Louisa Life

November 16 - December 13, 2018 • ONE COPY FREE

LOUISA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Bread Maker Jesse Clowater

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Louisa**Life**

A monthly publication

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Three generations of bakers: Marie Clowater, her daughter, Jayne, and grandson, Jesse. They all contribute to all-day Friday baking for the Saturday Mineral Farmers Market.

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger



Karen Harvey displays the back of the king-size T-shirt quilt she made for Rob Jones. Photo by Linda Salisbury.

The Quilt for a Veteran

By Linda Salisbury Correspondent

hen U.S. Marine Corps veteran Sgt. Rob Jones saw a picture on Facebook of a T-shirt quilt that Karen Harvey of Lake Anna had made for her son Zach, Rob wondered if Karen would make a similar one for him using T-shirts that had been given to him when he ran 31 marathons in 31 cities in 31 days. He finished at month of marathons on Veterans Day 2017 at the Lincoln

Memorial. This feat might not sound as incredible as it is, but Jones lost both legs above the knee in 2010 while serving in Afghanistan. A landmine had triggered the devastating blast as Rob searched for improvised explosive devices to destroy. Within two weeks of losing his legs, he decided he would par-

ticipate in the 2012 Paralympics. He trained as a rower and took a bronze medal with partner Oksana Masters. But that hasn't been all that this determined veteran has accomplished. Rob has continued in new athletic ventures, from a bike ride across the country, competing in internation-

al events prove what wounded veterans can do. Of course, Karen said yes to the T-shirt request, and a

Of course, Karen said yes to the T-shirt request, and a "huge box of Rob's T-shirts from the 31/31/31 marathons" arrived at her home in May. Most were ones given to Rob by firefighters, law enforcement and well-wishers as they cheered Rob along his journey for his marathon accomplishments and helped him raise funds for three veteran groups

As soon as the shirts arrived the "design, sewing, embroidery and quilting began on May 25," said Karen. She had to select which shirts to use, create a design, cut them into the right size pieces and stitch them together before enlisting the help of other friends: quilter Judy Hunt, who has a large quilting machine, created the stars-and-stripes design for the back, and Patricia Fischer, who added the embroidery.

Zach Harvey, a prosthetist, and Rob Jones had become acquainted at Walter Reed Army Medical Center during the Rob's rehabilitation. As Rob was fitted for his new limbs and

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. learning to use them, he and Zach developed a lasting friendship. Zach was instrumental in creating, repairing and replacing the "amazing bilateral above-the-knees prosthetics for Rob and other patients,

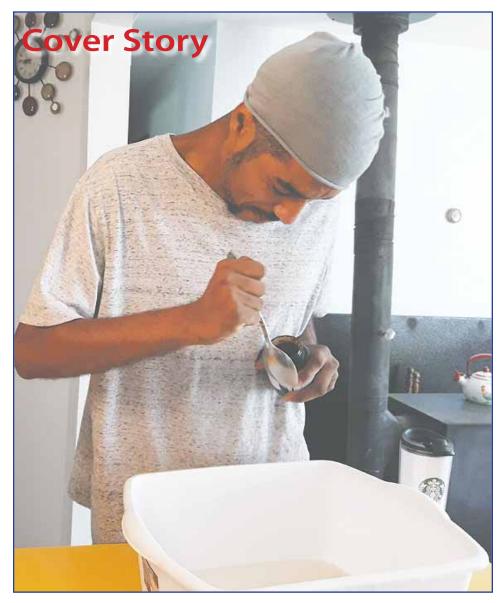


Rob Jones arrives in the parking lot of Immaculate Conception in Bumpass. (photo provided)

said Karen.

Zach has been co-regional manager at St.Luke/Presbyterian Hospital: "Creative Technology Orthotic and Prosthetic Solutions" in Denver since November 2012. Zach continues to supply the "new legs" that Rob needs for new endeavors that

See Jones page 7



Jesse Clowater measures ingredients for homemade wheat and orange bread. All photos by Linda Salisbury.



Jayne Clowater, and her son, Jesse, ready the ingredients for a loaf of bread. It's a new recipe they are trying for the Mineral Farmers Market.

