

September 2013

WILLIAMSBURG'S

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Not long ago I received a card from a friend who is dealing with advanced breast cancer. There was a personal note on the inside of the card. On the outside there was simply a quote from an unknown author: "To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world."

As I thought about what I wanted to convey to readers in this introduction this quote came to mind. It seems to capture the essence of the stories in this issue - stories about teachers and mentors who make a difference in many of the lives they touch.

I can think of teachers who made a difference in my young life. There was Mrs. Palmer who taught me the importance of language and phonics. Mrs. Yeatman who encouraged my creative abilities in her art class. Ms. Overstreet who taught me confidence and leadership through the game of basketball. Search your memory and you will surely recall the teachers or mentors who have influenced your life.

In this issue, we introduce you to just a few teachers and mentors who are doing great things in our community. Their passion and dedication is apparent. They may never fully understand the impact they are having on a young life, but I am willing to bet that they are the world to someone. The relationships they build with our youth through teaching and guiding are invaluable. Read ahead and learn about some of your neighbors who are wonderful teachers and mentors. NDN



Meredith Collins, Publisher

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The Power of Daily Reading

By Lillian Stevens

Rachel Granata knew she wanted to be a teacher from the time she was in the third grade.

“I was a cautious child and I lacked confidence,” Rachel says. “But I had a wonderful teacher in the third grade – the kind of teacher who brings out the best in people and loved what she did. I

RACHEL GRANATA

realized that I wanted to do that too. I knew that I wanted to make kids feel the way she made me feel.”

Today, the Chesapeake native teaches first grade at J. Blaine Blayton Elementary School, which is situated alongside Hornsby Middle School on Jolly Pond Road. The self-proclaimed, formerly shy child was recognized by the Williamsburg-James City County Superintendent of Schools as one of WJCC’s three Teachers of the Year for 2013.

“I remember when they first approached me about the nomination,” Rachel says. “I thought it was an error! This is only my third year teaching, and I was really taken aback. I am so very touched by the outpouring of love and support. It is such a testament to this community that I have been able to be successful early in my teaching career. I think it should be credited to the support and collaboration between our community, the WJCC school division and the College of William and Mary.”

When Rachel enrolled at William and Mary, she chose to double major in linguistics and education. As a junior, she completed her stu-



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

dent teaching at Magruder Elementary in York County, and she graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the university she loves. Once graduated, Rachel was thrilled to embark on her career teaching first graders at J. Blaine Blayton.

“I think that my background in Linguistics helps me more effectively teach emergent readers and writers in the primary elementary levels,” Rachel explains.

“I am so fortunate because I got to help open Blayton in 2010,” she says. “The classroom I taught in was all brand new and all mine; the technology was up-to-date and the best part was that we (the staff) were all there together for the first time. It was a really neat oppor-

tunity to come together and create our own environment fostering an incredible dynamic of teamwork.”

Rachel has taught first grade for the past three years but will be “looping up” to second grade in the fall. She is brimming with enthusiasm for her young pupils and loves that she gets to teach everything, not just reading, writing and math.

“I can make our day connected and interdisciplinary,” she says.

Rachel lives for that moment when a child figures something out that’s been tricky – or they are using a strategy for the first time – that moment when she sees them come to life with a new concept or idea.

“There is nothing more fulfilling, no job is more intrinsically rewarding, than having this room full of kids who are seeing and learning things for the first time.”

She believes that reading is the most important skill that a child

coming out of elementary school will take with him/her into middle school. “I think that if you love to read and write, then that’s something that you will carry with you your whole life!”

When Rachel was growing up, her parents read to her every night. She encourages her students’ parents to read with their kids also.

“The power of daily reading is amazing,” she says. “I read to my students every day, and I’ll do that in second grade too. I love giving kids the confidence to find the books that fit them best.”

It can be a challenge in these digital times.

“The kids today are digital natives,” Rachel

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says. "They've grown up surrounded by all of this technology, whether video games or tablets or e-readers – they've got it all. The first graders know how to use their parents' cell phones!"

She sees the opportunity in meeting the students where they are.

"I think our challenge is to engage them using that format," Rachel says. "And there are so many different and motivating ways to use technology."

In Rachel's classroom, the students use tools like TumbleBooks, which are animated talking picture books offered through the public library, and Scholastic's BookFlix, an online literacy resource that pairs video storybooks with related, nonfiction eBooks. Both resources reinforce early reading skills in a fun, engaging way.

"They love it because they are accessing text that they might not be able to read themselves," Rachel says. "Our schools also have iPads, iPods and laptops – but there is still something to be said for good old fashioned paper and pencils and a book to curl up with."

Even at home and curled up with a book, she's not far from her students. "I have something at my house that I call my 'smile box' – it's a collection of notes of appreciation that my kids have sent to me – and hand-drawn pictures. Opening it brings a big smile to my face."

For Rachel, the William and Mary campus is a very special place, for reasons large and small. Rachel attended William and Mary for both her undergraduate and master's degrees.

"I called myself a double-Triber," she says. "I came back to William and Mary and did my graduate work at night."

In addition, she appreciates William and Mary's attitude toward education and the community. "The relationship William and Mary has with the community and the schools here – and the support the university gives to novice teachers – those are the very reasons I wanted to work here and live here – to be a part of that."

Like her colleagues, she spends a good part of the summer months on a quest for knowledge to make that happen. Since June, Rachel has been a participant in the Eastern Virginia Writing Project (EVWP) hosted by William and Mary's School of Education.

"With my master's degree finished, the next thing that I wanted to participate in was the EVWP Summer Institute. It's a five-week program for teachers. Together we work on the teaching of writing, and developing ourselves as writers. To teach writing, you have to write yourself. It's a wonderful opportunity to spend time with other teachers – not just from this area, but from Richmond, Gloucester, Virginia Beach – and from all different levels: elementary, middle and high school."

Having grown up just a stone's throw from Williamsburg, Rachel remembers coming to Williamsburg on field trips. She fell in love with the town and with the university that just celebrated its 320th birthday.

"My grandmother grew up in the North and didn't have the opportunity to go to a four-year college," Rachel says. "She always talked about what a fine school William and Mary was and so I applied there in her honor. When I got accepted, she was so excited for me."

It's a bittersweet memory, as her grandmother passed away during Rachel's first weeks at William and Mary. "I'm so glad that she got to see me off to college."

On a happy note, Rachel's parents were on-hand for the Teacher of the Year reception, and she was so proud to have them there.

"I thanked them," Rachel Granata adds, "for reading with me every night when I was little."



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A PASSION FOR TEACHING

By Narielle Living

Soft-spoken and kind-hearted, Darlene Russell works hard to expose her middle school students to all types of literature and reading. She is the first to admit how much she loves her job.

With a husband who is serving in the military, Darlene has been fortunate to teach in a variety of locations all around the world, including Germany, Kentucky, Iowa and Virginia's Chesterfield County. Today, Darlene teaches at Toano Middle School. She has taught for a total of 22 years and plans to continue to teach at Toano Middle School for the remainder of her career.

Darlene had not expected to receive the 2013 Teacher of the Year award. "I was surprised and humbled. There are so many talented and exemplary teachers to be recognized. It was a little surreal for me," she says.

Darlene's focus is on teaching children, not on receiving recognition, and she had never considered that she might be the recipient of this award. "I really try to make a difference for the kids; that's my goal."

Darlene notes that her subject, 6th grade English, provides her with an opportunity to reach kids in their first year of middle school.

"It's an interesting time in a child's educa-



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

tion. They're nervous, but they're also ready for new challenges and ready to absorb knowledge. I love teaching this age group."

Her teaching method changes with the dynamics of her class. "Every kid is an individual, so I cannot teach the same way every year or even every class. I have to look at their style of learning and work from that." Darlene is also

dedicated to teaching the kids a little bit about life through her English classes.

"I believe that if you cannot read or write about a situation, then you cannot function well in this world," she says.

DARLENE RUSSELL

For Darlene, seeing a child finally pass a test or be able to write a concise paper is what drives her as a teacher. "I want the kids to succeed," she says. Often her students will return to visit her once they move on to 7th or 8th grade.

"I had one student this year who struggled, but he got it, he really did. He wrote a note to me in my yearbook that said I should get teacher of the year." She laughs.

The school district recently held an awards ceremony for the three instructors who received the Teacher of the Year award.

"It was a wonderful evening. They did a beautiful job of recognizing the teachers, and I was so proud of what the others had done as well. We have some real talent here in our schools," she says.

Darlene believes that in order to be a successful teacher one must have a passion for what they are doing. "You cannot be set in your ways.

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You have to be able to change from year to year and find out what works for the kids at any given moment.” This takes research, time and effort.

Darlene tries to offer incentives to the kids to help them achieve more. For example, she has a group she calls the “lunch bunch,” where kids can come in every day at lunch to work, talk with her or get extra help from her. “Most children have a positive attitude about school, and they’ll meet me halfway to work together to get them to where they need to be.” The biggest obstacles she sees are kids who are not ready for the day, perhaps because they aren’t feeling well, didn’t get enough sleep or didn’t do their homework.

Darlene teaches four classes in a row, and each class lasts for 60 minutes. “It’s an intense curriculum,” she says. “I teach literature, grammar and writing, which can be a lot of material.” Although the classroom goals are predesigned by the state, Darlene does everything she can to help her students succeed. For example, if she notices her students have a lack of interest for any particular topic, she will design her lesson plans around that in order to stimulate them.

“My goal might be to find one book or series for a child that will move them.” Darlene believes that if a child enjoys reading this will help them become better writers.

Toano Middle School also participates in a program called Accelerated Reader, or AR. In this program students are given a short test to determine their reading level. They are then given a numeric goal they must achieve for each evaluation period. In order to achieve the goal, they must choose books at their level from the AR list and read the entire book. After that, students are given a short quiz to determine if they retained the information they read, and they must pass the quiz with a score of 70 or above. Passing the quiz gives the students a certain number of points toward their goal.

“The kids work to find books that they will enjoy. It’s a really great program,” Darlene says. “At the end of each quarter I have a party for the kids who reach their goal. It’s a fun incentive for them to keep reading.”

Darlene teaches an English class that enriches the lives of her students. “It’s so empowering for them when they find a book, series or even a genre that they connect with,” she says. “I try to teach them that there is a purpose for reading and writing, and this is something they will use their entire lives.” Reading can alter our perception of our world, our relationships and ourselves, and she wants her students to have the experience of losing themselves in a book.

Clearly Darlene cares about her students and works hard to give them a solid foundation in reading and writing. “I want to pass along one message to parents, too,” she says. “Stay involved. Involvement is so important.” She notes that often parents assume that once kids are out of elementary school they don’t need their parents as much in the schools. “Be supportive and if you can, be involved in the school. Kids need their parents around just as much in middle school as they did in the early grades.”

She also encourages parents to read to their children beginning at a young age. “Either you can read to them, or later on they can read to you. Whatever you can give them is so important and will make a world of difference to them.”

Two-way communication promotes involvement. “I encourage the students to go home and tell their parents about what we’re doing. This helps parents stay involved, because sometimes people have to work and can’t actually be at their child’s school. What I say to the parents is listen to the kids with open ears and it will make all the difference to them. When we listen and pay attention our kids will strive to do more.” 

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Seeking to Learn

By Alison Johnson

In every student who walks into her classroom at Jamestown High School, Chrissie Wilson sees pieces of two little girls: her 2½-year-old daughter, Addie, and herself as an elementary school student heartbroken after losing her mother to breast cancer at age

seven. Both never fail to motivate her as a teacher. Chrissie works as hard as she hopes her daughter's future teachers will. For the teachers who gave her an escape

from being 'The-Girl-Whose-Mom-Died', she cares deeply for her students and always has a smile at the ready. All of that is in honor of her late mother, who home schooled her three daughters just before her death and encouraged Chrissie's childhood dream of becoming a teacher.

CHRISTINE WILSON

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“At school, teachers were my heroes,” says Chrissie, a 2013 High School Teacher of the Year for Williamsburg/James City County Public Schools. “Not all teachers loved me, but those who did forever changed my life and gave me hope for a brighter future. Things are much better now with my family, but I will always be thankful to the many teachers who got me through those rough years.”

For Chrissie, 30, the grueling schedule of the school year is justified by what she calls “I gotcha” moments. Those happen when all of the 20 to 30 students in her English classes are listening, learning and reacting with passion, whether to an unjust death in the classic novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* or the tragic ending of Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*.

“I live for those magical moments,” she says. “They’re very addicting.”

So is the feeling that she’s constantly learning from her students, as they share new insights on books that she’s read countless times. The day she’s no longer learning, in fact, is the day she wants to retire.

“Teachers have to start each day as students,”

she says. “You have to be constantly seeking to learn and change. A good teacher is always looking for ways to learn about more than just their subject area.”

Finding the time to do her job well is the biggest challenge. Chrissie typically works about 50 hours a week. Like many of her colleagues, she’s at Jamestown by 6:15 a.m. to grade papers or plan lessons before her students begin to arrive at 7. She often grades papers through lunch and after school, and she often puts in another five or 10 hours of work over weekends.

“There is so very much dedication in American schools,” she says. “My timeline is not even the longest one in the building. I don’t see summer vacation as a benefit, but a necessity. Summer is great, but it is not the best thing about teaching. Teaching is the best thing about teaching.”

Chrissie has wanted to teach ever since she started kindergarten. Her favorite game to play as a child was school, when her (very patient) younger and older sisters would sit in front of a chalkboard that her father made and assign les-

sons from old textbooks. If her sisters weren’t around, stuffed animals took their place. Chrissie taught whatever subject was connected to a favorite teacher from a particular school year, although she always liked reading and history best.

“I’ve always been a geek,” she says with a laugh. “I just love learning.”

Although Chrissie was born in Austin, Texas, her family moved to Arizona, to California, and to Virginia for her father’s career as an Air Force Colonel. She graduated from Williamsburg schools: James River Elementary, James Blair Middle and, in 2001, Jamestown High School, her current employer.

After earning a degree in English from Roanoke College, Chrissie spent three years at Smithfield High School to gain professional experience before coming back to Williamsburg. To help her through the tough early days that all new teachers face, she surrounded herself with the color pink in memory of her mother’s brave battle with breast cancer, who she lost at age 42.

“It was a constant reminder of what a won-

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derful woman and mother she was, and my desire to make all classroom decisions with the love and strength that she showed her favorite students: my sisters and I,” Chrissie says.

Chrissie transferred five years ago to Jamestown High, where she teaches freshman English and Honors English, along with Advanced Placement English Language and Composition. Having some of her former teachers as colleagues has turned out to be a joy.

“These are people who not only taught me about so many subjects, but who showed me about good time management and room management,” she says. “I had a lot of respect for them as a student, and that hasn’t changed now that I’m a teacher as well.”

As for why she likes teaching at the high school level, Chrissie has a one-word answer: teenagers. “I know that most parents of teenagers will think that is crazy, but teenagers are not only challenging, they are awe-inspiring,” she explains. “They look at the world and not only see the challenges, but they still believe in the beauty of people and hope for change. When teenagers want to seek change and improve

their world, they are tenacious.”

She sees herself as their coach. “I have to push students, cheer for students, inspire students, discipline students and reward students,” she notes. “Having student conferences and coaching individual students in their studies of English are by far my favorite moments. My biggest hope for the future is that the political arena and budget will allow for smaller teacher-to-student ratios, so that more coaching can occur in classrooms on a daily basis.”

Her students, meanwhile, often give her smiles that brighten even her most stressful days. She returns that favor by “smiling like a maniac” in the hallways, again flashing back to the people who cared about her – even though they didn’t have to – when she had sad days as a child.

“You truly never know what another human being is going through, which means that everyone needs a smile,” she says. “It costs nothing to smile at strangers, and it may be just what that person needed at that particular moment.”

Like most working mothers, Chrissie at

times worries she’s not doing enough for either her family or her job, although she views the time commitment to her students as a way to “pay it forward” to future teachers who will guide Addie. She tries not to beat herself up for imperfections: “I want to feel like even if it wasn’t my best day, it was the best I could have given on that day.”

During the summer, Chrissie has more time to relax with her daughter, Addie, and her husband, Brandon, a fellow Roanoke College graduate who works for Towne Bank. Her hobbies include movies, crafts, quilting, sewing and running. “I’m a little more easygoing in the summers,” she says. “During the year, my emotions can run pretty close to the surface. I give as much as I can.”

Stashed in her garage, meanwhile, is that small chalkboard that her dad made for her many years ago. Addie, she figures, may want to use it one day soon.

