

Behind the scenes at the Courthouse

When the Courthouse on Market Square opens on Saturday, June 1, visitors will readily see the work of many historic trades craftsmen, but equally important to the Courthouse restoration and interpretation is work visitors may not see or recognize.

Visitors will be able to see the interpreters' costumes, created by the **Costume Design Center**, but they may not realize the importance the costumes play in the interpretive scheme.

The departments of **Collections** and **Historic Trades** worked closely with the staff of the Costume Design Center to authenticate and create the costuming evident at the Courthouse.

In the 18th century, a person's appearance was an important means to communicate social status. An individual's upbringing, wealth, and fashion consciousness were visually transmitted through clothing, accessories, and deportment. Color, ornamentation and fashion—the style, cut and fit of each costume—convey the character's importance in the courthouse setting.

At the Courthouse, inside and outside, costuming for the interpreters will help visitors see and interpret the social hierarchy of colonial Virginia.

The interpretive program presented at the Courthouse is the result of many long hours spent by the **Research and Library staff** members, poring over historical records in search of legal proceedings that would provide a representative sample of proceedings that occurred in county courthouses and would provide visitors with an understanding of 18th-century legal practice.

The restoration of the Courthouse is also the fruit of the labors of many employees in the division of **Facilities and Property Management**.

The **Architecture, Engineering and Maintenance department** applied for the

required permits from the city government and provided the drawings and blueprints that guided many skilled hands, including the trades craftsmen of building maintenance, the field carpenters, the millwork carpenters, the blacksmiths, the painters, the mason-plasterers and the support crew.

The **Mechanical Maintenance department** provided the mechanical, construction and electrical/electronic crews that rewired the building, reworked the plumbing, installed security and environmental control systems, fabricated extensive sheet metalwork for ducting, and then ensured that all those 20th-century requirements are nearly invisible.

Of course, a project as large as the Courthouse restoration is expensive, and the **Development department** raised more than \$1.8 million dollars from nearly 20 donors to support the costs of research, restoration, training and interpretation.

When you visit the Courthouse after the official opening, or during the employee open house on Monday, June 3, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., you see the results of effort by many fellow employees. Some of their work may not be readily apparent to our visitors, but it's an important part of our visitors' experience.

June lecture series on colonial law and Courthouse restoration

A series of lectures discussing the re-interpretation of the Courthouse and the laws of colonial Virginia will be held on Wednesdays in June at 4 p.m. in the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Gallery.

The series opens with a lecture June 5 by Warren Billings, professor of history at the University of New Orleans. Billings presents "Law, Justices and Courts in 17th-century Virginia."



"The Americanization of Virtues: Middle Class Society and the Achievement of Justice," will be presented by David Konig, history professor at Washington University in St. Louis, June 12. Konig discusses the middle class in America and its relationship to the judicial system.

Philip Schwarz of Virginia Commonwealth University discusses slavery and the law in: "Why Did the Laws of Virginia Protect Slavery?" on June 19.

Carl Lounsbury, Colonial Williamsburg architectural historian, presents "The Research and Restoration of the Williamsburg Courthouse" June 26. Lounsbury details how historical documentation and other techniques facilitated the restoration of the Courthouse.

The lectures are \$2 in addition to gallery admission. They are free to CW employees on a space-available basis.

What's happening

- ✓ Courthouse Employee Open House, Monday, June 3 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- ✓ Nimble Thimbles, Mondays, 5:30-7 p.m., Woodlands Caucus Room. For information call Brenda Pruitt at ext. 7658.
- ✓ Fencing, Tuesdays, 5:45 p.m., PTB.
- ✓ Town Criers Toastmasters, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, noon, PTB.
- ✓ Lecture, "Law, Justices and Courts in 17th-century Virginia," Wednesday, June 5 at 4 p.m., Wallace Gallery.
- ✓ Employee Family Picnic, Saturday, June 22, noon to 4 p.m., Bassett Hall.
- ✓ Winthrop Rockefeller Archaeology Museum Employee Open House, Tuesday, June 25, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Moving up, moving in

Michael R. Kipps
and **Peter Watson** have
recently been promoted.



Mike has been named director of historic trades. He began his work at Colonial Williamsburg in the Crafts department in 1962 as a summer interpreter. Three years later he began full-time work as an apprentice bookbinder in the Printing Office. In 1972 Mike was named master printer, in 1981, assistant director of craft programs, and finally, in 1988, deputy director of historic trades.

Pete has been named manager, system administration and operations. He is a 1978 graduate of Penn State, and joined Information Systems in 1989 as a systems analyst. Subsequently he became applications consultant for the newly created business information systems team where he has served our distribution and retail clients as well. His prior experiences with hardware installation and systems-level work on both the AS/400 and the System 38 are assets he brings to his new position. Pete holds both the CDP and CSP professional certifications.

Best wishes to both Mike and Pete in their new positions.

Two weeks free!

Weight Watchers is offering a 12-week session for the 10-week price! The meetings are held on Wednesdays, from noon to 1 p.m. on CW property. The registration fee is \$99 (employees may participate in a payment plan). This session is open to employees, retirees, spouses and friends. If you are interested in learning how to control your weight, call Sue Houser at ext. 7029 #1 to register for the June 12 session.

How does your swimsuit fit? Do you even put one on? Take control—this fall let's see less of you!

The Extra is published weekly by the Communications Department. Deadlines are 5 p.m. every Tuesday. Call Sally Riley, ext. 7968, for assistance. Send announcements via interoffice mail to CW News Extra, GBO. Or, FAX them to Sally Riley, ext. 7702.



Historical interpreter Nancy Holler, left, talks with Judy Bowmer while Bill Roberts, vice president for Finance, and Steve Bowmer look on. In the background is a watercolor portrait of Mary Hinkson, who worked as a hostess from 1951 to 1967. The portrait was presented to Colonial Williamsburg by Mrs. Hinkson's children.

Colonial Williamsburg receives a special gift

Colonial Williamsburg recently received a special gift from the children of a long-time employee. The gift, a watercolor portrait of Mary Hinkson, was given to CW by her children and placed in the reading room at the Capitol.

According to her daughter, Judy Bowmer, the Capitol was one of Mrs. Hinkson's favorite exhibition buildings

when she was a hostess. Mrs. Hinkson worked as a hostess from 1951 to 1967.

The portrait, painted by former hostess Betty Hickey, was accepted by George Collins, Bill Roberts, and historical interpreter Nancy Holler, all of whom worked with Mrs. Hinkson, and other representatives of the department of Historical Interpretation.

Imagine walking at Daytona Beach!

For the next two months the Colonial Walkers incentive will focus on Daytona Beach. Join the competition by recording your walking hours, and you may win the drawing for a car wash, beach towel, suntan lotion and T-shirt.

Call Sue Houser at ext. 7029 #3 to receive your walking chart. Or come by Room 150 in the Franklin Street Office Building and pick up a form. To participate, all you need to record is a minimum of 12 hours of walking (recreational or fitness, but not related to work). Remember to return your sheet by Friday, August 9, for the Wednesday, August 14, drawing.

Volunteers needed for Carter's Grove Run/Walk

If you would be interested in helping coordinate the Walk portion of the Carter's Grove Run/Walk for the United Way, please call Sue Houser at ext. 7695. This annual event is scheduled for September and is a lot of fun!

Softball begins in July

Colonial Williamsburg's softball season begins Monday, July 8. You can choose to play in the men's league or the two coed leagues (recreational or competitive). Call Sue Houser at ext. 7029 #5 for a team registration form or come by Room 150 in the Franklin Street Office Building.