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COMMUNITY MATTERS

summer / 2023

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THE RISE OF
PICKLEBALL

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Raising Second Chances

THE SUMMIT RESIDENTS RALLY
TOGETHER TO RAISE MONEY
FOR RETIRED RACEHORSE, SIR
GUS, AND SUPPORT NEGLECTED
HORSES AT BROOK HILL FARM

LEGACY
GIVING &
2023 INFLUENCERS

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LifeSpire
of Virginia
Faith. Wellness. Community.

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The Chesapeake
Celebrates its

150th Episode of “The Today Show”

Over the years, The Chesapeake has provided its residents with abundant activities that promote socialization, health and overall well-being. One of the most popular activities offered at the community is the weekly talk show “The Today Show,” hosted by Executive Director David Loop and Life Enrichment Director Candace Montgomery.

This year marked the show’s 150th episode, packed with excitement as residents were invited to be part of a live studio audience. The show featured a fantastic lineup of segments, including a message from LifeSpire of



Virginia's President and Chief Executive Officer, Jonathan Cook, and interviews with Korey Ellis (café cook), and resident Catherine Senita.

A highlight of the celebration was a video montage showcasing past episodes of "The Today Show." David Loop and Candace Montgomery recounted how the show became a hit with the community, providing not only entertainment but also a way for residents to stay connected with each other.

Korey from the Chesapeake Café, a familiar and friendly face for residents, was interviewed on the show. Korey emphasized how The Chesapeake is truly a family of residents and team members who enjoy interacting with each other daily. Beyond serving food, Korey takes the time to get to know the residents, who are much like family to him.

During the segment, David interviewed Catherine Senita, a resident who recently celebrated her 100th birthday. Ms. Senita shared her secrets to a long and well-lived life, including love, laughter, good food and staying connected with

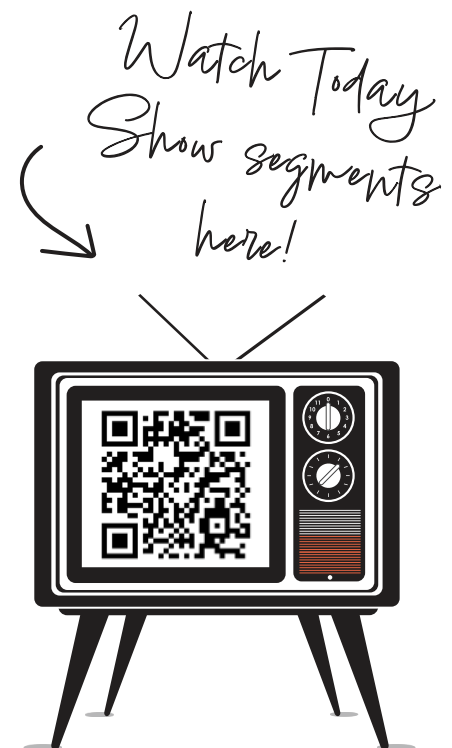


people. Her interview was inspiring and provided valuable reflections for everyone who watched "The Today Show." The show also featured several residents participating in a trivia game show, with the winners earning bragging rights.

Lastly, a raffle was held, with the largest prize being a customizable dinner for two with Julian, the community's executive chef. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Furhman on winning the raffle.

The Chesapeake community is not only a home but also a family;

"The Today Show" is proof of that. Watch at the link: <https://bit.ly/ChesToday>



THE CHESAPEAKE HOSTS FIRST RESPONDER COOKOUT

TO PAY TRIBUTE TO LOCAL HEROES



The Chesapeake hosted a special cookout on June 9th this year to honor local first responders who courageously put their lives at risk daily to ensure the safety of the city. The event garnered significant attention from both the community and the local police and fire departments. It served as an opportunity for The Chesapeake team members and residents to express their deep gratitude and appreciation to these local heroes by serving them burgers, hot dogs and other treats.

The day commenced with David Loop, Executive Director for The Chesapeake, taking charge of the grill and preparing food for the lunchtime gathering. Residents also lent a helping hand by bagging lunches for the attendees.





