

February 28 - March 26, 2020 • ONE COPY FREE LOUISA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

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Louisa Life

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Next advertising deadline: March 18, 2020



Larry Davies is a blogger, columnist and retired clergyman. Photo courtesy of Larry Davies





Louisa County Restaurant Week Set to Begin March 6

Press release

Restaurant week is coming back to the Louisa County area Friday, March 6th -Sunday, March 15th.Hosted by Louisa County Parks, Recreation and Tourism & Visit Louisa, this ten-day culinary experience will highlight the area's locally owned restaurants through promoting their signature dishes at affordable prices. This is a great opportunity for both community-locals and visitors to check-out the diverse selection of restaurants in Louisa County, and for local restaurants to showcase some of their best dishes.

Since Louisa County has great history as a caring community, we are excited that the 2020 restaurant week will continue to offer a charitable component. For every meal that is purchased between March 6th and 15th from a restaurant week location, \$1 will be donated to the Louisa County Resource



Louisa County Parks, Recreation & Tourism

Council.

For 28 years, the Resource Council has provided food assistance for those in our community who are at risk of hunger. The food pantry continues to see a growing hunger problem in our area. In fact, a 2019 study conducted by UVA's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service confirmed that Louisa County's food insecurity rate of 22.3% is "nearly twice the 11.8% national average."

Your participation in Restaurant Week will support local businesses and Louisa County Resource Council's work in our community to provide food to those who are most in need of help.

Participating locations:

- Annie Mac's Kitchen
- Callie Opie's Orchard
- Coyote Hole Ciderworks
- Joe-Joe's Super Heroes & Pizza
- Obrigado Restaurant
- Prospect Hill Plantation Inn & Restaurant
- Smokin' Eddies BBQ
- The Cove at Lake Anna
- Tim's at Lake Anna Restaurant
- & Crab house
- And More!

For more information, visit: www.VisitLouisa.com/RestaurantWeek



Hosted by Crystal Hill, Lloyds Real Estate LLC and 3 others

Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Crystal Hill, Lloyds Real Estate LLC • 105 East Main Street, Louisa, Virginia 23093 Have questions about buying a home? Are you prepared and ready??

Lloyd's Real Estate, LLC wants to help you with that!! Bill Bader with Waterstone Mortgage is offering this seminar for free! Get your questions answered and learn what the next steps are. Limited spaces available!! Call or message me today! Bill Bader: 434-975-4600 • WaterstoneMortgage.com • Crystal Hill Cell: 540-894-7487 • Office: 540-967-0168 • LloydsRealEstateLLC.com

The ABC's of Larry Davies: Author, Blogger, Clergyman

By Carol Barfield Correspondent

arry Davies is having an impact on Louisa County. As author, blogger, columnist and retired clergyman, he has much to share about life and how to live it with energy and spirit.

Larry first came to my attention through his column "Sowing Seeds of Faith", in the Central Virginian newspaper. The topics were lively, interesting and made me look forward to flipping through the paper each week to see what he would say next. From the funny topic of handling a seismic temper, to a thoughtful piece about a box of blessings, to a somber and frank talk about suicide, Larry draws the reader in to share life and its pleasures and pain.

Dropping into Larry's website at www.sowingseedsoffaith.com, I discovered many interesting topics: "Worry and Softball," where Larry writes of his daughter Lisa and their growth through the game; "Barbecued Encouragement," in which he expresses what he has in common with a little roadside BBQ stand and "Time to Laugh," in which he writes about how laughter calms your fears, restores your hope, eases your pain and strengthens your resolve.

Learning from a mutual friend that he is also part-time pastor of two local churches, I reached out to find more about this man who came out of retirement and commutes from his home in Chancellorsville to serve two Mineral congregations. Larry, a tall man with smiling eyes and a welcoming demeanor, explained his background: "I was not originally a pastor. For more than a decade I worked my way through the ranks in a Honda dealership first as salesman, then finance manager, general manager, and was poised to purchase a Chevrolet dealership when I made a discovery-God didn't want me to only be a Christian automobile dealer!"

See Larry Page 4



One of Larry Davies two churches in Louisa County. Photo courtesy of Larry Davies



Larry and Mell throw three coins in a fountain in Italy.



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what they went through to write them. Whether you're a bird or fish enthusiast or will be another Third Thursday at The Lodge



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Larry from page 3

Larry had come to faith through Zig Ziglar's ministry, specifically after reading Confessions of a Happy Christian. "I used to be someone who thought I didn't need to use my Sundays, get dressed up in a suit and go to church. I became someone who needed that day to get me through the other six." Sleepless nights and soul searching led him to announce to his family and friends that he was answering a call to the ministry. Few could fathom how Larry could make such a decision- handing over a profitable career and heading into the unknown. He sold his car and his house and began divinity school. "I had horrible grades at Tech, so Duke accepted me only on a trial basis. I never earned less than a B, though, and within six months was a full-time student pastor in a church. My first year in seminary my kids qualified for free lunches and we were on food stamps!"