“Maybe she’ll catch the teaching bug too,” Chrissie Wilson says. “I would love that. There’s so much a teacher can discover every day.” **NDN**

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MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE

By Lillian Stevens



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

The organization's website says that as a big brother or a big sister, you can "change lives, one story at a time." Dan Worstell, owner of Pyramid Roofing, has a great story to share – about many lives which have been changed as the result of one young child – not the least of which has been his own.

Seven years ago, Dan signed up as a volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Williamsburg and was quickly paired with a seven-year-old boy named Jordan. The assignment was to last one year.

As a big brother, Dan was volunteering to

spend a few hours each month sharing activities with Jordan, and generally be a positive role model and male mentor to him.

Today, Jordan is 14 years old, and Dan has given up logging the hours.

"It's in the thousands," he says. "And over the years, it has grown into something truly extraordinary. I can honestly say that we all consider Jordan as a member of our family."

Dan and his wife, Tammy, also have two sons, Derek and Drew. Derek is a rising junior at Louisiana State University (Dan's alma mater) and Drew is a rising senior at Wil-

liamsburg Christian Academy. The couple is extremely proud of their sons.

"I'm always looking for ways to give back. I think that because I have two sons of my own, I've always had a soft heart for boys who are growing up in a home without a hands-on dad in the picture."

After graduating from Louisiana State University and working for a couple of years for a roofing company in Dallas, Dan started Pyramid Roofing in Colorado, eventually branching out to Virginia. He and Tammy have enjoyed the fruits of their labors and they love



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their lives. Still, Dan felt he could do more in the community he has called home since 1997 and says that this type of volunteer work was always something that he wanted to do.

In March 2006 he submitted his application to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Williamsburg. It wasn't long before they called him with a match.

"So, there I was – going to meet a seven-year-old. I was a little nervous, to tell you the truth," he says with a chuckle.

Dan knew that Jordan was into baseball and so for their first outing, he made arrangements to take Jordan over to Ranger Ricks in Lightfoot for some batting practice. Escorted by a couple of staff members from Big Brothers Big Sisters, Dan arrived at Jordan's apartment to be greeted by Jordan's mom.

"She is fantastic, by the way," Dan says. "She is all about her son and his life. She recognized that Jordan needed a male role model in his life. I think that she deserves a mother of the year award – she's that good. She does so much with so little and does not have it easy."

On their first outing, Jordan cut right to the chase.

"So I picked Jordan up," Dan says. "The first question he asked me was 'are you going to just be with me one year or are you going to stay forever?' So clearly this child wasn't shy. That actually made things easier for me."

Still, Dan wasn't able to answer such a direct question – not at first. There were other matters that needed to be addressed.

"In the beginning, I think that Jordan thought that I was going to be like Santa Claus – just show up and take him out and buy him whatever he wanted. After our outing to Ranger Ricks, we might have gone into a 7-Eleven, and you should have seen him in the



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candy aisle,” Dan says with a laugh.

He had to nip that in the bud. With his own sons at home, Dan says that he hadn't signed up to spend time and money on a relative stranger who might have had unrealistic expectations. So there was a learning curve as boundaries were slowly – but firmly and lovingly – put into place.

“We're seven years into this now, and I've watched Jordan grow from a young boy of seven, who sometimes ranged out there a little on the wild side behavior-wise, into a great young man about to embark on his high school years. And with his personality, smarts and manners, the sky's the limit,” Dan adds.

Over the years Dan and Jordan have enjoyed trips to nearly every place a local youngster could imagine – from boating and fishing to Busch Gardens, sporting events and even golf tournaments. The place Jordan most enjoys, however, is the Worstell family home.

“His favorite thing to do,” Dan says, “is to come to our house and have dinner and just hang out with the family.”

It has been an intensely gratifying experience for Dan, whose office walls boast photos of all of his boys (and countless fish). Dan attends

all of Jordan's sporting events, the family hosts birthday celebrations at their home, and – of course – Jordan comes over during Christmas.

“We have gifts for him – and he has gifts for us,” Dan says.

Indeed, the seed of altruism may have been planted by Dan's own father – on a Christmas long ago in Terre Haute, Indiana.

“One Christmas Eve when I was maybe eleven or twelve years old, my dad had my brother, sister and I gather a bunch of toys that we were willing to give up,” Dan explains. “He packed the toys into a bag, loaded us into the car and drove us to a less fortunate section of town where he thought people might not have the best Christmas. And you can usually tell the houses where kids live.”

Dan's father parked the car, and Dan and his siblings watched as their dad deposited a bag of toys to one particular front porch.

“My dad dropped this bag of toys and then knocked on the door but before they could answer it, he came running and got in the car and we took off,” Dan says. “But we circled around the block and you could see the lights turning on and you could hear the kids screaming with excitement.”

It was a gratification that has lingered all these many years and has probably spilled over into his relationship with Jordan, even though Dan made it clear early on that he is not Santa Claus.

“I cannot describe to you what it's been like – just being able to help him and watch him grow,” Dan says. “He's such a ‘people person,’ absolutely magnetic. No matter where we go, people know Jordan.”

“We've been hanging out since I was 14,” Derek, Dan's oldest son says, who is now 20. “So, it has been neat to grow up together these past seven years.

All my friends know Jordan too. My friends are his friends too.”

Clearly, what started out as an earnest effort to give back to the Williamsburg community has resulted in a life-long connection between Jordan and the Worstell family.

“Big Brothers Big Sisters is an awesome organization,” says the former Big Brother of the Year. “It's fairly easy to donate your money but giving your time has a tremendous impact too. I think that we have to remember – everyone is not always so fortunate. We are all dealt a different set of cards.” NDN



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more than sign language

By Narielle Living

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Lisa W. Cumming Photography

In the Williamsburg/James City County school system, students at Warhill High School can choose a slightly different class for their World Languages fulfillment: American Sign Language (ASL). Afton Bell teaches this class, and she has been teaching it for six years. This is her ninth year at Williamsburg/James City County schools, and she is also qualified to teach special education.

American Sign Language had its beginnings

in the early 1800s, when educators began finding a way to teach deaf people. “ASL is not just English,” Afton says. “It’s a language with grammatical structure and syntax. But it’s not even just a language, it’s a culture.” Each country has its own sign language, as there is no universal sign language.

“If you go to France, they speak French Sign Language, or if you go to Korea, they speak Korean Sign Language. There are hundreds of different sign languages.”

Afton’s classes are usually filled. “My smallest class is usually the level three class, the most advanced one. I have around 17 students in that one. Generally I average 28 to 30 students for the beginning classes.” The program continues to grow, and the school system recently hired a part-time

teacher to meet their needs. Currently, Afton has 130 students enrolled in the 2013-2014 ASL program.

Afton loves teaching, especially when her students have what she calls “light bulb moments,” those moments when she can see that they truly understand the material. For this

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subject, many of her classes will be taught in silence in order to immerse the students in the language. "If I am speaking, I am using English, but if I am signing I am using ASL. If I am signing it means we have voices off. No talking." This presents unique complications when teaching ASL. "I have to find a way to teach them how to convey emotions, questions and inflections. I can see when the students are struggling. I push them a little bit further, and they get it. The light bulb goes on."

Her students are diverse, and she teaches kids from grades 9 through 12. "I love teaching," Afton says. "I've learned patience and understanding and to be confident, and an expert with what I'm teaching." She also appreciates the fact that there are a handful of students looking forward to seeing her during the school day. "The students know that my door is always open. I love the fact that I might be able to give that one student the smile they need for that day."

Afton tries to get to know the students as individuals so she can relate to them better. "I always tell them that they don't have to like me,

but they have to respect me. Some kids come in thinking this is going to be an easy class, but it's not." As with learning any new language, students need to understand the basics of ASL, which includes grammatical structure with verbs, nouns and pronouns.

For Afton, one of the exciting aspects of teaching this class is that her students use what they learn within the community. They go to a variety of events and translate what is being spoken into ASL. She works with the athletic department to arrange this for sporting events, where students will translate the national anthem to ASL for the hearing impaired.

"We have a great relationship with the athletic department. They help us coordinate these events and are really open to us being there." She tries to coordinate a range of volunteer activities for students to use ASL. She takes great satisfaction in knowing that her students are building a reputation for ASL while providing a much-needed community service. Plus, they can put this experience on a resume or college application.

Afton was born in Richmond and grew up

in West Point. As a teenager, her parents chose to send her to Miss Porter's, a boarding school in Connecticut. While she was in high school in Connecticut she started to consider her options for college and career. "I always wanted to work with children and wanted to be effective. It was actually a math teacher that introduced me to sign language."

Fortunately for Afton, Miss Porter's was located in Farmington, a town not far from the American School for the Deaf in Hartford. During her third year of high school she had the opportunity to work as a volunteer at the American School for the Deaf and was invited back to work there during her senior year. "It was fascinating to me to see that they were teaching but not speaking. Some of those little kids lived there."

After narrowing her list of colleges, she chose Vanderbilt University and pursued a double major in elementary education and deaf education. She has always been happy with her choice of career, especially now that she is able to work as an ASL instructor. She credits her parents for her path in life. "I didn't come from

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a wealthy family, but my parents saw the wisdom of sending me away to school. Connecticut was very different than West Point, and I learned about being independent. It really altered my future, in a good way.”

Still, as with any job, some days are more challenging than others. “The good part is that I try to take the time to take the students out of the classroom. We can sign anywhere in the school, especially since we’re silent when we do it.” Because of this, Afton can take the kids on a walk through the school and encourage them to talk about what they see, all in sign language. For her, she wants to motivate them enough so they can build on the language and understand things like nuance and sarcasm. “Sarcasm is difficult to convey in ASL, but once the students get it they really get it.”

Then there’s that common misconception among students that the ASL class is easy. Afton laughs. “It’s definitely not easy,” she says. “But generally the students love it when they start getting it and love to do the work. Some students really appreciate learning different languages and are gifted with that.”

Afton is very dedicated to promoting ASL to the public. “So many people don’t know that this is its own language, it is not English,” she says. “It has components of a true language. ASL is fun, but challenging; it’s not easy but it’s practical. It can be controversial but it certainly deserves a high level of respect.” She goes on to say that her students work very hard in her class, and she is proud of everything they have achieved.

It was only in February, 2011 that the General Assembly in Virginia passed a bill stating that public high schools, colleges and universities in Virginia must accept ASL as a class that fulfills foreign language requirements. For the deaf community, this was significant.

“The acceptance of sign language as a community and as a district needs to be there,” Afton says. If the popularity of Afton’s classes is any indication of what could be, even greater moments may be on the horizon. NDN

Readers interested in learning American Sign Language can look for Afton’s classes at Williamsburg Area Learning Tree (WALT).

Next Door Neighbors

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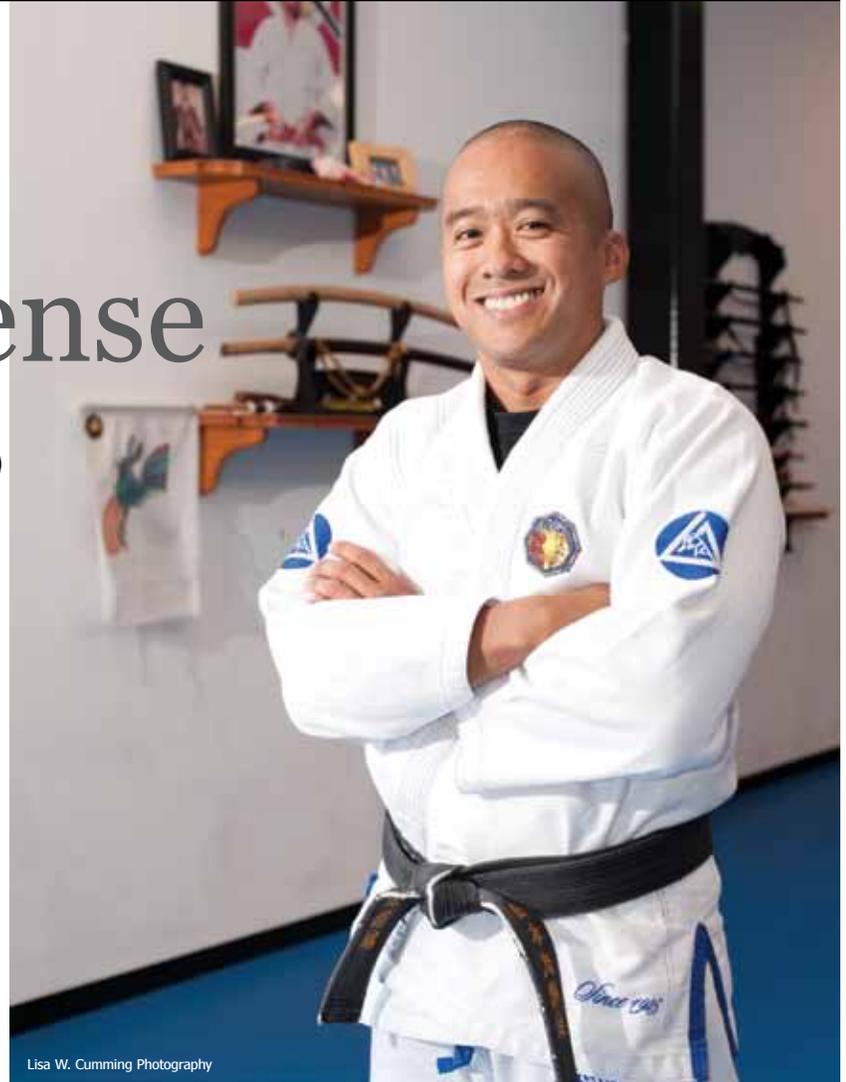
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Common Sense Lessons



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

By Brandy Centolanza

What began five years ago as simply martial arts training for John L. Nguyen and his brother in his garage has turned into an unexpected teaching opportunity for him.

John, a life-long martial artist, and his brother Mike, co-own Bushin Martial Arts Academy on Merrimac Trail, where John is also a head instructor. Roughly 200 students, including 70 children, train at the dojo. (school or practice

hall where karate, judo, or other martial arts are taught). John teaches 26 classes a week there, mostly in self-defense.

Bushin Martial Arts Academy's programs include Gracie Jiu-jitsu, a form of the traditional Japanese Jiu-jitsu developed by Helio Gracie in which a smaller person uses techniques to effectively defend himself against a larger person, as well as a women's self-defense class called

Women Empowered that also teaches Gracie's techniques and the Gracie BullyProof program for children aged five through 13. The dojo is one of only two in Hampton Roads to offer Gracie Jiu-jitsu. Classes in karate, cross-training, kickboxing, yoga and strength & conditioning are also available.

John was born in Vietnam, but grew up in Newport News after his family moved to the

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United States following the Fall of Saigon. John and his brother and two sisters began martial arts training under their father, Thomas, starting at the age of four. John is an expert in Karate, Judo, Japanese Jiu-jitsu and Gracie Jiu-jitsu.

"My dad was about teaching us to always be prepared, and to defend and protect yourself and your loved ones if necessary," John recalls. John helped establish the Karate program at Virginia Tech before deciding to try his hand in the corporate world. In 1999, he moved to Long Island and worked for several years for Enterprise. John met his wife, Helen, while living in New York, and the pair decided to return

to Virginia in 2007 to raise a family. Soon, the opportunity to open Bushin Martial Arts Academy arose.

John trains students from Williamsburg, as well as Newport News, Yorktown and Gloucester. There is also a second dojo location in Richmond. Participants learn street self-defense techniques as well as the principles and values of traditional martial arts training such as focus, discipline, loyalty, dedication and respect. The Gracie BullyProof program is popular among children and helps them handle bullies in a gentle way, using five rules of engagement: avoid the fight at all costs; if physically

attacked, defend yourself; if verbally attacked, follow the three "T-steps" (talk to the bully to get them to leave you alone, tell a teacher or parent if the bully doesn't leave you alone and tackle the bully, only if you need to take matters into your own hands); never punch or kick the bully, establish control and negotiate; and when applying submissions, use minimal force and negotiate.

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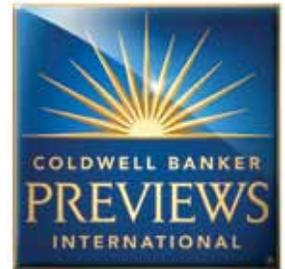
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hitting. We also teach them character development, respect, honor, and discipline. We teach them self-confidence. We focus a lot on how to present and handle yourself confidently."

Mark Bonafe and his daughter have been a part of the dojo since 2008, first taking karate lessons and then joining the Gracie BullyProof program when it began.