Thanksgiving prayers answered

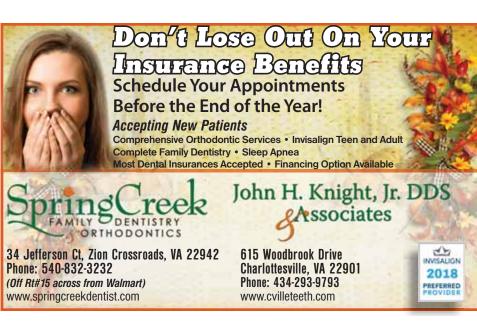


leven years ago, the Clowater family was hoping to celebrate Thanksgiving by sharing a pureed Thanksgiving dinner. It had been six long, stressful

months since Jesse Clowater, 25, had been in a singlecar auto accident, receiving a traumatic brain injury and By Linda Salisbury Correspondent

paralysis on his right side. He was in coma for weeks, then barely responding to University of Virginia medical staff and his family. His mother, Jayne, and grandmother, Marie, stayed by his side, whispering to him, praying and encouraging him. He gave signs, sometimes with humor, that he heard them. And two weeks before Thanksgiving, in an effort to encourage him to swallow, rather than rely on the feeding tube, they promised to join him eating pureed Thanksgiving dinner if he proved to therapists that he was able to eat. As is Jesse's style, he not only passed the therapists' test, but went a step further to show them that he was ready to manage







Jesse Clowater grins as he scrubs hands and arms, like a surgeon, in preparation for kneading the bread.

manage solid, not pureed food. And that was a turkey dinner to be thankful for! He said the food tasted good.

While he, his mother and grandmother told his story in their kitchen one late August day, they made a loaf of wheat bread flavored with honey and orange (for people who think they don't like wheat bread, said Jayne). Jesse measured and added the ingredients in a large dishpan where he mixed them, then kneaded the bread. Before the kneading he scrubbed up much like a surgeon preparing for an operation. His mother said, as Jesse occasionally added a bit of flour to the dough, "He's very good about judging what the bread needs."

Jesse added, "When I can flip it with one hand, it's kneaded enough." The kneading and pounding of the dough is also good exercise for his right hand and arm.

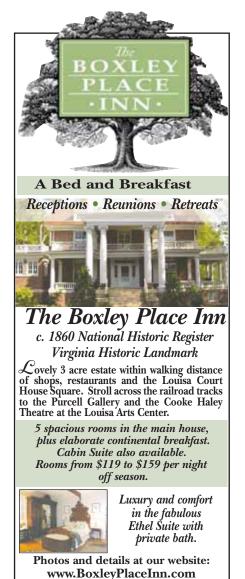
For the past five or so years, Jesse Clowater has been a familiar, regular member of the Mineral Farmers Market family during the growing season. He doesn't let his disabilities stop him from



Jesse Clowater kneads the dough. His mother says he's an expert at knowing exactly what is needed during the process.

selling a variety of baked goods, such as rosemary Cuban, and cinnamon buns, plus seasonal fresh vegetables from their garden. His humor is evident in his banter with other vendors and customers when he walks around with his long wooden staff for stability.

As folks pass the Clowaters' red tent, where Jesse sells the bread that he, his mother and grandmother prepare all day on Fridays, he calls out, "Happy Saturday!" And when customers ask how he's doing, his answer is always, "Way better than bad." It was a phrase that came to



540-967-1595

him during his long hospitalization. It came from the "Ren and Stimpy" cartoon "Log Song": "It's better than bad, it's good." When doctors and visitors came into his hospital room and asked how he was doing, "Better than bad," was the perfect answer Jesse thought silently, and it remains his mantra.

The accident happened in May 2007 when he was returning about midnight from Crozet where he had been drinking moonshine with a friend. He lost control of his car on I-64; it spun around and hit a cedar tree. He had a closed-head injury, and only a scratch on his right wrist. Jesse had not carried his driver's license that night, so emergency workers couldn't identify him as they tried to save his life. "I'll never remember that day and yet I'll never forget it," Jesse said.

His ability to remember things has changed. Jesse said that his doctor told him that his brain injury was "unique," and that his head was like a filing cabinet where memories were filed. "When my head came in contact with the cedar tree, files metaphorically, were strewn all over the road," Jesse said. "They were

See Jesse page 6

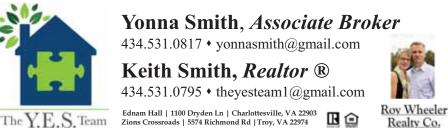


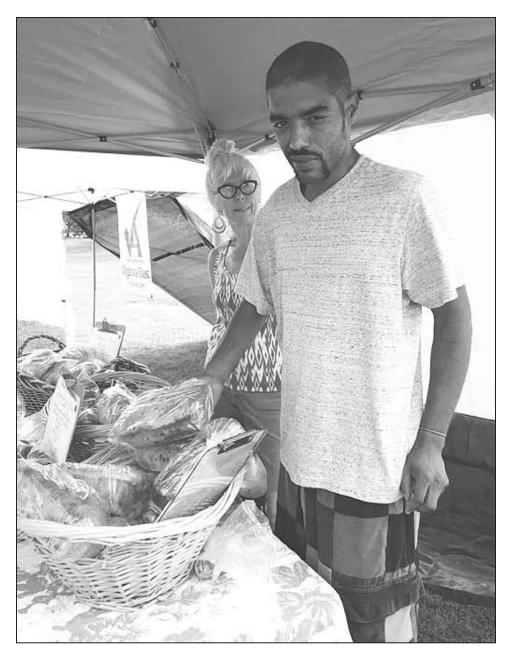
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Jesse Clowater is ready to sell the homemade bread and garden vegetables at the Mineral Farmers Market while his mother Jane runs errands.

more concerned with saving a life than returning all the files." He added that "At first my brain didn't work right. I prayed to God early on in my injury and asked him to only remember that which would be useful to my future. Looking back, that was the best of the better-than-bad thing."

