

NORTH OF THE JAMES®

CHRISTOPHER
KILIAN

Peace

is a classical conservative informed by Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Edmund Burke and other great thinkers of the Enlightenment, along with those who spread the fire of Reason to our national soil, men like Madison and Jefferson. Since the year before the new millennium began, Chris has worked, in one capacity or other, at the Virginia General Assembly, from legislative aid to lobbyist, and for the last twelve years as a member of the House of Delegates, representing the 97th District. He was raised in a house in Ashland by three very strong women, including his mother Nina K. Peace, a liberal Democrat in a Republican county, a woman who truly believed in justice for all, a woman removed from the bench where she served as Juvenile and Domestic Relations judge, pushed from her seat of jurisprudence during a witch hunt instigated by Hanover Republicans at the General Assembly. These same men would later help Chris launch his own career in politics. *continued on page 14*

Your Local Full-Line **STIHL**® Dealer
Since 1969!



Arthur's Electric Service, Inc.
8910 Brook Road • Glen Allen, VA 23060 • 804-264-2513

TABLE of CONTENTS

6 **ESSAY Dog-like Love**

Moving essay by Anne Jones, dog-lover and writer. She notes: "And so by embracing, dog-like, every little chance we get at love and longing and joy, we are embracing our humanity. And it's enough." Happy Valentine's Day.

10 **BUSINESS PROFILE Final Gravity**

Richmond loves its craft beers. Nationally, per capita, the Richmond area has more micro-breweries than any other city in the country. And they all seem to be doing well. Including one of the newest opened a year and a half ago by beer connoisseur and brewer Tony Ammendolia on Lakeside Avenue in the Northside.

8 **WHAT'S NEW Demi's: A Mediterranean Kitchen**

Bellevue is now home to an ample slice of Mediterranean cuisine—Turkish, Spanish, Greek, Italian. Long-time owners of Dot's Back Inn, recently opened Demi's just across MacArthur Avenue. What a restaurant. And what food. Fit for the gods and goddesses who dwell in those warm countries bordering Mare Internum.

12 **COVER STORY Christopher Kilian Peace: The Conscience of a True Conservative**

Chris Peace is a classical conservative who has worked, in one capacity or other, at the Virginia General Assembly for the past seventeen years, as legislative aid, lobbyist, and for the last twelve years as a member of the House of Delegates, representing the 97th District. He was raised in a house in Ashland by three very strong women, including his mother Nina K. Peace, a liberal Democrat in a Republican county, a woman who truly believed in justice for all, a woman removed from the bench where she served as Juvenile and Domestic Relations judge, pushed from her seat of jurisprudence during a witch hunt instigated by Hanover Republicans at the General Assembly. These same men would later help Chris launch his own career in politics.

20 **HIDDEN HISTORIES The Kansas State Industrial Farm for Women**

Between 1917 and 1942, approximately 5,000 women were imprisoned at the Kansas State Industrial Farm where they lived and worked alongside other female criminals. Prior to 1917, the industrial farm prisoner population was twenty.

21 **COLUMN Rainbow Minutes**

Three Rainbow Minutes by Judd Proctor and Brian Burns. In the Navy; Valentines Through the Ages; Audre Lorde, The Warrior

22 **BOOK REVIEW The Hidden Life of Trees**

Author Peter Wohlleben explains that natural forests are things of genius: young trees grow very slowly under the shade of their mothers, and this slow growth allows them to develop into healthier, longer-lived trees. The trees we plant in our yards or those who live in thinned out forests grow fast, but are not as strong.

COVER PHOTO by REBECCA D'ANGELO



Independently owned and operated.

editor/publisher

CHARLES G. MCGUIGAN

art director

DOUG DOBEY at Dobe Design

contributing writers

**DALE M BRUMFIELD
BRIAN BURNS
ORION HUGHES
JACK R JOHNSON
ANNE JONES
CATHERINE MCGUIGAN
JUDD PROCTOR
FRAN WITHROW**

contributing photographers

REBECCA D'ANGELO

editorial: charlesmcguigan@gmail.com

advertising: charlesmcguigan@gmail.com

NORTH of the JAMES® magazine is published every month. Letters to the editor are welcome, but become the property of **NORTH of the JAMES®** magazine. Letters may be edited for clarity and length. Although we invite unsolicited manuscripts, we cannot be accountable for their return. The publisher is not responsible for errors. Copyright 2017® by **NORTH of the JAMES** magazine®. All rights reserved. Views and opinions by our writers do not necessarily represent those of **NORTH of the JAMES** magazine®. **NORTH of the JAMES** magazine® is not responsible for claims made by our advertisers. For media kits and ad rate information, write or call:

NORTH OF THE JAMES MAGAZINE®

PO Box 9225
Richmond, VA 23227

(804) 218-5265

www.northofthejames.com



STIR CRAZY CAFÉ

4015 MacArthur Avenue

Richmond, VA

Monday - Friday

6:30am - 5pm

Saturday - Sunday

7:30am - 5pm

Live music with BJ Kocen

Every Sunday

1pm - 3pm

804 864 0264

jordan@stircrazyrva.com

facebook.com/stircrazyrva

instagram.com/stircrazyrva

More David Hudson Letters

I was a parent at Linwood Holton when it first opened in 1999. I was there for the first two principals and then when the decision was made to hire David Hudson. Mr. Hudson's transformative leadership moved Holton from being a good school to being a great school where every child is safe, nurtured, and is given the opportunity to reach their fullest potential. I feel privileged that my children have been able to have the experience of attending such a wonderful school.

*Kim Gray,
2nd District City Council member*

We looked at Holton for Charlie, our oldest. I remember visiting the school way after hours and on a Saturday. Mr. Hudson was there and my thought was "does this man live here?" Surprised the school was open, we thought we'd sneak in, check it out and set up an appointment for later.

Not only did Mr. Hudson make us feel welcomed, he toured us around the entire school. He unlocked classroom doors. Charlie was two days shy of the kindergarten cut-off but David told us, if you want to send him to kindergarten he would make it happen.

We sent him to pre-school because I wanted one more year with Charlie. The year with Mrs. Ragland flew by. Mr. Hudson always called me "Charles' Mom" and always asked me how my pre-schooler was doing! He'd say that he saw him in the classroom and that if I had any questions to call or come by.

He is the reason we sent Charlie. We only left for the top priority for us which was a Catholic school education. We ultimately wanted a Catholic education to complement what we try to instill at home.

It was hard to leave. I hand-wrote a letter of explanation and thanks. I know why I didn't get a response right away. Mr. Hudson was so invested that he took it very personally if you left his school family. I totally understood and it made me sad at the time to realize that he may have thought that I had taken any of it for granted. We were happy to support our neighborhood public school with the kind of passion that I too saw in Evette Conte and many others. Defensiveness is refreshing when well-placed. I get it.

With all of this said Mr. Hudson has changed the face of our neighbor-

hood. Isn't it unreal what can happen to a community school and surrounding neighborhood when one man or woman sets out to do the arduous work of caring about each and every human being in his or her midst?

*Patti Williamson
Former Holton parent &
Northside resident*

I am not a political person, but I am a parent. Specifically, I am the mother of a 5-year old autistic boy and a 5-month old baby girl. At the risk of sounding cliché, being a parent changes you... and in light of recent news, I felt compelled to share my feelings about Linwood Holton's principal, Mr. David Hudson. I work as the children's associate at the Ginter Park Library and am proud to say what a strong relationship the library has with Holton Elementary students. I wish I could take all the credit for that, but the truth is, the success I have achieved with those children is largely due to the Holton staff, parents, and the one and only, Mr. David Hudson! Mr. Hudson inspires and wants his students to achieve on all levels. He understands the reality of "summer slide," a term for the tendency for students to lose achievement gains, particularly in reading, they made during the previous school year. Consequently, he encourages ALL to participate in Richmond Public Library's Summer Reading Program each year. He has welcomed me into his school, asked me to attend various school events: fall festivals, literacy fairs, after-school programs, end of the year programs, etc. and makes sure I visit classrooms to talk about the importance of literacy and about how the library is a wonderful resource right here in the community. Throughout the entire city of Richmond, for several years in a row, the school with the highest numbers of completers of the summer reading program has been Linwood Holton! In what can only be called "lean financial times" libraries have had to work with smaller and smaller budgets and, as a result, program funding has been cut. In most recent years, the city, as well as the country, has seen a real decline in summer reading program participation in public libraries. However, Mr. Hudson has always made sure any flyers or information about library programming is disseminated to his students and parents. He en-