"As a result of John's demands for discipline and respect, passion for teaching, and belief in the program, students learn much more than just self-defense," Mark says. "They learn common sense lessons that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. Self-respect, respect for others, how to learn, how to practice, the difference between a good and bad attitude, the importance of friends and family, and how to have fun. These are all taught at Bushin Marshal Arts Academy."

John empathizes with the students in the program because he was sometimes picked on as a child as well, and says that if it hadn't been for his martial arts background, the outcome might have been different. Most of the kids in Gracie BullyProof are shy and quiet children with characteristics just like those who tend to be bully victims. John is pleased he is able to provide them with the skills to prevent them from being bullied.

"We teach and train here because it is our passion," John says. "We teach our students about empowerment and strength as well as important life skills. We are giving them the gift of self-defense and teaching them how to lead their lives confidently. To see someone become confident, to see them find joy and become healthy and to see the families enjoying their time together here is rewarding."

Teaching also comes with some challenges.

"We have very high standards here and we uphold students to those standards," John says. "It's not about a belt or rank here. It's hard trying to teach kids of today that it's not about instant gratification and that they have to work for what they want and work hard for what they want."

As he tries to instill the martial arts values in his students, John has come to realize that he has learned just as much from his students as they have from him.

"I would say patience and humility are the primary things that I have learned from my students," John says. "They've also taught me how to enjoy every day and everything you have."

John's students constantly remind him why he does what he does. He shares the story of a 7-year-old boy in his program who had been a victim of bullying. One day, the boy approached the bully on the playground as he was picking on some other students. He used the techniques he learned in Gracie BullyProof to get the bully to stop the behavior.

"Eventually, the bully started to cry and asked him to let him go, and they became friends," John says. "It is stories like this, the same type of situation that I've heard from multiple kids, that makes you really happy and makes this all really worthwhile. I hear it from the adults here too. It's always good to hear 'You saved my life yesterday.' Hearing that is huge for me."

John and his wife have three children, a 5-year-old son, a 3-year-old daughter, and a 3-month-old son. His eldest child also trains at Bushin Martial Arts Academy, and John couldn't be happier to pass down to his own son all that he learned from his father.

"We have a real family-oriented environment here," John Nguyen says. "It's really about the relationships and helping people. I am happy to spread the knowledge and spread the love. My goal is to continue to train hard and continue to grow as a martial artist and help as many people as I can along the way."

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Delving Into History

By Alison Johnson



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

Every spring, Rachel Moore's husband smilingly describes himself as a "National History Day widower." That's when Rachel is busiest with the year-long academic competition, driving her students and herself hard to dig deeply into the past.

Watching her sixth graders present the research projects they've worked on for months – original documentaries, websites, historical performances, museum exhibits or footnoted papers – to a judging panel of professional historians and educators never fails to give her a rush of pride.

"I get so emotional," says Rachel, a teacher

at Lois S. Hornsby Middle School. "I get very tired and worn out, but in the end I'll be blown away by the incredible work these kids can produce and the way they support each other. National History Day is a journey – an adventure which, when students fully engage, leads to tremendous growth."

Rachel is a passionate supporter of the annual contest (www.nhd.org), which requires sixth through 12th graders to complete extensive research on a chosen topic by visiting libraries, museums and historic sites and conducting oral interviews. Students then draw conclusions about their subject's historical significance and

defend their arguments at district, state and national competitions.

Last year, Rachel, who teaches American History to 1865 in the gifted and regular education programs, helped guide about 70 gifted students through the process, beginning in October. Steps include instructing students how to locate and cite sources, approving project plans, organizing after-school work sessions with high school student mentors, offering feedback on rough drafts and attending Saturday competitions.

The benefits are well worth the effort, Rachel says, who was named National History Day Ju-

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nior Division Teacher of the Year in Virginia for 2013. Students have to think critically, manage their time, collaborate with each other, network with contacts and analyze events in historical context and from multiple perspectives, and then clearly communicate all of their findings.

One year she watched a student, who used to blush nervously whenever called on in class, speak with poise at the national competition. Last year, one of her teams advanced to the state-level competition – despite having to go up against seventh- and eighth-graders – with a documentary on the impact of smallpox and the smallpox vaccine on the city of Boston and the world.

“Each year, parents have told me their children have gained confidence and are more engaged with history because they were able to intensively pursue a topic of personal interest,” Rachel says. “It makes them feel grown up and professional. I hope they’ll carry what they learn for the rest of their lives.”

Rachel, a native of White Plains, New York, who gives her age to her students as “two score and four” – that’s 44 in years – always loved

school as a child, although her earliest career goals included pizza man, jockey and Major League Baseball pitcher (she did become a varsity softball player in high school).

By middle school, teachers were telling her that she’d make a good teacher. At 16, she began volunteering and working at Historic Hudson Valley, a museum made up of six historic sites. “I milked cows, assisted with the summer camp, gave tours and performed at special events,” she says. “I found I loved sharing the past with people.”

In college at Cornell University, however, Rachel initially studied foreign languages. Then, during the summer between her junior and senior years, her mother took her to a historical dance conference at Colonial Williamsburg. “This experience was so inspiring that I returned to college, changed my major to American Studies and pursued a career in museum education,” she says.

After graduating in 1991, Rachel worked at museums for about 20 years, including Plimoth Plantation in Massachusetts and Colonial Williamsburg; she earned a Master of Arts in Teaching in Museum Education from George

Washington University in 1998. Her last museum job was as a supervisor of the Education Outreach program at the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, where she led hands-on programs in classrooms throughout the state.

Seven years ago, Rachel made the jump to classroom teaching, although she still performs in dance programs at Colonial Williamsburg about three evenings a month. She has worked at James Blair Middle School in addition to Lois S. Hornsby Middle School and enjoys sixth grade because it is a period of tremendous growth: her students “have tremendous energy and are really able to think deeply about the world. They are just learning to organize and express those thoughts.”

Like many teachers, Rachel speaks of the rush she gets when her students are excited about understanding something new. With between 90 and 115 students a year, time is her biggest challenge. She usually gets up at 4:30 a.m. to plan or grade for a few hours before school and, like many colleagues, stays at Lois S. Hornsby Middle School until about 5:30 p.m.

“I think many not involved with teaching



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would be surprised to learn how much teachers invest,” she says. “Teachers pay for students’ lunches when they forget their money and listen to their concerns. Teachers buy items for their classrooms to make the experience better for their students. Teachers work on weekends, evenings and during the summers when they’re ‘off.’”

Rachel, a mother of three – Meghan, 24; Maggie, 22; and Hattie, 5 – credits her colleagues and her husband, Stephen, with helping her succeed. Stephen, a musician and actor-interpreter at Colonial Williamsburg, is understanding when she has to work after hours and has even given a presentation on Westward Expansion to her students.

Her students, meanwhile, have taught Rachel that young people are always observing the adults around them, even if it might not appear that way. Rachel likes to tell a story about going to fuss at students who were so loud in the restroom that she could hear them two doors down. When she got closer, she realized they were singing the ABC song.

“And then I remembered: during home-room, I had made an announcement from the nurse about the large number of illnesses and

shared a recommendation to wash hands long enough by singing the ABC song,” Rachel says. “They had actually listened, remembered and were doing it. Students may not apply learning exactly the way – at the volume – intended, but they need to take ownership to make the learning stick.”

Rachel also has discovered how much kids, just like adults, can blossom with a little personal attention. “It is really meaningful to students when a teacher comes to their concert, their sports event, their performance,” she says. Seeing different sides of her students “also gives me perspective and helps me connect what we are doing in class to other areas of their lives,” she adds.

Rachel would like more local educators and students to participate in National History Day (she asks for a specific shout-out to Julie Bray, a Toano Middle School teacher who has made the commitment for years). She would also like to see more community members at competitions, where she served as a judge before switching careers. The state-level competition, sponsored by Colonial Williamsburg, has been held in late April at Thomas Nelson Community College in recent years; nationals are in June

at the University of Maryland in College Park.

“I think we do a great job recognizing students for their achievements in sports,” she says. “It would be great to see recognition for academic challenge and achievement regularly be given in equal importance. I want people to know what incredible capacity our kids have to learn.”

National History Day is a team sport, she emphasizes. Students assist and cheer for each other despite being competitors. Parents, teachers, historians, museum educators and technology experts all pitch in during what can feel like a never-ending process to preteens and teenagers.

Not all students buy into the intensive program, Rachel admits. But many others are hooked, so much so that they begin brainstorming their next project immediately after the competition ends.

No wonder Rachel Moore finds herself clutching a tissue during their presentations, ready for happy tears. “There has not been a single day that I thought I made the wrong decision to go into teaching,” she says. “It is a real privilege to get to know so many wonderful young people.” NDN



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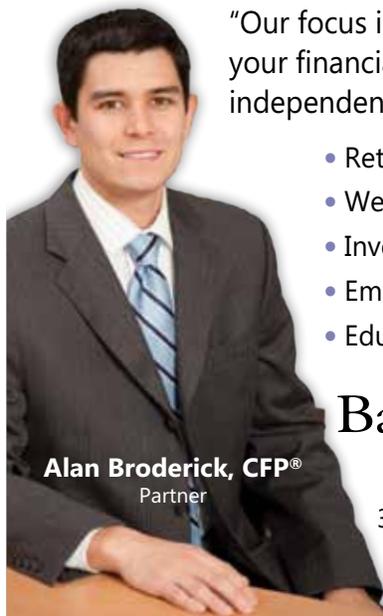
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Kids Are Just Kids

By Cathy Welch

Born and raised in California, painter Karen Schwartz declared her intention to be an artist at an early age. In second grade, her school bus drove past the home of Walter Lantz, creator of the Woody Woodpecker cartoon. "Someone said he was an artist," she explains. "I said I was going to be an artist when I grew up, too."

Karen met her husband, Joel Schwartz, in high school, and they married after he graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1970. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts with a concentration in



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painting and printmaking from San Diego State University. She also took post-graduate courses in child development.

When her two children, Amy and Ben came along, Karen volunteered in their schools, worked as a teacher's aide in elementary school and took several early childhood education art for kids classes.

"I've been interested in child development and children's art for over 35 years," Karen says. "I studied early childhood development while finishing up my art degree and wrote my paper on the developmental aspects of children's art." She also attended a parent participation preschool with her daughter through the adult education program in San Diego.

Karen moved to Williamsburg in the fall of 1981 when Joel accepted a position to teach in the Government Department at the College of William and Mary. He is the Dean of Honors & Interdisciplinary Studies and the Director of the Charles Center, as well. Karen works part-time as a web developer and web designer for the Office of Assessment at William and Mary. She also does freelance web designs for artists and art organizations, including websites for the Virginia Watercolor Society, The Art of Music and This Century Art Gallery (TCAG).

Joel began the Williamsburg area Buddy Ball program in 2006 through the Williamsburg Youth Baseball League. Buddy Ball is a national baseball program for kids with disabilities that teams volunteer Buddies to play one-on-one alongside participants.

"All plays are cheered for but no one is ever out," Karen explains. "A lot of times it's the Buddy that makes the play but the Buddy will stop the ball, give it to the kid, and the kid throws it to whoever goes next," Karen explains.

Karen supports Buddy Ball and one year after delivering pizza to their end-of-season party, she was talking with a parent about the limited opportunities for children with disabilities in the Williamsburg area. "A light bulb went off and I thought, 'why don't we do this with Buddy Art?'"

In 2008, Karen and her friend Pat Rapoport proposed Buddy Art to TCAG's board of directors. "It seemed like a great outreach program for the gallery to sponsor and a chance to work with some really special kids and their families," Karen says. "I have a few adult volunteers from TCAG who help supervise the activities, but most of my Volunteer Buddies are students from William and Mary."

Joel introduced her to students from the College of William and Mary's Sharpe Community Scholarship program that were looking for a project for their freshman seminar on Disabilities in America. Courtney Sutton and Michael Coulter were two original Buddies that helped start the program.

"Buddy Art is a program of art activities for kids with special needs or physical disabilities age six and up," Karen explains. "My oldest 'kid' was about 34, but she was really a 'kid' and fit in with the younger children." The kids work one-on-one with volunteers who are mostly William and Mary students. The classes average 15 students.

Karen says, "I developed Buddy Art on the same principles as preschool art activities where you set up different stations and kids move around them." The stations include easel painting, modeling clay, collage, finger-painting, carpentry, drawing, printmaking and bubbles. The kids move around at their own pace choosing what they want to do.

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Some kids like to sit and chat, play chase with their Buddies and sometimes even paint them. "One kid's favorite thing is Duck, Duck, Goose. It's really funny to watch these college kids play with their Buddies. Some kids spend most of the hour socializing with their big Buddies."

Buddy Art participants get the opportunity to explore art in a non-judgmental, no-expectations environment. "The kids explore art materials without having to follow someone else's instructions," Karen explains. "We give the big Buddies guidelines about how to do the activities to promote success with the materials. But if they or the kids find another way to do stuff, they are encouraged to explore and see what happens."

Being in a situation where the kids are not at risk of being asked to leave is a relief to the parents. Buddy Art is an opportunity for them to watch their child explore and be themselves. "The parent doesn't have the pressure of what anyone else may think of their kid or why their child isn't acting like everyone else. These are the kids who have trouble fitting in with typically-abled kids," Karen says. "In Buddy Art, everyone fits in."

Buddy Art creates community. Many of the older Buddies build relationships with their young Buddy's family. They babysit, attend high school performances and become involved in their younger Buddy's life outside the program.

In 2011, a group of Buddies from Buddy Art and Buddy Ball initiated Campus Buddies at William and Mary. "The program recruits volunteers for Buddy Art and Buddy Ball. They also arrange transportation for their volunteers," Karen says. "For the students, Buddy Art is a chance to learn that 'kids are kids' and the things that make them 'special' aren't necessarily good or bad." Campus Buddies provides continuity to the art program and raises awareness of disabilities on campus.

Buddy Art has a five to six week long spring and fall session held at the James City County Recreation Center on Longhill Road. Buddy Art is sponsored by TCAG in partnership with student volunteers through Campus Buddies at the College of William and Mary and James City County Parks and Recreation.

The last class in a session includes a showing of the kids' artwork and a cookie decorating party. This November the party will be held at Prince George Art and Frame courtesy of owner, Fred Miller.

Buddy Art is supported by local businesses including Hutchens Chevrolet, Williamsburg Motors and St. Olaf Catholic Church. A few organizations have given them grants as well. "We also have Buddy Art Note Cards featuring art by the Buddy Art Kids for sale at TCAG. Proceeds from the sales benefit the Buddy Art program."

Karen was mentored and encouraged by friends to take her painting seriously about 15 years ago. "My friend, Patricia Rapoport, gave me a Doug Walton Painting Workshop. Sometimes you need that jumpstart to get back into that thing you love." Karen now shows her work in mixed watermedia at TCAG.

"Art feeds the soul," Karen says. "It's an outlet for kids and adults and enriches our environment. When I'm in the middle of a Buddy Art class, I just see how happy the kids are and how relaxed the parents are knowing their kids are having fun and are being accepted for who they are and not singled out for what makes them different. Kids are just kids and they all have the same feelings and the same responses at different times." She pauses and smiles, "My kids are just kids longer." NDN



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Linda Woolwine’s lengthy career in education came to a happy close with a surprise party given by her family and faculty friends,

complete with heartfelt accolades that thanked her for over three decades of dedicated teaching.

When Linda said goodbye to her students last spring, she had been a math teacher for 33 years, with the last 21 years spent at Toano Middle School.

What made her choose the challenging middle school years to teach, and why math?

“I sort of fell into it,” Linda says with a laugh. “When I graduated from college, I had

a job, but not as a teacher. Every day when I finished working I camped out at the school superintendent’s office to keep my face visible.” Linda’s persistence paid off when a teacher suddenly resigned and Linda was asked if she wanted her position.

“Yes!” she replied at once, only then adding, “What is it?”

“It’s teaching 7th and 8th grade math.”

“Oh...okay!”

Linda says that year she stayed a chapter

ahead of her students in that tiny rural school, learning as she went along. "I loved it!" she says. "Math always seemed boring when I was in school, so it was fun coming up with new ways to learn that would keep my students motivated." By that last day of class in June, Linda had earned her grand \$4,400 salary and knew her middle school math cold.

Linda always wanted to be a teacher, from the time she was a child in Glasgow, Kentucky. Miss Harwood was her 6th grade teacher, a great influence in Linda's eventual choice of career and teaching methods. Miss Harwood believed in a classroom that featured music and lots of active learning. Linda would regularly invite her friends over to her house, set up several desks and play school. Linda, of course, was always the teacher.

"I liked being in charge," Linda says. "I still like it--you can ask my friends; I'm kind of bossy!" She laughs with delight.

