



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 9, 2009

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER ANNOUNCED FOR RESTON'S 24TH ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



RESTON, VA — The 2009 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Planning Committee announces Jim Vance, weekday anchorman of 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. editions of News4 on WRC-TV in Washington, DC, will deliver the keynote address during Reston's 24th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration on Monday, January 19, 2009.

The long-time anchorman of NBC News4 on WRC-TV in Washington, DC will reflect on the celebration theme, "Are We Keeping the Promise?" Vance, who has been in his position since 1969, was one of the first African-Americans to serve as an evening news anchor on American television. His insightful remarks will add greatly to make this commemorative celebration more meaningful and inspiring. Mr. Vance will also co-moderate the *Minorities and Women in Politics* workshop along with Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins.

The Weekend Celebration begins with a performance by the Reston Community Orchestra at RCC Hunters Woods at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 17. The Celebration continues with the "Voices of Inspiration" concert at the Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 18. The commemorative celebration on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day will be held on Monday, January 19 at Reston Community Center Hunters Woods from 9 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Youth activities occur for registered participants from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The full schedule of events is:

9:00 a.m.

Marchers assemble at Southgate Community Center.

Marchers are encouraged to park at the Hunters Woods Village Center parking lot and take the shuttle bus to Southgate Community Center. Shuttle bus service is available from 8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

Commemorative March - Kick-Off location is the Southgate Community Center (12125 Pinecrest Road, Reston). The March begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at RCC Hunters Wood (2310 Colts Neck Road Reston).

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10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

- **Welcome and Opening**
- **Special remarks by Catherine M. Hudgins**, Hunter Mill District Supervisor.
- **Keynote Address by Jim Vance**, NBC4 Anchorman
- **Community Service Awards**

11:30 a.m. – Noon
Noon – 1 p.m.

Community Lunch
“**Are We Keeping the Promise?**” **Workshops** feature guest speakers on a range of topics impacting our community today. Workshop leaders will present their topic and follow with 30-45 minutes of roundtable discussion in breakout sessions to be held in the RCC Hunters Woods facility.

- ***Women and Minorities in Politics*** (Moderated by Jim Vance and Supervisor Catherine Hudgins)
- ***Ana’s Story, a Homelessness Simulation Experience*** (moderated by Reston Interfaith)
- ***Non-Violent Communication*** (Moderated by Jone Johnson Lewis of the Northern VA Ethical Society)

10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Youth Activities (1st – 6th Grade) - Ongoing hands-on arts and crafts activities designed to engage youngsters in learning about the Civil Rights Movement and the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Activity highlights include: numerous arts and crafts stations, a *Kindness to Earth* performance by Bob Brown Puppets and “My Friend, Martin” video viewing. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and pre-registration is highly encouraged. Use registration #704717-9A for all youth activities.

1:45 p.m.
All Day

Art Reception (Celebrating young Reston artists)

- **The Reston Oral History Project**
- **Coats and Canned Food Drive to benefit Reston Interfaith**

Reston’s 24th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration weekend is co-sponsored by the Reston Community Center, Martin Luther King, Jr. Christian Church, Office of Fairfax County Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Reston Community Orchestra, Reston Interfaith, the Northern Virginia Ethical Society, along with the support of many other religious and civic organizations, business groups, and schools.

For more information contact Kevin Danaher, Community Events Director, at (703) 476-4500, x6166 or via email at Kevin.danaher@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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To request this information in an alternate format, call BeBe Nguyen.

Reston Community Center
2310 Colts Neck Road
Reston, Virginia 20191
www.restoncommunitycenter.com



About the Reston Community Center

Each year RCC offers more than 1,800 positive, self-development experiences that enhance the quality of life for all people living and working in Reston. RCC provides a wide range of programs in arts, aquatics, enrichment and life-long learning. We also create and sustain community traditions through special events, outreach activities and facility rentals. To find the programs or events that are right for you, visit www.restoncommunitycenter.org or call 703-476-4500.

Photo: Jim Vance.

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Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For further information, contact the Reston Community Center at (703) 476-4500, Virginia Relay (800) 828-1120 (TTY) or visit the website at <http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com>. The Reston Community Center is located at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191. The Reston Community Center is completely accessible to persons with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

So Close to You. So Much to Do.™

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Keynote Speaker Biography

Jim Vance



NBC NEWS4 Anchorman Jim Vance is a veteran of more than 35 years reporting with the station. His career with NBC NEWS-4 has been an illustrious one which has gained him increasing prominence in the Metropolitan Washington Area. Currently, Vance co-anchors Channel 4 NEWS LIVE at 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. with Doreen Gentzler.

Vance joined NBC NEWS4 as a general assignment reporter in 1969 and within a year was named a weekend anchor. In 1972, he became a co-anchor of channel 4's weekday news at 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Since that time he has been a mainstay of NBC NEWS4's news operations.

A multi-talented journalist known for his incisive reporting and thoughtful commentaries, Vance has been an integral part of NBC NEWS4. Vance frequently anchors from the field on major stories. In addition he provides special reports on a wide variety of issues, those reports having taken him as far away as El Salvador, South Africa and Vietnam. Vance also has traveled to Miami, New York, Dallas, San Francisco, and Atlanta to co-anchor the station's coverage of political conventions.

Vance began his career in Philadelphia as a reporter for the **Philadelphia Independent** newspaper and part time reporter for radio station **WHAT-AM** while also teaching in the public school system. In 1968, he accepted a position as a reporter for **WKBS-TV** in Philadelphia.

Vance has garnered many awards and honors throughout his career. His latest being inducted into the National Association of Black Journalists Hall of Fame. He was also inducted into the Silver circle of the Washington area chapter of National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He won the groups Ted Yates Award for outstanding community service. Mr. Vance was inducted into the National Alumni Hall of Fame of Cheyney University of Pennsylvania on May 2, 2008.

He was named "Washingtonian of the Year," by Washingtonian Magazine, and is the winner of 15 Emmy Awards and has been inducted into the journalist Hall of Fame of the Washington Chapter of the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS). In 2005 he received the Highlight award from the Women of Washington. The Highlight awards are given each year to three men who have supported issues that are important to women. Vance is one of the founders of the Columbia Recovery Center, a facility for drug and alcohol treatment. He also provides scholarships for young men in the District to go to college.

Vance's support for community organizations and concern for issues affecting the metro area have earned him the respect and admiration of his viewers (including former President Bush who has "Gone Fishing" with Jim).

Born in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, Vance has a B.S. in Secondary Education from Cheyney University and taught English in the Philadelphia school system for four years.

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