

August 2016

WILLIAMSBURG'S

Next Door Neighbors®

VOL. 10, ISSUE 8

PRICELESS

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Law & Order

Bradley Rinehimer



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The timing for an issue on Law & Order could not be better. The news recently has been full of tragic events that demonstrate what can happen when law and order breaks down. Individuals who disregard the law can create havoc for their own selfish, twisted, and often misguided reasons.



Meredith Collins, Publisher

In Williamsburg, we have thankfully not become the target of such senseless crimes and the associated troubling unrest, but we still feel the pain and disillusionment that other Americans are feeling. Our lifestyle of law and order goes hand in hand with our generosity and willingness to extend ourselves for others. Our beliefs, our commitment to our family and friends, and our conscious decision to support people from all walks of life in our community, helps ensure the law and order that we value and have become accustomed to. In this issue, we have interviewed some of our neighbors who are involved with Williamsburg's law and order. The stories help us to learn how dedicated these individuals are to the roles they play in keeping locals and tourists safe so that we can all enjoy the many amenities of this wonderful community. I hope you too will learn and enjoy as you read on. NDN

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Cover Photo by Lisa Cumming



Keeping Neighbors & Visitors Safe

By Lillian Stevens

Lisa W. Cumming Photography

Some folks know from a young age exactly what they want to be when they grow up. For others, like Bradley Rinehimer, the path emerged over time. Once Chief Rinehimer found himself working in law enforcement, though, he knew he was doing exactly what he was meant to do.

Brad (as he prefers to be called) says that he has enjoyed every moment of his 21-year journey to the place he is today. “From my first day on the job as a Patrol Officer, it feels like everything has fallen into place.”

It helps that the self-described “people person” loves working with the public. A significant part of that involves efforts to foster positive communications between his team of officers and staff and the citizens they serve.

“When I became chief, I already knew that we had an excellent police department. We were already viewed very positively by the community. But I wanted to make it even better,” he says.

As an example, every contact between an officer and a citizen presents an opportunity to have a positive impact even at the end of a long day. “It might sound like common sense, but James City County (JCC) officers work a 9 ½ hour shift. During that shift, they might handle stressful situations from domestic disputes

to car crashes with fatalities, unpleasant things. Even so, sometimes at the end of a shift, the phone rings and the caller might have an issue with loud neighbors, or it might be a situation where a citizen is locked out of their car.”

To the officer who has dealt with a tough day already, noise or a locked car might be perceived as minor events. But to that citizen, their phone call might be the only contact with JCC’s police department.

“If the officer acts like he or she doesn’t have time for loud neighbors or a locked car, then that makes the whole department look unresponsive,” he says.

Brad’s career in law enforcement has taken him on a slow but steady rise through the ranks. He has been with JCC Police Department since 1995 and has worked in many capacities, including Patrol Officer, School Resource Officer, Community Services Officer, Assistant SWAT Team Commander, and Community Services Lieutenant. Most recently, Brad served as Division Commander for Community Services, Administrative Services, Colonial Community Corrections and Records. He has also overseen the Uniform Division and Investigations Divisions as Commander.

Brad grew up in a rural part of northeast Pennsylvania. His multigenerational family

occupied homes built on a large property that surrounded a pond. His was a happy childhood. “As a young boy, I wanted to play football for the Pittsburgh Steelers,” he says with a laugh. “By the time I was 19, I realized that probably wasn’t going to happen.”

He attended college, but his chosen major was a field that was somehow not clicking for him. “I had a great time in college,” Brad says. “The thing is, I just didn’t know where I wanted my career to take me.”

In 1991, he joined the U.S. Navy and served as a Submarine Nuclear Propulsion Plant Mechanical Operator. After four years of military service to his country, Brad’s service interests shifted to law enforcement. As he explored the right careers to fit his personality and skills set, one field kept emerging: police officer. The question was “where?”

One thing that attracted him to Williamsburg was its similarities with the small town in which he grew up: a rural community in northeast Pennsylvania, near Scranton and Wilkes Barre. Applying for open positions all over Hampton Roads, Brad was delighted when James City County called with an offer in 1995. He took the job and has never looked back.

“From the day I started in police work, I
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knew that's what I wanted my career to be. Over time, I also set a goal of becoming chief."

To further prepare himself professionally, Brad earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in Criminology, while working full-time as a police officer. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the FBI's Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar, and the VACP/VCPF Professional Executive Leadership School at the University of Richmond.

Over the span of his 21 years in law enforcement, there have been great moments, many days where he says he went home at night and felt great about what he did that day. There have also been tragic moments.

The shooting several months ago at the Norge Farm Fresh that took the life of Gabriel Maness, a highly regarded member of the community, really hit home for a lot of people, including Brad.

"In law enforcement, every one of us, every officer, every administrator, every staff member, worries that something like this is possible. It's one of our biggest fears."

The chief lives by the old adage: prepare for the worst, but hope for the best.

"In this job, things don't always have a happy ending. There is no happy ending for the Maness family. That day was the one of the worst days of my police career."

In the wake of that awful event the community came together to support the Maness family the way our neighbors in James City tend to do. That's one thing Brad loves about living and working here.

"Our police officers do this job for the right reasons which makes a huge difference. The community supports and trusts us and we value that."

Brad is committed to keeping his fellow citizens safe, even if those same citizens cringe at the sight of an officer's patrol car following behind.

"No matter where you are there will be those who don't care for law enforcement," he says. "Let's face it. No one wants a speeding ticket. But they might not always see the big picture. I wish we didn't have to issue tickets. I wish everyone followed the laws and that there weren't serious automobile crashes. We do what we do to keep the roads safe."

In ways large and small, Chief Rinehimer will continue working to keep citizens and visitors safe. "The smallest things can go a long way to how the department or county is viewed," he says.

That's why he feels so strongly about effective communications and first impressions. It's a way of treating people that likely stems from his childhood. He credits his parents and, in particular his grandfather, for the work ethic and values they taught.

"My grandparents had a farm across the pond from our house. My father worked 12 hour days drilling water wells. My grandfather was also a hard-working man, a man of moral character and integrity. He was a coal miner for many years and worked night shift as a security guard, but he was home farming during the day. That meant he was always home and there for us kids."

In fact, when it's time for a break from the demands of law enforcement, Brad's childhood home beckons. He goes back north for hunting and fishing with members of his family. Closer to home, he has been known to climb up on a tractor to cut grass at an undisclosed golf course in James City County.

"I have to be outdoors," Chief Brad Rinehimer says. "For me, that's the best stress reliever." NDN

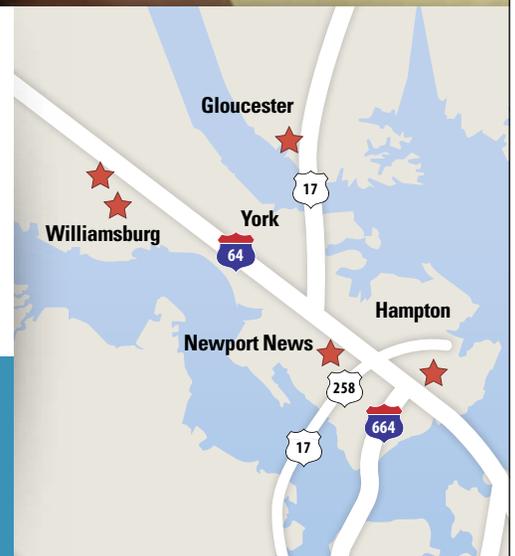
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ANDREW BARKER



A Team Effort

By Naomi Tene' Austin

Lisa W. Cumming Photography

For some, the call for public service is intuitive, for others it's inbred, and some develop the desire over time. For Williamsburg Deputy Chief of Police Andy Barker, all of the above are true. Coming from a long line of service men, Andy realized his dream of becoming a Williamsburg police officer after serving six years in the United States Army. He found law enforcement to be similar in many ways to his structured military background.

"I absolutely loved the job," he says. "Williamsburg is the only place I wanted to work.

It is the only place I applied."

For our interview, we met in the lobby of the Williamsburg Police Department, and Andy walked me into his impeccably tidy office. With not a single paper clip out of place and what appeared to be a color coded filing system, it is easy to see that he is a stickler for order. I would come to find that his conversation flowed in a similarly concise and efficient manner. Moments into our chat, I could definitely understand how such an orderly and disciplined person had come to be second in

command of the precinct.

Growing up in Arizona, Andy was reared in a highly structured and orderly environment. His father, a Chief Master Sergeant of the Airforce, spent a total of 43 years in government service. "I grew up very much like the TV show 'Leave it to Beaver'. When my dad came home in the evenings, he had supper, did some more work, read the newspaper and went to bed," he says. "My mother stayed at home until I was in high school." With an older brother who spent most of his career

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John's Journey

John Keane has three aspirations in life: to play college baseball, study criminal justice, and become a secret service agent—ambitious goals for sure, but this Lafayette High School student is used to challenges.

John was born with a cleft palate and a hearing loss. His family moved to Williamsburg when he was 18 months old. He had just undergone surgery at Boston Children's Hospital, and the hospital referred John's parents to CDR for help in dealing with their son's ongoing needs.

John tells his teachers and friends that he's worked really hard learning to hear and talk. With smiles of pride, his parents say jokingly that, "Once he started, he hasn't quit talking."

His mother, Debbie, says John was a happy baby until about 16 months old, when he began to be frustrated that he couldn't communicate what he wanted. A CDR speech pathologist taught sign language to John, his parents, older sister, and brother. Debbie says, "CDR was our salvation." The team worked with John and his parents on multiple issues, like feeding and sensory problems, along with speech and language delays.

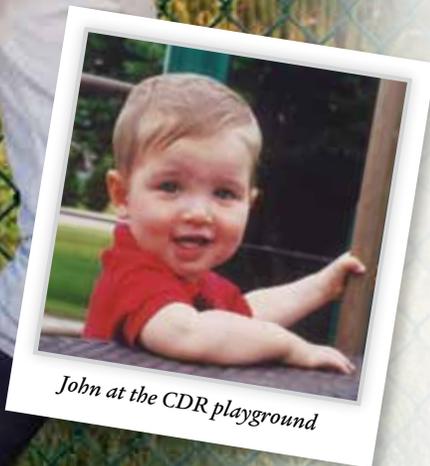
John is now a catcher on the varsity baseball team. As for John's ambitions, his parents say he's a fighter and a hard worker. They're confident he'll accomplish everything he has set out to do.

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John at the CDR playground

as a high level civilian government analyst in Washington D.C., Andy followed in the tradition of service and joined the army, going straight to boot camp the day after his high school graduation. While enlisted, Andy was involved in a number of training and humanitarian missions. He credits those early years in the army with instilling in him the value of team work, a concept that he weighs heavily in his current role.

“There is nothing more important than the team, and that extends beyond just law enforcement. Our city manager and his staff, all the other city employees, we all rely on each other heavily,” he says. Andy is referencing the training program that every city employee goes through in order to learn what each department does and how every role affects the next. In an atmosphere where everyone is so connected and invested with one another, it is easy to understand why Andy considers Williamsburg to be the best environment for his line of work. “I think the citizens of Williamsburg are the most important part of the team,” he says. “They are so aware, so caring and very involved in maintaining this wonderful community. The people here really are great.”

If teamwork is the foundation of good law enforcement, Andy considers integrity and

respect to be the building blocks. Recognizing that encounters between police and citizens are always reflective of the larger social framework of race, class and national politics, Andy believes wholeheartedly that respect is the most effective equalizer.

“Everyone, no matter what mistakes they’ve made or what hard times they may be experiencing at the point of encounter, deserves respect,” he says. “Their opinion of us, their opinion on life could be severely impacted based on how we treat them. So I think we all need to maintain a perspective of that in order to do our best and maintain people’s dignity.” Andy maintains that integrity is not always about what’s most popular or what makes people happy. It’s about doing what’s right. “No department is perfect but integrity isn’t contingent on perfection,” he says. “We’re going to make mistakes, of course” he says, “But integrity demands that we are transparent and own up to them so we can learn and grow.”

Policing is a central function in all communities, it ensures safety and promotes confidence. Police chiefs and Deputy chiefs represent a critical source of influence, providing the direction, strategies and practices that shape the culture within any given police force. With the rapidly changing landscape

that policing has undergone in recent years, the Williamsburg Police Department has, so far, risen to the challenge. “We have a good relationship with the local Black Lives Matters chapter,” he says. “They have every right to protest and we understand they aren’t trying to be combative, they are just trying to get their message out there and they will do it in the most productive way that they can.”

Andy believes that a great deal of the tension in today’s policing environment is based solely on fear of the unknown. “People are scared of what they don’t understand and that is where I think that growing up in a military family and spending time overseas has helped me,” he says. “When you talk to people and make an effort to get to know them, you find that we’re all really very similar.”

While he finds his role here very rewarding, he is careful not to take credit for the city’s relatively low crime rate. “There are three things that control crime: desire, opportunity and ability. Unless I can curb all three, crime can potentially happen. I can generally control the opportunity and I can sometimes, not always, control the ability but I have no control over someone’s desire to commit a crime. So, I will never claim credit when crime is down because I don’t want that credit should it happen

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to go up,” he says with a laugh.

As I transition the conversation to family, Andy’s disposition brightens. “My wife, Donna, and I have been married for over 30 years, and she is one of the gentlest people you’ll ever meet,” he says. “She is so kind. She loves animals and just has a very pleasant demeanor. I have never met anyone who doesn’t immediately fall in love with her.”

Andy and Donna met when he first got out of the army. “I was working as a security guard at Thomas Nelson and she was a student there,” he recalls. The couple eventually married and Donna worked at NASA until giving birth to their daughter, Melanie. Donna was a stay at home mom until their daughter’s sophomore year in high school. Melanie, now 26, attained her master’s degree before accepting a job working for the government in Washington, D.C.

When he’s not at work or spending time with family, Andy enjoys listening to blues music. “I love blues,” he says. “I like Buddy Guy, Muddy Waters – that Chicago blues sound.” This is a passion that he shares with his friend and colleague, Major Greg Riley.

