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The Village Mill

BULK RATE
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A TAIL OF WHOA!

How does a Brandermill husky end up in Prince George County?

See story on page 8.



SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

Alice Dolezal of Long Shadow treats her neighbors and passersby to a beautiful array of roses.

JULY 4TH GRAND MARSHAL



Harriet Showalter exemplifies community spirit.

See profile next month.

INSIDE THE MILL

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Brandermill's Futuristic Fourth is a blast

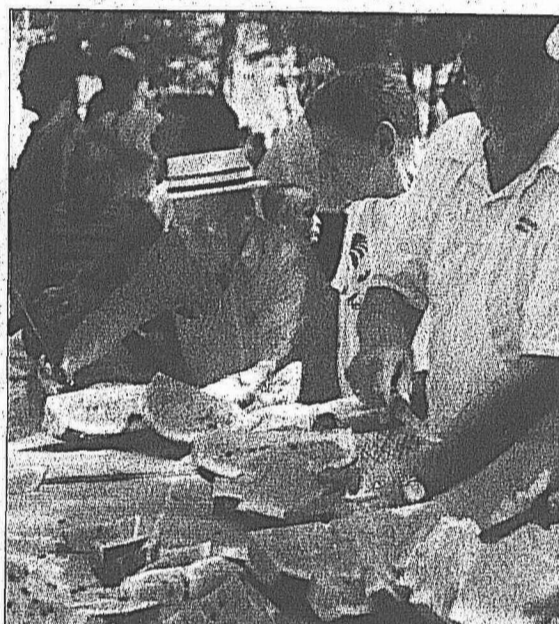


Jaimie Quackenbush, captures the spirit of the Fourth of July on video with fellow cheerleader Shannon Bayne.

Photos by Janet Joyce



Birnam Woods wins the prize for best neighborhood participation.



Members of the Retired Men's Club, John Brook, Jack Hornung and Ralph Hill, serve refreshing watermelon.

By Kris Risendal
Staff Writer

Without a doubt, Brandermill continues to celebrate the Fourth of July with just the right combination of homespun glitz and good old-fashioned fun. Children and adults alike cheered as they watched the traditional morning parade which began at Swift Creek Middle School and finished at Sunday Park, where watermelon was served by the Retired Men's Club. "It was one of the best parades my family has seen in years," said Sue Dibert of Chimney House. "My children marched with the Indian Guides and the Beta swim team, and loved participating in such a great community event."

Harriet Showalter of Arrowood was named grand marshal of the

See July Fourth on page 3.

July 15 turnout is crucial to watershed

By Tom Pakurar, Cochairman
Hands Across the Lake

Residents are encouraged to attend a crucial planning commission meeting in the county public meeting room at 9901 Lori Road on July 15 at 7 p.m. The planning commissioners need to hear from people in support of the Watershed Committee's recommendations for lowering phosphorus levels in Swift Creek Reservoir. The issue needs to be passed along to the board of supervisors.

The reservoir supplies Chesterfield residents with 9 million gallons per day of drinking water. This is about 35 percent of the daily county needs. Yet to listen to some members of the Chesterfield County Planning Commission at the work session on June 17, one questions whether maintaining the water quality in the reservoir was a directed goal from the board of supervisors. The planning commission's discussion suggested the need for more study, more details on cost, and possibly a one- to two-year delay on taking action on the recommendations. One might conclude that the commissioners have heard from representatives of only one side of the issue—developers.

The committee studied the watershed issue for four years. In a consensus opinion given to the board of supervisors last November, the county must reduce the phosphorus runoff from new development by 50 percent. The board remanded the issue to the planning commission for a recommendation.

At the planning commission work session on June 17, Joan Salvati, water quality administrator, presented the watershed management plan for the Swift Creek watershed. The following is a listing of decision items that

See Watershed on page 16.

Committee unveils Brandermill 20/20 — a plan for the future

By Wendy Parker
Managing Editor

The BCA Strategic Planning Committee, Robert Charles Lesser and Co., and K.C. and Associates, presented strategies for Brandermill's future at two roll out meetings in June.

A public hearing regarding the Brandermill 20/20 plan will be held tonight and nine other presentations will be made throughout the summer. (See page 2 for neighborhood meetings.) All association members are encouraged to attend at least one presentation to learn why the BCA Strategic Planning Committee is recommending spending \$3.8 million to acquire three country club pools; build a community center with an enclosed pool, gymnasium, meeting rooms;

upgrade the bike path system; acquire additional land for recreational use; replace playground equipment; correct drainage problems; improve landscaping and the Sunday Park loop road; create a covenant enforcement brochure; and hire a marketing consultant. The cost of the plan to association members would amount to an additional \$19 a month or a total of \$493 in assessments per year. BCA Strategic Planning Committee Chairman Tom Hourin says, "It is important to clarify that the \$19 encompasses all the strategies of the plan which includes universal membership to the three outdoor pools and the community center with an enclosed year-round lap pool."

At the first two meetings, over 300 members of the association viewed a slide presentation and asked questions regarding the proposed Brandermill 20/20 strategic plan. Addressing the audience were Community Manager Mike Divita, BCA Board President Laurie Newill, Chairman Tom Hourin and marketing consultant Kathy Cecilian. Community Architect Doug Greene also unveiled preliminary plans for the enclosed pool and community center. Exit surveys taken at

the meetings revealed that 73 percent of the attendees supported the plan.

Later, asked how the purchase of the pools could affect country club members, BCC Manager Doug Wayne indicated it would probably not result in lessening club members' dues.

After a professional survey conducted by Robert Charles Lesser and Co., the strategic planning committee determined that in order for Brandermill to hold its own in today's competitive real estate market, proactive measures must be taken to improve the community's appearance, marketing and recreational amenities.

Chairman Hourin says, "I am encouraged by the amount of discussion in the community regarding the plan and we look forward to answering members' questions in the upcoming neighborhood meetings. In the meantime, we are preparing a brochure summarizing the plan which will be mailed to the membership this month."

Before the Brandermill 20/20 plan could go into effect, the BCA Board must recommend its approval and then association members would vote on the issue in the form of a referendum in the fall. The BCA Board will consider the issue at its July 21 meeting.

CARB again denies use of golf course fans

By Janet Joyce
Staff Writer

At a special meeting on June 17, the Commercial Architecture Review Board upheld its October 1996 decision denying a request by Brandermill Country Club to erect fans that it insists are needed to move air over the golf course greens. At the meeting, residents whose homes are in proximity to the fans complained that the noise they produce disturbs their "peace and serenity."

BCC staff members have erected 14 fans on 11 greens.

In the October decision, CARB indicated it would reconsider the request

if additional information were provided. Since that time, two studies were commissioned by the BCA, one regarding the effectiveness of the fans and the other, the noise they produce.

According to Doug Greene, chairman of the CARB, the report conducted by Dr. Richard J. Cooper of Piedmont Turf Services did not offer conclusive evidence that the use of the fans is essential to the life of the greens. Greene also explained that in a letter to Brandermill Community Manager Mike Divita, Kathy Kondylas of BRD Noise and Vibration Control, Inc. stated that municipalities often seek to maintain noise levels at or below 55-60 decibels and that the



Photo by Wendy Parker

County Planning Director Tom Jacobson of Huntgate Woods discusses the proposed community center plans with Community Architect Doug Greene at the June roll out.

Committee to suggest alternatives to RMA toll hike

By Janet Joyce
Staff Writer

The Chesterfield County Powhite Toll Advisory Committee held its initial meeting at the Chesterfield County administration building on May 27. The committee, appointed by Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors Chairman Art Warren, is charged with identifying alternative ways to reduce congestion on the Powhite Parkway without the toll increases proposed by the Richmond Metropolitan Authority. Committee members include Brandermill resident Charles Foster who is also one of the two Chesterfield County representatives on the RMA Board of Directors, and Charles Macfarlane, treasurer of the BCA Board of Directors.

Under pressure from elected officials to relieve the congestion and to implement an electronic toll collection (ETC) system that would be compatible with the one being planned by VDOT for the Powhite Extension, the RMA board proposed an extensive ETC plan. The plan, if adopted, would carry a \$24 million price tag to be paid for with increased tolls on RMA-operated roads and bridges.

Citizen opposition to the proposed toll increase along with assurances by state and local government officials that the timing issue was not as critical as was once thought prompted RMA board members to postpone their decision until alternatives could be considered.

The committee will make its recommendations to the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors by September 1.

QuickTakes

I Love a Parade...



Three-year-old Tommy Savarie of Sagewood stands by for the parade.



Jordan Angelopolos, 7 months of CrossTimbers loves his free watermelon.



BCA Board of Directors

Laurie Newill, President
 John Hughes, 1st VP
 Tom Hourin, 2nd VP
 Charles Macfarlane, Treas.
 Jim Bolton
 Bob Herald
 Jo Owens

WELCOME
 NEW RESIDENTS

ARROWOOD

Paul Gomes

BAYPORT LANDING

Jerry & Mary Nghiem

BIRNAM WOODS

Louis & Judith Griffin

DEER MEADOW

Armata Blackwell

Curtis & Melissa McLeod

William & Suzanne Nock

FOX CHASE

Graham & Beth Peers

GLENEAGLES

Richard & Marjorie Gallagher

HERITAGE WOODS

Tom & Adrienne Donnelly

Randy & Patrice Masters

Rick & Vicki Stull

LITCHFIELD BLUFF

George & Pat Finney

LONG HILL

Michael & Stephanie

Angelopoulos

MCTYRE'S COVE

Herbert & Mary Epstein

PLANTER'S WOOD

Joe & Cathi Simone

POPLAR GROVE

Ted & Barbara Euson

QUAIL HILL

Thomas & Amelia Quicke

REGATTA POINTE

Gayle Gault

RIVERBIRCH TRACE

J. Lasker

SANDY BROOK

Scott Gross

SHADOW RIDGE

Leonardo & Clara Diaz

SPINNER'S COVE

Ruth McGinnis

K. P. Andrews

STONEY RIDGE

Charles & Pat Dickens

Charles & Judy Sydners

THE OAKS

Shawn Gitlin

WALNUT CREEK

Bill & Jane Soos

Michael Zuck

WATKIN'S GLEN

Sandy Bell

Betty Jenkins

WOODBIDGE CROSSING

Dennis Mackey

Barbara Vera

ARB APPROVALS

Barne's Spring - Enclosed porch
 Bayport Landing - New home
 Garrison Place - Basketball pad
 Harbour Ridge - Vinyl siding
 Long Shadow - Addition & deck
 Muirfield Green - Deck
 Nuttree Woods - Deck
 Timber Ridge - Skylights

CARB APPROVALS

UniMart - Temporary banner

UPCOMING EVENTS

Brandermill 20/20

Public Hearing

The Brandermill Church

July 14, 6:30 p.m.

Brandermill 20/20

Neighborhood Meetings

The Brandermill Church

(See schedule above right.)

7 p.m. • July 28, 29

Aug. 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27

BCA Board Meeting

Oscar's

July 21, 7 p.m.

Planning Commission

Meeting

County Public Meeting Room

July 15, 7 p.m.

Watershed.

BCA Work Session

BCA Board Room

August 11, 7 p.m.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE: What do you think of Brandermill 20/20?



I love it! You look at the plans and you realize how run down everything is. It's time to take it into the 21st century to fix it and make it more modern. It's time to take the plunge and go for it!
 Kathy Franklin
 Oak Springs



I have mixed feelings. I like the idea but being a senior citizen, the cost is going to be a factor for me.
 Richard Owens
 Harbour Ridge



I think it's wonderful. I'm all for it.
 Elinor Marshall
 Regatta Pointe



It looks good to me. I have to study it more but the overall plan looks good.
 Bill Porter
 Pebble Creek



I think it's a super plan. I think they're going to get a lot of support. I'm glad they asked for everyone's input. I think their approach is great. I couldn't support it more.
 Bob Young
 Promontory Pointe

Brandermill is on the World Wide Web



Leanne Matula

By Janet Joyce
 Staff Writer

View the beautiful Swift Creek Reservoir; learn what's happening in Brandermill; read the top stories in The Village Mill; and let the BCA know how you feel about the issues facing Brandermill today. Now you can do it all from your home or office with your personal computer and a modem.

Brandermill Community Association caught up with technology on June 23, and launched the BCA Home Page on the world wide web and electronic mail.

At the urging of First Vice President John Hughes, the BCA Board of Directors voted in September 1996 to add a web page to the other communication vehicles used to communicate with residents and potential home buyers. "This is a way to supplement The Village Mill and reach a much wider audience," said Wendy Parker, editor of The Village Mill.