courages and has never said, "no" to me. And if I am being perfectly candid, I have heard "no" from plenty of others over the years. In fact, just like MANY others, he has given me his personal phone number and said to call if I need his help. I hope that man has an impressive cell phone plan! He thrives in difficult situations and he is the ultimate problem solver. I speak, on a regular basis, with students and parents OUTSIDE of the school where they are free to say whatever they want about whomever they want and the name they consistently come up with is "Mr. Hudson" encompassed by adjectives like "amazing, remarkable, inspiring, one-of-a-kind, intelligent, nurturing, kind, caring, hard-working" and nouns like "problem-solver, high expectations, role model, and people person." As the parent of a child with special needs, I understand, on a new level, how important advocates for our children are, and I strongly believe Mr. Hudson is an advocate for all his students and an asset to this community.

*Tori Nunnally
Children's Services, Richmond Public
Library, Ginter Park Branch*

Cannot say enough about this incredible man. We feel so lucky to have him as our principal. So caring and so approachable. Who gives their cell phone number out to everyone on the first day of school? This man! Hands down best principal in town!

Alanna Fuessel Mills, Holton parent

Mr. Hudson is the type of principal that you can leave a message on his personal cell phone, have him call you back, and then cry to him because you're worried about your child!! He is an amazing principal who goes out of his way to make everyone feel heard.

Erin Prather Gray, Holton parent

We have the most amazing principal and are so lucky that he helped with special services for Madeline when she was diagnosed with dyslexia, and Ryder when he was diagnosed with a processing disorder. He is truly the most caring man/administrator and goes out of his way for every single student.

Vicki Bray, Holton parent

We are writing this letter in support of David Hudson, principal of Linwood Holton Elementary School.

As a member of our community for well over ten years, he has been an integral part of the students' lives as well as that of the neighborhood and business community. He is a strong and ardent supporter of the neighborhood and the merchants, raising awareness among the student body and their parents about all of our local businesses.

Mr. Hudson has been principal at Holton for more than a decade now. He took over at time when the school was failing on so many levels. Under Mr. Hudson's leadership, the school was completely turned around within six months. He is a tireless worker, and the school and students have prospered and grown under his strong leadership.

He has insured that the school and students have been a very large part of our two big events in the neighborhood - National Night Out and Christmas on MacArthur. The students, teachers and parents participate in the Christmas on MacArthur parade every year.


The business community has worked with Mr. Hudson to sponsor events with the Richmond Police Department to promote safety and to allow the students to get a chance to meet the officers that serve and protect them. We have worked together to have a Safety Day at Holton and are working on having more of these events in the future.

The Bellevue Merchants Association could not ask for a better partner or advocate for the community as a whole.

Bellevue Merchants Association

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We encourage all letters to the editor. Submit letters to the editor one of three ways: Go to northofthejames.com/contact; respond on our g-mail address at charlesmcguigan@gmail.com; or send a letter to: North of the James, P.O. Box 9225, Richmond, VA 23227.

Letters must contain the writer's name for verification and authentication. The publisher reserves the right to edit for clarity, or withhold from publication any letter for any reason. Letters to the editor become the possession of North of the James. Published letters reflect the opinion of their writers and not North of the James, or its staff. 



Wonderful food, best
brunch in Richmond.
- Urban Spoon

Serving locally farmed
produce, poultry, and
meat with vegetarian,
vegan, & gluten free
options available.

OPEN 11am-10pm Mon-Fri
9am-10pm Sat & Sun

DINE IN • TAKE OUT

ENJOY BRUNCH
Sat & Sun 9am-2pm

Weekly Specials:
Sun • Specialty Burgers
5pm-close

Mon • Vegetarian & Vegan
Specials all day

Tues • Family Style Pasta Night
6pm-close

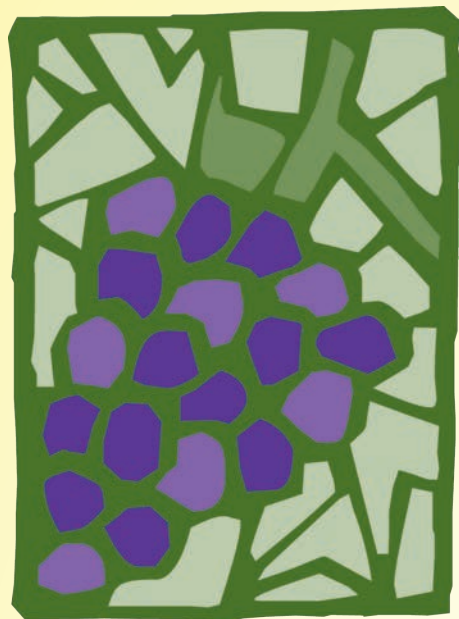
Wed • Wing it Wednesday
with \$5 wing specials

Happy Hour • Mon-Fri 3-7pm

Located in Richmond VA's
historic Bellevue District at
**4023 MacArthur
Avenue**


804 716 1196

www.themillrva.com




Once upon a Vine

 Wine Tastings Every Friday Night!

