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W-JCC NEWS DIGEST

For March 12, 2010

(For larger versions of the photos, please visit the W-JCC "Press Room" by clicking [HERE](#)).

Six CBB Students Selected For All-Virginia Elementary Chorus



Six fifth-grade students from Clara Byrd Baker Elementary School have been selected to participate in the All-Virginia Elementary Chorus, sponsored by the Virginia Elementary Music Educators Association (VEMEA). The chorus features 154 students, representing 39 schools from all around the Commonwealth.

The All-Virginia Elementary Chorus concert will be held **March 20** at Shenandoah University in Winchester, VA, with Dr. Jeffrey Marlatt, professor of music education, serving as the guest conductor. These six students, along with their chorus director, Jason Kriner, have been learning music and planning the trip since early January. Also joining the All-Virginia Elementary Chorus group of students from CBB is Matoaka student Autumn Elim-Durden.

Photo 031210 Singers: From left: Julia Haupt, Riley Smith, Nora Geer, Clara Byrd Baker Music Instructor Jason Kriner, Emily Rosenberger, Victoria Brunson, and Breanna Rushforth.

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Matthew Whaley Instructors Receive Four Chamber Grants



Photo 031210 Grants: Four Matthew Whaley teachers recently won grants from the Greater Williamsburg Area Chamber and Tourism Alliance. Music Instructor Julie Jones (front with guitar), received \$500 for guitars; Reading Specialist Wendy Melzer (upper left) received \$363; Reading Specialist Judy Jones received \$200 for nonfiction books; and Student Support Specialist Michelle Weston (not pictured), received a Sisterhood Book Club grant of \$275.

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James River Students Raise \$538 For Haiti Earthquake Victims



Student-initiated action is an important element of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program at James River Elementary. A first grade student, Ellie Bolio, asked her teacher if she could organize a "Hearts for Haiti" bake sale to raise money for the earthquake victims of Haiti. Ellie researched the situation in Haiti to bring awareness to the student body. Ellie asked her mother, sister and several other families from school to bake cookies for a fundraiser. With the support of Principal Lynn Turner, the "Hearts for Haiti" fundraiser raised \$538, which was donated to the Red Cross on behalf of the James River students.

Photo 031110 Bolio: James River first-grader Ellie Bolio sits at the table where funds were collected for Haiti victims.

Photo 031210 Turner: James River Principal Lynn Turner, left, joins Ellie Bolio as she turns over \$538 in donations to Red Cross Representative Heather Harmon.

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Homeless W-JCC Students Can Get Free Physical

Many students and families in our community have no adequate shelter in which to live. To make matters worse, when they lose their housing, getting to school often seems impossible. The Federal McKinney-Vento Act guarantees school enrollment for anyone who, due to a lack of housing, does not have a fixed, regular and adequate night time residence. W-JCC's Student Services Department has obtained a grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to provide staff training, develop a resource manual and reduce barriers to education for homeless students.

The co-leaders of the grant, Stephanie Leek and Stephanie Gallas, have presented information to the staff at several schools concerning the identification and enrollment of children who may be homeless. During the presentation, services to help make a transition into a new school after enrollment are described to staff. The newest feature of the grant has just been finalized and is now available to our students. Families who are homeless often do not have a way to maintain health records for their children and often cannot afford to get a school physical for their children.

Through a contract with New Town Urgent Care, W-JCC children who have been identified as homeless can receive a free school entrance physical as well as transportation to the physical appointment. For more information concerning access to this service, contact Stephanie Leek at 220-5338, Stephanie Gallas at 220-5336 or the school nurse.

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Busch Gardens Entertainment Pro Speaks To Berkeley Students

Dru Stowe, a performer and manager who has been with Busch Gardens entertainment for 28 years, as well as a booking agent for professional acts throughout the region, recently visited Berkeley Middle School to speak with drama students. He offered advice about pursuing positions within the arts, shared audition tips and entertained with stories from his career.

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Four JHS Students Achieve Merit Scholarship Program “Finalist” Status



Four Jamestown High School seniors have achieved finalist standing in the 2009-10 National Merit Scholarship Program, an annual academic competition for recognition and scholarships. High school students nationwide enter the National Merit Program by completing the PSAT, a national achievement test that serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million student entrants each year, and by meeting published program participation requirements. Joshua Blum, Jessica Bradshaw, Joe Corliss, and Anna Blackburn will be considered along with 15,000 other finalists across the nation for National Merit Scholarships later this spring.

Photo 031210 JHS Merit: Back row, from left: Principal Dr. Chuck Wagner, Assistant Principal Dr. Pascal Barreau, Guidance Counselor Bob Nilson. Front row, from left: Joshua Blum, Jessica Bradshaw, Joe Corliss, and Anna Blackburn.

