
The Messenger

OF THE CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

MISSION: TO COLLECT, PRESERVE, INTERPRET AND PROMOTE THE COUNTY'S PAST
FOR THE EDUCATION AND ENJOYMENT OF PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS

Number 147

October 2023



Fall Quarterly Membership Meeting Sunday, October 22, 2023, at 2pm Historic “*Buckhead Springs*”

3950 Centralia Road, Chester, VA 23831

Please join us for an exclusive opportunity to tour one of Chesterfield County’s oldest homes, *Buckhead Springs* on Centralia Road in Chester, a privately owned property dating back to a land patent recorded in 1690.

Our Fall Quarterly Membership Meeting will be hosted by Jimmy and Debbie Winn, the owners of *Buckhead Springs* since 2009. Jimmy and Debbie have kindly agreed to speak on the history of the property, and to give tours of their unique home as well as its beautiful gardens, designed by Charles F. Gillette, one of Virginia’s notable landscape architects.

The property has passed through numerous owners since “*The sovereign Lord and Lady William & Mary by the grace of God, King and Queen of England, Scotland, France and Ireland*” granted 900 acres to Martin Elam on October 23, 1690... That is exactly 333 years

and one day before we will gather for our Fall Quarterly Membership Meeting on that same property!

Previous owners include Revolutionary and Civil War officers, politicians and financiers, including Parke Poindexter who served as Chesterfield County Clerk of the Court in the first half of the 1800s. Over the centuries, the original land patent of 900 acres has been divided and sub-divided to the current 9.8 acres of secluded woodland with a pond. The sixteen-room home, built in increments over a period of 250 years, underwent major restoration from 1966 thru 1976. Subsequent owners have continued this preservation and restoration work. For additional background on *Buckhead Springs*, please visit our society research library in historic Trinity Church, and ask to see “*History of Buckhead*” by Betty M. Beverly (1975-76).

Our Fall Quarterly Membership Meeting will start with a brief business meeting and conclude with refreshments. Please join us! Bring a lawn chair and a friend!

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Letter from the President

Since our founding the Chesterfield Historical Society has served as the center for the preservation and interpretation of Chesterfield County's rich history. Our success over the years is the result of the dedication of our volunteers. You are the life blood of our organization and have provided a tremendous service to the citizens of Chesterfield County. In 2022 we logged 6,995 hours of volunteer time. These hours spanned a wide variety of subjects such as African American history, genealogy, cemeteries, archaeology, and military history. Volunteers have also helped with event planning, fund raising, governance, membership development, finance, newsletters, management of our collections and the day-to-day operations of our library. I thank you all for the work you continue to do.

Our current system for recording volunteer hours dates to 2008. Since that time, Historical Society volunteers have provided over 116,000 hours of time to further our mission, averaging 7,266 hours of volunteer time per year. If the current Department of Labor pay rate for museum and library services were to be applied to our total number of volunteer hours, the figure would be over \$3,000,000.

Our highest number of volunteer hours was 11,266 in 2013. The lowest was 3,564 in 2020. While this was the lowest number it is perhaps the most impressive when we consider that the world was deep in the Pandemic and all our buildings were closed and our programs cancelled. The fact that 3,564 hours were donated to the historical society is a testament to the commitment of our membership. Those hours, and those volunteers, kept us going when a lot of other organizations were closing their doors for good.

In 2022 we recorded 6,995 hours of volunteer time. That amounted to more hours than 3 full time staff members would have in a 40-hour work week. So far in 2023 we have 3,478 hours. A further dig into that figure shows that those hours have come from roughly 60 members, many of whom are serving on several committees. These figures represent the hours that have been reported and tracked on our spreadsheet. I am sure there are hundreds more hours of volunteer effort that have not been logged. If you do volunteer work for us, please keep track of your time, and send those hours to Gina Stith at the end of the month. Those records go a long way in making the case to County leadership that we are doing an important job at CHSV with very little cost to the taxpayers.

While our numbers so far in 2023 are impressive, the fact that 60 people have accounted for many of these hours shows that we are always in need of more volunteers. We have a wide variety of committees that can use your help with ongoing projects. They can also help you pursue a particular historic interest you may have. Please look at the committee list in this newsletter and contact the chairperson if you can help us in our goal to preserve and interpret the history of Chesterfield County.

Scott Williams

Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia

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****we welcome submissions describing an area of your interest or current research. Please submit no later than November 20 to Gina at StithG@Chesterfield.gov**

Out on a Limb...

Angie Wilderman

Summers are often a time for genealogists to include a visit to an ancestor's home county to look for relatives who can provide clues or visit the courthouse or historical society for information. A researcher never knows what might turn up. An age-old piece of advice to genealogists is "interview your oldest relatives." From home, make sure you visit sites like Genealogy.com, a long-time forum with lots of old genealogy queries. This particular forum can be searched by name or location. Many of the posts contain information that may be helpful to you. Check out VirginiaChronicle.com. This is a newspaper site with access to newspapers across the Commonwealth. Another site to visit is chroniclingamerica.loc.gov which is the Library of Congress site.

Newspapers can be a wealth of information. We're scanning the News-Journal, a newspaper published in the Chester-Colonial Heights area. The years we have include 1961-1973.

An update on the Genealogy Roundtable – we are meeting on a different Saturday, the FIRST SATURDAY. Also, a searchable pdf list of the books we have in the genealogy library has been posted. Please check the webpage for information on Roundtable and the genealogy library.

Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia

2023-2024 BOARD & QUARTERLY MEETINGS

Please mark your calendars. All are welcome to attend.