 One of the most extensive wine
and beer selections in Richmond...
something to fit every wallet.

 Nostalgic candies for the kids.

 Selection of cheeses, crackers,
chips and sauces.



**Bring Your Growler
Let Us Fill It**



**Valentine's Day
Tasting, February 10**
Chocolate Fountain & Strawberries
Special Pricing on Champagnes
& I Love You Prosecco



**Stock Up For
St. Patrick's Day
Friday, March 17!**
Irish Stouts, Ales and Beer Tasting
Drink Responsibly:
Don't Drink & Drive



Many
Winter Ales
& Lagers
Available

Beer & Wine Tastings Every Friday 5-8 pm

Open 7 Days A Week
Sunday - Thursday 11 am - 9 pm
Friday & Saturday 11 am - 11 pm.
4009 MacArthur Avenue

Phone: 726-WINE (9463) FAX: 726-VINE (8463)
To get on our e-mail list log on to onceuponavine@aol.com

**Follow Us on
Twitter & Trinkin**

**JOIN US ON
FACEBOOK** 

Dog-Like Love

by ANNE JONES

WASH MY APPLE WITH soap before eating it, sometimes twice. I scrub the outside of a cantaloupe because the knife might pick up salmonella and carry it through to the meat of the fruit. I Clorox the counters every day, maintain a hierarchy of kitchen sponges based on what they've touched, wear latex gloves for chicken prep, and can't eat my cereal if the bright sun is shining on my nearly-frozen rice milk. You get the picture.

But when I get in bed at night, all bets are off. It's there, under warm sheets and a cotton blanket, that I savor the rotten breath, breath so putrid it brings to mind the sewery stench of every filthy gas station bathroom along I-95 between South of the Border and Daytona Beach, mixed with old clams. I don't care. Bring it on. Bring on the muddy feet and the crusty scents, the wet sneeze and the loud burp, the dirt specks and the occasional flea. Bring on my two squatty, lumpy, short-legged, goofball, adoring black and tan dogs. I could practically make out with them.

To me, every single thing about them, and most all dogs, is utterly, viscerally and purely appealing, every lovely, furry inch of them, especially that whisker-sprouting bump that sits mid-chin. It's not just their most popular, clichéd traits that get me, the unconditional love and the earnest devotion in their eyes: we all know all about that. It's also that dogs are such huge slob; they're rude. They like disgusting things. That makes me love them all the more; I'm not sure why. Maybe it's connected to their being 100% in the here-and-now, so guileless and joyful about it. Life-grabbers. Maybe it's because they seem to know what's important and true in this life, oblivious to the masks and trappings of civility. My god, have you ever just sat and stared at the back of a dog's head— the slope of their domes, the fall of their ears, and the thick curve of their smooth necks? It's heart-rending. Because what are they thinking about? I don't care that it's probably just a sausage or a nap. Of course it is. They'd be the first to tell you so. And yet it might not be a sausage or a nap; it might be longing, or figuring out how to do the next right thing.

I was on a walk with Jeffro, my John Belushi-ish dog with the head of a Rottweiler and the body of a corgi, with stubby legs and leathery elbows



and big star paws, and Flagger, my 50-lb, long and sleek and self-important, clownishly over-sized and officious dachshund. Flagger's always been the boss of Jeffro because he was here first, so when Flagger stopped to eat grass, Jeffro sat down to study him, and then began to eat the grass too, as if Flagger was a genius who had come up with a brilliant idea. I swear at that moment I would have given him a kidney. And that's how I know it's pure love – there is no understanding of it, no sudden epiphany about the true meaning of it to be had, in my book. There's only recognition, and mystery. It's just there, here, and everywhere. I don't know jack about it. I don't know how to hold onto it or let it go, fall into it or out of it, stop it or start it. I don't know if it's patient, or kind, or a rose, or if it hurts, or is a many splendored thing, or dares not speak its name, or even if it will keep us together. Walker Percy said, "there is no cheaper word."