Members of the Newport News Police and Fire Departments were warmly welcomed by residents who made certain that every visitor felt well taken care of, fulfilling their food and drink orders with a smile. Additionally, they engaged in conversations with the first responders, asking questions and exchanging stories.

"A hot meal is the least we can do to give our thanks," said Loop. "An enjoyable summer meal is a small way to relay our appreciation of their dedication and work."

The cookout event proved to be a success, fostering camaraderie and strengthening the sense of community between local first responders and the residents of The Chesapeake, who benefit from their dedicated service and protection.

**"A hot
meal is the
least we
can do to
give our
thanks."**

- DAVID LOOP
Executive Director





RAISING SECOND CHANCES

THE SUMMIT RAISES MONEY FOR RETIRED RACEHORSES AT BROOK HILL FARM





*Sir Gus, 25-year old
retired racehorse at
Brook Hill Farm*

Residents of The Summit came together to support a worthy cause: raising funds for Sir Gus, a 25-year-old retired racehorse at Brook Hill Farm. The farm is a non-profit organization that takes in neglected or injured horses, providing them with care, rest and recovery. The farm also runs programs benefiting seniors, veterans and individuals with diverse needs.

Arlene Domalski and several other residents at The Summit raised more than \$600 to support Sir Gus and Brook Hill Farm's mission. Domalski expressed her joy at witnessing the community unite for this important cause, recognizing the incredible work done by the farm to care for horses like Sir Gus.

Brook Hill Farm offers various services to aid neglected horses, like Sir Gus, in their recovery and provide them with a comfortable life. The organization uniquely taps into the therapeutic bond between humans and horses, offering assistance to both. Horses have been known to be highly therapeutic animals, helping individuals improve physical mobility, balance and coordination and reducing anxiety, stress and depression. By supporting Brook Hill Farm's programs and services, The Summit has contributed to positive changes in the lives of both people and animals.

Brenda Dixon, Marketing Director for The Summit, expressed how thrilled the residents were to raise funds for Sir Gus and Brook Hill Farm, "The horses at the farm provide a wonderful opportunity for



The Summit residents to support, socialize with and enrich the lives of sanctuary horses, while the horses in turn offer love, therapy and rewarding experiences to the residents".

The community's efforts to raise money for Sir Gus have shed light on Brook Hill Farm's noble mission, providing a





second chance for these majestic creatures and positively impacting people's lives. This heartwarming initiative shows how small actions can lead to significant and meaningful changes, strengthening the bond between humans and animals while creating a sense of community and purpose.



Carole Edwards and Friends Mark Milestone *50th* Anniversary Performance

The esteemed piano ensemble, Carole Edwards and Friends, recently celebrated their 50th annual concert at The Glebe, marking a remarkable milestone in their music-making history. This group holds the distinguished title of being the longest-running piano ensemble in the country with a rich legacy of performances spanning five decades.

Carole Edwards, the driving force behind the ensemble, expressed her deep gratitude for the past 50 years of making music with her friends. She acknowledged the unwavering support, boundless energy and good health that have enabled her to sustain this passion project throughout the years.

What initially began as a one-time event has flourished into a lifelong dedication to music. From captivating audiences in New York City to enchanting listeners at Smith Mountain Lake and now leaving a lasting impression at The Glebe, Carole and her ensemble have shared their musical joy on various stages.

Founded in 1974 in New York, Carole Edwards and Friends have delighted audiences professionally for two decades. Upon relocating to Virginia, they continued their concerts for 12 years at Smith Mountain Lake. This year, they proudly celebrated their 18th annual performance at The Glebe.

The 2023 ensemble showcased the talents of Carole Edwards, Jackie Werb, Shirley Fike, Deanne Vance, Erica Sipes



and Joy McNabb. Their performances eloquently presented the beauty of two grand pianos played by four, six and eight hands. Carole skillfully introduced each piece, sharing insights into the works of celebrated composers such as Strauss, Joplin, Brahms and Schubert.

Beyond their remarkable musical accomplishments, Carole Edwards and Friends have also dedicated their efforts to fundraising. Each year, they accept donations from concert attendees to support a chosen charity. For their momentous 50th anniversary celebration, the group successfully raised nearly \$3,200 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, an organization committed to finding cures for children battling cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.



