 - 11, 2024**  
**BRANDY STATION FAIRGROUNDS**  
20057 Fleetwood Heights Rd. • Brandy Station, VA

**WRISTBAND SPECIALS**  
**WED. AUG. 7:** 6 - 10 PM • \$20  
**THURS. AUG. 8:** 6 - 10 PM • \$25  
**FRI. AUG. 9:** 6 - 11 PM • \$25  
**SAT. AUG. 10:** All Day Wristbands are \$25 if purchased before 5 PM. After 5 PM, wristbands are \$30.  
**SUN AUG. 11:** 1 - 8 PM • \$20

**RIDES**  
★  
**GAMES**  
★  
**FOOD**  
★  
**FUN**

**THURS. - PARADE 6:30 PM • SAT. - TRACTOR PULL 10 AM**  
**CASH PRIZES GIVEN AWAY SAT. NIGHT**  
**LIVE MUSIC EACH EVENING**

**UNLIMITED RIDE SPECIALS DAILY**  
**SAVE \$ WHEN PURCHASED ONLINE**  
**FOR \$20 BEFORE AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup>**  
**amusementsofamerica.com**

Weather Permitting  
No Refunds  
**MIDWAY BY:** 

The Brandy Station Vol. Fire Dept. Fair will be held **August 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>** this year; **Wednesday – Sunday**. The drawings for the cash prizes and all the donated prizes will still be on Saturday night. \$5,000 in cash will be drawn on Saturday night at midnight.

Tickets can be purchased online or from a department member. A raffle ticket example is included here.

The firemen's parade will be held on **Thursday evening, August 8<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 6:30 p.m. The lawn & garden tractor pull will be on **Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 10:00 a.m.

There will be live music on the midway; Wednesday; the Dark Hollow Bluegrass Band will be performing, Thursday; CJ the DJ, Friday will

be Déjà Vue from Richmond and on Saturday it will be the Lonesome Ryder Band.

The fair will include all kinds of fun games, including the fire department dunking booth and pan game. There will be all kinds of fabulous food, including hamburgers, hotdogs, corn dogs, French fries and BBQ. For the sweet tooth, there will be ice cream, kettle corn, cotton candy, and candy apples.

Times for the fair: Wednesday & Thursday, 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Friday 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m., Saturday 1:00 p.m. – midnight and Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. There will be arm bands for each day of the fair for unlimited rides. Arm bands can be purchased on-line for a discounted price beginning in June.

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

The Brandy Station Vol. Fire Dept. is an all-volunteer fire department providing fire and EMS first responder service to the community. The fair is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Please follow our website and Facebook page for additional information.

Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



**AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup>-11<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

<b>LAWN &amp; GARDEN TRACTOR PULL</b> August 10, 2024	<b>FIREMEN'S PARADE</b> August 8, 2024 6:30 p.m.	<b>GRAND PRIZES</b>
<b>DRAWING</b> August 10, 2024 at Midnight Brandy Station Fair Grounds, Rt. 685 20057 Fleetwood Hts. Rd. Brandy Station, Virginia	\$1.00 per ticket \$25.00 per book Need Not Be Present To Win	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b> \$3,000.00 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b> \$1,000.00 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b> \$500.00 <b>4<sup>th</sup> Prize</b> \$500.00

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Volunteer Firefighter Training	4
Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Dept.	5
Culpeper Wellness Foundation	5
Library	6
Spring and Summer Fun in Culpeper	8
Picture Perfect in Culpeper	8
Be A Culpeper Local	9
Sips of Culpeper - Beverage Trail	9
CulpeperFest	9
Windmore Foundation for the Arts	10
Fiesta - 18th Year	10
Aging Together honors Butch Davies	10
The Museum of Culpeper History	11
The Brandy Station Foundation	12
Free Books for children 5 and under	12
Kid Central Summer Camp	13
Culpeper County Schools	14
Parks and Recreation Section	
Extension	17
OPTIONS & Healthy Families	19
Disability Services Events	20
National Safety Month	20
Stronger Memory Program	21
Grief and Loss Support	21
People, Inc.	21
Septic System Assistance	22
Watershed Clean Up Plan	22
Voter Registration & Election Office	23
Culpeper County Circuit Court Clerk	24
Commissioner of the Revenue	25
Culpeper County Treasurer	26
Sheriff's Youth Sports Camps	27

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](http://web.culpepercounty.gov). Email [dhoffman@culpepercounty.gov](mailto:dhoffman@culpepercounty.gov) with comments and suggestions or to unsubscribe.



## Culpeper County Volunteer Firefighters spend day training in Farmhouse

by Charles "Junior" Perryman, Deputy Fire Chief, Culpeper County Volunteer Fire Department and President of the Culpeper County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association

On the Saturday before Easter, Culpeper County Fire/EMS volunteers gathered to train on an acquired structure (old Farmhouse) that was being demolished. Prior to Saturday, several worked to "ready" the house to ensure the house was safe, the burn rooms were partitioned off to keep the fire attack crews contained to the fire rooms to ensure accountability and safety of all the igniters, firefighters in the IDLH (Immediate Danger to Life or Health) atmosphere. A Training Plan was developed and strictly followed throughout the day. Additionally, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs Live Burn and ICS Forms packet was also included ensuring all areas were covered; Pre Burn checks, Medical forms for all firefighters participating in IDLH conditions that included baseline vitals and vitals after each of the interior firefighting exercise, Personal Protective Gear inspections, Incident Briefing, critical ICS positions filled, Incident Commander, Safety Officer, PIO, Operations Section and 1403 Compliance officer roles were all filled with highly trained members.