Jayne said that during his recovery, Jesse went through all the stages of childhood, from the terrible twos on.

His grandmother said, "The first time I saw hope was when he was minimally



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Jayne Clowater talks to her son, Jesse, about one of the large tomatoes that will be sold at the Mineral Farmers Market.

responsive. I went in one morning and when I kissed him, he kissed me back."

A gifted student in school, Jesse was raised by his single mother, who just retired after 31 years of teaching Spanish to students in third and fourth grade at different times. Jayne said she was fortunate to have banked sick time because she used 40 days of it after Jesse was hospitalized. Marie said she called the ICU twice a night to check on his condition, and to make sure he was well cared for.

With faith and determination, Jesse worked hard in therapy to regain his ability to walk and speak (his large vocabulary had never left him).

Jayne said Jesse has always been the extrovert in the family and friends from school and church were supportive during his hospitalization and recovery. Jesse said, "The other good better-than-bad is that I know people from before the accident and a plethora of randomly different people since then."

The family is hoping that Jesse will be able to get a job through the Department of Rehabilitative Services to gain even greater independence.

Meanwhile he's been dating a woman (who now works at the University of Virginia medical school) whom he met three years ago outside the Barnes & Noble in Charlottesville, where he and his mother went every Sunday after church. "My mother is addicted to books and coffee," Jesse said with a grin. He invited her to join them at church, and she did.

Reflecting on life, Jesse said, "Everything is a choice, even the things that seem not to be. Don't feel sorry for yourself. Look at everything as way better than the bad other things that happen."

In the kitchen of the three-generation's small farm called "Almost Eden" in Kents Store near the Louisa County line, the kneading was completed and the bread was covered to rise.

Jesse worked with his mother on the cleanup and offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

To contact Jesse Clowater about speaking engagements e-mail (and note how the e-mail initials correspond with his mantra.) waybthb@gmail.com or call (434) 589-2154.



Karen Harvey shows the T-shirt front of the quilt. Photo by Linda Salisbury.



Rob Jones, with Zach Harvey, his prosthetist. (photo provided)

help him prove that veterans "aren't broken or incapable of reintegrating into society."

The 31/31/31 marathons began in London in 2017 and criss-crossed the United States, and even Toronto. The marathon event raised \$200,000 for wounded veteran charities: Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, and the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation. Rob's route was posted online and Karen said he was often greeted by people who ran along, including a man from Boston who had terminal cancer.

If that wasn't incredible enough, Rob's earlier bicycle ride showed his determination to never give up. During the winter of 2013-2014, Rob, at age 28, raised \$126,000 for the wounded veteran charities by biking a 5,180-mile journey across America from Bar Harbor, Maine, to California in 181 days. He called this the Rob Jones Journey (see robjonesjourney.com). His brother, Steve Miller was then 17-years old when Rob made the bike ride. Steve followed in their rented U-Haul truck for the six-month cross-country trek. Zach Harvey joined Rob over the highest divide of the Colorado Rockies to Camp Pendleton, Calif. With his team Rob raised \$126,000 for the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, and Ride 2 Recovery.

The commonwealth is home. Rob was born on a farm in Lovettsville and is a graduate of Virginia Tech. Rob's bicycle journey passed through Louisa County where the Harveys had a chance to see him and help by organizing a resting stop.

Karen said that Rob had a team that helped with the planning: police escorts, places to stay, etc., so those who followed his journey would know which towns/cities he'd be traveling through. When the Harveys learned that Rob would be coming past Immaculate Conception in Bumpass they went into action.

"My husband, Bob, contacted a few of his military friends from that area that he thought might be interested, and we got a message to Rob and his brother, that we would have a rest stop and pizza for them at this Louisa Catholic church." A group of people greeted him at the road and welcomed him for a brief lunch and stop at the church hall, where he told them about his trip. Shortly after, he rode through Mineral with a police escort through town and continued, she said.

When Zach flew from Colorado to Baltimore in October to give Rob new legs to use in the Invictus Games in Australia later that month, Bob and Karen made the drive from Louisa County to see them and wish Rob well. Rob was among 72 Americans chosen by the Department of Defense to participate in various Invictus events including a 1,500-meter track race and rowing. Prince Harry, who founded the games in 2014, and his wife, Meghan Markle were among the games' attendees.