“Greg and I will go to D.C. and everywhere to hear good music. We love it. We both play the guitar but he plays much better than I do.” Andy also enjoys reading non-fiction. His interest in history is one of the many draws that attracted him to Williamsburg.

“We live amongst living history. There’s always something exciting for us to do in the arts. That’s one of the many things that makes Williamsburg so great.” As Andy Barker continues to serve the city that he loves, we can be sure that we are in good hands. “I truly buy into the city’s vision. I buy into the public’s vision of what this city should be. This isn’t just a place to come and work, Williamsburg is part of my life. It’s the place I call home.” 



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Advocate for Children

By Chris Jones



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

When we think of home for the average American family, we conjure thoughts of loving parents interacting with their children, siblings playing together and a place where lasting memories are made through the reading of bedtime stories, movie nights and unforgettable family vacations.

But what happens when the family dynamic fails and children begin to slip through the cracks?

When the family environment erodes to the point of needing legal intervention, judges appoint advocates to be the child's voice in court. Most cases involve abused and/or neglected

children. In some cases, a court-appointed special advocate, or CASA, will be appointed in a custody matter. According to its 2014 Annual Local Survey Report, National CASA served an estimated total of 251,165 children in 2014, 207,458 of whom were served by volunteers. It takes trained individuals from the commu-

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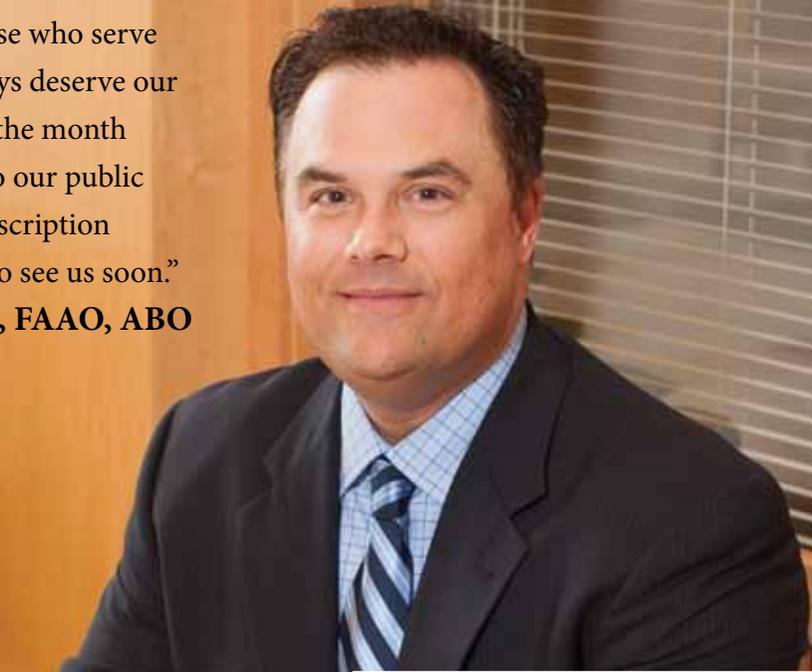
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nity to help make this program success. Enter Williamsburg's Colonial CASA. The mission of Colonial CASA is to recruit, train and support court appointed advocates so that abused or neglected children can have the opportunity to thrive in safe and permanent homes.

Mary Lou Crosbie, CASA volunteer services coordinator, is one such advocate. Her legal and educational backgrounds are a perfect fit for an organization focused on caring for children under the law. A former special education teacher, the discipline in which she earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees, Mary Lou has taught on every academic level. She even helped start a special education preschool program in Bethel, Connecticut.

Mary Lou also holds a Juris Doctorate from Quinnipiac University. When her husband's job transferred him to Texas, she spent her first year teaching paralegals, the next two years as prosecutor for the state of Texas in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, and the remaining 14 years after in private practice. For Mary Lou, advocating for children has been her life's work.

"I was a prosecutor for Denton County, Texas, for two years. I then entered private practice as a sole practitioner, then became a partner

in a law firm," Mary Lou says. "I prosecuted many of the family violence cases involving child protective services. I did that for two years and after that I became a criminal defense and domestic relations attorney. CASA was involved in a huge portion of my casework. I got to know and care very much about the organization."

Mary Lou moved to Williamsburg in 2007 and was semi-retired from practicing law. She learned about Colonial CASA and filled out an application to become a volunteer. Part-time with CASA since last October, Mary Lou enjoys exercising her complete professional background to train, educate, and prepare others who want to make a difference in the lives of children and families in Williamsburg.

"This was a good way for me to incorporate all of my education and work experience in one position," she says. "My legal experience comes in handy understanding the court system. My current position allows me to observe the types of cases that I once prosecuted or defended. In both teaching and practicing law, I worked with children either in my classroom or children who are in the juvenile court system, so it has come full circle. It's the best of all worlds."

The volunteers she works with come from all backgrounds of life, educators, stay-at-home moms or dads, business people, finance professionals, attorneys, and others looking to do something meaningful in the community with their time. Mary Lou and Program Director, Victoria Canady, work together to train successful advocates that they can match with cases.

"The program director and I discuss the case, what's involved and who might be best suited for that case. We then contact a volunteer to inform them about the situation. When they accept, they come in to pick up their file and begin the advocacy process."

Once assigned, the appointed advocate then must interview all the parties involved in the case, which could be parents, teachers, health care workers and mental health workers. They also review files from the Department of Social Services to get background information and learn how and why the case came into the court system.

"CASA visits with the child, the parents and any individuals playing a role in the child's life. Once a month, the volunteer submits a monthly monitoring report. This report tells us

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who the volunteer interacted with, and gives us a picture of the child's current circumstances and need," Mary Lou says. "Prior to most court hearings, the advocate writes a detailed report and submits it to the court. Judges often rely upon the information given and the recommendations of the CASA in rendering a decision. Volunteer advocates, empowered directly by the courts, offer judges the critical information they need to ensure that each child's rights and needs are being attended to while going through the judicial system."

Within her training curriculum, Mary Lou encourages advocates to not only be keen observers, but intercessors in finding ways to provide the most appropriate resources necessary to benefit the family under the advocate's watch.

"Colonial CASA strives to improve and foster the physical and emotional well-being of our community by helping to connect families to resources for nutritional, medical and mental health services. The parents and older children can look to the advocate for help with resume writing, job applications and job interview practice. The advocate works with the foster care plan to ensure that the CASA children

aging out of the foster care system receive the services necessary to promote independent living skills and to function in the adult world," says Mary Lou.

In reflecting on her legal career and her work as a child advocate, Mary Lou finds satisfaction in the path she has chosen.

"Some of the highs of being a prosecutor were seeing that people's rights were protected and justice indeed could be done, especially in cases where I had abused and neglected children, or in cases of family violence," she says. "The lows are that these families had to be there in the first place and that something bad had to happen in order to get them a positive result."

When the next group of advocates is trained, educated and begin to take on cases to improve the quality of children's and families lives in Williamsburg, you'll know that Mary Lou Crosbie had a hand in it. It's something she takes great pride in doing.

"I like paying it forward. I do something for the advocates; they do something for the people in the community. I get to see the end results of their work. We have a goal and we give them the tools and then they go out and use it. And that's great," she says. NDN

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COLONIAL COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Pretrial, Probation and Re-entry

By Gail Dillon

To say Hal Diggs has had a few careers over the years would be an understatement. His strong entrepreneurial spirit led him to own a restaurant, a cellular phone company and a beauty salon. Later he delved into teaching, coaching and the insurance industry. However, for the past four years, the Gainesville, Florida native has been the director of Colonial Community Corrections (CCC), after spending 14

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years with the James City County Police Department, the last six years as a member of the Community Services unit.

“I loved doing that,” he says simply. “It’s the best job in the police department.” But he found himself in yet another new job when he was encouraged to apply for the CCC director position after the former director was transferred. It was quite a different world and one that Hal had to quickly become informed about. “We cover the day you’re arrested all the way to the day of your trial,” he says. “We’re one of the few agencies that cover the entire span.”

CCC performs three main functions: pretrial, probation and re-entry. “We’re the only pretrial game in town,” he says, pointing out that they are responsible for criminal justice planning in six jurisdictions: Charles City, New Kent, James City County, Williamsburg, York County and Poquoson.

Hal explains that there are two parts to the agency’s pretrial function. The first part takes place shortly after a client is arrested. At that point, the defendant has the option of being interviewed by an investigative pretrial officer so the judge will have more information at the client’s bond hearing. “The defendant will be assessed by the Virginia Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument, or VPRAI, which will help determine their risk of flight and danger to the community,” he says. The second part of the pretrial process is the supervision piece. “After the judge sets a court date for the defendant, he or she may be ordered to go to CCC for pre-trial supervision, which means they would report once a week or so until their court date and follow any conditions the judge has ordered.”

CCC’s pretrial function is important because it can save money, reduce unnecessary jail-time and lessen recidivism. “Pretrial is fairly new. In Virginia, pretrial legislation originated in 1995 and there’s been a lot of evidence lately on its success,” he says. “We do things so differently now than we did ten years ago, and it’s helped. Research shows that we’re saving money and having a success rate with these clients.”

Supervising clients on probation is their second function. He says their primary job is to ensure that the judge’s orders are being followed. “And then, assuming you don’t violate your probation, after a certain period of time, we’ll successfully release you from supervision, and you’ll be done and hopefully much better off,” Hal says. They are primarily responsible for those who commit non-violent crimes.

Re-entry is the agency’s third function. “That’s designed to help reintegrate inmates back into the community successfully. Maybe they’ve been out of a job for a while, they don’t have a place to live. They may need help building a resume or finding a job, shelter, clothing, medication, mental health treatment.”

Hal says CCC puts a lot of emphasis on pretrial because it “reduces bed days in jail” for people who have committed minor infractions. “The theory is if this person is not a risk to public safety, let him or her out (of jail) because studies have shown that more than two days in jail may increase recidivism.” Jail-time often results in the loss of employment which can then cause family issues, the accumulation of debt and other problems. “So it puts them in worse shape than they already were,” he says.

He is in favor of doing away with bail payments, stating it’s not fair



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that one person can pay it while another can't. "It doesn't make any rational sense. It's almost discrimination when you look at it from that point of view," he says.

Hal's law enforcement career began almost by accident. In the early 2000s, he was living in Georgia and working in the insurance business but wasn't happy. When his father suggested he move to Williamsburg where he was living and offered to pay for him to get a Master's Degree, Hal jumped at it. "It was a fresh start," he says.

His sister was a juvenile intake officer and coincidentally worked in the same building where Hal currently works. She mentioned that he might like to join the police department and he took her up on it. Originally he thought he'd be with the police department "a couple of years" but soon changed his mind. "What I found is that I'm one of those career learners. I've got to be learning and growing, always studying something new," he says. "And the P.D. [Police Department] was absolutely phenomenal; it was constant growth. You can learn something every day of your life in the P.D."

His sister passed away unexpectedly while he was still attending the police academy. "To finish the academy, I had to take a week off and going back was very difficult. Now the irony of me taking a job four years ago in the same office she used to have...it's just one of those things in life."

He has no regrets about moving to Williamsburg. "The people are the first thing you notice. They're just nice. They're friendly."

There are a number of challenges at CCC, Hal admits. One is that with only 18 employees and roughly 2,000 cases a year, his staff is overworked. "These officers do a wonderful job. Their hearts are in it. It's a difficult field and there's not a lot of advancement." He also has nothing but praise for his deputy director, Amy Jacobson. "She's phenomenal," he says. "She knows the ins and outs of probation and I wouldn't be able to do my job without her because I didn't come from this background."

Another hurdle is finding the money to support CCC's programs. "We have six localities, and for each of these, I have to ask for money every year," he says. "We have state grants, federal grants and local grants. And then locality funding. So all those, it's a lot to keep up with, it's a lot to ask for, and the money we get from the state grants is not enough to cover what we need." He frequently drives to Richmond to speak about CCC's mission and lobby for funds.

When he isn't working, Hal enjoys flying (he's a private pilot), playing golf and following Gator football. He is also a self-described "lifelong learner" who is currently a ministerial student. He and his wife, Alexis, and 10-year-old daughter, Hailey, love going to Maine during the summers where they hike, sail and eat lobster.

Years ago when he worked as a School Resource Officer for an alternative school, Hal says he witnessed firsthand the differences in the ways kids learn, which he believes is not dissimilar to the work he's doing now.

"We have to be responsible for giving (clients) the right tools so that one day, when they decide they're ready to do things the right way and support themselves, they will have what they need in order to do that," Hal says. "Any community is only as strong as its weakest link. Our job is to raise the bar on that weakest link." NDN

Pursuit *of* Justice

By Alison Johnson

One of Nate Green's greatest professional moments came a few years after he won a conviction in a rape case, when the victim showed up at his office with a man by her side. This was her fiancé, she told the Williamsburg-James City County (W-JCC) Commonwealth's Attorney.

"She said, 'I just really wanted him to meet you because of what you did for me, all you did to help me move on,'" Nate recalls. "It was so satisfying for me because we had held someone accountable for a crime and made a difference in a good person's life."

For Nate, who grew up worshipping super-



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heroes and Atticus Finch, perhaps literature's most famous attorney, practicing law is a powerful way to help people stay safe. He was a boy who hated to witness bullying and was furious that Finch, the hero of the 1960 novel "To Kill a Mockingbird", lost his case as the defense attorney to an African-American man when racism prevailed.

"That sickened me," he says. "I was 12 when I read that book, and I decided then that I always wanted to be a prosecutor. Not to be in control or to push people around, but because I feel I can do more to help on this side of a case."

A Commonwealth's Attorney is the top prosecutor in a city or county. The office's mission is to seek justice for an entire community, not to advocate for any individual client. Nate was first elected to the local position in 2007 and is in his third four-year term. His office includes seven attorneys, a victim/witness assistance team and support staff.

