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VO.11, ISSUE 6

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It may be overused, but for this issue I can't help but mention the great quote by Groucho Marx: "I refuse to join any club that will have me as a member." Well, from the looks of the stories we have included here it would seem that there are a lot organizations in the greater Williamsburg area that are eager to have us all as members, and there are a lot of us that are eager to join some of these fine organizations.



Meredith Collins, Publisher

The excitement that runs through the stories people related to us for this issue is palpable. It is not just about the sense of belonging they get from being a part of these clubs, though that is clearly important too. It is more about stepping outside of their own lives to join with other like-minded people to give back, contribute to a potent collective that can contribute meaningfully to the greater good.

And you know what else they all seem to share in? A lot of fun. So if you have time and energy to spare, consider looking into some of the clubs you will read about in this issue or the many other clubs in our community. It's the neighborly thing to do! NDN

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portrait

Cover Photo by Lisa Cumming

MARY SWAIN



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

Williamsburg's Expert on Parliamentary Procedure

By Lillian Stevens

In Williamsburg, there is a wonderful diversity of people from a variety of backgrounds and professions. There is not, however, an abundance of professional parliamentarians.

Mary Swain is not only a Professional Registered Parliamentarian (PRP), she's also warm, personable and exudes great energy.

"I just enjoy helping people to understand parliamentary procedure," Mary says. "Parliamentary procedure is essential to conducting a disciplined meeting, and yet so many people know little to nothing about it. So, I try to educate them."

Parliamentary procedure originated in England, playing a critical role in the Founding Fathers establishing our American democracy.

"Our 1787 Constitutional Convention

owes its success to parliamentary procedure," she says. "The opposite of chaos and autocracy can be credited to an orderly process of dissension."

Parliamentary procedure is simple in principle. It is based largely on common sense and courtesy. Among its tenets are directives such as "be efficient and courteous," "be on time; begin the meeting on time." Presidents are also encouraged to maintain control of the meeting, discourage repetitious debate and run meetings using Robert's Rules of Order.

According to Robert's Rules of Order, parliamentary procedure is based on the consideration of the rights: of the majority, of the minority (especially a large minority greater than one-third), of individual members, of

absentee members, of all of these groups taken together.

In town, there is hardly an organization that has not benefited from Mary's parliamentary expertise. Very much a people person, Mary attends up to three meetings every weekday, offering her services for free.

Over the course of the past 16 years, she has served as President of the Virginia Alpha Parliamentarians, as parliamentarian for the National Association of Active and Retired Government employees in Virginia, and parliamentarian for International TWA Former Flight Attendants' Association.

Locally, she has served as parliamentarian for the Sentara Medical Center Auxiliary, The Muscarelle Museum of Art's Board of Direc-

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tors, The Reves Center for International Studies, Women's Club of Williamsburg, League of Women's Voters, Governor's Land Garden Club, James City County Republican Committee, Vice President of the Virginia State Association of Parliamentarians and the Vintage Ladies of Williamsburg, Inc. These are just a few who have utilized Mary's pro bono parliamentary expertise since 2000.

Organizations seek her out not just for her expertise, but for her personality. With a quick wit and generous spirit, Mary thoroughly enjoys the time she spends guiding organizations through proper parliamentary procedures. Her role, however, is an advisory one, with the various presidents of the organizations she assists conducting the actual meetings.

"I sit next to the president and I don't interrupt," she says. "As president, they can do what they want but I will advise whether they are following proper procedures."

Her credentials come from the National Association of Parliamentarians in Independence, Missouri.

"First, you join the organization to be a parliamentarian," Mary says. "That involves taking a general exam and showing interest in parliamentary procedures."

The requirements to become a PRP include detailed study of "Roberts Rules of Order" followed by extensive oral and written examinations that include case study essay questions.

Mary's long history of Williamsburg community service in numerous capacities has been focused on her PRP expertise. However, a lifetime of interest in history as well as many diverse accomplishments had prepared her well for the significant contributions in our community.

Mary grew up in Laconia, New Hampshire and attended the University of New Hampshire where she majored in history and education. As a student, she held leadership positions in student government and her beloved Chi Omega sorority. She was also the first female sports editor for her college newspaper. Upon graduation, with honors, Mary parlayed her familiarity with several foreign languages into a glamorous position as a Trans World Airlines International flight attendant. She flew from New York to all of the European capitals.

"I started first out of college as a flight attendant for TWA, and I loved that," she says. "A sorority sister had come to me when I was a senior and asked what I was going to do after graduation, and I told her I was planning to teach high school in Boston. My friend asked me if I'd rather have lunch with her in Paris."

Mary turned the teaching job down and took a position with TWA, one of only two airlines (the other one being PanAm) flying to Europe at that time.

"Paris, Rome and Athens were my first choice assignments," she says. "In order to fly the international routes, I needed to pass a language exam. Well, I had taken Spanish and French in college so I passed the exam and flew international."

Mary remembers the movie stars on her flights. "They weren't as pretty in person as they looked on TV," she says with a hearty laugh.

Mary and her college sweetheart, Don, married in 1960. While Mary was flying with the movie stars, her husband was flying in the United States Air Force Strategic Air Command's bombers.

Over the years, during his assignments at nine locations, Mary provided outstanding support to her husband's military career. She was

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Little Creek Reservoir Trail 180 Lakeview Drive (off Forge Road)	multiuse, natural 1 mile
Powhatan Creek Trail 3131 Ironbound Road	multiuse, paved 2.05 miles
Upper County Park Trail 180 Leisure Road (off Stage Road)	multiuse .2-.4 miles
Veterans Park (formerly Mid County) Trail 3793 Ironbound Road	multiuse, paved .6 miles
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About Little Creek

The reservoir is owned by the City of Newport News. It is a major water storage facility for the Peninsula. Recreation activities are regulated by James City County.

active in the officers' wives clubs, child care centers, thrift shops and education centers, and served as chair for the Nebraska Bicentennial event in 1976.

As a junior officer's wife, Mary discovered that to successfully chair meetings required a format that would assist her. She determined that to assure creditability she would become a Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

"When I became president of the officers' wives club at RAF Mildenhall Air Force Base, I was among some smart women," she says with a twinkle in her eye. "I thought I'd better learn parliamentary procedure!"

Naturally, every time they went to a new Base, somehow the General's wife knew that Mary was a Parliamentarian.

"They'd ask me to be the president of the Officers' Wives Club," she says. "What are you going to do? Tell the General's wife 'no'?"

There were times when Mary was conducting meetings involving as many as 300 women. "So, I needed to know what I was doing."

As Don's career progressed, the couple moved from place to place, ultimately prompting Mary to give up her job with TWA. The history buff soon landed a teaching job.

"I taught AP history and government at Portsmouth High School in New Hampshire," she says.

When her husband's career brought the family, which now included two daughters, to Virginia, Mary quickly found work with the Federal government. Progressing rapidly, she assumed senior positions as a Contracting Officer for the Department of Defense, and subsequently with the Department of Justice, U.S. Marshal Service.

Upon retirement to Williamsburg in 2000, Mary utilized her expertise as a Professional Registered Parliamentarian to support numerous national, state and local organizations.

Her husband jokes that Mary's first priority was decorating their Governor's Land home, and her second was reaching out to local organizations who could use her expertise on parliamentary procedure.

"She found that assisting local organizations with bylaw rewrites and running successful meetings was much better for her hair style than golf," Don says.

Don is a member of the Williamsburg Kiwanis Club and Sons of the American Revolution.

"He's not as outgoing as I am," Mary says. "I thrive on people, and he's more intellectual."

Locally, both Mary and Don have taken advantage of intellectual opportunities, including courses offered by the Christopher Wren Association at William & Mary.

"We love being so close to such a fine institution," Mary says. "Such a fantastic school!" Mary has also taken classes at the university's law school, including some that were taught by Taylor Reveley before he became W&M's president.

"I loved his classes," she says. "Especially the ones dedicated to Constitutional Law."

Just over a year ago, the couple decided that the time had come to downsize. They sold their home in Governor's Land and moved to WindsorMeade. Their new home is simultaneously cozy yet spacious and elegantly appointed, with ample room for when their daughters visit.

Mary's experience as a Professional Registered Parliamentarian has made her effective in many situations, with many people. While it is not for everyone, it suits her perfectly. She wouldn't have it any other way. NDN

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Working Together

By Cathy Welch



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

“I feel like there’s a dichotomy in Williamsburg,” Jan Walker says. “There are people who are comfortable and retired here. Then there are the people who work in restaurants and Busch Gardens and are paycheck-to-paycheck.”

Born in Washington, D.C., Jan and her family moved back and forth from Springfield, Virginia and New Jersey because of her

father’s work. “My dad was an editor for National Geographic and the Wall Street Journal in D.C. and then worked for Medical Economics based in northern New Jersey,” she explains. “He was eventually made editor of Medical Economics at their Washington office.”

Jan earned her Bachelor’s Degree in History from William & Mary. After graduation, the

results from her civil service exam led to her being hired by an engineering division of the Navy. “My choices included personnel, foreign military sales and contracting. They all involved accounting or engineering,” she explains. “Public affairs was my sweet spot.”

The end of her career was in media relations for DARPA, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

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“DARPA was the first to fund research into what is now the internet,” she says. “They worked on the stealth fighter, robotic cars, drones and unmanned flying vehicles.”

Jan met husband, Terry, through Parents without Partners. They married in 1990. Terry, worked for Staples, Inc.’s corporate office in sales management, integration and acquisitions. While they were still working, the couple began looking for a second home.

“We thought we’d buy something, go there on weekends and move full-time when we retired,” she explains.

After searching the eastern shore of Maryland, Gloucester and Matthews, they chose Williamsburg. “We wanted water and a slower lifestyle,” Jan says. “We were tired of the hustle and bustle, the traffic and everything that comes with living in a suburb of a major city.” But some places were too quiet. “Some places, at eight o’clock there’s nothing open. The town may have only two restaurants, and you have to drive 30 minutes to get to the grocery store,” she says. “We were all for slowing life down, but you can’t go from living down the street from four grocery stores and a department store to nothing.”

They felt Williamsburg was a nice compro-

mise for its small town feel and college town atmosphere. “Williamsburg has culture, museums, Colonial Williamsburg and shopping,” Jan says. “It was exactly what we wanted and we love it.”

Now that they live in their lakefront home in the First Colony community, they also got the water they wanted.

Jan’s mother who worked as a legal secretary and for an orthodontist’s office has been on the international committee of The Book and Needle Woman’s Club of Oradell, N.J. for years. “She used to tell me stories about all she was doing,” Jan says. “They had speakers, went to international restaurants and state conventions. She also had all these pens.”

When Jan settled in her Williamsburg home, she needed a way to meet people, learn about the community and get involved. She decided The Woman’s Club of Williamsburg was the right place for her and she joined in December 2014.

“The Women’s Club amplifies what I can do as an individual,” she explains. “I volunteer at the Habitat Restore here in Williamsburg. So I can do my little part. But it would be really hard to impact Head Start, Community Action Agency and Operation Smile on my

own. Woman’s Club gives me an ability to be involved in a targeted way.”

Each of the Woman’s Club of Williamsburg’s committees such as education, international and arts, have a different focus with their own activities and organizations they support.

Jan is a member of the education committee. In the fall, they collect new coats to donate to Head Start. “The education committee is the advocate for the fundraiser,” Jan explains. “We tell the general membership we’ll be collecting winter coats and others might be interested.”

When she first joined the club, they asked her to help with publicity. “That sounded right up my alley,” she says. She was also asked to update the club’s website. She had experience in this area previously working on the website for her small book club in northern Virginia.

She took over as chair of the club’s communications committee in December. She does the club’s newsletter and the community chair recording. She also works on the club’s social media. “Especially our Facebook page,” she adds. “It’s a good way to get information out to the broader community.”

Jan enjoys participating in many of the




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club's creative fundraisers. The international committee held a Betty Bunco Night in May with proceeds from pay-to-play fees benefiting Heifer International and Operation Smile. "I have a girlfriend who plays Bunco and it sounds fun, but I've never played," she explains. "It's one of these things where you don't need a foursome or know how to play."

Jan sees Woman's Club as an opportunity to serve the community in a tailored and bigger way. "My understanding is that the lady who headed up the international committee is passionate about Heifer International and Operation Smile," Jan says. "She was able to choose those as her focus. You get to do that."

Other fundraisers the club participates in are: the Belk Charity Sale where they sell tickets and earn money; and the Papa Murphy's and Blaze Pizza fundraisers.

Jan feels her "unique value-added" contribution to the Woman's Club of Williamsburg is her work with their website and social media. "I can bring those skills to the club and now we have an online presence," she says. "If you were to move here and are interested in joining, you are going to find us."

Jan is part of the knitting ministry at Saint Bede Catholic Church. The group meets

weekly to talk and to knit, and they donate their needlework to a variety of organizations: dog sweaters for Heritage Humane Society's auction; premie/newborn hats for Mary Immaculate Hospital; baby items for Hope Pregnancy Center; and limb covers for amputees at Riverside Walter Reed Hospital.

Today, daughter, Victoria, lives in Tucson with husband, Raul. Both teach high school social sciences. His son, Tom, lives in Springfield with his wife, Stephanie, and works in the geographical information field. Stephanie works for the department of transportation.