This was an eight-hour day of hands-on training for approximately 40 firefighters who were able to pull hose lines from the rigs, attack lines, backup lines, a backup line from an alternate water source, pulling ceilings and walls to check for extension, staffing the Rapid Intervention Team role and resources enabling this RIT crew to enter and remove a down firefighter if needed. The Command Board was utilized during the entire event tracking firefighter accountability and roles assigned. Medics were on the scene performing vitals. Given we are a rural area, dump tanks were

deployed with 4,000 gallons of water feeding the Engines and Tanker Shuttles were exercised by going to a nearby hydrant, topping off the tankers and having them staged if the water was needed. At the end of the day, a Decontamination area was set up for all firefighters who were in the IDLH atmosphere and were required to participate in a gross decontamination to remove cancerous causing toxins on their PPE that may have been picked up in the training.

Just to conclude, we also had a couple of guest firefighters who were in Madison County delivering training. These firefighters/officers are on the national

teaching circuit and were excited to participate in this event. One of the instructors works in Loudoun County, the other a career firefighter from the Mid-West and is a Fire Chief in Ohio. When welcoming them to Culpeper for the burn, they communicated to me they had heard many positive comments about our volunteer training program in Culpeper. At the end of the day they were impressed by the collaboration of all the departments working as one team throughout all the different scenarios during the day.

My thanks to Assistant Chief Joe Weeks from Culpeper County Volunteer

Fire Department who spent many hours just organizing and planning this successful exercise and who served as Incident Commander throughout the day. My thanks to all the firefighters, Instructors and Support staff who fully embraced the opportunity to make it a true training day for everyone on the fire training ground. Finally, I too want to thank the Stover family for donating the structure/farmhouse to us for training. Additionally, our sincere thanks for serving refreshments throughout the day. This was well above our expectations and highly appreciated by all those who put in a hard day's work.





## Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department

The Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department is celebrating its 72<sup>nd</sup> year of service to our community this year. Volunteer personnel currently respond to the building to answer emergency calls, from a home response program when dispatched by the Culpeper County Emergency Dispatch Center. The department's average response time for 2023 was five minutes and 30 seconds. During the 2023 calendar year, the department logged 840 total calls and 13,787 hours. The department is an all-volunteer fire department consisting of 65 members. Volunteers of the department have a strong desire to help people in our community in the event of an emergency. We continue a long-standing tradition of neighbors helping neighbors. The department carries a community Insurance Services Office (ISO) classification of Class 05/5Y. This translates to lower property insurance rates for county residents. The department provides the only ice rescue team that is equipped and trained in the immediate area.

During 2023, the department completed its Community Fire Prevention Safety Outreach Program with local churches and public elementary schools with approximately 400 kids in attendance. Additionally, the department annually participates with the school administration in performing a mock DUI car accident demonstration that educates approximately 800 high school students on the importance of creating a safe prom event and showing possible outcomes of drinking and driving.

Annually, the department sponsors the Junior Rookie Camp held in June, two drivers for the Culpeper Soap Box Derby, participates with the Culpeper Red & Blue Project and facilitates the Culpeper Community Christmas Gift Basket Program.

Revenue is generated through fundraising events, which include the annual firemen's fair, lawn & garden tractor pull, car show, banquet hall rentals, and community donations. The following open to the public events for 2024:

- Junior Rookie Camp June 17 thru 21
- August 7 thru 11 – Firemen's Fair
- August 8 – Firemen's Parade
- August 10 – Lawn & Garden Tractor Pull
- October 26 – Car & Tractor Show

We look forward to seeing our community at these events and thank you for your continued support.

The department has many positions available for individuals who would like to become a volunteer.

To learn how you can enrich your life and maybe save someone else's, visit our web page at [www.BSVFD.com](http://www.BSVFD.com) or like us on Facebook.

## Culpeper Wellness Foundation

### PATH Recreation & Fitness Center hosts summer programming for youth of all ages

This summer, PATH Recreation & Fitness Center will host its second season of camps for youth. Programming serves all ages, from tots ages 2-4 looking for recreation, crafts & games to high schoolers intent on fine tuning volleyball or basketball skills.

"Since opening in 2022, we've offered recreation, fitness and sports programs that respond to youth interests," said PRFC director Christine Kauffmann. "We look forward to seeing familiar faces among our campers and welcoming new participants. Anyone interested in our camps is encouraged to inquire. As part of the Culpeper Wellness Foundation, our mission is to serve the health and wellness needs of the community."

PRFC's summer camp line-up:

Clubhouse on the Courts for ages 2-4 (June 3-7) and ages 5-7 (July 8-12). This camp focuses on games, obstacle courses, imaginative play and crafts to encourage movement, curiosity and creativity.

Youth Baseball Camp with the Culpeper Cavaliers, Culpeper's Valley Baseball League franchise (June 10-14). Baseball players ages 9-13 (all positions) will work on game skills with instruction from the Cavaliers' high-level college ballplayers. The recreation center's multisport courts and batting cages will be home base for drills and instruction.

Athlete Sculpting Camp for youth athletes in 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade (June 17-21). With guidance from PRFC personal trainer and functional strength coach Marcus Haywood, campers will build and improve on their strength, balance, speed and agility to complement their game play.

Basketball Camp for middle school youth (June 24-28). Basketball players will work with middle school coach Bobby Zajkowski for skill development and game play.

Pickleball camp for ages 8-12 (July 8-12). Kat Blanco, a certified pickleball instructor, will guide campers through fun drills, swing practice, and game rules to learn how to play this popular game.