"We aim to protect people and to hold anyone who commits a crime accountable," Nate says. "We also have to recognize when a case

calls for some mercy or discretion, or when the evidence is insufficient to support a finding of guilt and we need to dismiss charges."

The W-JCC office handles about 3,000 cases a year. Roughly 300 of those are felonies, while the rest are misdemeanors. This area is fortunate to have relatively few violent crimes. Nate estimates an average of one homicide a year, although they tend to come in clumps. Far more common are drunk-driving cases, larcenies and crimes between people who know one another, including theft and assault. Drugs or alcohol are often contributing factors.

Media outlets generally only report on about 30 of the most prominent cases a year. "People don't have the full context of all that we do," Nate says. "A lot more goes on here that people never hear about. I wish everyone knew that every day we're working as hard as we can to do the right thing."

Nate has been a hard worker since childhood, when his first paying jobs were on farms. He and his two younger siblings grew up in Iowa, where they spent most of their young years in

the city of Davenport but had grandparents who lived in a small farming community.

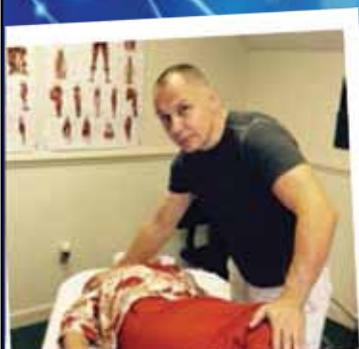
As a teenager, Nate had summer jobs detasseling corn, removing the top part of the plant as part of a process to develop the best seed, and pulling weeds in rows of beans. He woke up at 5 a.m. to have breakfast with his grandfather, rode a truck out to the fields and worked until mid-afternoon. "It made me want to do something wearing a tie," he jokes.

As a young boy, Nate dreamed of being a superhero. "I was always pinning a towel around my neck, running around and pretending to be Batman or Superman," he remembers. "At some point I realized, 'Oh, people don't really get to be superheroes.' But I always felt this passion for helping people."

In Atticus Finch, Nate saw a kind of real-life superhero. "He faced the worst types of cruelty and bigotry," Nate says. "He pursued justice in the face of adversity to him and his family. Even though justice is not fulfilled, he always did the right thing."

Nate came to Virginia in 1990 to attend

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George Mason University, where he majored in economics. He went on to earn his law degree from William & Mary and worked as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Fairfax County and Williamsburg-James City County before running for the top local post.

"Our goal is to make this community not only safer but a place we can feel proud of, where authorities and law enforcement officials treat everyone fairly and justly," he says. Lawyers in his office also must differentiate between true criminals, people who pose a continuing risk, and citizens who make a bad choice but deserve some leniency.

Nate enjoys working with other representatives of the criminal justice system, including police officers, court officials, child protective services representatives and even defense attorneys. "It's an enormous system, but we all have the same goals in promoting safety and fairness," he says. "We just come at things from different angles. We're all carrying the ball together and if someone else drops the ball, I can pick it up, too. The hard days are when we're

not pulling in the same direction or are pointing fingers at each other. But the good days so far outweigh the bad days here."

Staying humble is important. "You don't know everything. You have to work with other people. You can't do this job alone," he says.

Nate plans to seek reelection in 2019. "I'm as passionate about doing this job as I was at the beginning," he says. "You have to be. If I ever stop having that passion, that will be when I decide not to run again."

At that point, he hopes to teach, continuing his part-time work at W&M Law School, the college's Christopher Wren Association for Lifelong Learning and local high schools, where he helps students gain confidence in public speaking during mock trials. "I'd love to be more involved in educating the next generation of attorneys," he says.

Outside of the office, Nate is grateful for his family, his wife, Karen, a former director of the local Victim Witness Assistance Program, and son Ben, 10. Ben was born three months premature in 2005 and had to spend several

months in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters in Norfolk. The family since has returned to NICU reunions; Ben, now completely healthy, in lieu of birthday gifts, has collected donations for the Ronald McDonald House Charities, which houses families whose loved ones are hospitalized. "We realize just how lucky we are," Nate says.

In his free time, Nate collects comic books, anything involving superheroes, which his son now loves as well, and plays basketball, volleyball and softball in recreational leagues.

Regarding a final thought on his job, Nate offers up a quote from Chuck D of the rap group, 'Public Enemy,' one of his favorites: "Never let a win get to your head, or a loss to your heart." In other words, don't dwell too long on either successes or failures.

"We don't ever want to get complacent or look backwards, because we have to be sure that we're fair to tomorrow's defendant," Nate Green says. "While we always pursue justice, we never catch it altogether." NDN

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HELPING OTHERS

By Morgan Barker

Mona Foley is an old timer at James City County Court. “I started at the Clerk’s office in 1993, and I liked the variety of work and the constant challenges and learning all that I could and before I realized it I had been in the office for 23 years,” Mona explains. “I have done pretty much every job in the office. In 1999, I became chief deputy and acted in that position for the past 16 years.”

Mona moved into clerking to cut down her commute, but found her calling. “I moved to Surry from Chesterfield County. I was working in Henrico County for the Commonwealth Attorney’s office and the distance was too much. There was an opening in the Circuit court here in James City and I applied. The rest is history!”

Mona’s variety of roles in the clerk’s office included handling chancery, divorce, name changes, adoptions, deeds, lawsuits, criminal funds and cost, probate and bookkeeping as deputy clerk.

After 23 years in the office, Mona decided to



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

run for Clerk of the Court. “Last year, I ran for the clerk’s position. It’s an eight-year term and you can hold consecutive terms.”

Although it was an uncontested election, Mona hit the campaign trail. “Even though I

had no opponent I still went out and met people so that they would know me and be able to put a face with the name on the ballot,” Mona explains.

Mona won and celebrated the night with her husband, Chris. “We had a victory party in December at our home. I was very excited! This is a great accomplishment and something to be proud of,” Mona says.

She finds working in the clerk’s office rewarding because it’s an opportunity for her to help people. “One of the jobs I do is probate and talk to people when they have lost a loved one. I like to help them get through the process without having to go through more than they need to. I also like to help at the counter with marriage licenses, gun permits, and help in the record room looking up deeds or whatever they may need,” she explains.

Mona also has the opportunity to assist people who are going through a tough time.

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“Well, for most people if they’re in our court, there’s something not nice going on. Sometimes people come in angry and then they will realize we’re trying to help,” Mona explains. “And then later, they’ll write a card or bring us flowers thanking us for assisting them.”

Additionally, Mona’s tasks are varied and changing each day. “It’s never the same thing,” she says. “There’s no typical day at the Clerk’s office. Oh my gosh! I spend a lot of time answering email. I try to find new and more efficient ways to complete tasks that will save time, finding funding, and training staff. I work on assisting the citizens of the city and county with a wide range of matters from probating wills and estates to recording land records.”

Transitioning into the new role presented new challenges for Mona. “There’s a lot of communicating with the county personnel to begin with. When I started in January, I had to turn in a budget. I didn’t know much about the budget. That was one thing I had not participated in and I had to reach out to the county and say, ‘You guys are going to have to help me.’ The county contacts have been very helpful. Next year, I’ll be ready.”

Like with many organizations, funding presents a challenge for Mona. “I want to do certain things, but I can’t get the money to do

them. The employees’ salaries are below what they deserve, which is hard.” Mona explains.

Additionally, the clerk’s office transitioned to a fileless system. “We have to do quality assurance to make sure everything is in order. Because we’re fileless, it’s important to check everything before you give it back to customers.”

When not hard at work as Clerk, Mona enjoys her time in Williamsburg. “I’ve been in Williamsburg now for 7 years. Prior to that my husband and I lived in Surry on 21 acres. Now that I’m in James City County I’m so happy I don’t have to get on that ferry. It took me three hours to get home some days,” Mona explains. “I love living in Williamsburg with all of the history and things to do. It is a beautiful place to live.”

“I think it’s a pretty area, and then adding the history makes it so much more enticing. I love the convenience of stores, restaurants, services...everything. I get together with all my neighbors. It’s nice to have that community feel. My husband and I like to go down to DOG Street after church and have lunch,” Mona says.

She also enjoys spending time with her husband and their pets. “My husband, Chris, and I are widowers and when we met and got mar-

ried we had 6 dogs and a cat! I had three, and he brought two dogs and a cat. After we married, we got another dog. We were the Brady Bunch of dogs!”

Mona also appreciates Williamsburg and James City and York Counties’ opportunities to get outdoors. “I like to be outside.” She travels to her father’s farm in Amelia to get a taste of the farm life with his cows and chickens. “That’s fun to visit his small farm. Also, I love flowers, so I plant more than I need in my garden. I pick something up and if it doesn’t fit then I take it to my dad’s and plant it there.”

Mona also enjoys the thrill of riding her Harley and the rush of the roller coasters at Busch Gardens. “My husband and I have a Harley. It’s a fat boy. Chris had just gotten his license when we met. I love to ride out to the Blue Heron restaurant and take day trips with him,” she says.

“We love Busch Gardens. My favorite rollercoaster is the Griffin. I like how it suspends you. I love Apollo’s Chariot, but it terrifies me!”

Mona Foley looks forward to the variety and challenges of the next seven and a half years in the Clerk’s office and getting outside to enjoy the scenic beauty of Williamsburg while riding her Harley on the weekends. NDN



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Solving the Case

By Narielle Living



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

Originally from Hampton, Virginia, Major Greg Riley came to Williamsburg 26 years ago to pursue his career in law enforcement. Hired as a patrol officer with the Williamsburg Police Department, Greg began his

job the way every officer begins by enrolling in the police academy. "I don't remember how long the training at the academy took, because it was 26 years ago," he says. "Today, officers attend police academy training for about fifteen weeks at the Hampton Roads Regional

Criminal Justice Training Academy."

After finishing his training, he really began preparing for the job. "Once I completed police academy I went back to my department and completed 320 hours of field training with a senior officer," he says. "I rode around

with him for what seemed like forever, but I'm sure it seemed like that for him, too."

According to Greg, the academy teaches general principles of how to do law enforcement and do things safely. But each

department has their own set of rules, regulations and procedures.

"How they go about doing those things is a little bit different in each department. So I spent a lot of time learning how paperwork gets done here. Also, since I was from Hamp-

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ton, I had to learn all the streets and the businesses and how to get around in the most efficient manner.” He also spent time practicing the skills he had learned at the academy, such as how to do traffic stops and building searches and checks.

Greg believes his career choice was a result of his upbringing. “It was kind of a default,” he says. “Because I grew up in Hampton I would see the jets all the time from Langley Air Force Base, so I wanted to be a fighter pilot. When I graduated high school I went to the Air Force Academy for a couple of years.” After leaving the academy, he returned home. Once he settled into his job with the Williamsburg police department, Greg started to really learn the area. “When I first came up here from Hampton I was used to doing things after ten o’clock at night, and I didn’t really know how to adjust,” he says. “It was a much smaller population, and once you got outside the city limits it was pretty much country.” Naturally, after a little time, Greg fell in love with the area.

Over the span of his career, Greg has seen Williamsburg’s population increase greatly.

Despite that increase, he sees the community as being the same. “Williamsburg has always had a small town atmosphere, and even though we’ve grown I think it still has a small town atmosphere. My daughter grew up here, and I thought one of the most interesting things when I arrived here was that all of the high school students seem to know everybody. Well, 20 years later it’s not that different. There may be a few people that they don’t know but they know most everybody in all of the area high schools.”

Greg is in charge of the investigations unit. In a typical day, he receives a stack of reports that the patrol officers have taken either the night or day before. “Before they come to me, the reports will go to the uniform bureau commander who reviews them to make sure there aren’t any procedural issues, and for accuracy, and then they go to the chief’s administrative assistant who reviews them for compliance.”

Because the Williamsburg Police Department is nationally accredited through the commission on law enforcement accreditation, they must comply with certain stan-

dards, including how a report is written. For example, if an arrest is made and the person is from a particular country, their consulate must be notified. “That’s a mandatory requirement by not only the accreditation people but also the federal government. We have a list of those countries in our administrative orders, so it’s nice when the officer writes in the report that so and so is a national from this country and I called his consulate because it shows that we’ve complied with our administrative order and federal law.”

Although he is in charge of an investigations unit, Greg does not work on every case that he receives. “The first thing I’m going to do is make a decision on whether the investigation report is going to be investigated at all, then if it’s going to be investigated by a uniformed patrol officer or one of our investigators. We have a lot of good officers, and they do a lot of good work. The only thing that may be left to be done is actually going to get the warrant. They’ve done everything except that. I want to give them the opportunity to close that case instead of handing it off to



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someone else.”

However, the cases that are complex, multi-jurisdictional, have long bits of travel or need search warrants for financial records are usually too complex for a patrol officer. That’s the kind of thing Greg handles. And unlike the television shows that have forensic evidence results in 45 minutes, Greg generally waits months for his results.

“Most of our forensic evidence is submitted to the state lab up in Richmond for processing. But the state is getting submissions from everywhere, which is why we have such an increased timeline. Larger jurisdictions may have their own crime labs and the ability to do that, but we’re a small jurisdiction so we’re relying on the state for assistance.”

Greg’s favorite part of his job is solving a case. He recalls a case he worked on about five years ago when he received a call from the Innocence Project, an organization that works to exonerate wrongly convicted people through DNA testing. They had tested a kit from a 1978 rape case in Williamsburg and discovered the DNA did not match the person

who had been convicted. Instead, the results showed that the perpetrator was a registered sex offender.

“I took the case on myself because it was going to be a little complex,” he says. “I had to track down the former suspect, Mr. Barbour, the new suspect, Mr. Glass, and the victim. She was probably the most difficult to find.”

Once Greg found the victim, he spoke with her and took a statement. He then collected DNA samples from both suspects, even though they had already been tested. “The Innocence Project wanted more current samples of their DNA and wanted to make sure that their identification was correct. Mr. Barbour was exonerated, Mr. Glass went to trial and was convicted. Unfortunately, Mr. Barbour had cancer. He survived long enough to know he was exonerated, but I don’t know if he saw the conviction.”