"We each got our own elephant to sponsor," Jan says of the gift Victoria and Raul gave them a few years ago through the David Shel-drick Wildlife Trust. "They take in orphaned elephants and raise them to go back into the wild."

In nice weather, Jan and Terry like to fish from their boat, Grady-White, they keep at a Jamestown marina. Terry is part of the Williamsburg Area Bicyclists. Jan rides as well, but not 30 miles at a time. The couple enjoys visiting Colonial Williamsburg, the outlets, museums, and appreciates the natural environment.

"It's nice to be outside. It's green," Jan says. "I feel like there's more nature here compared

to northern Virginia, and we've got all the animals in our backyard."

Jan is part of a small book club that rotates through each participant's house monthly. "Each member suggests books, and I like to get them from the local library," she explains.

She usually reads fiction, but recently read *The Imagineers of War* by Sharon Weinberger. "That was interesting, especially the early history and stuff I didn't know."

Jan and Terry love to travel. They've walked the mountains in Austria. A few winters ago, they visited Iceland. "We wanted to see the northern lights and on our last night there was a fabulous display. We felt lucky."

They have also traveled to Ireland and Eastern Europe. "I highly recommend Budapest, Prague and Vienna. Everyone says they're beautiful cities, and it's true."

Their trip to the Panama Canal has also part of their highest-priority itinerary. "We've got our list now and we're retired," she explains. "Eventually, we want to get to Australia, Asia and on an African safari."

In the meantime, Jan invests in the lives of her neighbors. "It's nice that people who are comfortable can get together and find ways to make other lives a little bit easier." NDN

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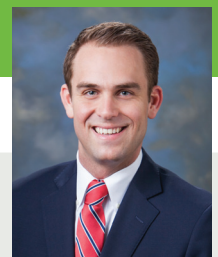
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A HEART FOR SERVICE



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

By Ben Mackin

For most people, community service is a pastime. For the president of the Rotary Club of the Historic Triangle, Steve Rice, it is a way of life. Long before he ever set foot inside a Rotary Club meeting, he had dedicated his time and passion to community service.

Born and raised in Glens Falls, N.Y., Steve attended Sienna College in upstate New York, followed later by Syracuse University for graduate school. Not long after graduating from Sienna, he took a job with a local insurance company. It was there that

one of his mentors suggested that he find ways to serve the community. A 22-year-old Steve walked into the mayor's office in Glens Falls and asked him what he could volunteer for in his hometown.

"The next thing I knew," Steve says, "I was on the city's planning board." With that one question to the mayor, Steve was off. Over the next several years he would make time for various committees and charities wherever he found himself.

Spending his career in the insurance business, Steve and his wife, Robin, and their four children moved around a bit over the years. Even as he progressed within his company and he raised a family, his commitment to whichever community he found himself in never wavered.

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Dr. Gregory Schultz welcomes Dr. Derek Evans as a new Optometrist serving the Eye Center of Virginia and its patients. Dr. Evans grew up in Fairfax, Virginia and decided he wanted to become an optometrist after graduating from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia. His aunt and uncle, both optometrists, were influential in his decision to take that career path. In fact Dr. Evans' uncle was a well know academic at the Southern California College of Optometry in the areas of binocular vision and vision therapy for children. He also authored a textbook on the management of children with eye turns (strabismus). Dr. Evans cites his uncles accomplishments as motivation to enter the profession.

"I majored in microbiology and immunology. I always thought health care would be something I would want to get into," Dr. Evans says.

Dr. Evans attended the Southern California College of Optometry for four years, graduating with a Doctor of Optometry in 2013. His clinical training included rotations Lawton Indian Hospital, in Lawton OK, George E. Wahlen VA medical Center, in Salt lake City and Walter Reed Medical Center in Bethesda Maryland at the Naval Hospital. It was here that Dr. Evans was challenged with the fitting of complex post-surgical corneas with specialty contact lenses an area he takes great interest in to this day.

For the past four years Dr. Evans has worked in an Ophthalmology practice in Fredericksburg VA where his responsibilities involved providing comprehensive medical eye exams, caring for post-operative patients after cataract and refractive surgery and managing their complications. While in this position he gained significant experience in the management of glaucoma as well as those with other complex eye diseases. Dr. Evans joins Eye Center of Virginia with great aspira-



Dr. Derek Evans OD

Dr. Gregory M. Schultz, OD, FAAO, ABO

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tion, as he will be a decision maker in the delivery of patient care. He looks forward to contributing to the betterment of the practice by sharing his ideas.

"Dr. Schultz and I come from similar backgrounds and medical practices. We both worked in surgical practices that handled and managed a wide range of complex ocular diseases and conditions. We are also both well versed in treating post-surgical patients."

"In addition to eye disease management and complex contact lens fittings for corneal disease and post-surgical corneas, I enjoy comprehensive and pediatric eye care. I find it very rewarding to work with children.

"I have great confidence in Dr. Evans' abilities, and he came highly recommended by his colleagues and professors," Dr. Schultz says. "I especially like that he has experience in the medical / surgery eye care setting. As an adjunct clinical faculty member teaching young doctors for years, I know this will set him apart from those without this specialized training."

We want to build on that reputation of providing comprehensive eye care to the Williamsburg and surrounding communities. People are coming to know that they can come here with any eye or vision problem no matter how simple or complex and get answers and more importantly solutions to their problem."

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Whether it was serving on the board of civic and trade organizations or his time spent as the director of the Glens Falls YMCA, Steve was always striving to give back.

While he actively sought opportunities, sometimes the volunteer roles found him. Having four athletic children, Steve stepped up to coach whatever activity the season called for. "I've coached 17 different teams throughout the years from baseball, softball, field hockey, basketball. I've coached them all."

With his youngest being in high school, the demand for his athletic prowess has simmered. "Well they don't need me as much anymore, which gives me time do other things."

Eventually Steve's career took him to work in Richmond while he and his family settled in Williamsburg. After a few years commuting back and forth, Steve began to get ready to move again for another career opportunity when the Williamsburg office of the Middle Peninsula Insurance Agency offered him the chief operating officer position. "They made me an offer I couldn't refuse," Steve says. "It was really attractive working here because we

truly believe in giving back to the community, through time, through money, through whatever."

As he transitioned into his new job, he resumed his dedication to community service. In 2012, one of Steve's clients at Middle Peninsula invited him to a weekly meeting of the Rotary Club. From then on it was a blur for Steve. "I went to a meeting and next thing I know I am talking about membership and four years later, I'm the president."

The Rotary Club is a national service organization founded in 1905 by Chicago attorney Paul Harris. His goal was to have professionals with diverse backgrounds come together to give back to their community, exchange ideas and form lifelong friendships. In the 112 years since the Rotary has grown to more than 1.2 million members in 200 countries.

The prestigious history aside, one of the main aspects that attracted Steve to the Historic Triangle chapter is the dedication of its members. "When you come to the meetings and speak with the people you will see that they are truly committed to service. They are

what I call the people who make the world go round," Steve says with a smile. "They are all about the Rotary or sitting on other civic boards or coaching youth sports. Rotarians are Rotarians for life. Often times they will do it from the time they are in their twenties until they just can't make it anymore."

Another reason Steve has enjoyed his time as a Rotarian is because of the area itself. "I've lived in a lot of places, and Williamsburg is a very generous area. There are a lot of nonprofits here," Steve says. "There are several different organizations around here that not only need money, but they need time."

The Rotary's time is invested to several events throughout the year with two annual programs. The Rotary Invitational Basketball Jamboree will celebrate its 7th year in November. It provides a proper kick off tournament for local high school basketball season. The club's other annual event is a golf tournament held every year in May.

One hundred percent of the proceeds from both fundraisers go to charities such as Rotary International's Polio Plus as well as many local

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groups.

In addition to putting on their own events, Historic Triangle often teams up with the Williamsburg and James City County chapters.

“We get together and apply for grants from the Rotary district,” Steve says. In the past, the trio has received up to \$15,000 for projects such as the tree sculptures in the Williamsburg Regional Library.

Currently the clubs are working on a grant that would help build a computer lab for the Arc of Greater Williamsburg, which is an organization that assists adults with intellectual and developmental needs. “When you get together and pool your resources, you can really make a difference.”

In his time as a president Steve has gained more insight on the club itself. “Since becoming president and being responsible for the events and the speakers at every meeting, I have a better perspective on how everything fits together.” Steve cites the organizations leadership structure with helping him to prepare for his current role. “There are a lot of rules about the positions in the Rotary. When

you are asked to be president, you are the president designee for a year and then you are the president and after that you are the past president. So essentially you are on the board for three years”

Members are encouraged to take on leadership roles. “This is a service organization. We make it clear to people coming in that we are here to serve, so people cheerfully volunteer. That has helped make this a great experience for me,” Steve says of his time in office.

Going forward Steve and his colleagues are looking to grow all aspects of the organization, from membership to philanthropy, all the while keeping the mission the same. He wants to continue to focus on the Basketball Jamboree and the Golf Tournaments as well as teaming up with the other Rotaries to get grants.

Steve Rice’s vision is very simple: “What distinguishes this from a lot of clubs is that it is truly one hundred percent a service club. Our mission is service above self. The ancillary benefits are secondary. They are big, the friendships and the connections, but we have a heart for service first.” NDN

Next Door Neighbors

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The Vision of the Lions Club

By Gail Dillon

Pat Kerr may be retired but you'd never know it from her busy schedule. The current president of the Williamsburg Host Lions Club, she also serves on four separate organizations within the Lion's District, volunteers for FISH, Inc., and is a devoted wife, mother

and grandmother.

Originally from Rocky Mount, N.C., Pat has a charming southern drawl that conjures up images of a screened-in porch, mint juleps and lazy summer afternoons. Once she starts talking, however, her passion for and devotion

to the Lions Club become more evident than her accent. "It's a great club and I love what Lions stand for," she says, pointing out that all of the organization's money comes from donations and that they give thousands of dollars to charities each year. "Nowhere is a penny

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collected that doesn't go back to a community or a worthwhile cause," she says.

At her sister's urging, she and her husband, Paul, applied for membership to the Williamsburg chapter back in 1997, soon learning she was the first woman to do so. (Lions Clubs International began inviting women to join in 1987). Not everyone welcomed her with open arms though.

"I'm just so naïve sometimes, I thought everyone would be fat, dumb and happy to have me in there," she explains with a chuckle. "Little did I know that was not necessarily the case." However, she swiftly won over any critics by working hard and not complaining. "I was one of the first ones at a project and one of the last ones to leave," she admits. "I worked very hard to prove to the men that I was there to be a Lion, not to be a female." Within six months, she was secretary of the club and became its first female president in 2004.

Pat had an impressive history of employment before getting involved in the Lions Club. She spent 24 years on her career, first working as promotions coordinator for a military broker in Norfolk, a job she "dearly

loved", and then accepting a promotion to be an account manager with the same company. "We represented different manufacturers and sold to the ships, exchanges, vets canteens and commissaries," she says. "We had big tractor trailers and warehouses to supply the ships, especially before deployment."

Early in their marriage, Paul served in the Navy, afterwards landing civilian employment at the Virginia Power Company. They lived in Carrolton and settled in Williamsburg in 1986, after Paul began working for Anheuser Busch. Pat had to make the difficult decision to stop working when her mother, who then lived in Virginia Beach, became ill. "I told them as much as I love the company and love this place, I've got to quit." Sadly, her mother passed away soon after they moved her into their home, but Pat doesn't regret her decision to stop working, nor did she want to return.

"I just didn't really feel like I wanted to start over again," she says. "We were very blessed that I could afford not to have to go to work." Instead, she began to crave volunteer opportunities, and the Lions Club seemed to be a perfect fit. "Our motto is: 'We serve.'" She

points out that there are six districts in the state of Virginia. A Chicago businessman named Melvin Jones founded Lions Clubs International in 1917 and it grew quickly. Helen Keller was the group's keynote speaker at its international convention in 1925, and she challenged the members to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." From then on, Lions Clubs have been actively involved in service to the blind and visually impaired. Pat says this is why so many of the club's fundraising efforts are devoted to sight.

For example, they provide free eye exams and glasses to those who cannot afford them. "We spend probably \$5,000 or \$6,000 a year on exams and eyeglasses," she says, adding that they have three eye doctors, all members of the Lion's Club, who volunteer their time.

"In addition, they screen all the children in James City, Williamsburg and upper York schools with the partnership of the James City Lions Club," she says. The club also sponsors a Diabetes Camp for children where kids can enjoy typical summer camp activities such as horseback riding and fishing but also receive nutritional material and other information



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to help them manage their disease. Pat notes that this year, the Lions Charity Foundation purchased “Fit-Bits” for each participating child to help track their physical fitness.

The Lions Club has three centers where eye glasses are recycled and later donated to those in need, often people in other countries. For the last 12 years, she has been the secretary and treasurer for this organization. She also serves as the secretary for the Lion’s Hearing Research Foundation at the University of Virginia. “We do a lot,” she says. “We stay really busy.”

If that’s not enough, she is the secretary for the Lions Charity Foundation and district representative for the Lions of Virginia Foundation, the group that responds in times of disaster or crisis. “When there’s a tragedy, Lion’s Club International is one of the first ones on the scene,” Pat says. “They provide housing and food and water, and clothes. Lions International spends millions of dollars a year on helping somebody, somehow.”