WATCH HERE :
<https://bit.ly/CaroleFriends>

Mary Ann Wilson:

AN INSPIRING STORY OF COURAGE & LEADERSHIP

LifeSpire is proud to highlight Mary Ann Wilson, new resident at The Glebe. Mary Ann served as the Virginia State Director for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) beginning in 1990 where she held that role for over a decade. In 2001, Wilson was asked to take on a special assignment by a member of the United States President's Cabinet, the Secretary of HUD, as the new Acting Regional



Director of New York and New Jersey.

Just months after taking on the new role, Wilson would face the unthinkable as she and her team witnessed the tragic

events of September 11, 2001, happening in plain view from her office on the 35th floor in New York City. Thanks to her instrumental role in ensuring the safety of her team and many others,

Wilson was recognized with the prestigious Secretary's Award for Extraordinary Leadership.

Reflecting on that fateful day, Wilson vividly recalls the serene morning she experienced in New York City. Leaving her temporary accommodations in midtown Manhattan, she took the subway to city hall and then strolled to the federal building, where her office offered breathtaking views of the East River, with the Brooklyn Bridge and iconic twin towers just a stone's throw away.

At 8:46 a.m., Wilson and her colleagues were shaken by the tremors and the deafening impact of American Airlines Flight 11 crashing into the North Tower of the World Trade Center. Only 17 minutes later, a second plane struck the South Tower. In that harrowing moment, Wilson knew these events were no accidents. With composure and determination, she immediately ordered the evacuation of her team that was housed on several

floors. As she led the way down 35 flights of stairs, linked hand and hand with those around her, she remained a beacon of calm, providing the strength needed to quell fears and guide everyone to safety.

In the six months leading up to 9/11, Wilson had never seen an evacuation plan or had any kind of drill in what was one of the tallest federal buildings in the country. "Post 9/11, all government agencies were required to develop a continuity of operations plan as a guide in the event of future attacks, and the Richmond HUD office became a model for that initiative," stated Wilson. "In fact,



our office was selected as a national training site, where periodic tests continue today."

Mary Ann's unwavering bravery saved the lives of hundreds within her building. Her valiant efforts demonstrated courage and resilience in the face of unimaginable adversity.



LAKEWOOD'S
APIARY
PROGRAM
UNITES
GENERATIONS
WITH

honey.
and
Education

*Scott Cram,
Lakewood Apiary
Resident Volunteer*



Lakewood's apiary program has made quite the buzz since it began five years ago. Thanks to the unwavering dedication of several Lakewood residents, the program gained widespread support and approval. Today, the Lakewood Honeybee Club oversees the three hives nestled in the woods surrounding the campus and accessed by a beautiful cobblestone walkway to both the apiary and a private observation and reflection space with benches.

The hive trio, lovingly named Beetrice, Karla and Joan, gift the community with honey that is offered to residents in exchange for donations to support local charities, including the Richmond Alzheimer's Association. Last year alone, the program generated a remarkable 72 jars of delicious golden raw honey, each symbolizing the collective hard work of the bees and commitment from Lakewood's volunteer residents.

Lakewood's apiary program is so much more than a club activity.



It's also a platform for intergenerational connections to flourish. St. Michael's Episcopal School, a neighboring school, proudly houses its own beehive, providing students with a hands-on opportunity to learn the art of beekeeping. Earlier this year, the school's students were treated to a special visit to Lakewood, where they were enlightened

about the importance of bees in our ecosystem and secrets to maintaining healthy hives.

Prior to their visit, a pen pal program was established between these students and Lakewood





residents, resulting in a profound connection between the two groups. It was during their visit to Lakewood where they had a chance to meet their pen pal in person and learn more about each other.

Lakewood's buzzing apiary program is not just a remarkable endeavor in learning and caring for our needed honeybee pollinators; it's a testament to the power of uniting generations, fostering education, and nurturing a community focused on a common goal.

Check out the Queen Bee!



The Queen Bee is circled below! Notice the color and size difference compared to the rest of the colony.