Volleyball camps with Culpeper County High School varsity coach Olivia Masaitis. Coach Masaitis will lead camps for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders (July 15-19), middle schoolers (July 15-19) and high school-age girls (July 22-26). An experienced player, coach & official, coach Masaitis will focus on building skills, knowledge of the game and strategy to help players get to the next level.

Advanced Skills Basketball Camp (July 29 – August 2). This camp with Culpeper County High School varsity coach James Thompson is for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade boys interested in honing their game skills.

Please call the PRFC front desk at 540-825-0000 or visit <https://pathrecreationandfitnesscenter.org/kids-summer-camps/> to learn more about the camp programs. Financial assistance is available.

PATH Recreation & Fitness Center is open to the public and offers recreation and fitness opportunities for all ages in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The center comprises 27,000 square feet of recreation, fitness, activity and amenity space. PRFC is located at 19002 Crossroad Parkway in Culpeper.







# Culpeper County Library

271 Southgate Shopping Center  
Culpeper, VA 22701  
540.825.8691 | [www.cclva.org](http://www.cclva.org)

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



## Library News

Culpeper County Library is closed June 19 for Juneteenth & July 4 for Independence Day

## 2024 Summer Reading Program - Adventure Begins at Your Library

# ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY.™

# LA AVENTURA COMIENZA EN TU BIBLIOTECA.™

### JUNE 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Children's Basic Sewing 11 AM - 12 PM (grades 3rd - 5th) Teen Basic Sewing 1 PM - 2 PM (grades 6th - 12th)	4 SEL Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (Pre-K) Pajama Story Time 6:30 PM - 7 PM (all ages)	5 Patio Play 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years)	6 Arts & Crafts 11 AM - 12 PM (grades K - 5th)	7 Park Ranger Program 11 AM - 2 PM (all ages)	8
9	10	11 Tiny Tots Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years) Video Game Competition 12 PM - 2 PM (grades 6th - 12th) Pajama Story Time 6:30 PM - 7 PM (all ages)	12 Patio Play 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years) Builders Club 11 AM - 12 PM (all ages)	13 Children Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (grades pre-K - 5th)	14 TALEWISE	15
16	17 Baby Art Day 11 AM - 12 PM (birth - 2 years)	18 SEL Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (Pre-K) Pajama Story Time 6:30 PM - 7 PM (all ages)	19 LIBRARY CLOSED	20 Children Art Day 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (grades Pre-K - 5th)	21 Teen Art Day 12 PM - 1 PM 2 PM - 3 PM (grades 6th - 12th)	22
23	24	25 Tiny Tots Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years) Pajama Story Time 6:30 PM - 7 PM (all ages)	26 Patio Play 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years) Builders Club 11 AM - 12 PM (all ages)	27 Children Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (grades pre-K - 5th)	28	29
						30

### JULY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 SEL Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (Pre-K) Pajama Story Time 6:30 PM - 7 PM (all ages)	3 Patio Play 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years)	4 LIBRARY CLOSED	5 Sleepover at the Library 7 PM - 8 AM (birth - grade 12)	6
7	8	9 Tiny Tots Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years) Pajama Story Time 6:30 PM - 7 PM (all ages)	10	11 Children Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (grades pre-K - 5th)	12 Teen Board Games 3 PM - 4:30 PM (grades 6th - 12th)	13
14	15 Baby STEAM Day 11 AM - 12 PM (birth - 3 years)	16 SEL Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (Pre-K) Children STEAM Day 4 PM - 5 PM (grades 6th - 12th) Pajama Story Time 6:30 PM - 7 PM (all ages)	17 Patio Play 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years) Teen STEAM Day 1 PM - 2:30 PM (grades 6th - 12th)	18 Arts & Crafts 11 AM - 12 PM (grades K - 5th)	19 Egg Drop Challenge 2 PM - 3:30 PM (grades 3rd - 5th)	20
21	22	23 SEL Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years) Video Game Competition 4 PM - 6 PM (grades 6th - 12th) Pajama Story Time 6:30 PM - 7 PM (all ages)	24 Patio Play 10:30 AM - 11 AM (birth - 2 years) Builders Club 11 AM - 12 PM (all ages)	25 Children Story Time 10:30 AM - 11 AM (grades pre-K - 5th)	26 Jungle Jamboree Animals ??? (all ages)	27 Summer Reading Finale 10 AM - 2 PM (all ages)
28	29	30	31			

Check out the amazing things happening on the Summer Reading Program Calendar!

Sponsored by the Friends of the Culpeper County Library and special thanks to Paul and Karen Laski

→ **TEEN** ←

## SUMMER READING VOLUNTEERS

Opportunity for youth ages 12 - 18

Pick up an application in the Youth Services Department

**APPLY TODAY!**

Grab a paper application or go to the link to apply: [tinyurl.com/cclteenvol24](http://tinyurl.com/cclteenvol24)

© CSLP

## Friends of the Library



Consider having an engraved leaf in honor or in memory of a loved one, family, church, business, or an organization placed on the giving tree.

Each \$100 engraved leaf comes with recognition during our November annual meeting

Donation forms are available at the Circulation Desk.



## CulpeperCon

Issue 2, Summer 2024

www.culpepercon.org

facebook.com/Culpepercon



## CULPEPER OBSERVER

### GULPEPERCON EXCLUSIVE NEWSPAPER

## 2nd Annual Event Exposes Culpeper County Library to Fun

(CULPEPER) – Captain Culpeper could barely contain the fun that roughly 875 who came to CulpeperCon 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition: Days of Future Culpeper at Culpeper County Library on Saturday, March 23, 2024. This would mark an increase of nearly 200-300 people from CulpeperCon in 2023.