Board Meetings: 5:30pm, Historic Trinity Conference Room:

Monday, September 11, 2023

Monday, November 13, 2023

Monday, January 8, 2024

Monday, March 11, 2024

Monday, May 13, 2024

Monday, July 8, 2024

Quarterly Members Meetings: 4th Sunday in October,
January, April, July

October 22, 2023 – 2:00pm, Location TBD

January 28, 2024 – 2:00pm, Location TBD

April 28, 2024 – 2:00pm, Location TBD

July 28, 2024 – 2:00pm, Annual Meeting, Location TBD

Library Donations & Acquisitions

Liess van der Linden-Brusse

Our research library in Historic Trinity Church is open Monday thru Friday from 10 to 4, and our volunteers look forward to helping you find the resources you need in our collection of more than 25,000 items. At the same time, we welcome additions to this extensive collection of books and manuscripts, maps, newspaper clippings, CDs and DVDs, yearbooks, brochures, flyers and programs on Chesterfield people, places and events. Please keep us in mind when you clear out your attics and basements. Thank you! Recent additions to the collection include:

General Interest

Magnolia Grange Gift Shop – A collection of photos of unique local-interest ceramic, metal, wood and jewelry items for sale in the former gift shop, photographed by Fred Weise in 2009, gift of Angie Wilderman (Manuscript Collection)

Magnolia Grange Auction of Property in 1878 – 'Farm & Hotel Auction' poster (a copy), including copies of sale confirmation and deed of sale to Emma V. Cogbill, gift of Jill Balsamo, County Circuit Court Clerk's Office (Manuscript Collection)

Westover Hills Annexation (1942), Notes from articles in the *Richmond Times Dispatch* (1924-1980) on the 1942 annexation by the City of Richmond, compiled and donated by John Coski (Manuscript Collection)

Spy Pilot: Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 Incident and a Controversial Cold War Legacy, by Gary Powers, Jr., & Keith Dunnivant, donated by Liess van der Linden-Brusse

Baptist Preachers Trial: Court Order Book record of appearances of preachers John Tanner and John Weatherford in 1773 (copies), gift of Jill Balsamo, County Circuit Court Clerk's Office (Manuscript Collection)

Chester United Methodist Church: A Community in Christ- Our History including Pastors, Sanctuaries, Missions, Choirs and Fellowship (1873-2023), gift of CUMC historian Mary Musselwhite

Chester United Methodist Church: The Last 50 Years of Our Heritage, gift of CUMC historian Mary Musselwhite

And the Mountains will Move – The DuVal Panama Canal Series (1947), by Capt. Miles P. DuVal, Jr., gift of Minerva Walters (Rare Books Collection)

A Brief History of the United States for Schools (1872), by A. S. Barnes & Co, donated by Angie Wilderman (Rare Books Collection)

Maps

Chesterfield County Roads & Streets (1971), including area of 1970 Annexation, gift of Nancy Anderson

Richmond & Historic Richmond-Petersburg Area (1974), gift of Nancy Anderson

Richmond Streets & parts of Chesterfield, Hanover & Henrico (1980), gift of Nancy Anderson

Gates Bluff, Chesterfield, VA (1994), set of amended plats of Lots 37-39 & 61-63, gift of Angie Wilderman

Brandermill, Old Hundred Landing, Midlothian, VA (1973), gift of Henry Coalter

Richmond Area Roads & Highways to Chesapeake Shore (1973), gift of Henry Coalter

Scrapbooks

Chesterbrook Farms, VA, (1973-1983) & (1983-2006), gift of Rebecca Faulkner

Yearbooks

Specter 1985, Salem Church Middle School, gift of Harold Lee Smith

Specter 1986, Salem Church Middle School, gift of Harold Lee Smith

A Tale of Two Cousins

Buddy Cranford

This is the tale of two cousins from the Chesterfield's Skinquarter community. Leading simple lives, their friendship took place in the early 1800s. One, a farmer and the other, a Baptist preacher, were supposedly good friends and cousins until one was "dying", or so he thought. Both men were born just after 1800 and not much is known about their childhood exploits; however, this episode begins in their late adulthood. Benjamin Gates was born in 1807 in Chesterfield, VA. He married Martha A. Goode on 10 Feb 1829. She was the daughter of Martha Lewis Robinson and Captain Benjamin A. Goode who commanded a Chesterfield County Regiment in the War of 1812. The story really opens after Benjamin purchased a 170-acre tract of land off Moseley Road in Chesterfield from another relative, Joseph I. Gates. Benjamin built a home, now referred to as the *Gates- Rudd house*, and there he farmed, and he and his wife raised their family. The house was a 1 ½ story L-plan structure. Part of the house was built in 1840, and another part in 1850. In 1850, Gates's assets amounted to \$3000. The 1850 U.S. Census shows him as a farmer and residing with

him was wife, Martha, three sons and three daughters: John; Joseph; Martha; Mary Gaes; Alexander (later a Confederate soldier) and Olivia. He would need this big house for his family. The Gates family attended Skinquarter Baptist Church. Benjamin and Martha Gates resided in the Skinquarter area of Chesterfield County for the remainder of their lives until Benjamin died of heart disease.

Gates's cousin, Pastor Benjamin E Goode, was born in 1805 in Chesterfield, VA. Obviously, by 1847, both Benjamin Gates and Benjamin Goode, being cousins, had known each other for a long time (40 years). As a pastor, Goode received no salary. He owned slaves and with their help, built a 130-acre farm and a general merchandise store on Goodes Bridge Road. He was held in high esteem by his church congregation until that ominous year 1847.

A simple farmer was Benjamin Gates, but he created a ruckus in 1847 when thinking that he was "dying". He wanted his debts to be forgiven by his creditors. He, at the time, was in a bad and a "low" state of health. It was then that he articulated to some friends that he wanted his debts forgiven as he would never recover from his bad health. One of his creditors happened to be his cousin, Pastor Benjamin E. Goode of the Skinquarter Baptist Church. Apparently, Benjamin Gates was so sick he thought he was quite close to receiving his heavenly reward. He wished to wind up his worldly matters, so he asked the good Pastor Goode to release him from his debt. Gates owed him a considerable hefty sum of money. That did not feel right to the good pastor. So, Benjamin Gates took an unwanted place in Chesterfield history when he and Pastor Goode were at odds with each other over the debt owed to the good pastor.

Pastor Goode took offense to his cousin's dying plea, and instead of releasing Cousin Gates from his debts, the good pastor heaped the most abusive epithets upon his dying church brother; he would have nothing to do with forgiving or even visiting his cousin. This ruckus infiltrated Goode's church. The Skinquarter Baptist Church leadership was unforgiving. Pastor Goode was publicly censured by his church for quarreling with his cousin Benjamin. A private misunderstanding had broken into a public scandal and the Baptists wanted it resolved publicly. The entire story was chronicled in the *Religious Herald*, a news journal of the Baptist General Association of Virginia.

The matter was brought before the church members with a vote to censure the preacher. Pastor Goode was excommunicated and asked to turn his credentials. He never felt any remorse and he would be a church member no more. Goode, in anger, stated, "I wipe the dust off my feet, and it shall be a testimony against you in the day of judgement" and he left the church. He died two years later, and his burial place is unknown.