I do know that the moments of real love in a real lifetime aren't necessarily the big ones, the births and deaths and special moments and red-letter days. Instead they happen all the time, in a heartbreaking instant, and they have something to do with people being most lovable when they are most flawed, maybe like dogs at their rudest. It's why people seem appealing to me when they're not thinking things through, when they're in the midst of plunging into life as it presents itself, grabbers-of-life, dog-like. Not careless, these life-grabbers, just open to seizing beauty and mystery wherever

they can. It's also somehow loosely, cosmically, related to what Ethan Canin described so perfectly in his story "Emperor of the Air" when his narrator explains: "...certain moments have always been peculiarly moving for me... Standing out of the way on a fall evening, as couples and families converge on the concert hall from the radiating footpaths, has always filled me with a longing, though I don't know for what...the spectacle of a thousand human beings organizing themselves into a single room to hear the quartets of Beethoven is as moving to me as birth or death."

We all know it's loving and noble to make sacrifices for your children, take care of a sick parent, do good works for those closest to you. But the real mystery of love's meaning is the seeming inevitability of it in the face of our broken human nature, the longing illuminated by the brief, infinite moments that grab your heart and make it impossible to ever let go.

Take Flagger. I picked him out of 100's of photos of rescued dogs, not because he was the cutest or prettiest to me, he wasn't; but because I loved him at first glance, as if I'd known him forever. I couldn't look for a cuter one because I felt he was in some way already ours. I didn't have a choice. Take my father. Why is it that one night driving home I sobbed for him, all because when I left his house he had fallen deep asleep in his chair with a huge, unwieldy National Geographic map spread out before him? Why are my mother's tennis shoes –sturdy little blue Keds with an

open heel that makes them look like teddy-bear shoes – so sad? Why did a glimpse of the squinty, confused face my husband made when the sun hit his eyes for an instant at the dog park make me love him to the core and feel unshakably connected to him, even though he'd abandoned our 30-year marriage just two weeks prior in a slow, determined march of blind miscommunication?

And why do the lone, ethereal guitar notes and heart-wrenching voice of Bill Kirchen (my all-time musical hero and a first-rate life-grabber) on his cover of Dylan's *It Takes A Lot to Laugh, It Takes A Train to Cry* sound like all the sadness and joy in the world, all the grief and love and happiness of a life, nailed down to a few pure sounds? And why do those sounds both paralyze me with the piercing melancholy of perseverance and make me want to wrap my arms around the entire planet in comfort and joy? Because after all, aren't all the good songs about loneliness, as Lewis Nordan asks in *Music of the Swamp*, "and the defeat of loneliness, and the heartbreak if it could not be defeated, as probably it never could?"

And then there's this: why did Chuck Berry's brush with the law for being on the wrong side of a peeping-tom hole make me love him all the more? Why did I feel happier than I had in weeks when the older black lady at Starbucks called me Boo? All tiny, significant, moments that make life and love too messy and full to understand, except to know somehow that it's worth it.

Because it's not to understand. None of it makes sense. I think it has to do with flaws, vulnerability, and interconnectedness. And I think thinking about it in those terms is the closest I'll ever come to understanding its true meaning, which is not very. And I think I agree with Jonathan Franzen who comes as close to explaining it as anyone with this: "Because the fundamental fact about all of us is that we're alive for a while but will die before long. This fact is the real root cause of all our anger and pain and despair. And you can either run from this fact or, by way of love, you can embrace it." And so by embracing, dog-like, every little chance we get at love and longing and joy, we are embracing our humanity. And it's enough. **NJ**

Fin & Feather
Pet Center, Inc.

Established 1959



www.fin-feather.com

OPEN 7 Days a Week

RICHMOND
 5208 LAKESIDE AVE
 (Convenient to I-64, Powhite & I-95 interchange.
 Just off Exit 80, across from Franco's)

262-6681



Professional Pet Grooming by The Barking Lot

All Breeds Of Dogs And Cats

SHOP LOCALLY, BUY LOCALLY!

Cute Dogs & Cats For Adoption

Through Area Rescue Groups

Check out our website or facebook page for adoption stands.