Beginning with Keynote Speaker author, graphic novelist, and artist, Zach Weinersmith, charged with a positive message which follows well with Uncanny Sponsor, Encompass Community Supports.

At 10am the doors opened to a full schedule of sessions throughout the day until 5pm.

Many of the events in the large were live-streamed via YouTube by Culpeper Media Network's Nicolle Wooten. These included the Geek Wellness Panel with moderator-staff member Esther Edwards, a presentation by Director Shane Fellux, Culpeper LARP Demonstration (sponsored by an anonymous donor), and the closing ceremony with special guests from the Piedmont Community Band of Windmore Foundation for the Arts.

The public enjoyed Pokémon training with Your Hobby Place of Fredericksburg, Magic: The Gathering with The Game Store, Magic: The Gathering open play with Culpeper Parks and Recreation (sponsored by Kash Imprints), Cosplay Photography Demonstrations with BC Photography, Cartooning workshops and comic creations with graphic novelist Hobbes Holluck and Jewell Tone, a presentation on Comics & History sponsored by the Museum of Culpeper History, and Jedi Academy Lightsaber Training by Rebel Legion - Lothal Outpost.



Other sponsors included Xpress Copy & Graphics, Oak View National Bank, Seek Lavender, and the Town of Culpeper.

Spread throughout the building were local community superheroes with tables including Puzzle Room Live, Hello Comics of Charlottesville, Young Life, Culpeper Pride, FAHASS, Culpeper Robotics, and more capped with a panel talk on community built characters by the Culpeper Rotary Club, Aging Together, and SAFE. Music throughout the day provided by DJ EC.

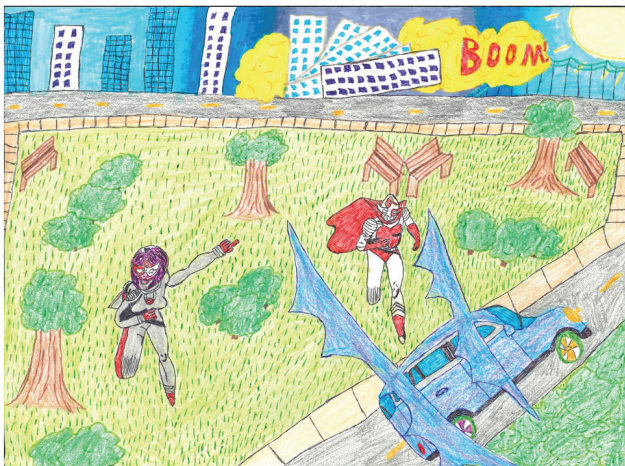
## Cosplay Runway & Contest at the Library

(CULPEPER) – 225 people converged into Culpeper's future for The Cosplay Runway & Contest at Culpeper County Library on the evening of Friday, March 23, 2024 with Master of Ceremony John Krawchuck of Culpeper Media Network on-hand.

Uncanny Sponsor UVA Health Culpeper Medical Center, brought Cav-Man to kick off the runway, strutting his stuff before a panel of judges began the task of weighing in on 40 contestants. Judging included semi-professional cosplayer Smash B, Elith Williams of Cleopatra Vaughn, and staff member Jessica McFarland.

Contestants were judged on their costume, the artistry of making the costume and makeup, and command of the runway. First place winners were given a prize package from BC Photography, second place full day passes from 6Rs Entertainment Yard of Orange, and 3rd place prizes were baskets from Collector's Den of Culpeper.

Find pictures and more details of the event by visiting [www.culpepercon.org/cosplay-runway](http://www.culpepercon.org/cosplay-runway) or watch the video on [youtube.com/CulpeperCountyLibrary](https://www.youtube.com/CulpeperCountyLibrary).



## Graphic Novel Art & Writing Contest Winners Announced

(CULPEPER) – Sisters Allison and Jennifer Tweedy were awarded best Graphic Novel Artwork and Writing. New for 2024, the Graphic Novel Art & Writing Contest for CulpeperCon 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition: Days of Future Culpeper on March 23, 2024.

Already consistent volunteers for Youth Services Department, the pair were awarded separately for their individual work.

Jennifer Tweedy, whose winning artwork, featured left, consists of the Captains

Culpeper, the superheroes of Culpeper County Library defending the right to seek knowledge and reduce ignorance, rushing toward their bookmobile.

Allison Tweedy created her original story with supervillains turned superheroes. You can find her full submission by visiting [www.culpeper.com/org](http://www.culpeper.com/org) and clicking Graphic Novel Contest.

The Graphic Novel Art & Writing Contest will continue at CulpeperCon in 2025 with all eligible children k-12 who have the ability to sign up for a Culpeper County Library Card. Submissions and rules will begin sometime in early January 2025.