Benjamin Watkins Gates did not die, as he thought he would, in 1847 but lived on for twenty more years and died in 1866 in Powhatan County, VA long after the scandalous controversy he caused. And...like his cousin, his burial place is unknown. If these two cousins had listened to George Washington, their lives would have been much more straightforward. Washington had once said, "There is no practice more dangerous than that of borrowing money." The moral of this story: Always borrow money from a pessimist. He will not expect it back.

Plaque honors volunteer Shirley "Ley" Diller



Shirley 'Ley' Diller's son Michael, daughter Sue and great-granddaughter Maddie honor her memory with a plaque in the garden behind Magnolia Grange

On a very wet and unusually cool summer afternoon, June 21st, family and fellow volunteers of the late Shirley 'Ley' Diller gathered in the back garden at *Magnolia Grange* to unveil a plaque and plant several azalea bushes in memory of this remarkable lady. Ley volunteered with the Chesterfield Historical Society for 21 years, contributing 13,965 volunteer hours to our mission of preserving Chesterfield County history.

Ley passed away in Midlothian on February 7, 2020, at the age of 91. Plans for a service or a dedication in Ley's memory were postponed for two years due to the outbreak of the COVID pandemic and its related restrictions. On April 23, 2022 a Celebration of Life was held for Ley at the Pavilion overlooking Swift Creek Reservoir in the Woodlake neighborhood. Later in the year, Ley's husband Lou Diller also passed away.

In the garden behind *Magnolia Grange*, the simple plaque honoring Ley reads:

**In memory of
Shirley "Ley" Diller
Wife, Mother and Historian to the end
You are remembered, loved and missed.**

The following is another excerpt from the writings of William A. Day, a private serving in Company I of the 49th North Carolina Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. Private Day and the 49th returned to Chesterfield County in May of 1864.

SURPRISE AT KINGSLAND CREEK

About sunrise on the morning of May 13th in our bivouack at Kingsland creek, we were ordered to clean our guns. We took them all to pieces and were busy rubbing them with greasy rags, I even had the tube out of mine when the yankees dashed in on our pickets, driving them in, which created a lively stir among us for a few minutes. The order was at once given to fall in, we gathered up the pieces of our guns, put them together as we fell in, and in less than three minutes after the alarm was given, we stood at attention in a perfect line of battle with loaded guns, ready for any emergency. The yankees followed us up to our line of defence, and were then forming on each side of the turnpike, and in some places occupying our outer works. Our Generals were riding over the fields keeping in touch with the yankee movements, and Gen. Matt Ransom soon had our brigade in line of battle on the crest of a hill on the left of the turnpike facing towards Petersburg. There were no breastworks at that place and we expected the yankees to advance out of

the woods at any moment and give us an open field battle. We lay on the hill two hours watching the woods three hundred yards off, with our guns firmly gripped, and ready to drop the first yankee that showed himself, but they did not appear. We then moved by the right flank, across the turnpike, and followed an old road half a mile and halted for orders. Gen. D. H. Hill, who at that time had no regular command, rode by and went out on the old road some distance reconnoitering, accompanied by an orderly carrying an Enfield rifle. In a short time he returned and rode slowly down the old road towards the turnpike. We lay in the old road till about 12 o'clock, then moved a mile further on and lined up in breastworks. The works were in a field surrounded by woods and swamps, and we were nearly surrounded by the yankees before we knew it. The turnpike was about the centre of their position; their lines extended about a mile and a half above and below.

FIRST ASSAULT MAY 13TH

The breastworks ran through a large open field on the farther side of which was a heavy body of timber and a high fence next to the field. At the point in the works where the 49th was posted, the woods came up within two hundred yards of the works. The 56th regiment on the extreme right and the 49th next. A large force of yankees had moved around to our rear under cover of the woods, and were lying quietly in line of battle behind the fence at the edge of the woods. Soon after forming in the works Generals Hoke and Ransom rode out in what we thought was their rear. Hoke and Ransom, and Capt. Durham were sitting on their horses a few paces in the rear of the 49th looking at the woods. A battery was moved out and opened on the woods but getting no reply, soon ceased firing. The Generals seemed to be uneasy about the woods in rear. They thought the yankees were in there. The generals rode back to the line and ordered a line of skirmishers thrown out to the fence at the woods. Captain Durham volunteered to lead a detachment into the woods in the rear, thinking the enemy might be concealed in the timber behind us. A heavy skirmish line was sent out toward the woods led by Capt. Durham on horseback. The skirmishers moved across the field in perfect order with Capt. Durham riding in the center. Everything was perfectly quiet until the

skirmishers were within a few yards of the fence, when a whole regiment of Federals rose up behind the fence and poured a full volley, right in their faces, mortally wounding Captain Durham and killing and wounding most of his men. Captain Durham ordered the survivors to fall back to the works and, wheeling his horse which had escaped unhurt, galloped back, reeling in his saddle. Some of the men ran out and lifted him off his horse and carried into the works to the right. As the skirmishers fell back, the yankees crossed the fence and followed them. They came in mass formation, rolling over the fence and charging across the field, led by the bravest man I ever saw in battle. The charge was made square on the 56th regiment, and lapping about half of the right of the 49th; the left of the 49th was in position where the works were not more than three feet high, and the yankees in front kept up a heavy fire while their comrades were charging on their left. We had to hold fire until the skirmishers were all in, and by that time the yankees were half way across the field. We were taken at a considerable disadvantage being nearly surrounded and having to fight on the wrong side of the works. The moment the last one crossed the works, a sheet of fire went out from the 56th, and right of the 49th, before which nothing could stand and live; whole ranks of the enemy went down under it. But their brave leader kept his feet, his hat in one hand, his sword in the other. Springing over their fallen comrades, the rear columns pushed on, their daring leader still in front waving his sword in fiery circles above his head and cheering them on. I could not keep my eyes off of him. It seemed as if they would capture our works, there were so many of them they kept coming up out of the woods. At last their leader went down. I saw him fall, the smoke rose high enough to give us a view under it. When the leader fell, (I wish I knew his name,) the yankee's lines faltered, then halted, and commenced firing, but the merciless fire from our lines soon drove them back to the woods.

All this time the federals had been closing in and firing on us from other points, until we were almost surrounded; only one place left open for retreat and that was through a swamp. After the enemy had been driven back to the woods, we were ordered to fall back at once, leaving our dead on the field, and carrying off as many wounded as possible. We

commenced our retreat through the one small opening left us, which led across a swamp. In crossing the swamp knee deep in mud, both my shoe strings snapped and left my shoes down in the mud. I dropped on my knees, ran my arms down and pulled them out. I carried them in my hand till the regiment halted, then put them over my muddy socks. We fell back until there was no danger of being surrounded, halted in an old road and awaited orders. The 56th being on the right, was the last to come out and being hotly assailed, they had to fight their way out, losing a number of men.