Empowering STUDENTS THROUGH SERVICE

STUDENTS FROM CRISTO REY RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL GAIN
VALUABLE SKILLS IN WORK-STUDY PROGRAM



Four exceptionally talented and driven students from Cristo Rey Richmond High School recently completed a ten-month corporate work-study program at Lakewood. The program, sponsored by LifeSpire

of Virginia, offers a unique opportunity for young people with limited financial means to acquire valuable skills and experience in a professional work environment.

While at Lakewood, students Kimora W.,

Synai C.J., Rita C. and Emerson R.L. contributed their skills and talents to diverse departments such as marketing, communications, engineering services and human resources. “Lakewood has taught me a lot of essential and professional

skills that will help me in my career. I have learned a lot about data entry, written communication, note-taking and file management,” said Kimora. Additionally, Kimora expressed that her most cherished memories were when she actively participated in and supported resident events, including wedding vow renewal ceremonies, Christmas parties and barbecues.

Synai, who worked closely with Lori Welty, director of resident services at Lakewood, gained an understanding of the hard work required to plan and execute successful events. “At work, she (Welty) gives me various things to do and we would have some interesting and funny conversations,” said Synai. “The best advice I have received is that it is okay to ask for help, take a break or switch to a different task.”

Each student had the opportunity to gain practical experience and knowledge in their respective fields, allowing

them to develop a well-rounded skill set and a deeper understanding of the inner workings of a successful organization.

Their dedication and hard work in these departments have undoubtedly prepared them for future professional endeavors. “It’s been so rewarding to participate as a corporate sponsor with the program,” said Jodi Leonard, Vice President for the Virginia Baptist Homes (VBH) Foundation. “We are inspired and proud of our students as they move on to their next journey. It’s definitely bittersweet to

“Lakewood has taught me a lot of essential and professional skills that will help me in my career.”

- KIMORA W.

say goodbye, but we know the growth and knowledge gained at Lakewood have prepared them for what’s next.”

“I would like to thank Frank Simal for believing in me and always being supportive of the career I chose,” said Emerson, crediting his mentor, Frank Simal from Lakewood’s engineering services department.

Rita values what she’s learned about office organization and how important it is to a successful flow in the human resources department. “A key takeaway for me is being able to have office administration skills that I’d be able to use at other jobs and school,” said Rita.

The Cristo Rey students’ experiences at Lakewood were profoundly rewarding and enriching, setting a solid foundation for their future success in both their personal and professional lives. Through their hard work, they gained valuable skills and forged meaningful connections with mentors.

THE RISE OF

Pickleball

Pickleball, a sport that originated in the United States, is rapidly gaining popularity at The Culpeper. As one of the fastest-growing sports in America, residents at The Culpeper have eagerly embraced it. Members of the Culpeper Pickleball Club measured off an outdoor pavilion and set up their court..

The Culpeper Pickleball Club comprises enthusiastic players who share their love of the sport with others. Led by Club President Amy Hinson, Secretary Brooke Hall, and Information Officer Tony Rozwadowski, they generously provide instruction and rules clinics for The Culpeper. Their guidance and support have helped residents develop their skills while keeping the game competitive and enjoyable.

Week by week, interest in pickleball

has been growing, with at least a half dozen residents participating in each game. Whenever needed, Betty Brooks, program coordinator at The Culpeper, fills in as an additional player. As everyone is in the learning stage, the atmosphere is lively and friendly, creating an excellent opportunity



to build new friendships while engaging in low-impact exercise.

One of the most exciting aspects of pickleball at The Culpeper is the increasing number of spectators. More and more residents are gathering at the pavilion to watch these exciting matches. It's inspiring to witness the community coming together to support one another and pickleball has added another opportunity to do so.

Due to its low-impact nature, pickleball is particularly beneficial for improving mobility, balance and coordination in older adults. The

community has warmly embraced the sport as an excellent way to stay active.

The addition of pickleball has brought much excitement to The Culpeper, providing an opportunity for socialization, friendly competition and exercise. The support and assistance offered by the Culpeper Pickleball Club have significantly contributed to everyone's enjoyment of the sport. With its rising popularity and a growing number of spectators, pickleball is expected to remain an integral and cherished part of The Culpeper for years to come.