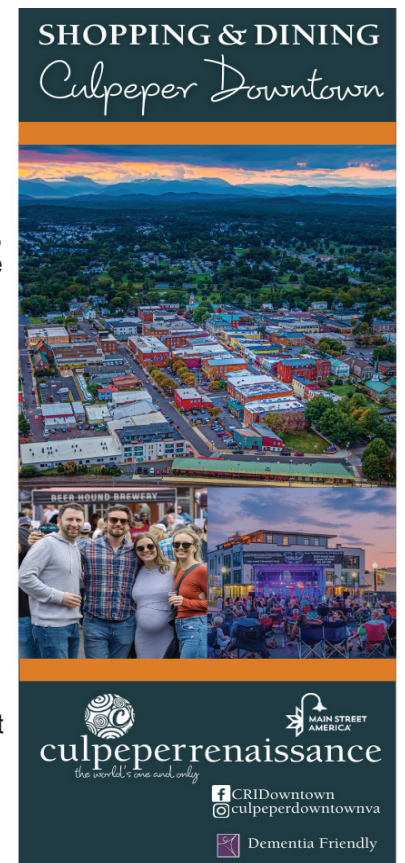
## Spring and Summer Fun in Culpeper Downtown! *by Candice Hayes, Special Events Coordinator, Culpeper Renaissance, Inc.*

There is always something to enjoy in Culpeper Downtown, from vibrant and unique small businesses to historically preserved buildings and more; Culpeper is your destination for downtown fun and small town feels that cannot be rivaled! Exceed your expectations and plan a visit to Culpeper Downtown this spring or summer to delight in the following:

- 1) 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Summer Concert Series! An anticipated annual event, which serves as a fundraiser for Culpeper Renaissance, Inc., your favorite nonprofit Main Street program! Enjoy outdoor concerts by the historic train Depot from 5pm to 9pm on May 16, June 20, July 18 and August 15 (rain date September 19). With music ranging from yacht rock to country, it's sure to be a good time for all!
- 2) Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market! Shop the longest running Farmers Market in the area, with local vendors selling the freshest produce, meats, eggs, honey, baked goods, handmade crafts and more! Enjoy the open-air Market every Saturday, May through October, rain or shine, from 7:30am to 12pm at 318 S. West Street!
- 3) Art Walk! Did you know Culpeper Downtown currently has seven murals, with four of them having been commissioned by Culpeper Renaissance, Inc.? Explore the downtown murals and be on the lookout for more pops of color and local artists' talents through unique designs coming soon!
- 4) Wizard Weekend 2024! Mark your calendar now for July 27 and July 28 to experience all things wizardy and magical in Culpeper Downtown! Organized by Miss Minerva's Tea Room & Gifts, with SCOOP on Davis and Hundred Acre Books, you'll enjoy wizard related specials and spells, along with themed menus, collectable bookmarks, photo ops, plus enter to win raffle prizes!
- 5) Dine Al Fresco! Culpeper Downtown is a foodies dream with options galore and flavors abound; come spring and summer, many restaurants and eateries offer the option to dine outside! Pick up a Shopping & Dining Guide the next time you're downtown and plan ahead to dine with someone you love!
- 6) Summer Camps and Kid Friendly Fun! Culpeper Downtown offers engaging activities for all ages, including fun and educational day camps for kids! Check out the Museum of Culpeper History, State Climb, Wine & Design and Windmore Foundation for the Arts! Still looking for kid friendly fun? Fill your day with a visit to Puzzle Room Live, Regal Culpeper, or Unr3al1ty!

- 7) Staycation! Culpeper Downtown has nine options for a luxurious night stay! Enjoy dinner and cocktails, maybe a brewery or two, before walking a block to a cozy, beautiful space in Downtown! Wake up to enjoy a specialty coffee or a diner breakfast like your grandparents used to make, before hitting the Farmers Market!
- 8) Spa Day! Culpeper Downtown boasts 13 salons, nail studios, massage and facial spas! It is a one stop shop for a full day of pampering! Slough off that dry skin, get scrubbed and rubbed, feel refreshed and revived, all in Culpeper Downtown!
- 9) Wardrobe Refresh! Culpeper Downtown has over 15 shops where you can find some of the most on trend apparel, whether you're shopping for an upcoming concert or a big job interview, you will find it all in Culpeper Downtown! Not to mention thoughtful customer service, a windfall of shopping small and supporting local!
- 10) Volunteer! There are many ways to give your time back to your community in Culpeper Downtown. With multiple nonprofit organizations, you can take your pick, but Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. is always a great way to go! Check tickets at an event entry gate, serve on an event committee, pour beer at a concert; if you have the time, we have the jobs! Interested in more information? Email [events@culpeperdowntown.com](mailto:events@culpeperdowntown.com) or call (540) 825-4416!

Stay in the loop on all things Culpeper Downtown by liking/following Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. on Facebook and Instagram, and be sure to sign up for the monthly newsletter at [www.culpeperdowntown.com](http://www.culpeperdowntown.com)!

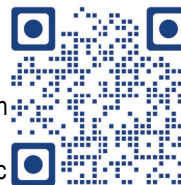


## Picture Perfect in Culpeper, VA *by Rose Deal, Culpeper Tourism*

Whether you're visiting Culpeper for the first time or enjoying an adventure in your hometown, Downtown Culpeper is full of Instagram-worthy places to visit. From beautiful alleyways to one-of-a-kind murals, the downtown district provides photo ops perfect for creating memories.

We've compiled a list of must-visit spots to create your next Instagram story. Use this map to plan your self-guided walking tour.

1. "The Surveyor" Mural\* - Located at the corner of West Cameron St. and South Main St.
2. Yowell Hardware Co. Historic Signage/Mural\* - Located at 195 East Davis St.
3. "The Trailblazers" Mural\* - Located at 254 East Davis St.
4. "A Song to Share" Mural\* - Located in the E.B Wood Community Park - 102 N Main St.