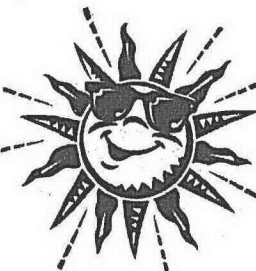
Brandermill resident John Grenier of Spring Gate provided the impetus and initial format to get the project underway and The Village Mill staff took it from there. Researched, written, designed and implemented by Graphic Designer Leanne Matula and Managing Editor Wendy Parker, the web page provides a wealth of information. Visitors can choose a welcome area that describes the Brandermill community, a calendar of coming events, the top news stories of the month, the minutes of the BCA Board meetings, a place where they can search for a particular topic on the web site, and a feedback page where they can communicate with the BCA via electronic mail. Matula will update the news, calendar, and board minutes monthly.

"Often, the design of a web site like this one can cost an organization thousands of dollars, but we are fortunate to have had the expertise to do it in-house," said Parker.

In information he shared with The Village Mill Editor Wendy Parker, Mike Steele of the Richmond Times-Dispatch explained that 20 million individuals access the Internet regularly. Steele said that the average Internet user is 35 years old with an annual income of \$40 thousand. To find time to surf the net, 50 percent of individuals surveyed said they gave up watching television; 25 percent said they chose the Internet over making long distance calls; 15 percent said they made time by cutting back on watching videos; and 12 percent said they surf the net instead of reading the newspaper.

In the future, the site could include a children's page and interactive surveys. Parker encourages Brandermill residents to send electronic mail to the BCA with their comments about the site. Internet users can access the Brandermill web site at <http://Brandermill.com> and can reach the BCA via e-mail at BCAVM@Erols.com.

Brandermill 20/20 Neighborhood Meetings



All meetings will be held at
 The Brandermill Church • 7 p.m.
 Learn how the plan will affect your property values.

July 28
 Poplar Grove
 Pebble Creek
 Timber Ridge
 McTyre's Cove
 Nuttree Woods
 Muirfield Green
 Quail Hill
 Fox Chase
 Huntsbridge

July 29
 Harbour Pointe
 August 11
 Chimney House
 Long Hill
 Birnam Woods
 Ridge Creek
 Deer Meadow
 Turtle Hill
 Shadow Ridge
 Whispering Oaks
 Walnut Creek
 Autumn Woods

August 12
 Public Meeting
 Open to All
 August 13
 Thornridge
 Court Ridge
 Long Shadow
 Litchfield Bluff
 Planter's Wood
 Heritage Woods
 Gleneagles
 Old Fox Trail
 Northwich
 Winterberry Ridge
 Five Springs

August 19
 Shallowford Trace
 Regatta Pointe
 Shallowford Landing
 The Oaks
 August 20
 Sandy Brook
 Two Notch
 Garrison Place
 Arrowood
 Crosstimbers
 Carriage Creek
 Sutter's Mill
 Cradle Hill
 Watkin's Glen
 Copper Hill
 Tanglebrook

August 26
 Three Bridges
 Steeple Chase
 Woodbridge Crossing
 Sagewood
 Sterling's Bridge
 Barne's Spring
 Cove Ridge
 Oak Springs
 Huntgate Woods
 Spring Gate

August 27
 Commodore Pointe
 Riverbirch Trace
 Walker's Ferry
 Stoney Ridge
 Seven Oaks
 Fortune's Ridge

BCA agrees to pay for two Genito Station signs

The regularly scheduled meeting of the BCA Board of Directors was held on June 16 in the meeting room of Oscar's. Present were Directors Laurie Newill, Bob Herald, John Hughes, Jim Bolton, Jo Owens and Community Manager Mike Divita. The following is a summary of the board minutes. Complete minutes are available at the BCA office.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made and carried to file the May financials for audit.

President's Report

A motion was made and carried to accept Community Manager Divita's recommendation to return the country club's request for fans to the CARB for appeal.

Committee Reports

Public Relations

Director Herald was welcomed as

board liaison, replacing Director Owens. Brandermill has secured a spot in the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce newcomer packet. Spring Festival and Home Parade was reviewed and it was the consensus of committee members that the festival should be held the weekend before the home parade with home parade being run by the realtors and the festival by BCA. The committee is looking into securing sponsors for at least two Mid-Week Oasis concerts in August.

Teen Center

Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation Department is contributing \$7,600 for the summer program to be held at the Swift Creek Middle School June 30 to August 22, 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The teens are pursuing a charter for

Chesterfield's first SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now) program.

Community Manager's Report

Two staff members have resigned as of June 20: Kathy Austin, community enhancement department and Renee Bishop, events coordinator.

New Business

Brandermill 20/20

President Newill congratulated the committee on the success of the Brandermill 20/20 June 10 and 11 meetings. The strategic plan survey sheet responses were collated by Director Owens. A tally of the responses on both evenings indicated that 72.7 percent of those who returned the surveys are in favor of the plan.

ARB Guidelines Amendment

A motion was made and carried to to redefine picket fences as landscape fences.

Genito Station Signs

A motion was made and carried to reimburse Rich Johnson of Genito Station \$3,800 for two commercial signs when the signs are fully installed.

Sunday Park Land Use Plan

Community Manager Divita met with Gary Scotto of Planning and Design Collaboratives and reported that the Sunday Park land use study is 60 percent complete. A meeting will be scheduled to go over ownership issues and an area analysis.

The BCA Strategic Plan Committee will review the proposal when it is completed.

A motion was made and carried to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing legal issues related to the Sunday Park loop road. No action was taken legally or contractually in relation to the Sunday Park loop road.

Brandermill 20/20 is a plan to remain competitive

I'll never forget an experience I had as a young company commander of an infantry company with the 82nd Airborne Division. It was a hot summer afternoon at Fort Bragg, N.C. and we were preparing for a battalion "live fire" exercise. I had been summoned along with the other three company commanders for a meeting with the battalion commander and his staff. Meetings at battalion were often very stressful because of the intensity of the mission of the 82nd. There was simply no room for failure in the job and there were plenty of fellow officers waiting in line for an opportunity to command a rifle company in one of the most famous divisions in the U.S. Army.

During the meeting, I complained that we simply did not have the time or resources to do everything that was being asked of us. I rattled off the tasks that we had been assigned, limited resources available and emphasized that it was impossible to get everything done. A fellow company commander nodded in agreement. Captain Watkins, the most senior company commander and a friend, looked at me and grimaced. I knew I was in

MANAGER'S DESK



Mike Divita

he said, "instead of finding 99 reasons why you can't do something, why don't you find just one why you can!"

I suppose each of us has had a similar experience in which we were asked to rise to a particular challenge. In a way, the Brandermill 20/20 plan is the challenge being presented to this community by the BCA Strategic Planning Committee. It is clear from the research data that Brandermill has not kept pace with surrounding property values. We are about 2 percent behind where we should be. That means a Brandermill home priced to sell at \$100,000, should be selling for \$102,000. That \$2,000 is money out

of your pocket. We have to face up to the truth that if we do nothing, things will not get better. The competition will not go away and will most likely become more intense. So what do we do? After months of analysis and planning sessions the BCA Strategic Planning Committee has proposed a plan to reposition Brandermill in the marketplace.

Eleven strategies are proposed and range from a renewed emphasis on covenant compliance, drainage, marketing, and bike paths to a reinvestment in our recreational amenities with universal membership.

For about \$19 dollars a month we can literally turn Brandermill from an aging mature community into the hottest thing in Richmond and Central Virginia. It is only a matter of making a decision and understanding the cause and effect on property values and our quality of life. That message is not just

the opinion of the BCA Strategic Planning Committee, but is based on market research by our consultants, Robert Charles Lesser & Co. and what you have told them you want this community to become.

"If we do nothing, we risk property values deteriorating even further in a very competitive marketplace."

Mike Divita

place. If we choose to reinvest in our community, we control our future, our property values and our quality of life.

Take a moment and put yourself in the shoes of prospective home buyers. Yes, they will evaluate the assessments but they will also evaluate what they will be getting for their money. At the first meeting I attended in Brandermill which was about the pools, I listened to a gentleman passionately state that

See Manager's Desk on page 16.

Renters take the heat for violations

The Star-Belly Sneetches All gathered and groaned, "What can be done with Sneetches who rent and not own?"

"Those Plain-Belly Sneetches Make property values go down If they can't be like us, We don't want them around."

With endless apologies to Dr. Suess and a liberal dose of artistic license, I have borrowed from the story "The Sneetches" to preface this article, which focuses on renters, owners, absentee landlords and the like. Fans of Dr. Suess will remember the tale of the Star-Belly and Plain-Belly Sneetches; an entire caste system flourished in Sneetch-ville based merely on one factor: whether one's belly was Plain or had Stars upon

thars.

There has been much discussion in Brandermill lately concerning renters; unfortunately, the discussion has not been very positive. There is a perception that renters do not maintain the properties they reside in and incur many more covenant violations than residents who own their houses. While there is some truth to this perception, it is greatly exaggerated. I need only to reach over to my file cabinet and pull out hundreds of files concerning violations in owner-occupied homes. Breaches of the Brandermill covenants and restrictions are not status specific; they will exist on virtually every property, from board member homes to renters.

Does this mean I feel there is no problem? No, not at all, but I do believe the issues go beyond that of ownership status. As to rental units

specifically, I believe the root of covenant violation evils lies with two situations: absentee landlords and/or inadequate education of tenant. As you can see, the common denominator here is the owner, not the tenant. Property owners who later decide to rent their houses

COMMUNITY STANDARDS



Karen Bracey

enter the complex world of landlord-tenant law. Sadly, many such landlords have but one concern: covering their monthly expenses. The two most important tools a landlord should use are

See Renters on page 16.



The Village Mill
 3001 East Boundary Terrace, Midlothian, VA 23112
 804-744-1035 Fax 804-744-4618

Publisher Brandermill Community Association
 Community Manager Mike Divita, CMCA®, PCAM®
 Managing Editor Wendy Mathis Parker
 Assistant Editor Linda Burns
 Copy Editor Harriet Coppins
 Staff Writers Janet Joyce & Kris Risendal
 Graphic Designer Leanne Matula

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Contributions and letters should be sent to the editor at the above address.

County supervisors recognize Brandemill for Adopt a Family



Photo by Jana Carter
Clover Hill Supervisor Art Warren presents a resolution to the community. Accepting the award, from left are: Mary Gregory, Dena Sindelir, Pat Johnson and Wendy Parker.

By Kris Risendal
Staff Writer

Brandemill Adopt a Family volunteers are well known to the many people they have helped since 1991. They have provided flood and hurricane victims with new clothing and household items when they have needed them most, bringing assistance

through the generosity of Brandemill residents and businessmen. On June 11, the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors officially recognized the Brandemill community for its acts of kindness and compassion by passing a special resolution of appreciation for its disaster relief efforts. Wendy Parker of Winterberry

Ridge, Geri Wilson of Long Shadow, Dena Sindelir of Walnut Creek, and Mary Gregory and Pat Johnson of Quail Hill, affectionately nicknamed "the Disaster Sisters" and the coordinators of the relief efforts, were presented the resolution by Art Warren, chairman of the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors. Parker accepted the resolution on behalf of the many

Brandemill and area participants. "We have had tremendous responses to our requests for donations. The residents and area businesses have been so generous, showing wonderful community spirit. It is this outpouring of generosity that makes Brandemill such a special place to live," said Parker. "Hundreds of volunteers have made adopting these families possible, and the families helped are truly thankful and amazed at the kindness shown to them," she said. Sherry Aliff, her husband Paul and their two little girls watched their home and all of their belongings in Arcadia, Va., wash away in flood waters from Hurricane Fran. Betty and William Rice lost all of their clothing and most of their household items. The Adopt a Family project provided both families with new clothing and replaced their lost household items. "You have given me and my family hope when I thought there was none left," Sherry Aliff wrote to the community after learning of the Adopt a Family project.

The Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors expressed its pride in Brandemill and extended its appreciation for the community's efforts to help those in need. Other people helped include the Santarufo family in Homestead, Fla., whose belongings

were devastated by Hurricane Andrew; two families in Buena Vista, Va. whose lives and homes were ravaged by floods; and the entire city of Hannibal, Mo.

For its Adopt a Family work, Brandemill has been recognized by former Governor Douglas Wilder, Hannibal Mayor Steven Schwartz, and the city of Midland, Texas which declared Brandemill a finalist for the National Community Spirit Award.

Parker will present the framed resolution to the BCA Board and invites residents to stop by the BCA office to see the resolution on display.

Fire station to open soon

By Janet Joyce
Staff Writer

Fire Department officials are hoping that the Centerpoint Fire Station at the corner of Genito and Water Cove Roads will be in operation by summer's end.

"The builders have given us a mid-July completion date and they are sticking to that," said Paul Shorter, senior battalion chief with the Chesterfield County Fire Department. "If they finish in mid-July, we're hoping to move in sometime in early August and be responding to calls by September 1," he said.

The Centerpoint station was plagued by problems with the original contractor and construction delays. "After all we've been through," said Shorter, "you bet we'll have an open house once it's done." He added that the open house will probably be sometime in September.