As for the quilt, Karen said, "This project was such fun and so rewarding because it just happened in a delightful, unexpected way when Rob saw Zach's quilt. It has been such a joy to work with Pat Fischer and Judy Hunt, who did amazing work. And all of the materials, time, and work was donated to honor and appreciate Rob for his 'unstoppable' service. It is also rewarding to have him be so excited about receiving the quilt. I look forward to this Veterans Day when Rob will be back in Washington and we will meet up about that time to make the delivery. That will be fun!"

Christmas in Louisa

Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, November 30th Begins @6 PM

Louisa Courthouse Lawn

Christmas Festival & Parade

Louisa Arts Center Performance Saturday, December 1st Festival: 10 AM - 3 PM Parade: 12 PM Main Street Louisa

Breakfast with Santa Saturday, December 8th 9 - 11 AM Betty Queen Center



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Santa Council Seeks Support and Volunteers

By Pat Wilson Correspondent



The Santa Council of Louisa County, Inc. has been serving Louisa County families and seniors since 1988. The non-profit organization was founded by a group of concerned citizens who wanted to coordinate charitable giving during the Christmas holiday season. This group became aware that some families received an over-abundance of help while others received nothing. The group wanted to make sure that all families and seniors in need during the holidays would have food and the children would receive toys, books and clothing.

"The Santa Council is staffed 100 percent by community volunteers. In 2017, 98 percent of all funds raised to support the program went directly to recipients," said Jane Duren, president. "The rest was earmarked for supplies."

On average, the Santa Council spends approximately \$40 per family for food which is enough for Christmas dinner plus a few extra days and spends approximately \$30 per child. Costs are kept down because of community support, such as conducting clothing, toy or canned food drives.

"You can help the Santa Council in several different ways. If you belong to a church, a civic organization or a community service group, you may consider holding a drive or adopting one or more families," said Duren. "By adopting a family, you agree to provide the family with a holiday meal and to provide clothing and toys to the children. The children's wish list will be given to you. Then you must contact the family and deliver the gifts."

A tree with children's gift requests will be set up in the Louisa Public Library by Wednesday, November 14. Individuals or groups are asked to select a tag, buy a gift and return the item to the library as instructed.

The Santa Council needs volunteers. Children's gifts are wrapped and organized by family from Wednesday, November 28 at 10 a.m. to Wednesday, December 5 at the Louisa Fire Department on Main Street in the town of Louisa (no weekends).

Volunteers are also needed help pack food and sort gifts as well as assist with



Be a Claus for a Cause!

Put a team together or fund-raise individually and run/walk a mile as Santa to help The Arc of the Piedmont provide and serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

All proceeds from this event go to support the programs and services The Arc of the Piedmont provides for people in Charlottesville and the surrounding community living with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Thank you for supporting our mission!

Event Day

Registrants will receive their costumes (Santa suit for adults and elf ears for children). Please arrive to the check-in location at the Sprint Pavilion on the Downtown Mall between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. to receive your costume and turn in any donations if necessary. No paper tick-

ets are necessary.

Awards will be presented to the top corporate team and family team for raising money for the Arc of the Piedmont mission!

Enjoy light breakfast snacks and refreshments beginning at 9:30am to fuel up before your run/walk!

Register online: https://events.arcpva.org/arcsantarun2018 Call 434-977-4002 traffic control at the distribution site. Food boxes will be packed on Tuesday, December 4, starting at 8:30 a.m. and continuing until completed at Mineral Baptist Church, 51 Louisa Avenue in the town of Mineral. Distribution is planned for Friday, December 7, (3 to 5:30 p.m.) at the church and help will be needed earlier in the day to set up. Distribution is also scheduled for Saturday, December 8, (8 to 11 a.m.).

The 2018 project has a goal of \$37,000 and tax-deductible contributions can be mailed to: The Santa Council of Louisa County, Inc. P. O. Box 392, Louisa, Virginia 23093.

For more information about volunteering opportunities, please call: June Duren (540) 894-4787; Linda Boxley (540) 967-2719 or Lloyd Runnett (540) 894-3137.



2018 Annual Ladies Night Out-Servants of Christ Baptist Church, located at 60 Sommerfield Drive at Zion Cross Roads, will be hosting their Ladies Night Out on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. Come for Fellowship, Refreshments, Music, Games with prizes and a Silent Auction!

Community Chorus Performs This Weekend

By Pat Wilson Correspondent



Promised Land,' will include four-inhand piano accompaniment by Burchie Carroll and Hilda Gibson at the keyboard," said Carol Barfield, music director. "The companion piece, 'Nearer Thy God to Thee,' will feature cellist Roya Schaper, a 15-year-old foreign exchange student from Cologne, Germany."

The Louisa Middle School choir under the direction of Sharon Wills will participate in a portion of the program as soloists and guests. The wide variety of music will feature soloists, the men's ensemble and the combined choruses. Other engaging pieces include "Nelly Bly," "Remember Me" and "No Man is an Island." Several selections will be a memorial tribute.

