FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Wendy R. Herdman, 4-H Extension Agent

**4-H Grows Campers – Camp Registration is Open Now**

Registration is open and spaces are available for 4-H Jr. Camp. Westmoreland and Richmond County boys and girls ages 9-13 can attend 4-H Jr. Camp at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center from July 23-27. 4-H Camp is a week of fun, hands-on experiences where children “learn by doing”. 4-H is cooperative group living in a natural environment that focuses on developing life skills, social, spiritual, mental and physical development in young people. Camping experiences include swimming, canoeing, campfires, new friends and playing games all under the supervision of caring adults. Only $240 (paid in full by May 1, $260 otherwise) covers everything – all meals, lodging, programs and transportation. Financial aid is available. To register, request a brochure or scholarship application or to ask questions, visit either office’s webpage (Westmoreland: http://offices.ext.vt.edu/westmoreland/; Richmond County: http://offices.ext.vt.edu/richmond/) or contact your county’s extension office. Westmoreland County – 493-8924, Richmond County – 333-3420.

4-H Camp grows life skills. After the closing of camp activities each year, parents completed written evaluations that help us gauge behavior changes that might be attributable to camp. The most significant increases came in these life skill categories: communications, teamwork and self-responsibility. The specific behaviors were: shares own thoughts and ideas verbally, shares work responsibilities and takes care of his/her own things. Parents describe the best thing about camp as “interaction with other students outside of her core friends” and “teamwork and being responsible”.

Our 4-H Center occupies a beautiful 16 acre riverfront site near the Jamestown Settlement in Williamsburg. Facilities include air-conditioned lodges and cabins, dining hall, recreation hall, health clinic, pool and aquatic resource center. 4-H camp staff extension agents and trained volunteer leaders provide camper supervision, instruction and support. The Jamestown 4-H Educational Center has earned the American Camping Association accreditation for its standards of safety and excellence. American Camping Association accreditation is the seal of approval for camping facilities and programs

Jamestown 4-H Educational Center and its programs are accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA). What does that mean? ACA is the only organization that accredits all types of camps, with up to 300 national standards for health and safety. ACA camps have undergone a thorough review of operations. This includes things like staff qualifications and training to emergency management. Safe environments promote positive youth development. ACA camps provide: healthy, developmentally-appropriate activities and learning experiences, discovery through experiential education, caring and competent role models, service to the community and environment, and opportunities for leadership and personal growth.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact the Westmoreland Extension Office at 804-493-8924/TDD\* or the Richmond County Extension Office at 804-333-3420/TDD\* during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 30 days prior to the event. \*TDD number is (800) 828-1120.