People offered helping hands along the way, including an older lady who was drawn to help poor seminary students by offering lodging. She also introduced him to many parishioners and brought him to exciting revivals meetings. Through grants from Duke and gifts from many people, he finished school and began full-time ministry. During this period, his marriage faltered, and brought him into a deeper understanding of human failings. "I never knew what to say to those with marital troubles before my own divorce. It really changed me and I related to people in a closer way. Ultimately that led me to start a divorce recovery ministry. I grew up thinking that church was full

See Larry page 6



Larry hanging out with Santa. Photo courtesy of Larry Davies

Light

Pithew 5:



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(We will possibly add transportation to and from Scottsville and/or Dillwyn if there is interest.)

The Light Academy is a non-denominational Christian school founded on the principles of Matthew 5:14-16!



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www.thelightacademy.com

Visit our Facebook page The Light Academy **434-842-2222**



We're learning to be the light!

VISIT LOUISA PRESENTS:



LOUISA COUNTY RESTAURANT WEEK 2020

Friday March 6th - Sunday March 15th

PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS:

ANNIE MAC'S KITCHEN CALLIE OPIE'S ORCHARD COYOTE HOLE CIDER WORKS JOE-JOE'S SUPER HEROS & PIZZA OBRIGADO RESTAURANT

PROSPECT HILL PLANTATION INN SMOKIN' EDDIES BBQ THE COVE AT LAKE ANNA TIM'S AT LAKE ANNA 191 SMOKERY



For every meal purchased during our restaurant week, \$1.00 will be donated to the Louisa County Resource Council. Learn more at **www.visitlouisa.com/restaurantweek**



Mell and Larry taking a break at Colonial Beach.

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of only "good" people, but I discovered they also have human failings, just like me, and I had every right to be among them."

Larry has also been a writer for almost 26 years. In his early days pastoring three tiny churches, he felt he was speaking to the same people each week and thought perhaps he could reach more people by putting his sermons in the paper. He first attempted this in the Amelia Bulletin Monitor in 1993. "I discovered that in preaching to congregations, I spoke with a certain vocabulary and voice; in writing to everyone outside of that arena, I needed a different approach. Surprisingly, doing that helped me improve my sermons. I began to focus more on delivering the stories in a way everyone could relate to. The story is the important thing."

Larry was a voracious reader at an early age. He put fake covers on books so he could read them in school without getting caught. To this day he devours two to three books per week. Among his favorites are The Prayer Box, by Lisa Wingate, and The Purpose Driven Church, by Rick Warren. He chuckles and says, "I'm not a literary snob, though; David Baldacci mysteries find their way onto my stack!"

Remarriage to Mell, an elementary school teacher, was a special blessing. Larry's 45 years as pastor included an unheard of 16-year stint in Lynchburg, eight years as pastor of Timberlake, and eight as district superintendent of more than 100 churches. During his time as a pastor, he wrote four books, including Live the Light, which includes his parish's world ministry in Sri Lanka after the 2004 tsunami and their work in Biloxi, Mississippi, after Hurricane Katrina. On two beaches worlds apart, everything was washed away except the lighthouses. The lighthouse became a special symbol to Larry.

As a self-proclaimed type A personality, (Larry admits to maybe being a type AA!), he does not just practice a symbolic faith, but an energetic one. As the spearhead of the Lynchburg Campaign, his congregation helped rebuild the fishing industry of Kalmunai, Sri Lanka, by raising money and purchasing 30 boats for the villagers. While he and a camera crew were visiting the beaches, a false alarm sounded for another tsunami. The fear and panic were immense, bringing close to home for Larry the horror these people had lived through.

In 2017, while pastor of the Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, Larry suffered a heart incident requiring three stents. "I felt I was heading for an early death, so decided to retire." After a year of recovery, he became certain there was more for him to do in ministry and began the search for a part-time opportunity. During a two-week stint as guest preacher in Mineral, he found that good fit. As a surprise bonus, he came face-to-face with member Sharon Wills, former

parishioner and musician from his Lynchburg church, who now teaches middle school music in Louisa.

Striking the balance between service and a healthy retirement is new territory for Larry. "It is always an interesting question, who I am separate from my faith. I have to work on my habits on days off now." It's tempting for Larry to get caught up in the challenges of the church. Rather than seeing people get mired in how important their part of the picture is, he tries to show them the bigger picture and help them see how their part fits in.