Being somewhat protected by the works our casualties were small. The 49th lost 11 killed, and a number wounded. Dr. Goode, assistant surgeon of the 49th and three litter bearers were captured, while attending the wounded. Abel Caldwell and Pink Collins of Company I were both badly wounded, Caldwell in the hand, and Collins in the shoulder.

Heroic Captain Durham lingered a few days and died. Had he lived he would have organized a corps of sharpshooters and Pink Collins and I would have belonged to it. He had been with the regiment from the beginning, and was elected or appointed adjutant on the death of adjutant Richmond who died in 1862. He served as adjutant till May 1863 when he was appointed Quartermaster to succeed Capt. George, who was transferred to other duties. Capt. Durham's office did not require his presence in battle, but he never missed a fight, and was known in the army as the fighting Quartermaster. He was looked upon by the whole regiment as a gallant soldier. He was a young man, just out of his boyhood days, a native of Cleveland county, North Carolina, and had been a cadet at the Military Institute at Charlotte. He had a furlough in his pocket when he fell, but Captain Durham was not the man to leave his comrades when the enemy was approaching.

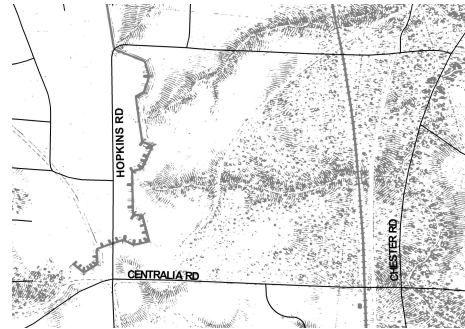
We had held in check and had driven back on that day three brigades of yankees for which we were afterwards complimented in General orders.

The yankees occupied and held the works we evacuated that day, but did not advance any farther at that time, or they would have had us in a close place.

It had been getting cloudy all evening, and when night set in it began to rain and poured down on us all night, shivering in the mud and water in the old road

without fire or shelter, and so dark we could scarcely see each other.

(submitted by Jerry Netherland)



Woolridge Hill Map, Centralia and Hopkins earthworks.

The American Revolution Part I

Buddy Cranford

The 250th anniversary of the American Revolution is in its early planning phase in Chesterfield County. The County has already celebrated the Baptist Preacher's Trial event at the historic 1917 Courthouse. More events will be planned. What led up to the Revolutionary War and how did Chesterfield County get into the resistance?

Prior to the American Revolution, the American colonists were being tormented by King George III and members of Parliament. All were attempting to subjugate the American colonists, Chesterfield residents included. There were events that affected the American Colonies in taxes on goods being shipped to England. The Sugar Act of 1764, aimed at smugglers and trading with France, and the Stamp Act of 1765; which legislated direct taxation of all colonial commercial and legal papers, newspapers, pamphlets to support funding the Indian Wars. This, along with other grievances England would not address, started the train of events leading to the American Revolution.

Chesterfield County was expanding in population and resources. A new village was growing in the Chesterfield County courthouse area. Midlothian was also expanding due to the coal mining operations. With colonies seeing war clouds appearing on the horizon, in Chesterfield County most of the citizens were more concerned about their own economic prosperity and domestic concerns. However, their representatives in the General Assembly, Archibald Cary and Benjamin Watkins, were not unaware of the current events.

The impending revolution came in two phases. The first was the fact that the colonists teetered on the verge of armed resistance, and second was the conflict in the Northern states that pulled them into the fray. Chesterfield County would become more involved as the American revolution entered Chesterfield and ended in Yorktown.

In Williamsburg, colonists were dealing with the Stamp Act and The British Townsend Act passed by Parliament in 1767. Duties imposed on various products imported into the Colonies had raised such a storm of colonial protest and noncompliance that they were repealed in 1770. Parliament and King George III had threatened to take colonists to England and put them on trial. The colonists had had enough of that.

The famous Boston Tea Party, on December 16, 1773, was an incident in which 342 chests of tea belonging to the British East India Company were thrown from ships into Boston Harbor by American patriots disguised as Mohawk Indians. The Americans were protesting the tax on tea (taxation without representation) and other complaints. Virginians were aware of the northern incidents. Patience was waning in Virginia and in Chesterfield County. To counter the English ban in Boston, Chesterfield County sent food and other items to help the citizens.

Archibald Cary was active in the resistance movement and as member of the General Assembly, he supported the "Resolves". The Resolves included a standing committee of correspondence to monitor Great Britain intelligence and what Parliament had up its sleeve. The other British colonies were kept apprised of what Virginia was doing. By 1774, the colonists had begun to cry for a revolution. Freeholders and other citizens were called to the courthouse on July 14, 1774, when the impending war situation was laid before them. The meeting ended with a defiant Resolution, the *Chesterfield County Resolves*.

To be continued...

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Teresa Luckert and Dianne Mallory

Look for the 2024 renewal form in the January newsletter or

you may renew at www.chesterfieldhistory.com

Thanks to our 3rd quarter donors Elaine and Stuart Bollinger.

INTERN UPDATE: This summer, Magnolia Grange had the privilege of hosting summer VCU intern Nadia Yendrek. Nadia graduates this December with a degree in history and a minor in French. Nadia's career goal is to work in a museum or National Park.

Asked about a memorable moment in her internship, Nadia reported the following: "One day I was sitting in the house alone, listening to my online class, when all of a sudden, I heard a loud shout. I don't know if it was from inside the house, or if someone was outside on the property because the lecture muddled the source of the noise, but I was a little concerned. I replied "hello" and received no response and then continued listening to my lecture. About five minutes later, the lights flickered, and I heard creaking, and I went upstairs and it was really cold. I wasn't freaked out or anything, I just found it strange, but that was the most interesting experience I had at the Grange."

Our Intern's research, submitted to her professor for project credit: (edited for space)

My name is Nadia Yendrek, I am a History major at Virginia Commonwealth University and this past summer's intern at Magnolia Grange. Throughout my internship, I have been given the opportunity to research this plantation house both on-site as well as at Trinity Church, the home of the Chesterfield Historical Society. I began my research focusing on the grounds of the house, for I wanted to learn more on its excavation process and the lesser-known areas of the house, such as the backyard; this being an integral part of the house and its historical context for it housed the slave quarters.