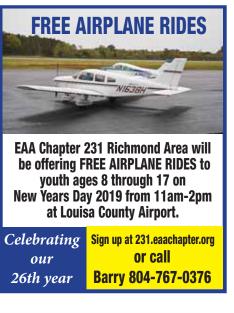
The concerts are free, but donations



Roya Schaper, a foreign exchange student from Cologne, Germany, will be the featured cellist.

will be accepted to benefit the Louisa Arts Center and to fund the Louisa County High School scholarships for students in the arts. Ample parking, including handicapped access, is located behind the church.

Anyone interested in singing in future programs can contact Barfield at 540-273-0585 or visit the website, communitychorussingers.simplesite.com.







The women of Common Threads proudly display their 50 plus quilts. Surrounding their work are Paula Friski, Tina Chaleki, Pam Pollard, Gayla Goerge, Barbara Kachinski, Debbie Boyer, Marie Farrell and Regina Howell.

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By Pat Wilson Correspondent

n Wednesday mornings a dozen or so women walk into the St. James Episcopal Church hall dragging what seem like hard-sided suitcases. But, looks can be deceiving, as each wheeled case is opened and a sewing machine emerges and is set up - two on each table. The group calls itself, Common Threads, and even though they may be working on personal quilts or those destined for charitable organizations, the quilters consider the friendships and camaraderie just as rewarding as their work. The group is a spinoff of Quilts for Kids.

In 2011, Marie Farrell initiated that project to benefit the Early Childhood Special Education students attending Louisa schools. She asked fellow quilters to donate colorful child-patterned lap-sized quilts that the youngsters could snuggle with during rest time. Dozens of quilters in the community generously responded to her request. Each volunteer donated a book with the same theme as the quilt. These are still distributed each fall. But, the quilters' enthusiasm produced extra quilts, and the concept of assisting other charitable endeavors emerged. Several of the volunteers suggested a once-a-week gathering to share skills and friendship.

"One Wednesday each month we work on quilts to donate, mostly using fabric from our stashes," said Tina Chaleki. "We've sent quilted flannel blankets and burp pads to an organization in Florida to distribute to Puerto Rican refugees after Hurricane Marie."

Debbie Boyer explained that a stash is the leftover fabric from another quilt. Since the group specializes in quilts which are about 40" by 50" and have designs that appeal to children, members cannot rely solely on their stashes. Occasionally, they must purchase coordinating material and batting. The Fabric Hut and Gift Gallery and the Warm Company (batting retailer) have been helpful, and the St. James Church congregation made a donation to aid with buying supplies.

"So far this year, we have made over 75 quilts," said Farrell. "We gave about 30 to the school children."

When the Common Threads ladies decided to find a useful outlet for the remaining quilts, Boyer researched philanthropic organizations and the group decided to support Quilts of Compassion. The non-profit organization based in Toledo, Ohio, delivers quilts whenever and wherever it sees a need. Its disaster relief team has recently been involved with locales recovering

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after recent hurricanes.

In October the women vacuum sealed and boxed approximately 50 quilts destined for the charity. Themes for the machine-quilted items varied from cartoon characters, airplanes, dolls, trucks and boats, to just about any animal imaginable including turtles, dogs, elephants, kittens and giraffes. Most design patterns were created by the quilters themselves, but Boyer, who is referred to as the "master cutter," had sometimes prepared pre-cut fabric and a pattern. Often a quilt is a group effort, especially when the several embroidery specialists add finishing touches. Each quilt bares a small printed label, You Are Loved.

The women have also aided other projects. As a group effort, the women recently made and donated quilts to fundraisers for the Louisa Arts Center Gala and the St. James Fall Festival. Their next project is to machine-stitch quilts for Shelter in Help for Emergency at the request of Patty Driskill, who will deliver them to the Charlottesville office.

More than Stitches

That caring for others is also spread among the women, themselves, as many of their personal efforts are given away. Louise Cruden has mailed quilts to nieces and nephews in Michigan and Oregon.

"I keep some myself, but most go to family and friends. I'm working on one for a baby due in January," she said.

Gayla Goerge has quilted for over two decades and estimates she has completed about 50 in various sizes. She mainly donates her work to various fundraisers, especially the Louisa Arts Center where she is an active volunteer.

"I've done quilts for friends who were undergoing chemotherapy or dealing with other health problems, "she said then added with a laugh, "The one person I've never made a quilt for is my husband Joe."

For others, the friendship is as valuable as the personal satisfaction of a completed quilt. After the death of her husband, Pam Pollard, who had done textile design but never quilted, was "grateful" for her newly-found friends.

"I saw a notice in Fabric Hut a couple years ago requesting quilts for preschoolers," she said. "I did one, and when Marie called to thank me, she talked me into coming. This friendship has been a lifesaver for me. I'm hooked and wouldn't give this up for anything."