I grew up thinking that church was full of only "good" people, but I discovered they also have human failings, just like me, and I had every right to be among them." Larry Davies

Too much thinking of the details is what he calls, "majoring in the minors." "Even now the Methodist church is going through some turmoil, but it is important to know what the vision is. There may be three or four different sides to an issue, but all are welcome in our church. We are so polarized in America right now-we don't relate as well as we used to. It seems we'd rather fight than talk. I am a fixer, yet I must fight against the temptation to give a 15-minute presentation of a problem during a sermon then give an answer to solve it. That is not a real solution. Some problems you don't get rid of. I am not supposed to fix all the problems; in fact, I can't. God is there, and it's up to me to trust Him to fix it."

Larry writes and preaches about good stories. Inevitably, for him, it comes back to God. In his stories there is usually a small reference to scripture. For instance, he states, "In Matthew 6:25, the Bible says do not worry, but in the verses before that, Jesus shows people how to get to that place of peace."

Before Larry changed his career and gave his life to God and His ministry, his mother brought him to a breakfast to hear an African missionary speak. The missionary took his hands in hers and said, "You're Larry...I have a word of knowledge for you from God. Keep your nose buried in the Word." Larry Davies took that to heart. He is a craftsman with words and a preacher of The Word. "I'd like to make sure if God were listening, it would be the story He would want me to tell."

Check out Larry Davies' websites: sowingseedsoffaith.com, Praywithyou.org, • LarryDavies.org (Larry is minister at Mt. Pleasant UMC and Mineral Methodist Church.)

Chamber launches Love Louisa campaign

Louisa partners will increase visitors with support from Virginia Tourism

Press release

The Louisa County Chamber of Commerce has launched its Love Louisa campaign, which encourages locals and visitors to "Love Louisa, like we do."

"Louisa County is home to amazing food and drinks, beautiful Lake Anna, specialty shops with artisan crafts, and a great downtown area fueled by arts and history," said Tracy Hale Clark, executive director of the Louisa County Chamber of Commerce. "This campaign will help us effectively communicate that message to a larger audience and welcome more visitors every year."

The campaign is funded in large part by a Virginia Tourism Commission matching grant to promote the 50th anniversary of "Virginia is For Lovers." The Chamber program is a collaborative partnership with the Louisa County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department, as well as the Louisa County Historical Society and the Louisa Arts Center. The primary focus of the Love Louisa campaign is to raise regional awareness of six Love Louisa events for 2020, which include the Heritage Day Festival, the Louisa Street Festival, a fashion show by local artist Charissa Goerge, and the Here's the Beef Cook-Off, a unique farm-to-table competitive experience. (See attached for more info on the events).

The Chamber is using the grant funding to create a logo and website, build a social media presence, and run digital ad campaigns. Those channels will also be used to promote a wider range of local events and activities, including the upcoming Louisa Restaurant Week, March 6 through March 15, and Lake Anna Restaurant Week, February 28 through March 8.

"Louisa has so many unexpected treasures–culture, wine, events, history, and festivals– and we're adding more all the time," said Marie Snyder, Chamber Board Chair. "There are so many opportunities for you to Love Louisa, like we do."

10th Annual Porkapolooza The Barbarque Exchange: One Big Pork Party

Press release

Mar 28, 2020 12:00 PM - Mar 29, 2020 7:00 PM Ticket Price: \$16.74-\$27.88 Porkapolooza - the Greatest Pork Fest on Earth, in Gordonsville The Barbeque Exchange 102 Martinsburg Avenue, Gordonsville (540) 832-0227



We are delighted to invite you to join us as we celebrate the last decade at the BBQ Exchange in Gordonsville. We'll have plenty of seating in the main tent, beer, wine and soda available for purchase on the porch, non-alcoholic beverages included with purchase, and a

completely separate tent for food, desserts, entertainment and more. Stay tuned to social media for exciting announcements about our partnerships for our 2020 Porkapolooza.

We will have an all-you-can-enjoy buffet featuring your favorites from years past, and a dessert selection laden with bacon.

The ticket price this year is \$25 for adults, and \$15 for children ages 5-12. Purchasing the tickets online from our ticket portal will make the line move faster for check-in, but remember, it's all the same line into the tent. There is a convenience fee, in addition to the normal state and local taxes. (11.54%) The menu will be shared on social media in the coming weeks! Tickets are good for either day, but once you've been scanned in, they won't work again!

