

A DIAMOND JUBILEE Strawberry Hill Races Celebrate 75th Running – Saturday, April 14



Seventy-five thousand dollars in purses and awards are up for grabs as The Strawberry Hill Races celebrate their 75th running with a Diamond Jubilee theme on Saturday, April 14, 2007 at Colonial Downs in New Kent County. Beautiful racehorses take center stage as five races - one flat and four over jumps - are scheduled. The feature race, The Strawberry Hill Classic, draws participants from across the Mid-Atlantic with the winners this year sharing \$30,000.

The Diamond Jubilee theme pays homage to the Strawberry Hill Races' 75th running. The Races were founded in 1895 as the Deep Run Races, but were discontinued for a period of time due to World War I. For decorating and fashion on race day, think "Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend" and the elegant cool of James Bond in "Diamonds Are Forever." Glamour and fun will rule the day as The Races celebrate this important milestone.

Tickets Now Available for Strawberry Hill Races Purchase Early and Enjoy Extra Savings

Whether you wish to travel in style, celebrate in the sun, enjoy the highlife in skysuites, or want to leave the driving to someone else the Strawberry Hill Races has the right pass for you. Passes are now on sale for Central Virginia's annual "Rite of Spring" the 75th Running of the Strawberry Hill Races at Colonial Downs, Saturday, April 14. Order your passes today online or by calling the SHR Ticket office at (804) 569-3252.

JOCKEY CLUB - \$300 reservations by April 9

Enjoy a sumptuous buffet with table reservation for four, closed circuit TV at your table, outdoor grandstand viewing area, one carload pass with VIP parking and more in the exclusive Colonial Downs Clubhouse third floor Jockey Club.



RESERVED SPACES - \$190 to \$285 (SOLD OUT)

Host your own picnic with family and friends. Spaces accommodate one regular sized vehicle with room for 15 to 20 guests. Inside and outside rail available, sold on first-come, first-served basis.

NEW LIMOUSINE PASS - \$250 must be purchased by April 13

Arrive in style to celebrate the Commonwealth's annual "Rite of Spring." Allows entrance for all in the limousine but does not include rental of limousine.



Get above the crowd in the Jockey Club in the Colonial Downs Clubhouse.

SHUTTLE PASS - \$40 advance pricing through April 6

Enjoy door-to-door service with this combined admission/transportation package. Includes shuttle ride to and from Colonial Downs and admission to the races from Richmond Raceway Complex.

CARLOAD PASS - \$125 advance pricing through April 6

Put the tops down and travel to scenic New Kent for a day at the races. Includes admission to the races for as many people who can legally fit in a personal vehicle. No oversized vehicles allowed.

BUSLOAD PASS - \$700 must be purchased by April 13

Gather all your friends, family, co-workers and club members for steeplechase excitement. Admission includes all passengers on the bus but does not include bus rental.



Have fun in the sun and display your epicurean style with your own reserved space.

For detailed information, complete pricing and ordering visit <http://www.strawberryhillraces.com/admission.shtml> or call (804) 569-3232

14th Annual Strawberry Hill Race Week Benefits Local Charities



Have fun and help a worthy cause at the same time. Make plans now to attend this year's 14th annual Strawberry Hill Race Week Events beginning Saturday, April 1. It is 13 days of fun leading to the 75th Running of the Strawberry Hill Races and all to benefit local charities.

Race Week Events:

Richmond Ride – Sunday, April 1

Benefiting Friends of the Richmond Mounted Squad

You can be an urban cowboy exploring the historic landmarks and streets of Richmond on your own horse.

Casino Night – Wednesday, April 4

Presented by the Richmond Ski Club benefiting Special Olympics Winter Games

Casino games, horse racing and prizes at The Marquee.

CMOR's Annual Birthday Bash and Spring Break Fever – April 7 & April 9 – 14

Benefiting the Children's Museum of Richmond

Celebrate with Seymour, the big red dinosaur, with a fun-filled all-day party at the Children's Museum of Richmond then return to ring in spring with activities and special performances.

Whiskers & Wine – Saturday, April 7

Benefiting PAL (Prevent A Litter)

Get your passport to explore great wines or tea and coffee at the Wellesley Community Center.

Martinis for Mutts – Thursday, April 12

Benefiting AARF (Animal Adoption and Rescue Foundation)

Music, mingling and merriment at Element Lounge with half-price martinis all night.

Boomer Ball – Thursday, April 12

Benefiting Circle Adult Day Services

Calling all baby boomers and wannabees to the Virginia Historical Society for a night of 60's music, vintage cars, period dress, food, live auction and more.

Strawberry Hill Gala – Friday, April 13

Benefiting Cats Cradle

An elegant cocktail buffet, silent auction and door prizes await you at the Jefferson-Lakeside Country Club.

Strawberry Hill Races Carriage Drive – Friday, April 13

Come and view the pageantry of elegant carriages through the streets of historic Richmond.