Common Threads welcome everyone – from beginners to dedicated quilters. No one is obligated to attend each Wednesday, and, willingly, the women will teach novices the basics, as well as share techniques with the more experienced. Anyone wanting information can call Pam Pollard at (540) 287-1456.

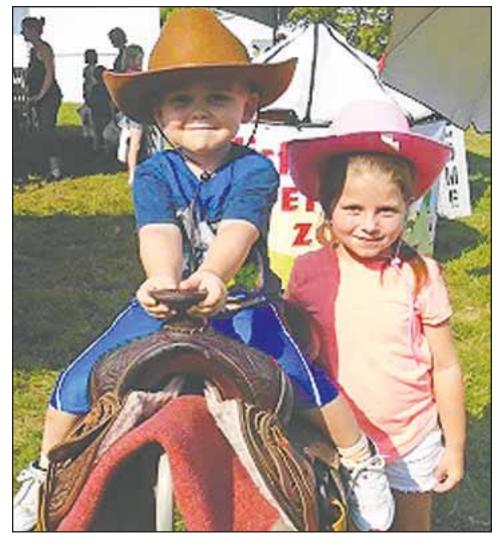


Shelter in Help for Emergency staffer Robin Jackson and Common Threads representative Tina Chaleki hold one of the 20 quilts that the quilters donated to the non-profit organization.

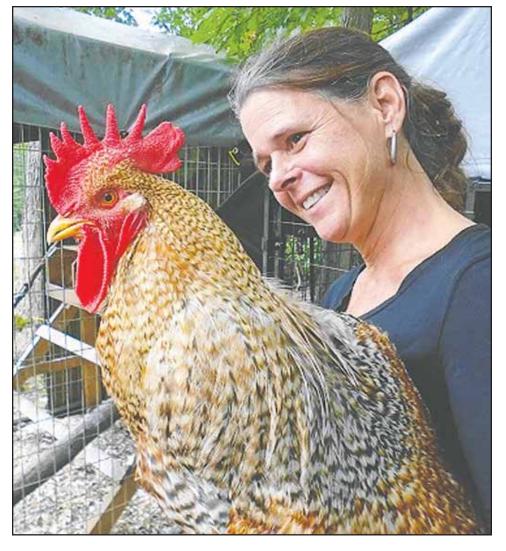


Barbara Kachinski and Gayla Goerge show off several of the brightly patterned quilts ready to be folded and boxed.

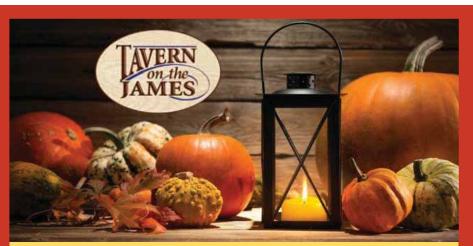




At the 2018 Louisa County Agricultural Fair, Cruz Amick tried out the western saddle while Ella Grace Drumheller watched.



T J, a Bielebfender Kennhuhu rooster, was given to Tina Turner as a birthday gift after she admired the German breed.



Thanksgiving Dinner

Available November 22, 2018 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Salad Fresh Garden Salad

Dinner Selections

Oven Roasted Turkey Breast Slow Roasted Turkey Breast Basted in its own Natural Au Jus and Lightly Seasoned with Salt & Pepper & Pineapple Glazed Ham Steak

Center cut, bone-in ham steak glazed with pineapple house pickled ginger sauce.

Accompaniments

Candied Yams Stuffing Hot Fresh Rolls Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Deviled Eggs Potato Salad Cranberry Salsa Southern Green Beans

Only \$21.95

Desserts:

Pumpkin Pie \$4.95 Pecan Pie \$4.95

Consuming raw or undercooked seafood, chicken, pork, beef or eggs may increase your risk of food-borne illnesses, especially if you have certain medical conditions. To our guests with food sensitivities or allergies: Tavern on the James cannot ensure that menu items do not contain ingredients that might cause an allergic reaction. Please consider this when ordering.

Tootsie Roll started it all!

By Pat Wilson Correspondent



ina Turner saw the miniature horse at a livestock exchange sale. While she observed, a handler jump him over bales of hay, Tina fell in love with the young colt. So, she bid on him and, after the auctioneer hit the gavel, she owned the flaxen-colored stud. Tina had not brought her trailer, so she asked a friend to trailer him to his barn for the night, and she'd pick him up the next day.

"He told me he was going to take Tootsie Roll into his house, and I thought he was joking," said Tina. "That evening he sent me a picture of the two of them in his living room watching television."

Tootsie Roll was the first of her petting zoo potentials to move onto Misfit Acres, an eight-acre portion of a larger tract of land that had been in the Sharp family for

four generation. Great-granddaughter Tina lives in a house built by her late father, who also cleared much of her land as well as constructed the barn and other outbuildings.