NEWSPAPER
deadline
THE VILLAGE MILL
July 28 • NOON

July Fourth

Continued from page 1.

parade in recognition of her many efforts to promote community closeness.

Winners of the parade competition include: Birnam Woods, as the Grand Slam neighborhood winner; the Clover Hill Teen Center for the most futuristic; the Brandemill Church youth group marching as "Christians in Black" for being the most creative; and the SCAA cheerleaders for having the most participants.

Participants winning top parade honors include: Lisa and David Newill-Smith; A.J., Alex and Austin Laudenslager; Christopher Donald, Morgan Conklin, Caitlyn Vehrs, Kelsey Maasoy, Katherine, Lauren and Sarah Faszewski, Christopher Jenkins, Logan Vidal, Caitlen and Andy Coakley, Chris Coble, Tom Doyle, and Dustin Minor. Adult and group winners include: Terry and Wayne Frick, Nancy Greenfield,

Jimmy Nixon's horses, the Beta Swim Team and the Swift Creek Cougars.

"The Fourth of July celebration was an enormous success," said a tired, but thrilled Debbie Braun, this year's event chairman. "The Japanese boat parade included 15 beautifully-decorated boats, and everyone enjoyed the fireworks," she said.

Soccer • Little League or other nonprofit organizations.

NEED FUNDS FOR IMPORTANT PROJECTS?

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Ballinger serves on governor's commission Friends buy tapes for library



Dr. Debra Ballinger

By Kris Risendal
Staff Writer

Dr. Debra A. Ballinger of Fox Chase has been appointed to the Governor's Commission on Physical Fitness and Sports.

The 20 members of the commission will advise the governor on issues relating to physical fitness, health and sports.

"Our purpose is to enhance the well-being of all the citizens of Virginia, both young and old," said Ballinger. The commission was officially launched by Governor George Allen and First Lady Susan Allen on May 29 and Ballinger was sworn in and took her oath of office following a two-mile walk through downtown Richmond with other commission members.

Ballinger's credentials show why she was selected for this position. An assistant professor of health, physical education and recreation at Virginia Commonwealth University, Ballinger also has served as president of the Virginia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recre-

ation and Dance (VAHPERD). In 1993, she received the VAHPERD award for Outstanding College/University Physical Education Teacher of the Year.

Certified as a sport psychology consultant by the Association for the

"Our purpose is to enhance the well-being of all the citizens of Virginia, both young and old."

Debra Ballinger

Advancement of Applied Sport Psychology, Ballinger is on the U.S. Olympic Registry for Sport Psychology. Ballinger said, "Among the commission's many responsibilities will be our efforts to educate children, adults and senior citizens about physical fitness and how it relates to health, a productive lifestyle, and a better standard of living. Physical fitness is important for everyone, and we will plan projects and events that will promote health and nutrition education, sports, and competition."

Friends buy tapes for library

The Friends of the Chesterfield County Public Library elected four candidates to the board of directors at its annual meeting at the Central Library. The new directors are: Pamela Bomboy, Norma Kuhn, Donna Lawrence, and Laura Lemmon. Current directors renewing a three-year term are: Walter Elias and Gladys Holland for Ettrick Matoaca; Kathryn Helen Geranios and Mary Ann Harmon for Midlothian; and Ashby Wilson of Barne's Spring Court for Clover Hill.

President Mary Ann Harmon presented a \$5,000 check to Library Director Dr. Robert E. Wagenknecht for the purchase of audio books. He said "We are most grateful to The Friends for supplementing our audio book budget."

The Chesterfield Friends recently accepted an award of excellence from the Virginia Friends of the Library.

Featured speaker for the May meeting at Chesterfield Central Library was L. B. Taylor, Jr., author of "Ghosts of Virginia" and other works documenting incidents of psychic phenomena in the Virginia region.

The Friends of the Chesterfield County Public Library is a nonprofit, volunteer organization. Established in 1970, the friends organization is dedicated to helping the library achieve its goals. Public access equipment is made available by the friends as well as many special purchases such as display racks, classic video tapes, CDs and additions to the book collection. The friends organization a major sponsor of the Summer Reading Program. For more information, call 794-8623.

Please don't feed the lake

Proper fertilization is the way to go

By Linda Burns
Assistant Editor

If residents in the watershed area utilize recommended lawn care techniques and developers adopt good management practices, the health of Swift Creek Reservoir can be sustained for years to come. However, neglect on the part of residents and developers may lead to an unhealthy water source, resulting in an unattractive lake and costly drinking water.

Proper fertilization is essential for lawn maintenance and lake preservation. Compounds are always listed in large numbers on the bag, such as 4-1-2 or 10-10-10. These numbers refer to the content of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash, three key ingredients necessary for a healthy lawn.

A 4-1-2 ratio, i.e. four parts nitrogen to one part phosphorus to two parts potash, is generally recommended for the Swift Creek area. Keep in mind that a 20-5-10 ratio is still a 4-1-2.

A granular, slow release fertilizer is desirable, as the absorption rate is slower and the fertilizer does not need to be applied as often. "Natural" or "organic" fertilizers may be more expensive and are not necessarily better, as they may have to be used more often and in larger quantities.

The best time to fertilize grass is in the fall, when the root systems are growing. Follow the S-O-D program, that is, fertilize only in September, October, and December. Feeding the root system in the fall will promote good growth in the spring.

Before purchasing fertilizer, home owners should know the square footage of their yards. The house footprint, driveway, wooded and other areas which will not be fertilized need to be subtracted out of the total lot square footage.

Hudgins Farm and Garden Center and Southern States carry a specially formulated mixture, with the 4-1-2 proportions recommended for Brandermill yards, which will be available in time for the fall.

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Step back into the 1600s at the Citie of Henricus

By Kris Risendal
Staff Writer

Sitting high on a bluff overlooking the James River in Chesterfield County is a tiny parcel of land with a fascinating history. It is here that the earliest settlers in the New World founded a town they named the Citie of Henricus almost 400 years ago. Located in the 810-acre Dutch Gap conservation area, a beautiful park boasting woods, wetlands and an abundance of wildlife, the 1611 Citie of Henricus is a national treasure that is just now receiving the attention it deserves.

Though the citie existed for only 11 brief years, its importance to the growth of America is immeasurable.

On June 14, the Citie of Henricus celebrated the grand opening and official dedication of both a new visitor's center in Henricus Historical Park and the recently acquired Dutch Gap conservation area. Together, Henricus and Dutch Gap provide area residents with the opportunity to enjoy recreational, historical and environmental amenities. Thanks to the efforts of the Henricus Foundation, a nonprofit organization formed in 1985 to preserve the historic site, visitors now can take a step back in time to the year 1611.

Reconstruction of the citie began

in 1995 and is well on its way. Today, a reconstructed watchtower, house/bakehouse, a partial palisade wall and a garden are completed.

It was here that Sir Thomas Dale, leader of the Jamestown settlers, founded the second English settlement in the New World. It is here that Pocahontas was brought in captivity to live and learn the ways of English women, to convert to Christianity, to be courted by John Rolfe.

It was here that tobacco was first cultivated commercially. It was also here that the first hospital was built, the first land privately owned, and where the first chartered university and library in the New World were located.

The Henricus Foundation includes representatives of Chesterfield, Henrico, Richmond, business and industry, and dedicated citizens. The park, now open to the public, includes reenactors in authentic costume demonstrating the tools of early settlers used while tending gardens, building homes, or protecting their families.

The 1611 Citie of Henricus is open to the public from noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday and by appointment for school tours during the week.



A "soldier" contemplates the founding of the Citie of Henricus.



Photos by Kris Risendal

A reenactor spins yarn near an open fire at the "second English settlement in the New World."

Letters express gratitude

Dear Editor:

Spring brought a burst of radiant beauty to our Millridge Parkway and Old Hundred entrance. The azaleas and daffodils were breathtaking, thanks to the diligent professional, manner of landscaping by The Brickman Group. Now the fresh, green sod and flowering astilbe lend a delightful appearance.

I am so happy to see such exhilarating beauty when I drive into our entrance. It gives me a lift. I hope it does that for everyone.

We should appreciate the efforts of all who planned it so well. It's the best and most attractive it has been in 20

years.

Sincerely,
Nancy Torrence
Court-Ridge Road

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor:

The First Annual Author Dinner sponsored by the Friends of Clover Hill Library at the Brandermill Inn was a resounding success.

A near-capacity crowd of bookies and fans of Jody Jaffe's mystery books found her to be entertaining and enlightening as she recounted the perils of publishing.

Thank you for the publicity and your loyal readers who support the Clover Hill Library and its Friends as together we work to improve library services.

Sincerely,
Nancy Messinger
Friends of Clover Hill Library

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First Annual Brandermill July 4th Boat Show Participants:
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CarolLynn Mulshine and Christopher Smith

CarolLynn Mulshine will marry Christopher Smith

Mr. Michael J. Mulshine of McTyre's Cove and Mrs. Joan Marie Mulshine of Regatta Pointe are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter CarolLynn Mulshine to Christopher Arthur Smith son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Smith of Chesterfield, Mo. CarolLynn graduated from James Madison University in 1995 with a bachelor of art's degree in human communication. She is now working as a benefits associate at the

Advisory Board Company in the Watergate Complex in Washington, D. C. and completing a master's degree in human resource management at Marymount University. Christopher is also a graduate of James Madison University with a bachelor's degree in business administration with a major in computer information systems. He is employed as a consultant by Booz, Allen and Hamilton in Vienna, Va. A Thanksgiving wedding is planned.

Here comes the groom?



Lee Umsted

By David Umstead
Guest Correspondent

Usually, men don't have too much to say about planning weddings. However, there is a tradition among Umstead men: newspaper coverage of weddings is their specialty.

The marriage of Justin Lee Umstead, son of David Lee Umstead, and his wife, Pamela Douglas Umstead, took place May 10, 1997 at Branch's Baptist Church in Richmond, Va. There was a bride as well.

The Rev. Richard Haney and the Rev. Cecil Chambers performed magnificently, containing the confusion to a moderate uproar. Prior to the service, 17 ticket scalpers were apprehended and thus arrested. Shortly before the ceremony began, souvenir programs were selling at \$50 each.

Attendants included: Kevin McCormick, renowned CD expert; Chris Moreau, golfer extraordinaire;

Candice Hunter weds Gregory Shelor

The marriage of Candice Lynn Hunter, daughter of Mrs. Marian Hunter of Timber Ridge and Mr. Ed Hunter of Long Beach, Calif., and Gregory Wayne Shelor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick McIvor Shelor of Riva, Md., took place May 16 at Saint Augustines Catholic Church. The Rev. Msgr. Michael S. C. Schmied officiated.

The bride's father gave his daughter in marriage. The maid of honor was the bride's sister Kelly Marie Hunter of Brandermill. Bridesmaids were Georgia Lona Gardner of Richmond, Renee Arena Olson of Pasadena, Md., and the groom's sister, Mary Kathleen Shelor of Riva, Md.

The best man was Michael Charles Olson of Pasadena, Md. Ushers were Frank Ronald Manno, Jr. of Shelbyville, Ky.; Thomas Victor Garner of Richmond; and the bride's brother, Daniel Edward Hunter, of Brandermill.

David B. G. Flaherty provided the music and Eva Bell was the soloist.

After the ceremony, there was a reception at Bellwood Officers Club.

The bride wore a formal white silk gown. The bodice and cathedral train were embellished with lace, pearls and sequins. To complement her headpiece, the bride wore her mother's veil. The bride's bouquet consisted of white roses with ivy and tufts of tulle. She also carried a rosary given to her by her maternal grandmother.

After a wedding trip to Cancun, the couple will live in Richmond.



Mrs. Gregory Shelor

Program focuses on the environment

Anyone who is 10 to 13 years old, curious about the environment and ready for a good adventure may join the Environmental Explorer summer program.

Become an environmental explorer and enjoy one or all four adventures starting July 23. Travel the path of recycling, explore the world below where worms tend to go, become a drop of water and travel the path of tap water—even beyond the drain, or check out the bird community at Dutch Gap and help the Audubon Society assemble blue bird houses.

The Environmental Explorers is sponsored by the Chesterfield Extension Office and all sessions begin and end at the Extension Office. The registration fee is \$5 for each adventure.

The adventures are: July 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Tapwater Tour; July 30 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Bird Watch; August 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Recycle Express; August 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Venture Into the World of Composting.

Call the Chesterfield Extension Office for a registration brochure or pick one up at any Chesterfield County Library.

Ira Smith, the famous entertainer; Wayne Smith, long-suffering big brother of the bride; Steve Wendt, who along with the groom is an outstanding graduate of Clover Hill High School; and Dave Winfree, a teammate of the groom during their 1993 European soccer tour.

