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# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **New Kent County to offer New Kent University; A behind-the-scenes look at local government**

**NEW KENT VIRGINIA, JULY 30, 2009:** New Kent County recently opened registration for its New Kent University program, beginning August 25, to give local residents insight and an overview of how local government operates.

"New Kent University is a unique opportunity for residents to gain insight into the operations of their local government. This experience will once again provide citizens a chance to learn from educated staff and elected officials regarding issues facing the county. It is our belief that if citizens learn about the county's operations they will better understand about the services provided to meet their needs," County Administrator John A. Budesky said.

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Participants will become familiar with the inner workings of several of New Kent's departments and facilities. They will get an up close view of day-to-day government procedure and will take a field trip to the county's wastewater treatment plant as well as several Parks and Recreation facilities, the airport and the Visitors & Commerce Center.

"We at New Kent Sheriff's Office are excited about New Kent University. It will give us the privilege to meet with the citizens and to show and explain the operation of our office. It will also afford us the opportunity to show the behind-the-scenes operations and to answer questions about our office," Sheriff F.W. "Wakie" Howard, Jr. said.

Several department heads from New Kent Public Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Finance and the like will offer presentations to participants of the University. The goal is to build a bridge of understanding and mutual respect between New Kent County residents and the County government.

New Kent University begins August 25 (this introductory class begins one half-hour before all other classes, at 6:30 p.m.) and will be held every Tuesday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. until the final class on October 27, 2009. The graduation ceremony and reception will be held Thursday, November 12 at the monthly Board of Supervisors meeting. The university is offered

for free as a public service to those who live or work in the County, on a first-come, first-serve basis for those who fill out a registration form. Deadline for registration forms is August 14, 2009. Seating is limited to 35 participants.

Contact Executive Assistant Krista Jones by e-mail at [kmjones.co.newkent.state.va.us](mailto:kmjones.co.newkent.state.va.us) or by phone at (804) 966-9683 to get more information on the program or to register.

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