For anyone considering a career in law enforcement, Greg has a few tips. First, he says that candidates must be 21 years of age. Next, he recommends pursuing a degree beyond high school. “I always insist on more educa-

tion or some military training. This profession is a paramilitary rank structure, and the lifestyle in the military is similar to the lifestyle as a police officer, with structure, rank and order. Plus, I know the minimum standard is a high school education but if you are better educated you make yourself more competitive.” He also, mentions the obvious: don’t commit any crimes and keep your record clean.

Finally, he says that social media is important. “Because a lot of young people have grown up with social media it’s such a pervasive part of their life they don’t necessarily see the negative. I tell people that it’s not the best thing in the world to put the party pictures online if you’re applying for a professional job.”

Major Greg Riley would like to put himself out of a job because everyone is cognizant of their surroundings and safety, but he’s not expecting that to happen any time soon. For now, he loves the area and the community and is happy to be here. “I don’t think there are many places where you can not only do your job but take in some history as well.” NDN

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FIGHTING FOR HER CLIENTS

By Brandy Centolanza

Patricia Dart wanted to be a lawyer from the moment she first saw the television crime show “Perry Mason” as a young girl.

“I just loved watching ‘Perry Mason’ and seeing them in the courtroom, the back and forth between the witnesses and the lawyers,” Patricia recalls. “I loved the whole scene.”

Patricia grew up in Charlottesville, Virginia, the youngest of five children. Her parents, Robert and Jeanne, were supportive of her dream.

“They always encouraged each of us to do what we wanted to do and to be the best we could be,” she says.

In 1980, Patricia earned a Degree in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After graduation, she trained with the National Center for Paralegal Studies in Atlanta, Georgia, and then was hired as a legal assistant at a law firm in Baltimore, Maryland. Patricia worked in the banking and commercial lending department on bankruptcy cases during the day while attending law school at The University of Baltimore at night.

“Working at the firm really helped me with law school, especially with learning all the terminology,” she says.



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

Patricia thought she would continue working as an attorney in banking and commercial lending after law school, but her first job instead was as a prosecutor with the State’s Attorney’s office in Caroline County, Maryland.

“I really didn’t expect to go into the criminal law field, but I was in court by myself the first week, and I caught the bug,” she recalls. “It was really interesting.”

Her first jury trial, a case involving the mishandling of a firearm, sealed the deal.

“I remember it going on all day long, and we

didn’t finish until close to two in the morning,” she says. “It was such an adrenaline rush. It was a turning point for me. That is when I knew I wanted to be a litigator. I love being in the courtroom. I feel like I am doing something, accomplishing something by trying to reach the best outcome for everyone involved in a case. I feel like I am seeking justice.”

Patricia served as a Deputy State’s Attorney for two years, prosecuting misdemeanor, felony and juvenile cases before going into private practice as a defense attorney with the law firm



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Kent & Dart. For six years she handled traffic and criminal cases as well as other matters, and was active with the Maryland Bar Association, serving on numerous committees. Through the years, she's worked on both sides of the law.

Patricia got married in 1993, and then she and her husband, John, relocated to the Charlottesville area, where she worked as a defense attorney and handled other matters related to real estate, wills and estates, and civil litigation. In 1999, Patricia returned to the courtroom as a prosecutor after accepting a position as the Deputy Commonwealth Attorney in Louisa County. For eight years, she prosecuted cases ranging from speeding to misdemeanor shoplifting to capital murder.

"I had a capital murder case in Louisa County where the body wasn't found for six months," Patricia says. "It involved a forensics anthropologist brought in from the Smithsonian Institute. It was a very interesting case to see how things were done and what exactly was involved in finding out the cause of death."

Patricia later served as a Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney and Deputy Commonwealth Attorney in York County, where she tried felony, misdemeanor and animal cruelty cases. Four years ago, she decided once again to try her hand as a defense attorney, opening the private practice Dart Law in New Town. Dart

Law handles state and federal criminal cases as well as cases involving guardianship of children and incapacitated adults, and wills and estates.

No matter what side of the courtroom she sits on, Patricia takes satisfaction simply with helping people.

"Sometimes it seems like people feel as though others just don't listen to them," she says. "I feel like I am good at listening to people, and I feel like I treat them with respect, the way that I would want to be treated. I like the sense that I am making a difference in someone's life. I just love what I do."

She also enjoys working with the other attorneys and everyone else in the court system. "There is a real sense of cooperation and a goal in mind here, with the clerk's office, the judges' staff, the other attorneys and the commonwealth attorney's office," she says. "The Williamsburg Bar Association was very helpful to me in getting started here. They have been amazing to me. The bar here is fantastic."

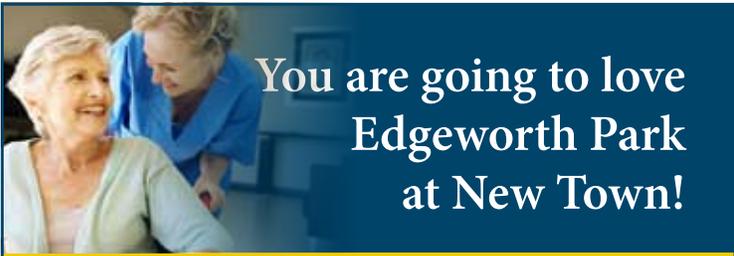
Patricia is an active member of the Williamsburg Bar Association, as well as the Greater Peninsula Women's Bar Association and the Virginia State Bar Association.

Beyond the courtroom, Patricia and her husband are active with the Richard R. Dart ALS Clinic at the University of Virginia Health System. The pair helped raise funds and founded

the clinic, named in honor of one of Patricia's brother, who died of the disease, more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, at just 40 years old. The Richard R. Dart ALS Clinic opened in 1999 and is the largest clinic in the commonwealth dedicated solely for the care of ALS patients.

"Being instrumental in establishing the Richard R. Dart Clinic is my most cherished accomplishment," Patricia states. "It was a real struggle for my brother to go to a doctor, and as the disease progressed he would need more services from different healthcare providers in separate offices. At the Dart Clinic, a patient has the opportunity to see a neurologist, speech therapist, nutritionist, social worker and occupational therapist all in one visit. The clinic is a great tribute to my brother, who is such an inspiration to all of us who knew and loved him."

Patricia hopes to retire within a few years, but for now she remains content fighting for her clients in the courtroom. Whether the case involves an alleged shoplifter or an alleged murderer, "I approach every case the same way," Patricia Dart states. "I pride myself in making sure I am prepared. I always say that the day I walk into a courtroom, and I am not nervous, that's when I should take down my shingle." NDN



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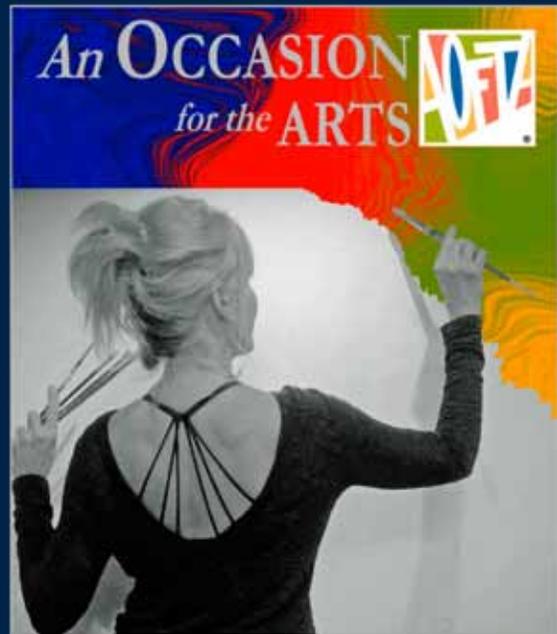
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Reaching One Person at a Time



By Cathy Welch

Lisa W. Cumming Photography

“Each of us has an impact on the world that affects it,” Amy L. Anderson, JD, says. “I’d love to see it more intentionally done. In my mind, that’s where law and yoga are tied.”

Amy is the oldest of four children raised in Oregon. Her dad was a policeman and full-time Oregon Army National Guardsman. Following high school, Amy entered the Oregon Army National Guard as a press and photo-journalist for eight years and then became a legal specialist. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in cultural and linguistic anthropol-

ogy and a certificate in Latin American affairs from Oregon State University before earning her Juris Doctor at Willamette University College of Law.

“When I was a teenager, my dad told me I should be a lawyer,” she says of her decision to pursue law. “I didn’t find out until years later that he was being sarcastic.”

Licensed to practice in Oregon, Amy practiced US immigration and naturalization law where she met people from around the world. “The cases I got the most satisfaction out of

were asylum cases, especially those based on religious persecution.”

Amy took on the case of a Kenyan woman who worked with an international Christian organization. Her client was targeted in her home country by multiple groups because of her Christian work and for speaking out against female genital mutilation (FGM). She was chased, her business burned, attempts were made on her life and some tried to perform FGM on her. Her client had a 12-year-old daughter living overseas, too. At the time,

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FGM was not a recognized basis for requesting asylum, so Amy combined her legal and journalistic skills to tell her client's story. Ultimately, the Kenyan woman was granted asylum.

"I tell my students, if I never again practice law, all the tens of thousands of dollars that it took, I know without a doubt, that what I did saved two lives. It was neat to take anthropology and journalism and law and combine that together to help somebody in a very real way."

After several years, Amy followed her now ex-husband to California, Maryland and finally to Williamsburg in 2006. Between multiple relocations and having two children (13-year-old son, Anders, and 10-year-old daughter, Anika), she did not practice law full-time.

When she moved to Williamsburg, Amy was a specialist in immigration law for a local law firm. Subsequently, she freelanced before seeing a sign announcing the construction of the Historic Triangle Campus of Thomas Nelson Community College (TNCC). Curious, she went to their website and applied to be an adjunct professor for their paralegal program.

She started as an adjunct professor in 2007, first with one night class per semester. She enjoyed the work so much that she began teaching two or three classes per semester, in the classroom, online and distance learning. She also taught for up to eight employers at one time.

In 2015, she became a full-time professor teaching Estate Planning and Probate; Real Estate Law; Family Law; Criminal Law; and Legal Research. She taught online classes and taught distance-learning courses. "I got a lot of experience and had a lot of flexibility to be able to take care of my kids," she explains.

Amy had a history of teaching during her younger years. She taught Spanish at Oregon State, English in Japan, taught in the military and was the teaching assistant for her legal research and writing professor. "As much as I enjoyed practicing law I think I enjoy this more," she says.

Her favorite class is Introduction to Law which she teaches every semester.

"My students are at the beginning of a path," she explains. "They are either in the

workforce or returning to school and want to get a job or they are younger kids just out of high school, and they want to explore this career field."

Intro to Law has morphed over the years to include professional skills, legal ethics and stress management. She teaches her students healthy ways to handle the stress inherent in the legal field. "It's easy to fall into addictions," she says. "Or you might see external things in the office or you could take it internally. Attorneys have ulcers, heart problems and things like that."

She believes in setting healthy boundaries early such as exercising, eating well and taking care of themselves so her students better manage their stress. Amy includes tips for healthy habits in her classes, trying to add to traditional classroom legal teaching.

"In school it's all theory, how to practice law, how to run a business, how to hire and fire people," she explains. "I want them to know the law, but know they're going to be the ones to take care of the practical aspects of things (as a paralegal)."

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Amy believes having some legal education is a benefit for everyone. She has seen her students apply their legal knowledge in alternate ways by going into local government, achieving better divorce proceedings or helping a parent with estate planning because they understood what was going on.

“Never in my life would I have thought I would try yoga,” Amy says of entering the practice two years ago. “I was looking to become healthier and knew it had to be something that engaged my mind, too.”

She almost didn’t take her first class at a local studio. “I thought, I’m going to be the oldest, fattest, least flexible person there,” she explains. “Sure enough, the beautiful blonde studio owner greeted me, and I almost left.”

She stayed and was not the oldest, fattest or least flexible. And the teacher was wonderful. “I had no idea how much pain I was in all the time. I felt so good and that sensation lasted a week.”

Over time, she acknowledged how much yoga helped her connect mind, body and spirit. “I didn’t realize how disconnected I was

from here [points to her head] to my body,” she explains. “It’s like I’m always up here: my thoughts, the lists, the days, my students, whatever. I really started to get more in touch.”

Having lived in Williamsburg for a decade, Amy was isolated up to this point. She began connecting with others in the yoga world then began connecting to the Williamsburg community, finally accepting this was home.

“In two years, my life has gone from being an extremely lonely, fearful and isolated person to being surrounded by dynamic, grown-ups who all are working through things” Amy says. “I want to bless others on their path.”

When she had the opportunity to attend yoga teacher training she signed up. Now, she teaches at Metta Yoga & Meditation and Studio South. “I wanted to go deeper,” she says. “I wanted to know enough to offer that to even one person.”

Amy believes that real change begins with each individual. “I’m a real believer that change only happens in the world by starting with ourselves,” she explains. “I can be there for my two kids and hundreds of students who

come to me with their lives. If I’m well, my community, ultimately, will be well.”

She aims to help the justice community by reaching out to individuals in the system and offering stress management tools. “Maybe dispatchers could be a little more clearheaded when they give out instructions,” she says. “Maybe the judge will listen to the defendant’s story just a little bit longer to get to that critical point. Sometimes just seeing a person can make all the difference.”

Last year, Amy joined several yoga and mindfulness instructors/practitioners to start Breathing Space, Inc. The nonprofit’s mission is to “...share practices and resources to promote a ripple effect of wholeness and well-being in the community.” The organization seeks to help the local under-served population, beginning with free chair yoga classes in conjunction with Peninsula Agency on Aging.