In addition to allowing her to be in charge of her own classroom, teaching was a good career choice for Linda since it is a transportable skill. As her husband Woody, who has been a

State Farm Insurance agent for 42 years, was transferred from Kentucky to Virginia, North Carolina, and eventually back to Virginia, Linda went on to a series of schools and assignments. She found herself, at different times, teaching Title I classes for economically disadvantaged children and working with students who were seeking high school equivalency credentials by way of GED testing.

"Every experience I had was a stepping stone to the next place I went," Linda says.

While her children were young, Linda took a sabbatical from her teaching career. When the youngest child reached school age, she returned to the classroom herself, accepting a position at James Blair Middle School.

"I felt honored and excited to be selected to teach math at Toano Middle School when it opened since I was a fairly new teacher in this area at the time. Faculty was gleaned from both James Blair and Berkeley Middle Schools, but we soon settled into a tightly-knit unit at Toano."

Her students knew their Mrs. Woolwine as a challenging teacher who used many origi-

nal strategies to ensure that math was fun. She wove themes of problem-solving, reasoning, technology and evaluation into her curriculum. Origami frog Olympics, tracking stock market trends and building scale model popsicle stick bridges using spreadsheets and computer software made her popular classes entertaining and relevant. In 1996 her unique methods won Linda Virginia's highest educational honor, the middle school William C. Lowry Outstanding Mathematics Teacher Award.

"I love to think about the old days, before it became just test after test after test," she says. "It's harder to find creative ways to teach now," she says.

As the years went by, Linda also managed to balance her profession, which sometimes meant field trips and late evenings at school, with the needs of a growing family.

Linda and Woody met at their alma mater, the University of Kentucky, married, and had three children. Two of them, Amanda and Scott, wound up back in Kentucky, but their older son, Woods, lives nearby and is the head



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In her 33 years in the teaching profession, Linda has seen an incredible amount of change. When she began her career in the 1970s, basic curriculum was the focus. "I'm old school and think students still need to learn those things that should be fundamentals, even though the teacher's job today is to get their students ready for a global society. Today's children rely on technology to a great degree, using calculators to do the computation for them. They don't even teach multiplication facts any more."

Students have evolved socially in this latest generation, according to Linda's observation. In recent years she found them likely to be more verbal about expectations and to interact more with their teachers. "It helps to have a good sense of humor and a thick skin," she says, in dealing with today's typical classroom.

Linda had high expectations of her students, even when they were dealing with tough situations at home. School can be a refuge for some kids, and the teachers is a vital part of their support system.

Toano Middle School staff has always collected donations for Thanksgiving baskets for those families in need, as well as filled their own Angel Tree for students who are financially challenged at holiday time.

"I just can't say enough about the faculty at Toano. I think I'll miss that daily interaction most of all," Linda says. "It's a happy group."

Among the things Linda looks forward to in retirement is being able to play golf with grandson E.A., and also to travel back to Lexington for special times such as her distant grandchildren's birthdays, which have always fallen during the school year. She is excited to be able to be a part of those celebrations at last, transforming FaceTime into face-to-face time with her Kentucky family.

Recently, thanks to computer technology, something happened that brought back some cherished memories for Linda. "I was reminded of the days when I was a young chick straight out of college; I was fresh and excited and wanted so much to make a difference," she says. An unexpected communication proved her success in that desire.

A former math student from her first year of teaching contacted Linda on Facebook. Linda recalled her as a Kentucky farmer's daughter who was as diligent about her chores as she was about her schoolwork. She had never forgotten her young teacher, and 40 years later reached out to express her appreciation.

"She told me," Linda says, "that she had always remembered the teacher's conference I held in my classroom one day with her mother and her. Evidently, I told this mother that her daughter had so much potential, and that she was going to do something great."

The student, now a grandmother herself, told Linda, "Mom never really believed in me since I wasn't an 'A' student, but you inspired me when you told me I was going to college and that I would do well. You gave me the confidence to actually do it." Linda paused to reflect, clearly moved.

"This...this is why you teach," Linda Woolwine says with a smile, tears welling in her eyes. "I always wanted a light bulb to turn on in my students' minds. That's what made it all worthwhile." NDN



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21st Century Teacher

By Rebecca Corlett

Teachers are a vital part of the growing process. They teach us a variety of subjects, as well as how to communicate effectively, respect the opinions of others and become a contributing member of society. Dr. Dianna Lindsay, teacher and head of the high school at Williamsburg Christian Academy, is an amazing example of what it means to be a teacher in the 21st Century.

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Dr. Lindsay's teaching career began in Massachusetts, where she grew up with one sister and two brothers. From there, she moved on to teach in Ohio, Illinois, Connecticut and Virginia, with her subjects of choice: English and Social Studies.

She was lucky enough to share her love of teaching with her husband, a school administrator for 40 years who was admired by his students and known as "Mr. Rogers" due to his tall stature and extensive collection of sweaters. Dr. Lindsay and her husband grew together as administrators and would frequently bounce ideas off of one another. Although they never had children, after 43 years of teaching, she says she has "accumulated many charms on [her] bracelet," having had thousands of students throughout her career.

"I have known I wanted to be a teacher since high school," Dr. Lindsay says, "I was inspired by several very, very prominent women who were powerful motivators in my life. I couldn't imagine anything more noble than working with children." When Dr. Lindsay was growing up, higher education was assumed in her

family, and the profession available to women was teaching. But she did not settle on simply being an average teacher. Dr. Lindsay continues to make a life-long commitment to her education. "Each step of my own personal world has been dedicated to improving my skills," she says. Dr. Lindsay has seven master's degrees from a variety of universities including Ohio State, Harvard University and William and Mary, with topics ranging from "School Administration" to "School Counseling" to "Curriculum/Instruction" to "Social Studies for Secondary Education."

She also immerses herself, as a leader of the Harvard Summer Program each July and has for the past 25 years. During the program, 160 principals from around the world gather to better themselves as leaders of their schools and to learn new techniques in engaging their faculty and students.

"I have facilitated conversations, lectured and developed programs with selected teams to provide leadership experiences with the participants from around the world," she says, "I can't even imagine how I could have survived

in education without it." Through the experience, she's been able to grow both professionally and personally, building off fellow enthusiastic educators.

Dr. Lindsay fosters a unique bond with her students and stays in touch with many of them, having gone to weddings, funerals, births, parties, class reunions and many other events. "There is a very special relationship that you can have with your high school principal or the person that is an active part of the school," she says.

She has brought this personal connection, compassion and determination into each school she has been a part of. She challenges herself, even while being the school principal, by teaching some of the toughest classes to the students who need to pass to get their diplomas. Dr. Lindsay has led schools and school districts for 38 years, but what excites her the most is to teach.

Dr. Lindsay uses many different teaching methods to engage her students by making learning fun and exciting. One of her signature methods is to dress up as the character her class

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is studying, which has included such figures as Frankenstein, George Washington, Henry David Thoreau and Christopher Columbus. "I am a great believer of the characters in what the students are learning. I try very much to come in character as often as I can." By dressing up, Dr. Lindsay isn't just simply sitting at the front of the classroom giving a lecture on a particular character, but she becomes that character for the day. This allows her students to have a conversation directly with the character, thus bringing that character into contemporary life. This not only makes learning the material fun, but also allows for a more memorable experience for the students.

Dr. Lindsay also incorporates social media into her classroom, not only as a way to further the learning in the classroom, but also to provide them with the knowledge of the appropriate ways to use social media that is now so accessible to adolescents.

When her ninth grade English class worked with the novel Frankenstein, she assigned each student a character and had them make Twitter accounts on a safe network for their charac-

ter and had the students "tweet" to each other throughout the course of the novel. Not only was this teaching them how best to use Twitter, but also how to initiate and continue their communications and reflections on the plot of the novel between themselves. Dr. Lindsay has done similar projects with her classes using other social media, including blogs, videos and Pinterest, among others.

"Using technology as the way to enhance communication, understanding and imagination via a lively interactive and constructivist fashion aids students in developing hypotheses, predict outcomes and test the worth of their ideas in ways that others can add insights and questions," Dr. Lindsay explains.

She is also a firm believer in Socratic seminars, which allow students to engage in conversation with one another. Her classroom, which just won "The Coolest Classroom in the World" by Education World, is set up for these conversations by having a rectangle of desks around the perimeter of the room with six bright red "hot" chairs in the middle. This allows for Socratic seminars in both small and

large groups. "I think the art of conversation is an essential art regardless of where you are in life. I don't know any job that you do not have conversations." These conversations are what she loves about teaching English.

When looking to the future, Dr. Lindsay hopes to have a "long, healthy experience at Williamsburg Christian Academy." She wants to learn to play the piano and improve her golf game.

"My goal with my students is to continue learning how to maximize technology and student engagement and create the best critical thinkers I can," she says. "I love to see kids get excited about learning. I love to see kids have those 'Ah-ha' moments. I love to watch them when they know they have done something really, really challenging, and they've done it well. It is transformative! If I could bottle it up, I would!"

This is what keeps Dr. Dianna Lindsay teaching and furthering her own education and what will keep her touching the lives of students at Williamsburg Christian Academy for years to come. NDN

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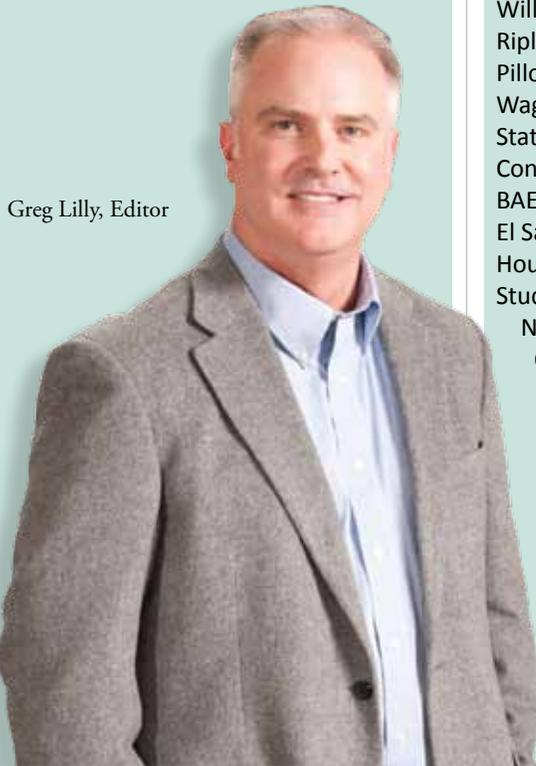
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The Arc of Greater Williamsburg
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Williamsburg Area Learning Tree

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People are joining Williamsburg Neighbors to discover what is happening in our town. I see that

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church has a new pastor, the Reverend Dr. John Morgan. Welcome! Also Flute Frenzy will play at An Occasion for the Arts, so be sure to look for them. United Way is working on a women's health symposium called A Woman's Quest slated for November and the Day of Caring on September 13.

The great aspect of this localized social media is that an organization can post announcements, events, blogs, videos, classified ads,

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forums and documents to share within the organization and with their Williamsburg neighbors.

The “Act Like a Tourist” photo contest wrapped up on August 16. Look for the winners to be announced in the October issue of Next Door Neighbors. Winners are in each of the three categories: Nature, People and Architecture. Then the number of “likes” set First, Second and Third place winners from those category winners. Our photo contest winners will be dining at Opus 9 Steakhouse, Giuseppe’s Italian Restaurant and Anna’s Brick Oven. I hope your favorites won. Maybe you’ll get invited to dine with one of the winners.

What’s Happening on WilliamsburgNeighbors.com

Victorious Images

Nancy Lewis invites women dealing with cancer to stop in at the full-service mastectomy boutique. It is more than a shop; it’s a sanctuary. She has created a place of refuge where women can talk about their experiences and discover the products and services that make life a bit easier.

BAEPLEX Family Martial Arts Center

Joseph Ash explains how martial arts can bring health, harmony and balance into our lives. Especially with the current issues of bullying of our young people and obesity throughout the community, martial arts can bring a family together in a positive and healthy activity. Check the BAEPLEX profile for more information.

Williamsburg Christian Academy

The “Catch the Vision” tour is on August 29th at 2:00 p.m. at WCA. This is the opportunity to discover this Christ-centered, non-denominational, college preparatory academy for pre-school through 12th grade.

Williamsburg Area Learning Tree (WALT)

Try something new! That’s WALT’s advice. The instructors are gearing up for the fall season, and all they need is you. If you have a little inkling of curiosity for... just about anything, then WALT can give you the opportunity to learn something new. I’m holding a writing class. Got a story to tell? Go to the WALT profile to see how to register. No grades, no tests, just fun.

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church

Penny Pulley has posted information about the new Senior Pastor at Williamsburg Presbyte-

rian Church – the Reverend Dr. John Morgan. From York Presbyterian Church in York, Pennsylvania, he and his wife Ellen are settling into Williamsburg. Dr. Morgan employs “collaborative preaching, which involves roundtable discussions with members of the congregation about the scripture for the following Sunday.” That sounds exciting and energizing. The 1600 members of the church welcome visitors to worship with them and hear the new pastor.

The Mariners’ Museum

The Mariners’ Museum was founded by Archer and Anna Huntington in 1930. On its About Page, they state the Mariners’ Museum Park is the nation’s largest privately-owned and maintained park that is open to the public. The park has 550 acres of naturally wooded areas, and Lake Maury is 167 acres bordered by the five-mile Noland Trail. Also, the Mariners’ Museum hosts hundreds of artifacts from the Civil War ironclad USS Monitor.

Hospice House

Hospice House has posted a very moving video on their services for the last stage of life. Volunteers discuss how you can help. Families talk about how Hospice House has supported them in the process of transition and grief. Linda Tay-



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lor, executive director, talks about the services and the support groups they host. The support of the community is vital. Think about contributing if you can.

Flute Frenzy

A new season is starting for Flute Frenzy. Entrance into the program is by audition, so check out the Flute Frenzy Blog to learn how to join this fun and dynamic group.

Body Balance Studio

Williamsburg's original hot yoga studio offers a full schedule of classes seven days a week at two locations. The McLaws Circle location specializes in hot yoga and is "a great place to start if you are new to the practice." The Prince George Street location offers Vinyasa yoga seven days a week, pre-natal yoga, kettlebells, as well as pilates core and barre classes. Body Balance has a \$20 Introductory Week to get you started. Check their profile for details.

Elements Massage and Bodywork

A wellness center and day spa, Elements Massage and Bodyworks offers customized mas-

sage therapy services, facials, waxing and natural nail care services. Relax your mind and body with a massage or ease discomfort and increase range of motion. The massage can be customized to you.

Studio South

Studio South goes beyond yoga classes. They have workshops on topics from nutrition to partner yoga and beyond. The aim is to "facilitate learning and growth opportunities for our teachers, students and community." The community is the heart of what Studio South does. "We are constantly finding new ways to spread our love of yoga through free community classes, workshops, and participation in local charity events." The Local Love program donates a percentage of revenue to local charities to spread the love – locally.

Convenient Care of Williamsburg

Karolee Towe describes her services in a video on the company's profile page. Busy or need help after an illness or hospital stay? Their services can include running errands, shopping for groceries, picking up prescriptions, accompa-

nying you to a doctor's appointment and even assisting with basic computer issues.

WebCamp One

Jim Pietrangelo posted examples of the custom-made small business websites WebCamp One has created. Take a look. It might be time to upgrade your company's website.

Fitness Together

Frank Rosalie posted a great promotion: Free Fitness Fridays. Test drive the private and small group personal training sessions of Fitness Together on Free Fitness Fridays. Offer ends on August 30, so check out the details on Fitness Together's "Promotions" page.

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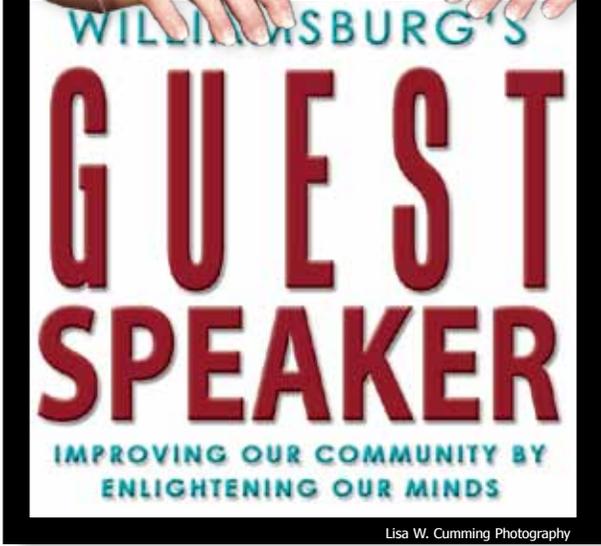
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JENNIFER STOUT

ON THE ARC OF GREATER WILLIAMSBURG



Jennifer Stout, Executive Director of The Arc of Greater Williamsburg, and her husband, Michael, have been married 21 years and have 3 sons, Chris, Josh, and Zach.