5. "Roman Goddess Virtue" Mural - Located in the alley between Gayheart & Willis PC and Knakal's Bakery on East Davis St.
6. Paintings of the Creation Story Mural - Located at 115 North East St.
7. "She Rises Above" Mural - Located 121 West Locust St.
8. Alleyway at INES - Located at 129 East Davis St.
9. LOVE Sign - Located at the corner of East Davis St. and Commerce St.
10. The Caboose - Located in front of the Depot
11. St. Stephens Episcopal Church architecture, decorative fence & archway, and red door - 115 N East St.
12. Culpeper Sign - Located along the train tracks at the Depot
13. The Burgandine House - Located at 807 S. Main Street
14. The Court House Steps - Located at 135 West Cameron Street / West Street
15. Inside of Raven's Nest Coffee House - Located at 215 East Davis St
16. The Archway at Knakal's Alley - East Cameron St parking lot

**\*These murals were made possible by the work of Culpeper Renaissance, Inc., (CRI).**

We'd love to see where you have been exploring. You can share your photos on Instagram, or Facebook by using the hashtag #LOVEcpeper or #visitculpeperva and tagging @visitculpeperva.





**BE A Culpeper LOCAL Week**

**AUGUST 3RD-11TH**



**CANVAS BAG**

Make a purchase from a participating business and receive a reusable canvas tote shopping bag!

**T-SHIRTS**



Get your 'Be A Culpeper Local Week punch card' stamped for each service or purchase made at a participating business. Receive 5 stamps and earn a limited edition 'Choose Culpeper' t-shirt!

**SPECIAL OFFER** **SPECIAL OFFERS, SALES & PROMOTIONS FROM SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE CULPEPER BUSINESSES!**

Business Registration Available at [BeACulpeperLocal.com](http://BeACulpeperLocal.com)





**EVERY SIP TELLS A STORY**

**INTRODUCING SIPS OF CULPEPER**

**YOUR ULTIMATE BEVERAGE EXPLORATION TRAIL!**

**EMBARK ON A JOURNEY OF TASTE AND EXPLORATION.**

**BEER HOUND BREWERY**  
**BELMONT FARM DISTILLERY**  
**DEATH RIDGE BREWERY**  
**FÄR GÖHN BREWING COMPANY**  
**MOUNTAIN RUN WINERY**  
**OLD HOUSE VINEYARDS**  
**OLD TRADE BREWERY & CIDER**  
**WAR CRAFT BREWERY**





**Friday, June 14th 4-8 pm**

**Reserve Your Booth, Free Tickets & Info at [CulpeperFest.com](http://CulpeperFest.com)**

**540 825 8628**

Signature Sponsor:  UVA Health

Grand Champion Sponsor:  BE A Culpeper LOCAL

★Live Music★Food★Vendors★Prizes★Give-aways★Entertainment

**CulpeperFest returns to Eastern View High School's Cyclone Stadium for its 44<sup>th</sup> year.**

Mark your calendars! CulpeperFest returns to Eastern View High School's Cyclone Stadium, continuing its tradition for its 44th year. Hosted by the Culpeper Chamber of Commerce, CulpeperFest will take place on Friday, June 14, 2024, from 4-8 pm. Join us in celebrating all things Culpeper!

As the largest business-to-community event in the area, CulpeperFest offers a variety of attractions, including

120+ local vendors, live music, food trucks, vehicle displays, giveaways, raffles, live entertainment, children's activities, health screenings, and more! Attendees can expect to see the PHI Air Care Helicopter display, Earthquest's Birds of Prey demonstrations, the Culpeper County Public School Mascot race, and the Culpeper Sheriff's Department's Kid IDs.

In addition to the lively festivities, CulpeperFest will debut the LOVEwork installation at this year's event. This iconic symbol, representing Virginia's slogan "Virginia is for Lovers," will serve as a picturesque backdrop for attendees to capture memorable moments while showcasing their love for Culpeper. Participants are encouraged to visit the LOVEwork display and spread the love

throughout the community!

"CulpeperFest is a highly anticipated event that brings our community together," says Chamber President/CEO Amy Frazier. "With a wide range of exciting activities lined up, there's something for everyone. We encourage families to come out and join us."

Attendees will have the chance to connect with local non-profit organizations and businesses of all sizes. It's a vibrant opportunity to explore Culpeper's diverse resources and meet the people behind them.

The Chamber extends its gratitude to the key Partners who assist and support this community festival. This year's Signature Sponsor is UVA Culpeper Medical Center, with Be a Culpeper Local as the Grand Champion Sponsor. Our Champion Sponsors include Fauquier Health, Culpeper County Parks & Recreation, and Culpeper Times.

For a complete list of sponsors, vendors, and the event schedule, visit [CulpeperFest.com](http://CulpeperFest.com) or the Chamber's Facebook Page.

Tickets for CulpeperFest are free and can be claimed through [CulpeperFest.com](http://CulpeperFest.com) or picked up at the Culpeper Chamber of Commerce office, 629 Sperryville Pike, Culpeper, VA.

If you are interested in becoming a vendor or volunteering, please get in touch with Sarah at [events@culpeperchamber.com](mailto:events@culpeperchamber.com).

We can't wait to see you at CulpeperFest 2024!





**WINDMORE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS**

**Become a Member Today**

WHEN YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF WINDMORE FOUNDATION OF THE ARTS YOU HELP SUPPORT ARTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

WINDMORE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS ENCOURAGES A LIFELONG PASSION FOR THE FINE ARTS BY PROVIDING RICH, ARTISTIC EXPERIENCES FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES.

**BECOME A SPONSOR**

WINDMORE FOUNDATION HAS SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES.