The groom, Justin Lee Umstead, his father and grandfather and all of the men attending him were adorned in formal wear. Each started by donning exclusive Joe Boxer monogrammed briefs, fashioned of imported silk woven by the world's most hybrid silk worms which have been 72 years in the making. Their snow white virgin cotton shirts served elegantly as a stunning background for their gray striped English ascots. Their morning coats of deepest charcoal gray featured an exotic twin-buttoned pleated back that brushed softly against the aristocratic striped formal trousers. Their stockings were jet black silk hose, also 72 years in the making, which slipped stylishly into shoes of highly polished jet black leather. Ancient heirloom jewelry tastefully accented their attire.

The bride wore a dress, as did her helpers, the mothers, and the grandmothers.

Immediately following his wed-

ding performance, the groom Justin Lee Umstead, was feted at a lavish reception attended by a few thousand of his closest friends and fans. Everyone arrived bearing costly gifts and generous checks as tokens of their love and support. After the celebration, he prepared for a Caribbean holiday. Following his lavish vacation, he will reside in Midlothian, Va. It is expected that the bride will join him.

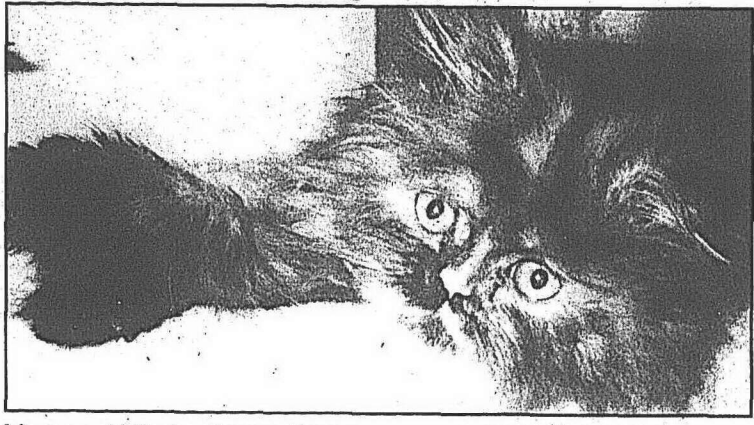
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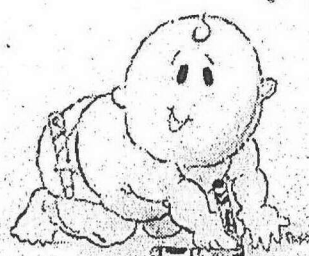


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Places of Worship

<p>Brandermill Church Located in Sunday Park in Brandermill Worship 8:30, 9:45 & 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:40 a.m. (child care provided) 744-3661 An Ecumenical Congregation Affiliated with United Methodist & Presbyterian Church, USA</p>	<p>Living Word Ministries James L. Ferguson, Pastor Worship: 10:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Wednesday - 7 p.m. Healing School: Tuesday 10 a.m. Radio Program WDYL 105.7 Saturday 10 a.m. 744-3101 Market Square • 4912 Millridge Parkway</p>
<p>Christ The King Lutheran Church Two Worship Services 8:30 & 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Pastor Roger W. Bruns 9800 W. Huguenot Rd. Richmond, VA • 23235 272-2995</p>	<p>Lutheran Church of Our Saviour 9601 Hull St. Rd. Richmond, VA 1 mile east of Oxbridge Square Worship Service 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Preschool 2-, 3- & 4-year-olds 276-8194 Rev. Joseph Vought, Pastor 276-4271</p>
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<p>Episcopal Church of Our Saviour 4000 Stigall Drive, 1 Block S. of 360-Genito Intersection Traditional Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. Charismatic Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Praise & Christian Education Wednesday 7 p.m. 744-2164 "A church dedicated to the Gospel of Jesus Christ"</p>	<p>REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH 9400 Redbridge Road N. Arch & Redbridge Rd. (Off Midlothian Turnpike) 272-7973 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 8:15 a.m. & 11 a.m. Preschool 2-, 3- & 4-year-olds 272-7824 Rev. David M. Benson Rev. Charles M. Long Rev. Robert G. Heckmann</p>
<p>First Congregational Christian Church United Church of Christ Worship Service 10 a.m. Child Care Provided 276-5338 4310 Courthouse Rd. 1/2 mile south of Hull Street Rev. Janet Smith-St. Cyr</p>	<p>Swift Creek Baptist Church 7511 N. Spring Run Road New Contemporary Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:55 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Wednesday - Adult Seminars 7 p.m. Awana Children's Ministry Youth Jr. & Sr. High Ministry Pastor Phillip Hunt Church Office: 739-3001</p>
<p>Living Hope Lutheran Church (Wisconsin Synod) Located in Brandermill Business Park (Genito Rd. & Old Hundred Rd.) Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. Nursery Available Jon Kuske, Pastor Church Office: 744-8869 Come visit our new church family</p>	<p>RICHARD HANEY SENIOR PASTOR JIM WEBB ASSOC. YOUTH PASTOR Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11 a.m. Sunday School For All Ages 9:30 a.m. 5900 Woolridge Road 739-1183 (nursery provided at all times)</p>
<p>For advertising information, call The Village Mill 744-1035</p>	<p>Woolridge Road Baptist Church Meeting at Woolridge Elem. Sch. Woodlake Sunday Worship 10:50 a.m. All-age Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Services 6:30 p.m. Pastor Carey Bates Church 330-5879 Be our guest this Sunday</p>

Teens plan busy summer at center



Teens kick off their summer program with a picnic at the pavilion.

Photo by Jo Owens

By Janet Joyce
Staff Writer

The Clover Hill Area Teen Center is all settled in at Swift Creek Middle School for the summer following a successful kick-off picnic at Sunday Park on June 25.

Chesterfield County Department of Parks and Recreation has assigned Alison DuVall and Shannon Blackburn to CHATC for the summer. DuVall is a resident of Nuttree and a student teacher at SCMS. Blackburn is a recent Longwood graduate.

"All of our equipment, the VCR, computers and snack bar have been

moved to SCMS for the summer," said Jo Owens, teen center chairman. "In addition, we're renting pool tables, pinball and we've purchased two gameboards for TV," she said. Those activities will be available at SCMS in addition to basketball, volleyball, ping pong and badminton. An extensive list of special events is also planned (See calendar at right).

Annual membership to the teen center is \$20 from July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998 and members receive discounts on special events. Nonmembers pay \$1 per day at the door. Summer hours are 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Teens may take

advantage of a coupon for a free visit. (See calendar at right.)

Teen center board members for this year are Jo Owens, chairman; Sue Bell, vice chairman; Joan Bernick, recording secretary; Diane Hollander, corresponding secretary; Bernadette Patrick, treasurer; Carol Keiter, volunteer coordinator; Lynn Bowers; and directors Jeff Branyon, Bob Broomfield and Linda Young.

A volunteer training program for adults who would like to help at the center is in the planning stages. Interested individuals are urged to contact Jo Owens at 744-7167 or the BCA at 744-1035 for more information.

Teen Center at Brandermill S.C.M.S. JULY & AUGUST

Summer program at Swift Creek Middle School!
Welcome back all teen members • Meet your new county staff • Allison DuVall & Julie Wilson
Attend Monday through Thursday • 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. • Snack bar is open

July 13	14	15	16	17	18	19
PING PONG BADMINTON	POOL VOLLEYBALL	BASKETBALL BADMINTON (BOARD MEETING @ 3 p.m.)	MOVIE DAY VOLLEYBALL INDOOR SOCCER	POOL PARTY @ HARBOUR POINTE	KINGS DOMINION ROAD TRIP	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT VOLLEYBALL	PING PONG BADMINTON	POOL TOURN. VOLLEYBALL	MOVIE DAY BADMINTON INDOOR SOCCER	2ND ANNUAL WINCE REUNION TOURN.		
27	28	29	30	31	AUGUST 1	2
POOL TOURN. VOLLEYBALL	BASKETBALL BADMINTON	PING PONG VOLLEYBALL	MOVIE DAY BADMINTON INDOOR SOCCER	BRAVES GAME		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT VOLLEYBALL	POOL VOLLEYBALL	BASKETBALL BADMINTON	MOVIE DAY BADMINTON VOLLEYBALL	LASER TAG US vs. ANOTHER TEEN CENTER		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT VOLLEYBALL	PING PONG BADMINTON	POOL TOURNAMENT VOLLEYBALL	MOVIE DAY BADMINTON INDOOR SOCCER	COSMIC BOWLING		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
CHAMPION ••• BASKETBALL	CHAMPION • PING PONG	CHAMPION • POOL	CHAMPION • PLAYSTATION	•••	POOL PARTY @ ST. LEDGER'S	

- Membership costs \$20. You may choose to pay \$1/daily.
- County staff members will handle renewals for 1997.
- We need adult volunteers. More activities are in the works.
- Please call Diane Hollander at 744-0882.

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On the road for over 20 years, Eddie Oswald makes a stop in Brandermill

By Janet Joyce
Staff Writer

Anyone who has ever met Eddie Oswald, becomes a candidate for one of his visits. Oswald, 77, never calls ahead; he just drops by but that is all right because he does not ask for much. He generally does not stay for more than a day. He will not sleep in anyone's guest room and usually will not even eat anyone's food. He just needs a place to park his home. That's right, his home. Oswald lives in a camper and for six months of each year, travels throughout the continental United States and Canada, dropping in on his large extended family along the way. This year, he dropped by Brandermill to visit the Joyces of Harbour Pointe.

Oswald has lived in a camper since selling his Tulsa, Okla. home and most of his possessions 20 years ago. Never married, he says he has no relatives other than a sister in Kansas but anyone Oswald meets along the way becomes part of his family. His philosophy is simple. He says, "I eat when I get hungry. I sleep when I get tired. I move when I feel like it, and I work when it's convenient and this time of the year it ain't convenient."

Oswald took the camper up to Clover Hill Elementary School where Jennifer, 8, and Jason Joyce, 6, are students. Their classmates came outside to meet him, see his home and talk about what living in a camper is

like. Jennie Joyce said, "Eddie's the perfect visitor because you don't have to clean up the guest room for him."

Oswald said, "This is my second camper. The first one had about 300,000 miles on it. This one will have nearly 200,000 by the time I finish traveling this summer. I go about 25,000 miles a year." His bed is above the driver's cab. The refrigerator, stove and heater operate on propane. A sign next to the gas tank reads, "I pay no rent, I mow no grass. I just feed this hungry monster gas."

Oswald tells a story of meeting a group of Jesuit priests in Alaska. One priest said, "Eddie, most people spend their time on earth living in such a way that they might find heaven when they die. I suspect you may have already found it."

A pattern maker by trade, Oswald parks the camper in the parking lot of Kloehr Pattern in Wagner, Okla. each winter. He tells his co-workers if the weather gets bad not to worry about opening up the place, that he'll take care of that since the office is right outside his front door.

Oswald says, "There are three reasons for workin' in the winter time. First of all, just to have something to do. You don't last long in a rocking

chair. Then between what I make working at Kloehr and the grey hair checks that go to the bank regularly every month, I'm able to live in the summertime the way I want to."

Oswald keeps a file of addresses but few city maps. He says, "I have the address of anyone I'd want to visit so when I get to a town, I go to a police station, a fire station or a real estate office to get directions. I don't have room for a map of every town I end up in." Oswald says firemen are far more receptive than policemen to requests for directions. This he figured out in Midlothian. "Just think about it," he

said, "firemen spend 98 percent of their time sitting around waiting for something to happen. They're darn glad to have someone to talk to."

Oswald prefers the side roads for the scenery and the fact that the people on them aren't in so much of a hurry. "I get on the expressways when I have to but I prefer the blue lines on the map—the lighter blue the better," he said.

He likes to spend the hottest times of the year in Canada. He says he has seen some beautiful scenery in North America but the people he meets are the best part of his journeys.

He sends Christmas cards to the



Photo by Janet Joyce
Eddie Oswald averages 25,000 miles each year in his signature camper.