I began this process by referencing the field notes report written by Daniel Mouer. Later, I came across two other sources that I believe are pertinent to painting the overall narrative of the house. People may like to write the Grange off as an obsolete plantation house, however, my research proves the historical importance of the land and its relevance to its respective county. Given this opportunity to write an article about my research, I'd be remiss if I did not share with the public the interesting facts I have acquired from each of the sources.

To begin, I will start with my key takeaways from the field notes concerning the excavation of the house, referencing “Magnolia Grange Archaeology of the Courthouse Plantation Interpretive Report” by L. Daniel Mouer, Ph.D. I have provided correlating page numbers with the highlights I mention, in the case a curious reader may wish to reference the information for themselves.

Initially, the report outlined that there have been four major periods of the Grange: **Period 1: Pre-historic** (5,000-2,000 B.C.), **Period 2: Colonial Tavern** (1730-1781), **Period 4: Early Federal Period** (1781-1822), and **Period 5: 19th/20th Century Magnolia Grange** (1822-1964) (**pp. 41-42**).

Artifacts excavated from **Period I** showed that due to its location on a springhead, Magnolia Grange was a site for Native Americans to hunt and gather. This notion was reinforced with the excavation of projectile stone points, stone flakes, and tools, as well as fire-cracked rocks (hearthstones) which were used for cooking. In regard to **Period 2 and Period 4**, we have acquired several pieces of creamware, pearlware, porcelain, as well as material from the Tavern, which we have on display in the exhibit room of the house; these artifacts were concentrated in the front/side yards of the house. In regard to **Period 5**, artifacts of this period were the most abundant, due to it being the period of industrialization and increased production, which allowed excavation of an abundance of artifacts concerning the families, the two wars, as well as the construction of the house (**pp. 41-42**).

Examples of these artifacts include: Two gunflints, one lead ball, and a percussion cap which work to showcase the firearms of the Colonial and Antebellum Periods as well as a dozen bullet casings found which dated back to 1876 (**p. 88**). Interestingly, aside from material objects, the remains of the gardens at Magnolia Grange were excavated, so it can be used to reconstruct the original period gardens (**p. 34**).

At this point in the text, the information I discovered was very interesting, however, it didn't necessarily answer my questions about the backyard, so I read further. Later in his text, Mouer outlined that due to the constant modifications of the backyard throughout the years, as it was rebuilt by each of the four families, the artifacts/features of the earth which give us insight into earlier periods were altered, thus making it hard to interpret the structures within the backyard (**p.**

45). Having this information, I was discouraged yet determined to give some insight into the life of a slave, an insight I received later when I uncovered the “Legend of July” by Des Champs.

Before I delve into the latter source, I would like to highlight a source I encountered in between this discovery; Mildred Daffron's manuscript “For My Grandchildren”. This source was a very good find, for it was written by an inhabitant of the house, who worked to give insight into the lifestyles of the house, both enslaved and free, as well as the historical context of the house.

In the beginning of the text, Mildred Daffron mentions some workers of the house that she remembers by name, which can be encouraging in research of the house. She doesn't necessarily specify whether these people were enslaved, however, based on their job titles one can conclude that, at the very least, they were servants. The names and respective job titles she mentions include Nellie Hill, cook; Edie Trent, baker; Guy Trent, gardener; and Rhodie Goode, a homeless black woman. Rhodie's job was to scrub the floors, clean the outbuildings, as well as massage Julia Cogbill sometimes when she had migraines (**pp. 7-8**).

Having digested this information, I read further, curious to see what else Mrs. Daffron would mention about the house and her lifestyle. She mentioned that her grandmother Julia Cogbill, a longtime inhabitant of the Grange, was a go-go woman, meaning she would always be doing something, whether it was attending church meetings, visiting a friend or shopping (**p. 9**). She also mentions that Julia Cogbill's friend, Mrs. Chalkley, had the opportunity to see Richmond burn in flames during the Civil War (**p.25**), once again portraying the historical context of the home. Additionally, she mentions that at the time there were only two telephones in the area, one at Magnolia Grange and one at the Clerk's office (**pp. 11-12**).

Her book also paints the scenery of the Grange and its surrounding county. As for the Grange, to the right of the driveway, there was a large alfalfa bush; there was also a snowball bush and a fruit orchard that provided apples, pears and peaches. A big locust tree stood in the center of the backyard and towered over the house (**pp. 10-12**). As for Castlewood, right across the street, she remembers pink roses/columbine on the porch, as well as her friends Haygood and Annabel Lumpkin (**p. 48**). As for the County, she mentions that

due to the location of the house, the children were granted day trips to Virginia Beach or Jamestown (pp. 36-38). Additionally, highlighting modern aspects of the grounds, she mentions that where the Burger King now stands, there used to be a blacksmith shop and where present-day Chesterfield Meadows is was farmland (p. 49).

One other interesting fact I learned from her book, was that a Spaniard Trustee from the jail across the street used to come over to the Grange and teach the children how to speak Spanish (p. 28). Just the sheer mention of the landmark across the street was very exciting to me because once again it established the importance of the house's location and its connection to other aspects of the county.

After reading this information, I was pleased to have some names concerning the inhabitants and perhaps slaves of the house, for once again it worked to strengthen my initial curiosity about who lived in the backyard. I was pleasantly surprised to learn, through her eyes, what the town looked like and how it changed over time. I believe this book works to reveal how much history this house has seen and is a must-read for all interested in the Grange and its surrounding community.

Now that I provided insight into the Grange through its excavation and its surrounding community, I wish to conclude my article with the "Legend of July". This was my favorite piece of evidence concerning the house, for it provided a narrative concerning the enslaved that inhabited the Grange. As mentioned with the other sources, we were given minimal insight into the lives of these people, leaving the purpose of my research unjustified. Nevertheless, all that changed when I dutifully went into the library looking for interesting facts about the house and I stumbled upon *the "Legend of July"* by Des Champs. As I was reading it, I couldn't believe the history of the county that was translated through the text. There were mentions of: an ice hole (which the county clerk used to preserve precious court documents throughout both the Revolutionary and Civil War), a gristmill, the slave trade in Richmond and much more! I feel that since this is my favorite piece I've uncovered, I naturally save it for the conclusion so it can be deeply internalized. I feel the best way to present my findings in this source is to provide a synopsis of the text so that one can fully grasp the importance of the story and what it means to the

Grange. So, without further ado, I present a synopsis of the "Legend of July."