A life-long resident of the Williamsburg area, Jennifer became involved in fundraising with her sons' schools. "I became president of the Home & School Association and co-chaired their annual auction," Jennifer says. "Another parent thought I would be perfect for a position with The

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. I got the job and started my non-profit career."

She discovered her calling in "fighting to make the world a better place." She's been involved with non-profits throughout Hampton Roads, and her work has taken her all over Virginia and North America, focused on her mission and rallying people to help achieve the goal. "Working for The Arc has allowed me to use my passion in a community that means so

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much to me, while helping people who I now consider family."

When did you first become involved with The Arc?

I have always held a special place in my heart for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I have a cousin and a very close family friend who both have intellectual disabilities. A friend told me that the opportunity for the Executive Director position was announced, and I jumped at the chance to work for such a wonderful organization. I began as Executive Director for The Arc of Greater Williamsburg in January of 2012. I was hooked as soon as I walked into an Arc program and was greeted by a woman named Amy with Down Syndrome. She immediately took my hand and said "You need a name tag." Once she got my name tag on straight, she gave me a big hug with a big smile

to match and said "Welcome to The Arc, Jen!"

What is the mission of The Arc?

The Arc of Greater Williamsburg's mission is to improve the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD) such as Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, brain injuries and more through community activities and advocacy. We are driven by the opportunity for everyone to become a valued, contributing member of the community. We intend to be the champion of individual rights for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and we will continue to develop programs to sustain this cause. Our support services provide educational and life skills, health and wellness, and cultural and recreational programs. In addition, we provide much needed respite time for families and caregivers.

What is an intellectual disability? A developmental disability?

An intellectual disability is a disability which is manifested before the age of 18 and is characterized by significant limitations both in intellectual functioning and in adaptive behavior. These limitations are expressed in the person's conceptual, social and practical everyday living skills. A developmental disability is a severe, chronic disability which is manifested before the age of 22 and is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental and physical impairments. These impairments can cause limitations in major life activity such as: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living and economic self-sufficiency.

What are some of the biggest misconceptions the public has about

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people living with intellectual disabilities/developmental disabilities?

One that we hear a lot is that people with ID/DD have a "mental illness." Although some people can be diagnosed with multiple disabilities, including psychiatric, intellectual and developmental disabilities, they are not all a mental illness. I also think sometimes people are intimidated or even afraid of getting to know someone with ID/DD. Our volunteers will tell you that being a friend to someone with ID/DD means you are accepted and loved for exactly who you are almost immediately with no judgment and lots of hugs and smiles.

The people we serve are the happiest, most loyal and hardworking people I have ever met. This also means that they make great employees, neighbors, volunteers and friends. The word "can't" isn't one we use

very often because we quickly learn that our clients do more than we thought possible every day. Quite a few of our clients live completely on their own, some are married, many work, and all of them want to be contributing members of their community like everyone else. All they need is the chance.

What are the guiding principles of The Arc?

The Arc believes that all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have strengths, abilities and inherent value; are equal before the law; and must be treated with dignity and respect. The Arc represents, supports and acts on behalf of individuals and their families regardless of their level of disability. The Arc believes in self-determination by empowering people with the supports needed to make informed decisions and choices.

How can the readers help?

Help us grow! We have been serving the Williamsburg community for over 36 years, and we have enriched and changed a lot of lives. However, we have never had day support, employment, housing, or programs that reach the younger population. We are working on comprehensive plans to include new programs to provide even more support for all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We are more energized to change and grow. We have built, and are continuing to build, the right team of staff, board members and community relationships to accomplish all of our goals. You can also register to walk or run in the Williamsburg Landing 5K for The Arc on September 21, 2013. This is our biggest fundraiser and a great family event presented by Chesapeake Bank. We are also adding lots of fun extras this year for the 5K!

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What are some personal experiences you have had that renew your commitment to The Arc?

Getting to know the families and the needs that are still not being met for people with ID/DD in the Greater Williamsburg community, as well as the realization that we are not reaching everyone with ID/DD, continues to renew my commitment to The Arc every day. We serve an average of 150 clients a year who currently range in age from 16-72. The majority of them still live with their parents and most parents still worry about what will happen to their children when they are gone. Another huge concern is what happens after high school. One of our clients, Drew, is facing this issue right now. He is 22 and recently graduated from high school. He has Down Syndrome and is nonverbal. Employment in the community is not a good fit for him and many others like Drew. Since he does not have a Medicaid Waiver and will most likely be on the waiting list to receive one for many years, there are simply no options for him in our community. We see Drew and other clients eventually in an Arc day support program where he can thrive in programs, perform meaningful volunteer work, and possibly supported employment within a group setting. Instead, if they can't find a suitable private arrangement, one of his parents may be forced to stop working to care for him. That should not be their only option, and The Arc is committed to provide every local family with better options for their loved ones with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

How has your work affected your personal life and outlook?

I have always been a pretty optimistic and happy person, but working for The Arc has put those attributes into overdrive for me. Even on the most challenging days, all I have to do is show up to an Arc program or talk to one of our clients on the phone and my day is 100% better. I am inspired daily and in turn teach my family and others to be accepting and inspired as well. My boys, my mom, and some of my best friends have become volunteers and advocates for The Arc. I have also been extremely blessed with an amazing team of staff, board, members, interns, families and volunteers. We call ourselves the A-Team, and I have never met a more driven and passionate group of individuals. NDN

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It's all about Customer Service

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Volunteering and enhancing the welfare of animals has been an essential part of Susan Guthrie's life. She's turned that core value into her profession. Susan runs Bubble Buddies and labels herself a "Professional Pet Lover." Her personal contact with her customers, two and four-legged, enable her to test and implement new services.

Susan grew up in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. "That's just north of Philadelphia," she



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explains. "After high school graduation, I went to South Carolina to attend Coastal Carolina University, outside of Myrtle Beach. Visiting and living there are two different things. I received my four-year degree in marine science and biology."

After college, she had an internship with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. "It was the best unpaid job I ever had. The position was on the Marine Mammals Stranding Network." Her team would respond when a call came in that a dolphin or whale had washed up on the beach. "I didn't get to go on a lot of the rescues. Most of my work was doing necropsies and things like that."

Susan started a program for osteology of the bottlenose dolphin. "That was a study of evaluating inshore stocks," she says. "Those are the only dolphins that strand-feed. A pod of dolphins will chase a school of fish up and out of the water then flop out to catch the fish on land and then flop back in the water." She enjoyed the work, but without an advanced degree, marine science was a difficult field in which to earn a living.

"One of my professors started an environmental consulting firm and needed help getting it started." She helped launch the business and at the end of six years was part-owner and general manager. The firm had five offices in Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina. "It was very exciting and challenging."

But, exciting and challenging comes with stress and worry. Susan wanted to be back closer to her family. "I moved here in 2002 and came to work at Williamsburg Environmental Group (WEG). I was there until the middle of last year."

She had spent some time, and is still involved, with the Ring Dog Rescue Group (based in Richmond). "I foster and volunteer with them." She had a history of working with rescue groups and the humane societies where she lived. "Having my three dogs and knowing so many people with dogs, I've come to see that Williamsburg is an extremely pet-friendly town. People here love their pets. I love that about this area."

The pet part of her life called to her. "I was at a good age and position," she says of leaving

the corporate life. "The economy was coming back." She decided to start her pet-oriented business.

"I started with Bubble Buddies," Susan says, naming the company after her first rescue Buddy. "I thought about a retail storefront and a services side." She searched for retail space, but hasn't found her ideal spot. "In the meantime, I thought I would do the pet services. I know a lot of people want and need the services side. I volunteer at Heritage Humane Society and talk to a lot of people with pets."

With her interactions with people at humane societies, the rescue groups, veterinary offices and pet stores, Susan decided on dog walking, pet sitting and pet taxi services. She says that the hands-on volunteer work and the people she encounters with her own pets provide her with valuable insight into the needs of pets and their owners. "I look at my business through the client's eyes."

She recommends that business owners take the role of customer and see how their own business looks from that side. Susan found that pet owners had a range of requirements and re-

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quests so adaptability was essential.

“The services are flexible and customizable to what the pet owner needs,” she adds. “People love the idea of personalized services for them and their pets. While doing the research for the core services, I worked with SCORE (experience-based small business coaching and mentoring group in Williamsburg).”

She found that the pet owners she talked with wanted someone to stay overnight with their pets, in their home, when they needed to be out of town. “A lot of people said that boarding was difficult for their pets. It’s especially hard to kennel rescue dogs,” Susan says. “I think they have flashbacks of being abandoned again.”

She found that people wanted pet services with someone they could trust and who was professional – staying with their pets in their home, taking their pets to the vet or to the groomer, walking their dog while they were away. “There will always be the option of the neighbor kid or a friend who could stop by to let the dog out a couple of times a day, but I found pet owners avoid asking for favors and

would rather contract it out to a professional pet services company,” she says and adds, “really a professional pet lover who knows how important it is to be there on time and to stay overnight when needed.”

She says she isn’t a dog groomer, but has offered to add a wash for the dog when she stays overnight. “I bring all the necessary supplies, wash the dog, clean their ears, clip their nails and then clean up the tub afterwards.”

The idea for a pet taxi service came from her volunteer work and from customer requests. “I also do ‘transport.’ That’s a really neat thing. There are high-kill shelters in South Carolina. The transport is where people drive from town to town and relay the dogs all the way up to New England and even to Canada. I usually do the Richmond to Fredericksburg area. I get a car-full of dogs – I’ve had 12 dogs in my Toyota 4Runner – take them to Fredericksburg and put them in somebody else’s car to continue the trip.” The transport volunteers deliver the dogs to welcoming rescue homes and shelters.

Since she drives the rescues, she thought she

would offer transportation to her clients. “I take dogs to their vet appointments, groomer, boarding kennel, dog park or wherever. Many older clients have difficulty loading and unloading their pets, plus people can become distracted while driving a pet when they’re not accustomed to having it in the car.”

As time goes by and her clients come up with new requests, Susan plans to keep the services side of her business flexible. “I’d like to add different services and be a one-stop place for pets.”

Susan stays on the hunt for the perfect property to open her retail side. “I’ve found a lot of products over the years that people don’t know about – some awesome products that you can’t find everywhere. That’s what I want in the store – products, a do-it-yourself dog wash and a full-service groomer. I’m thinking a doggy spa feel.”

Susan Guthrie emphasizes the need for service-oriented businesses to be flexible and customizable for their clients. “After all, it’s not me I’m trying to please; it’s my customers and their human companions.” NDN

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Playing to Win

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Scott Jones is the coach for the Williamsburg Hornets in the local youth football league. Scott's team is the Gold Mighty Mites (8 and 9 year olds). "We look at the league as a feeder program to the middle schools and then to the high schools," Scott explains. "If a boy starts at six and goes all the way up the levels, he'll have five or six years of football by the time he starts middle school. By Junior Varsity and Varsity in high school, these kids will be far ahead in skills and knowledge."

Scott had not been a football player as a stu-

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dent in the York County school system. He played baseball, soccer and golf, instead.

"My dad was a fighter pilot in the Air Force. We moved to the area my senior year in high school. I graduated from Tabb High School in 1982."

Scott's main sport is golf. "I was the director of golf at Ford's Colony. I was there from 1989 to 2003. That's where I met Woody Robins." Woody is another coach with the Williamsburg Hornets, the Midgets (10 and 11 year olds).

A few years ago when Scott's middle son, Aaron, was 6, he asked his dad to let him play football. "We took him to the registration. I brought my nephew, who was quarterback at York High School and had just graduated," Scott explains. "He and I went to register Aaron. Woody, who I knew from Ford's Colony, was there. He said they needed a coach for the little guys and asked if I was interested."

Although Scott wasn't sure if he was qualified, he knew his nephew would help him. "He had just played four years at York High School. The strategy when we left the registration was that he would be the offensive coordinator and I'd be the defense – we'd make it happen."

That's how it started in 2010 with Scott's first season coaching. Now, he's into his fourth season. "I coached the first two years with the Mites (6-7 year olds) and now this is my second year with the Mighty Mites (8-9 year olds). The Midgets are the 10-11 year olds and that's who Woody coaches. The Juniors are the 12-13 year olds." By the time the boys have made it to the league's Junior level, they're ready for middle school teams.

"The purpose of the league is to teach kids the fundamentals of football. They learn on the practice field," Scott says, "and the games are their reward for putting in all the time and effort of the practices. Our game days are on Saturday mornings at James River Elementary School."

The season starts about the same time as the middle and high school guys start – around the end of July and the first game of this season is on August 31. "Then we have a ten game schedule. There are 16 teams in our division, at each level. Eight of those will make the play-offs. Then we have a Super Bowl the weekend before Thanksgiving."

The Williamsburg Hornets has enough boys that they have two teams at each level: a green team and a gold team. The league is called the Peninsula Youth Football and Cheerleading Organization, and it encompasses youth from Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, York County, Middlesex, Gloucester, West Point, James City County and Williamsburg.

Scott likes the aspect that the boys will play some of the same guys that they'll play later in their local football careers. "They're playing kids up and down the Peninsula. Kids they'll eventually play in high school." Many parents are concerned about the risk of injury. "I haven't seen a serious injury at the little guy level," Scott says. "As they get older and stronger, they are learning how to hit and take hits. The reason to start a kid early is so he's prepared when the games get more physical. He knows how to keep his head out of the tackle. With good coaches, the kids will excel and be safe." Knowledge of the fundamentals helps keep the boys from getting hurt. "Confidence and comfort levels increase with getting hit."

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For many kids, this is the first competitive sport they'll play. "This isn't t-ball or youth baseball or kids' soccer; we're playing to win." There are a minimum number of plays set by the league that all the kids are guaranteed in each game, but for more play, the mastery of skills and techniques matter. Winning is stressed. The players learn that just showing up is not enough. "The goal is to make the play-offs and get these kids a taste of the championship. The last three years, we've been to the Super Bowl. That says a lot about what we're doing with our kids and how we teach them."

Scott's coaching and practice drills teach the players teamwork, discipline, responsibility and sportsmanship. "There is nothing like that team environment," Scott says. "They also learn trust. The kids know that they need to stay with their job and let their teammates do their job. They learn to trust each other to do their best."

They learn how to lose, too. "The coaches probably take losses harder than the kids. I've seen a boy laughing and having fun with someone on the opposing team an hour after the game, while I'm still fuming over a bad call."

The main benefit that Scott sees is the players' confidence grows. "The kid who had a hard time with the concept of a line of scrimmage his first year, will probably be the one correcting me on the plays the next year."

That first year is critical in the player's development since it sets the fundamentals for the players. "The boy has his shoulder pads on and his helmet...he's either hitting or being hit. They learn the plays and defenses. That second year is a big step when they really start to come into the game." Scott says that parents should expect the kids to take a season to settle into football.

Youth football is a huge time commitment for the coaches, league volunteers, parents and the youth. The teams practice four nights a week through August, and then once school starts, the players go to practice three times a week.

Along with the Saturday game days, there is a special treat for the football players and cheerleaders when they get to play on the college field at William and Mary.

"We play against each other at the Green-Gold game at Zable Stadium," Scott explains about the Hornet's two teams at each level facing off. "We call it our Colonial Bowl (this year on September 28). That's a big deal for the Williamsburg teams. That's a cool event for the kids to play in the college stadium."

Coaching is a lot of work, but the kids are the reason that Scott keeps doing it. "I tell you, watching the kids learn and come into their own – that's my reward. I want to teach the kids the game of football so that they have fun with it. We have great assistant coaches to help us. Watching the kids develop as football players from the time they were 6 or 7 years old until they leave the Hornets organization, I feel a lot of pride when they go on to middle school and high school doing well. For me, that's pretty cool."

Scott Jones says this year is going to be very special for him. "My two youngest sons, ages 8 and 9, will be on my Mighty Mites team. Regardless of how we finish, this is the special year just to have both my guys out there with me." NDN

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Everyone 18 years and older should have both financial and medical Powers of Attorney. Serious accidents happen every day. America is aging. Dementia is on the rise. Most seniors will need some form of help from a family member or trusted friend in managing a health or life cri-

sis. A "helper" gets their legal authority to act by being named in a Power of Attorney. When children discover that their parents need help, they often also discover that their parents did not execute legal documents to allow the child to help without court intervention. The parents never executed Powers of Attorney.

