

Louisa Life

May 25 - June 28, 2018 • ONE COPY FREE

LOUISA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Breese Glennon Brockman **Owner of Boxley Place Inn**



Wins Good Neighbor of the Year Award

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ORANGE SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS SPRING PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

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June 2 - 7:30pm ... Taylor Park *Spotswood Pavilion* – Orange, Va**

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Breese Glennon Brockman holds a teacup next to the sideboard currently used for guests' breakfasts. The sideboard is one of the family antiques in Boxley Place Inn. Photo by Linda Salisbury.

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger



Vermiculite is packed for shipping. All photos by Linda Salisbury.

Louisa County Chamber Names

Ned Gumble, Business Person of the year

By Linda Salisbury
Correspondent

Ned Gumble, the president of Virginia Vermiculite, a mining company in Louisa County, has been named by the Louisa County Chamber of Commerce as its businessperson of the year.

The honor is not surprising. Gumble, who has been with the firm since it began operations 40 years in the Green Springs Historic District, has made sure that the operation has kept its promises to restore the land that is mined.

Gumble, who is one of a small group of owners, was out of town when the awards were made by the chamber. He said that had he known, he would have made sure he was back to personally receive the honor.

He became involved with the operation in 1975 while he was attending Dartmouth College, and worked as an intern with Bob Sansom, who had worked for the EPA and wanted to mine vermiculite in Louisa County. The mine is named for Sansom. Vermiculite is not a common mineral. In fact, there are only two major deposits of vermiculite that are available nationally for mining: one in Louisa and the other in South Carolina.

A cousin to mica, vermiculite has many significant uses. Gardeners know that it is added to peat moss and or to composted bark to make a potting soil. Perhaps less well-known are its uses for fire protection in high-rise steel construction and with other commercial structures, and also in automotive parts, such as a gasketing material around catalytic converters, and brake pads.

Although most is purchased by the North American markets, Virginia Vermiculite also sends some of its product overseas to countries such as the United Kingdom, India, Uruguay, and Israel.

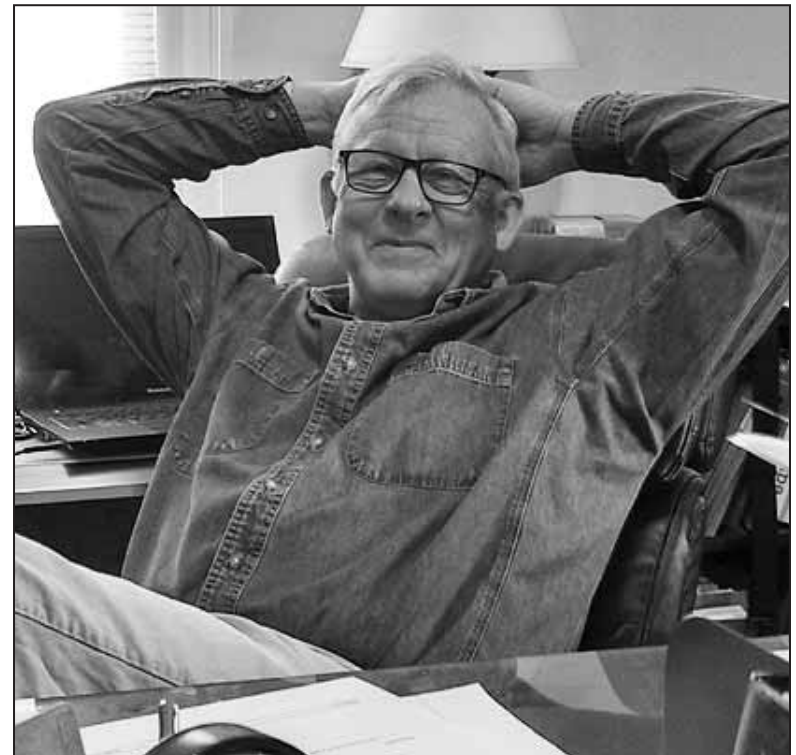
But what Gumble seems most proud of is the reclamation that the company has done to carefully restore the land and protect historic homes in the district.

The operation is as low-key and unobtrusive as possible. Berms and foliage deliberately mask the operation from Rt. 22. No large sign announces the plant and mine from the highway. The headquarters is in a 1930s frame house that was moved from the center of where the mine is currently located, and will be moved back once that part of the mining, done with giant backhoes, is finished. Beyond the headquarters is a plant that operates 24-hours a day where the mineral is washed from the soil. The vermiculite is dried and screened into various sizes and then is either loaded into bulk trailers or packaged in large bags for truck shipping to buyers.

Gumble and the company owners are already planning for the next stage of the mining, and that is on the 600 acres on the other side of the road, where another lovely, but long-unoccupied "Westland" historic home is located. To lessen the impact on the highway, Virginia Vermiculite is building a tunnel with a conveyor belt five-feet under Rt. 22 so that the materials mined can be brought to the processing area without the need for a lot of truck traffic.