Pond Center Open Year Round

ALL PONDS AND POND SUPPLIES
\$50 OFF

\$50 OFF any purchase of \$300 or more
 \$25 OFF any purchase of \$199 to \$299.99

For use in Pond Center only. Not valid with any other discounts, with other coupons, discounts, sale items, cat litter and dog or cat food. Expires 3/3/17



Dog & Cat Food



\$2.00 OFF Dog or Cat food up to 8 lbs.
\$3.00 OFF Dog or Cat food of 12 lbs. to 25 lbs.
\$5.00 OFF Dog or Cat food of 26 lbs. or more

Valid for Precise, Eukanuba, Natural Balance and Iams brands, only. Not valid with sale items, other coupons or discounts. Expires 3/3/17

\$4.00 OFF GROOMING



(New Customers Only)

With Coupons Only. Not Valid With Any Other Offer. Expires 3/3/17



FREE PARAKEET

With Purchase Of Parakeet Set-Up
 Not valid with sale items, other coupons or discounts. Expires 3/3/17

FREE TROPICAL FISH



Buy One at Reg. Price, Get One of Equal or Lesser Value Free

Limit \$5.99 value. Not valid with sale items, other coupons or discounts. Expires 3/3/17



15% OFF

REPTILE SUPPLIES

With Purchase Of A Reptile
 Not valid with sale items, other coupons or discounts. Expires 3/3/17

SAVE ON PET SUPPLIES

\$10 OFF

\$10 OFF any purchase of \$60 or more
 \$5 OFF any purchase of \$35 to \$59.99
 \$2 OFF any purchase of \$15 to \$34.99

Not valid with sale items, other coupons or discounts, cat litter, dog or cat food. Not valid on Frontline or Advantage. Expires 3/3/17

Demi's: A Mediterranean Kitchen

by CHARLES MCGUIGAN

BELLEVUE IS NOW home to an ample slice of Mediterranean cuisine—Turkish, Greek, Italian, Spanish—from Adana kebabs to souvlaki, from calamari to shrimp Santorini, even empanadas.

Jimmy and Danniella Tsamouras, long-time owners of Dot's Back Inn, recently opened Demi's (which Jimmy calls, a Mediterranean kitchen) just across MacArthur Avenue.

What a restaurant! And what food. Fit for the gods and goddesses who ruled those warm countries bordering Mare Internum.

When the owner of the restaurant that previously occupied the space on MacArthur Avenue decided not to reopen after returning from a vacation in Greece, the Danniella and Jimmy seized the opportunity.

"My husband said, 'Well if somebody's going to go in there, why not us?'" Danniella tells me, seated at the bar, one stool down from Jimmy. "And then on October 31 he came home and said, 'Well we bought a restaurant.' Had my husband had his way he would have opened the first day that we had the keys. But I felt we owed the community more than that. We needed to take our time. I think the community expected more out of us than just a turnkey restaurant, and we needed to make it our own."

Which is exactly what they did. Danniella had a vision for the front of the house—Modern Mediterranean. With a keen aesthetic eye and an inventive mind, began tackling the interior rehab on November 13, and within a month had transformed the space, utterly.

"So my very generous husband gave me a very limited budget, and we worked with what we had," she says, smiling over at Jimmy, who returns the smile, and adds a nod. "We repurposed the existing furniture and fixtures, and did some painting and a little bit of carpentry work and used our imaginations. We pulled it all together in a month with love and long hours of work from family members."

There's a large mosaic mural of a mati tree in the dining room, which was crafted by Jimmy's sister Angie Blankenship, and another above the host-



Above: In the foreground, Danniella Tsamouras with patrons at the bar

Below: Jimmy Tsamouras with his kitchen staff

ess station created by Danniella. "My wife's very artistic," says Jimmy. "She has a very nice vision."

Mati is literally Greek for "eye" and the mati growing from the tree are matiasmas, talismans of a sort made of glass with a dark center or pupil, surrounded by white, and a final ring of cobalt blue. "It's to keep the evil away from you," Jimmy tells me. "It's kind of like a good luck charm. It's a very big thing in the Mediterranean. It's a big thing in Turkey."

They are both taking a short breather after last night's soft opening—which turned out to be not that soft—and getting ready for the grand opening this Thursday. About 80 people had been invited to the soft opening. "And then my husband said, 'Come on in and we'll figure it out,'" says Danniella.