Sadly, by the time children discover that their parent does not have a Power Of Attorney, the parent may no longer have the mental capacity to execute any legal document. This leaves the child with the expensive and often emotionally draining guardianship proceedings in a court of law.

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Flute Frenzy

By Greg Lilly, Editor



“Our most memorable performance,” Margaret Carlson, founder and director of Flute Frenzy, says, “would be the premiere of ‘James Towne Trilogy’ at the Kimball Theatre in 2007 followed by the performance of the piece for Jamestown’s 400th Anniversary Weekend.” The commissioned piece took several years of planning and found support from area arts agencies. “I had a lot of interaction with composer Catherine McMichael during the writing

process, and she was present for the premiere and also gave a master class which was open to the community during the weekend.”

Since that performance, Margaret and Flute Frenzy have performed around the region showing the versatility, range and fun of flute choirs.

Born in Charleston, South Carolina, Margaret and her family moved soon after to Michigan. “My father is a physicist, and he worked

for Dow Chemical in Midland, Michigan.” The public schools in Midland encouraged the arts, and by the time Margaret was in second grade, she had been pegged to play the violin. “My hair was long, and the teachers were constantly telling me to watch out and not to bow my hair,” she says.

Down the street from her house, she had twin sister school friends. “One of them played the flute. I always wanted to play the flute. I

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asked her to teach me, but I couldn't get a sound out of the instrument. I just couldn't."

Margaret's father was transferred to York County when she was in the fifth grade. There were no orchestra or string programs in the school system at that time, only band, so Margaret needed to choose a different instrument. She grabbed the flute, determined to learn it. "Maybe it was the challenge," she explains. "I'm shy. Music is a way of expressing myself without too much danger – although I still feel like I'm exposing myself when I play in front of others. A lot of flute players will tell you they are frustrated singers. The flute is about the closest instrument to the voice you can get. Maybe that's why."

She planned to study math in college, but her band director convinced her she should consider music. "I went to Greensboro College (North Carolina) where I could get both a music degree and a math degree. I enjoyed my classes in music more than I did the math courses." She focused on music and earned her Bachelor of Music degree. "I went on to the Cleveland Institute of Music and earned my Master's of Music."

After college, she played flute and piccolo in the Fort Wayne Philharmonic. "It didn't pay much, so I taught music on the side and had a job working as a church secretary. After three years, I got frustrated by not having the money to travel to auditions for a larger orchestra. I thought I'd go back home to save some money. I came back here and started playing with the Norfolk Symphony, which is now the Virginia Symphony."

She met her husband, who teaches physics at William and Mary. "We traveled a lot. With the marriage and then having children, I didn't want to commute to Norfolk, so I started playing with the Williamsburg Symphony." They traveled the world, but as the children grew into school age, Margaret knew she wanted them to stay close to Williamsburg. She continued her music teaching.

"I've always thought that it's an important part of teaching to also include ensemble work," she says of the beginnings of the group Flute Frenzy. "Students learn entirely different things from ensembles than from private lessons. Intonation, playing together, style, balancing each other..." At the Christmas party for her students, she would have them play a piece together. "The students loved it and asked to do it all the time. That next summer, we practiced together. The students wanted to play for First Night. I said I would ask, but didn't really think we had a chance. We sent a tape of the rehearsal. We got in."

First Night Williamsburg 2000 was Flute Frenzy's first official gig. The group grew from Margaret's private studio lessons. Today, it is a non-profit organization open to all flutists eager to learn. "I, like other private teachers in the area, often suggest that students participate in Flute Frenzy for the benefits gained from a chamber ensemble experience," Margaret says. "Some do; some don't. Presently the majority of the students in the group do not take private lessons. Scholarship funds are available and often used." She adds that she wishes she'd been in a program like Flute Frenzy when she was in school. "The students gain self-confidence. They learn from each other and realize how to play off each other's strengths to make a great concert."

Flute Frenzy has been showcased at the National Flute Association Annual Convention, the Virginia Music Educators' Annual Conference and An Occasion for the Arts, but some of their favorites are small community shows. "We strive to take the music to those community residents who are not able to come to us," Margaret says. "We have shared our music with nearly all, if not all, of the assisted living and nursing homes in Williamsburg, as well as with Hospice House. The youth really enjoy

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The music is primarily flutes (piccolo, C flute, alto and bass flutes), but sometimes other instruments accompany them. “Like a drum or other percussion,” Margaret explains. “There’s a piece that inspired our group’s name. I needed a name for that First Night performance in 2000. We were working on a piece by Wil Offermans called ‘Jungle Dance.’ In the description of the piece, it talks about the ‘frenzied forest.’ I thought Flute Frenzy sounded good to me. That piece is for flutes and bottles and bird whistles and things like that. I like the music to be varied in the concerts.”

The memorable concert for Jamestown’s 400th Anniversary set the bar for Margaret, the Flute Frenzy board, the performers and the supporting community. “That was a special year for us. We planned ahead so we could do more concerts. We applied for grants from organizations like the Williamsburg Area Arts Commission, the Junior Women’s Club, the York County Arts Commission, the Williamsburg Community Trust and the Virginia Commission for the Arts. They all contributed so we could commission the work from Catherine McMichael, who is a composer in Michigan. She adores the Williamsburg and Jamestown area. She writes a lot of pieces on historical places. She wrote ‘James Towne Trilogy’ for our group and the anniversary of Jamestown. When we premiered it at the Kimball Theater featuring Native American flute and the flute choir, Catherine was in the audience and loved it.”

The group is made up of mostly middle and high school students. An adult flute choir started last September, and the Prelude choir is for first and second year flute students to gain experience playing together. Kids being kids, the main choir loves the story of their “most unforgettable” performance at the Elizabethan Gardens in Manteo, North Carolina.

“The trees were decorated,” Margaret describes the scene. “The kids in the audience had glow sticks and fairy wings. Families sat on blankets, and we were on a small stage under the trees. We were supposed to end our concert at dusk with ‘Brahms Lullaby.’ I had timed this program very carefully.”

A gentleman played the Renaissance flute before them and took a bit longer with his set than Margaret expected. The organizers told her to go on with her full program even though it wouldn’t time exactly with dusk.

“We had brought our stand lights just in case we needed them. Yes, indeed we needed them.” They started the concert with the individual lights shining on their music stands. As the darkness descended, the gardens took on a magical feel.

“After our intermission, the sun had set and we were in the dark. One little girl in the group raised her hand and said, ‘Mrs. Carlson, we can’t see your hands.’ They could see the sheet music, but not me. I took the microphone and asked if someone in the audience could loan me a glow stick. I conducted the last half of the concert with a glow stick!”

In addition, to the glowing conductor’s baton, Flute Frenzy had microphones to amplify the music. “Apparently, the cicadas like flute music because they swarmed to the microphones and sang along. That was an unforgettable concert, just funny and the kids had a wonderful time on that trip.”

Margaret Carlson loves working with the youth and showing them the exuberance of the flute. “I treasure the opportunity to channel those wonderfully varied and spontaneous emotions all youth have into music, where they can share those feelings with everyone. I enjoy seeing their own pride when they learn something new and the support and pride they have for the achievements of their comrades.” NDN

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Dental Hygiene for the Community

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Thomas Nelson Community College offers a Dental Hygiene Care Facility to the community as part of their new Dental Hygiene Program. Laura Sotack graduates in May 2014. She will be part of the third graduating class from the program that started at the Historic Triangle Campus in the fall of 2010.

“The program is two years,” Laura explains,

“five semesters long. I just finished my summer semester and will begin the fall semester soon. In college, I wanted to go to dental school, but changed my mind to go to the hygienist program.”

Laura grew up around dentists. Her father is a prosthodontist in Hampton, and her aunt is a general dentist in Chesapeake. “The dental field

is very much in my family. I went to Christopher Newport University on a pre-dental track and graduated last year cum laude with a degree in biology and a minor in chemistry.”

During her senior year at Christopher Newport as she applied for dental school, she had a “shadowing process” where she observed numerous dentists. “During that process, I

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watched several of the hygienists,” Laura says. “I had the opportunity to see what they do and their interaction with the patients. You have more interaction with your hygienist than with your dentist. I really liked that aspect.”

She applied to dental school, but also applied to the Thomas Nelson program because she thought she would like the hygienist career more.

“I had choices: ODU (Old Dominion University), VCU (Virginia Commonwealth University) and Thomas Nelson. The location of the Williamsburg campus of Thomas Nelson Community College was perfect. I could commute. It was also much more affordable than ODU and VCU. Since I had my bachelor’s degree, I didn’t need a second one.”

The class sizes were better, too. Laura says her classes have about ten students in each. “It’s 30 – 40 students per class at the other schools. This is more of a one-on-one learning experience. That’s why I decided to go with the Thomas Nelson program.”

Laura is excited about the success of the previous graduates of the program. “All of the stu-

dents from the first two graduating classes have had a 100 percent passing rate on their first try for the national board and SRTA (Southern Regional Testing Agency),” she says. “We take the National Board of Dental Hygiene Exam. It’s a long written exam and an evaluated procedure on a patient. The school has done really well by earning that first try passing rate of 100 percent.”

Another reason she likes the program is the public service side of her training. “We have a simulation lab where we practice on each other and on mannequins. Then once we get skilled, we start at the Dental Hygiene Care Facility.”

The Care Facility is a function of the program. “Our mission statement is: ‘Thomas Nelson Community College’s Dental Hygiene Program is designed to prepare highly-qualified dental hygienists through excellence in teaching, patient care and responsive community service by utilizing state-of-the-art facilities.’ Our community service includes the low-cost clinic that operates on-site at the campus.”

Under faculty supervision, the students perform services on the clinic clients. “Our clients

are really everyone,” Laura says. “We have family and friends. We encourage the public to come. We’ve treated everyone from infants to seniors. We’ve seen Thomas Nelson students, students from other colleges and people with no dental insurance – really, anyone who needs oral health services.”

From the wide range of patients, the students experience a variety of dental conditions. “We’ve serviced over 1,200 patients from people with healthy tissue to people with advanced gum disease and cavities. We can get the mouth in a healthier state before they see their dentist. If they have cavities, we give them a dentist referral and a copy of their x-rays to take to the dentist.”

The clinic also works with Olde Towne Medical Center. “We pair up with them to do the *Give Kids a Smile* event in the Williamsburg area. This past February, we saw over 100 children and performed about \$40,000 in free dental services.” *Give Kids a Smile* is sponsored by the ADA (American Dental Association) and is held around the country to provide dental services to underserved children.



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“We did over 570 dental procedures in about eight hours,” Laura says of the event in Williamsburg. “The hygiene clinic had 16 students working who provided dental screenings, sealants, assessments and polishings. That was a lot of fun.”

While the community receives low-cost dental services, the students earn valuable experience. The faculty oversees the procedures as well as the students assisting each other.

“Since there are just nine of us in this 2014 graduating class, we form close friendships and support each other. Working together, we know how important these experiences are for our skills and for our future career opportunities.”

The course load is tough and thorough. “The whole program is challenging in different aspects,” Laura adds. “We take periodontics; we learn about dental materials. We learn to use all the equipment in the lab. We take a class on public health and patient education. Oral pathology is a favorite.”

Each semester, Laura has taken a class called Dental Hygiene. “That’s the theory of everything,” she says with a laugh. The course addresses patient interactions and other soft-skills

that each hygienist needs.

“Next semester, I take a class on dental anxiety and pain management where I’ll get certified to administer local anesthesia and nitrous oxide to patients.” She learns how to help patients with anxiety. “Since I grew up around dentistry and chose it as my field, I hadn’t experienced many people who were nervous about dental procedures. I learned how to walk the patient through the procedure, change the treatment plan for shorter appointments, etc.”

Laura says she’s learned to watch for non-verbal clues from patients who may be experience discomfort. “We pay attention to facial expressions,” she states. “Are they gripping the chair, are their feet rising up? I always stop and ask how they’re doing. Usually, it is more anxiety than physical pain.”

Working with the patient, she says, is the most rewarding part of the program and her future career. “I get to know them and help them by making their smile better. That boosts their self-confidence. That’s the most enjoyable part for me. They really want to know what they can do to improve their oral health. We do a lot of OHI (Oral Health Instruction). We do that

at every appointment. We tackle one thing at a time: brushing, flossing, [and]the need for a Sonicare toothbrush or an oral irrigation like a Waterpik.”

Improving the patient’s home care routine is an objective for a dental hygienist. “I want to create the habit of brushing twice a day and flossing once a day for each patient. If they can do that, they can prevent a lot of oral diseases. Everything is intertwined. What happens in your mouth can affect the rest of your body. It’s more than just a tooth. We always set patient goals.”

Laura Sotack says she’s grateful for Thomas Nelson Community College’s program and for the community service dental clinic. “The program provides everything needed to have a great career: quality instruction, individualized attention and the ability to help the community with my new skills.” NDN

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Technology for Seniors (and the rest of us)

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Jessica Hughes helps people with their technology usage. Walk into most of your neighbors' homes and you'll find technology that wasn't available five years ago, but today it is essential. "Well, yes," Jessica says, "there are some things that are a must-have. It's not because you couldn't function without it, but when someone has had a computer, it is difficult to do without it or do without access to

the Internet."

She says people forget how often they access the Internet for information. "Once you've had e-mail or Internet access and then it goes down or you can't get to it; that can be serious. A lot of things use it today, correspondence with family, eTickets for airlines," she lists, "within our neighborhoods for community newsletters. Once you get used to that, you

feel isolated when you don't have the access."

She says this is especially true for retirees. Access to e-mail, Facebook, family or organizations' websites keep people informed and lessen the feeling of isolation.

"Make sure you have a back-up in case your computer breaks down," Jessica suggests. "Find a neighbor who will let you use their computer to pay bills or check your e-mails

until your computer gets back to working order. Your back-up could be a neighbor, a relative, a second device at your house or the computers at the library or the Historic Triangle Senior Center (inside the James City County Recreation Center on Longhill Road)." She says the senior center's computers are very secure. She knows because she and her company, By Your Side Technology, set them up. "It's great back-up computer access and well worth the membership dues for seniors."

A back-up plan for access to the Internet is essential. "The moment that access is gone, you'll realize how often you use it."

Jessica began working with technology when she worked in an office; she wasn't the technical person, but was a user of the computer and software. "I have that perspective," she says. "That helps me understand people's technology problems because I struggled with it, too."

She had planned to become an engineer. When she started studying engineering, she found she was fascinated by the workings of the computer. She received her computer science degree in 1995. She returned to school and earned her MBA from the College of William and Mary in 2011. "That prior work experience in offices using technology helped me see technology as a tool. If it is too hard to learn and not beneficial to your daily life, then why bother with it?"

Jessica worked at the College of William and Mary for nine and a half years before and while she earned her MBA. "That taught me how to work with the end user of technology. I got to work directly with people. There wasn't a buffer between the user and the technologist like in some larger companies. I had worked at several Department of Defense contractors where I couldn't talk with clients. I was handed a list of requirements and told to build it."

But at the college she was able to interact with the end users as well as the computer systems. "That was great," she says. "The people on staff that I worked with were a little older. That's where the senior aspect of my work came in. These people were not raised on computer systems like some of the younger generation."

She learned to explain and present technology in a way that people connected with, showing how it can make their lives more efficient and enjoyable. "Otherwise, they don't want to use the technology because it makes life harder, not easier. We have to make technology easy."

The biggest trend in the home market, and Jessica sees a lot of seniors with it, is the Apple iPad. "Seniors really enjoy the iPad. This is an example of making technology easy to use. I see seniors go from an iPad to an iPhone because they like the functionality, plus they already know how to use it. The screen size of the iPhone makes it a little more challenging, but it opens up more possibilities."

The ability to learn one interface and use it on other devices makes Apple's technology attractive for seniors, who don't want to put time into learning different interfaces or ways to make their information flow from one device to another.

"For seniors, iPads are big. Smart phones aren't as popular," Jessica states. "Once seniors start to think about the combination of a phone, a camera, a GPS, and other functionality it gets more attractive. The concern is the small size. Vision and finger manipulation is not as good when we age. Styluses and reading glasses help, but the screen size is still

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what's up in real estate



In addition to our customary practice of helping people engage in the business of buying and selling homes, members of the Williamsburg Area Association of REALTORS® (WAAR) have been asked by the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) to make a special effort this month to connect with Congressional lawmakers on behalf of home ownership and important issues affecting real estate financing, taxes and property protection while they are out on "August Recess."