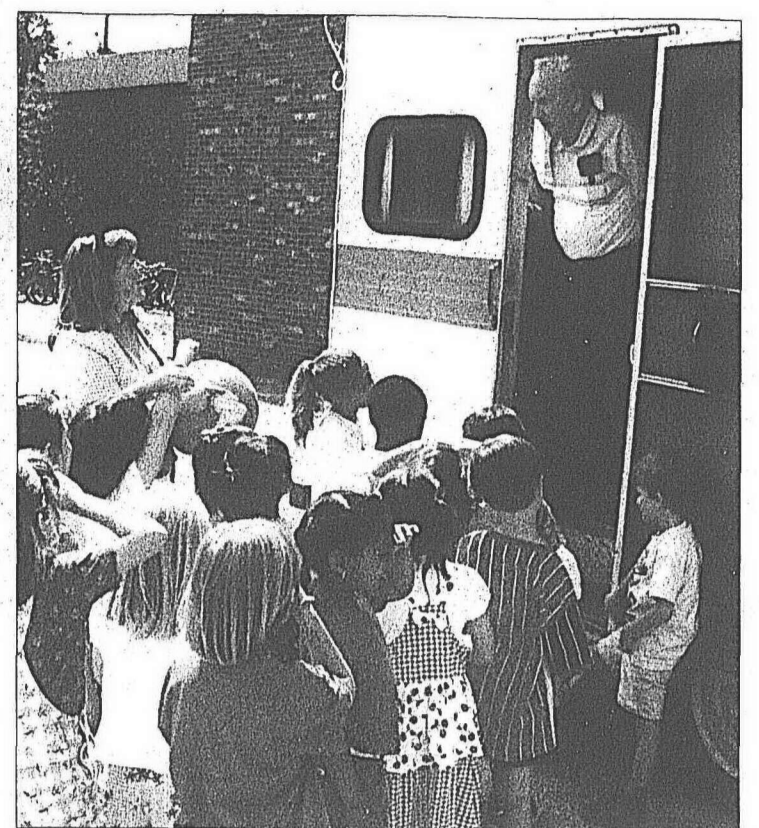


Photo by Janet Joyce
Eddie talks to children at Clover Hill Elementary School about his traveling experiences.

people he has met the previous summer and after that he sends a Christmas update letter to the people who wrote to him.

"If I wrote a separate letter to everyone I've ever met, I'd be doing nothing more than writing letters," he said.

On the back of the camper are painted the words, "Yep, it's Eddie." He says it will probably be two years before he gets back to this area, but of course, he's not promising. If anyone happens to see him, be sure to say hello. There might even be a Christmas card in it, as a result.

Meeko proves huskies are born to run

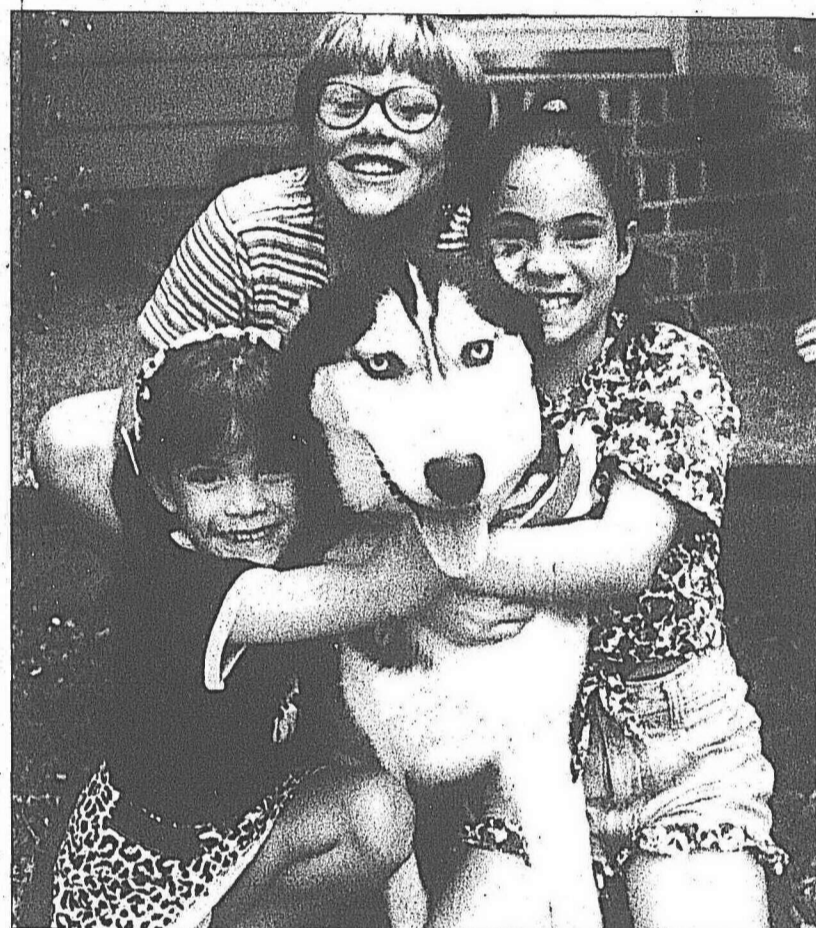


Photo by Kris Risendal

Chrissie Smith, Sarah Parrish and Jessica Smith hang on tight to Meeko.

By Kris Risendal
Staff Writer

An open door is an open invitation for any adventurous pooch to hit the high road and explore the grand outdoors. That's exactly what Meeko, a Siberian husky owned by Jeff Parrish of Seven Oaks, decided when he escaped from his new home several weeks ago.

"One of our kids left the door open and Meeko was gone," said Parrish.

"We had just moved here from Farmville and we were scheduled to leave that day for vacation. That's when Meeko's adventures began."

After posting signs, calling animal control, and searching neighborhoods, the Parrishes left for vacation late the evening Meeko disappeared. Meeko sightings cropped up, but one week later, Meeko was still lost. Parrish placed a classified ad in the "lost" section of The Village Mill. However, hoping for a happy ending, the staff

held onto his check.

Trying to cheer his glum children, Parrish brought home a shaggy mutt from the SPCA. "The dog bit my child and back he went, so now we were down two dogs," said Parrish.

Then came the first phone call. "I got a call from a woman who had seen one of our lost dog signs. She said someone near her home in the Nuttree subdivision had found a dog who looked just like Meeko," he said. Elated, the Parrishes waited by the phone for the good news that Meeko would be returned. Oops. Bad news. The woman had given the dog to a friend in Prince George County. However, the first night in his new home, Meeko took advantage of the open door policy and was on the run once more.

Again, the Parrishes alerted animal control, this time in Prince George County. Yet, Meeko's adventures had just begun. Yes, animal control officials knew about Meeko. A dog matching his description had spent 10 days with them at the shelter but had just been adopted.

"We couldn't believe it," laughs Parrish. "We would find Meeko only to lose him again, and again, and again."

Legally, the Parrishes were told they had to relinquish all rights to Meeko since he had been at the shelter for 10 days. "We weren't about to let that happen," said Parrish. With the help of the Hopewell police and a \$100 "thanks-for-giving-us-our-dog-back-fee," Meeko, after three adventurous weeks on the lam, finally returned home to Brandermill. A little tired, dirty and matted, Meeko seemed happy

to be back with his family again. Well, for several hours at least. "His first night home, Meeko bolted out our front door after one of my kids left it open," said Parrish. "I couldn't believe it. There I am chasing him down the street for almost a mile." Home once again, Meeko is enjoying his notoriety around his new neighborhood, basking in the love of his family, and catching his breath for his next great run.

"We would find Meeko only to lose him again, and again, and again."

Jeff Parrish

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"Cowgirls" is bound to jangle your spurs

By Wendy Parker
Managing Editor

What do you get when you book a classical music trio into a country western bar? A riproaring evening of foot-stompin' music, laughter and tears—all with a little touch of class. You also get untethered talent in the new musical "Cowgirls."

Six women stir up the stage playing classical and country—switching instruments as easily as a pair of spurs—and singing their hearts out.

Directed by Nancy Cates, the cast includes: Jan Guarino, Leanne Findell Lugo, Dee Lynch, Anne Kinnaman Rucker, Catherine Shaffner and Katy Strand.

Lugo, a professional violinist with the Richmond Symphony, takes the spotlight with her country western fiddle debut.

Don't miss Theatre IV's production of "Cowgirls" running through August 3 at the Oates Theater for the Arts at Collegiate School. For ticket information, call 741-7676.

Theatre IV is a nonprofit theatre.



Cowgirls, lettin' her rip from left, are: Dee Lynch, Katy Strand, Anne Kinnaman Rucker, Jan Guarino, Catherine Shaffner, and Leanne Findell Lugo. Photo by Eric Dobbs

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CHEF'S PANTRY

Virginia potatoes are hot for the summer

The new crop of Virginia potatoes has arrived at last. Virginia potatoes are not stored for long periods and are available only for the two months in which they are harvested. Shoppers will find them at the height of their flavor and quality from mid-June through early August.

Recently, limited quantities of yellow and red varieties have joined the well known Virginia white potato to give spud lovers some additional choices. Because of their firm, moist texture, they will hold their shape during cooking on top of the stove, in a microwave or a conventional oven. These thin-skinned new potatoes are ideal for baking, roasting, grilling, boiling, mashing and frying. They also fit deliciously into salads, soups, stews and casseroles.

In Virginia most potatoes are grown on the Eastern Shore in Accomack and Northampton Counties, and in the Pungo area of Virginia Beach. In these locations, the relatively mild temperatures and sandy soil create an ideal growing environment.

Potato Salad Cha Cha Cha

- 1-1/3 pounds (approx. six) Virginia potatoes, cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- Lime Vinaigrette (recipe follows)
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, thoroughly rinsed and drained
- 1 can (7 ounces) vacuum packed whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 cup diced tomatoes
- 1/2 cup sliced green onions

In a 3-quart saucepan cook potatoes, covered, in 2 inches boiling water 10 to 12 minutes, just until tender. Drain and cool. Meanwhile, prepare lime vinaigrette. Add potatoes and remaining ingredients to vinaigrette. Toss gently to mix thoroughly.

Lime vinaigrette

- In a large bowl whisk:
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2-1/2 tablespoons bottled or fresh lime juice
- 1-1/2 tablespoons bottled mild jalapeno sauce*
- 1-1/2 teaspoons chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

*If preferred, substitute 1 to 1-1/2 teaspoons hot pepper sauce and 1-1/2 tablespoons water for the jalapeno sauce.

Nutritional information per serving: 222 calories; 7 g fat; 0 mg cholesterol; 700 mg sodium; 38 g carbohydrate; 6 g fiber; 6 g protein.

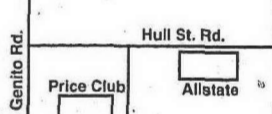
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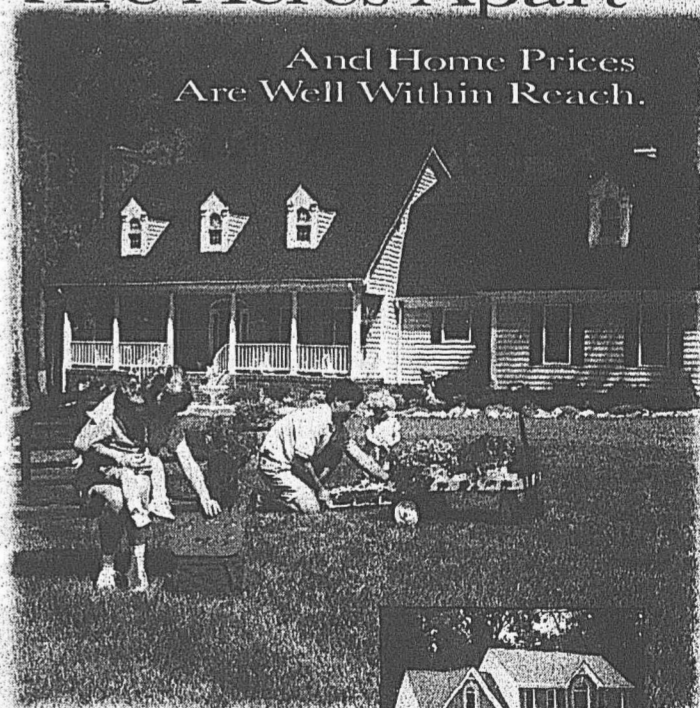


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STAR (Students Troubles Are Resolved) program shines at SCMS

By Linda Burns
Assistant Editor

Swift Creek Middle School has many star pupils but only 30 STAR students. What differentiates these two groups is a program by the same name, STAR, Students Troubles Are Resolved.



STAR is a conflict mediation and peer facilitation program based on the premise that students are responsible people capable of solving conflicts that interfere with the school environment. This peer-driven program is practiced nationwide at middle and high school levels.

STAR students are trained in conflict mediation skills. They receive hours of training before they are qualified to conduct mediations. They must be able to listen, communicate and facilitate problem solving with their peers. Kathryn Geranios, coordinator of STAR at Swift Creek Middle School says, "STAR students are role models in the school who have contributed to a positive school environment." They are chosen by their peers and teachers because they have demonstrated leadership, respect for others, fairness, trustworthiness and confidentiality. As peer facilitators, STAR mediators exemplify enthusiasm, dedication and caring for other students.

In its fourth year at SCMS, STAR is available to students who are having problems with classmates and want to resolve their differences. The kinds of conflicts most commonly referred to STAR include: name calling, rumors, misunderstandings between friends, disagreements over property ownership, and arguments that have become disruptive in class but have not escalated to a physical confrontation.

Conflict resolution can be requested by a student, teacher or an administrator. Requests for mediation are submitted to the STAR box located outside the guidance office. The parties are then contacted by an adult co-

ordinator, and if all parties agree, the mediation process is initiated.