Strawberry Hill Rail Space Competition – Saturday, April 14

Benefiting the State Fair of Virginia Scholarship Program

Show off your epicurean talents for a Diamond Jubilee during the Strawberry Hill Races at Colonial Downs. Awards available in individual and corporate categories.

In 2006, Strawberry Hill Race Week helped raise nearly \$60,000 for local charities including \$21,000 for the State Fair of Virginia Scholarship Program.

For complete information, times, pricing and locations visit <http://www.strawberryhillraces.com/raceevent.shtml>

State Fair of Virginia receives \$125,000 gift from Beazley Foundation of Portsmouth

The Beazley Foundation, based in Portsmouth, Virginia, has awarded

a \$125,000 grant for construction of Young MacDonald's Farm at the State Fair of Virginia's (SFVA) new site at The Meadow in Caroline County. The gift is for half of the cost of construction and SFVA will put the Beazley Foundation name on a plaque at the new Fairgrounds to recognize the Foundation's generosity.

"I have been coming to the State Fair for years, and return each year with my grandchildren," said Judge Richard Bray, President of The Beazley Foundation. "I was even more convinced of our need to support the new Fairgrounds project when I received letters of support for the State Fair of Virginia's youth education programs from each of the six public school superintendents in Hampton Roads. It is remarkable how young people are positively influenced by so much that is good at the annual State Fair."

The Fair's animal and agriculture exhibits, of which Young MacDonald's Farm is a centerpiece, is one of the most popular attractions at the State Fair each fall. Hosted by 4-H Club members, this hands-on exhibit depicts animals typically found on Virginia farms and gives youth visitors the chance to learn about young animals, see and touch them, discover the true origin of well-known foods like milk and cheese, and learn about the fragile ecosystem linking animals and humans.

The Foundation's decision to support the State Fair is due to the fact that many Hampton Roads public schools students attend The State Fair every year. From 2001 to 2005, the State Fair School Tour program hosted ninety-six schools from Hampton Roads area that sent nearly 5,000 students to the Fair to take part in the Standards of Learning-based program.



Young MacDonald's Farm, the centerpiece of the annual State Fair's animal and agricultural exhibits, is a hands-on experience teaching visitors farm life, origins of food and our ecosystem.

SFVA Named 2006 Agribusiness of the Year



Stephen Salpukas

SFVA has been named the Virginia Agribusiness Council's 2006 Agribusiness of the Year. Pictured are Curry Roberts, SFVA president; Bill Mistr, SFVA chairman; Louis Brooking, Jr., Agribusiness Council chairman

VAC Press Release: The Virginia Agribusiness Council named The State Fair of Virginia, Inc. (SFVA) their 2006 Agribusiness of the Year on Friday, October 6 during Agriculture & Forestry Day held at the State Fair in Richmond.

"We are pleased to recognize the State Fair's exceptional contribution and support to the Council and to Virginia's agribusiness industry," said Agribusiness Council Chairman Louis L. Brooking, Jr.

During the annual Fair event, it is clear throughout the grounds that the Fair enthusiastically promotes our agribusiness industry through partnerships, new exhibits, and youth education. The State Fair excels in its youth scholarship program, giving young people great opportunities to succeed.

The State Fair event serves as the largest annual showcase for the industry of agriculture and achieves its mission through school tours, competitions and scholarships. In serving its mission, SFVA has been a leader in not only the agriculture industry, but also the Virginia Agribusiness Council and has provided leadership on the Virginia Agribusiness Council Board since its inception in 1972.

The Virginia Agribusiness Council is a non-profit organization committed to representing the agriculture and forest industries in the Commonwealth. It is headquartered in Richmond.

For more information visit www.va-agribusiness.org

The State Fair of Virginia Receives International Recognition

The State Fair of Virginia has received the "Best In Show" Award and seven "Best in Class" awards from the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) headquartered in Springfield, MO. The Awards were presented during the 116th Annual IAFE Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Hall of

Fame and Awards Banquet on December 6 and The Agriculture Awards Breakfast on December 5.

Communications Categories won include “Best in Class” for Newspaper Ad in Black and White, Newspaper Ad in color, Magazine Ad, Radio Ad, Printed Newsletter and Media Guide/Press Kit. The State Fair won Best in Show of all the Fairs entered in any of the Communications categories. The IAFE has a membership of over 3,200 from around the globe.

Agriculture Awards include a “Best in Class” for Printed Material Developed and Produced to Promote Agriculture Programs and a third place award for Best Agricultural Photograph.



Dennis Cupp

The State Fair of Virginia received the IAFE “Best In Show” Award at the 116th annual convention in NV. Left to Right: Curry Roberts, SFVA president; Susan Mitchell, SFVA director vendor sales; Lorene Blackwood, SFVA senior director, programs.

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SFVA is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization not affiliated with state government. In a world where Virginia's open land and traditions that shaped our culture are rapidly vanishing, SFVA's goal is to keep cherished ideals and experiences alive in the Commonwealth.

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