When that mining operation is completed decades from now, the land will be restored and the "pit" will be turned into a 25-30 acre lake. Meantime he's maintaining the stately Westland farmhouse with a long-term goal of making it livable.

The *Lake Anna Life & Times* is an insert and is not affiliated with *Louisa Life*. The contents of *Lake Anna Life & Times* are the responsibility of its publisher.



At his desk, Ned Gumble talks about the mining operation.

See Ned page 7



A front view of Boxley Place Inn. All photos by Linda Salisbury.



Breese Glennon Brockman is the owner of Boxley Place Inn.

Louisa County Chamber of Commerce Names

Breese Glennon Brockman, Good Neighbor of the Year

Breese Glennon Brockman was not born in Louisa County, but she's a member of the four-generation family who have lived and contributed to the life of the community. After her mother Gris Boxley died in 2004, Brockman opened the Boxley Place Inn, the family home, on Ellisville Drive, which she restored, and also three storefronts and four loft apartments on Main Street. Plus she's making her mark on town projects, and working on the revitalization of the downtown area.

In March she was named the Good Neighbor of the Year by the Louisa County Chamber of Commerce. The award was unexpected, she said. As she attended the dinner meeting where awards were announced, she began to realize that Regina Cook, executive director, was listing projects she was involved with, such as the Downtown Gardens, the Chamber's holiday party for more than 100 people, which the inn had hosted, and her participation on the Louisa County Historical Society's board of directors. Then her name was called.

The name on the award was listed as for Breese Glennon, but she explains that last year she married Billy Marshall Brockman, a native of Orange.

"To know her is to love her. Louisa County is very fortunate to have such a caring and selfless citizen in its midst," said Cook. "To honor her for her efforts as our 2018 Good Neighbor of the Year was both deserved and cherished."

Brockman is proud of her family's Louisa heritage. Her great-great-grandfather, Dr. James Garland Boxley, was a Confederate surgeon. His portrait, with the other male ancestors, hangs in the front hall of the 5,000 square-foot house on a three-acre estate at 103 Ellisville Road. The family women have their own wall space at the inn.

Brockman said she's been surprised how interested guests have been in the family pictures and family history, and also the genealogy chart displayed in another room.

Her family is part of the town's history. Her grandfather, and later, grandmother, Bruce Vaughn and Anna Gris McIntosh Boxley were publishers of the Central Virginian. Her mother, Griswold Boxley, was known for



Pictures of men in the Boxley family are featured over a fireplace in the front hall of Boxley Place Inn, with Brockman's great-great-grandfather Dr. James Garland Boxley most prominent. He was a Confederate surgeon.

her huge crowds at her "wacky" Halloween parties, often attended by 400 people. She also served on the town council.

Brockman was born and raised mostly in Baltimore, but moved to Virginia to finish high school. She often visited her grandmother and family friends. She lived in Lee County, Fla., where she grew palm trees commercially on Pine Island. At the same time, she owned a real estate company in Henderson, Nev., and also commuted to Louisa County to help out with her mother. With all that travel for business and family, "I think I lived at the Atlanta airport," she said with a laugh.

After her parents divorced, her mother returned to Louisa. In 2006, after her mother died, Brockman purchased the 1860 homeplace (on the state historic registry)

See Breese page 6

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A member of a four-generation Louisa family, Brockman looks a display of the family women.

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from the estate and decided to turn it into a bed-and-breakfast. Her mother had rented out rooms through the years, so when the five-bedroom inn was opened, a number of locals wanted to revisit where they had once lived.

The Boxley building on Main Street, a short walking distance from the inn, currently houses The Fabric Hut and Gift Gallery, and Nourish Louisa. The upstairs lofts required a lot of work to make them livable. When Bockman initially had a look, the abandoned upstairs had birds living in them. Now finished, the lofts are "just darling," she said.

She's also working on improving the alley behind the downtown buildings and developing a 18,500-square-foot warehouse fronting the alley that she also owns.

She's been excited about the increasing vitality of the downtown area and knows that it takes little steps in putting all the economic pieces together. In the last 10 years the buildings have filled with tenants and cultural and historic activities have increased. Her family, particularly the women, will also be included in a new digital historic project developed locally by the Louisa County Historical Society. Her great-grandmother was the founding Regent of the Louisa County Courthouse Chapter of the DAR.

She's working with fellow merchants to come up with new ideas for downtown improvements and attractions. One project has been to work with Tabetia Chiles, tourism and special events coordinator for the Louisa County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department, to improve signage. For example, it would be appropriate to have a sign indicating the direction of the downtown merchants when drivers on State Road 208 reach the intersection with Main Street (Jeff Davis Hwy.).

She's also involved with the chamber's annual street festival, this year on June 9. Again she will be providing parking for the horse at the inn's parking field. The horses are used for carriage rides during the festival. This field used to be the home of her mother's two goats that would sometimes join the party during a wedding reception to the amusement of guests and photographers, she said.