Tina's next save was Beefcake, a miniature bull with an untreated upper respiratory infection, which meant it potentially was destined for another sale. In fact, most of the older animals came to Misfit Acres with a not too satisfying history. Jelly Bean, a Jerusalem donkey, was not "living in the best situation and was probably destined for some kind of a sale," so Tina purchased her only to find



out she was in foal. Cookie, a 22-year-old Shetland pony, had once lived on a farm where teenagers used her for paintball practice. Now, she will live out her life visiting fairs and being petted by kinder kids.

Some animals were lucky enough to have always grazed at Misfit Acres. Jelly Beans' foal, Skittles, was born there as were triplet goats and Hercules the donkey, among others.

"I called the farm Misfit Acres because my animals are all misfits in way. Some were neglected, abused, old or born with deafness," she said. "Some are just odd, like my three barn cats with six toes that we rescued and bottle fed or Jelly Bean, the donkey, who should get along with the goats but doesn't."

Tina soon wondered what she was going to do with the ever-increasing menagerie. It was the suggestion of Blaine Courtney, her farrier, which led to the mobile petting zoo. After research and mandatory inspections, she gained licensing through the Food and Drug Administration. Insurance and marketing the business came next. Tina bought a tent, some panels and constructed coops and other portable enclosures. She added rabbits and chickens for variety.



On the Road

with Jelly Bean.

As a result, weekends don't allow Tina to relax. Major chores are balanced with taking the petting zoo on the road. Pens, buckets and other supplies are stored in the dressing room and overhang of her trailer. Small animals travel in crates. Larger animals are separated by panels. Her first outing was being hired by the Fredericksburg Kids Expo last year.

"Within two months, I had multiple engagements booked, some for a year in advance," she said. "We go to the Richmond area, Fredericksburg and Northern Virginia, mostly to festivals, fairs and expos. I will do birthday parties and offer either the full zoo with a minimum of ten animals or a smaller version with fewer animals."

Her exhibit includes props like a western saddle on which visitors sit wearing a cowboy hat while family members take pictures. A display area has coloring pages and a sensory table. The charge for each event is for a minimum of two hours and rates can vary considering the distance involved.

"I will do pony rides for up to ten kids, but I won't go just for pony rides. That is an add-on to the petting zoo," she said. "I hope to find more bookings locally, and will only travel three hours or less, because of the animals."

Tina will alternate which goats, ponies, chickens, rabbits or other pets she takes depending on the location of the event and current disposition of the individual animal. Opie, the goat, doesn't get to go anymore.

"At the farm, he jumps over the fence to greet me on the porch in the morning which I enjoy," she said. "But, at his last event, he jumped out of a pen to get to me, so I had to put him on a leash for the rest of the day."

See Misfit Acres page 15



Emarione Mack and Chance Shelton petted Cookie, the Shetland pony, at the Misfit Acres Petting Zoo, a popular destination at the 2018 Louisa County Agricultural Fair.



THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER By Barbara Robinson Directed by Jane Gargett **November 30 – December 16, 2018** on the MAINSTAGE

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involving the Three Wise Men, a ham, scared shepherds, and six rowdy kids. Ralph, Imogene, Leroy, Claude, Ollie, and Gladys Herdman are an awful bunch. They set fire to Fred Shoemaker's toolshed, blackmailed Wanda Pierce to get her charm bracelet, and smacked Alice Wendelken across the head. And that's just the start! When the Herdmans show up at church for the free snacks and suddenly take over the Christmas pageant, the other kids are shocked. It's obvious that they're up to no good. But Christmas magic is all around and the Herdmans, who have never heard the Christmas story before, start to reimagine it in their own way.

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of the Piedmont

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about what The Arc is doing to support our community,

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compensation, paid training, and- for full time staff- an attractive benefits package which includes

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We are eager to hear from qualified candidates interested in working in

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EVENTS

HAPPY FACE HOLIDAY PARTY: Fluvanna Christian Service Society's annual Happy Face party will be held Saturday, December 1, at Central Elementary School, 3340 Central Plains Road, Palmyra, at 10 a.m. Starting in November, collection boxes for new toys for infants, children up to ages 12, and food donations have been placed at Fluvanna Co. Public Library, Orme Fitness, Monticello Country Realtors, Spectrum Fitness and both Lake Monticello's clubhouses and most local churches. VOLUN-TEERS needed to set-up the day before or help on day of party. Call Mary Kidd (434) 589-0910.

FOR SALE

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To prepare them for the petting zoo, Tina Turner is hands-on with her animals including the young goats.



Tina Turner sets up a display table with activities as part of the Misfit Acres Mobile Petting Zoo.

Farm Life

After rising at 5 a.m., Tina feeds the livestock then drives to Richmond where she is an operation's manager for a paper company. Returning home, she feeds and completes other chores, often after dark in the winter months.

