

Recent Events

All of us at St. Joseph's Villa express our deepest sympathy to the Virginia Tech community.

Right: The new Villa sign at Brook and Parham Roads was draped in Virginia Tech colors on Friday, April 20 as part of Virginia's Day of Mourning.



On April 30, St. Joseph's Villa dedicated the **Blaise C. Plageman Conference Room**, gifted by Carole and Marcus Weinstein. The gift is the result of a friendship that has lasted more than thirty-five years.

Children from Lewis Children's Center sang two songs to begin the ceremony, the two men spoke about their friendship, and Bishop Walter Sullivan and Villa CEO Kathleen Barrett each spoke about the Villa and the importance of having strong friendships in our lives.

Right: Bishop Sullivan, Marcus and Carole Weinstein, Theresa and Blaise Plageman, Kathleen Barrett.



No, the top picture is not a random collection of sawhorses. It's actually the Brook Road Recycling Can Crusher (or BR²C² for short). If you've played the game Mousetrap or if you remember "Rube Goldberg" machines, you know how fun complicated machines can be.

But this isn't all for fun. It's actually the work of the students in Brook Road Academy's Advanced Physics. Led by instructor Dan Hansen (bottom picture, maroon shirt), students studied the mechanics and materials that could be used to construct the Can Crusher.



If you would like to visit Brook Road Academy and see the machine in action, there is an **Open House at 3 pm on Monday, May 14**. And be sure to bring your cans!

For the past several months, students in the “**Brothers 4 Change**” program at Randolph-Macon College have been visiting students in the Dooley School and serving as mentors and friends. In early April, photographer Duane Berger accompanied the students to take photographs for an upcoming article in Randolph-Macon’s alumni magazine.

Please be on the lookout for the article, and if you know of other groups which could serve as mentors for students who sometimes just need someone positive to hang out with, please have them contact Tiffany Royall at 521-5577.



If the weather is warm, it must be **cookout season!** Here, students from the Sarah Dooley Center for Autism enjoy lunch in one of the pavilions at St. Joseph’s Villa.

Students from our Day Support service had an **Easter Egg hunt** in the St. Joseph’s Villa gymnasium on Wednesday, April 11. More than thirty students took part in the fun.

Most of our students come to the Day Support service after school, but the service does provide all-day care on days when Henrico County schools are closed.



St. Joseph’s Villa recently hosted a “**Spring Fling**” **cookout** for nine Central Virginia group homes (including the Villa’s Emergency Shelter). More than 50 people attended and had a great time!

The cookout helped provide children in group homes with important socialization skills which will help them as they transition back into society.

Craig Hedley at the Villa took a leadership role for the event. Thanks, Craig!

Over 200 people attended a **nonprofit job fair** hosted by St. Joseph's Villa. More than a dozen nonprofit organizations also were there to recruit employees.



Odell Associates continued its hard work on developing a long-term **master plan** for the Villa's campus. In late April, Odell met with Villa Trustees and Senior Staff to discuss options for the campus. Odell's will present its plan to the Villa's Board of Trustees at its May meeting.

Left: Sandy Shield from Odell explains an option as Trustees JoAnne Henry, David Redmond and Dick Tarrant look on.

Longtime Villa employee **Sean Reilley** retired from St. Joseph's Villa in April, after 21 years of service. Sean was a tireless worker in the Villa's maintenance department, and we will miss him a lot. Staff held a special retirement luncheon for Sean on April 25.

Good luck with your retirement, Sean!

Right: Sean Reilley (center) with Gracie Stout (Villa Custodian) and John Cannington (Villa Director of Special Projects).



The Villa hosted a **cookout for its volunteers** in late April. Each year, more than 250 organizations and people donate thousands of hours to help run the Donation Center, to help with reading programs at Lewis Children's Center or to provide guidance and support to women in our Flagler Family Services program. Thank you! We couldn't do it without you!!

Awards were presented to Patricia Reid (Length of Service Award), Sabrina Starke (Rising Star Award), Stephanie Martin (Staff as a Volunteer Award) and Pat Epps (Volunteer Supervisor Award). Congratulations!

If you would like to join us, please call Tiffany Royall at 521-5577. And in advance, thank you!

Lewis Children's Center celebrated "**The Week of the Young Child**" in late April. Each day, there was another activity, most of them involving parents.

Right: A mom helps her son with a painting which will be displayed in the Administration Building.

Also in April, the Lewis Children's Center received two grants totaling \$50,000 from local foundations to provide and expand educational services to children from low income families. Thank you!



Upcoming Events

Thursday, May 3 (Note new date!) - **Asperger's Syndrome support group** will meet from 4-5:30 at Brook Road Academy on the Villa campus. For more information, please contact Amanda Bulbrook at 521-5573.

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@sjymail.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: This event has sold out. Call Katie Chandler at 261-6142 or email kchandler@sjymail.net for more information.

Monday, May 14 – Open House at Brook Road Academy. 3 pm. Take a tour of the school, meet the faculty and learn about our program that provides a college-prep curriculum in a nontraditional setting. For more information, please contact Bruce Cauthen at 553-3318.

Saturday, May 19 – Hollybrook Cookout with the Henrico County Fire Department. 2:00 pm. The Henrico County Fire Department will be out guest for a cookout. Part of the time will be spent on fire safety for our Hollybrook residents. For more information, contact Nancy O'Donnell at 553-3221.

Thursday, June 14 - Asperger's Syndrome support group will meet from 4-5:30 at Brook Road Academy on the Villa campus. For more information, please contact Amanda Bulbrook at 521-5573.

Graduation Ceremonies will take place in June for many Villa programs. Dates on the calendar include:

- June 5 (6:00 pm) – Flagler Family and Community Services
- June 8 (6:30 pm) – Lewis Children's Center
- June 15 (10:00 am) – Children's Educational Services
- June 16 (10:00 am) – Brook Road Academy7