Cook said that other 2018 award winners are: Business Person of the Year, Ned Gumble, Virginia Vermiculite; Volunteer of the Year: Brittany Maxton Good Neighbor of the Year: Partner of the Year: VFW Post #8947 Commander Beth Rowley.



A Bed and Breakfast

Receptions • Reunions • Retreats

**For information about Boxley
Place Inn, visit
www.BoxleyPlaceInn.com.**



The Virginia Vermiculite plant. All photos by Linda Salisbury.

To see how perfectly the restoration has been, a quick drive with Gumble to a nearby property is all that it takes.

Property owners of a "Corduoy," nearby historic home, agreed to lease the land to the mine. After they died, their children were able to use the royalties from the mining lease to restore the old home while the operation wound down and the land was restored to its former condition. No traces of the mine are visible. And Gumble has before and after pictures to prove it.

"We are extremely proud of the reclamation of Mark and Doniphan Howland's property," he said.

He notes that initially that many residents of the Green Springs Historic District were concerned about the mine. Un the early 1970s they blocked the construction of a prison in that area. Many put preservation easements on their land to keep it from being mined, but a few trusted the company to do what it said it would do to restore the land. And now the company's track record for keeping its promises is known.

"I'm very proud that we won a national reclamation award for that," Gumble said.

The company employs about 30 people, mostly local. "We're committed to creating jobs. We have a stable, homegrown workforce," he said.

And it supports numerous community organizations from the Louisa County Historical Society to the Arts Center, library, and offers an annual scholarship to the Piedmont Virginia Community College. He also donated and had moved a small structure called the Michie House, now restored (with another \$25,000 donation from his company) and located at the Louisa Historic Society's Sargeant Museum property. The house was built in the 1700s. Classes and programs are offered in this gem of a building.

"It was with great honor and privilege to recognize this second time Business Person of the Year award winner," said Regina Cook, executive director of the chamber. "Ned's unparalleled, professional commitments coupled with his authentic caring and generosity to the larger Louisa County community is awe inspiring."

She added that other 2018 honorees include Volunteer of the Year Brittany Maxton; Good Neighbor of the Year Breese Glennon; Partner of the Year, VFW Post #8947 - Commander Beth Rowley.



"Westland," a history home that Ned Gumble is maintaining on the site of the second mining operation. When the mine is finished, the house will face reclaimed land and a large lake.



Virginia Vermiculite is digging a tunnel under Rt. 22 so that the mined mineral can eventually be transferred by conveyer belt rather than trucked.

MEMORIAL DAY

5K ROTARY

ramblin rabbit

Saturday, May 26th

PVCC – Piedmont Virginia Community College

RACE DAY!

Registration at 6:30 am • Race begins at 7:30 am
RAIN or SHINE

5K Course

Paved course starting at PVCC, around Monticello High School athletic fields and campus, and back to PVCC. Runners and walkers welcome!

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EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



A Bed and Breakfast

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The Mineral Farmer's Market opened for its tenth season on May 5th at 8:00 AM with a "Blessing of the Field" by Dr. Marion Wendel of the Church of the Incarnation. Welcome to our new vendors! The Mineral Farmer's Market is thriving! We average 30 vendors each Saturday and there always seems to be something new and exciting to look at.



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Saturday, June 9 at 10 AM - 4 PM
Louisa County Chamber of Commerce 2nd Annual Street Festival

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vendors, Live Music, Horse Drawn Wagon Rides, Fantastic Food, Kids Activities & So much more!

Admission is completely FREE and this year they are giving away 1,000 bags of goodies to the first 1,000 attendees.

Join the Chamber for an incredible day as you stroll and shop, grab a bite to eat, relax while you listen to some great music, and watch the kids smile as they enjoy all the activities! Follow the signs for parking and pick-up a program from our parking volunteers or at our information booth to make sure you get full details and don't miss anything!



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May 25th-28th

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2018 Louisa County Aquatic Facility Fees & Hours of Operation

Anyone who enters the facility, whether swimming or not, MUST pay the admission fee.

Pool Opens ... Saturday, May 26th

May 26th ~ August 5th

Open Monday ~ Friday from 11:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.
Open Saturday & Sunday from 11:30 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

LCAF will be open weekends only after August 5th through September 3rd



Louisa County Aquatic Facility



Daily Admission Information

Daily swim admission MUST be paid in CASH.

\$3.00 for ages 3 through 17

(14 and younger must be accompanied by a paying adult)

\$4.00 for adults ages 18 through 59

\$3.00 for senior citizens ages 60 and older

Children 2 years and younger free with paying adult

Special Rate: 4:00 pm until closing: \$2/per person

Season Individual Pass:
\$40 Youth / \$60 Adult / \$40 Seniors

Season Parent/Child Pass: \$90
(good for daily admissions of 1 adult & 1 youth)

All Season Passes Are Person Specific.
Season passes are not available for non-residents.