The Culpeper Pickleball Club, 2023



2023 LIFESPIRE SCHOLARSHIPS

The LifeSpire of Virginia and the Virginia Baptist Homes (VBH) Foundation leadership teams are pleased to announce the 2023 scholarship recipients. A total of \$25,000 was awarded to 25 deserving individuals. The scholarships are funded by the Employee Education Fund.

The fund provides financial assistance for deserving team members towards two- and four-year degrees. Support is awarded with grants for college-bound team members, and their children and grandchildren.

The VBH Foundation's Employee Education Fund provides awards on an annual basis. The fund relies on the generosity of donors for sustainability. The LifeSpire team is grateful for the kindness of residents, families and colleagues who give to the Foundation to assist team members financially with scholarships and crisis support. To learn more about the programs providing support to team members, visit: <https://lifespireliving.org/give/employee-support/>



Janyla Gatling

Daughter of Lawshawta Roberts, Housekeeping, The Chesapeake



Dylan Simmons

Son of Beverly Simmons, Health Care, The Chesapeake



Emily Holden

Nursing, The Chesapeake



Emma Thomas

Daughter of Amy Thomas, Health Care, The Chesapeake



Macie Morings

Health Care, The Chesapeake



Nina Ashison

Daughter of Grace Nortey, Nursing, The Culpeper



Aaron Bostian

CNA, The Culpeper



Michael Fredericks

Son of Elizabeth Fredericks, Memory Support, The Culpeper



Jordan Heddings

CNA, The Culpeper



Armani Hoffman

Son of Theresa Lewis, Nursing, The Culpeper



Destinee Hoffman

Daughter of Theresa Lewis, Nursing, The Culpeper



Teresa Lewis

CNA, The Culpeper



Maylasia Simmons

Daughter of Shadelle Simmons, Dietary, The Culpeper



Brennan Corell

Dining, The Glebe



Ethan McKenzie

Dining, The Glebe



Heather Roberts

CNA, The Glebe



Carter Smith
Dining, The Glebe



Isaiah Bolden
*Son of Dorothy Connor,
Nursing, Lakewood*



Anmanat Boparai
*Daughter of Pearl Kaur,
Transportation, Lakewood*



Ava Brown
Dining, Lakewood



Cadence Goodnight
Dining, Lakewood



Jasmine Johnson
Dining, Lakewood



Jake Kazzie
Dining, Lakewood



Kala McGehee
Dining, Lakewood



Ryenne Flood
*Daughter of Marjetta
Flood, Assisted Living,
The Summit*

The Glebe

EDUCATION 2023 GRANTS

The Glebe and its Resident Council awards scholarships each year to deserving team members. This year, those award winners are:



RESIDENTS' COUNCIL EDUCATIONAL GRANT

Cody Hatter

Grandson of Joyce Horton, Environmental Services, pursuing a BS in Health Services from VCU



RESIDENTS' COUNCIL EDUCATIONAL GRANT

Hatlyn Haggerty

Dietary Aide for Health Care, pursuing a BS in Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



THE GLEBE CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANT

Bryson Spangler

Culinary, undecided, James Madison University

GIVE *life* TO YOUR *legacy*



LEGACY GIVING



Take the time to learn more about enhancing your own financial plans, as well as benefiting seniors in need with your generosity. You can help by including the VBH Foundation or a specific LifeSpire community in your will or estate plans. Visit our website:

[http://vbh.
planmylegacy.
org](http://vbh.planmylegacy.org) for more
information.

When you remember the VBH Foundation or a specific community in your estate plan, your gift lives on and we welcome you into our J.T. Edwards Legacy Society. You become part of a group of like-minded people dedicated to creating communities that support dignity, faith and friendship, now and in the future, just as Dr. Edwards originally imagined.

In January 1946, Culpeper was approved as a site to build a home for senior adults and the Certificate of Incorporation was signed and filed in the Culpeper Clerk's office March 25 of the same year. Originally registered as Virginia Baptist Home for the Aged, Inc., the charter was amended in 1954 to change the name to Virginia Baptist Homes, Inc. It was Dr. Edwards

who first introduced the idea of this home for senior adults to the Baptist General Association of Virginia. Over 75 years later, his vision continues to thrive and expand.