Geranios says, "STARs are trained facilitators in the problem-solving process but they do not solve the problems themselves. STAR students defuse emotionally charged problems between two or more persons, help disputants listen to each other's point of view, validate each person's per-

spective, and help the parties come to a workable agreement." The STAR option is completely voluntary; if a student involved in a conflict does not wish to participate in the mediation process, he or she is not pressured into doing so. According to Geranios, the STAR program was a success this past school year with approximately 50 referrals that resulted in over 30 confi-

dential mediations. Mediations typically involve two STAR students with a teacher observer.

STAR students' visibility in school extends beyond their conflict mediation responsibilities. They are actively involved in service projects and school events throughout the year.

See STARs on page 11



STAR students learn the effects of a web in communicating.

Photo by Linda Burns

1996-1997 Swift Creek Middle School Awards

Michelle Kao Award for Academic Excellence

Michelle Kao 8th Grade Awards:

Humanitarian Award

Exceptional Awards:

- Science
- Academics
- Orchestra
- Geometry
- Foreign Language
- Art
- Writing

Presidential Scholar Award for Straight A's (1994-1997)

Principal's Award

VFW Essay Competition Award

Straight A's for 1996-1997 Year

Departmental Awards:

- English
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- Science
- Art
- French
- Latin
- Spanish
- German
- Physical Education

Work and Family Studies

- Technical Education
- National Latin Exam
- Nat'l Scholastic Writing

Health & Physical Education

Home Studies

Team Awards

8th Grade

Emily Greene

Chia-Shing Yang
Chia-Shing Yang
Keith Bachmann
Nicki Baran
Andrea Canerossi
Karen Wolfe
Erin Maloney

Chia-Shing Yang
Keith Bachmann
Chia-Shing Yang
Nicki Baran
Karen Zatkulak

Chia-Shing Yang
Chia-Shing Yang
Lauren Young
Nicki Baran
Mark Delboy
Cari Tusing
Megan Rohas
Lauren Young
Brandi Dickenson
Emily Cuenin
Jay Gagnani
Emily Cuenin
Jay Gagnani
Andrea Canerossi
Cari Tusing
Erin Maloney

7th Grade

Jacob Chenathara

Jacob Chenathara
Nicole Hoagland
Kate Walters
Jeremy Weiner

Ryan Phelps

Elisa Bailey

Brooke Bredel
Herman Demmink

Sho Mayumi
Caitlin Dunham
Christine Pearce

6th Grade

Ashley Mehrer

Allison Bailey
Jennifer Groome
Silpa Kaza
Ashley Mehrer

Kiri Thompson

Andy Macheck
Brittany Lang
Kristen Deckert
Erin Modena
Lauren Carpenter
Allison Bailey
Jennifer Groome



SCES is site for new center-based gifted program

By Janet Joyce
Staff Writer

Swift Creek Elementary School will be the location of Chesterfield County's newest center-based program for elementary level gifted and talented students. The program is scheduled to open with one third-grade and one or two fourth-grade classes in the fall of 1997.

SCES Principal Don Bechtel said, "The majority of school systems throughout the country with a program for gifted children offer a pull-out program for up to several hours a week so the center-based gifted option goes far beyond that. I see the CBG as a model program for gifted youngsters."

The center-based gifted program will accommodate students from 11 feeder schools including CHES which is the home school for the portions of Brandermill not zoned for SCES.

"Placing the center-based gifted program at SCES was done geographically so it could be easily accessed by the other 10 schools. I see it as one more option parents have for their bright children. These kids learn rapidly and they are bored with repetition. This program offers them the opportunity to tenaciously pursue areas that interest them," Bechtel said.

To qualify for the program, students are evaluated in several areas and must demonstrate very superior ability and performance for their grade level in language arts and mathematics. Once identified as gifted, they can choose the center-based program or they can stay at their home schools and be placed in cluster groups of gifted students within regular classrooms.

At a May 23 meeting at SCES, more than 40 eligible students and their parents toured the school and learned more about center-based gifted programs from the teachers at the Hening Elementary School center-based gifted program. "Students who participate in the CBG program enjoy the challenge of the work, the faster pace, the interaction with others of similar abilities, and the freedom to be themselves," said Kathy Rector who teaches fourth-grade gifted students at Hening.

Bechtel noted that although the gifted students will be kept in class together, they will share other activities with the rest of the school and utilize the staff for resource classes such as music and art. He said he hopes they will quickly identify themselves with Swift Creek Elementary School and not feel singled out. "Our plan is to

integrate children from 10 other schools into the greater whole of SCES. It will be a nice give and take from which we'll all benefit," he said.

Working with Cathy Glenn, instructional specialist for gifted education for the Chesterfield County Public Schools, Bechtel has already hired two of the teachers. The third-grade

teacher is Ann Zyglocke who taught at Davis Elementary this past year. Zyglocke has experience working with gifted children and has served on several county committees concerning gifted education. The fourth-grade teacher is David Copsmith who taught at Harrowgate Elementary this past year. Glenn says that Copsmith will add a great deal of expertise in the area of technology to the team of gifted

teachers and that like Zyglocke, has a great amount of creativity and enthusiasm for the program. All teachers in the program are required to acquire a minimum of 12 hours of course work in gifted and talented education.

There are presently two other elementary school center-based gifted programs in the county: the one at Hening and one at Marguerite Christian Elementary School.



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WWII veterans enlighten students at CHHS

By Jim Alberston
Guest Correspondent

Recently seven guest speakers spoke at the Chesterfield County Math and Science School at Clover Hill High School on the Impact of Technology in War.

Brandermill residents George Rodericks and Bob Young, both World War II veterans, explained to the 100 students what war was like for them. The veterans spoke about the horrors of war and how improved technology made warfare more lethal.

James O. Tyler, a World War II pilot from Petersburg who served with honor in North Africa, described the technology that pilots used and how he was able to shoot down eight enemy planes.

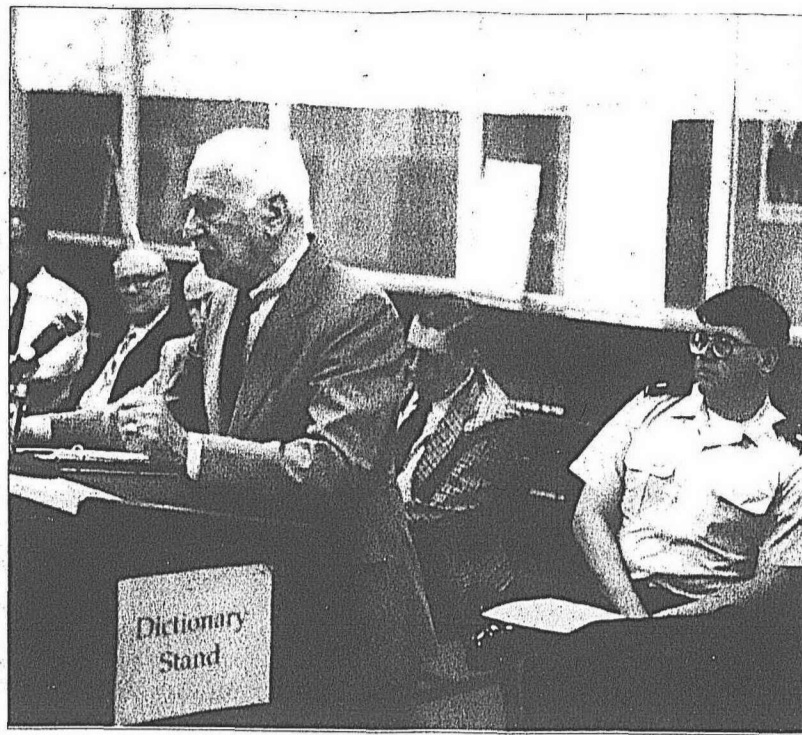
John Squires mentioned how his experiences in the Army ground troops were very different from those who flew in the air. Squires stated that great cooperation and coordination of all the branches of the Armed Forces was vital for the final victory in 1945. Squires also served in Korea and Vietnam.

Doug Cutter of Chippenham Sports Medicine discussed how medical technology in war has changed in a dramatic way. Cutter also pointed out that the fire power in today's weapons are much more deadly.

Bill Jones and Brandermill resident Steve Goins both said that since Vietnam, America's role in keeping the world safe has meant that American military personnel are sent to places like Bosnia and Saudi Arabia. Jones recently came back from Bosnia and compared the new technology of the Air Force to his slide rule days years ago while in college.

Goins, a veteran of Desert Storm, contrasted the logistics and computer technology that he used to that which was used in 1941 in western Europe during WWII.

For many of the students who participated in the seminar, history came alive because of the candor, enthusiasm and humor of the guest speakers. Several students remarked that they would make a special effort to communicate with their own grandfathers who served in World War II to learn more about their role in the great war.



George Rodericks of Quail Hill talks about war to math and science school students at CHHS.

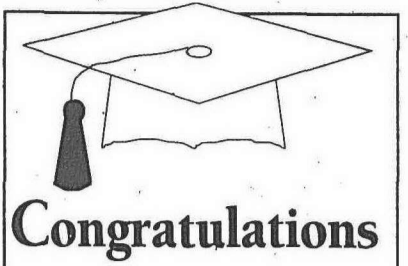
STARS

Continued from page 10.

The goal of STAR is five-fold: to improve the school environment; to resolve minor disputes that interfere with academics; to build communication; to practice life-long skills such as listening, communicating and problem solving; and to be an alternative to discipline by having students solve their conflicts before the problems intensify and become office referrals.

STAR students elected and trained for the 1997-1998 school year are rising seventh-graders: Heather Alexander, Nathan Barnes, Rebecca Bourn, Dan Britt, Stewart Burns, Kari Detwiler, Marley Dickinson, Kyle McEwen, Brittany Robertson, Jamie Shepherd, and Joshua Willis; and eighth-graders, Genneh Armstrong, Megan Armstrong, Josh Bartlam, Meghan Bernier, David Britts, Rachel Clayton, David Fortin, Jennifer Jost, Sara Kistler, Jeanne Marsh, Daniel Miles, Erin Moore, Christine Pearce, Jan Pinkston, Erica Strine, David Taylor, Sarah Tolson, Heather Torpey, and Stephen Walker.

Geranios feels the STAR program has enduring benefits for all its participants. She says, "I believe the STAR program's greatness is that the practice of interpersonal skills has become life-affirming for the students and positive for the school."



Congratulations

Valedictorian
Jennifer Barto
and
Salutatorian
Elaine Wilkinson

Clover Hill
High School
Class of 1997

Clover Hill High School hosts British educators

By Brad Gunton
School Correspondent

Two teachers from John Leggott College in Scunthorpe, England have traveled to Clover Hill High School to observe the American style of education.

Jane Dowd and David Linnell, who made the trip in late May, were part of an ongoing exchange program between the two schools. The program was initiated in January, when CHHS principal Jacqueline Wilson visited John Leggott.

The itinerary for this trip included visits to VCU and Williamsburg, in addition to sitting in on many classes at CHHS. One of their main goals was to assess how CHHS would handle the British students that will arrive next year as part of the exchange program.

"I think culturally our students can learn a lot from this exchange," Dowd said. "And it will be interesting for American students to look at students

from an English educational system."

Both teachers came away with an excellent impression of CHHS, due to the help of both staff and students. Linnell in particular was impressed by the numerous differences between Clover Hill and John Leggott, especially the camaraderie he noticed among students when he attended the senior banquet.

"In the UK, students might not go to the same middle or high school, so they don't finish together and the bonds aren't as strong," Linnell said. Other CHHS characteristics that surprised Linnell were the early starting time, the more rigid schedule requirements and the different exam policy. In England, students across the country are given a uniform exam for each subject, whereas in America the exams vary from teacher to teacher.

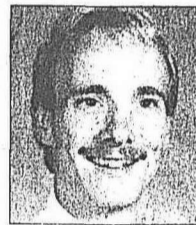
Dowd also found several noticeable differences, such as the fact that in England, students address teachers by their first names and are given the choice whether or not to continue with school at an earlier age. However, she believes that these cultural differences will only make for a more interesting experience when British students travel to Clover Hill High School next fall.



Christopher Averill reads for College Board exams

Christopher A. Averill of Clover Hill High School was selected to participate this June in the annual reading and scoring of the College Board's Advanced Placement Examinations in United States history.

sultants from high schools and universities across North America.



Chris Averill

Each year the AP program, sponsored by the College Board, gives thousands of capable high school students an opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses and examinations and, based on their exam performance, to receive credit and/or advanced placement when they enter college.

More than 900,000 examinations in 18 disciplines were evaluated by almost 3,600 faculty con-

The reading draws upon the talents of some of the finest teachers and professors that America has to offer," said Dr. Wade Curry, AP Program Director at the College Board. "It fosters professionalism, allows for the exchange of ideas and strengthens the commitment to students and to teaching. We are very grateful for the contributions of talented educators like Mr. Averill."

