



Contact: Kathy Ellington, Executive Director
kathy@LeadershipPrinceWilliam.org
703-993-9607

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Business & Community Leaders Applaud the Success of Leadership Prince William Graduates

June, Manassas, VA, Thirty leaders who make up the inaugural class of Leadership Prince William 2008 have graduated from the program June 5. After a tour, the class had their final retreat at the FBI building at Innovation. At their retreat, the 2008 class whose motto is, "Always First Class," made individual statements on their leadership plans and how the class inspired them. Participated in a final teamwork challenge and reviewed and commented on the year's sessions and lessons learned about Prince William from government to the arts.

The program is aimed at providing our area with an ongoing source of diverse leaders who are prepared and committed to serve as catalysts of positive change for quality of life in the Greater Prince William community.

The Leadership Prince William Board of Regents honored the class members with a reception held at the Center for the Arts at the Candy Factory in Manassas. Huey Battle, board member of Leadership Prince William and *Area Manager of Virginia Public affairs, Washington Gas*, challenged participants to apply their talents throughout the community. Board members also in attendance were Bob Anderson; *President, Metro Sign & Design*, Rebecca Barnes, Co-Chair; *President, Bargain Boxes and Storage*, Molly Grove, Secretary; *Director of Campus Relations, George Mason University Prince William*, Kristina Keech-Spitler, Esq.; *Vanderpool, Frostick & Nishanian*, Amy M. Tanner, Treasurer; *Virginia Commerce Bank*, E. Jay Ellington; *Executive Prince William Park Authority*, Mary Foley; *Executive Director, The Voluntary Action Center*, Todd R. House; *Manager Government Affairs, Micron Technology, Inc.*, Keith Imon; *Associate Superintendent for Communications and Technology Services, for Prince William County Public Schools*, Debbie Jones; *President, Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce*, Joe Martin, Co-Chair; *Client Development Director, Employment Enterprises, Inc.*, Sally Lay; *Executive Director, Center for the Arts of Greater Manassas/Prince William County*, Harry (Hal) J. Parrish II; *Mayor-Elect of City of Manassas, Virginia*, Robert Sturm; *Branch Manager, Financial Advisor for Scott & Stringfellow*, Laurie C. Wieder; *President, Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce*.

Kathy Ellington, Executive Director echoed the challenge encouraging the inaugural class to make a personal commitment for greater involvement in Prince William.

Graduates are:

Bob Anderson, Metro Sign & Design, Rebecca Barnes, Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce/Bargain Boxes Moving & Storage, Ken Blackstone, Prince William County Public Schools, James Bounds, LOGIS-TECH, Inc., Sergio Campos, Norman Realty, Inc., John Collier, Deputy Chief Prince William County Sheriff's Office, Stephen Daves, R. W. Murray Co., Betty Dean, Didlake, Inc., Traci DeGroat, Habitat for Humanities, Larry FitzGerald, Grubb & Ellis Company, Molly Grove, George Mason University, Pamela Harbourt, Pamela Harbourt, CPA

MST, PLLC, Charlyn Hasson-Brown, Commonwealth Preventive Medicine Institute, Barbara Hopkins, Ealy Hopkins and Associates, LLC/City of Manassas Park, Stephan Hudson, Captain, Prince William County Police Department, Gillian Kane-Mobley, Belmont Bay Science Center Foundation, Inc., Dr. Mary Lopez, Independence Empowerment Center, Shari Naufflett, Ideal Marketing Solutions, Jerole Nelson, Cranberry Marketing Associates, LLC, Mary Neylon, Prince William County Police Department, Don Pannell, Prince William County Service Authority, Maria Paslick, SAI Engineering Incorporated Mechanical and Electrical Group, Corey Riley, Health Care Consultant, Jennifer Rutkowski, Micron Technology, Linda Rodriguez, Synergy Once Federal Credit Union, Kristina K. Spitler, Esq., Vanderpool, Frostick & Nishanian, PC, Craig Stewart, National Museum of Americans at War, Amy Morris Tanner, Virginia Commerce Bank, Eliza Wojtaszek, Persimmon Tree Companies / Gainesville Commerce Center, Mark Wolfe, ADCO Air Distributing Co., Inc.

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The program, Leadership Prince William, is built around a comprehensive, ten-month curriculum that brings key community information and imparts vital skills to the residents and business leaders of the Prince William area.

Directed by a Board of Regents, Leadership Prince William is a private, non-profit organization with programs designed to prepare existing and emerging community leaders for pivotal positions in business, local government and community affairs. The courses inspire, enlighten, and connect a network of individuals interested in building a strong future for the Prince William community. The skills imparted during this intensive program will help launch graduates into new civic and business opportunities, and will create a positive force for change in the community.

Leadership Prince William is sponsored by Venture sponsors Prince William County Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce and Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce. Foundation Sponsors are George Mason University and Micron Technology.