

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Prince William County/Manassas CVB

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**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY/MANASSAS
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**

**RICHMOND-BASED OFFICE ON VOLUNTEERISM DIRECTOR TO SERVE AS
KEYNOTE SPEAKER DURING NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK LUNCHEON**

Prince William Co., VA – Nikki Nicholau, the Director of the Richmond-based Office on Volunteerism and Community Service (Virginia Department of Social Services), will address the importance of volunteerism during a visit to Prince William County.

Nicholau will deliver the keynote address at the National Tourism Week Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, scheduled from noon to 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 17, 2007 at Virginia Oaks Golf Club in Gainesville, VA. Nicholau will thank the hundreds of volunteers who give their time and effort to keep tourists informed about attractions, events, dining and lodging in the Prince William County/Manassas area. OVCS promotes the theme that volunteer service and civic engagement are a responsibility and a privilege.

Before becoming the OVCS Director, Nicholau served as Deputy Director for Housing at the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Service. She held managerial positions in both the public and private sectors. Nicholau served on a number of community boards and was recognized as the Outstanding Woman of Greater Richmond in Human Relations by the YWCA in 1989.

National Tourism Week, an annual event observed since 1984, is sponsored by the Travel Industry Association of America. It promotes a better understanding of travel as a major U.S. industry, vital to the economic stability and global perception of the United States.

Tourism has a \$1.5 billion annual economic impact on Virginia, accounting for 280,000 jobs with an associated payroll of \$4 billion. Virginia welcomes 35 million visitors each year.

The Prince William County/Manassas CVB is the destination marketing organization for Prince William County and Manassas. Through targeted marketing efforts the CVB promotes the region to potential leisure visitors, tour groups and media representatives to increase tourism and economic growth. The CVB is an independent, not-for-profit organization funded by Prince William County. For more information regarding Prince William County call (703) 396-7130 or go to www.visitpwc.com.

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