One of their most important causes is the Measles Initiative which began in 2010 through a grant from the Bill and Melinda

Gates Foundation. The Initiative originally focused on Madagascar, Ethiopia, Mali and Nigeria but has expanded significantly and will coordinate vaccination efforts to 31 countries this year.

She admits to being “very nervous” when she was tapped to become the first female president of the Williamsburg Club in 2004. “I work really well in the background upstairs on my computer, but getting out there in front of people to speak, I am not comfortable,” she says. But being chosen by the District Governor to attend the Virginia State Lion’s leadership school and speaking seminar made all the difference. “They teach you how to talk in front of people; they give you subjects and you have to present them and then the next day you have to debate with someone,” Pat says. “It’s invaluable. It really changed my life.”

She is eager to mention the Lions’ popular annual fundraisers, which include selling 10-pound bags of Vidalia onions, their famous brooms, and quarts of Brunswick stew. “This year we made 784 quarts and sold every one of them.”

Pat and her husband have a grown son and

a daughter, and “five perfect grandchildren.” Spending time with them is a priority for her, which often means attending the many sporting events her grandkids are involved in. “I try to be with them as much as I can. I love being with my grandchildren,” she says. Reading and crocheting are also pastimes she enjoys squeezing in between all her volunteering. In addition to the Lions Club, Pat spends two Fridays a month as the lead volunteer for FISH, Inc. collecting and distributing donations of clothing, food and household items to those who need it. She also serves on the board as a director. “I could spend hours talking about FISH,” she says. “They are doing so much good for the community.”

Williamsburg is special to her mainly because of the “very friendly” people, but she also recognizes how much the area has to offer. “We have Colonial Williamsburg, we have one of the best theme parks in the whole world, we have Water Country,” Pat Kerr says. “I love my neighborhood and my neighbors, and I’ve made so many, many dear friends with Lions and FISH. I can’t really imagine living anywhere else.” NDN

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CAROL BEERS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Lillian Stevens



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

For over 35 years, Carol Beers has served Williamsburg and the Commonwealth in various educational capacities. To many locals, hers is a household name. Although Carol's roles have run the gamut from K-12 teaching and administration, to teaching at William & Mary and Virginia Commonwealth University, she also spent five years as Superintendent of Williamsburg-James City County schools.

Though it has been said that there is no higher public service calling than education, Carol is also involved in a multitude of other endeavors, including 25+ years of service as a Rotarian.

"I like giving my time and talent to Rotary," she says. "You meet so many different people that way. And you learn so much, too. For me, that's the takeaway, staying connected in this

community."

Carol has been a member of the Rotary Club of Williamsburg for some 25 years. For the past year, she has served as the Club's president. Prior to that, she was vice president and program chair.

"I think that Rotary is a great way to meet and interact with people you might not otherwise necessarily know in your own profession-

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al life,” Carol says. “Our club members come from a variety of different ages and walks of life, and different places. But we have this common bond of knowing what Rotary means in terms of making a difference.” Rotary is a global organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill all over the globe. With over 30,000 Rotary clubs worldwide, there are approximately 1.2 million Rotarians hard at work to make the world a better place.

“Rotary is an international service organization, and that’s consistent with my own international interests,” she says.

Carol’s interest in international affairs goes back to her high school years. She also knew from a young age that she wanted to make a difference.

“In high school I knew I loved languages,” she says. “So, I studied them in college. I was so fascinated with the idea of visiting other countries, understanding their history and culture, and knowing people from other countries.”

Although Rotary clubs develop independent service programs, Rotarians worldwide are possibly best known for their commitment to the global eradication of polio. Efforts to eliminate polio have been described as one of the finest humanitarian projects the world has ever known and Rotary has even been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. Closer to home, the Rotary Club of Williamsburg has been instrumental in helping with the Reading Trees program in the James City County Library in Toano. “We are involved in projects that I think are meaningful,” Carol says. “We are involved in projects that I think might make a difference to people.”

Looking back over the years, even Carol isn’t sure what planted the seed for public service.

“Some of it happened when I was in college,” she says. “I did volunteer work all through my college years, and after graduation, I did some volunteer work in a mental institution and also at a children’s hospital.” She always enjoyed working with children, but she majored in French and Russian, with full intention of going into that field.

During those years at William Smith College, the native of Massachusetts met the man who would become her husband, a native of Baltimore who attended Hobart College. Hobart and William Smith Colleges are together a liberal arts college located in the Finger Lakes Region of New York. Men attend Hobart while women attend William Smith.

“There I was, this New England girl who wanted to make a difference,” Carol says. “And Jim was this Baltimore prep in a madras jacket with a cigarette hanging out of his mouth.”

Despite their differences, there were many similarities, not the least of which is a love of education and teaching. Carol’s path, however, took a slight detour. After graduation from William Smith, she took a job in the nation’s capital working at the Library of Congress. Jim, meanwhile, had transferred to Johns Hopkins University to pursue a graduate degree in English.

“I was using my language skills to do translation work,” she says. “And then I thought, I can’t do this; I can’t sit at a desk all day long!”

Carol decided to explore teaching. “I went for a Master’s Degree in Teaching from Goucher College, which was designed for people who didn’t have education backgrounds,” she says. “I did my student teaching and an internship at an inner city school in Baltimore. I was so miserable at it, but I loved doing it, so I had to figure out a way to get better.” After finishing her degree at Goucher, she and Jim married at the chapel there.

Ultimately, Carol’s teaching focus became learning disabilities and special education. “Mostly, I wanted to help kids learn how to read.”



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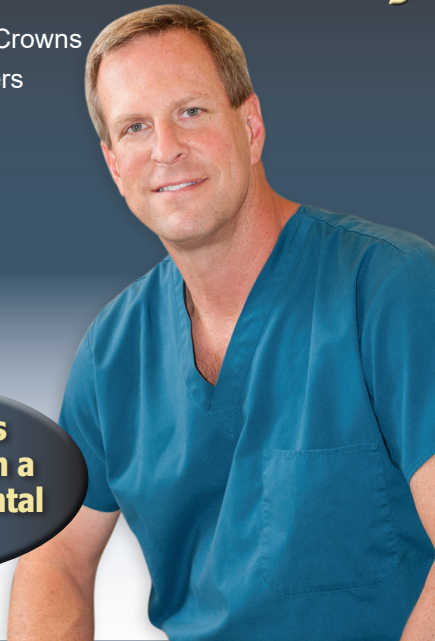
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With his English degree from Johns Hopkins, Carol's husband decided that he wanted to pursue a Ph.D at the University of Virginia. After moving to Charlottesville, Carol found work teaching in rural Scottsville, outside of Charlottesville. Both went on to earn their doctorate degrees from the University of Virginia.

Soon thereafter, the couple moved to Michigan, where they both had accepted positions teaching at the Oakland University in Rochester, MI. Three years later, they moved to Williamsburg.

"An offer at William & Mary came Jim's way, and we've been here ever since."

There have been many accomplishments over the years, but there are two in particular that Carol is most proud of. Both underscore her commitment to early childhood education.

"Before I became assistant superintendent for Williamsburg-James City County (W-JCC), I partnered with Child Development Resources to secure a federal grant for a program that we called Bright Beginnings. The first Bright Beginnings program here was launched in a little room at Matthew Whaley Elementary School."

Embedded in the elementary schools, Bright Beginnings offers a high quality, nurturing and engaging early childhood program for preschool children. Each child develops at his or her own rate, with the goal of a successful transition into kindergarten and beyond.

Carol is also very passionate about literacy and making sure young readers have the tools they need to take them through a lifetime of learning. Toward that end, she is especially proud to have started a Reading Recovery program for local first graders.

Reading Recovery is a program designed for children aged five or six, who are perhaps not keeping literary pace with their peers. "If you can catch reading issues at that time before children are labeled, it's the best," Carol says. Today, the program is embedded in all W-JCC elementary schools

Switching gears, back to Rotary, it was actually during Carol's time as assistant superintendent when she was encouraged to apply to the Williamsburg Rotary Club. "In our roles as educators, it is important to have a relationship with the business world."

This doesn't mean it's all about raising money. "We do some fundraising, but what I like about Rotary is they do value your time and your talents. You contribute however you need to."

Other organizations Carol has been involved with include Dreamcatchers, where she served on the Board. She has provided consulting expertise to many organizations including the Virginia Department of Education and school divisions in Michigan, California, Florida and Virginia. She also volunteered extensively with the International Reading Association, including a three-year training effort in Russia.

"I've also served on the boards of WHRO and the Virginia Arts Festival," she says. "I really love public radio and public TV," she says. "And I enjoy working with organizations like the Arts Festival that benefit children in a positive way."

Carol is a former president of the local United Way and has served as a board member of both the Williamsburg Health Foundation and the Williamsburg Community Foundation for nearly nine years.

Carol and her husband, now both semi-retired, have two grown children and four grandchildren, all of whom live in Virginia. So, naturally, she wants to spend as much time with her family as she can.

"I think that when people retire, the first thing they tend to do is get involved in activities," she says. "The next thing you know, you're over-involved so you start to cut back. I'm in the cutting back stage."

After her term as president of the Williamsburg Rotary Club is over, Carol looks forward to "just being a member."

And hanging out with her grandkids. **NDN**

KENT BRINKLEY



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

A Unifying Element

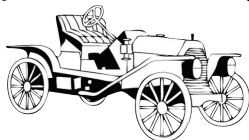
By Narielle Living

The dreams we have as children and the lessons we learn as young adults can often translate into the people we become. For Kent Brinkley, the lessons from his father, grandfathers and advisors in his youth organization had one thing one common: all of these people were Masons. That simple fact led him to where he is today.

Kent grew up in the Norfolk-Virginia Beach area, and at the age of 16 he joined a Masonic youth organization called the Order of Demo-

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lay. "It's for boys," he says. "There's a similar organization for girls called The International Order of Rainbow." When he told his grandfather that he wanted to join, his grandfather was thrilled. "He said this is absolutely something you need to do and he told me it would be good for character building." His grandfather then wrote a check and paid the fee for Kent to join.

"I served as a chapter leader and a master counselor, and I had come to respect the men who were my advisors," he says. "I recognized them as all upstanding, straightforward, honest men. Somewhere along the way I connected the dots and realized that I feel the same way about my dad and both my grandfathers. They stood for something. They had standards. You didn't cross the line, or if you did they let you know pretty quickly. One day I realized, what do they all have in common? They're all Masons."

Kent has lived in Williamsburg since 1985, but he has not been a Mason for his entire life. He had intended to join the organization after he aged out of the DeMolay, but going to college in North Carolina and then starting a career took a good portion of his time. He felt he needed to have more time to devote to being a Mason.

"I was in college and I thought now is not the right time. I'll wait five years and do it then. Five years turned into nearly 20. I don't have any regrets other than the fact that I waited as long as I did," he says.

It was almost chance that led him back to the Masons. One day, he and his wife were returning from a trip to the northeast to see family. On their way through Alexandria, they decided to stop and tour George Washington Masonic National Memorial. "I hadn't been there in years, and I asked my wife if she had seen it, and she said no," he says. The memorial hosts the Masonic lodge that George Washington was a member of, and it contains the chair and several artifacts and relics that date from the time period when he served as master of the lodge. "They have his gavel, one of his masonic aprons, and the chair he sat in." While taking the tour, his guide noticed that Kent was very knowledgeable about the organization. They talked about their experiences in Demolay, and the guide then asked if Kent was still interested in joining the masonic fraternity. When Kent said yes, the man encouraged him to join. "He gave me the advice to do it and do it now. Don't wait any longer. I was in my mid-forties at the time."

The next day, he typed a letter of introduction and dropped it off at the Williamsburg lodge. He didn't think he knew anybody in the lodge, but he had to start somewhere. That evening his phone rang. It was the secretary of the lodge. "He got the letter, and as it turns out he lived four doors down from me in my neighborhood. I never knew he was a Mason and he never knew I was a senior Demolay or had any interest in the Masons. We had just never made those connections."

Kent became a member of the lodge and has served with honor and integrity. He is proud of their heritage and works hard to live up to the ideals of being a Mason. "Masonry is the oldest and largest fraternity in the world," he says. "It's so old that nobody really knows when it was first founded." He describes the history of its origins as being for the stone masons who built churches or castles in the middle ages. As the need for that type of craft began to wane, the members changed from being operative craftsmen to honorary members who were prominent

people in the community. The focus of the masonic organization was to instill certain rules of behavior. "They taught how to behave and become a contributing citizen to your community. That moral aspect sort of became larger than life and the fraternity became known for its morals and ethics."

One of the characteristics of the fraternity has always been to act as a social parachute. "If you became incapacitated or died, your widow and orphans would be taken care of." That tradition continues today in the form of a charity fund. At each meeting brothers can contribute any amount to the fund. This money is kept in a separate account to be used specifically for members who fall upon hard times. In 2004 Kent was a master mason. "We had a brother who was our senior deacon, a retired state police officer. He was a great guy. One of his children had a fire at their house and they lost everything. As master I had discretion of using that charity fund for special cases like that. The lodge gave them \$1,000 to at least go out and buy some clothes. All they had was the clothes on their back. They all made it out safely and thankfully no one was injured or hurt, but they lost everything. We wished we were in the position to do more, but at least we were able to do something."

