



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact:** Dawn Miller  
Manager of Marketing, Communications & Special Events  
Henrico Sports & Entertainment Authority  
(804) 501-5137, office; (804) 912-0564, mobile; [dawn@henricosea.com](mailto:dawn@henricosea.com)

**Henrico & VSHOF to commemorate 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Arthur Ashe Wimbledon win with mural unveiling at the Henrico Sports & Events Center**

**WHAT:** As part of Black History Month, a mural celebrating Arthur Ashe and commemorating 50 years since his historic Wimbledon victory has been added to the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. Displayed at the Henrico Sports & Events Center, this tribute vividly portrays Ashe's journey from his Richmond beginnings to becoming a global tennis icon.

**WHO:** Henrico County Board of Supervisors Chair and Brookland District Supervisor Dan J. Schmitt; Board of Supervisors Vice Chair and Fairfield District Supervisor Roscoe D. Cooper III; Varina District Supervisor Tyrone E. Nelson; County Manager John A. Vithoulikas; Will Driscoll, executive director of the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame; artist Hezekiah Baylor; members of the Ashe family; and other Henrico officials and partners

**WHEN:** 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4

**WHERE:** Henrico Sports & Events Center  
1 All Star Boulevard  
Glen Allen, VA 23059

**BACKGROUND:** Arthur Ashe, a native of Richmond, remains a symbol of excellence and activism. His triumph at Wimbledon in 1975 broke barriers and inspired generations worldwide. The mural captures Ashe's legacy, not only as the first Black man to win Wimbledon but also as a champion for social change. Ashe broke racial barriers in tennis, rising to the top of a sport historically closed to Black athletes. Beyond his athletic success, he was a vocal advocate for civil rights, education, and public health.

Ashe's influence extended far beyond the court. His dedication to equality and humanitarian efforts continued until his passing in 1993. Ashe is laid to rest at Woodland Cemetery in Henrico, a place that now serves as a historic landmark honoring his life and contributions. The mural aims to celebrate Ashe's contributions to sports history and his lifelong commitment to social justice.

**Virginia Sports Hall of Fame:** Since 1972, the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame has been proud to honor Virginia's contributions to the world of sports. As the Commonwealth's official hall of fame, the Hall's mission is to honor athletic excellence and serve as a nonprofit resource highlighting philanthropy through sports, while inspiring sports fans through programming and engaging entertainment.