The J.T. Edwards Legacy Society was established in 1996 to honor those who support the legacy of Dr. Edwards through any form of planned giving, including

bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts or gifts of life insurance. These gifts provide us with the ability to plan for the future success of this ministry.

JTE Society members extend a lifetime of support through gifts, volunteer hours and membership. Like Dr. Edwards, these visionary

individuals are leaving their own legacy for future residents of LifeSpire of Virginia and we are proud to honor them through membership in this society.

To learn more or notify us of your legacy intentions, contact Jodi Leonard, at (804) 521-9213 or jleonard@lifespireliving.org today.

Your commitment to ensuring the highest quality of life—physically, spiritually and socially—for LifeSpire of Virginia community residents is what enables the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation to continue realizing its faith-driven mission.



2023

INFLUENCER

Award Recipients

Each year, the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation is pleased to present an “Influencer Award” to a deserving resident (or residents) living in each of the LifeSpire of Virginia communities. Influencers embody the core values of our communities by showing their spirit, generosity and by engaging with and supporting their communities in numerous ways. This year, our slate of award recipients include:

Rex Hogan *The Chesapeake*

Curtis Brooking *The Culpeper*

Bill Overstreet *The Glebe*

Jim & Sally Barrett *Lakewood*

Bob Johnson *The Summit*

THE PEOPLE
WHO
INFLUENCE
YOU ARE
THE PEOPLE
WHO
BELIEVE IN
YOU.

– Henry Drummond

You can read the full biographies of the 2023 Influencers here: www.lifespireliving.org/give/influencer-awards or by scanning the QR Code:





REX *HOGAN*

Growing up in St. Louis, Missouri, Rex Hogan never had a specific goal of what he wanted to be when he grew up. After high school, he started as an engineering student at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri but then found a passion for computer programming and computer languages.

Rex served in the United States Air Force as a Civil Engineering Officer in both Florida and Alaska. It was in Florida where he met his bride, Cindy Hogan. He then took on a faculty role at the Civil Engineering School at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (AFB) in Ohio. Once Rex left the military, he built his career as a computer scientist

working for TRW/Northrop Grumman and at Langley AFB.

While Rex is enjoying his retirement years, he still teaches as an Adjunct Professor in the Computer Information Systems department at ECPI University. In his role as an adjunct faculty member, Rex serves as an interface to Barbara Jackson-Ingram, Administrator of Health Services at The Chesapeake, and ECPI's Medical Career Institute for students looking for jobs.

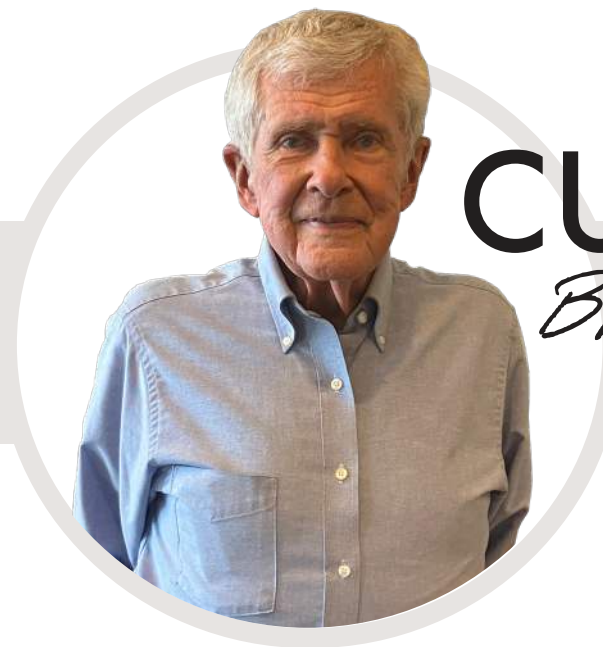
Rex is influenced today by his wife and partner Cindy. "She is the sweetest and most caring person I have ever known," said Hogan. "She makes our house a home." She

compliments him and will often work to pull him out of his shell and help him engage with their friends. Rex and Cindy chose The Chesapeake after a recommendation from their daughter and moved to the community in 2010.