We are still partnering with all of the great folks that make this event such a suc-





BBQ Exchange in Gordonsville.

cess - Skyline Tent Company, Autumn Olive Farms, Town of Gordonsville, Expressions Face Painting and Fun, carpe donut, MS Events, as well as a great selection of bands! **We will be selling advance tickets online at this address: http://bit.ly/2tI9t7V**



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Lenten Fish Dinners

Lenten Fish Dinners Feb 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27 & April 3 at St. Jude Catholic Church, 1937 Davis Hwy., Mineral, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Choice of fried or baked, fish or shrimp, sides and desserts. Cost: \$10 adults • \$5 children. Eat in or carry-out.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pizza Hut Fundraiser

Hosted by Thomas Jefferson Elementary School PTA Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 5 PM – 9 PM Pizza Hut (100 Jefferson Highway, Louisa, VA)

to a Pizza Hut 100 Jefferson Highway, Louisa, Virginia 23093 Please join us for a fun evening to raise funds for the Thomas Jefferson Elementary School PTA. Come have dinner,

served by your favorite TJES teachers and staff, a while supporting a great cause! All TIPS made that night will go to the PTA.



Celebrate St Patrick's Day Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 5:30 PM

Lake Anna Taphouse • 208 Lake Front Drive, Mineral Jump in the lake, warm up at the fire pits, and drink green beer with friends! Living the lake life!! (540) 634-7500 • lakeannataphouse.com





www.VisitLouisa.com

\$12 CAJUN ROCKFISH BITES

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\$21 LEG & SHRIMP COMBO 1/2 POUND OF EACH SERVED WITH HUSHPUPPIES



Building Community ~ Changing Lives ~ Making Memories





FEB 28TH Thru March 15th



11AM Til 9PM

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Cloverdale Baptist Church will be having its 9th Annual Men's Fellowship Breakfast on Saturday, March 21st at 9:00 a.m. – Noon. Guest speaker will be Rev. Reuben Lewis, Pastor of the Galilee Baptist Church in Louisa.

Appreciation Service

An Appreciation Service for Sis. Julia Lewis will celebrate 36 years of service to the Cloverdale Baptist Church Senior Choir. This will be held at the Cloverdale Baptist Church on March 29th at 3:00 p.m. Special guests will be Dennis Shelton and the Spiritual Tornadoes.

The Red Badge of Courage presented by The Barter Players Fri, Feb 28, 7:30 – 9:30 PM

Louisa Arts Center 212 Fredericksburg Ave, Louisa The Civil War had been raging for

two years when young Henry Fleming decides to enlist in the Army. On the eve of his first big battle, Henry fears what he will do when the bullets start to fly. Will he run or



will he fight? Witness this timeless and intimate look at the Civil War from a young man's perspective.

The event is sponsored by the Louisa Rotary Foundation. The Louisa Rotary Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity with a focus on improving the educational opportunities available to the youth of Louisa County. In addition to bringing the Barter Players to Louisa, the foundation is actively engaged in activities such as providing dictionaries to all of Louisa's third grade students, sponsoring speech and essay contests for area students, providing higher education scholarships, sponsoring students to leadership camps, and donating books to the children's reading room at the public library.

Ticket Sales: (540) 967-5200

540 894 5011 200 Boardwalk way mineral va 23117 www.timslakeanna.com

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Tower Garden Workshop

Hosted by Monika Bowling Christian Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 2 PM Visitor Center of Louisa County, LLC 103 East Main Street, Suite B, Louisa

Have you ever wanted to grow your own produce but don't have a green thumb, don't have enough land or it's just too time consuming and too much work? Then... THIS IS FOR YOU! Come learn about growing produce on an aeroponic Tower Garden!

Join us for a fun filled evening and learn about the amazing Tower Gardens and how you can best utilize it in your home, school or business.



Tim's at Lake Anna St. Patricks Day • March 17th, 2020 Lake Anna Events March 17th, 2020 200 G. Boardwlak Way, Mineral VA. 540-894-5011

GARDE



Business Person of the Year Hosted by Louisa County Chamber of Commerce Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 6 PM – 8:30 PM Spring Creek Golf Club 109 Clubhouse Way, Zion Crossroads, Virginia

Tickets: louisacountychamberofcommerce.growthzoneapp.com

The Louisa County Chamber of Commerce and our presenting sponsor Commonwealth Life & Legacy Counsel are excited to present Business Person of the Year!

Join us for an evening of celebration honoring business leaders throughout Louisa as well as some special recognition for Volunteer of the Year, Partner of the Year and Neighbor of the Year.

The evening will include a silent auction, entertainment, cocktails and really good food! Limited seats available.

Past Recipients: We'll be honoring all past recipients of Business Person of the Year.Please contact **info@louisachamber.org** for a special registration code to be used for you and a guest.



