

## Recent Events

The big news around campus this month is **how glorious the spring is**, especially after the recent cold weather. Here are a couple of pictures, but the best view is seen by walking around. Please call Bruce Cauthen at 553-3318 to arrange your own personal tour!



Work continues on two important projects which will help determine the Villa's long-range plans. First, **Odell Associates Incorporated** delivered its preliminary findings from its assessment of the Villa's infrastructure. The bottom line? The Villa's physical plant is in good shape, especially considering that the campus is 75 years old, but significant investments must be made over the next ten years to make sure the campus remains as strong. Odell also began its process to develop a master plan for the Villa's campus; when developed, the plan will make recommendations for capital improvements which will allow the Villa to better address our current (and future) clients' needs.

Meanwhile, fundraising consultants from **Community Counselling Service** are meeting with Villa staff and Trustees, as well as community leaders, to assess how funds can be raised to meet our future needs.

Findings from the Odell and CCS studies will be reported to the Villa's Board of Trustees in the next several months.



Preschoolers at Lewis Children's Center were visited by a group from Pi Beta Phi sorority to celebrate **Dr. Seuss's birthday** on March 2. The group read to the students and then gave them books written by Dr. Seuss.

Many groups like to visit the children and provide enriching activities. If your group has a gift to share, please contact Tiffany Royall, Manager of Volunteer Services, at 521-5577 to set up an event. Thank you!



Students at the Dooley School for Alternative Education and the Dooley School at St. Joseph's Villa opened up the **Dooley Store** in late March. The store sells sporting goods to students who have earned "Dooley Dollars" through positive behaviors.

Thanks to Vanguard Sports LLC, April's Sports/MVP and Turnkey Promotions for donating merchandise for the store. If you or your company would like to donate goods to support the program, please contact Matt Kreydatus at 553-3224.

Left: Lashelle Robinson helps display the merchandise at the Dooley Store.

It was a big month for the Sarah Dooley Center for Autism, the Villa's new school which is unique in teaching life skills to students with autism. First, the Center participated in Commonwealth Autism Service's statewide Autism Conference in early March, followed by two Open House events late in the month. For more information about the Center, please visit our new web site, [www.SarahDooleyCenter.org](http://www.SarahDooleyCenter.org).



## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, April 3 and Tuesday, April 17 - Applebee's Night to Benefit Commonwealth Autism Service.** Dine at Applebee's on April 3 and 17, and 15% of your bill will go to Commonwealth Autism Service, the Villa's partner in the new Sarah Dooley Center for Autism. Contact Commonwealth Autism Service at 355-0300 or visit [www.autismva.org](http://www.autismva.org) for more information.

**Week of April 9** – Children's Educational Services programs are closed for **Spring Break**.

**Wednesday, April 11** – Children from the Villa's Day Support program will take part in an **Easter Egg Hunt** in the Villa gymnasium.

**Wednesday, April 11** – The Villa will host a **Spring Fling Cookout** for residents in Central Virginia group homes. For more information, please contact Craig Hedley at 553-3226.

**Thursday, April 12** – The Villa will host a **Nonprofit Job Fair** which will include more than a dozen local nonprofit organizations from 10 am until 4 pm. People interested in getting a job with one of the nonprofits, should visit the Villa's web site at <http://neverstopbelieving.org/node/371> for more information.

**Wednesday, April 18** – The Villa's Children's Educational Services staff will take part in a **staff softball game**. The contest will pit coach Gene Lee against coach Matt Kreydatus, and it is certain to generate some smiles (if not hits!).

**Sunday, April 22** – The Richmond **TOPSoccer program** for youth with special needs begins its 2007 Spring Season on the Villa's campus. The program pairs a special needs player with a local youth player "buddy" who helps the coaches and participants. For more information about the program, please contact Paul Mack at [Paul\\_J\\_Mack@aol.com](mailto:Paul_J_Mack@aol.com).

**Week of April 23** – In honor of April being National Prevent Child Abuse Month, Lewis Children's Center will celebrate the **Week of the Young Child** from April 23 – 27. Art works from LCC children will be on display in the Villa's Administration Building, and there will be a Trike-a-Thon to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital on April 27.

**Thursday, May 10** - Dottie Narodny from Commonwealth Autism Services' Bedford office will speak on Transition Services to the **Asperger's Syndrome support group** from 4-5:30. For more information, please contact Nancy Toscano at 553-3267.

**Friday, May 11** – **Thirteenth Annual Hoedown**. Join the Lonesome River Band for an evening of food, fun and music. Event proceeds will benefit Flagler Home and its transitional housing services for homeless women and their children. Call Katie Chandler at 261-6142 or email [kchandler@sjvmail.net](mailto:kchandler@sjvmail.net) for ticket information.

**Monday, May 14** – **Genworth Foundation Golf Tournament**. PGA professional John Rollins, his friends from the Tour and a special guest, LPGA legend Juli Inkster, spend a day playing golf with area teams to raise money for St. Joseph's Villa. At the Country Club of Virginia's River and Creek Courses. Note: There is only one sponsorship still available; this is your last chance to get onto a team to see the pros at the tournament. Call Katie Chandler at 261-6142 or email [kchandler@sjvmail.net](mailto:kchandler@sjvmail.net) for more information.

**Thursday, June 14** - Dr. Susan Williams White (Assistant Professor, Virginia Treatment Center, VCU) will speak about Social Skills Development to the **Asperger's Syndrome support group** from 4-5:30. For more information, please contact Nancy Toscano at 553-3267.