The Masons make other contributions to the community as well. They offer scholarships to students entering college, they work with the American Red Cross to set up blood drives and they offer a child identification (ID) program. For the ID program, the grand lodge of Virginia participates with police and sheriff departments. They use a computer with specific software to create identification kits. Photos are taken of each child, and identifying information such as height, weight, hair color and fingerprints are recorded. "Once the data is collected it's put on a CD and given to the parents. As soon as it's copied to a CD it's completely erased in our computer, so we do not retain any information. Parents then have a record of their child in case, heaven forbid, something happens and they have to put out an Amber Alert." Almost every masonic lodge in Virginia, except the small lodges in rural areas, have at least one child ID event a year. The Williamsburg lodge hosts around four events each year.

For those interested in learning more about the Masons, they host a monthly breakfast on the fourth Saturday of the month. "It's open to anyone," Kent says. "Most of the people that attend are brothers of the lodge and their family, but if you have people who are prospects or interested in learning more about the lodge they can come, ask questions, talk to people and tour the building."

Kent is often frustrated by the public perception of his organization. "I want people to understand we're not just a bunch of old guys going behind closed doors doing heaven knows what. I've invited people for open houses, and I've had people say I've heard you're all devil worshippers. No, that's not the case." Kent Brinkley explains that the Masons are not specifically Christian, but that's not because they are against Christianity. "We have a Bible on our altar. You take obligations on a book of faith that means something to you. It's open to Muslims, Jews, anyone. The idea is to have the fraternity open. We ask that you believe in a supreme being, but we don't ask what your concept of that supreme being is. The idea is to bring men together of all faiths to become a unifying element, not a divisive element." NDN



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Hands-on Service

By Alison Johnson

Lisa W. Cumming Photography

Mary Beth Murphy is a woman who has worked as a waitress, bartender and restaurant manager; in information systems for the Virginia Department of Taxation, and even, very briefly, as a housekeeper for former President Richard Nixon. Twenty five years ago, she left a master's program in education to found a successful parking lot striping business.

So, it's no surprise that as a passionate volunteer, Mary Beth enjoys the variety of projects spearheaded by the Kiwanis Club of Williamsburg. As president of the 150-member club, Mary Beth spends about 20 hours a week organizing and staffing service events and fundraisers that support everyone from preschoolers to seniors.

"For me, the appeal is the real hands-on service," she says. "All of my best friends are in the club, and they became my best friends as we worked side by side on different projects and accomplished good things for the community. There is such a sense of fellowship."

Mary Beth has been a member of the club for 23 years. She was inducted on her 30th birthday. She has served on the Board of Directors and has been Co-Chair of the Community Services Committee for about 15 years. She became President in October for a term that runs through September.

Kiwanis is a global organization with a

simple but powerful mission: improve the world one child, one community at a time. Its network of clubs has grown to more than 600,000 members in more than 80 countries. Kiwanis also offers service opportunities for kids, teenagers and college students.

"I joined to meet new people and to serve my community," Mary Beth says. "Right away, I just fell in love with it. You can do a lot of good."

In April alone, Williamsburg club members pitched in at a Civil War battlefield clean-up, a fundraiser at the College of William & Mary that raised more than \$4,000 for ALS research, a 5K in Colonial Williamsburg in support of the Angels of Mercy Medical Clinic, which helps uninsured residents with chronic illnesses, and a weekend leadership retreat for high school students.

Every Wednesday during the school year, Kiwanis volunteers read to young children in the Head Start program. Three nights a month, they staff the USO lounge at the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport, welcoming service members and their families to a comfortable room with snacks, TV and computers as they wait for flights.

Upcoming events include a night of free childcare for special needs children, an annual shrimp feast to raise money for four local non-

profits and Kiwanis projects, and, just for fun, manning the beer and wine stations at Bruce Hornsby's weekend-long concert in June.

"As president, my motto this year is to 'Have FUN!'" Mary Beth reports. "I try to bring some fun to each Kiwanis meeting, and I tell our members that they will enjoy their Kiwanis experience so much more if they get involved and get to know their fellow Kiwanians. I have fun every time I get together with Kiwanians to work toward a common goal."

Mary Beth was born and raised in a township much smaller than Williamsburg: Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey, a New York City suburb that covers one square mile. The youngest of six siblings, she was an active kid who was on soccer, basketball and track teams and spent much of her free time outside.

The summer after she graduated from high school, in 1982, she lined up the temporary job as Nixon's housekeeper at his family's vacation spot in Long Beach Island, N.J. Mary Beth's brother-in-law, a police officer in Ho-Ho-Kus, was on Nixon's private security team and recommended her.

For two weeks, Mary Beth did light cleaning for Nixon, his wife, Pat, and their two daughters, Julie and Tricia. She first met the former president when she was tidying up a bathroom.

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What drew you to a career in Opticianry?

"My education started in Turkey where I studied Economics for two years at the University of Mersin. This taught me how to make well-informed decisions and helped me understand how the world around us operates, how we behave, how businesses behave. One summer break, I accepted a position at an optical store and it did not take me long to decide that this is what I was meant to do. Being an optician, I have the good fortune of meeting people and getting to know their families. It is very rewarding and satisfying."

Tell us about your most rewarding experience.

"I will never forget the young boy I helped with many years ago during my first year of employment. He had a very strong prescription and he was getting his first pair of glasses. He didn't know what to do. He looked as if he was going to cry, then he looked at his parents and was just so happy to see for the first time in his life. I watched the experienced optician explain to him what to expect the next few hours and then the next few days and that was very important to take the time to go over the basics with him. Especially when it is their first pair, as the optician, we need to spend more time with children to help them understand what to expect after they receive their eyewear and also how to keep them clean and safe."

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“He just came right in and introduced himself,” she says. “They were all very friendly and welcoming. I thought they would keep to themselves, but they were always sure to say hello and talk to me. I wasn’t into politics at all, so I didn’t come in thinking I liked him or didn’t like him. To me, he was very nice.”

Following that brush with fame, Mary Beth started college at Rutgers University and went on to finish a degree in Information Systems in 1986 at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. She worked in Virginia’s tax office for a few years before deciding to go to graduate school and become a teacher. While enrolled in a master’s program at William & Mary, she worked at Second Street Restaurant, where her regular customers included employees of an asphalt company. One day, her boss asked them for an estimate on repainting his parking lot.

“I thought, ‘Well, that’s kind of interesting,’” Mary Beth recalls. “You park between lines all the time, but you never think about how the lines got there. So, I listened to the conversation. They said, ‘We’ll do it for \$600.’ I’m like, ‘Wait, \$600?! I could do it for \$300!’”

The men told her that they always subcontracted painting work and knew she was a hard

worker. They asked why didn’t she start her own business. Never mind that Mary Beth had no experience, lived in a small apartment and drove a Toyota Corolla, giving her no space to keep equipment. They could teach her the ropes, send jobs her way and store large items for her.

“I thought it would be neat to have my own business, and to be outside for work,” she says. “I’m not a desk job type of person. So when the weather got warm, I went to the bank, got a loan and bought my first striping machine for about \$5,000. I was scared. I didn’t know what I was doing, but I learned, and eventually I got busy.”

Always a one-woman operation, Murphy Striping now has three machines, a truck and plenty of work. Mary Beth uses tape marks and stencils to add white lines, yellow fire lanes, blue handicapped signs and crosswalks at parking lots, shopping centers, schools and apartment complexes. Each year, she also paints the Tribe logo throughout the college’s campus and along Richmond and Jamestown roads.

Since painting requires temperatures above 50 degrees, dry conditions and little wind, her busiest times are spring, summer and early

fall. Mary Beth also often works weekends, holidays and some nights, when lots tend to be free of cars.

During her off time, Mary Beth stays outside. She loves hiking, paddle boarding, kayaking, fishing, walking on the beach and playing with her black Lab, Ellie. She always makes time for Kiwanis, including weekly Wednesday lunch gatherings. For members who can’t make those lunches, the Williamsburg club has a Satellite Committee that holds monthly Tuesday night meetings and socials. The chapter, founded 59 years ago, also spun off the Colonial Capital and Toano Kiwanis clubs.

Happily, Mary Beth’s husband, retired Anheuser-Busch employee Jim Geiger, is a fellow Kiwanis devotee who has been a club member for more than 25 years. They often volunteer together. “That’s a great, fun part of our relationship,” she says. Her father, she notes, also was a Kiwanis member in New Jersey during his retirement years.

Anyone who cares about the community and has ideas and enthusiasm for improving it would be a perfect fit for Kiwanis, Mary Beth Murphy adds. “It’s like a family,” she says, “and it’s a family you’re always going to want to be part of.” NDN



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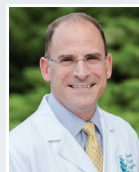
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MEG HENDRICKS

Shortly after moving to Williamsburg five years ago, Meg Hendricks started pondering a way to get more involved in the community and make a difference. A quick internet search of local civic organizations led her to the Junior Woman's Club of Williamsburg.

"I was looking to meet new people who wanted to serve a purpose," Meg recalls.

The Junior Woman's Club of Williamsburg (JWCW) was established more than 60 years ago as a way for ladies to support a variety of local charitable organizations and community services through monetary and volunteer assistance. More than three dozen women from age 20 through age 50 are active with the club. Meg, who became a member in 2014, jumped right in and has served in a number of roles with JWCW ever since.

Meg started off as a social chairwoman, organizing happy hour events the first Friday of each month as well as summer barbecues. She has also served as a new member chair, supporting ladies who are fresh to the organization and making them feel welcome. Currently, Meg is co-2nd Vice President of JWCW. Her duties include helping to oversee the club's three largest fundraising events: Brews that Benefit, Breakfast with Santa, and Art on the Square. Proceeds from the events are donated locally through mini-grants to other non-profit organizations as well as through scholarships to lo-



Lisa W. Cumming Photography

and spend time with all these women who I enjoy. I like getting together with other women who also want to serve a purpose and have some fun."

Throughout the year, club members participate in numerous community service projects. JWCW donates books and supplies to local schools as well as the Williamsburg Regional Library, food and assistance to those in need and luggage to local foster care children. The ladies also host bingo at Blayton Street Senior Citizen Center throughout the year and adopt a family during the holiday season.

"Bingo nights are always a good time," Meg shares. "It is fulfilling to provide an entertaining night for the folks who attend. I like that we are having an impact on our community. That is important to me."

JWCW's signature event is Art on the Square, which is held in downtown Williamsburg each spring to benefit community art initiatives. Art on the Square is a juried art show featuring more than 170 artists who work with numerous media.

"Art on the Square is wonderful because it has become an institution in the Hampton Roads area," points out Meg. "This year was our 54th annual event. Artists come from all over to participate. All of our members participate by helping out with the event in some way each year, but my favorite part of the event is the fact that the proceeds

What We Give

By Brandy Centolanza

cal high school seniors.

"I chose to be involved with the Junior Woman's Club of Williamsburg because of the fellowship with the other women," Meg says. "Our lives get so busy, so it's nice to set out a time once or twice a month to get together



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are donated to various local organizations in support of the arts.”

For the past eight years, the club has also hosted a Breakfast with Santa fundraising event that includes a breakfast buffet, table crafts for children and a complimentary family photo with St. Nick.

“Breakfast with Santa provides an opportunity for families and friends to get together during the winter holidays for a good meal, fun and cheer,” Meg says. “For many families, it is a tradition to attend this event, and I look forward to taking my daughter this year.”

In addition, Meg is also enthused about JWCW’s fall fundraiser, the second annual Brews that Benefit. This year, Meg is co-chairwoman for the event, which is slated for September 30. The club is partnering with Alewerks Brewing Company for a day of craft beer, food and fun to benefit Warriors at Ease. Meg is responsible for lining up entertainment, food vendors and activities for the family-friendly event.

Warriors at Ease assists servicemen and women and veterans with coping with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other challenges through the power of yoga and meditation. Meg suggested JWCW choose Warriors at Ease to be this year’s primary beneficiary of the Brews that Benefit proceeds in part because of Williamsburg’s military population as well as her own experience in the United States Army.

“I just felt it was a good way for us to give back to those who serve,” Meg says. “We have such a huge military community, and I wanted a way for us to connect with them.”

Meg, who is originally from New Mexico, joined the Army’s Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) while she was a student at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. She went on to serve in the Army for five years and met her husband, Michael, who was also in the military. The pair were deployed to Qatar for one year and later relocated to Williamsburg after completing their service so that Michael could attend law school at the College of William & Mary.

“I’m really glad I was in the Army,” Meg says. “My service in the U.S. Army shaped who I am both personally and professionally, giving me the tools and experience I need to succeed in a dynamic, fast-paced environment. I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve my country and to continue to help those who have served whenever possible.”

Meg first felt a sense of civic duty as a child. She volunteered through the Clayton Rotary Club in the small town of New Mexico where she grew up and later assisted those with vision impairments and blindness in Colorado Springs through her sorority in college.

One of her favorite quotes is “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give” by Winston Churchill.

“This quote helps to illustrate why I think it is important to volunteer,” Meg says. “Much of our lives are focused on work and earning money in order to make a living, but where we can really experience joy, purpose and fulfillment is through volunteerism and giving back to our community.”

She is particularly pleased to be a part of JWCW.