Intercultural award goes to CHHS

Clover Hill High School has been selected as one of the high schools nationwide to receive the School of the Year Award presented by EF Foundation for Foreign Study, a nonprofit organization that promotes intercultural understanding through high school student exchange.

Each year, EF Foundation brings over 3,000 high school foreign exchange students from around the world to discover the "real America" by living with volunteer host families and attending local high schools. Of those students two attended CHHS for the 1996-1997 academic school year.

Darlene Pantaleo, the local International Exchange Coordinator, nominated Clover Hill High School to receive the annual award. The administration, teachers and students have been incredibly supportive of our program and welcomed the exchange students," Pantaleo said. "We are presenting Clover Hill High School with this award as a gesture of our thanks."

Only 100 secondary schools were chosen from a pool of over 2,000 participating schools across the country.

Guidance Coordinator Horace Wooldridge will be given special recognition for outstanding involvement with the foreign students in the school.

Pantaleo went on to say that all EF Foundation students are fully insured and bring their own spending money. Host families provide only room, board and a caring environment.

Many students will be arriving in August, eager to become part of an American family and to teach their new parents and siblings about their native culture. Pantaleo explained that now is the best time to choose a student, so that the host family and the student can get to know each other through letters in the coming months. "That way, you'll feel like a family by the time you meet in the fall."

To find out more about hosting an exchange student, call Darlene Pantaleo at 745-2493. Or call EF Foundation toll-free at 1-800-44-SHARE.

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College Credit

Amelia A. Armstrong, daughter of Barbara and Carl Armstrong of Fortune's Ridge Road, has been named to the Merit List at Kenyon College for the 1996-1997 academic year.



Amelia Armstrong

To be eligible for Merit List recognition, a student must earn a grade-point average of at least 3.45 on the college's 4-point grading scale.

Armstrong recently completed her sophomore year at Kenyon, a private liberal arts college in central Ohio.

Melissa Malek, daughter of Bob and Judy Malek of Timber Ridge, received a master's degree in business administration from the Darden School at the University of Virginia on May 18. In August she will begin work at Smith Barney Inc. as an investment banking associate.



Melissa Malek

Melissa gained experience for this position by interning for Smith Barney last summer and as a consultant to a regional health authority in New Zealand during spring break. She received her undergraduate degree from the McIntire School of Commerce at UVA in 1993.

This is the fourth degree from UVA for the Malek family. Her brother Chris received his undergraduate and master's degree in electrical engineering and is currently working on a research project at Cal Tech University in Pasadena, Calif.

Three CHHS students go to Governor's School

By Harriet Coppins
Copy Editor

The Governor's School for the Gifted is designed to provide intellectually challenging and enriching experiences for a limited number of talented students in Virginia. This year three Clover Hill High School students from Brandermill were selected to attend the school this summer.

Jennifer Kendler of Walker's Ferry Road was selected for visual arts.

Rainey Lacey of Timber Ridge Road and Jennifer Whitaker of Nuttree Woods Drive were chosen for dance.

David Rauschberg was selected as an alternate in academics. (See Boys State story on same page.)



Jennifer Kendler

She is enrolled in honors art 5, computer graphics and will undertake independent study in honors photography in her senior year.

Rainey Lacey attends the Math and Science School at Clover Hill High School.



Rainey Lacey

Lacey has been involved in dance for 13 years and has been selected the choreographer for the fall production of New Dimensions Showchoir at the school.

Lacey has been active in drama for five years and forensics for two. She has played softball as the first baseman for six years and basketball for three.



Jennifer Whitaker

Whitaker is trained in ballet, jazz and modern dance. She has been a member of National Piano Guild for 10 years.

CHHS juniors attend Boys State this summer

By Harriet Coppins
Copy Editor

Four Clover Hill High School juniors from Brandermill attended the American Legion-sponsored Boys State at Liberty University in Lynchburg from June 15 to June 21.

Ryan Abresch of Sagebrook Road is a member of National Honor Society and belongs to French Club and DECA. In 1996, he was named one of the Outstanding Youth of Chesterfield County.

Abresch participates in both indoor and outdoor track. He is a fullback on the football team and was named to the All Academic Team. Abresch appears in the 1997 edition of "Who's Who in High School Sports." He also has a part-time job at

Diplomats Program hosts CHHS students

By Harriet Coppins
Copy Editor

Brandermill residents Ashley King

and Andrew Sitrer have been selected to participate in the High School Diplomats Program. King, an 11th-grader at Clover Hill High School, is in the second phase of the program. She participated in the Princeton University program last summer and will spend this summer in Japan as a representative of the High School Diplomats.

King, a resident of Turtle Hill, is president of the Japanese Club and a member of National Honor Society and Japanese Honor Society. She was named the 1997 Volunteer of the Year at Johnston-Willis Hospital. King also participates in martial arts.

Andrew Sitrer of Shadow Ridge has been chosen to participate in the first phase of the High School Diplomats program. Sitrer, a 10th-grader, will attend Princeton University this summer and live with a student from Japan.

King, a resident of Turtle Hill, is president of the Japanese Club and a member of National Honor Society and Japanese Honor Society. She was named the 1997 Volunteer of the Year at Johnston-Willis Hospital. King also participates in martial arts.



Andrew Sitrer

King, a resident of Turtle Hill, is president of the Japanese Club and a member of National Honor Society and Japanese Honor Society. She was named the 1997 Volunteer of the Year at Johnston-Willis Hospital. King also participates in martial arts.

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Aaron Bachman of Birnam Woods Drive is a student at the Math and Science School and recently won first prize for his botany project at the Virginia Junior Academy of Science. Bachman belongs to the Math, Science and Drama Clubs. He is also active in Boy Scout Troop 890.

David Rauschberg of Old Fox Trail is a student at the Math and Science School and a member of National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society and Mathematics Honor Society. He belongs to Spanish Club, Students Against Drunk Driving, Key Club, and Math Club. He is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students" and received the West Point Leadership



Aaron Bachman

Award for all-round excellence. Rauschberg, a starter on the Clover Hill Tennis Team, has been selected co-most valuable player. He was also named to the All District All Academic and All Region All Academic teams.

Rauschberg was appointed an alternate to the 1997 Summer Governor's School. He is an assistant teacher at Congregation Beth Ahaba.

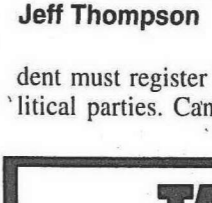
Jeff Thompson of Watch Harbour Road was named to the Distinguished Honor Roll and is a member of Math Club, Science Club, French Club, and Students Against Drunk Driving. Thompson has been on the freshmen, junior varsity and varsity football teams. He received an honorable mention on the Team All District and was named



David Rauschberg

to the All District All Academic team. Thompson also played junior varsity baseball and wrestled for both the junior varsity and varsity teams. He participated in track and field as a shot putter and discus thrower and was on the Academic All District Team. During the summer, Thompson is a life-guard at Harbour Pointe pool.

The goals of Boys State are to provide citizenship training to high school students. These goals are accomplished by assigning participants to a "city" of which they become "residents." Each 60 "residents" constitute the "state" and each resident must register in one of two political parties. Candidates are nomi-

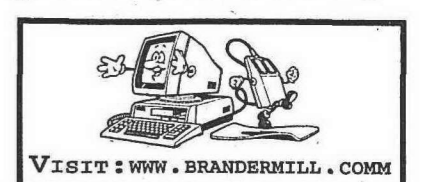


Jeff Thompson

nated for a variety of offices and all elections are conducted in accordance with the laws of the commonwealth. The climax of the week is the inauguration of a "governor."

The participating students must first be recommended by their teachers; then a faculty committee makes the final selection based on leadership, initiative, honesty, physical fitness and scholarship.

The American Legion of Virginia has sponsored this program every year since the inception of Boys State in 1939. The legion covers all the expenses of the participants and members work as volunteers at Boys State while members of the American Legion Auxiliary work at Girls State.



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Lions Club tourney hooks 76 fishing enthusiasts



Eager fishermen line up on Swift Creek Reservoir ready for the annual Lions Club Bass Tournament.

Photo by Dick Ess

By Bruce Johnson
Guest Correspondent

Cloudy weather but good fishing conditions greeted a 76-person entry field on Saturday, June 7 in the Eighth Annual Brandermill Lions Club Bass Tournament.

Over 120 pounds of large-mouth bass were weighed in with the largest fish weighing almost six pounds. All the fish were released back into the Swift Creek Reservoir, the site of the annual tournament.

Twenty-seven of the 38 teams weighed in two or more fish 12 inches or more.

First place honors went to the team of Robert Harlow and Charles Seymour who had a four fish total of 12.1 pounds.

The largest fish was caught by Darrell Hobson and weighed 5.9 pounds.

Harlow and Seymour won \$475 for first place in the heaviest four-fish category. Hobson won \$95 for catching the largest fish.

Second place finishers Sam Jennings and Mike Resch, pocketed \$238 with 11.6 pounds total including a 5.4 pound fish that placed second in the largest fish category.

Ricky Farr and Jeff Ball placed third and won \$95 for their catch of 8.8 pounds. Ricky Farr was on a team in 1996 that came in second place.

The fourth place award of \$48 went to John Holden and Steve Gentil with 8.6 pounds of bass. John Holden is the former tournament director.

All proceeds from the Lions Club tournament go to aid the sight and hearing impaired in the area.



BCA Board member John Hughes weighs in a catch with assistance from tournament director Bruce Johnson.

Photo by Dick Ess

SCMS soccer team takes first place



The 1997 Championship Soccer Team from Swift Creek Middle School celebrates its winning season at the Woodlake Pavilion.

Photo by Lynn Fisher

By Linda Burns
Assistant Editor

The girls soccer team from Swift Creek Middle School ran away with a spectacular season and had two reasons for celebration. For the first time in the school's history, the Sailors had the best record for the regular season and the championships.

A winning season which netted 12 wins, 0 losses and one tie gave the Sailors a victory against their arch rival, the Mustangs from Midlothian Middle School.

The victory over Midlothian was doubly rewarding for the Sailors. Not only did they beat a formidable opponent, they brought to a halt Midlothian's 64-game winning streak.

The members of the 1997 girls soccer team include: Lyndsey Lubking, Kimi McDonough, Emily Renkin, Liz Rhodes, Brooke Bredel, Rachel Clayton, Jeanne Marsh, Lyndsey McCaskey, Meghan McDougal, Lauren Nofzinger, Kristen Pallotta, Stacy Piehl, Nicole Plaskon, Erin Pollak, Meghan Smith, Jenna

Sommer, Claire Zitzow, Liz Clarke, Stacy Dunn, Cori Fisher, Ashleigh Harrison, Amy O'Toole, Caroline Renkin, Amy Roberts, Hallie Yeager and Kim Zitzow.

Classified Ads Pay

Swift Creek Football Registration

By Kris Risendal
Staff Writer

Are you ready for some football? Registration for Swift Creek Athletic Association football is being held now for the fall season.

Practice begins Saturday, August 9 to prepare the players for another competitive season.

According to Bob Herald of Cove Ridge, president of the SCAA, Swift Creek football has enjoyed enormous success during the past several years.

In the 12- and 13-year-old division of the Chesterfield Quarterback league, players have participated in the county super bowl three out of the last four years, and were super bowl champions in 1994. Last year's 12-10 loss in the super bowl has only pumped the players for the big win in 1997.

Anyone interested in playing football can call Herald at 744-9370 or Greg DeFrancesco, the Swift Creek football director, at 744-2288.

Sailing Club offers lessons to members

The Brandermill Sailing Club is planning to offer sailing classes this summer.

They are open to all registered members of the club and should be a strong incentive for nonmembers to join. The course is for beginners and will consist of two classroom sessions and two on-the-water sessions.

The course is described as a "how to" series with emphasis on boating safety and basic sailing skills.

Those taking the course will use reading material entitled "Start Sailing Right" produced by the United States Sailing Association and the American Red Cross.

Novices must provide their own boats for sessions on the water. Anyone without access to a boat may call Don Haller at 285-3748.

Preregistration is a must. Call Don Haller at 285-3748 or Graham Henderson at 739-4505.

Sailing Lessons

Thursday, July 17 at 7:30 p.m.
Location to be announced

Saturday, July 19 • 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sunday Park boat ramp

Thursday, July 24 at 7:30 p.m.
Location to be announced

Saturday, July 26 • 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sunday Park boat ramp

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Outstanding Selling Agents



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Career Tracks

Janet Smith-St. Cyr, a new resident of Rockport Landing, joined First Congregational Christian United Church of Christ as its new pastor.

Virginia Ritter of Muirfield Green has been promoted to senior associate status by Slater Realtors. Ritter was recognized for outstanding sales performance, dedication, and longevity with the firm. She celebrates her 20th year as an associate broker in real estate.