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Warhill Computer Drawing Class Observes National Engineering Week



Stephen Tatum’s Computer Drawing and Design class at Warhill High School recently participated in an engineering structures contest in observance of National Engineering Week. Students saw a presentation by Susan Generazio, the Thomas Nelson Community College liaison for the Governor’s Academy for Innovation Engineering and Technology (GAITE). Accompanying Generazio were head of the Engineering Technology program at TNCC, Julia Thompson, and Gregory Sprock, Machine Technology instructor at New Horizons Regional Education Center.

Photo 031210 Tower: Warhill Assistant Principal Nate Leach, left, inspects the student engineering projects of (from left) Elden Tyler, Clay Frost, and Jordan White.

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Warhill Senior Scruggs Signs Soccer Scholarship With VMI



Richard Scruggs, a senior at Warhill High School, signed a letter of intent to play Division I soccer at Virginia Military Institute. Scruggs currently plays soccer for Warhill High School and is a member of the Virginia Legacy U-18 Wizards. When playing for VMI, Scruggs will play in the Big South Conference against schools such as Radford, Coastal Carolina, High Point, Winthrop, Gardner-Webb, Presbyterian, and UNC Asheville.

Photo 031210 Scruggs: Pictured with Richard Scruggs (seated) are, from left: Warhill Soccer Coach Matt Garrison, father Michael Scruggs, and WHS Athletic Director Dan Mullen.

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Rawls Byrd Principal Gets Into Spirit Of “Read Across America” Day



Photo 031210 Eary: Rawls Byrd Elementary School Principal Wes Eary recently got into the spirit of “Read Across America” Day at the Book Fair in the school’s library/media center by arriving at school as one of children’s literature’s most beloved characters: The Cat in the Hat.

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James River’s Third “Dolphin Madness” Game Highlights Good Health



James River Elementary along with the School Health Initiative Program (SHIP) recently hosted the third annual Dolphin Madness Basketball Game, in which

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James River's staff competed against the W-JCC Fire Department. This year, the Fire Department avenged last year's loss in a nail-biting one-point finish.

The evening started with Edward James, a music major at Old Dominion University and music director for Calvary Christian Church, singing the National Anthem followed by a demonstration by Baeplex Family Martial Arts. Volunteers from Wal-Mart refereed the game. Canned goods were collected from attendees to help replenish the Grove Outreach Center's Pantry.

Throughout the evening door prizes were given away thanks to many contributors. Local vendors promoting health and wellness provided health screenings, massages, giveaways and presentations.

Sponsors included Farm Fresh, Wal-Mart, Harris Teeter, Data Xstream, Big Brother & Big Sisters, Buffalo Wild Wings, Pearson, Bonefish Grill, Sammy & Nick's Family Restaurant, Grove Christian Outreach Center, Dick's Sporting Goods, and Williamsburg Graphix. Healthy halftime vendors were Sentara Hospital, Baeplex, Williamsburg James City County Fire and Police Departments, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Hornets Football, Pinto Chiropractic, Grove Outreach Center, and the Watch Dog Dad's Program.

Photo 031210 Cheerleaders: Leading the cheers at the "Dolphin Madness" basketball game were, back row, from left: Geri Farrell, Beth Berry, and Laura Burton. Middle row, from left: Nancy Hammond, Cindy Hrkman, Amy Bernecker, and Leslie Panaro. Front row, from left: Sophie Persinger, Delaney Berry, and Maci Bernecker.

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Warhill Students Design "Blue Screen" To Help With Video Projects



Students in John Ellis's Engineering, Design, and Development class at Warhill High School recently constructed a "blue screen" frame now on display in the Media Center conference room. The frame, used for digital video projects, allows

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multiple images to be “layered” onto each other in the final editing process. Prior to construction, the students consulted with media center faculty, completed research, drew designs, and created a prototype model. The fully portable frame will allow students and teachers to film in various locations. Family and Consumer Science student Chris Sell sewed pockets along the edges of the material to allow the PVC pipe frame to fit securely.

Photo 031210 Blue Screen: Standing, from left: Wes Watkinson, Bryan Erskine and Meg Carper, and Brian Campbell (seated) inspect the plans for the “blue screen.”

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Social Workers Honor Transportation Department



W-JCC’s social workers observed the recently-completed National School Social Work week by honoring the W-JCC Transportation Department under the leadership of Earl Tyler. The Transportation Department, the staff, and the bus drivers provide an outstanding service and commitment to W-JCC students and the community.

The School Social Workers work closely with the Transportation Department to provide transportation for students who are displaced and not living in permanent housing, thus considered homeless under the McKinney Vento Act. The Transportation Department responds in a timely manner, managing frequent logistical changes of these students ensuring that they are provided a means to get to school, reducing potential barriers for students who experience difficult challenges.

Photo 031210 Social: From left: Janice Pentz, Transportation Department Director Earl Tyler, Susan Mullen, Stephanie Gallas, Jane Ferguson, Linda Crump, Stephanie Leek, Roberta Jardine, Gloria Martin, Bob Day, Bob Keller, Anne Marie Johnson, and Lois Delk.

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