At issue: The secondary housing market reform of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and guidelines for Federal Housing Administration (FHA) lending; opposition to a tax revision that would reduce or eliminate the income tax break on the Mortgage Interest Deduction (MID); and, to help ensure a proposal for a delay in changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) rate structure.

Lawmakers have been looking for ways to address government secured loans since the housing crisis. The House of Representatives recently passed a bill which would phase out Fannie and Freddie. The bill would also make major changes to the way FHA conducts business. Comprehensive legislation introduced in the Senate would also phase out Fannie and Freddie, but, unlike in the House, the federal government would remain as an insurer of last resort. The House has no plan to keep the federal government involved in mortgage financing except through a much-modified FHA. This doesn't count specialized markets like that served by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

It's unclear how far Congress will get this year in taking the next step to pass either of these bills. NAR has long called for replacing



by **Sam Mayo**
President
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Fannie and Freddie while ensuring continued mortgage market liquidity through the maintenance of an explicit federal presence, but a lot more discussion is needed. Now that the process is getting started in earnest, anyone with an interest in the availability of mortgage financing will want to pay attention to what's happening.

The question of reducing or eliminating mortgage interest deductions from the tax code has been and remains in the news. NAR is engaging in a direct email campaign to more than 75 million homeowners asking them to sign a petition to Congress to protect real estate tax provisions in any reform proposal. If asked, please make your voice heard. We will continue to do our part by talking with lawmakers and responding to NAR's "Calls for Action."

Finally, the availability of an affordable flood insurance program remains an important issue here and in many parts of the country. That is why the House has passed a proposal for a one-year delay in changes to the NFIP's rate structure. A similar delay has passed through the Senate Appropriations Committee. "Without adequate and affordable flood insurance for properties in flood plans," says Joe Dibiase, NAR's governmental affairs director, "real estate transactions could be disrupted throughout the country." A national REALTOR® advisory group has been formed to help study the NFIP issue and offer lawmakers whatever assistance is needed.

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an obstacle for seniors.”

The computer has changed at home. Portability is the key for retirees on the go. “Seniors like the laptop. It should be plugged into a full-sized keyboard and monitor. Then when they travel, they can pick it up and take it with them.” Desktops and tower CPUs (those big blocks of metal that sit next to the desk) are becoming less attractive to a home user.

“The price of a laptop is about the same as getting a desktop or a tower CPU.” Jessica explains. “It’s an exchange (from desktop to laptop computer) that makes life more mobile. Downsizing has also brought this option to the forefront. The big box next to the desk is not as applicable when we leave the large house and go somewhere smaller.”

Eventually, desktop computers will go the way of a rotary desk phone, Jessica says. “We’ll no longer see a desktop or tower computer. We don’t need these upgradeable boxes. Diskette and CD/DVD drives are going away; software is becoming subscription-based. It is delivered and updated over the Internet. Few companies send out CDs anymore.”

Like sending software to a computer over the Internet, our home entertainment is taking the same route. “Netflix streaming is catching on. Seniors love it,” Jessica says. “It’s a little harder to figure out. It depends on the WiFi (a wireless network) and Blu-ray player to connect and stream the movie. Remote controls can be confusing.” But once people have streamed a movie to the television, few people will wait for a DVD in the mail or drive to a kiosk to rent a DVD.

Jessica sees more people converting their hobbies to new technology. “For example, photographers are scanning their printed photographs into digital files. They use the digital files for better organization, for sharing with family and friends, to create digital scrapbooks and even turning them into video shows with music.”

Weight Watchers (with which Jessica has successfully lost over 40 pounds) and many other health conscience people track their points and workouts with online tools or clip-on technology devices. “There are GPS watches for runners and walkers that track their daily

routes. You don’t have to have these things, but it makes the activities easier to track and gives more feedback to help achieve goals.”

Home efficiency applications, security systems, home medical monitoring systems, all these things are coming together, Jessica predicts.

“Even cars are integrating the cell phone systems to give access to the Internet and to supply content to the automobile’s dashboard applications. I suggest holding off on getting a new phone if you’re thinking of buying a new car – get the car first then choose the best phone to work with it.”

A constant state of learning keeps Jessica Hughes happy. “I helped implement a new system at the college. Then once it was done, I didn’t get to do a lot of new systems. I love to learn and this lets me learn and share for a living. I didn’t think I would be learning so much new technology when I started this career. I thought it would be a lot of virus removal and network set-ups – I do a lot of that – but at the same time, I’m helping people investigate and put to use new technologies.” NDN

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Hey Neighbor! **WILLIAMSBURG REGIONAL LIBRARY USERS – DIGITAL MAGAZINES**

Ongoing
Digital magazines are available for Williamsburg Regional Library (WRL) users. WRL cardholders will have unlimited multi-user access to 50 complete digital magazines through Zinio for Libraries, the world's largest digital newsstand. For more information on how to ac-

cess this service go to wrl.org/zinio

Hey Neighbor! **WILLIAMSBURG-JCC WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM**

Ongoing
Applications are being accepted for Williamsburg-James City County Community Action Agency's Weatherization Program. These services are free to those homeowners and renters that qualify based on total household income. Weatherization Services may include: attic and wall insulation, hot water and pipe wrap, plastic under the home, installation of carbon monoxide detectors, fire and smoke detectors, heating and cooling inspections, glass and door replacement, blow door test to determine caulking and sealing requirements, just to name a few services. Please contact April Taylor at (757)-229-9389 to schedule an appointment.

Hey Neighbor! **VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, JCC MASTER GARDENER PROGRAMS**

Ongoing
Fall 2013 Landscape Love - The Virginia Cooperative Extension, JCC Master Gardeners, are offering to residents of the county or city a free consultation on landscape best management practices at the homeowner's residence. Applications for



Kiwanis Shrimp Feast **Saturday, September 14th 4pm to 7pm**

All you can eat and drink charity fundraiser! Hot and fresh cooked shrimp, hush puppies, beans, cole slaw. Soft drinks and beer. Williamsburg Winery wines available for purchase. Live music by The Hark. Proceeds will benefit local non-profits: Avalon, Bacon Street, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Virginia Peninsula. Adult tickets \$27 until August 31; \$30 from September 1-13; \$35 at the door. "PayPal Payment" accepts your PayPal account or a major credit card.

www.williamsburgkiwanis.org

the Fall, 2013, will be accepted until September 15 by visiting www.jcc-wmg.org and clicking on Landscape Love registration forms. If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in these activities, please contact Doris Heath, James City County Unit at 757/564-2170/TDD* during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. *TDD number is (800) 828-1120.) 2014 Winter Sessions - Applications for the Virginia Cooperative Extension, JCC 2014 Master Gardener Training Program will continue through October 15, 2013. The course fee is \$150. Applications are available on website, www.jccmg.org, or by calling The Virginia Cooperative Extension office at 757-564-2170. Classes fill quickly.

Hey Neighbor!
JOB CLUB - EXPERIENCED EMPLOYEES IN TRANSITION

Ongoing
 Join the Experienced Employees in Transition...A 45+ and over Job Club. Meeting the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 9-10:30 am, the Senior Services Coalition of Williamsburg is offering a sup-

port group for unemployed and underemployed adults. For current meeting topics, directions, and other information please refer to our website: <http://www.seniorservicescoalition.com/jobclub/>. Cost: Free. Meetings are held at the Historic Triangle Community Service Center, 312 Waller Mill Road, Williamsburg.

Hey Neighbor!
YOUNG LIFE WILLIAMSBURG SHOE DRIVE

Ongoing
 Young Life Williamsburg wants your OLD SHOES! We have teamed up with an organization to repurpose your old, unwanted shoes. Our goal is to collect 30,000 pairs of shoes by the end of September. There will be red collection boxes around town to collect your old shoes - any size, any condition - flip flops, cleats, slippers - ANYTHING that is worn on feet! None of these shoes will end up in the landfill - ALL of them will be distributed to micro-enterprises in developing nations - where they will be repurposed to provide much-needed income for families. For more information and specific collection sites, please see our Facebook page - Young Life Williamsburg Shoe Drive or email us at

younglifeshoedrive@gmail.com.

Hey Neighbor!
JAMESTOWN'S LEGACY TO THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Ongoing
SPECIAL EXHIBITION: "Jamestown's Legacy to the American Revolution," Through January 20, 2014, Jamestown Settlement - This exhibition examines the lives of some of the individuals living in the Revolutionary War era who were descendants of people associated with 17th-century Jamestown and features more than artifacts acquired for the future American Revolution Museum at Yorktown (to replace the Yorktown Victory Center), including a 19th-century life-size sculpture of George Washington. Jamestown Settlement admission is \$16.00 for adults and \$7.50 (ages 6-12). Children under 6 are free. Jamestown Settlement is located on State Route 31 in James City County, adjacent to Historic Jamestowne. For information, call (888) 593-4682 toll-free or (757) 253-4838, or visit www.historyisfun.org.

Hey Neighbor!
WILLIAMSBURG FARMERS MARKET

August 24, 31, 2013
 Saturdays at 402 W Duke of Gloucester St. in Merchants Sq., from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The market will continue to celebrate and enter customers in I Love My Market and the Farm. Fresh. Pledge. Virginia farmers, watermen and bakers will sell peaches, corn, fish, artisan cheese, meats, pasta, cut flowers and soaps. Enjoy the market's live music and exhibits along with shopping in Merchants Square, in the heart of Williamsburg. This is the peak season for fruits and vegetables at this producer-only market of 40 vendors. The market now accepts credit and SNAP EBT cards. 757-259-3768, www.williamsburgfarmersmarket.com

Hey Neighbor!
YORK RIVER STATE PARK

August 24, 25, 31, 2013
 Estuaries Day (Sat, Aug 24th, 9 am to 2 pm) Family fun where the river meets the sea. Activities include canoeing, kayaking, geocaching, fossil hikes, Virginia Institute of Marine Science research boat tours, "Butterflies in Flight," hands-on displays, great food, and more! All activities are free with parking. Call the park office at 757-566-3036 to reserve a VIMS boat tour.

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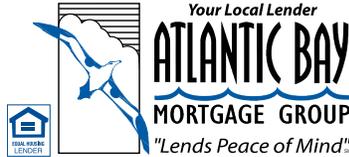
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Hey Neighbor!
WILLIAMSBURG REGIONAL LIBRARY FILM SERIES

August 24, 25, 29, 2013

Come in out of the heat this summer for movies the entire family will enjoy Aug 24 and 25. Films begin at 3 p.m. in the Williamsburg Library Theatre, 515 Scotland St. The Aug 29 film starts at 2 p.m. and deals with travel disasters. Admission is free and reservations are not required. For more information, call 259-4055 or visit wrl.org/kids.

Hey Neighbor!
PICK OUR PADDLE

August 25, 2013

4 to 6 pm Explore the beautiful wetlands or river with us. Learn something new and exciting as you paddle up the creek or down the river; and don't worry, we provide you with a paddle of your choice (canoe or kayak). Canoes \$9/person or \$6/person (family of 4+), solo kayak \$16/person, tandem kayak \$11/person. Call the park office at 757-566-3036.

Hey Neighbor!
CURATOR'S ARTIFACT TOUR

August 28, 2013

Tours start at 3 pm from the Pocahontas statue. Senior archaeologi-

cal curator Bly Straube provides an intimate, behind-the-scenes tour of the artifact collection of James Fort. This 90-minute guided program begins with a brief overview of the Jamestown Rediscovery project and offers a rare glimpse of the vault where more than one million artifacts recovered during excavations are housed. This tour is restricted to 10 people. Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. \$25, tickets can be purchased at www.historicjamestowne.org. Historic Jamestowne. 757-229-4997, ext 100.

Hey Neighbor!
WILLIAMSBURG CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - CATCH THE VISION TOUR

August 29, 2013

Williamsburg Christian Academy will be hosting a one hour informational tour on Thursday, August 29th at 2:00 p.m. 101 Schoolhouse Lane, Williamsburg. For more information; www.williamsburg-christian.org or call 220-1978, ext. 113

Hey Neighbor!
MARSH MARCH

August 31, 2013

10 am to noon. What plants and

animals are found in an estuarine marsh? Explore the salt meadow hay and capture fiddler crabs in the wetlands at the Taskinas Creek/York River confluence. Call 757-566-3036 for reservations to secure a pair of waders if you wish.

Hey Neighbor!
IN THE TRENCHES TOUR

September 3 and 17, 2013

Tour starts at 10 am. Join a small inside and up-close group tour of the Lost 1607 James Fort led by Dr. William Kelso, Director of the Jamestown Rediscovery Archaeological Project since 1994. Your reserved place in this special group allows you to come under the ropes to walk the surface of the ground once trod by Captain John Smith, Pocahontas and Queen Elizabeth II -- now the very soil being dug by Historic Jamestowne archaeologists. Tour members must purchase a tour ticket online in advance or in the museum store by 9:30 am on the day of the tour. Cost includes a one-day pass to Historic Jamestowne. Tickets can be purchased at www.historicjamestowne.org. \$30. Historic Jamestowne. Contact: 757-229-4997.

Hey Neighbor!
COLONIAL CASA EVENTS

September 5 and October 5, 2013
 September 5, 2013 - An Evening of Promise at the Old Chickahominy House Benefiting Colonial CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates. Join us for Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, Wine, Music, and Raffle on Thursday, September 05, 2013 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm, \$30 per person. Tickets available at Colonial CASA Office (757) 229-3306 or Website: www.colonialcasa.org

Hey Neighbor!
WILLIAMSBURG WOMEN'S CHORUS

September 5, 2013
 Williamsburg Women's Chorus Welcomes New Members. Looking for NEW voices to join The Chorus for our 2013-14 season. Schedule a vocal interview now by contacting Ann Porter at aportermusic@verizon.net, or www.williamsburgwomenschorus.org for information.

Hey Neighbor!
WALT IS BACK

September 7, 2013

The Williamsburg Area Learning Tree (WALT) will have available the newest list of classes open for registration on September 7 with

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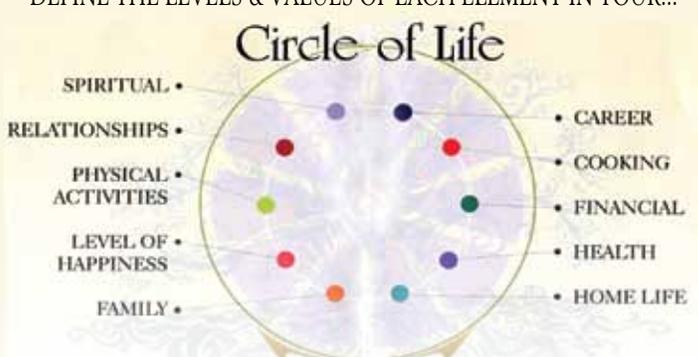
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more than 70 different, fun, and informative classes. Wonderful instructors are offering to share their enthusiasm and talents in subjects as varied as Household Document Organization, How to Reduce Low Back Pain, American Sign Language & Watercolor Painting. Complete descriptions and schedules of all the classes are online at www.wuu.org/walt. WALT is a community service project of the Williamsburg Unitarian Universalist. For more information please call Jill Whitten – 757-220-9975.

Hey Neighbor!
WILLIAMSBURG CHRISTIAN ACADEMY – GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 7, 2013
 Kiskiack Golf Club will be the host for the Williamsburg Christian Academy Golf Tournament to benefit the Educational Enrichment Program, Saturday, September 7, 2013. For further tournament information contact williamsburgchristian.org

Hey Neighbor!
KARENE O'HARE OVARIAN CANCER RUN/WALK

September 7, 2013
 The run/walk raises money to award ovarian cancer screening and testing medical service grants and to underwrite education about the disease. It is the 10th most common cancer in women, the 5th leading cause of cancer-related deaths and the number 1 cause of gynecologic cancer deaths. We've awarded \$69,000 in grants to the Lackey Free Family Medical Clinic and the Olde Towne Medical Center. The fifth annual run/walk will be held at New Quarter Park. Race day registration begins at 7:45 am, with a 1 mile fun Run/Walk at 8:30, and an 8K Run/Walk at 9:00. The entry fee is \$25.00 until August 28 and \$30.00 thereafter. Please visit our web page

at www.hareandtortoiserunwalk.com for more information on Ovarian Cancer and on the Run/Walk.

Hey Neighbor!
JANE AUSTIN SOCIETY BOOK CLUB

September 8, October 13, November 12, 2013
 The Jane Austen Society North America Southeastern VA Region's Book Club continues to meet on the second Sunday of each month. No reading assignments - just come and meet other Janeites who are interested in her writings, movies and TV mini-series. For more information please call (757) 221-6686 or visit our Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/JASNASoutheasternVA>.