Ît's a long day, but there is nothing more peaceful than sitting on the porch in the late evenings and watching the animals. It makes it all worthwhile," she said.

Soft-hearted Tina admits that she took in many of her first animals because of their living conditions, but she has reached the limit of animals for which she and her son Joshua can properly care.

"I'm not a rescue but if I hear of animals needing help, I try to find suitable homes or rescue organizations," she said. "I need to concentrate on keeping the animals I use for the petting zoo healthy and in tip-top shape.

More information about the business is available on Facebook by searching Misfit Acres Mobile Petting Zoo and Tina can be contacted by email at tinadaleturner@aol.com or by phone at (804) 467-9440. Stop by the petting zoo at the Louisa Christmas Festival on Saturday, December 1 and meet Tina and her friendly farm animals.





Where can I pick up my Louisa Life?

Virginia Community Bank 50 McDonalds 50 Spring Creek Clubhouse 25 UVA Medical Park 50 Spring Creek Eye Care 25 Spring Creek Dentistry 25 Spectrum 25 Crossroads Animal Hospital 10 Martha Jefferson Spring Creek 25 Zions Exxon 50 Crescent Inn 50 Burrus Market 50 Ferncliff Exxon 100 Box Hadensville Market 100 Box D'mores 50 Parrish Store 25 Gum Springs BP 50

Gum Springs Pit Stop 100

33 Quick Mart 50 Box

Elk Creek Store 50 Box

B&L Market 50 Box

Lake Anna Market 2

Box

Lake Anna Lodge 40 Asian Cafe 25 Vito's 50 **Billikens BBQ 25** New Bridge Market 25 Lake Anna Realty 25 Dickensons Store 200 Box Christopher Run Camparound 100 Joe Joe's Subs 25 BB&T Bank 25 Johny's BP 100 Box Millers Market 300 Box Mineral P.O. 300 Box Virginia Community Bank 50 Bargain Barn 50 Box Mineral Express 50 Box Gulf 50 Box Louisa County Library 25 Betty Queen Center 100 Medical Associates of Louisa 50 Southern States 50 Dominos 100 Subway 150 Hunan Best 50

Long & Foster Realtors 15 Food Lion 400 **CVS 50** True Value 100 Sheets 200 Essex Bank 25 Louisa Arts Center 75 Baily's Drug 50 **English Meadows Senior** Living 25 Hotinger Nursery 25 K&B Market 25 Shenandoah Crossings Office 25 Store 75 Barbecue Exchange 25 Inwood Restaurant 200 Mighty Mart 25 Holly's Store 100 Louisa P.O. 400 Panda Garden 100 Romas Box 150 Inside 150 Laundromat 50 **Tres Portrillos 75** Walgreens 50 Pizza Hut 100 Louisa BP 25 Shoppers Value 300 B&R Market 25 Kersey' Store 25



Purcell Gallery and Box Office Hours: 12 – 4 Tuesday – Friday 540-967-5200 · Tickets 24/7 at LouisaArts.org

In the Theater



Skip Castro Band – Tickets \$10

★ Saturday, Dec 1 at 7:30 PM

It began a long time ago, 1978 to be exact. A group of musicians got together because they liked to play music. Thus, the Skip Castro Band was born.

A mutual love of Rhythm 'N Blues, Swing, Boogie Woogie and Rock 'N Roll became the foundation of their music. This band brings the excitement every time it takes the stage!

LIONEL BART'S



Lionel Bart's Oliver! – Tickets \$21 - 32

★ December 7th – 9th

Bringing Charles Dickens' beloved novel to life, Lionel Bart's Oliver! takes audiences on a wild adventure through Victorian England. Join young, orphaned Oliver Twist as he navigates London's underworld of theft and violence, searching for a home, a family, and - most importantly - love.

With spirited, timeless songs like "As Long as He Needs Me," "Food, Glorious Food," and "Where is Love," Oliver! Is a musical classic.

Directed by Peggy Sadler

LIONEL BART'S OLIVER! Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTL www.MTIShows.com

December '63 – Tickets \$37 - 43



showcases all your favorite songs from Frankie Valli including the classics that have been thrilling audiences for decades along with the most popular singles from the Broadway blockbuster musical, The Jersey Boys.

Toast to Art Junior - Christmas Crafts For Kids



Come join us in making crafts suitable as Christmas decorations or for gift-giving. Snacks will be provided and your student will be going home with lovely, hand-made crafts. Crafts will include decorated gingerbread men, reindeer hats, Santa faces, and popsicle stick ornaments.

Pre-registration is required - sign up early as only 15 students may attend the class.

Sign up through LouisaArts.org or by calling the Box Office (540) 967-5200 Tuesday through Friday, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Venue: Louisa Arts Center Free On-Site Parking Available