For more information: https://www.facebook.com/LouisaHumaneSociety/(540) 894-5474



BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

Directed by Clinton Johnston Produced by Charlotte Drummond

March 6-22

The story opens with the sounds of the murder of Maureen Lyon, before moving to the Manor. It's recently been renovated into a guest house by Mollie and Giles Ralston. Mollie waits for the guests to arrive, listening to a radio report about the murder. The report states that police are looking for a man in a dark overcoat who was observed near the scene.

A timeless tale of "whodunit," Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* strands seven strangers at Monkswell Manor during a blizzard. But a police sergeant unexpectedly arrives, worried that a murderer-at-large is among the guests of the Manor.





After talking about bears and hibernation, Alison Lineweaver leads her class of three to six-year-old children in a "sleeping teddy bear" activity.



For a logic class experiment, Micah Harding, Christian Stone, Cedric Cutright and Logan Beltran first estimate how many rubber bands it takes to pinch a pumpkin's edge into opening and then experiment to see how close they came.

Schooling at Home, While Still Learning Together

By Pat Wilson Correspondent

A class of ten children, ages three to six, read a book about hibernating bears, talk about where the animals live and what they eat, complete a worksheet and play a "sleeping teddy bear" game. Meanwhile, in an upstairs classroom, middle school students complete a project involving sound reduction materials. Nearby, fourth and fifth graders study aspects of physics. Down the hall, high schoolers balance chemical equations, then convert grams to moles. A second class of teenagers discusses plant propagation. Moms supervise toddlers in the nursery. A typical second period Thursday!

From pre-schoolers through 12th grade, 50 youth from two dozen families attend Louisa Christian Co-Op to enhance educational goals and share in social activities. These students are all homeschooled but gather each Thursday at Little River Baptist Church to explore specific subjects under the leadership of parents whose backgrounds provide expertise in chosen fields. Begun 17 years ago, the co-op is still going strong today.

"We have a wide range of families. Although most are from Louisa County, others come from Madison, Culpeper and Orange, as well as the Richmond and Charlottesville areas," said Carrie Woolfolk, one of the co-op's directors. "We think a group like this is the perfect bridge between exclusively homeschooling and exclusively public or private schooling. I began involvement 11 years ago, when my oldest child was only four, and I've never left!"

Families have various purposes for participating in an academic co-op as an addition to their homeschool plan. Some families appreciate the opportunity to provide a structured school day with moms being directly involved, while others enjoy their children having accountability in their studies to other teachers. Many parents are thankful for the instruction provided by parents more proficient in specific areas, and everyone enjoys the fellowship and like-mindedness that a group setting provides. Currently, LCC offers classes for the first three rotations that focus on literature/writing, science and history. The high school courses are all credited, and notably rigorous, surpassing and exceeding all state standards of learning. Semester-long electives are provided in the fourth rotation, including options such as Spanish, PE, survival skills, art, theater and music.

"The co-op allows my daughters to explore a subject in depth that I am not as qualified to teach, such as Spanish, or one in which I don't share her passion," said Katherine Tinkey, elementary physical science/chemistry teacher who has participated in the group for six years.

The co-op learning does not end on Thursday afternoon. Many teachers will continue to interact with their students throughout the week, through basic email or texting, and especially through the online program Canvas, where grades are post-



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ed, assignments are linked and messaging is enabled. Answering questions about on-going projects or weekly homework assignments keeps the instructor aware of any difficulties a student might be having as well as the progress being made.

Periodically, field trips, such as ones to historic sites, science museums or the nation's capital, are planned for other days of the week. Joining together for community volunteering is encouraged as well.

The moms also have some free time during which most gather at tables in the recreation area. Conversations often focus on the benefits and challenges of homeschooling. Families have selected the homeschooled option for various reasons.

"We are a like-minded group in so many ways," said Kim Ferrell. "We can bounce ideas off one another and find inspiration. Not everyone homeschools alike, but we all have similar goals."

One mother commented that she homeschooled her daughters through elementary school but then supported their choice to attend public high school because of an interest in theater. Several parents supplement their homeschooling with the Virginia Department of Education's Virtual Virginia online classes. Another mother commented that her child's Richmond area high school offers several on-site core classes to accommodate homeschoolers. And, yet another mom has children that have participated in the vocational options through training the Spotsylvania public schools, which is inclusive to homeschoolers. The women voiced support for the expansion of those options throughout the state. They also appreciate that community colleges are highly supportive of homeschooled students. Several are disappointed that the Virginia High School League does not permit the youth to participate in sanctioned sports.

