



News and Notes About Monticello

Zoning district. Thomas Jefferson's plantation home now lies within the Monticello Historic District. The district was created June 8 when the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a zoning ordinance request by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. The ordinance allows the Foundation to improve and expand existing facilities and build new ones, including a new visitors center, on identified parcels within the 868-acre zoning district, pending site-plan and permit approval by the county. Most of the land in the district, which does not include Montalto, will remain open space.

Winter Tour. Thomas Jefferson's efforts to create an extended community of individuals who shared his interests and passions will be the theme of Monticello's annual Winter Tour. "A Society to Our Taste: Thomas Jefferson and His Friends and Neighbors" will explore Jefferson's relationships with James and Dolley Madison, James Monroe, and some less-known but very interesting figures. These extended house tours will be offered daily from Dec. 1 through Feb. 28, excluding Dec. 10-11, the dates of Monticello's Holiday Winter Weekend, and Dec. 25, when Monticello will be closed.

Challenge grant. The Kemper Foundations of Kansas City, Mo., has pledged \$1.2 million in a challenge grant to safeguard the historic and scenic nature of the views from Monticello. The terms of the grant dictate a 3-to-1 match, meaning Monticello will have to raise \$3.6 million from other sources in order to receive the \$1.2 million. The grant was initiated by R. Crosby Kemper, chairman of the Kemper Foundations, a member of the Thomas Jefferson

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Foundation Board of Trustees from 1988 to 1997, and an honorary trustee since 1998.

Barringer Fellows. K. Wise Whitehead from West Baltimore Middle School in Baltimore and Peter Vermilyea from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, Conn., spent two weeks over the summer at Monticello's Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies as the 2005 recipients of the Barringer Research Fellowships for Teachers of American History. The program, designed for teachers to develop Jefferson-related projects that will enrich their classroom teaching, was instituted in 2004 and is funded by a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Paul B. Barringer II of Weldon, N.C.

COMMENTS? newsletter@monticello.org