Poem (as presented on the first page):

When you wander through the valleys he knew,
And over the hills where the magnolia grew,
As you walk his trails, and with a sigh,
Watch the moon up in the sky,
Days will come and years pass by,
But the boy will remember, the Legend of July.

Synopsis:

Essentially, this legend centers around an African Slave by the name of July who inhabited the grounds of Magnolia Grange and imposed a disastrous fate on those who lived there. In the beginning, a slave owner by the name of Mr. Nunnally was working on building the plantation house, Magnolia Grange. He had several slaves build up his plantation who created a basement, a large log barn that served as stables, tobacco barns, etc. One of these original slaves' names was Charlie, an "undependable" slave, and an important figure later in the story. Mr. Nunnally's slaves built the plantation until the month of July, when Mr. Nunnally ventured into Richmond for supplies as requested by his wife, as well as to attend the slave market. Initially, he was uninterested in a serious slave purchase, dropping out once the bid went over thirty dollars, however, that was before he saw July.

July was a huge muscular man, strong and capable of doing the work of twenty slaves, so naturally, Mr. Nunnally decided he needed him at all costs. He would win the bidding at a thousand dollars and take the slave back to his plantation. July's former owner mentioned that he was 23 years of age, was captured in Africa six years before and never refused to do his work. This interested Mr. Nunnally and he got so excited that he forgot the supplies that his wife requested. On the trip home, July was too heavy for the horse, which required frequent breaks. Once they got home and July was introduced to Mrs. Nunnally and the slaves, he was an outcast, for all who saw him were frightened of him. This led to the severe alienation of the slave, to the point where Mr. Nunnally separated him from the plantation, having him build himself a cabin deep in the woods. As a result of this poor introduction, Mr. Nunnally named the slave July, for he would not forget his mistake within the month.

While constructing this cabin, July uncovered a spring, which Mr. Nunnally had him turn into a lake. During this process, July uncovered a familiar African herb, one that his tribe used to “destroy his enemy,” called the *Green Glow of Death*. Essentially, if this herb was dried and then burned it would release a green glow of poison, killing all around it. He decided it would be best to put it in the attic of his cabin for safe-keeping, so it didn’t burn by accident. July obeyed Mr. Nunnally’s orders and proceeded to build the lake, the ice hole, and the gristmill. Mind you, this ice hole would be a nod to the ice hole where the county clerk of Chesterfield hid the documents during both the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.

Continuing with Charlie, the “undependable slave” whom I mentioned earlier Throughout July’s time of alienation, Charlie was supposed to supply July with food three times a day; however, Charlie skimped on his meals leaving him only a piece of cornbread. At first, July wanted to tell his master, but he didn’t want to get Charlie in trouble, so he snuck food from the house. Understanding that this was not a safe long-term strategy, July made use of his native knowledge from Africa in capturing animals, to supply himself with the remainder of food needed. He made snares that worked to capture squirrels and rabbits, which he ate raw. Charlie was confused as to how July was sustaining himself and would later do some investigative work to find out. However, in the meantime, July was asked to kill some hogs by Mr. Nunnally; at one point he killed a hog and drank its warm gushing blood in the presence of the slaves. Appalled, they ran to Mr. Nunnally who went to check out the situation but let it slide- this time. In the meantime, several pigs were captured by July’s traps and he would have another meat to eat. Additionally, July found a cave within the rocks of the creek surrounding the gristmill, which later became his hiding place, when everything went down. Essentially, Charlie, growing suspicious of July’s food source, stalked his cabin and found the dried herbs and pig meat that July was keeping. Charlie presented this pig meat to Mr. Nunnally, who became angry, and flogged him at the Magnolia trees. At this time, July kept saying “I’ll pizen yuh,” of course referring to the *Green Glow of Death*, but they paid him no mind and left him for dead.

July untied himself, and then hid in the cave he found down by the gristmill, because Mr. Nunnally said

that the slave who found him and or killed him would be guaranteed their freedom. Charlie, being the main slave interested, devised a plan by barricading up July’s cabin, so that if these barricades were removed it was a clear sign that July was inhabiting the place; and could be easily captured. July knew this was a trick and proceeded to take down the barricades, as well as put a hog in the building to trick Charlie and his master that that’s where he was. Sure enough, Charlie fell for the trap and brought his fellow slaves and Mr. Nunnally to capture July, who was hiding in the woods. They set fire to the cabin, releasing the *Green Glow of Death*, which worked to kill all the slaves as well as Mr. Nunnally. Charlie was the first slave to die.

After this horrific event, Mrs. Nunnally sold the remainder of her slaves, the farm equipment, and the livestock and left the plantation. Having this settled, July was now all alone, free to roam. He could no longer be whipped or mistreated. Now, this is the story of July.

In regard to the legend component, parents of the county used to threaten their children that if they acted up they would give them to July, for he eats raw meat, as exemplified with his hunting and snare skills. Parents would also threaten to tie their children to a tree allowing the Green Glow to get them. Having this information, legend has it that two boys, not believing their parents, went into the woods around Magnolia Forks to find him. Eventually, they found him, and he looked disheveled, sporting a long white beard and hair to his shoulders, with deep lash marks on his arms/back. Angrily, July the slave began to chase after the children, until their eventual narrow escape, resulting in a vow to never return to July’s land.

In conclusion, this summer I was granted the opportunity to research the historical site of Magnolia Grange. Initially, I began my research focusing on the enslaved quarters, however, my horizons were broadened through the sources I explored, leading me to a greater appreciation of the house and its relevance to Chesterfield County. Many would just write this site off as a plantation house, however, this simplification neglects the history the land has seen and represents. Through these sources, I learned that the Grange’s land has catered to Native Americans, slaves, and the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. It also serves as a basis of a legend concerning the Grange and the surrounding county. Having this knowledge, one would be

foolish to classify the house simplistically as a plantation house; instead, it should be regarded as a landmark that has seen a history ranging from 5,000 BC until present day; a landmark that should be respected and memorialized forever.

HISTORY PROGRAMS, OCTOBER-DECEMBER

MAGNOLIA GRANGE PROGRAMS:

Saturday, September 16, 12:00 p.m. - The Battle of Drewry's Bluff

Join local historian H. Edward "Chip" Mann for an in-depth presentation about this local battle between Union warships and Confederate artillery..

Saturday, September 23 and Saturday, October 28, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Aspiring Writer's Seminar: 2 Sessions

Libby McNamee, award-winning author of *"Susanna's Midnight Ride: The Girl Who Won the Revolutionary War"* and *"Dolley Madison and the War of 1812"* will walk you through the writing, research and character creation process, and explain your publishing options. Fee: \$40 per person for both sessions.