“Like I had that one case that redeemed my legal work, if I can help one person connect with themselves and learn through yoga like I have, that would be worth everything to me,” Amy Anderson says. NDN

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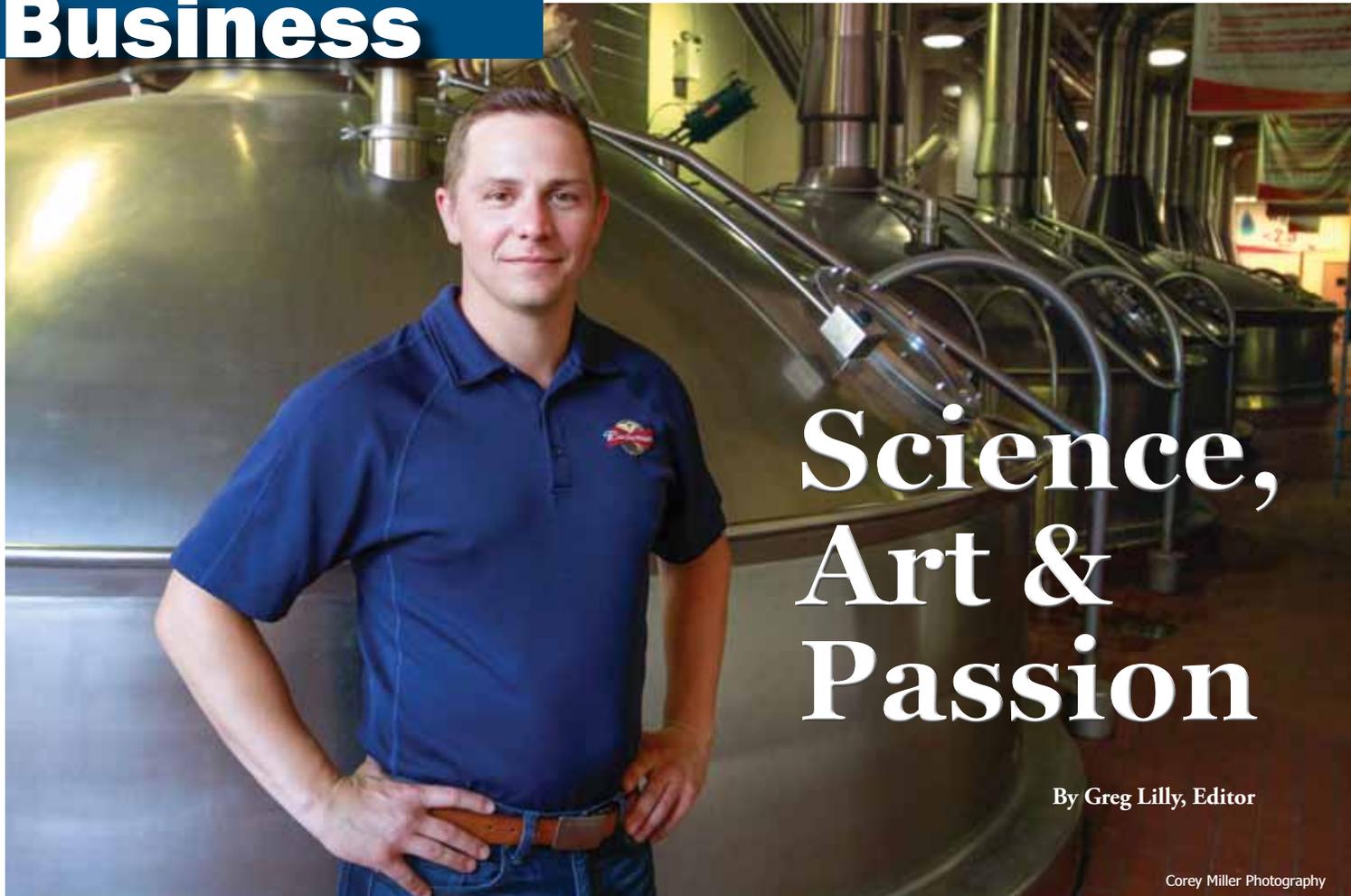
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Science, Art & Passion

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Corey Miller Photography

Anheuser-Busch General Manager Bryan Derr says that brewing a great beer requires three critical elements.

“First, there’s the art of brewing,” he explains. “We use pure, raw materials along with a living organism – yeast. There’s an art behind brewing because you can’t just tell the yeast what to do. It’s a living organism.” Then there’s science. “How converting a starch to a sugar happens; how yeast fermentation converts a

sugar to alcohol. You have to have the art and the science, but then you have to have this extreme passion for brewing. When you know the art and science and have the passion, that’s when you make really great beer. I’ve been able to learn from people who have those and have taught me about each one.”

Over the years, Bryan learned the science of brewing beer through technical training. He has a degree in electrical engineering from

the University of Missouri and began with Anheuser-Busch in Newark, New Jersey working on technical projects focused on fermenting and working in the powerhouse delivering steam and refrigeration and compressed air to the brewery. “That taught me how everything works together, and I learned about the efficiency of running a powerhouse and customer service on delivering utilities to the other departments.”

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After moving back to Saint Louis, Bryan worked with the corporate executives, learning the culture and management styles from the top leaders of the company. "I had the opportunity to switch gears and go into the brewing area," he says. "I wanted to learn the quality aspects of brewing beer. I went into the Saint Louis brewery and learned the art of brewing."

Bryan grew up in Oregon, Missouri. "It's a very small town in north-western Missouri. It's so small that there're no street lights in the town. I graduated from high school in a class of about 36 students. These are kids that I've known since pre-school. It's a farming community." His father farmed soybeans and corn and his mother was an elementary school teacher. "I did a lot of farming with my dad and a lot of construction work, anything that any one needed. I've done roofing, painting, all kinds of construction jobs."

In school, Bryan participated in sports, particularly wrestling and football. "Sports formed my sense of dedication to a goal and the value of team-orientated achievements. When I look back at what shaped me as a person, it was growing up in a close-knit community, working on a farm and in construction jobs, learning how to make a dollar, and being in sports. With wrestling being individualized, I discovered a lot about myself. Playing football, I learned what makes a team successful. Those things had a big impact on me as a kid, and now, as a leader."

He reflects that his Missouri background influences his management approach. "Everything can be tied back to how I grew up and how it created the values I have. That shapes my leadership style with my team. It's always interesting to reflect back to see what shaped my personal and leadership style. I get my candid nature from my dad. He tells me if I'm doing well. If I'm not doing so well, then he says that and how to improve. It's made me not too sensitive when taking criticism. I want to get better at what I'm doing. That was the kind of working relationship I had with my father."

Critique is about learning, Bryan stresses. "It's not that someone is incapable, but a direct critique is about learning to deliver the next great thing or take on a new skill or get better at something we're doing."

Bryan has worked with Anheuser-Busch since graduating from college. He went to a career fair his senior year and knew Anheuser-Busch was a fit for him. "When I got the job offer, I knew there was nothing else I wanted to do. I love the brands. I've had opportunity and been challenged. I've been around great people with positive attitudes and working toward a common goal."

Bryan says, "I'm not an electrical engineer, that's what I was trained in. I had the opportunity to become a brewery engineer, which is very diverse and includes a lot of different processes like thermodynamics, electrical engineering and materials management. And I was learning how to be a leader." He earned his MBA from Washington University in St. Louis. "I started to learn about myself and my leadership strengths and weaknesses. That was a big experience for me, most importantly because I met my wife, Liz, there."

After learning the art of brewing in St. Louis, Bryan went to Jacksonville, Florida and worked again on the engineering side. "Moving

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around the country is stressful, but I seem to do it along with other big life changes – I became engaged to be married and two months later, I had to move to Jacksonville. It was exciting, but I moved to Jacksonville and Liz stayed to plan the wedding. After the honeymoon, we returned to St. Louis and packed up, moving the next morning to Jacksonville.”

Several stressful change events occurred together. “Getting married, moving in together and going to a new city,” he lists. “There was something great in that we were experiencing new things together.”

In Jacksonville, Bryan worked as an engineering manager for a year, and then worked as the brewmaster. “That was something I always wanted, and we made some improvements in operations in making great beer. I was on a TV show on the Esquire Network called ‘The Next Great Burger.’ I represented Budweiser as the brewmaster. That was cool. I’m an engineer who got to learn to brew beer and was on a TV show.”

Last year, Bryan and Liz found out they would welcome a new baby. “I can’t do a life event without a move,” Bryan says with a laugh. “I had the opportunity to come here as the general manager. My son was due in a week. I talked with Liz, and we decided to make the move. Our son, Brody, was born, and then we moved.” Today, Bryan, Liz and Brody live in New Town.

Bryan started at the brewery in early December. “The employees here at the brewery are fantastic and excited about the goals we have. I’m impressed about how much they care about each other, the brewery and the community.”

Bryan, Liz and Brody are exploring Williamsburg and the surrounding areas. “We have one of those buggies to pull behind the bikes. We like going to the events around town. We love taking walks. There are so many different trails. With a new baby, sometimes there’s nothing better than getting him in the stroller and going for a walk.”

They take advantage of the opportunities in New Town’s walkable environment. “We like New Town because we enjoy going to a restaurant to have a drink on a patio. We like to be able to walk or ride our bikes. We like parking the car for the weekend and not moving it. I had that living in Hoboken, New Jersey and St. Louis’s downtown, now it’s the same with New Town: restaurants, movie theater, shopping are all in the area. The thing Liz and I like the most is going to a restaurant and sitting on a patio – a little bit of music going – and having a cold beer. That’s our thing. Good food and a cold beer outside on a nice afternoon.”

It’s an experience Bryan Derr wants to deliver to other people, having the best beer on a beautiful afternoon, listening to music on a patio, surrounded by family and friends. “Just the other Sunday, we were at the New Town pool. I was reading a book and met some new people. I said, ‘Would you care for a local beer?’ I gave them some Michelob Ultra. I get a lot of excitement from my job by being able to share our product with people. I take a lot of pride in that. We’re here in Williamsburg and make a lot of great products. I want people to enjoy them in the community. People can know that a lot of hard-working neighbors made that beer. It’s something that I like to talk about. We’re very proud of that.” NDN



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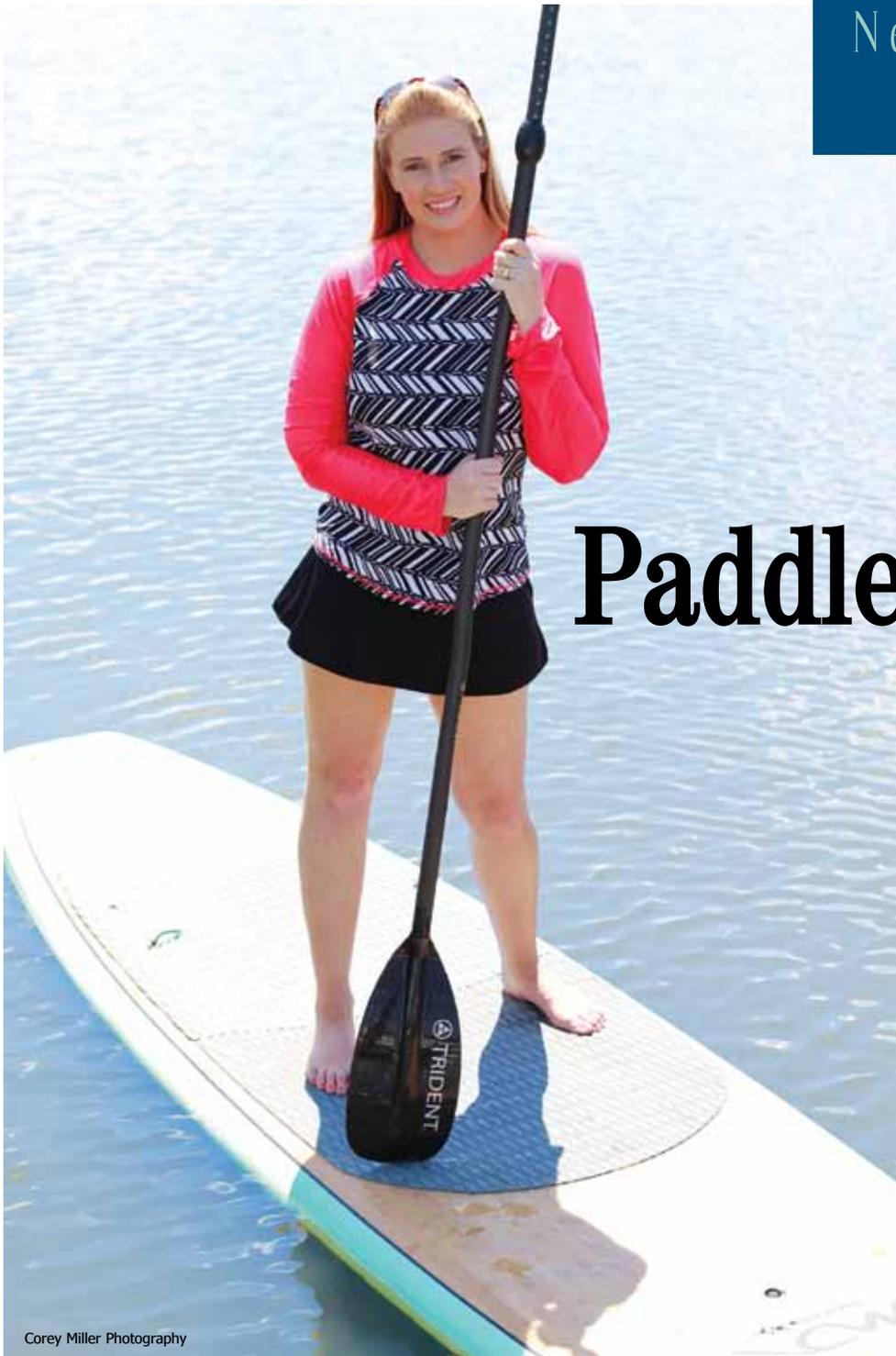
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Corey Miller Photography

Paddleboarding!

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Tracey Reed goes to the James City County Marina about three times a week, when her schedule allows. “It’s like taking a mini-vacation for two to three hours,” she says. She’s become an avid stand-up paddleboarder and encourages other neighbors to join in the fun.