“Being a part of Junior Women’s Club of Williamsburg is a great way to make new friends and have some fun while giving back,” she says. “Right now, I am really focused on making Brews that Benefit a success. I like event planning, so I am pretty excited about the event.”

Beyond volunteering, Meg enjoys reading, baking, her new house, her day job as Program Director of Corporate Citizenship at First Data Corporation, and spending time with her daughter, Coraline, who was born in December.

“I am really focused on being the best parent I can be,” Meg Hendricks says. “My goal is to raise a child who wants to have a positive influence and impact on her society.”

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Making History Personal

By Chris Jones

What began as a family genealogy project for Tom Campbell and his brother, Marion Campbell Jr, in their hometown of Fort Lawn, South Carolina, has led to a lifelong passion for American history and helping others find family connections to the American Revolution.

Through the Williamsburg Chapter of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Tom has been instrumental in helping others locally to trace their heritage back to the first patriots. After all, it's how he came into contact with the organization.

"When my family in South Carolina started dying off, I was concerned about our family heritage," Tom says. "So, we began to research our ancestors and one thing led to another."

The Campbell brothers met a lady in Fort Lawn who had access to the Campbell family records. She turned them over to Tom and his brother. The pair took the challenge of comb-



ing through the records, and that's when they discovered an ancestor who fought in the American Revolution.

"John Campbell, our compatriot ancestor came to the United States from Scotland. He signed up to serve in the Revolution in the South Carolina Reserve. He was under Colonel John Buchanan of Virginia during the Southern Campaign," Tom says.

During the Southern Strategy which began

in 1778, the British tried to turn the tide of the Revolutionary War by concentrating their forces in the southern states of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia by recruiting thousands of Loyalists. The campaign invariably failed, but not before Tom's ancestor was captured and taken as a prisoner of war by British General Charles Cornwallis.

"My ancestor was aide-de-camp to Buchanan. They fought throughout South Carolina,

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and during the Battle of Charleston, they were captured by Cornwallis and become POWs,” says Tom.

It was Thomas Jefferson who later negotiated with Cornwallis to secure the release of John Campbell and the other prisoners.

Tom, who holds degrees from The Citadel, Virginia Tech, and Harvard, found his way to Williamsburg after completing a three-year stint with the U.S. Air Force where he was stationed at Langley Air Force Base just outside of Newport News. He then took a job with NASA where he spent 40 years working on various space projects.

After nearly a decade of rigorous research with his brother, Tom sought out the local chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

According to its website, the Sons of the American Revolution, or SAR, is the largest male lineage organization in the U.S., consists of 50 societies with more than 500 local chapters, several international societies, and over 34,000 members. SAR is committed to helping its members, schools, teachers and the general public in their efforts to sustain and preserve American history and constitutional principles. The organization was established on April 30,

1889, on the 100th anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington.

The Williamsburg Chapter charter was made at the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Annual meeting on February 22, 1969, in Richmond with 11 members, 15 applicants processing papers and 23 prospects. Today it boasts 150 active members.

Since genealogy is just the first step in becoming an active member of the organization, Tom took his research to the chapter registrar and started the process.

“We didn’t have Ancestry.com in the mid- to late-90s,” Tom says with a laugh. “It had to be done the old fashioned way. You have to have the birth dates to fill in the family tree. We had to look through family Bibles, find gravestones in cemeteries and search official records.”

He was inducted into the chapter on December 12, 1999 and while Tom’s ancestor took up arms in the American Revolution, it’s not a requirement for membership.

The ancestor didn’t have to be in the army but could be farmer or a justice of the peace. As long as he supported the cause he can be a member, explains Ron Losee, a fellow member who sits with Tom on the board of managers.

Those who believe that they may have a fam-

ily member connected to the American Revolution would begin the process by conducting research to verify their lineage. That involves consuming a number of records that are available at local libraries or courthouses, like court records, marriage documents and census records. Each generation must be connected to the next generation and provide documentary support for each birth, death, marriage, and generation connection.

Completed applications are submitted to the National Society of the SAR via the Virginia Society of the SAR. A genealogist staffed at the National level reviews the application, and they sign off when they’re approved. New members receive a certificate of membership and are inducted during a chapter meeting through the pinning of Rosette, a lapel pin bearing the blue and gold colors of General George Washington’s military uniform.

For women interesting in upholding their ancestor’s ties to the American Revolution, Tom says there is the sister group, Daughters of the American Revolution. This all women’s organization is 930,000 members strong and is equally as active in community service and public education as SAR. The two organizations are often seen supporting one another at

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wreath-laying events.

“Every year at Berkeley Plantation on Fourth of July, we go to lay a wreath on Benjamin Harrison’s grave with DAR leading the way,” Tom says.

From 2000-2001, Tom was the Williamsburg Chapter president. The group he inherited was small, but it has since become the third fastest growing chapter in Virginia. On the opposite end of the South, in Plano, Texas, his brother was also leading a chapter of SAR.

“Here’s what’s strange,” Tom begins, “the years I was chapter president, my brother was chapter president in Dallas. You would think SAR in Texas wouldn’t be nearly as active as Williamsburg, but the Texas chapter is one of the largest in the nation.”

After his tenure as president, Tom transitioned to a role on the board of members, which features officers of the chapter and the past president. Tom is now involved in advancing the chapter through various special projects. He supports planning the logistics for Veterans Day, Yorktown Day and Memorial Day, and other community outreach events.

“Veteran’s Day is a bigger deal for me,” he says. It’s not just a time to honor those who served and are remembered for their service,

but men Tom calls “forgotten patriots” unexpectedly excavated over 80 years ago during the development of Colonial Williamsburg.

“An anthropologist from the Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution examined these skeletal remains and some showed signs of wounds, broken sword points, and a fragment of a cannon ball was beneath the hip of one of the skeletons,” he says. “The patriots who are buried in the Governor’s Palace Cemetery are indeed ‘The Forgotten Patriots’ of the American Revolution, but we honor them now.”

The chapter also supports the Greater Williamsburg area by hosting commemorative events, acknowledging teachers, first responders, law enforcement officers, firefighters, ROTC/JROTC cadets and Eagle Scouts by decorating them with citizenship and patriotism awards.

Membership consists of men from various walks of life from an Army general, university president, half dozen NASA retirees, several dozen retired military, school teachers, chemists. One of its most notable members is Dr. William Kelso, the lead archeologist at Jamestown.

With the influx of people coming into Wil-

liamsburg, Tom hopes to discover more lovers of history and helping people make ancestral connections. During a trip to the Home Depot off of Rochambeau Drive in York County, Tom ran into a man with the last name of Washington. He talked to him about his ancestry and possible connection to the family of George Washington.

“I handed him over to talk to Ron Losee and the man ended up being a descendant of George Washington’s family,” Tom says.

It’s that sort of community connecting that Tom wants to continue to do in an effort to grow the group both in size and in intergenerational depth. He says that younger members are now coming and energizing current members.

“I want them to not just to come to lunch and leave, but really get involved volunteering for certain duties like oration competitions and our other ongoing programs as well.”

He hopes that the work SAR does within the community stimulates kids to learn about American history.

“American history is not boring,” he says with conviction in his voice. “Author David McCullough said history should not be boring to our kids. We want to get kids energized about our history.” NDN



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Corey Miller Photography

History Lessons *from* Treasure Hunts

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Their business is not quite what most people would call an antique store, but definitely unique. “I’d call the style mercantile industrial farmhouse,” explains Jennifer Van Der Woodsen. She and her husband, Jason, opened Everything Vintage to share their finds from “picking” old barns, sheds and attics. “Mercantile covers general store displays and drawer units from hardware stores. We do a lot architectural salvage. We sell old doors that people love to use with sliding hardware for the interior of their homes.”

Jason had worked in home improvement since the time he was 18. During his off hours, he combed the countryside looking for furni-

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ture and architectural elements from an earlier time. “Jason is an adventurer at heart, an entrepreneur. I’m the safe one. He’s the risk taker,” Jennifer says. “Around 2011, he felt he had learned what he could from working on houses and wasn’t challenged anymore. It was stale. He wanted to do something fun and different.”

The couple had antiques for several years together. At first, Jennifer had little interest in the old, used, dusty things Jason pulled out of junk shops and haylofts. “I was always into fashion,” she says. “While I liked the look of vintage clothes, it never occurred to me that people bought them to wear. That was a world unknown to me. So when Jason would take me to antique malls and flea markets, I would gravitate toward the vintage clothes.”

Jason had worked at Charlie’s Antiques, starting when he was 16. “He’s sponge for knowledge and gained a lot of knowledge from the guys he worked with – how to tell the era of a piece of furniture or object, how to refinish things and the different styles of the periods,” Jennifer says. “As we got into antiques as a couple, he educated me.”

After feeling burnt out on home improvement work, Jason proposed the idea of opening a store to sell the items they found on their weekend picking adventures. “I thought we’d

save some money, write a business plan and maybe even use it,” Jennifer says. But Jason had a vision and energy. “He had this store open in three months from the time he told me he wanted to do it!”

“I was stressed. It was all new. We had been looking at this building. Jason was familiar with it from the time he was little.” Their store sits in the middle of Toano, on Richmond Road. “We love old buildings and old architecture. We have a romance with early store fixtures from mercantile stores, general stores, hardware stores. A lot of drawer units, cubby units, display cases, even a seed cabinet. Because we sell that, what better place to have the store than a building that used to be Toano’s general store?”

Jennifer is originally from Louisiana and moved to Williamsburg in 1988. “My dad is an architect and work brought us here.” Jason was born and raised in Toano.

Jennifer’s family lived with her uncle in Kingsmill for the first few months to get settled after arriving from Louisiana. “So my transition into school was interesting,” she says. “I went to Matthew Whaley then to Rawls Byrd, after we moved to our house, then went to Berkeley and James Blair then to Lafayette.” Her tour of the local schools took some awkward turns because of rezoning with the new schools being built at

the time.

A mutual friend introduced Jennifer and Jason. “Also, Jason knew one of my brothers, so I’m sure we crossed paths before we formally met,” she adds.

Jennifer is an artist and the store inspires her work. “I do calligraphy. I love early advertising – the lettering, fonts and graphics. I’m a little obsessed with the history of lettering and the print process of those antique signs. I feel like my world is so much better-rounded since I got into antiques. So much history and so much to learn and to know.”

Since Jason had the knowledge of antiques, Jennifer would listen to him as he hunted for things and learn all she could. “I went from ‘Hey, shouldn’t this stuff be cheap because it’s old?’ to ‘Wow, this is built so wonderfully and with passion and heart by hand by a skilled craftsman.’ My mind frame changed.” Like art, vintage items are usually one-of-a-kind items because few things from the past have survived. “That’s very special. You can hold and touch an item that has survived for a hundred years or more. Why did it last? Who created it? Why? It’s a history lesson combined with a treasure hunt.”

For Jennifer and Jason, and really for the neighbors and visitors who shop at their store,

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an item is more than an old store display case or a metal drug store sign; it's the story behind it. "I wasn't the best student in school," Jennifer admits, "but now I'd addicted to learning. When we get a piece that we know little about, I like getting on-line and researching the backstory: when it was made and by what company or individual."

For example, Jason and Jennifer are especially interested in early circus items. "That is interesting to find unusual items. It's like a chase to hunt down the information. Digging into the history of the item can blossom as I find out more. It's a puzzle effect."

From a barber shop chair to an elevator cage, relics from past lives are displayed in vignettes around the store that make them feel natural and at home. Jennifer says their customer isn't the typical antique store patron. "I've had guys come in looking for something like the barber shop chair for their 'man cave.' We don't have collectors so much anymore. Collecting of one genre of things seems to be going out of fashion." She explains that her customers look for something unique or something that speaks to their memories or life that they want to use to decorate their homes.

"For example, for a while Coke items were

popular," she says. "We're seeing a lot of Coke collections coming up at auctions or sales – either the older generation is passing away or downsizing. It's just out of fashion to have a lot of one thing. Now, it's more about decorating instead of collecting."

She says they're in more of the "want" business than the "need" business. "The fixer-up shows on television bring people in from seeing vintage and antique architectural household items there. That makes some things hot in the market. Because we're more into helping people decorate than collect, we're always trying to predict a trend when we go out to buy for the store."

Some of their favorite finds while picking for the store include a pair of 1904 steam locomotive seats. "Emerald green upholstery with art nouveau nickel-plated hardware," Jennifer describes. "They didn't last a day in the store before they sold. We also had a 1940s circus band wagon. It was huge. It ran off of player piano rolls. It needed restoration and a friend of ours bought it to restore it."

Jennifer's favorite piece is a hand-carved, seven foot tall swan. "I'm fairly sure it was made by the Philadelphia Toboggan Company who made a lot of the carousel animals and carnival

rides. This one came from England and was the front of a Tunnel of Love boat. He's awesome!"

They are on the lookout for early punched-tin signs. "That was pre-neon signs around 1890s through 1910. They would hand-paint lettering on tin, punch holes to outline the letters or design, and then light it from behind. We have a huge Rexall sign. That is Jason's favorite. The artistry behind the making of these signs is amazing."

Jason and Jennifer take off on a moment's notice when they hear of an estate sale or a barn packed to the tin roof with amazing furniture or old architectural items.