All Season Passes must be purchased at the Parks, Recreation & Tourism office and will expire on September 3, 2018.

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Buy your Season Pass by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 25th and receive \$8 off on a Youth or Senior Season Pass (\$32) and \$12 off on an Adult Season Pass (\$48).

10 Visit Swim Pass
\$20 youth / \$25 adults / \$20 seniors

One-Day Family Pass \$10
good for one day admission of 2 adults & 2 youth

Louisa County Aquatic Facility

Swimming season is upon us

ShockAlarm to help avoid Electric Shock Drowning

By Linda Salisbury
Correspondent

Larry Simpkins doesn't want your Lake Anna experience to be shocking. The owner of Sterling Aero Marine Services, Simpkins has been actively promoting water safety by having boat owners to check, or have checked, the water around their docks for stray electrical current that could be deadly. He said, "The electric shock can paralyze. People lay in water and drown." It's called Electric Shock Drowning (ESD).

Speaking to various groups and giving handouts that warn against "swimming around electricity," Simpkins is trying to make the boating and swimming public aware of electrical hazards that can and should be avoided. The danger is greatest in freshwater because "the human body is more conductive than water itself," he said.

He said there can be electricity in the water around boat houses because people use electric boat lifts, and have lights or electrical outlets installed. If the wiring or plugs are not current, and the GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) is not checked once a month, current can leak into the surrounding water and drowning from electric shock paralysis can occur. A swimmer in the dock



Larry Simpkins, owner of Sterling Aero Marine Services, holds a ShockAlarm used to detect potentially deadly electricity leaking into the water. Photo by Linda Salisbury.

or boat house area may feel a tingling sensation, then often makes a dangerous mistake by touching the boat or the dock in an effort to get out of the water. Other potential sources of leaking current can be lawn irrigation systems with improperly grounded pumps.

Simpkins said that is the worst thing that can be done. "Swim away," he said.

A second mistake is for people to jump in the water to try to aid the swimmer. This could result in more victims of EDS. Instead, the rescue should use a life ring or a nonconductive pole or object for to help the victim.

Because leaks may be coming from a neighboring dock, no one should swim in the vicinity of any docks or boat houses or touch any boats unless it has been determined that there is no current in the water.

Simpkins, who repairs boats at the owner's location, always checks the water with a ShockAlarm (about \$129 at ShockAlarm.com). He only does this as a service for his customers, and if a problem is noted, he refers them to their qualified electrician. He does not do the electrical work himself.

Simpkins suggested visiting the Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association Web site (www.electricshockdrowning.org) for more information.

May 25th
June 29th
July 20th

Louisa County Parks, Recreation & Tourism presents

it's Finally Friday

concerts in the park

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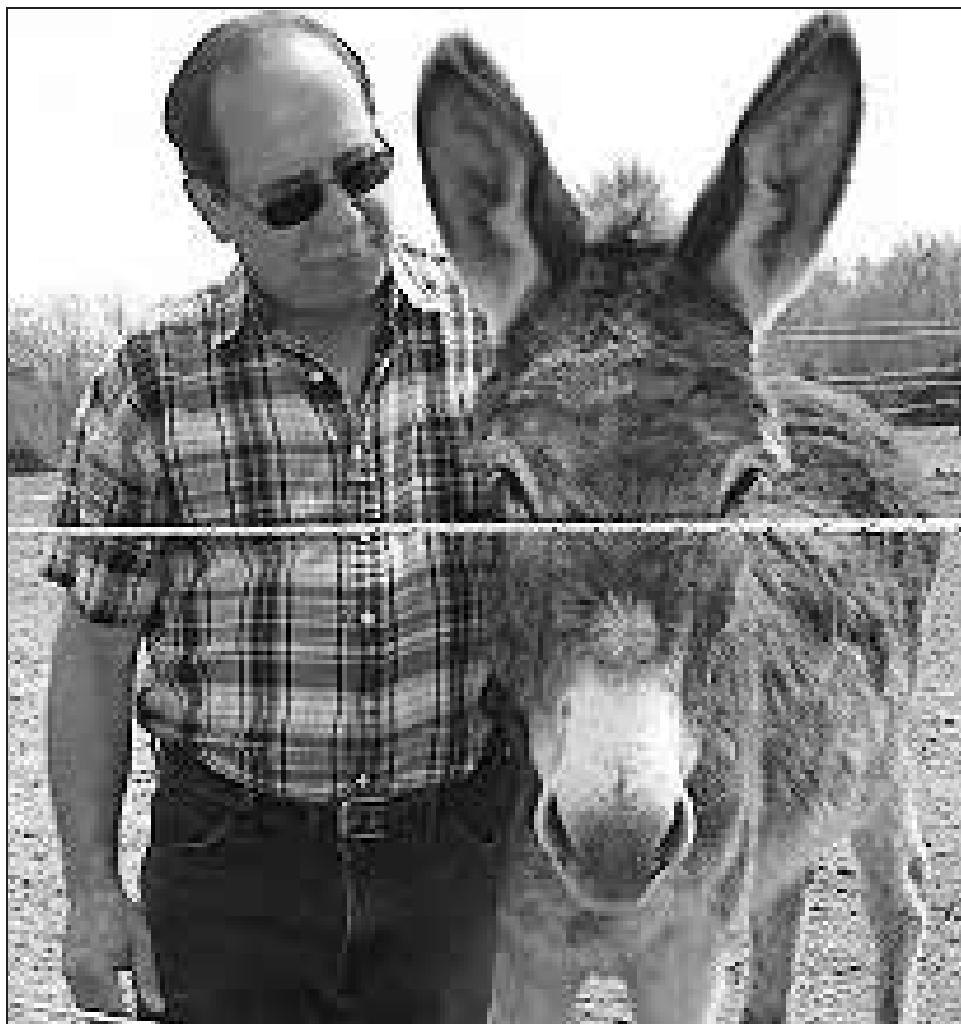
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SATURDAYS 8 - 1:00 PM