“You don’t have to know what you’re doing. It’s easy and fun. The people at the marina help get you going,” she says of the James City County park staff.

Tracey grew up in in Zimbabwe, Africa until she was about 12 and then in South Africa until she moved to the United States at the age of 25.

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“My grandparents had lived in Zimbabwe, and my father worked in a bakery and my mom worked in a bank.” In Africa, much of Tracey’s recreation involved the outdoors. “We did a lot of safaris. We did all types of activities like bicycling, swimming, waterskiing. It was hot, so a lot of activity was around the beach.”

Her competitive sport, in South Africa, was badminton. “Which I’ve seen here is a barbecue activity,” she says with a laugh. “We were indoors, competitive badminton.”

At the age of 25, she and her husband, Mark, decided that they would explore some while they were young. They came to America and lived in Atlanta for a couple of years. “My biggest surprise was the size of everything, like the cars and houses. I was also amazed at the number of choices available, for example in the grocery stores. We might have had a couple of choices for spreads for bread, but here there are dozens of choices. Sometimes to this day, I’m still amazed at the amount of choices and the size of things. America is a really big place and a friendly place.”

After Atlanta, Tracey and Mark moved to California for eight years. “Since my sister lives in Fredericksburg, the rest of the family

is still in South Africa, we decided to move to the East Coast. On the advice of my sister, we came to Williamsburg. We fell in love with the area. We’ve been here for five years.”

Tracey’s family has grown with two children: Shelby, age 10, and Josh, age 6. “This is home for us. Williamsburg is the ultimate for kids with the outdoor life and the change in seasons.”

Tracey first experienced the James City County Marina when her husband launched his boat from there. At that time the marina was part of EcoDiscovery Park. It took a casual comment for her to try her favorite activity: stand-up paddleboards.

“My daughter swims with the 757 group, and we were at the Recreation Center several years ago,” Tracey says. “I mentioned to one of the ladies I was sitting with that I had always wanted to try paddleboarding, really, just part of a casual conversation. Jean Anne said to me that we should do it. I found EcoDiscovery Park on-line, now the James City County Marina, and we booked the paddleboards.”

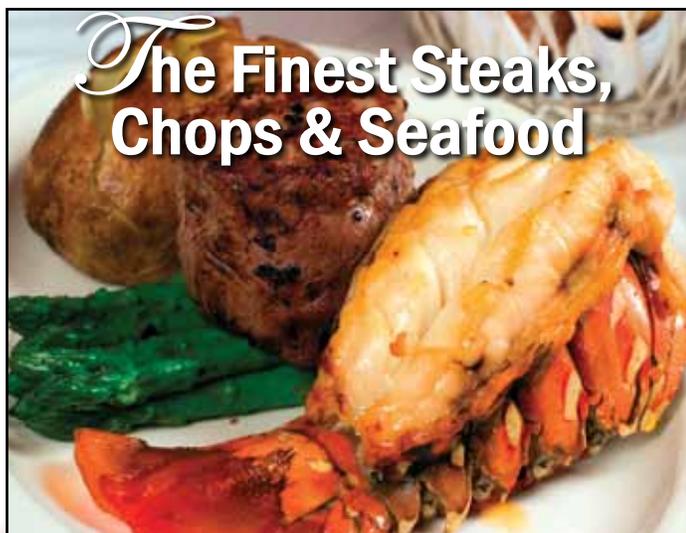
The staff made the rental easy with all the equipment they would need and then demonstrated how to get started on the paddle-

boards. “They were just wonderful. We did that a few times.” Tracey and her friends liked the activity so much that they bought their own paddleboards. Now Tracey goes out on the water as much as possible.

“Even getting the kids out in a kayak is wonderful,” she says. “Seeing the wildlife is my favorite. Getting exercise is wonderful. I’ve seen deer drinking along the river bank; eagles nesting; we’ve seen snakes, turtles, herons, a mini adventure.”

The view from the water to the land gives a whole different perspective of the area. “It’s a great day’s activity and a wonderful way to meet people. It’s the best thing I could have done. All I can say is for people to give it a try.” Besides the stand-up paddleboard, Tracey and her family have used the marina’s boating and kayaking amenities. “When we have friends visiting from California, we take them there to kayak.”

She says the marina creates friendly, outdoor adventures with visiting friends. In addition to the expected itinerary of Colonial Williamsburg, Busch Gardens, Water Country USA, Jamestown and Yorktown, a day of water-based activity like kayaking or paddle-



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boarding allows the visitors to see the natural beauty of the area wildlife and waterways.

“When we have friends coming around, that’s one of the first things on my list: do something a little different. We’ll go paddleboarding, kayaking or go out on the boat tour at the marina, the Jamestown Discovery Boat Tour. When we’re on our paddleboards, that’s always fun when the Discovery Boat Tour comes by. I try not to fall in the river then because 20 or 25 people have cameras on us!”

It’s a special treat to bring her visitors to the river for paddleboarding, but still Tracey goes several times a week to give herself a break. “We’ve had a group of seven to eight locals go out together. My daughter is paddleboarding with me. A few other moms are going to get their daughters to try it, too. Really, everyone should give it a try.”

In addition to the views of the creeks, rivers and shorelines, paddleboarding is a full-body workout. Tracey says that most people don’t realize they’re getting the workout, but paddleboarding requires the use of the body’s core to keep balance on the board.

“We launch from the marina to go out to the James River,” she says. “I love it. Kim Ber-

ry (park coordinator) is so much help. I just phone ahead to say I’m bringing a bunch of friends.”

Most people think of paddleboarding as a summer sport, but Tracey explains that if a person dresses for the weather and is stable on the board, just about any time of the year can be paddleboarding time. “Last year, we paddleboarded until the first week of December. We started this spring in late March or early April. I won’t recommend going out when the water is too cold. But if you’re pretty good on it, you can go later. It’s likely you’ll fall into the water starting out! So, the colder times are better for more experienced paddlers.”

With her experience, Tracey has taken on some challenges with her paddleboard. “We rented stand-up paddleboards in Richmond and paddled the rapids on it. My friend Jean Anne and I did that together. I’m pretty stable on it. But, even the experienced have surprises. I went out with some friends last week, and I ended up in the water!”

People on the waterways are friendly and careful. “The boaters around here are so respectful for the kayakers and the paddleboarders. Ninety-five percent of the boaters slow

down for us. They wave and have something nice to say. Summertime is a little harder because we have more young people on boats who don’t know the area as well. The regulars, fishermen and residents, are very friendly and respectful on the water.”

For neighbors wanting to try paddleboarding, Tracey says to go to the James City County Marina to rent the equipment. “When you rent, it is two-hours, a half-day or a full-day time lengths. Just beginning, a two-hour excursion is a good length. Come prepared with plenty of drinking water. You can get out to the James or take the creek through Powhatan Shores. It’s amazing to paddleboard through there or out on the James. The wildlife is incredible. You’ll want to take some photographs. We always have a waterproof camera with us.”

The next adventure for Stacey is trying paddleboard yoga. On the other end of the scale, she also wants to try paddleboard races.

“It sounds strange, but they do it. Anything around water is fun. Being on the water is most relaxing for me. Everyone should try it,” advises Tracey Reed. “Call the marina, rent a board and go out.” NDN

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Back Stage at the Shakespeare Festival

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Corey Miller Photography

“Everyone on the stage is performing, whether out front in costume delivering lines or the stage manager calling the show or the technician moving the platform. It’s very much a team effort,” explains Dave Dudley, Technical Director of the Virginia Shakespeare Festival and William & Mary’s Department of Theatre, Speech and Dance.

Dave started working in theatre during high school in Richmond. “My brother was a musician and played in the musical pit bands of the school’s productions. Of course, being a younger brother, I would do whatever my older brother did. I couldn’t play an instrument, so I

started working backstage.”

He enrolled in William & Mary in the fall of 1971 as a business student and continued working back stage for theatre productions. With the goal of theatre management, Dave graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

“Theatre management and the business of a not-for-profit organization were interesting to me. I graduated in 1975 and immediately started working for the ‘Common Glory’ production down at Lake Matoaka. It was the amphitheater’s outdoor drama running since 1947. They needed a promotions person and I

needed a job, so that worked out.”

That was the year of the Bicentennial and the producers of ‘Common Glory’ thought there would be a big audience coming to Williamsburg. “The production had been declining in attendance for ten or more years,” Dave says. “We needed a big year of revenues for refurbishing the theatre, costumes, staff, etc.”

The Bicentennial celebration didn’t produce the audiences they had hoped. Dave remembers that the national Bicentennial committee convinced each town or city to create their own events, and the news reports of a predicted onslaught of tourists to historical towns like



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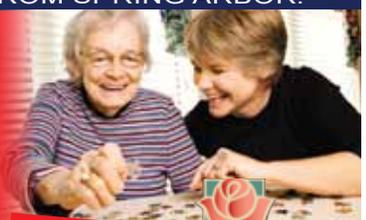
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Williamsburg, Philadelphia and Boston, kept people away. “The Bicentennial year was just an average year, so the production of ‘Common Glory’ was ended.”

From there, Dave worked in a couple of other productions around town. “Hotel shows that were going on back then,” he describes. “About that time, Busch Gardens opened. I took on a few positions at Busch Gardens. I stage managed the Festhaus show for about nine months, learning the songs really well,” he says with a laugh about the series of half hour shows each day. “That was interesting to me because I learned how to keep a bunch of performers focused on the show and not get bored with the repetition. For one of the big shows at Busch Gardens, they brought in famous puppeteer Bill Baird who did the puppets for ‘The Sound of Music’. I went to work for them as the scenic carpenter. I really enjoyed that.”

A position opened at W&M to assist teaching the students scenic construction and to handle all the shows that came into Phi Beta Kappa (PBK) Hall. “That was before the Ferguson Center opened,” Dave says. “PBK was the only large venue between Richmond and

Norfolk, so a lot of shows came here. The college did a very good concert series and needed someone to coordinate them. I started in 1978 and have been here since.”

Today, Dave is the Technical Director for the hall and has been teaching courses since 1986. “I teach kids how to build scenery, how to put sounds together for shows (sound designers), and supervise the stage managers. They have me teaching the sound design class, the stage craft class, the stage management class and a bunch of independent projects.”

The construction for stage scenery has a different physical requirement than building construction. “We build to what the show needs. If we have one person standing on a platform, we’re not going to build it to the specifications of your home’s deck. If we have 15 people dancing on that platform, then it’s a lot more structure. There’s a lot of physics in that. Our students come from all disciplines and go on to different careers, not just theatrical ones.” Many different branches of learning are used back stage from logistics and marketing to design and engineering.

The Virginia Shakespeare Festival started

in 1978. “Three faculty members got together because there was an empty theatre here and not much going on in the summer,” Dave explains. “Professor Jerry Bledsoe, who is really the founding father of the festival, gathered a couple of other faculty together to do the first Shakespeare Festival. This is the 38th year.”

In those early years of the festival, Dave and his crew built a single Shakespearean set. “One of the nice things about Shakespeare was that he had his performances on a bare stage. His plays are very descriptive about the scenes, where it’s taking place. The characters will tell the audience several times where they are. Many times, the imagination of the audience is far better than anything we can build.” The characters may say they’re in the forest, and the audiences’ minds create a magical forest filled with more details than a scenery designer could build.

“The early years of the Shakespeare Festival saved money by not building scenery for each show. One set was used over and over. That was very useful.”

The festival presented an opportunity for the Williamsburg audience to enjoy Shakespeare

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and to introduce Shakespeare to teens. “Experiencing the play in a theatre is so much better than reading it in 12th grade English class. We feel that Shakespeare needs to be presented and be seen. It should be experienced on stage. I’ve begun to love Shakespeare because of Jerry Bledsoe and my involvement in the festival. The plays are universal themes. That’s why Shakespeare’s plays can be set in a number of different time periods and locations.”

As the years went by with the minimum stage set, Dave says that audiences became tired of seeing it. “So we began building sets for each show.”

The stage set, costuming and sound design depend on the vision of the director. “It’s the director who decides how the story is presented. They talk with the scenic designer, costume designers and the rest to come up with a plan. They set the year or time period the play is set in. For example modern day or World War I or post-apocalyptic Australia. They’re universal themes so they work in different eras. A lot depends on the budget. This is where the brilliance of Christopher Owens, our executive director, comes in. He has a lot of imagination

and can still stay within budget.”

The best part of working on the Virginia Shakespeare Festival for Dave is the ability to work with people in his profession who are at a higher level than he usually gets to work with. “We get to do more. I’m not starting with carpenters who have never used a power tool in their life, like I might during the regular school year.” He explains that many young people don’t have carpentry experience. Gone, he says, are the days of a dad having a woodshop in the basement and teaching his kids how to work with tools.

“Another great thing is that many of my technicians are women. They are discovering the joys of creating something with their hands. This summer in the shop, my three main carpenters are all women. The scenic artist is a woman, and her assistant is a woman. The sound designer is a woman. This has changed over the years. In the 1970s when I started, this was beginning. Before that, you didn’t see women back in the shop. The guy I learned scenic construction from, Al Hock, would have the stage craft class, all the boys would build scenery, and the girls were assigned to props.

That was the late ‘60s when that was going on. That’s changed completely now.”

Technology is changing the way they do their jobs, as well. In the set, sound and lighting design worlds, the profession is becoming more tied to technology. “There are networks and computers in everything we do. On the Broadway stage, scenery is run by computers, guided by artificial intelligence, the whole bit. In a lot of ways, our industry is changing more into that sort of high-tech world. The big shows are in Las Vegas, like Cirque du Soleil shows. They throw a lot of technology at circus acts. Put a lot of light in it, lots of fancy costumes and music. It makes a great show. We’re getting our students thinking in terms of using technology to entertain or to tell a story. With Shakespeare, we’re telling a story. We don’t want splashy stuff because that detracts from the story.”