While at The Chesapeake, Rex has served in various leadership and service roles to include President of Resident Council. In addition, he started The Chesapeake's "Geek Squad," affectionately called the Chesa-Geeks to help residents who need assistance with computers and technology.

Together, Rex and Cindy give back by sorting through resident donations for The Chesapeake's Fresh Start House, a place for team members to live when faced with financial difficulties.

When asked of what he is most proud, Rex says he is proud of his career and the impact of his contributions. He is particularly grateful for his time at Langley where he was able to help service men and women who were struggling with mental health challenges.



CURTIS *BROOKING*

Curtis Brooking was born and raised in Orange County, Virginia in a home built in 1848 by James Madison's great nephew. Curtis was influenced greatly by his father, Linwood "Link" Brooking, who managed both his own property and the Montpelier estate. Curtis says his dad was a caliber individual, full of common sense and used a practical approach in every part of his life. As he watched his father manage a multifaceted organization like Montpelier, Curtis felt inspired to be exactly like him.

Curtis's commitment to volunteerism came from his mother Mildred, who volunteered for community organizations such as the Red Cross, local nursing homes and their church. Her devotion

to helping others provided an excellent example to her children. They learned that they too should give a portion of their lives to service and charitable organizations.

Curtis met his wife Odile (Dee) while stationed near Orleans, France. His buddy set him up with Dee on a blind date where they ended up spending the evening paddle boating. Curtis and Dee dated for over a year while he was in France and then they were married before he was transferred to Augusta, Georgia to serve as a military instructor.

Today Curtis is influenced the most by his wife, his pastor, Reverend Dan Carlton and Reverend

Hans Murdock, Chaplain at The Culpeper. Curtis served on the nominating committees for both Dan and Hans and admires them both for their service to the community using the gifts that God has given them.

Curtis served as a Virginia Baptist Homes (VBH) trustee, Vice-Chairman and other leadership roles to include strategic planning, marketing and nominating committees.

Curtis and his wife Dee moved to the Culpeper in 2015 and look forward to offering continued support for community activities through teaching, assisting with functions and encouraging others to become more involved.

BILL OVERSTREET



*B*ill Overstreet was born in the Roanoke Valley area where he spent most of his life. He met his wife Peggy at a church youth camp and then years later they reconnected when he met her again at Virginia Tech. Peggy and Bill have lived at The Glebe since 2017.

Bill credits his childhood boy scout leader as a strong influence teaching him perseverance, reliance, integrity, teamwork and work ethic. Another influencer for Bill was his manager at the Branch Group, who Bills says, conducted his business with integrity and invested in his employees. Bill had his hand in helping build The Glebe through his work at the Branch Group,

where he spent 28 years of his career. Today, Bill is influenced by pastors and bible scholars as they talk about the necessity of living a Godly life in the world today.

Bill has served his community in countless ways, from arranging weekly services for Sunday Vespers, to making Vespers and Bible Study available through the in-house TV channel during the pandemic, serving on committees and helping residents and team members as the “unofficial, unpaid maintenance person.”

“I’m thankful for the life and health God has given me,” said Bill. “I’m thankful for my Christian

wife. I’m thankful for the opportunities we’ve had such as visiting all 50 states. I’m thankful for my experiences on two overseas mission trips. I’m thankful for the people I’ve had the opportunity to meet and work with over the years, for the great company I worked for and the opportunities it provided. I’m thankful to know so many great people and neighbors here at The Glebe.”

Bill’s motto is to love our neighbors as ourselves. He hopes to be able to serve other people for as long as he can.



JIM & SALLY *BARRETT*

Jim and Sally Barrett have lived in Virginia their entire lives. The Barrett's have enjoyed long and fulfilling careers and years of volunteerism that have helped those around them.

Jim's career includes working as a civil engineer at the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and as a clerk of the House Appropriations Committee for the Virginia House of Delegates. Sally attended the Medical College of Virginia (MCV), where she became a nurse that eventually led to her teaching at the nursing college for 25 years. Jim and Sally moved to Lakewood in 2013.