"And a lot of people came in and then we figured it out. We did about 130 covers last night."

Jimmy is a seasoned chef who cut his teeth while still a teenager, washing dishes at The College Deli in Williamsburg, a restaurant owned at that time by his parents.

A couple years out of high school Jimmy attended what is perhaps the world's premier culinary college—the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. After graduation, Jimmy plied his trade and honed his skills in Hawaii, Scottsdale, Hilton Head and New York, before returning to Richmond, and later buying Dot's Back Inn.

He sees Demi's as a place where he can spread his wings further, soar to even loftier heights, a modern-day Daedalus. "The idea for the menu comes from my Greek background, my Mediterranean background, my culinary experiences, and being able to cook Italian food, Greek food, and we wanted to be able to incorporate Turkish and Spanish as well," Jimmy says. "We kind of have a little bit of each flair."

He ticks off entrees and appetizers as I follow with him from the hard copy of their impressive menu. "Empanadas—beef, vegetable and cheese, we have quite a variety of vegetarian dishes," he says. "We have a whole dips and

spreads menu where you have eight different choices so you can get two, three or four types of spreads served with grilled pita bread. Grilled salmon, pork marsala, Spanish seafood stew, sautéed shrimp and chorizo, chicken picata." And there are pasta dishes and kabobs, soups and salads, and four mussel dishes that would please any Mediterranean palate.

When I comment on the moderate pricing, Jimmy says, "I like to keep things reasonable."

"We give you a lot of options," he adds. "I would say our entrees run from \$12 to \$22. Our dinner specials will run from \$14 to \$28. That will give us the option to do higher end seafood like your groupers and dry packed scallops."

With Dot's Back Inn just up the street, I wonder if Jimmy and Danniella are competing with themselves.

"I don't think so," he says. "I think I'm giving people in the neighborhood something different. Something else to go to, maybe, something they crave. It's nice that it's so close, to tell you the truth, so I can run back and forth. It's a completely different venue. Dot's is open from nine am till midnight. You can go in there and eat from three to eighteen dollars, a wide variety menu, serving breakfast all day long. Demi's is much more of a dinner concept. It's more of a full-service restaurant. It's more casual upscale."

Each dish that comes out of the kitchen at Demi's was prepared from scratch in the kitchen at Demi's. "Everything is fresh," says Jimmy. "We make everything in-house, as we do at Dot's."

Both wife and husband, in addition to their responsibilities at Demi's, each runs another business. For Jimmy, of course, it's Dot's Back Inn; for Danniella, it's Spa 310, her successful medical spa salon at the corner of Nansemond and Cary. "I started my practice the same year he bought Dot's so we both started business ten years ago," Danniella says. "And, ironically enough, our official opening night here is January 5, and that was my opening day at Spa 310 in Carytown."

"Numerology," Demi suggests.

For years Daniella had worked in the restaurant business, and then decided on another career route. "I went to



The new interior

aesthetics school and got my master's in aesthetics and started Spa 310," she says. "I'm a medical master aesthetician. I sit on the Board of Barbers and Cosmetology for the state of Virginia, and I formerly chaired it for two years."

Managing both businesses can be challenging for both Daniella and her husband, but by sharing the workload at Demi's, and having great personnel at their other businesses they're able to pull it off.

"I was fortunate enough to find great people for my kitchen and we've got excellent people in the front of the house," says Jimmy. "And my staff at Dot's have it covered over there."

Daniella nods. "I've got great people at Spa 310," she says. "And for Demi's we hired some seasoned servers from the community. I am overseeing the front of the house, and my daughter's helping out. She's still at Dot's one day a week, but I might need her a little more here in the beginning"

As they prepare for their second night, Daniella says, "I haven't slept in forty-eight hours," and then quickly amends that to, "I haven't slept in six weeks."

Jimmy tells me they named their new restaurant for their five-year-old daughter, Dimitri. "I wanted something that was simple, easy for people to remember," he says. "I wanted something that was personal and something that was Mediterranean. We call our daughter Demi for short."

"I'm really excited and I'm also very tired," says Danniella. "I think right now we're both running on adrenaline and excitement."

"And nerves," her husband says. 