Friday, October 20, 6:00 p.m. - Paranormal Poe: Poe and Victorian Spiritualism

Join Chris Semtner, curator of Richmond's Poe Museum for an intriguing evening of discovery and discussion of Edgar Allen Poe's connection with the Spiritualism movement of the 19th century. Fee: \$10 per person

Saturday, October 28, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Aspiring Writer's Seminar

Part 2. Fee: \$40 per person for both sessions.

Saturday, November 18, 12:00 p.m. – 19th Century Children's Games

Explore 19th century games and activities, such as Battledore and Shuttlecock, Hoop and Stick, Graces and Jacob's Ladder. For children of all ages.

Saturday, November 25, 12:00 p.m. - Parlor Games and Jigsaw Puzzles

Before the advent of TV, Victorian families used their imaginations and creativity to create their own fun. Participants have an opportunity to time travel to the 19th century to play some old-fashioned parlor games and to design and create their own jigsaw puzzles.

Saturday, December 2, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Victorian Christmas Open House

Get an early start to the season and join us for fun,

refreshments, crafts, music and of course, St. Nicholas too. Learn how Queen Victoria's husband Prince Albert brought the German tradition of Christmas trees to England and other holiday traditions from the Victorian era.

Wednesday, December 6, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. -

Christmas Tea – Join us for our annual Christmas Tea event. Sweet and savory treats provided by the Baking and Pastry Arts students at the Career and Technical Center will be served with English tea. The house will be decorated, and holiday music will fill the air. Cost: \$30 per person.

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY MUSEUM PROGRAMS

Lecture & Events, Saturdays, 11 a.m.

Oct. 7 - Opening of New Exhibit, Farming in Chesterfield 100 Years Ago

Explore rural life in the early 1900s. Learn about butter churning and the equipment used to churn butter, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Nov. 4 - CCC and the Virginia State Parks

President Roosevelt created the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933. The CCC helped develop what would become Pocahontas State Park and the National Park Service's Prince William Forest Park. Join us for an historical overview of the CCC and Virginia State Parks.

Dec. 9 - Remembering the Old Days

Visit simpler times with photographs and authentic objects from the museum's General Store, to recall the "good old days." Items from the household, office, and farm, such as the rug beater, typewriter, and butter churn, will be sure to spark fond memories of yesteryear!



Remembering the "good old days" on the farm.

FALL PARKS & REC/CHSV PROGRAMS:

Home School History Adventures

These programs are designed for families with children ages 6 and older.

\$5/child. Fridays 10 a.m.-noon. To register visit

www.chesterfieldhistory.com.

Discovering Chesterfield's Past

This program addresses life in rural Chesterfield long ago. Visit a replica of an early 20th century General Store and imagine life in a bygone era. Take a tour of the historic Courthouse Green and learn about the training of colonial soldiers and the fight for religious freedom that occurred on the site.

Chesterfield Museum, 6813 Mimms Loop

Oct. 13

Geocaching

Learn some of the basics of navigation and how to use a hand-held receiver as you search for clues on a scavenger hunt and look for caches or hidden treasure.

Learn how to use a compass, understand basic uses of topographic maps and how these functions are important.

Historic Trinity Church, 10111 Iron Bridge Road

Nov. 3

Winter Break Scout Merit Badge Workshops

The merit badge workshops are conducted by a merit badge counselor certified with the Heart of Virginia Council. To register visit www.chesterfieldhistory.com.

Castlewood, 10201 Iron Bridge Road

\$8 per scout

American Heritage

This program is for scouts looking to fulfill their merit badge requirements addressing history and cultural heritage.

Wednesday, Dec. 27 10 a.m.-noon

Citizenship in the Community

This workshop is for scouts looking to fulfill their merit badge requirements addressing rights, liberties, and cultural heritage.

Wednesday, Dec. 27 1 – 3 p.m.

Citizenship in the World

This workshop is designed for scouts looking to fulfill their merit badge requirements addressing rights, duties, and citizenship around the world. Learn about

international law, world trade, how governments function, foreign relations, and forms of government.

Friday, Dec. 29 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Citizenship in the Nation

This workshop helps scouts to understand their rights, liberties and freedoms as a citizen by discussing important historical documents, learning the branches of government and examining important historical speeches.

Friday, Dec. 29 2 - 4 p.m.

Historical Tours

To register call 804-748-1623 and request the specific Course number. Register for all programs at least one week in advance. Details: Bryan Truzzie, 804-751-4946 \$8 per person

“Historic Bon Air” Driving Tour

This driving tour will focus on the unique history of Bon Air. Learn about how this town evolved as a resort retreat for residents from Richmond to escape the heat. View historically preserved Victorian homes and learn about the many activities that evolved at the resort to entertain visitors.

Bon Air Baptist Church, 2531 Buford Road

Tuesday, Oct. 3, 10 a.m.-noon Course 43022

Falling Creek Ironworks

Discover the site of the first iron furnace in the New World and explore the industrial history that evolved. Learn about the Virginia Company of London's desire to exploit the vast resources, Archibald Cary's forge and later grist mill that existed. Take a tour of the site and learn about the impact of the industrial achievements Tour meets in parking lot at Ironworks Park.

Falling Creek Ironworks Park, 6407 Route 1

Friday, Oct. 20, 11 a.m. - noon Course 43034

Eppington Plantation

Eppington was built in 1768 by Thomas Jefferson's brother-in-law, Francis Eppes VI. Experience what life was like in the 1700s as you tour the house and grounds. The house features items on display from the Eppes and Hines-Cherry families, who were previous residents, in addition to agricultural displays.

Eppington Plantation, 14602 Eppes Falls Road

Saturday, Oct. 28, 10 - 11 a.m. Course 43019

Pleasant View School

Take a guided tour and learn about the early African American history of one of the last preserved school-houses in Chesterfield County. An excellent example of early 20th century construction, the school retains all the original architecture of similar patterns typical of Rosenwald school construction during that era. Learn the history of the structure and similar schools of the period.