"Because we love early circus items, and we have friends that live in different states that are also on the search for circus things, we've met some amazing circus people through the store," Jennifer Van Der Woodsen says. "A few years ago, we met a guy from Charles City that taught Clown College. He had run away to the circus when he was little, and now he's a chaplain for Barnum and Bailey. That was cool going to his house. We met another guy who was an animal trainer, lions and tigers. We're going to see his memorabilia at his house. That's when we find the background to the pieces we buy. I love storytellers." NDN

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Making an Impact

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Lisa W. Cumming Photography



Terrence Riggins wants to make an impact on people's lives by empowering their self-image, both in his work as a personal trainer and as a photographer.

"Growing up, I was a military brat," Terrence says. "I was born in Fort Riley, Kansas." The family moved around the mid-west until Terrence's dad was stationed at Fort Eustis. Terrence settled into Denbigh High School. He played football and participated in track and field, winning the State's top honor for his discus throws his senior year.

During his high school years, Terrence took a class in black and white photography. "I loved it," he says. "I had a good eye and had fun exploring the world of photography."

He was a standout in football at Denbigh and was recruited by the College of William & Mary. "I had never heard of William & Mary being from the mid-west," he says with a laugh. "I had no idea about the college. The recruiting coach came to see me at Denbigh during our weight training sessions. We were always in the weight room."

Terrence came to Williamsburg for a college visit and loved W&M. "The people were great. The atmosphere of the campus was awesome. The academics were amazing." He verbally committed to attend on a football scholarship the day after his initial visit.

Over the four years of football and academics at W&M, Terrence learned the discipline of hard work and the satisfaction of the results

that come with it. "The football team taught me how a group of people striving for a common goal can grow closer and closer, forming strong relationships. The academics were really tough at W&M. I've taken that rigor and activity from those years and brought it to life today."

During his off-seasons, Terrence continued his interest in photography. "I bought my first DSLR (digital single-lens reflex) camera my freshman year." The state of the art digital camera opened new opportunities for Terrence from the film cameras he'd started with in high school. "I began working with W&M's The Flat Hat student newspaper, doing random projects. During the spring semesters when I wasn't playing football, I worked at Farm Fresh and took photographs for The Flat Hat. Then in my senior year, I worked with W&M's Media Relations department on several projects." He took photographs of sports, particularly gymnastics, basketball and baseball.

"From the rush of activity involved with football, with academics and with my photography during my W&M years, today my schedule seems easy!" The time management he learned has helped him because he can still juggle a lot of his interests.

Terrence graduated with a degree in kinesiology and a minor in psychology. "I was looking to get into the physical therapy field. After graduation, I worked with Tidewater Physical Therapy. It was a very rigorous schedule, but

something I was used to. I did that for three years. I transitioned to Tidewater Orthopedics, then to B-defined Personal Fitness Trainers."

With his physical therapy (PT) work, Terrence helped his patients recover from surgery or from an injury through physical movement. "I enjoyed working with people by taking them through their exercises and encouraging them, especially through exercises that they think they can't do because they are recovering. Just being able to connect with people and show them that they can do something they didn't think they could, that's what I like."

While working in PT, he met a local photographer looking for an intern. Terrence volunteered and learned a lot about the business of photography. When his photographer client moved away from the Williamsburg area, Terrence decided to start his own photography business, in addition to his PT work.

A friend began training at B-defined Personal Fitness, and Terrence found he liked the idea of personal training. "After many years of taking people through rehab exercises, that became my niche in personal training. I can help people recover while knowing how to push them forward, but still keeping them safe from injury. I can tell how much a person can do, how far they can go and how to adjust or modify an exercise to take them through it safely. I learned a lot through my PT work."

He made a seamless transition from physical therapy to personal training. "I have the

personality, from being a military brat and having to make quick friends, and academic knowledge and work experience to pull it all together.”

As summer breaks start for high school, college athletes and exercise enthusiasts, workout routines can take a backseat to warm weather adventures. Terrence says the best advice for athletes is to keep workouts as part of their life. “If you stay ready, you don’t have to get ready,” he says.

“Make exercise part of your lifestyle and make it fun. Find fun and different ways to get in your exercise, like biking or swimming. Doing fun activities will get the workout done when most people don’t think of it as exercise. It’s fun.”

Staying in shape over the summer comes down to discipline. “It’s hard to be disciplined, but it pays off in the long run. You feel better, look good and you’re happy with yourself. The best thing is to find a program that works for you. Just do it. It’s that simple. Stick with it. If you miss a day, miss that day, but don’t quit.”

Terrence is an example of finding new things to keep his physical activity level high. “I like to play a lot of sports – soccer, tennis, basketball, anything competitive. I’ve recently participated

in some adventure races, like Spartan Races. I find things that are interesting and try them. I did body building for a short period of time. I wanted to see what it was like. I’ve had clients on diet plans like body builders use and I’d never been on a strict one. That body building experience was interesting and now I can relay the information about what it’s like to my clients. Anything new or fun, I’ll try it at least once.”

Just as his personal training focuses on individuals, so does his photography. “I love photographing people,” he says, “portraits, families and events. Sports photography is fun. Football is easiest for me to photograph, other sports can be more of a challenge because they move faster, like basketball.”

He likes taking photos of families, newborns, senior portraits, weddings, and even landscapes. “I like doing everything.”

Some of his favorite photographs he’s taken include his daughter. “She’s almost two. When she turned one, I had a really fun shoot with her in Colonial Williamsburg.” He has another favorite photo taken at National Harbor. “It’s a cool landscape with the big Ferris wheel in the sunset.”

When he photographs a person, his aim is to capture the person’s personality. “Like a senior

portrait, you want the viewer of the photo to recognize, not just their face, but their personality. It is the same with family photographs, capturing the personality of the family, their interaction.” Also, he likes to take photos outside. “Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown Beach or other sites around the area are great places to take pictures. Being outside lets people relax and have fun. Those make better photographs.”

The time management skills he learned while playing football and earning his degree at William & Mary have helped Terrence keep all his varied interests going, while adding more. “I’m going to do a triathlon soon. I’ve never done one before. That will be interesting. I’m not a big swimmer, but I can always learn.” He says his eagerness to try new things, even with obstacles, helps him motivate his clients and friends to put in more effort. “It’s overcoming doubt and always having that story to give someone if they are on the fence about trying.”

Terrence Riggins makes an impact on people: in their self-image when it comes to motivating them to achieve their goals while working out and in preserving their memories by capturing the moments in life in pictures. “I want to do whatever I can to continue to make an impact on my community.” NDN



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


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The Tinman & the Spinner

By Greg Lilly, Editor

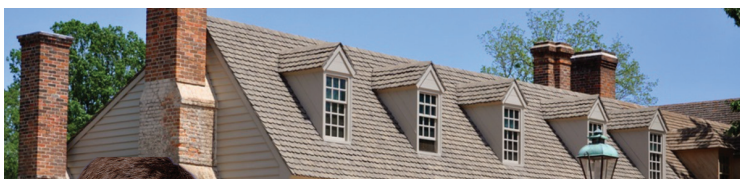
When Jamestown Settlement hosts the Historic Trades Fair the weekend of June 3 and 4, look for Shay and Kelly Lelegren. He is a master tinsmith and she spins fibers into thread on an 1810 era spinning wheel.

Shay uses authentic, historic tinsmith tools

from the 1700s and 1800s. “In the 18th century, all the manufacturing was done with hammers, stakes and mandrels,” Shay explains. “The tinware looks different.” He uses a canister as an example of the differences seen in the seams. “This has a set down seam, set on

a stake, hammered over and then bent back on itself. In the 19th century, they did double seam work using a double seaming machine to help make the seam.” Shay’s workshop is filled with antique machines used in tinsmith work.

He started out as a firefighter/paramedic in



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Utah until he was injured. He changed careers and became a tinsmith. “I was doing modern sheet metal working, things like rain gutters, downspouts, copper chimney caps and ornamental things. I started collecting these old tools.” The appeal of the antique tools led Shay to work at a historic site in Utah as a tinsmith, demonstrating the techniques. That is where he met Kelly.

“Of the two of us,” Kelly says, “I’m more of the academic historian and he’s the living historian.” Kelly has a Master’s Degree in History. Originally from Mesa, Arizona, Kelly volunteered at an early 20th century historical home there. While working on a special history program in Illinois, during her bachelor’s degree work, she learned spinning.

After graduation, she was hired by the Utah historic site where Shay had started the organization’s tin shop. “After a few years,” Shay says, “we moved to Kentucky and worked at Fort Boonesborough State Park.”

From Kentucky, they moved to Williamsburg, where Shay worked in the Colonial Williamsburg tin shop.

“I’m both an 18th century and 19th century tinsmith,” he says. He uses tools and techniques from both eras. “People started making tinplate in the 1400s. In the middle of the 1700s, it was being shipped to America. Then the Revolutionary War caused the end of importing it from England. After the War of 1812, tin became readily available in the United States. In the 1820s, there was a big boom in advancement with machinery. The machinery that I’m using is from that time period. Some of the machines were invented and patented as early as 1802, but it took twenty years for them to catch on.”

The Civil War era ushered in the widespread use of tin products for the military and for the household. Those machines from the early 1800s made the production easier and faster. Before that, during the Revolutionary War, tin products were mostly used by the military. Its light weight and durability made it popular with soldiers. “You would rather carry a kettle made of tin than a cast iron kettle,” Shay adds. Shay creates many different items. “Lots of Revolutionary War military tinware,” he says. “The product variety is endless. Things like drinking cups, measuring cups, plates, bowls, basins, wall sconces, chandeliers, coffee pots, tea pots, milk cans, pie pans, bread pans, dust

pans, dippers, ladles, graters, canteens, cheese molds, roasters, braisers, snuffers, snuff boxes, tinder boxes,” he lists. Anything that plastics and aluminum does today, tin did then.

In 2009, Shay started selling his tinware on the internet as Hot Dip Tin. He ships his work all over the world. “My customers are mostly Civil War reenactors, Revolutionary War reenactors and the War of 1812 reenactors. Plus, the museums and living history programs buy a lot of tinware, especially if they do foodways demonstrations, they buy kettles from me.”

Hot dipped tin is the historically accurate technique of tinsmithing in the 18th and 19th centuries. “The first tin plate was sheet iron dipped in tin. Nothing is made of pure tin because that would be too malleable,” Shay explains. “Originally, tinplate was done in Bavaria and Saxony then they started doing it in England, closer to the tin mines near Cornwall. They dipped those iron sheets into the tin. That was the process until around 1890 when they started electroplating. That’s where the plates are dipped in an acid bath and using electricity, the tin grows on the sheet iron.” Electroplating meant that larger sheets could be created and with a more uniform thickness. “With dipped tin, the surface shows the drips and has a thicker coating on the bottom of the plate.”

Tin captured Shay’s imagination when he wanted a specific canteen as a Civil War reenactor. “I couldn’t find this filter canteen from the Civil War, patented in 1861 by Charles Bartholomae. So, I learned to make it myself.” He enjoys the manufacturing process of the Civil War era items because of the variety and the use of the machines, but the research into the Revolutionary War artifacts and reproduction techniques is gratifying as well.

At the Jamestown Settlement Historic Trades Fair, Shay plans to demonstrate the use of the tools as he creates his tinware. Kelly will have her spinning wheel and assist Shay as needed.

For her spinning, Kelly cites the most common fiber is sheep’s wool. “What I use depends on the time period we’re representing,” she says. “I’ve done some spinning with alpaca, but I’ve done a lot with bison. I have cotton that I handpicked the seeds from and spun that. I’ve spun dog hair. That really depends on the coat. Ours was a Great Pyrenees undercoat that sheds off. That undercoat spins

better than buffalo.” Surprising to think of a dog hair thread, but Kelly says there are 19th century references to wearing vests of dog hair or suits of poodle hair. “It wasn’t common, but it was done.”

Kelly’s spinning wheel has been dated to about 1810. “The unique thing about it is its tin rim. I talked to a lot of other spinners who have never seen one before. It goes along with Shay’s tinsmithing. The woodworker who restored the spinning wheel said he thought that was the original rim.”

Many spinners today like to create thick yarn, but Kelly prefers a thinner result. “Historically, I like to get it as thin and strong as possible to be like thread. I’ve sold some of the bison thread to native American reenactors.” Kelly likes to weave, knit and crochet with the yarn and thread she spins.

During the warmer weather, Shay and Kelly demonstrate at events about once a month. Within the United States, Shay estimates there are only 12 fulltime tinsmiths and about 100 hobbyists. “It’s a small population,” he adds. His shop produces tinware for museums and reenactors. Shay has canteens in the new Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia, as well as canteens in the AMC network’s TURN television show. “The movie and television industries buy a lot of tinware,” Shay says.

“Unless it’s a custom order, everything Shay does is based off of historical plans/patterns,” Kelly adds.

For tinsmiths interested in historical accuracy, Shay has written a book on the history of tinware and of tinsmithing. “I’ve researched all the historical texts I can. They were written assuming the reader was a contemporary of the author. Today, not everyone can understand the items or terms they used during that time. When the modern person looks at it, you can’t always understand it. Even the names of tools have different terms than we have today. I updated their instructions for a modern reader.”

Shay and Kelly Lelegren demonstrate their tinsmithing and spinning the weekend of June 3rd and 4th at Jamestown Settlement. [NDN](#)

Reminder: Residents of James City County, York County and the City of Williamsburg, including College of William & Mary students, receive free admission with proof of residency at Jamestown Settlement – it’s good to be a neighbor!