The choice to homeschool can cost a family several hundreds of dollars in curriculum each year, whereas groups like the co-op cut down on the expense because the resources are shared. While families pay a small amount in dues each year, the funds go directly back to the classes.

"Little River Baptist Church is one of the most gracious and generous church-



es we have ever had the pleasure of working with," said Woolfolk. "They do not charge us a rental fee, and welcomed us with open arms four years ago, when we first approached them about using their facilities."

Christian beliefs are emphasized each Thursday as the day draws to a close. Students and parents gather in the church pews to reflect on the day's activities, with a focus on the values of Christian life with personal goals to honor God and serve others.

Because of time and space available, the program must limit the number of students. Those interested in participating must first contact the director, which is followed up with an interview, visit and application. As a result of the popularity of the co-op, openings are infrequent.

Anyone wanting more information about the process, can contact Woolfolk at carrie.woolfolk@gmail.com.



Laura Zischke's Agri science students had rooted plants from cuttings and are growing small herb gardens which they keep at home but weekly discuss the growth as well as the role of nutrients.



During an interactive lesson on events of the early 20th century, Dana Racette and two of her students, Greta Lineweaver and Penny Cutright, locate countries involved in World War I.



"A BALL OF LIGHT IN ONE'S HAND" The Joy of Books



here is nothing so comforting in the deep of winter as a favorite book. Add a

warm beverage, cozy blanket and if you're lucky, a crackling fireplace, and the experience becomes epic!

Growing up as a reader, my earliest memories are of my mother teaching me to read with flashcards and lots of patience. Nose is Not Toes was the first book I ever read and led to a firestorm of interest in the written word. She enrolled me in the Scholastic Bookclub, which sent me a book a month in the mail. These books I later shared with my children and now, my

grandchildren-*Prince* Bertrum the Bad, Aristotle Goes to Paris, The Puppy Who Wanted a Boy, and Five O'Clock Charlie- treasures in my collection.

My grandmother got in the act and kept me wellsupplied, giving me my favorite book of all time, Caroline, about a little girl and her adventures with her dog Rusty and his animal friends. It is a collectible now.

The artwork was fabulous and there isn't a child I've read it to who hasn't fallen in love.

The local library knew my name for sure, and it was an extreme pleasure to sign the cards and replace them in the manila holder in the back of the book. I got into the bathtub with books, walked with my nose in a book, read under the covers with a flashlight after bedtime and took journeys into many other lives and worlds. *Charlotte's Web* and *The Wind in the Willows* followed, then the teen years brought Lisa Bright and Dark



Carol Barfield's grandson Jack has his nose buried in a book.

whose troubled main character reminded me of my temperamental teenage sister! The Family Nobody Wanted, about a minister and his wife who adopted twelve children, was featured on The Groucho Marx show, and became pivotal in my desire to be a foster parent. *The Cross and the Switchblade*, which became a motion picture starring Pat Boone and Erik Estrada, was an early influence in my thinking about Christianity.

As an adult the pleasure continued, and a pattern of re-reading favorite authors emerged. Orson Scott Card

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wrote my favorite science fiction series. Ender's Game, then created a fabulous Women of Genesis series with Rebekah and Sarah. He also wrote Pastwatch, in which the inhabitants of earth pass the point of no return in damaging the environment, a particularly poignant topic for us today. Prolific romance author Nora Robert created the Chesapeake Bay Trilogy, page turners featuring a couple who created an enduring legacy by adopting three troubled boys. James Patterson stepped away from his detective novels with When the Wind Blows and The Lake House, about genetic engineering and the children who resulted from those experiments.

There continues to be a legion of books written that thrill, transport and entertain readers. The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell, by Robert Dugoni, is such a novel, about a boy born with ocular albinism and the marvelous people along the way who nurtured and encouraged him...and those who bullied and tortured him a well. A Woman of No Importance, about a brave woman spy who helped win World War II, was one of the early winter gifts I gave myself. Our son gave his father The Vagabonds, The Story of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison's Ten-Year Road Trip, which he devoured in record time.

Books have a way of syncing in with

life and teaching us something we need along the way. Recently I revisited Nora Roberts and was halfway through her book Year One, (about a pandemic that swept through the earth's population with a 90% mortality rate), when the Coronavirus became news. That was a creepy coincidence.

At a time when almost everything can be quickly accessed digitally, some question the value of continuing to read books. Peering back in history, Abraham Lincoln, Roosevelt, Theodore Winston Churchill and Albert Einstein were book lovers; today Bill Gates, Oprah Winfrey, Warren Buffet and LeBron James count themselves book lovers as well. One might conclude that if these shining stars in history, finance, Hollywood and sports deem reading valuable, there might be something of enduring value in it? It's quite interesting to find the favorite book

lists of interesting people and look through them.