Hey Neighbor!
EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC SCHOOL FALL CLASSES

September 9, 2013
 The Early Childhood Music School of Williamsburg United Methodist Church is accepting registrations for the next session to begin September 9, 2013. Weekly classes in music-and-movement are offered for children, ages 2 months through 8 years. Offerings include Keyboard (group piano) classes for children 6 - 9 years old as well as adults. Please contact Cindy Freeman for a fall brochure at (757) 229 - 1771, Ext. 108 or cfreeman@williamsburgumc.org.

Hey Neighbor!
CHKD FREE PUBLIC PROGRAMS IN WILLIAMSBURG

September 10, 19, 26, 2013
 Pediatric Associates of Williamsburg - Monthly Open House. Free. 5:30-6:30 p.m. 119 Bulifants Boulevard, Williamsburg. Please call (757)564-7337, press 5, then 3 if you have questions. Register online at www.chkd.org/classes.

www.chkd.org/classes.

Hey Neighbor!
CURATOR'S ARTIFACT TOUR

September 11 and 25, 2013
 Tours start at 3 pm from the Pocahontas statue. Senior archaeological curator Bly Straube provides an intimate, behind-the-scenes tour of the artifact collection of James Fort. \$25, tickets can be purchased at www.historicjamestowne.org. Historic Jamestowne. 757-229-4997, ext 100.

Hey Neighbor!
HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE EVENTS

September 12 and October 5, 2013
Barkaeology Tour, Thursday, September 12
 Dogs are invited to join their owners for an evening archaeology walking tour at Historic Jamestowne, in partnership with the Heritage Humane Society. This canine-friendly tour will highlight the rediscovery and on-going excavations of the 1607 James Fort. Barkaeology tour begins at 5 pm. Tour tickets are \$15 per person. Dogs are free but limited to 2 per person. Space is limited and reservations are required. Tickets can be purchased on the Historic Jamestowne website.

Hey Neighbor!
JAMESTOWN AND YORKTOWN ACTIVITIES

September 14 through October 20, 2013
September 14 and 28, October 5:
 Revolutionary War Lecture Series, Yorktown Victory Center – 7 p.m., Saturdays, Admission to the lectures is free, and advance reservations are recommended at (757) 253-4572 or rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov. For information about the Yorktown Victory Center, a museum of the American Revolution, call (888) 593-4682

toll-free or (757) 253-4838, or visit www.historyisfun.org.

Hey Neighbor!
ARTSPEAKS: SMALL AND GREAT 2013

September 15, 2013
 Join your neighbors for a lovely Autumn Sunday event that supports the creative work in our community! ArtSpeaks Small and Great 2013 presents original art work in all media 5:30-8:00 p.m., Sunday, September 15th. The Williamsburg Community Building on North Boundary Street will be filled with the creations of many of the area's finest artists. ArtSpeaks is a fundraising event to support the programs of This Century Art Gallery, offering works by the artists it has supported since 1959. Admission is \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door. For reservations contact: ArtSpeaks@thiscenturyartgallery.org or visit www.thiscenturyartgallery.org/ArtSpeaks/

Hey Neighbor!
WILLIAMSBURG MUSIC CLUB 50th ANNIVERSARY GRAND OPENING

September 18, 2013
 Outstanding and renowned Williamsburg artists Thomas Lindsay - violin and Rebecca Davy - piano will perform glittering international music as the opening event of the Williamsburg Music Club's 50th Anniversary year, monthly celebrations. The program which is free and open to the public begins at 11 a.m. in Lewis Hall of Bruton Parish in downtown Colonial Williamsburg preceded by Coffee & Conversation at 10 a.m. For more information contact Sylvia Lynn 757-741-0006 or www.williamsburgmusicclub.org.

Hey Neighbor!
VA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY PROGRAM—NATIVE TREES

September 19, 2013



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Yorktown Public Library starts at 6:45 pm, free and open to the public. Speaker: John B Hayden: PhD, biology from the University of Maryland, Professor of Biology at the University of Richmond, Curator of Herbarium at the University of Richmond, VNPS Botany Chair. Area of interest is the morphology, anatomy and systematics of plants. Bi-monthly program of the John Clayton Chapter of VNPS. Contact: Don@donaldhyatt.com 703-241-5421.

Hey Neighbor!

NETWORK WILLIAMSBURG NONPROFIT BOARD TRAINING SERIES

September 20, 2013

1-Day Nonprofit Board Training Series - Friday, September 20, 8:30-3:30 - NetworkWilliamsburg is once again offering its popular Nonprofit Board Training Series, designed for community members who are interested in serving on a nonprofit Board, as well as for those who currently serve and want to better understand their role as a Board member. Held at Virginia Company Bank in High Street and led by Lisa Freeman of E.L. Freeman Fundraising Counsel. Cost is \$150 with discounts available for Board members of current NetworkWilliamsburg nonprofit members. For registration information, visit www.NetworkWilliamsburg.org or contact Karen at 757-945-1285, karen@networkwilliamsburg.com.

Hey Neighbor!

LYRIC OPERA VIRGINIA PRESENTS

September 21, 2013

Viva Verdi! 8:00 p.m., all seats \$5. Giuseppe Verdi was not only one of the greatest composers of opera, but also an inspirational figure in Italian political history, as his stories helped inspire the reunification of Italy. Experience the joy and thrill of Opera and Broadway up close and personal at the Kimball Theatre. Subscribe now by calling the LOV box office at (757) 446-6666.

Hey Neighbor!

TAGGING MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

September 21, 2013

Hand-raised by James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardener Angela Cingale, adult Monarch butterflies will be tagged and released into the Garden for their flight to Mexico. Master Gardener and certified Master Naturalist Barb Dunbar will introduce children and adults to the caterpillars and An-

gela will show participants how to handle and release the butterflies. In Freedom Park Interpretive Center or Williamsburg Botanical Garden. Time 10 - 11:30 am. Free and open to the public.

Hey Neighbor!

WHRO'S WILLIAMSBURG ART APPRAISAL FAIR

September 21, 2013

Williamsburg Hotel and Conference Center - morning session from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., Afternoon Session from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Join WHRO Public Media for the 2nd Annual Williamsburg Art Appraisal Fair. Bring 3 items and receive a verbal appraisal of each for only \$150. Bring 2 additional items for \$30 each. When you register for the Williamsburg Art Appraisal Fair, you will also become a new or renewing member of WHRO! Questions or to register, please contact Susan Cason at (757) 889-9360 or email Susan.Cason@whro.org OR Laura Payne at (757) 889-9419 or email Laura.Payne@whro.org.

Hey Neighbor!

PECHAKUCHA NIGHT

September 21, 2013

PechaKucha Night on Saturday, September 21st, 7 p.m., Williamsburg Community Building. Each presenter is allowed 20 slides that run for 20 seconds each, and given a microphone to narrate. Sign up to be a presenter or just come and be wowed. Full information can be found at <http://www.pechakucha.org/cities/williamsburg> or for more information contact Dale Weiss at pknburg@verizon.net

Hey Neighbor!

WILLIAMSBURG READING COUNCIL

September 24, 2013

The first meeting of the Williamsburg Reading Council will feature children's author Lester Laminack and will be held on September 24th at the School of Education at The College of William and Mary starting at 6:30. Members may attend free of charge, nonmembers pay \$15.00. The Williamsburg Reading Council is a professional organization consisting of teachers, paraprofessionals, preservice teachers, parents and college professors that address the needs of its members serving the literacy needs of students in preschool to post K-12. For more information, visit www.warcira.blogspot.com or find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WARCouncil>.

istory • Ghosts • Biographies/Memoirs • Mystery • Romance • Fiction

Williamsburg BOOK FESTIVAL

Saturday,
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Williamsburg Community Building
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October's Next Door Neighbor

Health Issue Preview to A Woman's Quest

Publishes September 19th

Advertising Deadline September 23rd

Find out more about
A Woman's Quest
on page 21.

Hey Neighbor! HISTORIC TRIANGLE SENIOR CENTER TRIP

September 26, 2013

The Historic Triangle Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to West Virginia September 26/28, which features a 9 hour train trip through the mountains plus much more. For more information, call 757-259-4187.

Hey Neighbor! NEW TOWN ART GALLERY & WILLIAMSBURG SYMPHONIA EVENT

September 28, 2013

New Town Art Gallery and Williamsburg Symphonia are hosting an event for An Occasion for the Arts as well as Arts Month on Friday, September 28th, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at New Town Art Gallery, 5104 Main St., Williamsburg. A trio of musicians from the Symphonia will perform. There will be a raffle benefiting both Williamsburg Symphonia and An Occasion for the Arts. Refreshments will be served.

Hey Neighbor! THE WILLIAMSBURG SYMPHONIA MASTERWORKS CONCERT #1

September 30, October 1, 2013

The Williamsburg Symphonia's 30th Anniversary season begins with a program featuring Brahms's Violin Concerto in D Major, with violinist Stefan Jackiw, as well as works by Stravinsky and Bizet. Masterworks Concert performances, under the direction of Conductor Janna Hymes, are presented at the Kimball Theatre in Merchants Square and start at 8:00 p.m. Single tickets are \$54 and \$44 and may be purchased by calling 757-229-9857. Season subscriptions (five concerts) are still available. For more information contact us at info@williamsburg-symphonia.org or www.williamsburgsymphonia.org.

Hey Neighbor! IN THE TRENCHES TOUR

October 1 and 15, 2013

Tour starts at 10 am. Join a small inside and up-close group tour of the Lost 1607 James Fort led by Dr. William Kelso, Director of the Jamestown Rediscovery Archaeological Project since 1994. Cost includes a one-day pass to Historic Jamestowne. Tickets can be purchased at www.historicjamestowne.org. Price: \$30. Location: Historic Jamestowne. Contact: 757-229-4997.

Hey Neighbor!

THIRD ANNUAL GALLERY CRAWL

October 3, 2013

An evening of art, wine tasting, meeting new friends and enjoying old friends as you are shuttled on deluxe chartered buses to locations in Merchants Square, the Bed and Breakfast District, The Arts District and High Street. Coordinated by Williamsburg Celebrates Art and the Williamsburg EDA. October 3rd from 5 to 10 p.m. Ticket price of \$40 includes a commemorative wine glass, an incredible evening of fun, transportation to all galleries, and wine and hors d'oeuvres at each stop. Tickets are on sale now. To purchase tickets online or for more information, please visit our website at www.gallerycrawl.org

Hey Neighbor! CURATOR'S ARTIFACT TOUR

October 9 and 23, 2013

Tours start at 3 pm from the Pocahontas statue. Senior archaeological curator Bly Straube provides an intimate, behind-the-scenes tour of the artifact collection of James Fort. Price: \$25, tickets can be purchased at www.historicjamestowne.org. Location: Historic Jamestowne. Contact 757-229-4997, ext. 100.

Hey Neighbor! MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT AT THE KIMBALL THEATRE

October 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25,
26, 27, 2013

ShowStoppers Productions present Monty Python's SPAMALOT. Call 1-800 HISTORY for tickets. Lovingly ripped off from the classic film comedy MONTY PYTHON AND THE HOLY GRAIL, SPAMALOT retells the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, and features a bevy of beautiful show girls, not to mention cows, killer rabbits, and French people. Did we mention the bevy of beautiful show girls?

Hey Neighbor! JOY OF CHILDRENS LITERA- TURE & LITERACY CONFER- ENCE

October 12, 2013

The third annual Joy of Children's Literature and Literacy conference will be held on October 12th at the School of Education at The College of William and Mary. The theme of the conference is nonfiction and will feature children's and young adult authors Steve Shenkin, Don Brown, and Susan Stockdale. Literacy sessions will be presented by literacy experts Joan Kindig, Annyce Maddox, Beth Estill, Wendy Lucy and

Katie Plum. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Authors' books will be for sale during the conference and authors will sign books after the conference. For registration information, visit <http://www.jclconference.blogspot.com>.

Hey Neighbor! HICKORY NECK CHURCH FALL FESTIVAL

October 12, 2013

Hickory Neck Church, 8300 Richmond Road, Toano, will hold their annual Fall Festival from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on October 12. For good food, fun and fellowship, we invite everyone in the Greater Williamsburg area to visit our annual Fall Festival, which features a variety of food, a silent auction, attic treasures, home baked goods, arts and crafts and "FREE" kids activities including a moon bounce, face painting, hay rides, to name a few. All profits are given directly to area charities, including Angels of Mercy Medical Clinic, Avalon, Williamsburg Faith In Action, The Salvation Army Transitional Housing Program, United Way of Greater Williamsburg Community Resource Center, Greater Williamsburg Outreach Mission, and Williamsburg Walks The Talk.

Hey Neighbor! WILLIAMSBURG MUSIC CLUB 50th ANNIVERSARY 2nd EVENT.

October 16, 2013

Pianist Jacqueline Schwab will be performing her solo arrangements from a wide repertoire including dance, ragtime and blues with informative commentary about musical origins as the 2nd event of the Williamsburg Music Club's 50th Anniversary year, monthly celebrations. The program which is free and open to the public begins at 11 a.m. in Lewis Hall of Bruton Parish in downtown Colonial Williamsburg preceded by Coffee & Conversation at 10 a.m. For more information contact Sylvia Lynn 757-741-0006 or www.williamsburgmusicclub.org.

Hey Neighbor! FALL FASHION SHOW TO BENEFIT HERITAGE HUMANE SOCIETY

October 17, 2013

Planning is underway for this year's Puttin On The Dog Fashion Show & Luncheon to be held on October 17th at the Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center in Williamsburg to benefit the Heritage Humane Society. A champagne reception starts at 11am and the lun-

cheon is from 12-2 pm. Fashions will be presented by Doncaster. The event will be an afternoon of fall & holiday fashions, silent auction and raffle items and heartwarming stories of our animals. For additional information call 757 890 5313 or visit the Heritage Humane Society web site www.heritagehumane-society.org. and click on the HHS Auxiliary tab.

Hey Neighbor! WARHILL HIGH SCHOOL CAR AND TRACTOR SHOW

October 19, 2013

Help us create a new tradition at Warhill High School! On October 19, 2013, the WHS PTSA will host its First Annual Car and Tractor Show at Warhill High School, 4615 Opportunity Way, Williamsburg VA 23188. All money raised is dedicated to student and teacher programs: After Prom, scholarships, and teacher mini-grants for the classroom. Trophies will be given out for the Top 30 vehicles, with additional awards for student chosen cars/trucks. A "Spirit of Warhill" trophy will be given out for the People's Choice Award, voting by \$1 donations. Registration is day of only, 10am-12pm; cost is \$20 per vehicle, \$5 for students. Awards at 3 p.m. Craft fair. Concessions and restrooms are available. Rain date: October 26th. Admission is free. Email any questions to warhillcarshow2013@gmail.com.

Hey Neighbor! OUR NATIVE TREES

October 19, 2013

Patsy McGrady and Mitzi Balma, James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardeners, will discuss the trees native to Virginia. They have done an inventory of the trees in the Botanical Garden, and will lead a walk through the Garden. In Freedom Park Interpretive Center or Williamsburg Botanical Garden. Time 10 - 11:30 am. Free and open to the public.

ABOUT HEY NEIGHBOR!

Hey Neighbor! is a free service for non-profit organizations, churches and civic groups. Please submit short paragraphs (as you see on these pages) to communicate your needs or planned events. Send your submissions to: HeyNeighbor@cox.net.

This email address is only checked once during the month. If you have questions that need to be answered in a timely fashion, please email me directly: meredith@williamsburgneighbors.com

Williamsburg's
IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD
photo challenge

**LOIS S.
HORNSBY
MIDDLE
SCHOOL**

Find the 12 differences
between the original
photograph (top) and
the altered photograph
(bottom).

Enjoy!

**Look for the answers
in the next issue of
Next Door Neighbors.**

August 2013
In the Neighborhood
Photo Challenge



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132 RANDOLPHS GREEN Kingsmill

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FORD'S COLONY Southport

A beautiful location for Your Dream home on this nearly 1 acre, Cul-de-Sac, wooded home site in Southport section of Ford's Colony. Home site offers a generous tree buffer for additional privacy & preserve view. Rear exposure faces SW. Lot is priced to sell offering an amazing value for your custom home. Not to be missed at \$169,000!

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You will love this inviting home offering an open floor plan in sought after neighborhood. All new paint, carpet & new granite in the kitchen are featured in this beautiful home. Spacious kitchen features plenty of cabinet space & pantry as well as a separate breakfast area bathed in natural light. 5 BRs, 2.5 BAs 2,979 sqft. \$429,000.

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