SPONSORSHIPS HELP WINDMORE PROVIDE MORE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AS WELL AS SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL SENIORS

TO LEARN MORE EMAIL [INFO@WINDMOREFOUNDATION.ORG](mailto:INFO@WINDMOREFOUNDATION.ORG)

**Celebrate 40 Years with us!**



SAVE THE DATE AND JOIN US TO CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF WINDMORE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AT OUR BLACK TIE GALA.

NOVEMBER 2, 2024  
TICKETS ON SALE SOON




**The Culpeper Fiesta Is set for its 18<sup>th</sup> Year!**


Free Family Friendly Party at the Culpeper Depot  
Friday, September 20th, 6-10:00 pm  
Kids' Activities, Great Food, Awesome Music!  
Important Community Resources and Information



Fantastic Food





Live Mariachi Music



Free Activities  
Tunes by DJ Rosales





Columbia Gas®  
A NiSource Company

UVA Health

Formerly Known As - Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services




**AGING TOGETHER**  
five communities creating choices

**Aging Together**  
PO Box 367  
Culpeper, VA 22701

[www.agingtogether.org](http://www.agingtogether.org)  
[info@agingtogether.org](mailto:info@agingtogether.org)  
540-829-6405

Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison,  
Orange, & Rappahannock



**Aging Together congratulates BUTCH DAVIES, Culpeper's 5 Over 50 Honoree for 2024!**

**"Recognizing and treasuring the contributions of older people is essential to the long-term flourishing of any society."**  
- Daisaku Ikeda





## 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 tissue paper basketballs, suncatcher windchimes and making your own dinosaur tracks! Programs are usually offered the last Wednesday of the month at 10:30 and 11:30 AM. Advance reservations are required.

**June 29 – Independence Day!** – Learn about the founding of our country, participate in a patriotic activity, and make a US flag to take home.

**July 31 – Space: The Final Frontier** – Learn about the sun, moon, and stars, explore our solar system, and make a space light to take home.

#### Elementary Explorers

A 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. Past programs have included tissue paper basketballs, suncatcher windchimes and making your own dinosaur tracks! Programs are usually offered the last Thursday of every month at 10:30am. Advance reservations are required.

**June 29 – Independence Day!** – Learn about the founding of our country, participate in a patriotic activity, and make a US flag to take home.

**Aug 1 – Space: The Final Frontier** - Learn about the sun, moon, and stars, explore our solar system, and make a space light to take home.

#### 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.

**June 4 – Fire When Ready! Historical Strategy Gaming**

**July 9 – Culpeper County Resolves**

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](http://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).

The museum is also looking for volunteers willing to help with community events on nights and weekends. Special Event Assistants will help set up the museum's tent with a table and informational displays, as well as talk to visitors about all the things the museum has to offer.

John Christiansen, Executive Director





## The Brandy Station Foundation

by Peggy Misch, Secretary, Brandy Station Foundation



### THE BRANDY STATION FOUNDATION

The Brandy Station Foundation 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](http://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](http://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. In addition, tours by appointment 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 [bsfgh1863@gmail.com](mailto:bsfgh1863@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](mailto:bsfgh1863@gmail.com) with an advanced reservation time of five days. All proceeds go to the work of the Brandy Station Foundation.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

June 8, 2024 (Times to be announced). Battle of Brandy Station anniversary/Civil War Days event on the Graffiti House grounds, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station. Tours, speakers, Crow Mercantile (Civil War era sutler), Bowles food truck, Details will be posted on the BSF website: [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com) Free.

July 13, 2024, 2 PM. Special showing of the film "Glory" at the 200-seat Packard Campus Theater at the National Audio-Visual Conservation Center, 19053 Mt Pony Rd, Culpeper. The theater is a reproduction Art Deco theater at the campus for the Library of Congress's audiovisual archive. There will be a question and answer session after the movie.

August 18, 2024, 2 PM. BSF Sunday lecture featuring Gene Schmiel on "Civil War Virginians". Light refreshments provided. Free; donations to the Brandy Station Foundation are welcome.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Graffiti House and the Brandy Station Foundation are looking for volunteers. Flexible hours. To volunteer or for more information please call the Foundation at 540-317-5581 to leave a message or email [bsfgh1863@gmail.com](mailto:bsfgh1863@gmail.com). We are looking for volunteers to be greeters and tour guides at the Graffiti House with its rooms of Civil War graffiti. Training is provided.

## FREE Books Available

for children under the age of 5  
living in Culpeper or Madison Counties.



## For Children ages 1 month to 5-years, Receive a Free Book a Month



This program is made possible by  
our Friends at the  
**Heights Family Foundation**

If you live in Culpeper or Madison Counties, register at:  
[www.imaginationlibrary.com](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com)



## 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?

- Flexible
- Homework Club
- Affordable
- Open when School is Closed
- Tuition Assistance
- Quality Childcare Since 1990
- State Licensed
- Located at All Culpeper Elementary Schools
- Award Winning
- Middle School KC Club
- Culpeper Sport and Fitness Partnership
- Summer Camp



# Summer Camp Smiles

Kid Central Summer Day Camp remains an enduring highlight for generations of children and staff. Each summer new friendships are made in the midst of field trips, swimming days, visits to fieldhouses, recreation centers, art, sports and more.

For hundreds of children in Culpeper, Kid Central offers a vacation based in their own hometown—a place to laugh, smile, play, and recharge from a busy school year.

This summer there are field trips to Massanutten Water Park, movies, Skyzone, local parks, Richmond Science Museum, Richmond Children's Museum, swimming, magic shows, petting zoos, Richmond Zoo, Funland, skating rink, Billy Beez, Messick Farm, carnivals, 4H, Bright Spot, Urban Air, puppet shows and Splashdown. This summer Kid Central will also hold a Juneteenth Celebration with food, music and speakers.