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www.MineralMarket.org

Volunteers



Bronco, an elderly donkey acquired through Virginia Donkey Rescue, relishes the attention of Bill LaPorte who calls the animal "my buddy."



Volunteer Emma Ryan paints a fence as a Tennessee myotonic fainting goat keeps a curious watch. The LaPortes raise the goats after learning that they were becoming rare.

FREE SHOW

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8:30-11:30PM

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Horse Sanctuary Welcomes Volunteers

By Pat Wilson
Correspondent

Several years ago, six American Saddlebred horses were running feral on 800 acres in Lunenburg County. Under court orders, the animals were slated to be shot. Several rescue organizations took up the cause to corral the horses after others had unsuccessfully used ATVs and ropes to "round them up." The group included Bill and Rhondavena "Rhonda" LaPorte.

"When you approached them, they just ran off. We used buckets of grain to coax them into smaller and smaller areas, and after six weekends managed to load them on trailers," said Bill. "One of the mares has a two-and-a-half inch scar on the back of her neck and places on her legs from rope burns."

The Saddlebred rescues came to the LaPortes' Byrd Mill Road farm. Three of the mares were in foal, but because of their neglected condition only one foal survived. Three were stallions that the LaPortes' had gelded. Slowly, the horses responded to the gentle and patient attention of the couple, accepting halters and responding to groundwork such as leading. Once trained under saddle, several will be open for adoption. But Rhonda sees this as an ongoing project as the younger ones must first learn to trust Bill and her and then others.

The rescue became the inspiration for Serenity Farm Equine Sanctuary. Having previously worked with rescue groups and participated on mounted search and rescue teams, the LaPortes had met others with similar interests and concerns. Soon the couple was taking in additional horses which had been living grossly substandard existences.

"We decided to become a sanctuary two years ago, so gained 501c3 non-profit status. This allows family and friends who help support our efforts to make donations that are tax deductible," said Rhonda.

Not all of the 21 horses living at the farm are eligible for adoption. One pasture with shelter is home to three horses with medical problems including a blind gelding that has acclimated to his surroundings and to his "field buddies." The trio, surrendered by their owner, will live out their lives being cared for at the sanctuary, as will several others.

"Horses that can be trained and are of value to others are up for adoption at no fee, but older horses or those with health issues will stay here for life," said Rhonda with Bill adding, "That is the sanctuary side of what we do."



Rhonda arranges saddles in the garden shed that the LaPortes converted into a "tack shack."

The Adoption Process

Adopting one of the rescues involves a detailed application with references. Prior to leaving Serenity Farm, the potential adopter must bond with the horse or pony and even has the option to sponsor the animal, taking over most of its care and basic expenses. Rhonda also works with the potential adopter on riding skills and determines the suitability of the horse and rider combination. The LaPortes visit the animal's prospective quarters to ensure suitable fencing and shelter. The owner agrees to never sell the animal, and if circumstances require, the horse must be returned to the farm.

"We've had six adoptions over the first two years, and everyone was successful. We have several more now eligible including the pony Wee Willy who easily accepts a saddle and the young volunteers who love to ride her," said Rhonda. "One red roan that came to us broke but with bucking problems still needs more work. She's stopped bucking with me, so it might have just been a problem with her former owner. I will start letting other experienced riders get on her and hope to eventually find someone wanting to bond and adopt her."

The Role of Volunteers

The sanctuary relies heavily on volunteers who lend a hand with grooming, feeding and socializing the rescues. In addition, the willing workers help with chores involving such tasks as carpentry, pasture maintenance and painting. Each volunteer must participate in safety training and sign a release waiver. One elderly neighbor comes each week to ride around on a golf cart and feed carrots.

"We have volunteers from six-year-old to almost 80," said Bill. "Some come several days a week, some on weekends and others during the week. Several families, parents and kids pitch in."