By encouraging reading, I don't mean to disparage those who would rather go the electronic route. Although it's tempting to be judgmental about those who are technophiles, a new perspective came from a techie @mihelp1 who stated, "Reading is just staring at marked slices of wood for hours while hallucinating vividly!"

To close, here are a few quotes about reading from those who love it:

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies...The man who never reads lives only one." George R.R. Martin.

"You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me." C.S. Lewis.

"You don't have to burn books to destroy a culture. Just get people to stop reading them." Ray Bradbury.

"Man reading should be man intensely alive. The book should be a ball of light in one's hand," -Ezra Pound.

"Books are a uniquely portable magic." Stephen King.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr. Seuss.

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Molly, Max and Ruthie are the three dogs that started the Hinkledires in their mission to rescue senior dogs.

Molly Started It All!

By Pat Wilson Correspondent

iving in Pittsburgh in 2010, Jason and Janice Hinkledire had donated their disc jockey services to a Valentine's Day fundraising project for a local animal shelter. While Jason entertained with his music, trivia and banter, Janice walked around the venue talking with attendees and petting the dogs up for adoption. She noticed a volunteer having difficulty with a newly arrived dog.

ing difficulty with a newly arrived dog. "Lynn, now one of our dearest friends, came in slowly, practically dragging a brindle boxer pit mix. The dog's ears were pulled back and tail tucked with the saddest eyes I'd ever seen," said Janice. "I was instantly smitten."

Lynn explained that Molly was 15 years old and had been dropped at a local shelter the previous Christmas Eve. Janice spent much of the rest of the event with Molly and Lynn.

"After telling Jason about them, I asked him if we could adopt a dog," said Janice. "He answered, 'If we are going to get a dog, it's going to be her,' while pointing at Molly."

The Hinkledires were hooked. Molly became their first rescue. When Lynn saved five beagles from a kill shelter in North Carolina and knew how well the couple was getting along with Molly, she asked if they would foster one of the beagles. Max soon became the first "foster failure," a term Janice uses to describe how fostering was just the first step to adopting.

"Molly showed him the ropes and



Tiny bonded with Jason Hinkledire.* * dogs still living with couple

our lives started to find a new meaning. Max's two years with us left lasting paw prints on our hearts," said Janice.

The next spring, Ruthie, an eightyear-old German Short-haired Pointer mix showed up on Facebook needing an immediate home. The Hinkledires took in their third rescue.

"Ruthie was a black and white spotted dog, resembling a short furry Dalmatian, and was very skittish and often seemed worried," said Jason. "She loved to run and would occasionally treat us to her version of 'singing **See Adopted page 14**





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Adopted from page 13

the blues' which others might call howling."

As their fur-family grew, Janice and Jason agreed they had found a specific purpose in rescue. They would open their home to older dogs that just needed a safe place to enjoy their remaining years. Perhaps, with one exception.

"In 2013, Lynn shared the story of Tiny, a three-year old dachshund with special needs who was available for adoption through the Dachshund Rescue of North America," said Janice. "He was absolutely adorable, and I really wanted to take him in."

Jason needed persuading, then the couple adopted Tiny. their first and only "youngster." Jason and the dachshund quickly bonded and have been inseparable ever since.

"We take walks, play with tennis balls

and enjoy tug-of-war. I swear he is just a little person in a dog suit," he said.

A few months later, Lynn reached out to Janice seeking a safe home for GG, a 15year-old dachshund who had endured a series of unfortunate events with her previous owners. Janice finally had her "snuggle bug" and the Hinkledires were quickly becoming "dachshund people."

"One of our favorite quirks about GG was her need to enter the house from the same direction, always! GG knew the exact perimeter of our house but would only go in one direction. If you sat her down to the left of the front door, rather than just turn back she would continue all the way around the house to enter from the right," said Jason.

The following year, DRNA was desperately seeking an immediate foster for Bella, a 12-year-old Corgi, who they claimed was part dachshund, from a kill shelter in New York. Lynn pleaded with Janice to take this one, too.

"We were not quite prepared for Bella who certainly had been abused as she was really scared and often aggressive, defending herself by biting," said Janice. "We ended up adopting her as she was not likely to be adopted because of her behaviors." Jason recalled, "Behind all of that fear and anger, we eventually saw that Bella dachshunds were being kept.

"I was stunned and heartbroken when I saw three senior girls living in crates in the garage. Picking them up, my fingers were stained from the newspaper lining the beds. Two of the girls were going to be fostered via K Kids, and 18-year-old Tomatoes was going to be sent to Connecticut where she would remain in a crate," said Janice. "After a short discussion with the owner, I was given permission to take all three."