Pleasant View School, 18431 River Road
Saturday, Oct. 28, 12 - 1 p.m. Course 43023
Stargazing

Join the Richmond Astronomical Society as they explore the night sky in search of star constellations, planets and other objects in the night sky. Explore the cosmos with telescopes. Programs last about an hour. Free, but register online at www.chesterfield.gov/parks

Eppington Plantation, 14602 Eppes Falls Road
Saturday, Oct. 28, 7 – 9 p.m. Course 43018

“Haunted Chesterfield” Van Tour

This guided driving tour will share the history of some of the most historic sites and homes throughout the County while learning about some of the most documented ghost stories associated with these structures. Discover the stories behind some of these most treasured sites throughout the county.

Historic Trinity Church, 10111 Iron Bridge Road
Tuesday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Course 43038

Cultural Heritage Programs NEW

These programs are engaging and focus on a separate cultural recognition each month. To register call 804-748-1623 and request the specific Course number. Register for all programs at least one week in advance. Castlewood, 10201 Iron Bridge Road
Tuesdays, 10 – 11 a.m. \$5 per person

Archaeology Awareness Month

During this presentation discover the archaeological evidence that was uncovered at Magnolia Grange and learn of the history surrounding this early 19th century site.

Oct. 10 Course 43043

Native American Craft

To celebrate Native American History Month, during this craft workshop participants will have the opportunity to make a traditional medicine pouch which was a common item worn by Native people to carry herbs, roots or medicine.

Nov. 14 Course 43029

Special Events

Eppington Fall Festival

Join us for a special day at Eppington, built in 1768 by Francis Eppes VI. Enjoy a variety of colonial activities, period music, storytelling, period vendors and crafters, historic trades, and living history. Enjoy period military demonstrations, musket, and artillery, carriage rides and much more. Enjoy a tour of the house and learn about the history. Parking and admission are free. Concessions and craft beer available.

Eppington Plantation, 14602 Eppes Falls Road
Saturday, Sep. 23, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Details: 751-4946 or visit www.eppington.org

Pleasant View School Open House

The Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia, in cooperation with Chesterfield Parks and Recreation Department, is pleased to host an open house for Pleasant View School. Tours are free and will be ongoing throughout the day. Parking is available on site.

Pleasant View School, 18431 River Road
Saturday, Oct. 14, 12 - 4 p.m.

Details: 751-4946 or visit www.chesterfieldhistory.com

Mid-Lothian Mines Day

Come out to Midlothian Mines and Rail Road Park and learn about the early coal mining history in the county. Activities include historical tours, music performances at the amphitheater, a Scottish bagpipe performance, period children’s activities, coal mining and railroad exhibits. Parking and admission are free and open to the public. Concessions available. Event is offered in conjunction with Midlothian Village Day.

Mid-Lothian Mines Park, 13286 N. Woolridge Road
Saturday, Oct. 21, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Details: Call 751-4946 or visit www.midlomines.org

Veteran’s Day Ceremony

Honor our county’s veterans by attending this annual ceremony on the historic Courthouse Green. This program will include a keynote speaker, living history displays, musical performances, presentation of banners and wreaths and honoring our veterans.

1917 Courthouse, 10011 Iron Bridge Road
Saturday, Nov. 11 2 p.m.

Details: Call 796-7131 or visit www.chesterfieldhistory.com

The Old Jails of Chesterfield County

A new exhibit opened at the 1892 Jail Museum on July 29th. *The Old Jails of Chesterfield County* details the crimes, punishments, trials and many escapes attempted from Chesterfield's old jails, where prisoners were confined from the mid-1700s through 1962. This new display will be available to view during regular museum hours. Be on the lookout for more information on this on-going exhibit.

Stealing Horses, Cows and Chickens

Daily Dispatch, Richmond, Dec. 15, 1868

John McCaul was tried by Chesterfield Court and convicted of horse stealing. [At this time, hanging is still the legal punishment for this crime in Virginia.] He was sentenced to be hung on December 18. On December 14, Governor Wells commuted the sentence to fifteen years in the penitentiary.

Norfolk Virginian, July 14, 1896

C.E. Bowen, a young man, was convicted by the Chesterfield Court of stealing a cow from Mr. Skinner of Manchester. He was given five years in the penitentiary.

Richmond Times-Dispatch, August 31, 1911

A man was arrested for stealing chickens in Ettrick. As he was being taken to the station house, he broke away and gave the police a long run before he was recaptured. He was sentenced to six months in the Chesterfield Jail. The punishment followed within a few hours after the theft.

Escaping Chesterfield's 1892 Jail

The Times, Richmond, September 28, 1900

One of the seven prisoners who escaped from Chesterfield's jail last June, returned on Tuesday night and asked to be locked up again. He was hungry and travel-worn when he was admitted. After being fed

he "spent his first night of peaceful rest in many months."

The Times, Richmond, March 11-12, 1902

With only one day remaining to serve for carrying concealed weapons but fearing more time on an additional charge of housebreaking, a prisoner attempted escape by using a broken bar from the iron bed. He removed the mortar and bricks from the upper wall of the jail. A citizen saw a rope of bedclothes being lowered through the hole and fired his gun to alert the jailer. The prisoner who was found hiding in the jail attic was severely lashed and his term of imprisonment was increased.

Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Jan. 31, 1911

A prisoner, with only one month remaining of a six-month sentence, had gained the privileges of a "trustee" for his good behavior. As jailer Cogbill went to his cell to deliver breakfast, the prisoner slipped out behind him and turned the latch on the outside, locking the jailer in. The prisoner had fled down the highway by the time Cogbill attracted the attention of his assistant in the office to release him.



****we welcome submissions describing an area of your interest or current research. Please submit no later than November 20 to Gina at StithG@Chesterfield.gov**

CHSV is pleased to announce the return of our popular Winter Lecture Series in 2024.

Location-Beulah Methodist Church, 6930 Hopkins Road, N. Chesterfield, VA 23234

All lectures begin at 7pm

For more information: (804)796-7121

January 12

1781 Death of Major General William Philips, British Army Officer

Mike Cecere, Author & Revolutionary War specialist

January 26

Saga of the 1749 Commission of the Peace – Chesterfield’s ‘Birth Certificate’

Liess van der Linden-Brusse, Chair, CHSV Library Committee

February 9

Coretta Scott King

Theresa G., First Person Historic Interpreter

February 23

100 Years Living on Family Land in Bon Air

Dianne Mallory, CHSV Board Director

March 8

80 th Anniversary of D-Day: 1944-2024

James Triesler, Director of Education, VA Dept. of Veterans Services

March 22

Chesterfield County 275 th Anniversary

Bryan Truzzie, Historic Site Specialist, Dept of Parks & Recreation, Chesterfield County

Admission is free for Historical Society Members - \$5 for Non-Members

**The Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia
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