Jim is committed to continuously promoting community service,

volunteerism, leadership and patriotism. He has a love for music and has played for Richmond and Henrico Concert Bands. In the Marines, he joined the James M. Slay Detachment and took part in the James M. Slay Honor Guard where he provided Taps at over 175 veteran funerals.

His volunteerism includes leading environmental efforts and advocating to preserve the Chesapeake Bay and clean waters.

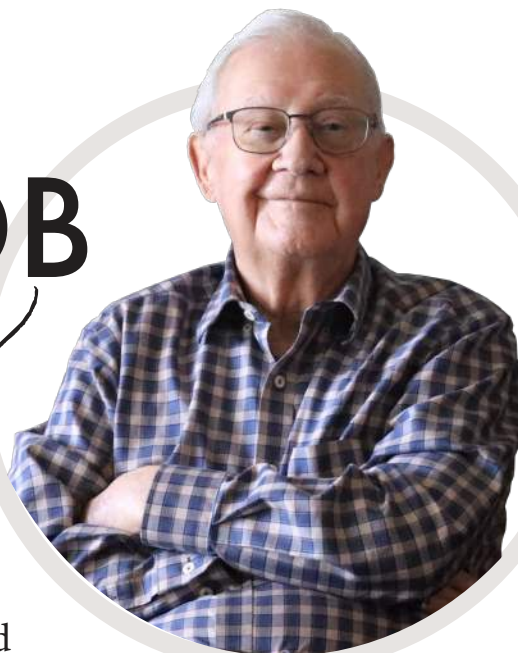
Sally's volunteerism is very personal to her. When she lost a close friend, Jane O'Toole, in December 2017, a non-profit was started in her honor. Walk4JaneO supports raising funds for children and teachers at Ruby F. Carver Elementary School and patients and staff at

Chippenham Hospital. Sally now serves on the planning committee, honoring her friend.

Jim and Sally enjoy the peace of mind and spending time with new friends at Lakewood. They also feel their move has given them time to give back to both the community at large and Lakewood. Through serving on resident council (Jim), organizing monthly outings (Sally), working the briar patch and supporting music ministries, Jim and Sally are always ready to pitch in and help others.

When asked about their life influences, Jim says his father and his colleagues throughout his career mentored him. Sally credits her father, grandmother, teachers and fellow nursing colleagues for mentoring her. To this day, Jim and Sally serve as each other's mentor. "We mentor each other to be better every day and the residents and staff at Lakewood influence us to be better," said Sally Barrett.

BOB JOHNSON



Bob Johnson lived and worked on his parents' farm near Gretna, Virginia until he was 18 years of age. He was the youngest of nine children. Once his brothers moved on to military service and marriage, Bob stayed to help his father work on the farm while he was still attending high school.

In 1954, Bob married Agnes Rowland and together they welcomed a son. Seeking a more stable income, Bob became a management trainee for a savings and loan association in Danville, Virginia. He honed his skills in accounting and law through correspondence courses and embarked on a remarkable 45-year career in finance and banking management. Bob's journey

led him to Danville and Bristol, Virginia and eventually Knoxville, Tennessee, where he excelled in growing and consolidating banks.

In 2019, Bob and Agnes made the decision to move to The Summit. Not long after their move, Agnes faced health complications and passed away from cancer. The couple had initially chosen The Summit for its strong sense of community, and even after Agnes's passing, Bob realized the importance of being surrounded by people and opted to stay.

Over the years, Bob has played an active role at The Summit, from serving as the president of the Resident Council to his involvement in the

Spiritual Life Committee, prayer group and weekly worship services. Beyond the community's boundaries, Bob also engaged with the Vice Mayor of Lynchburg and City Council, striving to improve conditions on Enterprise Drive.

Throughout his life, Bob has found inspiration in his parents, particularly his hardworking father. Today, his family and friends and his new bride Barbara continue to influence and support him through health challenges. Looking ahead, Bob aims to collaborate with the Resident Council and the management team to further enhance The Summit and secure essential services for their continuing care retirement community.

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The Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation is the philanthropic arm of LifeSpire and provides support to residents and team members through its four funds—benevolence, crisis, education and spiritual life.



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