Hickory Nut Point resident Bettie Curry, associate broker with Re/Max Commonwealth Group, has been awarded the Accredited Buyer Representative designation by the Real Estate Buyer's Agent Council of the National Association of Realtors.

Liz Kirchner of Winterberry Ridge has joined East West Realty as a sales executive. Kirchner specializes in the resale of homes in Brandermill and Woodlake.

Pamela Masters of McTyre's Cove and Georgie Thompson of Watch Harbour are participating in the Partners in the Arts Summer Institute sponsored by the Arts Council and the University of Richmond graduate school. Masters is a library media specialist at Falling Creek Middle School and Thompson teaches elementary school art in Powhatan County.

Diana Ragsdale, IADA, of Heritage Woods recently received her certification in interior arrangement and design. Ragsdale specializes in using existing furnishings and accessories to create a new look for clients.



Janet Smith-St. Cyr



Virginia Ritter



Bettie Curry



Liz Kirchner

Genito Station laundry service opens



Sharon Pennington is looking forward to working with her Brandermill neighbors.

By Harriet Coppins
Copy Editor

There is now a solution available for people who hate to do laundry.

Sharon Pennington has opened Lovin' Laundry, this area's first wash, dry, fold and hang laundry service in Genito Station.

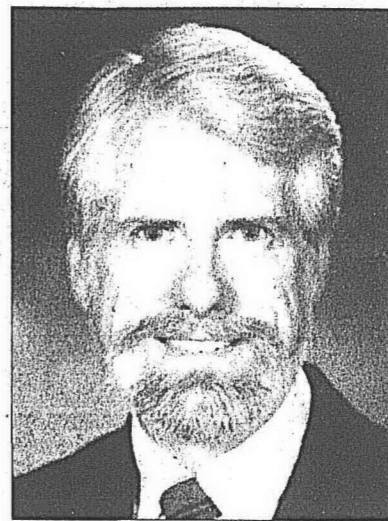
Drop off and pick up service is based on the weight of the items to be laundered. The washers and dryers in the store are brand new and Pennington says she treats the laundry as though it were her own with her mother checking up on her.

Free pick-up and delivery is available on laundry weighing 15 pounds and over. There is also ironing on the premises at a low cost. The store hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon; and closed on Sunday. The phone number is 763-2441.

Sharon and Steve Pennington have lived in Deer Meadow for three years. They are the parents of 5-year-old Steven Roy II.

Photo by Janet Joyce

Dr. David Berry joins Brandermill practice



Dr. David E. Berry

By Harriet Coppins
Copy Editor

Dr. David E. Berry joined the staff of Chesterfield Pediatrics, P.C. in July and is in practice with Dr. J. Thomas Bones and Dana Kleinschuster, PNP.

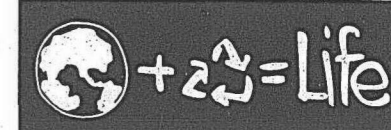
A native of West Virginia, Dr. Berry earned a bachelor of art's degree at Duke University and went on to receive a master of science degree in pharmacology at the Medical College of Virginia. He also received a doctor of philosophy degree in bio-

chemistry at the same university. He then became a research fellow at Temple University and an instructor and fellow at the Medical College of Virginia. Before returning to medical school, Dr. Berry had been a research group leader in pharmaceuticals for eight years.

He then attended the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa. After another stint with a pharmaceutical company, Dr. Berry decided to pursue a career in pediatrics and completed his internship and residency at the Medical College of Virginia in June of this year.

Dr. Berry was also a special consultant to the medical staff at Children's Hospital, a lecturer at the New Kent County schools and an acute care physician in the child and adolescent emergency department at the Medical College of Virginia.

A resident of the area for several years, Dr. Berry is married and the father of three children.



Ellis is new law associate

Bourdow & Bowen, P.C. has announced that Mary D. Ellis joined the firm as an associate attorney.

Ellis is a native of Chesterfield County and a member of the Chesterfield County Democratic Committee. She received her bachelor of art's degree from Roanoke College and her juris doctorate from Dickinson School of Law.

Her practice is primarily wills, trusts, estates, tax and business law.

The law firm, consisting of attorneys Carolyn A. H. Bourdow, Michael G. Bowen, Richard D. Harris, Felicia C. Russell, Ellis and six staff members, has been in Brandermill for more than 10 years.

The firm is engaged in the general practice of law with an emphasis on business law, tax, trusts and estates, wills, criminal and domestic relations.



Mary D. Ellis

The office is located in the Brandermill Executive Center, 5104 West Village Green Drive.

County reports growth spurt

The Chesterfield County Economic Development Department recently reported commercial and industrial trends from 1994 to 1997.

In the past three years, more than 11,594 new jobs have been added to the employment base.

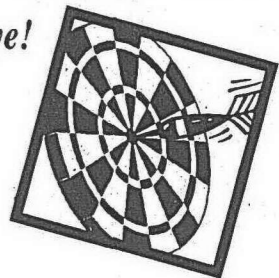
There were 450 more firms and establishments located in the county in 1996 than in 1993.

Since January 1994, a total of more than \$337.41 million of new investment in commercial and industrial projects has been announced. These projects included more than 3,051 new jobs and more than 2.8 million square feet of space.

Also since 1994, more than \$144.5 million of new commercial and industrial real estate has been added to Chesterfield's tax base.

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Pence-Oldsmobile

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378-0255

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Manager: James Vaughan



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Pence-Subaru

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378-0215

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378-0250

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Manager: James Vaughan



Pence-Chrysler Plymouth-Dodge

#1 Highway, Ashland
798-6071

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30 cents per word. \$3 minimum. All classified advertising must be prepaid. Deadline for the August issue is August 4 at 12 noon. No phone-ins. Please mail or drop off.

Yard Sale
Saturday, August 2, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Teen Center sponsoring 10 spaces only in Market Square. 1st 10 received will be allowed in yard sale. Send \$15 to the BCA, 3001 E. Boundary Terrace, Midlothian, Va. 23112.

Lost
Black Kitten, 10 weeks old. Lost in Genito Crossing Shopping Center. Reward, 744-8428.

Wanted
Someone to donate a microwave oven to the teen center. Call Jo Owens at 744-7167.

For Sale

Homesite for Sale
One of the Last Lots in Brandermill!
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Tutoring elementary-aged children. Learning Disabilities Teacher-emphasis on phonics. Call Adrienne Strandberg (Brandermill) 763-4718.
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Kids Job Bank
Youngsters under 18 may advertise free. Write your service and phone number in 12 words or less and drop off at 3001 E. Boundary Terrace.
Math tutoring elementary, middle, or high school. Call senior calculus student Gavin 744-2372.
12-year-old will care for your child after school. YMCA certified. Brandermill only. 744-2582.
Mature young man available for babysitting. Please call 639-1052.
Responsible teenager for sitting Honors student. Call Ashley at 744-8210.
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Watershed

Continued from page 1.

county staff suggests the planning commission recommend to the board of supervisors:

- Adoption of the watershed management plan as official county policy.
- Adoption of the amendment to the Upper Swift Creek Ordinance changing the phosphorus standard for new residential uses from 0.44 to 0.22 pounds per acre per year.
- Development of a regional BMP master plan that includes funding strategies.
- Require the board of supervisors to review the in-lake phosphorus concentration levels and monitoring data every three years to determine the effectiveness of the plan.

Salvati presented options for the county to fund the cost of supporting stricter phosphorus levels. Many questions have been raised such as: shouldn't Brandermill and Woodlake be retrofitted with BMPs? and who will cover the costs? These questions will be explored in next month's article.

Manager's Desk

Continued from page 2.

it was "our low assessments" that attracted homeowners to Brandermill. If that were true, then why are Brandermill's resale values slipping?

Last of all, when we compared the proposed increase in the assessments to implement the plan with the assessments of seven other planned communities (including recreational fees), Brandermill was still second lowest. Think of Brandermill 20/20 in another way. If this plan can help regain that lost 2 percent in your property's value, it just paid for what the plan will cost you over the next 10 years.

There will be more meetings about Brandermill 20/20 in July, August and September. Please try to attend. When you evaluate the proposed plan, keep an open mind and ask questions. For the record, 73 percent of the exit surveys taken from the first two meetings support the plan. After the June 11 presentation of the plan, several residents approached members of the BCA Strategic Planning Committee and said that they had come to the meeting adamantly opposed to the plan. However, when they had the chance to listen to the entire presentation and ask questions, they left as enthusiastic supporters of the Brandermill 20/20 plan.

Well, that is the challenge. From my perspective, I have evaluated the plan and this time, I can find more than one reason why this Plan should be supported. I hope you will, too.

The BCA Board will consider the Brandermill 20/20 plan at the July board meeting. Pending its decision, a vote by the membership could come as early as this fall.

Renters

Continued from page 2.

state statutes and rental forms.

The controlling statute is the Virginia Residential Landlord-Tenant Act. This act covers everything from landlord obligations, tenant obligations, notice periods, deposits and eviction information. If you are a landlord, you have no business renting property until you have familiarized yourself with this act. The other tool, forms, includes not only the lease, but deposit forms, applications, and in the case of Brandermill, a copy of the covenants and design standards. The lease should specifically state that the tenant is responsible for adhering to BCA covenants and restrictions and any charges assessed by the BCA for violations are the responsibility of the lessee.

Another problem that often leads to covenant violations is that of the absentee landlord. As you can imagine, getting a yard mowed or deck repaired is not taken care of quickly when a letter must be sent to Arizona or Maine. Some property owners may have contracted with property managers to look after their homes. This is a good idea and one that I would recommend, but I would also recommend providing the BCA with this information. If this department had a list of property managers and the properties they are responsible for, it would shorten the times for notice and compliance.

Education is probably the most important facet of planned unit development living. Everyone who crosses Brandermill's thresholds needs to be fully educated as to what it means to live here. Landlords and property managers should feel a duty to review the documents with all tenants.

A look at the big picture reveals that properties deteriorate for a number of reasons: shoddy construction, foreclosures, and relaxed standards by lending institutions to make mortgages available to individuals with little disposable income for repairs. It is about much more than Star-Belly or Plain-Belly Sneetches or who rents and who owns.



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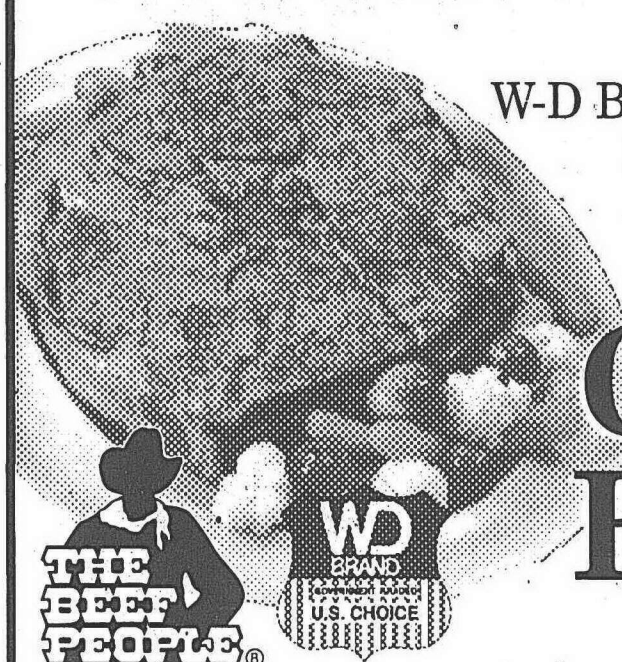
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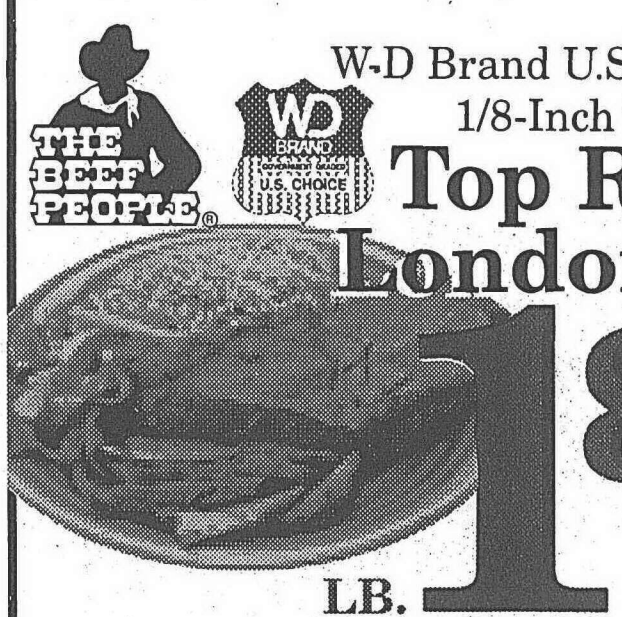


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