The couple works with the special education classes at the high school which uses the farm as a work site and Region 10's day placement school and other referrals. Rhonda will lead a day camp this summer under the auspices of that agency. Volunteers can be persons required to perform community service, but most are animal lovers who appreciate the goals of the sanctuary that include preventing equine neglect, abuse and needless euthanasia. The LaPortes are members of several state and county organizations with similar objectives.

"We collaborate, share resources and make referral to other agencies," said Bill. "Many of our volunteers don't ride, but just like being around horses."

An outstanding bonus at the sanctuary is that Rhonda has the background to not only train the horses, but also to work with youth in small groups or individually. As a retired special education teacher, she welcomes persons with limitations, either



Rhonda LaPorte has gentled and halter broken the feral Saddlebred horses saved from neglect in Lunenburg County.

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Freshwater fish
- 5 Jeer
- 10 St. John's _____
(herbal remedy)
- 14 Part of a pot
- 15 Christmas _____
- 16 Kind of code
- 17 Standing still
- 19 Mr. Potato Head
piece
- 20 Hobby shop buy
- 21 Orange
container
- 22 Frozen rain
- 23 Whisk, for one
- 25 "Peggy Sue"
singer
- 26 Mighty mount
- 28 Boot tip
- 30 Bread for gyros
- 31 Yogi's nemesis
- 32 Tree trickling
- 35 Fabricated
- 37 One who owes
- 39 Sandwich bread
- 40 Military greeting
- 44 Diane of "Paris
Can Wait"
- 45 Muslim leader
- 46 Golf score
- 47 Repair, as
software
- 50 Pained
expression
- 52 Make giddy
- 53 Gunpowder
ingredient
- 54 Prefix with born
or found
- 57 Tab
- 58 Tomato's family

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17				18						19			
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		23	24						25				
26	27					28			29				
30						31					32	33	34
35						36			37		38		
39				40		41	42	43		44			
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47	48	49				50			51				
52						53					54	55	56
57						58					59		
60						61					62		
63						64					65		

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DOWN

- 60 Just lying
around
- 61 Survey choice
- 62 Kuwait ruler
- 63 Lab procedure
- 64 Fashionably
dated
- 65 Distribute
- 9 Bothersome bug
- 10 Clobber
- 11 Built-out window
- 12 Gross out
- 13 Mouth-watering
- 18 Like some drinks
- 22 Wall Street
purchase
- 24 Eye drop?
- 26 Boot attachment
- 27 Elton John's
"_____Dancer"
- 29 Turn over
- 31 Bona fide
- 32 Demi Moore, e.g.
- 33 Top-notch
- 34 Flies, to spiders
- 36 Linguist's
concern
- 38 Political coalition
- 41 Low-grade coal
- 42 Type of piano
- 43 In that direction
- 45 Serving of veal
- 46 Watering holes
- 47 Ledger entry
- 48 Say "y'all," say
- 49 Poolroom supply
- 51 Subway in Paris
- 55 Make revisions
to
- 56 "The Way We
_____"
- 58 Swe. neighbor
- 59 _____ and haw

Sampling Louisa's Heritage

By Pat Wilson
Correspondent



Leah Jensen is wary of the hot coals as she assists Bruce Manson in forming a "fairy-sized" spoon from a horseshoe nail. Manson was one of several members of the Central Virginia Blacksmith Guild to demonstrate throughout the day.

Corn shucking, math lessons, woodworking using traditional tools and wool spinning were just a handful of the activities as Louisa County celebrated Heritage Day. On Saturday, April 28, the park adjacent to the Sargeant Museum in the town of Louisa was filled with visitors of all ages as the Louisa County Historical Society, in conjunction with Louisa County Parks, Recreation and Tourism, held its fifth annual event.

Co-chaired by Elaine Taylor and Deb Field and under the leadership of society president Chris Peterson, the festival focused on typical 19th century crafts and skills from viewing remedies in an apothecary's shop or cooking on a hearth to rolling cigars or tanning hides. Volunteers in period clothing manned numerous stations where participants experienced hands-on activities or demonstrations by those proficient in their fields of interest.



Margie Johnson, a member of the Old Dominion Draft Horse and Mule Association, grinds cornmeal as part of the group's participation at Heritage Day.

See Heritage page 14



Margie Gehlhaus demonstrates the steps for making an apple pie which she will then place in a Dutch oven and bake on the hearth of the Michie House.



Volunteer George Tyler sits astride a shaving horse while using a drawing knife to make pins for architectural joints.



Tina Racette assists Emma Alpern in constructing a cornhusk doll, one of the most popular booths for youth.