Dave adds, “The very best part of his work with the Virginia Shakespeare Festival is working with these people to achieve this piece of art, even when it’s gone in ten days. It’s live. It’s theatre. It’s a moment in time.” NDN

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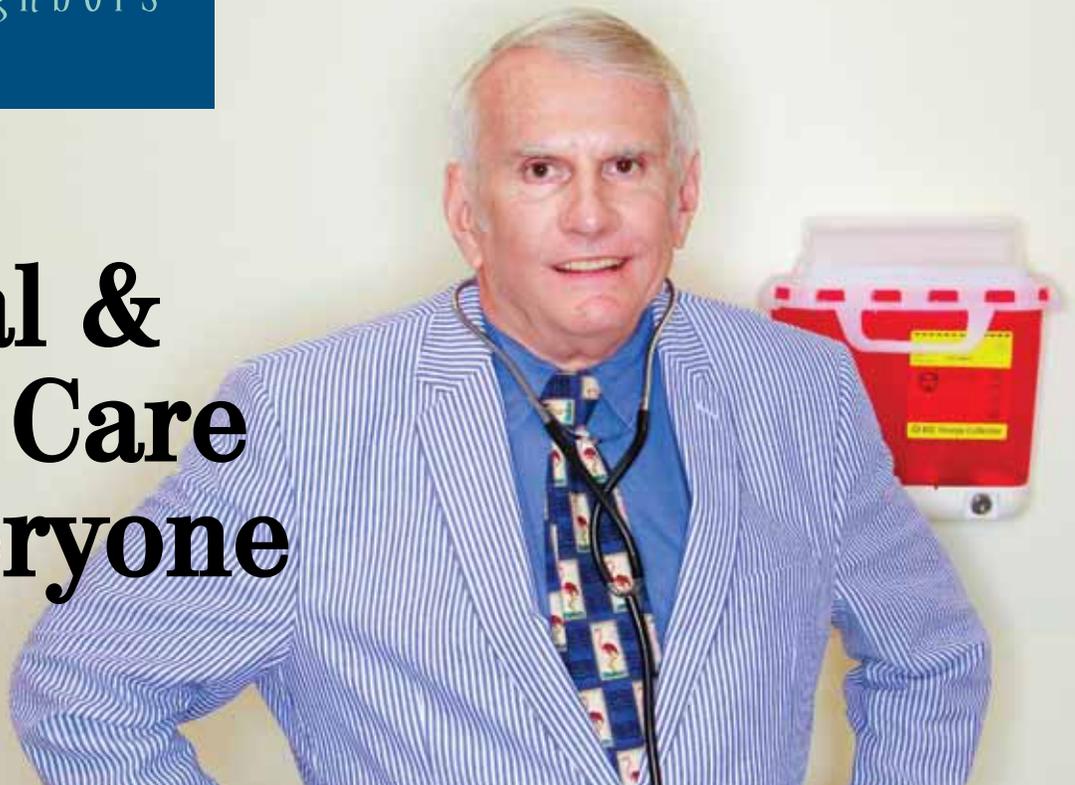
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Medical & Dental Care for Everyone

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Corey Miller Photography



Dr. William J. Mann, Jr., executive medical director of Olde Towne Medical and Dental Center, has a goal to make health care available to everyone. “We’re the biggest safety net clinic on the Peninsula. We have about 5,000 patients a year, about 18,000 visits a year. Ninety percent of our patients have jobs. These are not people who are trying to take advantage of the system. These are the working poor.”

The Williamsburg area has many seasonal workers. Hiring takes place in April and layoffs happen in October. Tourism, hospitality, service and maintenance jobs ebb and flow with the seasons. Even with the Affordable Care Act, most workers with insurance can only use it for catastrophic events because their deductibles and co-pays are too high. Dr. Mann says Olde Towne Medical and Dental Center has seen an increase in patients tied directly to the high deductibles of the insured and of the number of people under-insured.

Dr. Mann became interested in medicine when he was in high school in Connecticut. “I was always interested in biology,” he says. “We used to have projects to do in high school, so I would get one of the local doctors or dentists to help me do my project. I had a love of biology that translated into a love of science and then took me to medical school.” He was pre-med at Amherst College in Massachusetts, and then attended Hershey Medical School at

Pennsylvania State University.

“That’s where I did my residency in obstetrics and gynecology, and I also did a lot of research. After Hershey, I did a fellowship in gynecologic oncology. I’m actually a cancer surgeon and would perform cancer surgery on women with cancers of the female reproductive organs. I also did chemotherapy, radiation therapy, terminal care and pain management. I’ve always been in academic medicine. I’m a professor type.”

He retired from Riverside Health System in 2001 and planned to do part-time work. “Then I got a phone call to come to New Jersey. I was chairman and ran an OB program at Jersey Shore. I had always trained and ran residency programs. I went for an interview and ended up staying for seven years. I retired again. Then there was an opening at the Carilion Medical School (the Virginia Tech School of Medicine) in Roanoke, so I went there for three years. Then I retired. The people in New Jersey called because they were going through a transition period and needed me to work there for six months. Then I retired.”

His passion to assist the medical field is strong, and apparently he likes the work. “I can retire,” he adds, “but the staying retired is my problem!”

He came back to Williamsburg and took classes at VIMS for about five semesters, and then it happened again: “I saw an ad in the

local paper that Olde Towne Medical Center needed a medical director – that was 2013 – so here I am.”

He said that he ran clinics for the uninsured in the universities where he worked. “That’s what medical schools do.”

In the late 1990s, Dr. Mann received his MBA from the College of William & Mary. “That’s been a huge help because the business of medicine is really hard without business knowledge.”

At Olde Towne Medical and Dental Center fees are based on a sliding scale, but Dr. Mann stresses that no one is turned away because of an inability to pay. “We don’t have a collection agency. We don’t even have a billing department.”

Ninety percent of the patients come from James City County, York County and the city of Williamsburg. “All businesses that don’t have insurance or enough insurance for their employees, this is the perfect place for those employees to come. We really want to reach out to those small businesses.”

The center is run with a small, dedicated staff and volunteer professionals. “On our dental side, we rely heavily on our four part-time dentists and our part-time hygienist. Our 17 volunteer dentists are incredibly important to us because they see almost 30 percent of our patients,” he explains. “On the medical side, we have a full-time doctor and

two nurse practitioners and one physician assistant. Then we rely on thirteen doctors in the community to help us with specialty care.”

Specialty care includes chronic disease clinics, adult and pediatric dental care, orthopedics, pulmonology, cardiology, dermatology, gynecology, pediatrics, ophthalmology, chiropractic referrals, psychiatry and bilingual mental health counseling.

“One service we offer that is important, that many may not know about, is our Medication Access Program,” Dr. Mann adds. “We try to provide patients with free medications. That’s a free service. Come in, get registered, and we figure out what is needed. The drugs are donated by the pharmaceutical industry.”

Along with the medical volunteers, the center relies on non-medical volunteers to assist with the everyday functioning of a non-profit medical center. “Volunteers help us with appointment making, equipment storage (packing and unpacking). We rely heavily on public donations, so we have mailings four times a year we need help with those,” he lists. “We have a bare bones staff here. The community can help a lot with those things.”

Two projects are coming up that has Dr. Mann excited. “We want to update our den-

tal imaging so we can pick up cavities earlier. We’re having a fundraising campaign dedicated to that. Secondly, we do not have a pharmacy at the current time. I’m looking for a retired pharmacist to help us set that up. We have the space and equipment, but need the pharmacy knowledge of a pharmacist.”

To help raise money for the center, two main fundraisers are planned. Since 1993, the Ford’s Colony Golf Tournament is held each spring. It has raised nearly \$750,000 over the years. “The Hare and Tortoise 8k Run/Walk supported by John O’Hare honors his wife Karene O’Hare, who died of ovarian cancer,” Dr. Mann says of the second fundraiser. The 10th Hare and Tortoise 8k takes place September 10 this year. (www.HareAndTortoise-RunWalk.com)

Another way the community can help is by simply telling neighbors about the medical and dental center. “Ninety-nine percent of our survey respondents say they heard of us through word-of-mouth, one person telling another. Relatives, neighbors, co-workers tell people who need medical or dental care to come to us. Don’t go without care.”

For those neighbors with transportation needs, the Olde Towne Medical and Den-

tal Center is directly on the WATA bus line. “That’s vital to our patients.”

Dr. Mann says they can’t do a lot of preventive care with patients because the patients are in dire need. “The center tries to prevent chronic diseases from getting worse. We don’t want our diabetics going blind or having their feet amputated. We don’t want our hypertensives having strokes or our heart disease patients having heart attacks. That’s the kind of preventive medicine we’re doing. We try to get people to eat healthy and exercise, but when someone doesn’t know where their next meal is coming from or is living out of their car, preventive medicine is difficult. So we focus on managing the chronic diseases.”

If the people of Williamsburg would do one simple thing to help their neighbors, Dr. William J. Mann, Jr. says to spread the word about Olde Towne Medical and Dental Center. “If I could have one thing in the world, I’d want more people in Williamsburg to know who we serve and what we do. It’s still frustrating that we care for someone and when they’re leaving they say, ‘When did you open? I didn’t know you were here.’ We opened in 1993. We want people to come here, not doing without medical care.” NDN



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Many well-meaning children sometimes decide when it is time for their senior parents to stop driving. In some cases, this decision could be life-saving; however, many studies have found that senior drivers do not pose a greater risk to themselves or to others. Unfortunately, seniors who do stop driving often tend to become depressed. Many automobile manufacturers are adding technological vehicle safety features that can help older drivers remain on the road longer. Some especially beneficial systems are forward collision warning sensors, park-assist video cameras, and navigation assistance that provides more information than a typical GPS.

Seniors who truly must stop driving can avoid depression by employing caregivers to transport them to stores, doctors, and social centers. Driving is just one of the many chores that your loved one may not be able to manage as they age. If you’re feeling overwhelmed as those chores fall into your lap, please call COMFORT KEEPERS. We know just how hard this situation can be, for you and for your loved one. Let us help.

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The Benefits of Bees

By Greg Lilly, Editor



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

Don Cole mentioned to his wife, Allison, that he thought he might raise a few chickens. With the skill of a diplomat, she talked about the endangerment of the honey bee from colony collapse disorder, recently in the news, and how important they are to the pollination of plants.

“It was her idea to look into bees,” Don confirms. “She’s from New York City, grew up

in Manhattan. So it wasn’t like she’d been a beekeeper before, but she didn’t want chickens.”

Don grew up in rural upstate New York, in the town of Clarence, just northeast of Buffalo. “I worked on a farm as a kid. That farm had chickens.”

The idea of bees intrigued Don, so he began to research them and soon took the plunge.

He admits he didn’t have much of a fear of bees. “I never really worried about being stung. When I work my bees, I just wear a head veil with my regular summertime shorts and t-shirt. I started working with the bees without gloves because I could learn how to manipulate the hive and get a feel of it without the personal protective equipment on.” He says that with all the protective gear, like



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leather gloves, the beekeeper isn't as close to the bees, plus it's harder to be gentle with them through bulky material.

"You will get stung and I do get stung. You get used to it. There's less reaction if you are stung a couple of times as the summer goes along. I've only been stung once this summer." He stresses, "Honey bees are defensive, not aggressive."

The experience one beekeeper has with one hive isn't indicative of what he or she will have with the next hive. "Bees have a temperament," Don explains. "Different hives have different temperaments, and that is influenced by the weather and time of year." The availability of food sources will affect how the bees behave. A time of year when plants and trees aren't flowering as much, like July and August (a time called nectar dearth), the bees get more protective of their store of food in the hive.

"On cloudy days, I can see their reaction as I come close to the hive; they're protective. Sunny days, when there is plenty of nectar, they're busy and more relaxed."

Don typically uses a smoker to quiet the

bees. "There are different theories on why smoke calms bees. Some say it disrupts their communication." At the entrance to the hive, there are guard bees. These bees will alert the others if an intruder (for example, other insects) tries to get into the hive to rob them. "With the smoke, the bees will settle down into the lower frames so you can work them."

For potential beekeepers, Don suggests starting in the winter to order bees. "A lot of people think about it in the spring. By that time, it's too late to get bees. Bees can be acquired in three basic ways: a nucleus colony, which is a small honey bee hive; package bees, which are bees from a large hive shaken into a package and a queen is added along with a food source for shipment." Don explains that he doesn't use a shipping company when he gets package bees, but drives to Georgia to pick them up. "Thirdly, you can get bees by capturing a swarm, that's when a hive gets too big and part of them leave with the queen. You see these in trees or buildings." Don is the person to call to relocate a swarm or hive that isn't in an ideal place.

Last year, Don and his daughter, Abigail, relocated a swarm that had taken to a tree in New Town. "Everyone was fascinated as they watched, until I announced we were going to shake the limb to get the swarm into a container. The spectators scattered for cover."

Beekeepers make arrangements for acquiring bees in the winter. "December or January is the usual time to place the order for bees," he says.

He suggests starting with two hives. "You can lose a hive. A hive could leave for some reason or a disease could kill out the hive. With two, if you lose one, you still have one, plus you can compare the health of the hives against each other."

Bees aren't territorial, so the hives can be placed side by side. "They are territorial in that a bee from a different hive cannot come into the neighboring hive," he says. "In July and August, during the nectar dearth, if you have a hive, that for some reason, the population is down then another hive may rob all the food sources. The robbed hive would starve."

A package to start a hive comes with about

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10,000 bees. The population of the hive will decline and grow with the seasons. "At the height of summer, a large hive will have 60,000 bees. After summer, the bees prepare themselves for over-wintering. The population declines. The male bees are kicked out in November. Their one purpose is finished: to mate with a queen." The males don't help around the hive: they don't clean the hive, feed the queen or gather anything for the hive. "They don't even sting," Don adds. "In the winter, I see the female worker bees dragging the drones (males) out of the hive. They don't let them back in."

In winter, the queen stops laying eggs and the bees cluster around her keeping her warm. As the days get longer and the temperature rises, the queen starts laying eggs again.