Kid Central is also teamed up with our community partners at PATH Wellness and Culpeper Parks and Recreation. Visits from the ice cream trucks and fun rides on the Culpeper trolley are also summer highlights.

One of Kid Central's many benefits is its participation in the USDA's Summer Food Program that provides free breakfasts and lunches for our campers and the community for those 18 and younger.

Kid Central has its own school bus and vans for easy transportation to all our activities.

Affordability, flexibility, experience, safety and fun are our mission all summer long.

In the spring Kid Central was voted as Culpeper's favorite summer camp by the Culpeper Times. Kid Central also has a preschool summer camp.

We look forward to seeing everyone around town. Look for a large group of children in bright green shirts. Registration is ongoing throughout the school year, but we do fill up.

Check us out on Facebook to see all the great things we are doing —just search Kid Central Culpeper. To register for childcare call 540-829-2124 or visit our central office at 1401 Old Fredericksburg Rd., Culpeper VA 22701. Registration forms are also available on our website listed below.

Kid Central has proudly served the childcare needs of Culpeper County since 1990.

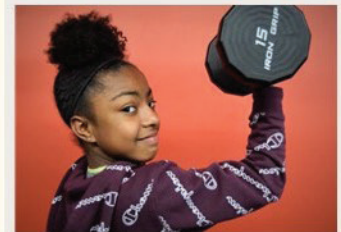
### Follow us for Information

One way to keep up with all the news at Kid Central is to follow its Facebook page—it's fun and informative.

Kid Central's motto since its founding in 1990 has been "Where Friends Stay to Play!"

### Summer Food Program in partnership with the USDA

Our partnerships are vast. Kid Central has been a proud supporter and base for the USDA's Summer Food Program throughout the last decade.



Summer Camp runs May 28th until July 26th.

Have you made arrangements for before and after school childcare for the upcoming school year?

Kid Central's partnerships in the community truly enhance our programming—thank you to the Culpeper County School System, PATH, Culpeper Parks and Recreation, Town of Culpeper local businesses, non-profits and more.

For more information visit [kidcentralculpeper.com](http://kidcentralculpeper.com)



## Culpeper County Public Schools Extends Gratitude to Community Partners for Enriching Student Programs *by Laura M. Hoover, CCPS Director, Communications and Grants*

**Virtual Healthcare Day** - In conjunction with Career Partners, Inc. (CPI), Culpeper County Public Schools (CCPS) successfully hosted a Virtual Healthcare Day in collaboration with UVA Culpeper Medical Center during the spring semester. The event provided approximately 300 students from 16 different classrooms at Culpeper County High School (CCHS) and Eastern View High School (EVHS) with insights into careers in the healthcare industry.

Under the guidance of Jeff Say, Manager of Community Engagement at UVA Health, who served as the moderator, the Virtual Healthcare Day offered a dynamic platform for students to engage with professionals and explore various healthcare career pathways. Presenters came from a variety of areas within the medical center, including pharmacy, laboratory, imaging, nursing, rehabilitation and the chief operating officer. Students participated remotely, which allowed them to go deeper into some of the settings.

“We are thrilled with the overwhelming response to the Virtual Healthcare Day,” said Randi Richards-Lutz, Director of Career and Technical Education at Culpeper County Public Schools. “This event underscores our commitment to providing students with comprehensive exposure to various career paths, and we are grateful to UVA Culpeper Medical Center for their invaluable support.”

“UVA Health Culpeper Medical Center staff were thrilled to once again participate in Healthcare Day with Culpeper County Public Schools and Career Partners,” said Jeff Say, Manager of Community Engagement for UVA Health Culpeper Medical Center. “By giving the students a glimpse into the field of healthcare, we are hoping to fill the pipeline with energetic new employees that will propel our field into the future. Students like those in the classrooms at Culpeper County Public Schools are the future doctors, nurses, radiology and lab technicians that will be helping care for our community. Fostering their interest in the healthcare field is of utmost importance, and being able to relate to our staff like Dr. Nael Hasan is a valuable tool for these students. Healthcare Day is always one of our favorite days of the year and we are excited to continue this partnership.”

**English Learner Externship Program** - This spring, Career Partners, Inc. (CPI) and Culpeper County Public Schools (CCPS) successfully held the first-ever English Learner (EL) Externship program. Students from both high schools were selected to gain hands-on experience in four local businesses. Participating businesses included Cedar Mountain Stone, Collector's Den, 4 C's Restaurant, and 101 Latino Multi-Services.

The program, the brainchild of CPI, was designed to provide EL students with practical exposure to the workforce while enhancing their language skills in real-world settings. Program benefits included earning an official High-Quality Work Based Learning credit through the Virginia Department of Education, which is a requirement for graduation. Also, thanks to a generous grant from the PATH Foundation, administered through Career Partners, students received an incentive for their dedicated week of work.

Overall, the EL externship program was successful because it was a collaborative effort between various stakeholders within the schools and the community. “From flipping omelets to analyzing quarry samples, these ten students have shown the impressive skills, initiative, and work ethic of our emerging workforce,” shared Marty Bywaters-Baldwin, Chief Mission Officer for Rappahannock Goodwill and Career Partners board member. “Many thanks to our local employers who mentored, coached, and guided the externs.”

CCPS Director of Career and Technical Education, Randi Richards-Lutz praised the Culpeper community for their support of Culpeper students. “By partnering with local businesses and community organizations, we can empower our students to thrive in both academic and professional settings,” she said.