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MUSIC & LYRICS BY MEL BROOKS

— ON THE MAINSTAGE —



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MUSIC DIRECTION BY AUSTIN ROBEY
CHOREOGRAPHED BY PERRY MEDLIN & GERI CARLSON SAULS

FOUR PRESENTS
COUNTY PLAYERS



— IN THE CELLAR

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IN WINTER**

BY JAMES GOLDMAN



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PAGEANT EVER**

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— ON THE MAINSTAGE



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SONGS IN THE CELLAR
**BROADWAY
OUR WAY:
A TEEN MUSICAL
REVUE**

— IN THE CELLAR



FEB 8 - 17, 2019
DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY GERI CARLSON SAULS
MUSIC DIRECTION BY ERICA UMBACK
VOCAL DIRECTION BY NATALEE LOUISE MCREYNOLDS

— ON THE MAINSTAGE

HELLO, DOLLY!

BOOK BY MICHAEL STEWART
MUSIC & LYRICS BY JERRY HERMAN
BASED ON THE PLAY
THE MATCHMAKER BY THORNTON WILDER



MAR 15 - APR 14, 2019
DIRECTED BY EDWARD WARWICK WHITE
MUSIC DIRECTION BY KRISTIN BALTES
CHOREOGRAPHED BY HEATHER POWELL

— IN THE CELLAR

**GOD OF
CARNAGE**

BY YASMINA REZA
TRANSLATED BY CHRISTOPHER HAMPTON



MAY 10 - 26, 2019
DIRECTED BY MILLER MURRAY SUSEN

THE **2018/2019
SEASON**



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Hannah Ryan, who was recently honored by Volunteers of Louisa with the Youth Spirit award, curries one of the horses soon to be eligible for adoption

physical or mental, to participate. Her goal isn't just about riding, so she emphasizes a bonding and appreciation for the animals and their care. Her past experience in the classroom can often be transferred to the farm setting.

"We are constantly seeing the benefits to people interacting with the horses, especially those with autism or anxiety issues," said Bill.

Bill claims that financing the sanctuary will probably keep him working "forever," as the couple personally covers most expenses which range from grain and hay to farrier and vet bills. The number of horses, mules and donkeys that can find refuge with them depends on the ability of the LaPortes to obtain additional donations and funds from other sources.

"We have had as many as 26 here, and give preference to animals from Louisa County," said Rhonda. "We have had to turn down some requests but try to inform those owners about other options."

Tax exempt status has allowed Rhonda to apply and receive grants, including one from Charlottesville-based BAMA Works, which was earmarked for materials for expanding the barn, and another grant for material for a soon-to-be completed volunteer room. Bill and other volunteers provide the labor for both projects.

"We are blessed that numerous people have given us donations after

reading about us or seeing us on Facebook where we have over 900 followers. We've had others hold fundraisers for us," said Rhonda. "We always send a thank you with a picture."

Annually, the farm hosts Help a Horse Day in conjunction with the ASPCA to encourage visitors to spend an afternoon learning about the sanctuary. But, the LaPortes continuously welcome visitors and volunteers, but request that they contact them prior at 540-842-1756 or serenityfarmequinesancturay@gmail.com. More information about their efforts, volunteer criteria and methods to donate are available at the website, www.serenityfarmequinesanctuary.org.

Varying Backgrounds

Growing up, Rhonda spent summers on her grandfather's race horse farm in Roanoke County. She learned her training skills by helping him reclaim Thoroughbreds not suitable for the track.

"My grandfather would give me a horse for the summer, and then he'd sell it in the fall claiming it was so quiet, 'My granddaughter rides it,'" she said. "I was an adult before I realized I was training horses for him."

Bill admits he was a "city boy" raised in New York City. Because of government



Thirteen-year-old volunteer Shelby McCoy spends one day each weekend caring for the ponies and making friends with the goats, especially, Lucky.

contract employment in the weapon systems development field, Bill moved to Stafford County. Rhonda was a special education teacher and later administrator with the county's public schools. The couple, now celebrating a 20th anniversary, was introduced to each other by a mutual friend. For Bill, learning to ride was inevitable and Rhonda brags about his ability and patience with the groundwork so basic to early training.

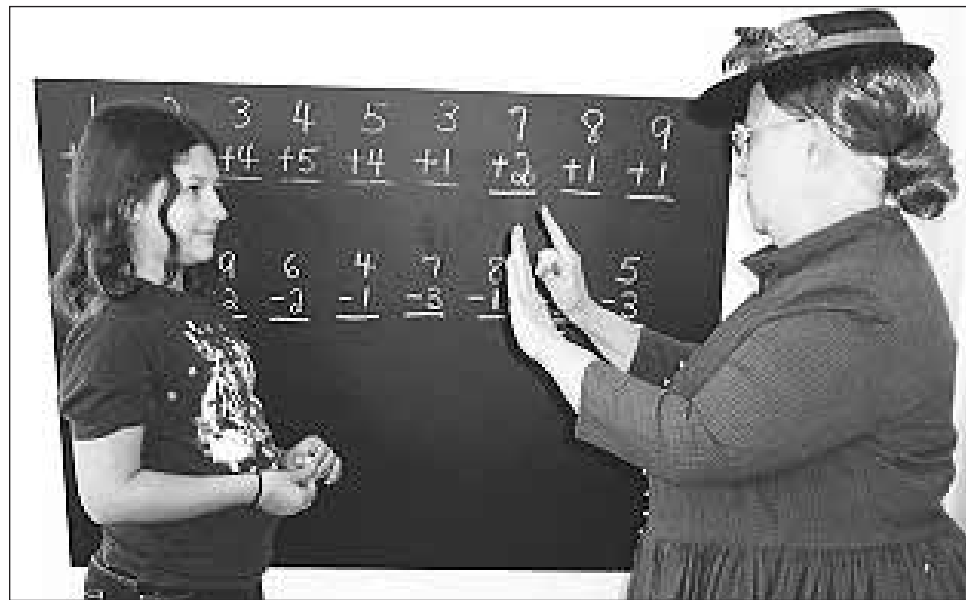
"We had four horses and six goats on nine acres in Stafford," she said. "We started looking for more land and saw this property. It had been foreclosed and was all overgrown."