"A bee is born, and inside the hive, it is a housekeeper cleaning, storing food, taking care of the queen," Don describes. "After a certain time, it leaves the hive as a forager – gathering nectar and pollen."

Besides witnessing the fascinating community of the hive, Don reaps other benefits from

the bees. "The honey I harvest is the surplus honey of the hive. Also a beekeeper can raise bees to sell to other beekeepers. The wax can be used for candles, and some people make other products like lip balm. Also there is propolis." The bees seal gaps in the hive with propolis made from sap or other botanical sources. "Some people will eat the propolis for medicinal purposes," Don says. "And there's royal jelly, this is part of the lifecycle of the bees. If the hive needs to raise a new queen, they feed the larvae royal jelly. A bee population is about 90 percent female. If the queen isn't producing or is injured, the workers (female bees) will feed royal jelly to one of the larvae for a longer period of time to create the new queen. Some people will harvest that and sell it. That's labor intensive. I don't do that."

Don's hobby of beekeeping allows him to see individuals working for the benefit of the whole community. "They're fascinating. They are like a microcosm of a company or a neighborhood or a city. Each bee makes up the whole. They each have their own job for the good of the hive. It's not about one individual,

but about the survival of the colony."

Don and Allison's three children have shown some interest in the bees, but Don says they're too busy to take up the hobby. "Alexandria, our oldest, graduated from Longwood with a history degree and is going back for Library Science. Abigail is at UVa, entering her last year in biochemistry. Our son, Drake, is at Christopher Newport for electrical engineering and is entering his sophomore year this fall."

Williamsburg has a growing beekeeping community. "The Williamsburg Beekeepers Association meets once a month. It's a group of folks sharing a common interest of honey bees: challenges, best practices, resources," Don lists.

"Working the bees is very therapeutic and relaxing for me," Don Cole says. "It takes time. Just checking the hives takes about an hour for each: smoke them, open them, check the frames and check the brood pattern of the queen. The end goal is to really enjoy it as a hobby and to host bees for the benefit of the ecosystem." NDN



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To submit your non-profit event to Hey Neighbor! send a paragraph with your information to:

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August 1-5, 2016

From 9 am -12:30 pm. Ages: Beginner flute players-12th grade Professional Directors, Margaret Carlson and Olivia Stansbury will conduct the instruction as well as special presentations by other professionals. For information and registration please visit the Flute Frenzy Website at www.flutefrenzy.org.

Hey Neighbor!

MUSIC IN THE GARDEN

August 5, 2016

From 6 – 8 pm at the Williamsburg Botanical Garden. The concert is “open air” in the garden and guests should bring their own chairs. Wine and beer will be available for purchase.

Donations accepted. The Williamsburg Botanical Garden is located in Freedom Park off Centerville Road. For more information visit www.williamsburgbotanicalgarden.org.

Hey Neighbor!

JENNA BASH FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER

August 6, 2016

The 9th Annual Jenna Bash Festival takes place this year from 11 am – 6 pm at Rockahock Campground in Lanexa, VA. We are excited to have for live music this year, Nashville recording artists, the Mullins Sisters! This carnival style family event will also include bounce houses, a water-slide, pulled pork BBQ, home baked desserts, games, hayrides, a huge si-

lent auction (cash/check only), raffles, animal adoptions by the New Kent Humane Society, Vendors, Butterfly Release, 5K/One Mile Runs, and a performance by Muggivans School of Irish Dance. Free admission with a non-perishable food or pet item. Call Melanie King at (757) 741-5070 or visit Pgova.com.

Hey Neighbor!

BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL

August 6-7, 2016

From 9 am – 5 pm. Butterfly Festival at the Williamsburg Botanical Gardens at Freedom Park. This festival has several parts, but the main and most exciting focus will be two butterfly tents with hundreds of butterflies of various species in each and in various stages of

development. Admission is free but a \$5 donation per family to support the Williamsburg Botanical Garden at Freedom Park would be appreciated. Please come join us as we celebrate summer and our beautiful native butterflies!

Hey Neighbor!

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM-LIFE OF BEES

August 13, 2016

From 10 – 11:30 am. Get a closer look at the honey bee. Instructors: Pam Burton and other beekeepers from the Colonial Beekeepers Association. The program is at the Freedom Park Interpretive Center, and is free, although a \$5 donation to help the Garden grow is appreciated. Registration is required



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Hey Neighbor! FLOWERS OF LATE SUMMER – WALK

August 13, 2016

Meet at 10 am at Newport News Park's Ranger Station, Constitution Way. Peninsula Master Naturalist Susie Yager will lead a walk through this lakeside woodland. Strawberry Bush and Beautyberry should be in fruit and numerous late summer flowers in bloom, including Swamp Loosestrife, Purple False Foxglove and Showy Bur-Marigold. The round-trip walk will be about 2 miles. Contact Susie Yager to register at soozigus@cox.net. Sponsored by the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society. Walk is free and open to the public.

Hey Neighbor! CDR SUPERHERO 5K

August 13, 2016

This scenic 5K through The Vineyards of Williamsburg boasts 800-plus attendees, including 5K walkers and runners of all ages, fun runners, volunteers, and families. To benefit Child Development Resources which serves nearly 1,000 babies and toddlers in the Historic Triangle. 1-mile fun run begins at 8 am, 5K run/walk begins at 8:30 am. Food, activities, ice cream and more. To register, go to 5k.cdr.org.

Hey Neighbor! COLONIAL HERITAGE INVESTMENT CLUB

August 18, 2016

Open to anyone with an interest in investing, from beginners to seasoned traders, including people who work with an investment advisor. Meetings held on third Thursday of each month from 9:30 – 11:30 am.

Hey Neighbor! WORMS AND THEIR USES

August 20, 2016

From 10 – 11:30 am. Local worm farmer, Ron Crum, will tell you all you need to know about raising worms. Ron has over 400,000 worms in his worm farms and is eager to share his knowledge with the public. The program is at the Freedom Park Interpretive Center, and is free, although a \$5 donation to help the Garden grow is appreciated. For more information, contact Ron at (757) 291-6675 or email him at roncrum@yahoo.com.

Hey Neighbor! MUSIC IN THE GARDEN

September 2, 2016

From 6 – 8 pm. Local artist Andrew Shield and friends will perform a collection of Jazz and Blues" in the Wil-

liamsburg Botanical Garden. For more information visit www.williamsburg-botanicalgarden.org

Hey Neighbor! PLANT WALKS FALL

September 10, 2016

Ferns in Bloom. At 10 am meet Helen Hamilton at the Freedom Park Interpretive Center for a walk to see native ferns with their "flowers." Contact Helen at (757) 564-4494 or helen48@cox.net for more information.

Hey Neighbor! DIVORCECARE SUPPORT GROUP

September 13, 2016

DivorceCare groups meet to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each session has two distinct elements: (1) A Seminar with Experts During the first 30–40 minutes of the meeting, each DivorceCare group watches a video seminar featuring top experts on divorce and recovery subjects. After viewing the video, DivorceCare group participants spend time as a support group, discussing what was presented in that week's video seminar and what is going on in the lives of group members. We'd love for you to join us on Tuesdays beginning on September 13 at 6:30 pm at King of Glory Lutheran Church, 4897 Longhill Road.

Hey Neighbor! CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 16, 2016

The James City Lions Club is hosting a Charity Golf Tournament at Ford's Colony Country Club, 240 Ford's Colony Drive in Williamsburg. Registration is 8 am with a Shotgun Start at 9 am. There will be men's and women's flights. The cost is \$80 for an individual and \$320 for a foursome. Proceeds from this tournament support sight, hearing, and diabetes programs in the greater Williamsburg community. For further information, contact Larry Bartholomew at (757) 206-1903 or Don Martin at (757) 903-2820.

Hey Neighbor! CLOTHED TREES

September 17, 2016

At 10 am, join Stewart Ware for a fun and informative walk all about trees. The woods around Wellspring United Methodist Church have most of our common upland trees, and Dr. Ware will show how to identify them, as well as some rarer trees. Meet in the parking lot at Wellspring Church on Longhill Road. Contact Stewart at (757) 565-0657 or saware@wm.edu for more information.

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Hey Neighbor!

**41ST MARINE CORPS
MARATHON TEAM LATISHA**

October 30, 2016

Latisha's House Foundation is seeking runners to join "Team Latisha's House" and financial sponsors for the 41st Marine Corp Marathon in Washington, DC. Latisha's House is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit safe house for human sex trafficked women in James City County. To be a part of "Team Latisha's House," contact Executive Director Elizabeth Ameling at latishas-house@gmail.com; (757) 603-2255 or jdamelng@gmail.com; or go to www.latishashouse.com. "Changing One Life at a Time, Changing the World for Future Generations."

Hey Neighbor!

**VIRGINIA THANKSGIVING
FESTIVAL**

November 6, 2016

The Virginia Thanksgiving Festival is a fun filled family day. The first English Thanksgiving in America, which occurred on December 4, 1619 at Berkeley Plantation, is re-enacted on the lawn. Activities include a parade, horse drawn carriages, fife and drums, musicians, magicians, Colonial period games and dancing, arts and crafts, corn maze, storytelling, cornhusk doll making, candle dipping, choral groups and dancing by the Chickahominy Tribal Dancers. Hours are from noon - 4 pm, with house tours beginning at 9 am and admission to the grounds in free. There is a \$10 per car parking donation. For more information call (888) 466-6018 or (804) 829-6018 or visit our web site at www.virginia-thanksgivingfestival.com.

Hey Neighbor!

**SHELTER MANAGER PART-TIME
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Ongoing

Community of Faith Mission, the emergency shelter program for the homeless, is seeking a part time Shelter Manager to work two nights a week from mid-November to mid-March. Training provided. Candidate must have excellent verbal, written and interpersonal skills. Attention to detail

and problem solving a must. Interested parties apply at www.cofm.info.

Hey Neighbor!

**HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE IS
SEEKING VOLUNTEERS**

Ongoing

Historic Jamestowne seeks volunteers to greet and engage guests as well provide accurate information about this premier historic site. A variety of volunteer opportunities are available. Volunteer shifts are available Monday through Sunday, 9:30 am - 1 pm and 1 - 4:30 pm. If you are interested in volunteering at Historic Jamestowne, please contact Kelly Williams at kwilliams@preservationvirginia.org.

Hey Neighbor!

**APPLICATIONS FOR MASTER
GARDENER TRAINING PRO-
GRAM BEING ACCEPTED**

Ongoing

The enrollment period Applications for the Virginia Cooperative Extension 2017 will continue through October 15, 2016. Classes will meet for three hours Monday and Wednesday mornings from January 4 through April 2, 2017. This year's course topics include botany, soils, pest and disease management, best practices for lawn care, gardens, flowers, fruits, vegetables, pruning techniques, landscape design and water conservation. The program fee is \$150 and classes fill quickly. For more information and an application, please visit www.jccwmg.org or call (757) 564-2170.

Hey Neighbor!

**WILLIAMSBURG WOMEN'S
CHORUS WELCOMES NEW
MEMBERS**

Ongoing

The Chorus is open to women of all ages and voice parts. Rehearsals are held on Thursday Mornings at Bruton Parish House from 10 am - noon. We will be preparing for our Winter Concert which will be held on December 6 at 7:30 pm. Rehearsals for the fall season will begin September 8 @ 9:30 am. If interested please contact Beckie Davy atbdavy@brutonparish.org to set up an informal audition.

Hey Neighbor!

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Saturdays

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Absolutely charming inside and out. This 3 BR, 2.5 BA home includes spacious bonus room that could be 4th BR. Great floor plan includes spacious LR & DR, beautifully updated kitchen open to FR w/ built-ins & plantation shutters that leads to screened porch overlooking private back. Just hit the market - a show stopper! \$360,000.

*Selling Homes
not Houses*
Understanding the
Difference

Grace Lacey

ASSOCIATE BROKER

757-876-4634

gracelacey@lizmoore.com



[gracelacey.com](http://www.lizmoore.com/gracelacey.com) | gracelacey.com



503 RIVER BLUFFS

Kingsmill

River Bluffs Condo in Kingsmill. 2 bedrooms, 2.5 bath. 2833 square feet. Breathtaking views of the James River. Lots of upgrades, underground garage and storage room. Move in ready. \$795,000.

Tim Parker

(757) 879-1781

Cyril Petrop

(757) 879-8811



www.timparkerrealestate.com



Ford's Colony

6 BR | 3.5 BA | 4,600 SQ FT

All brick home custom home

Great room with stone fireplace

Master Suite with sitting room

Kitchen w/Thermador dual fuel range

Heated, salt water in-ground pool with spa & pool house | \$750,000

Deelyn
a passion for home



757-503-1999

Deelyn@lizmoore.com

www.PremierWilliamsburgRealEstate.com



3052 OLD GROVE LANE

3 BR| 2.5 BA| 2,951 SQ FT

Gorgeous one owner home situated on a large corner lot with professionally landscaped yard and patio.

First floor MBR, spacious Kitchen w/ granite countertops open to Great Room.

Fabulous Bonus Room.

Whole house generator • \$325,000.



dianebeal
REALTOR, POSTOFFICE, POSTCOLLEGE
(757) 291-9201
dianebeal@lizmoore.com



Charming home nestled in the trees in the City of Williamsburg - CLOSE to everything! 3 BR, 2 BA with sunroom overlooking the woods! One level condominium just blocks from historic area! Offered at \$220,000.

Rebekah Brewster
HOME IS WHERE YOU HANG YOUR HEART
rebekahbrewster@lizmoore.com
www.rebekahbrewster.com



757-272-8981



108 Mahogany Run | Fords Colony
\$972,000

6 bd, 5 ba, 5,786 sq.ft. Sure to be a favorite, the warm and welcoming main living area features a relaxing family room, custom built-in cabinets, a large breakfast nook, and a designer kitchen.

Elegant Georgian home with large main-floor master suite. Absolutely stunning.

For more details and information, please go to the website. www.108mahoganyrun.info

Find your way home
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