Pepper and Tomatoes were "foster failures" kept by the Hinkledires while the third dachshund went to another K Kids foster where she, too, was adopted.

"Pepper and Tomatoes were not house-trained, so we had to find new ways to organize our home to accommodate their lack of education," said Janice. "Tomatoes proved to be a most gentile little girl despite her rough upbringing, but Pepper was way more skittish. Still, her odd behavior brings laughter into our home and when she is caught, she melts into your arms,"

This past summer, two more dachshunds, 13-year-old Echo and 17-year-old Raven, joined the clan. The senior citizens had a combined total of less than a half-dozen teeth. Echo and Tiny became best friends and especially enjoy their leisure



Echo*, a senior citizen dachshund, enjoys romps in the yard with her buddy, Tiny. * *dogs still living with couple*

simply wanted safety and love."

Because of their ages, numerous adoptees had passed before the Hinkledires and three of their fur kids, Tiny, Bella and Ruthie, moved to the Lake Anna area in 2016 to live near Janice's parents, Joanne and Steve Falkenthal. Having fallen in love with the dachshund breed, Janice hooked up with Krista Welder, a former DRNA board member and founder of K Kids Dachshund Rescue in Staunton. Within the next four years the couple adopted five additional elderly dachshunds from K Kids.

Feeling a huge loss from the death of GG, the first was a 12-year-old GG look-a-like named Jackie. Appearances proved deceptive since Jackie's personality was "little more opinionated and she was not so much interested in being someone's snuggle bug," according to Janice.

Easter weekend of 2017, K Kids put out a plea for an immediate foster for a 12-year-old named Pepper. Janice drove to Gloucester to pick her up and was upset by the conditions in which three



time digging for moles or whatever else they can find in a fenced yard. Because of her age and limited vision, Raven preferred numerous daily naps.

The most recent dachshund addition is 17-year-old Bunni. Her owner had spoiled her, but recent serious medical issues caused him to feel that he could no longer properly care for her.

"Bunni is a little diva use to the finest food and people who made her life superconvenient," said Jason. "We agreed to foster her until her owner gets back on his feet. By moving into our house, she has had to take a step down from her previously glamorous life, but she has assimilated with the bourgeoisie as well as could be expected."

The couple sum up their decision to welcome elderly or abused dogs into their home. "Rescuing dogs has entailed plenty of struggles, but the joy these guys bring

us makes up for those difficulties tenfold. Some of them had a really rough time of it, and we like to think that maybe we helped destress their lives and bring them a little bit of heaven in their golden years."

Of the 12 senior dogs cared for by the couple over the past decade, eight have passed away peacefully in the Hinkledires' devoted care. Tiny, Pepper, Echo and perhaps, even Bunni if necessary, will live with the couple until they too pass over the Rainbow Bridge.

Information about the dachshund rescue group is available at the website, www.kkidsrescue.org.



EVENTS

DOGWOOD FESTIVAL PAGEANT: for "2020 Junior Court Selection". Application deadline is on Saturday March 19th. 5 Age divisions: 3 to 15. Application website: https://www.cvilledogwood.com/ Pageant held Saturday, March 28, 2020. Starts at 10 a.m. at Double Tree Hotel, Charlottesville. \$5 admission at door, children 5 and under free.

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REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE: Caring For Creatures has opening for parttime Maintenance/Grounds staff. Seeking all around handyman who is comfortable around animals. Tasks: basic carpentry, plumbing or electrical repairs. Also landfill runs and some tractor work. More hrs in summer for mowing/weeding grounds. Winter hrs 20/wk. Summer: 35/wk. Call 434 842-2404 to schedule appointment.

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RENTALS

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SERVICES

FREE TAX PREPARATION: AARP volunteers doing tax preparation for anyone at Louisa County Library , 881 Davis Hwy., (Rte 22 & 208), Mineral, VA 23117, from February to April. No membership required. Fridays at 1-5. Make an appointment at: https://www.taxaidecville.wordpress.co m/, call (540) 603-0139.

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Upcoming Performances:



ComedySportz - March 7, 7:30pm, \$25 All Seats

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Frank Ferrante - March 21, 7:30pm, \$32 All Seats

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Suzy Bogguss - April 25 & 26, 7:30pm, \$41 All Seats

Suzy Bogguss is an American country music singer and songwriter. Six of her songs were top-ten hits, three of her albums achieved gold status, and one achieved platinum. Suzy took home "Top New Female Vocalist '' from the Academy of Country Music Awards.Audiences will be sure to enjoy a performance from one of the most diverse females in the country music industry.

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