Grief SUPPORT

By Greg Lilly, Editor

Grief from the loss of a loved one strands a person on an emotional island, isolated from others, feeling as if no one can understand the overwhelming sadness and hopelessness that death leaves behind. "I try to impress on everyone that grief has no time limit. It is what it is for you. It never goes away, but you learn to adapt your life to it. It becomes part of you, part of your history," Martha Petit says. Martha facilitates the community Grief Support group at Riverside Doctors' Hospital the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

"Yes, laugh too," Martha explains. "The best thing is they learn from each other. It's not just a professional telling them what they should be doing, but they get information through lots of different viewpoints." The support group shows a grieving person that others are experiencing the same emotions and that they are not alone in the difficult journey.

"People may feel they are going crazy because they have strange thoughts or respond in what they think are strange ways," Martha says. "For example, a wife might take her husband's bathrobe and snuggle with it at night to fall asleep. She's afraid to talk about that with her friends because she thinks it's odd. In the group, everyone admits they did that too. It's a normalizing aspect that the group brings

to the grieving process."

Martha's family came to Williamsburg in 1957 when her father, Robert Shields, arrived to be the first administrator at Williamsburg Community Hospital. "He worked with Mr. Carlisle Humelsine and the whole

community to come together and raise the funds to build the hospital." Martha attended Matthew Whaley Elementary and James Blair High School. "That was before James Blair was a middle school. Matthew Whaley was up to 7th grade then 8th through 12th



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grades went to James Blair. I went to William & Mary to earn my undergraduate and two graduate degrees.”

In between earning her graduate degrees, Martha and her husband, Marc, lived in the D.C. area, raising their family before coming back for her to attend W&M again. “My undergraduate was a double major in fine arts and in psychology. My graduate degrees are in marriage and family therapy and in transpersonal therapy. That combines a spiritual and traditional therapeutic intervention.”

Her interest in becoming a therapist rose from her artistic work. “When I would work in fine arts, we would have live models,” she says. Martha would talk with the models as she painted. “One of the models said I should go into counseling because of the in-depth conversations we would have. Eventually, I worked my way into counseling.”

Her interest in transpersonal therapy came from talking with people who had lost their spiritual connections. “That therapy helps people find something to hold on to. Spirituality can be lots of different things, not just religious interpretations. That works especially with grief and loss,” she describes.

When she and her family came back to Williamsburg from the D.C. area, Martha’s father was very ill. “He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer,” she says. “I helped take care of him. At that time, there wasn’t a hospice. I thought there had to be a better way.” She and her mother cared for him, but while hospital staff would come to their home, there was no hospice program. “That piqued my interest. I got in on the front part of the hospice movement here in Williamsburg. I did an internship after my first graduate degree with Hospice of Williamsburg.”

The second part of Martha’s internship was

with Riverside Hospice in Newport News. “I was hired as a counselor, working in bereavement and counseling patients.”

Now in grief counseling for over 30 years, Martha identifies that most people are counseled for some type of loss issues, whether it’s loss of love or loss of confidence or loss from a death.

“I worked for Hospice for about 20 years. Then decided I wanted to do something different and worked for PCI (Peninsula Cancer Institute) in Newport News for ten years counseling patients. Then I decided to come back to Hospice. My role as a bereavement counselor with the hospice program is not limited to after a loss. We come into the home and talk with the patients. Sometimes, they have unfinished business that they need to take care of. Maybe they had a child who has died, maybe they had a miscarriage, there are a lot of existential things we talk about. I work with the families as well. Afterwards, I follow the families for thirteen months, and they are invited to the group.”

Every hospice has some type of bereavement group. But not every hospice has a community-based program, which is what Martha facilitates. “The group is open to anyone in the community. For example, someone’s family member dies in the Emergency Room (not through hospice) and they have a hard time coping. They can come to the group. It’s for adults, 18 and over. It’s support for coping with the death of a loved one.”

The amount of time a person stays with the group varies. “We have people who come to group and might stay for six months,” Martha says. “They start to feel better and engage more in activities outside of their home, so they stop coming. But then the holidays come or there’s an anniversary that they have

a tough time with, and they return to the group. It’s an open group. They can come and go as they need.”

The meetings are held at Riverside Doctors’ Hospital in the small dining room. “So, there’s a table we gather around. I ask everyone to say their name and, if comfortable, tell us why they are there. They don’t have to talk. They can just listen. I come prepared with a topic, but usually going around the table starts a conversation. I like the group to bring up things they want to discuss.” Topics may focus on anger, mourning, changes in family dynamics or how friends may deal with someone’s grieving.

“Again, grief has no time limit. It rears its ugly head from time to time, sometimes thirty years later.”

Working with people experiencing grief can be difficult for a facilitator’s own state of mind. Martha’s husband, Marc, is a supportive and understanding spouse. “He will listen to me talk about emotions that come up. Along with that support, I enjoy being in nature and in my garden. I have two dogs, and they are great company. My family is wonderful. My kids are scattered around but are very supportive. And I paint. I still dabble in art.”

The grief support group benefits Martha Petit in her own personal outlook. “It reminds me to always say ‘I love you’ and to keep connections with my family. Life is very fragile and I’m reminded to appreciate things every day. One of the things that I’ve done is to create a Gratitude Journal. It was an important part of the process, as well. I tell folks in my group that I get more than they can get from me. I learn so much from the group.” NDN

For more about Riverside Hospice and the Grief Support Group, please call 594-2745.



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Lisa W. Cumming Photography

A Space for Everyone

By Greg Lilly, Editor

“When my parents first moved to Manassas, we rented a little house by the courthouse and by my father’s new law office,” Betsy Fowler explains. “The backyard of the house abutted the back door of the original Prince William County Public Library, which was very small at the time. The librarians eventually just left

the back door unlocked for me. Every day, I would walk across the yard and into the library and bring home a mystery book to read.” Betsy is the new library director for the Williamsburg Regional Library.

“I was born on Easter morning on Monument Avenue in Richmond in the old Stuart

Circle Hospital, a daughter of the South, in that regard. I’ve lived in Virginia my whole life, mostly near major historical areas. Starting out at Monument Avenue then my father was in law school at TC Williams (University of Richmond’s law school) and then he worked for the attorney general. Later he entered a

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practice in Prince William County, his hometown of Manassas.”

Growing up in Manassas, Betsy’s frequent visits to the local public library endeared her to books and the librarians. She went to Fredericksburg’s University of Mary Washington. “I fell in love with Fredericksburg and fell in love with libraries. I had always been a huge reader and a fan of libraries, but didn’t think about it as a profession until I stumbled into an entry-level bookmobile driving job out of college. At the library, I had this tremendous feeling of coming home. It was the best possible combination of worlds for me, people, public service, books and learning. It captivated me.”

At the library, Betsy found a mentor. “I worked for a wonderful woman for many years, who had such a strong vision of public service and helping people and being kind to people, inside and outside of the library, that it enthused everyone that worked for her with such a sense of purpose and meaning and validation in life. It has really stayed with me.” She was at the Central Rappahannock Regional Library for 28 years. During that time, she married and raised three children.

“I lost my husband in a plane crash in 2001, one of those turning points in life,” she says. “So when my children left home and went to college, I started dating a wonderful man in Newport News. We dated for several years long-distance.” She had been the coordinator of branch services for many years and was ready to be a library director. Her future husband, Doug Hornsby, began looking at possibilities near Betsy, and Betsy looked toward Hampton Roads for work opportunities. “The directorship of the Chesapeake Public Library System came up,” she says. Betsy moved, and they married.

Betsy’s mother became ill, so Betsy retired for a few years to spend time with her. “We opened an antiques shop. She passed away. Then I really started missing libraries. I kept going to the library around the corner from my house in Hampton, hanging out around the reference desk, longing to be back in the game.”

The director position opened in Williamsburg, and Betsy heard from several friends urging her to apply.

“Of course, Williamsburg has a great reputation across the state and nationally as a wonderful library system. If you love historic places like I do you can’t ask for a finer location. This is a well-established library with an extremely supportive community. Having William & Mary and the Colonial Williamsburg Founda-

tion and the people those organizations have attracted from across the globe is an astounding and unique situation. So much talent, expertise and well-educated people coalesced right in this area has made this library system strong and opens the door for future collaborations that could be very powerful.”

The diverse population of the area appealed to Betsy, and she sees that as an opportunity. “There are areas traditionally more agrarian. Then with the diverse people coming to the college from around the world, that gives a very cosmopolitan flavor to the area. There are people who have lived here in Virginia, like me, all their lives. And there are people who have moved here from the northeast corridor, who have retired here or moved to work and then stayed and retired here. They bring a lot to the table as well in terms of life experiences, education and perspective. It’s a fascinating population.”

Before Betsy began as the new director, the Board of Trustees and the library staff had developed the Strategic Plan 2016-2018. “There is an emphasis on communications and awareness, setting up partnerships and community connections in programming, and reimagining space in the libraries.” The staff is well into implementing the plan, and Betsy commends the outreach program. “They go into the day-care centers, the assisted living centers, they do home-bound delivery, they’re doing storytelling and programming out there. They have really mobilized the librarian force to go outside of the walls of the library, especially to benefit people who may not be able to come into the buildings. They have done a wonderful job with that.”

The librarians use their talent to create fun and original programming. “Each librarian in the reference field has offered programs about their unique interest. That spans a wide spectrum. That’s a wonderful thing about being in a community where there are a lot of retirees. There’s an audience and appetite for adult programming. Before, when I was in the D.C. suburbs, people came home and they were exhausted and barely left the house even for their children’s activities. To be in a community where people are hungry for exciting daytime and evening programming, it’s delightful. It gives the library a wonderful position to look out and see what else we can do to build on that strong foundation of attendance and desire for programming.”

As part of the changing needs of the community and of the expansion of the collections, the library is evaluating ways to make

its physical space welcoming and flexible to meet the needs of the community. “Librarians are very passionate about providing a neutral civic space where people can connect from every demographic in an area and share ideas and information. It’s important to democracy that we’re able to come together as a community. Libraries are increasingly becoming a place where people collaborate and create things. Working from home a lot is lonely and isolating. People come here because they want to be around other people. People come here because they want the digital tools we have available and to meet in a neutral space to collaborate.”

The aspect of collaboration leads to the third big strategic area of the plan: reimagining the space in the buildings so they fit the evolving mission of the library. “We want to preserve the backbone of the library, which is the wonderful collection,” she stresses. “In the late summer, the James City County Library becomes a beta site to start reimagining the spaces. The first phase is to take the front of the building and create a wonderful browsing and discovery experience with popular materials. You come in the door and all the new books are beautifully displayed. All the popular music and popular movies will be there. It will be much more open, much more browser-friendly and a café vending area where people can sit and meet.” This is the first phase of transforming the physical spaces so the collections are more accessible. Seeing and experiencing the collections in a new way can help library visitors discover new aspects of the collections. People will explore things that excite and inspire them and have collaborative and creative spaces tucked into those spaces so they can share ideas with each other,” Betsy adds. “We’ll do away with the long, steel lines of shelving and open up the space. We’ll preserve the things people love about the library, the books and finding them easily.”

Over the next year, Betsy and Doug will settle into the community. “My husband calls me ‘Project Betsy’ which I’m not sure is always complimentary,” she says with a laugh. “I like to make things. I have a love of creating gardens and personal spaces. I like cooking. I do some writing. I love to travel. Doug and I have five children between us. That’s a lot of family connections.”

Betsy Fowler discovered libraries at an early age, and now she brings her skill set and talents to the Williamsburg Regional Library to help us gather information and collaborate to make the most of our community. NDN

Hey Neighbor!

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Hey Neighbor!

CANTORI CHORAL ENSEMBLE SPRING CONCERT

June 4, 2017

Starting at 5 pm, at the Walnut Hills Baptist Church 1014 Jamestown Road. Free admission although an offering will be received in support of Cantori. The theme of the concert is Hope and Faith. More information about Cantori can be found on the web site: www.cantoriwilliamsburg.com.

Hey Neighbor!

THE HIDDEN LIVES OF BACKYARD BIRDS

June 10, 2017

For ages 6 and above, at Freedom Park, 10-11 am. Meet in the Botanical Garden. Come explore the amazing world of local backyard birds and learn what they are doing when you don't see them. Find out amazing facts about our backyard birds! Then have some fun making a bird craft to take home. Presented by JCCW Master Gardeners Jordan Westenhaver and Karen Brooks. Please register by emailing wbgkids@gmail.com.

Hey Neighbor!

THE TIDEWATER INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA-"TRIBUTE TO

YOUTH-STARS OF TOMORROW"

June 11, 2017

The free concert, conducted by Paul Lindsay, will present young virtuoso players from around the country. 1 pm at St. Bede's Kaplan Parish Hall, 3686 Ironbound Road. For more information, call 757- 229-3631 or visit www.bedeva.org/concerts.

Hey Neighbor!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

June 15, 2017

The United Way of Greater Williamsburg Community Resource Center, 113 Palace Lane, Williamsburg. Monthly fresh food distribution every third Thursday each month, 1 – 3 pm. Help us give free fresh food to 100 households. Email us at crc@uwgw.org to sign up. Next Food Distribution: June 15.

