



AMERICA'S 400TH ANNIVERSARY

The Journey That Changed the World

Sandra Day O'Connor, Honorary Chair

For Immediate Release

Contact: Kevin Crossett/(757) 253-4534
kevin.crossett@jyf.virginia.gov

April 19, 2007

Robin Crawford/(202) 974-5025
crawfordr@ruderfinn.com

Construction Begins at Anniversary Park

Preparations for America's Anniversary Weekend Entering Final Stages

Williamsburg, Va.— On April 23 the organizers of America's 400th Anniversary begin the nearly month-long transformation of a former campground into "Anniversary Park," the focal point of the international commemoration.

A massive main stage, three satellite stages, dozens of tents and exhibits, stadium-style video screens, facilities for hosting international media and countless support items will be erected in preparation for America's Anniversary Weekend, the May 11-13 event honoring the 1607 founding of Jamestown as America's first permanent English settlement.

Anniversary Park, located across Route 31 from Jamestown Settlement, will occupy about 23 acres of a 198-acre site recently purchased for conservation by a public-private partnership. Additional stages and exhibits are also being constructed at Historic Jamestowne and Jamestown Settlement.

The centerpiece of Anniversary Park will be Festival Stage, a 9,000-square-foot space that will accommodate more than 400 performers. The stage will be flanked by bleachers large enough to hold a 1,607-voice choir. It will face a seating area accommodating up to 30,000 people.

Jeanne Zeidler, Jamestown 2007's executive director, said, "We are excited that a decade of planning and preparation is entering the final phase. Anniversary Weekend allows us to showcase new world-class museums and exhibits at the Jamestown sites, as well as introduce the public to an exciting 'new' Jamestown story made possible by recent archaeological discoveries and compelling research."

Single-day, date-specific tickets to Anniversary Weekend provide visitors with access to the entertainment and programming at Historic Jamestowne, Jamestown Settlement and Anniversary Park. Guests may purchase tickets at \$30 for adult and \$15 for children 6-12. Children younger than 6 years old receive free admission. Tickets are being limited to 30,000 per day to ensure guests enjoy a comfortable visit.

Anniversary Weekend tickets and accommodations are available through Colonial Williamsburg, the official hotels of the commemoration, and may be reserved by phone at (866) 400-1607 or through www.Americas400thAnniversary.com. The call center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Callers outside of regular operating hours will be prompted to leave a message, which will be returned the next day.

Jamestown 2007, a sub-agency of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, is coordinating efforts to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, Va., the first permanent English settlement in the Americas. The nation's first representative government, free enterprise system and culturally diverse society began at Jamestown. State, national, and international commemorative events to salute these legacies began in May 2006 and continue into 2008. Major corporate sponsors of America's 400th Anniversary include Norfolk Southern Corporation (NYSE: NSC), Verizon (NYSE: VZ) and The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Other supporters include Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. (NYSE: BUD), AirTran Airways (NYSE: AAI), Consol Energy and CNX Gas Corporation, Dominion, James City County, Lockheed-Martin, McGuireWoods LLP, Philip Morris USA, SunTrust, TowneBank and Wolseley PLC/Ferguson Enterprises, Inc. Contributors include the City of Poquoson and Rutherford Insurance. More information about the commemoration is available at www.Americas400thAnniversary.com.

###