Six years ago, the LaPortes began the still never-ending tasks of clearing land, building fences and run-in shelters, renovating a shed row barn and converting a garden shed into a "tack shack." Rhonda takes pride in her current role as a "full-time farm hand," while Bill works as an IT specialist for the county. For him, Serenity Farm is also his personal sanctuary where he can pursue his handyman skills and interests.

Heritage from page 12



Telegraph operator John Burhman demonstrates the invention by Samuel Morse that revolutionized communication in the mid-1800s.



Lois Loy in the persona of a schoolmistress gives a math lesson to Dakota Hartman in the one-room Trevilian School House (1880 to 1922) which was recently restored adjacent to the Sargeant Museum.

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EVENTS

LOUISIA COMMUNITY EMERGENCY FUND, INC: Holding 4th. Annual BBQ Throwdown on June 2, 2018 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Betty Queen Center, 522 Industrial Drive, Louisa, VA 23093. Fitzgerald Barnes will provide his famous 'pig on a platter'. Sides in competition include cole slaw, beans, cornbread, and dessert! Advance Tickets \$10, or \$12 at the door. Questions? (540) 894-0239.

"HOMETOWN NAZARETH, WHERE JESUS GREW UP": Colonial Baptist Church cordially invites you to ALL AGES/FAMILY VBS for an interactive Holy Land experience on Friday, June 22 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, June 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 4218 Richmond Rd., Keswick. www.colonialbc.org/VBS.html. Call (434) 971-3079 for more information.

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 Son - William McCoy Anderson, Son - Wiley Sylvester Anderson. Please contact: Grandson - Victor McCoy Anderson, 216 Darby Road, Yorktown, VA 23693. Phone (757) 869-0377 L/M .

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 For details and how to apply, go to <https://www.forkunion.com/employment-opportunities>

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The Arc
of the Piedmont

Are you passionate about applying your skills to ensure the greatest quality of life possible for our fellow community members in need? If so The Arc urges you to consider opportunities within our organization. Our mission is to ensure full community inclusion and participation of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the provision of high quality services and advocacy. Our vision is to remain the leading provider of services and advocacy for this deserving population. If you share these values we urge you to consider the following career opportunities:

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Direct Support Professionals –Louisa (PRN)

We're eager to hear from candidates interested in working in any of these locations. We have both full and part time vacancies available, primarily in our Residential programs. Additional detail for each vacancy (including schedules) may be viewed on the Employment page of our web site.

To see a full listing of all of our positions, to apply and to learn more about what The Arc is doing to support our community, please visit our web site at
<http://thearcofthepiedmont.org/>

In addition to offering a challenging and rewarding experience The Arc also offers competitive compensation, paid training, and- for full time staff- an attractive benefits package which includes health, dental and vision insurance, as well as life and long-term disability insurance, among other offerings. The Arc of the Piedmont is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



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For details and how to apply, go to <https://www.forkunion.com/employment-opportunities>

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Answers to the Crossword Puzzle from page 11

B	A	S	S	S	C	O	F	F	W	O	R	T
A	N	T	E	C	A	R	O	L	A	R	E	A
S	T	A	T	I	O	N	A	R	Y	L	I	P
K	I	T	C	R	A	T	E	S	L	E	E	T
U	T	E	N	S	I	L	H	O	L	L	Y	
S	T	E	E	D	T	O	E	C	A	P		
P	I	T	A	R	A	N	G	E	R	S	A	P
U	N	T	R	U	E	D	E	B	T	O	R	
R	Y	E	S	A	L	U	T	E	L	A	N	E
D	E	B	U	G	C	A	L	I	P	H	B	O
D	E	B	U	G	G	R	I	M	A	C	E	
E	L	A	T	E	N	I	T	E	R	N	E	W
B	I	L	L	N	I	G	H	T	S	H	A	D
I	D	L	E	O	T	H	E	R	E	M	I	R
T	E	S	T	R	E	T	R	O	M	E	T	E