Hey Neighbor!

HOW AND WHY OF RAIN GARDENS

June 17, 2017

At Freedom Park Interpretive Center, 10 am, open to the public. Master Gardeners Bob Winters and Iris Burke will provide information about rain garden construction in home gardens. The program is free, although a \$5 donation to help the

Garden grow is appreciated. For more information, contact Bob by email at rowinter@vt.edu. After the program, Master Gardeners will be in the Garden to answer questions and talk about what is in bloom.

Hey Neighbor!

FREEDOM STORIES

June 24, 2017

For all ages, at Freedom Park, 5537 Centerville Road. Free admission. Time: 12 noon – 3 pm. Join Williamsburg native Dylan Pritchett, best known as 'The Storyteller,' along with Baba Jamal Koram as they share with you Freedom Stories at Freedom Park. The Free Black Settlement area is the backdrop for this special event. Also featured are unique crafts for kids, music and food available for purchase. In the event of inclement weather, please call the Activities Hotline at 259-3232 for any changes in schedules.

Hey Neighbor!

SPENCER'S ORDINARY CEREMONY

June 26, 2017

For all ages, at Freedom Park, 5537 Centerville Road, starting at 10 am. Free admission. The Williamsburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will conduct a memorial

service in honor of the valiant Americans who gave their lives in the Battle of Spencer's Ordinary on that date in 1781. A series of skirmishes occurred in the woods and meadows of Freedom Park between units of Lord Cornwallis and those of the French general, Marquis de Lafayette. Weather permitting, Historian Chris Bonin, MA, a Revolutionary War expert, will examine the action at Spencer's Ordinary through detailed drawings and first-hand accounts of the men who fought on both sides of the battle.

Hey Neighbor!

YORKTOWN INDEPENDENCE DAY 8K/5K RUN/WALK

July 4, 2017

Run or walk, either our 8K or 5K course, on the scenic roads and trails of the Yorktown battlefield where our independence was won. New this year: Chip Timing. Awards for overall, top-three runners and walkers. Awards for top three runners in each 5-year age group. Drawings for gift coupons and prizes. Check-in and late registration begins at 6:30 am at York High School, 9300 George Washington Memorial Hwy (US 17), Yorktown. To register, go to <https://register.chronotrack.com>.

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THE WILLIAMSBURG WOMEN'S CHORUS OPEN FOR NEW MEMBERS FOR FALL SEASON

Ongoing

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

Hey Neighbor!

BIBLE STUDY

Ongoing

There is an comprehensive and in depth Bible study and question answering session held at the Williamsburg library in Norge every Monday night starting at 6 pm, with questions such as where did Cain get his wife and what was the mark placed upon him or what is the mark of the beast and his number 666 mean or what is the unforgivable sin. So if your bible study is lacking the quality of study that you need to answer such

questions, you are invited to join us. Contact 757-253-0172 or 757-604-6649

Hey Neighbor!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ongoing

National Historical Park (consisting of the National Park Service at Historic Jamestowne and Yorktown Battlefield) continues its mission, preserving and protecting the interests of the public since 1930. The Park operates two visitor centers and several historic homes. However, like all national parks, Colonial relies heavily on volunteers. A need exists for regular volunteers four hours a day, one day a week, orienting visitors to the park and the area. We also need volunteers to conduct tours for the public and operate historic homes. Contact Mike Byrd at 757-898-2422. Come make a difference!

Hey Neighbor!

NORGE DEPOT MUSEUM

Ongoing

At the JCC Library, 7770 Croaker Rd, Norge. The Depot is open from 10 to noon on Saturdays and 2 to 4 on Sundays. See railroad and local historical exhibits including artifacts, photographs, and clothing. A model railroad layout is running

and a wooden railroad is available for children. Take their picture with our caboose! Free, but donations appreciated. More details at norgedepot.org.

Hey Neighbor!

CLASSES AT THE WILLIAMSBURG LEARNING TREE

Ongoing through June

The Williamsburg Learning Tree (formerly "WALT") has a great lineup of classes for adults and teens for this Spring and Summer. Our instructors are sharing their knowledge, expertise and passion for a huge range of fun, inspirational and educational courses – Health & Wellness – Arts, Gardening & Cooking – Lifestyles, Music & Fun – Finance & Real Estate – Self-Improvement, Languages & Learning. Classes are held at local locations, at convenient times, and for very reasonable fees. Come browse our online catalog at www.WilliamsburgLearningTree.org. You can sign up and pay online. Or give us a call at 757-220-9975 to pay by phone, request a paper copy of the current catalog, or just to ask questions and chat. We'd love to hear from you.

Hey Neighbor!

GROVE, VA FACEBOOK PAGE

Ongoing

Come check out the new Grove Community Facebook Page. If you are part of our small part of Williamsburg or have an interest in the success of Grove, please join the group! This discussion page is a great spot to share information, work together to solve common issues and foster our sense of community. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/grovecommunity>

Hey Neighbor!

4-H SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Ongoing

4-H Junior Camp for residents of York County and Poquoson is scheduled for July 31-August 4, 2017. For more information regarding the York/Poquoson 4-H Camp, visit www.yorkcounty.gov/vce. 4-H Junior Camp for residents of James City County is scheduled for July 3-7, 2017. For more information regarding the James City County 4-H camp visit: www.offices.ext.vt.edu/james-city. 4-H Junior Camp, held at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center in Williamsburg, is a residential, week-long summer camp program available to youth ages 9-13. Days are filled with camp classes (archery, kayaking, challenge course, arts and crafts, videography,



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Don't miss our fourth annual New Town Summer Fest benefiting Meals on Wheels, June 17th from 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM.

There will be 15 different breweries with 30 different beers at the event. Enjoy your drinks while listening to live music from Johnny St. Clair and Julis Pittman & The Revival.

Food is available from our food vendors, Center Street Grill, The Corner Pocket, or Cogan's Deli.

Bring a blanket or chair! All ages are welcome to attend!

Everyone **MUST** present an ID to enter. No pets please. Event goes rain or shine. No refunds.

Tickets include your logo glass and unlimited beverages.

- \$35 each prior to June 5th
- \$40 each June 6-16th
- \$50 at the door (CASH ONLY)

Non-Drinkers over the age of 12 (under 12 free) are \$5 CASH at the door.

Benefiting
Williamsburg Area
Meals  Wheels

\$5 OFF All pricing for New Town residents with a pool pass and all military (active or retired)

A la carte wine and Bud Light are available for purchase for anyone 21 and over.

Music sponsored by



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etc.), unstructured recreation and swim time, flag ceremonies, evening programs, and campfires. Registration for both camps will take place online only. Camper registration fee for both camps is \$285.00. Financial assistance is available for youth with financial need. For questions, please call 757-890-4940 (York County/Poquoson residents) or 757-564-2170 (James City County residents).

Hey Neighbor! **CELEBRATE RECOVERY**

Ongoing
A Christ-centered, confidential recovery group for anyone who has trouble dealing with life's hurts, habits, or hang-ups. We meet on Tuesday evenings at 6 for dinner. Our meeting starts at 7. Williamsburg Community Chapel – 3899 John Tyler Highway, Williamsburg. For more information please call Steve Flanary 757-903-8683 or Patti Flanary 757-903-8681.

Hey Neighbor! **WILLIAMSBURG WOMEN'S CONNECTION**

Ongoing
A monthly luncheon for women. We socialize, enjoy a delicious meal, a little music, hear a great speaker and maybe make a new friend. Each month we feature 2 local businesses. So join us at 11:30am to socialize and shop; then lunch is served at 12. Our luncheon is held at Williamsburg Community Chapel – 3899 John Tyler Highway, Williamsburg. Cost is \$12. Upcoming meeting dates are March 22, April 19, and May 17. Call Sheryl Buckner for more information, 757-342-1460.

Hey Neighbor! **WRITERS CRITIQUE - WORD WEAVERS INTERNATIONAL**

Ongoing
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the James City County Library – 7770 Croaker Road, Williamsburg. We provide a forum for writers to critique each other's work in a face-to-face format to learn about and improve our craft. Writers of all levels are welcome. All writers are welcome. Contact Sheryl Buckner for more information, 757-342-1460.

Hey Neighbor! **COLONIAL HERITAGE INVESTMENT CLUB**

Ongoing
Open to all residents of Williamsburg area. Meetings held on the third Thursday of each month from 9:30 - 11:30 am at Colonial Heritage Clubhouse, 6500 Arthur Hills

Drive, Williamsburg. A wide range of investment topics are covered. The club does not invest money, buy securities, or permit sales presentations. Guests admitted free. Meeting dates listed at www.CHinvestmentclub.org.

Hey Neighbor! **WILLIAMSBURG AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FUND REQUEST**

Ongoing
The Williamsburg Aviation Scholarship Program was founded in 2013 and is based at Williamsburg high school students involved in Aviation. We fund the students in their efforts in getting their private pilot license. The students receive their ground school training, flight training, training kits, licensing fees, etc., at no charge to them or their family. To donate to this worthy cause, make your check payable to and mail to Williamsburg Aviation Scholarship Program, 102 Marclay Road, Williamsburg, Va. 23185.

Hey Neighbor! **HEAD START OPEN ENROLLMENT**

Ongoing
Williamsburg James City County Community Action Agency's Preschool Program for Children ages 3 to 5. Serving income eligible families including children with special needs. Apply by phone 757- 229-6417 or in person at 312 Waller Mill Road, Williamsburg.

Hey Neighbor! **HOPE PREGNANCY CARE CENTER**

Ongoing
New evening hours: Wednesday 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm by appointment. Also open: Monday- Thursday 10:30 am - 3:00 pm. All services are free and confidential- no insurance needed. We serve all women with unplanned and unexpected pregnancies. We also accept donations of new or gently used baby clothes up to 2T, as well as maternity clothes. 1315 Jamestown Road, Suite 202. 757-229-6472. www.hopewilliamsburg.org.

Hey Neighbor! **SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE**

Ongoing
From Homily, discussion groups and light refreshments create a warm environment for Christian spiritual growth. Join us at 4931 Centerville Rd, Williamsburg. For more information, visit our Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/JamesRiverBaptistChurch. You can also visit the website at www.JamesRiverBaptist.org.

Hey Neighbor! **CHRISTOPHER WREN ASSOCIATION COURSE, LECTURE, AND ACTIVITY REQUESTS**

Online and Ongoing
The Christopher Wren Association is a self-funded, volunteer-led organization dedicated to adults of all ages who seek opportunities for learning and enrichment of their lives. This fall, CWA has over 150 offerings, including a wide variety of courses, activities (including the Town & Gown Lecture series), one-time lectures, and special events. The semester is already underway, but students are able to submit new or additional requests for courses and activities throughout the fall. For information about becoming a member, contact us at www.wm.edu/cwa, or 757-221-1506

Hey Neighbor! **HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS**

Ongoing
Historic Jamestowne seeks volunteers to greet and engage guests as well provide accurate information about this premier historic site. A variety of volunteer opportunities are available, including Visitor Center greeters, Fort Site interpreters, and Docents in our archaeological museum, the Ar-

chaearium. Volunteer shifts are available Monday through Sunday, 9:30 am – 1 pm and 1 – 4:30 pm. Training sessions will be held in the Spring and Fall. If you are interested in volunteering at Historic Jamestowne, please contact Kelly Williams at kwilliams@preservationvirginia.org.

Hey Neighbor! **HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS**

Ongoing
Historic Jamestowne seeks volunteers to greet and engage guests as well provide accurate information about this premier historic site. A variety of volunteer opportunities are available, including Visitor Center greeters, Fort Site interpreters, and Docents in our archaeological museum, the Archaearium. Volunteer shifts are available Monday through Sunday, 9:30 am – 1 pm and 1 - 4:30 pm. Training sessions will be held in the spring and fall. If you are interested in volunteering at Historic Jamestowne, please contact Kelly Williams at kwilliams@preservationvirginia.org.

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for all listings.



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Williamsburg's IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD photo challenge

Sears Hometown Store

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

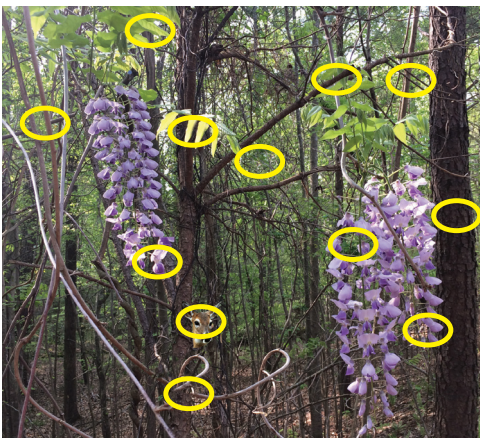
Enjoy!



INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

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in the next issue of
Next Door Neighbors

May 2017
In the Neighborhood
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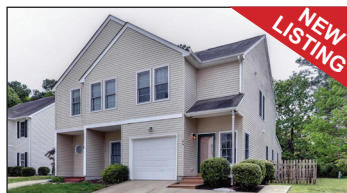


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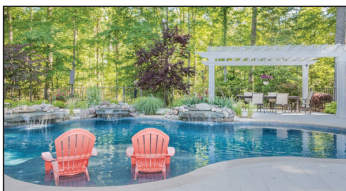
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