Demi's

Tuesday-Thursday, 5-10; Friday and Saturday, 5-11; Sunday, 5-10
4017 MacArthur Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227
(804) 525-4576

MAIN STREET LAW

John G LaFratta

**Criminal Law
Traffic Violations
Estate Planning
Family Law**

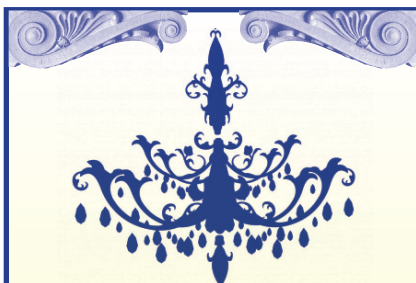
EDUCATION:

University of Richmond,
TC Williams School of Law, JD
University of Richmond, Robins
School of Business, MBA
North Carolina State
University, BA

**PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS AND
MEMBERSHIPS:**

Richmond Criminal Bar
Association
Virginia Bar Association
Richmond Juvenile Bar
Association
Caroline County Bar
Association

**john@mainstlaw.com
804.355.1800**



Paul's Place

**Antique Lighting
and Furniture**

1009 Overbrook Rd.,
Richmond, VA 23220

Thursday-Saturday 9-5pm
Sunday 12-5pm
Closed Monday-Wednesday

**Architectural Salvage for
Repairs and Renovation
Iron Gates and Fencing
Bricks, Slate and Stone
Lighting Repairs and
Restoration**

804-228-9999

www.paulsplaceonline.com
email info@paulsplaceonline.com



OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday, January 31, 9-11 am



**All Saints
Catholic School**



All Saints is an accredited pre-kindergarten through eighth grade Catholic school of high moral expectations and academic rigor located in Richmond's vibrant Ginter Park. It is a parochial school that values all cultures, creeds, religions, and races.

ALL SAINTS OFFERS:

- High school credits in Algebra, Spanish and Science
- Award-winning LEGO Robotics program
- Technologically integrated classrooms, curriculum and activities
- Emphasis on music and visual arts
- Emphasis on conversing and writing in Spanish
- Emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)
- Emphasis on Environmental Sustainability
- Wide variety of extracurricular clubs and sports
- Structured After School Care

Visit us and discover why All Saints is an invaluable investment in your child's future

CALL TO SCHEDULE A TOUR:

804 329-7524
All Saints Catholic School
3418 Noble Ave. Richmond, VA 23222
www.allsaintsric.org

Final Gravity: A Dream Come True

by CHARLES MCGUIGAN

IT'S THE YANG, TO ORIGINAL Gravity's yin, Final Gravity being the finished product, which is beer in its infinite varieties. OG and FG are housed under a single roof at Peter Francisco's Lakeside Towne Center, one of Northside's booming commercial strips located just a healthy stone's throw away from Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.

Richmond loves its craft beers. Nationally, per capita, the Richmond area has more micro-breweries than any other city in the country—about eighteen of them, at last count, in the greater metro area. And they all seem to be doing pretty well.

Tony Ammendolia, a careful businessman, saw that trend, and back in July of 2014 rented a space large enough to contain both a micro-brewery, and his established beer-brewing and wine-making shop. What's more, the storefront was three buildings down from his first shop, Original Gravity. After extensive renovations (really more like a complete facelift, which included deep tissue surgery), on August 27, 2015, Tony poured his first beer for the public.

For Tony this is realizing a long-time dream. In his twenties he was bitten by the home-brewing bug. "Just about anyone who starts home brewing very quickly thinks this would be really cool to open a brewery," Tony says. But starting a brewery is an expensive proposition, so Tony pursued other things.

"I was in the natural foods business for years," he says. "I was at Ellwood Thompson's for eleven years, and I worked my way up from a part-time, entry-level position cooking in the deli to when I left there as the director of operations for the company." After that he moved out to Whole Foods where he was an "associate store team leader", which means he was the assistant store manager.

"I've always been a foodie, even before I ever heard the word foodie," says Tony. "When I was ten years old I told my parents I wanted to be a chef and thought I was going to be a chef until my early twenties when I thought I wanted to be a rock star."

Tony and his wife Jessica Harris live



in Woodland Heights and for years he kept a fairly extensive vegetable garden where he grew crops year-round. "For a little while I entertained the thought of becoming an organic farmer, doing market gardening" he says. "Over the last seventeen years it ranged anywhere from 100 square feet to 1200 square feet. You name it, I was growing it. This year is the first year I don't have a garden. Now, I'm always brewing, so I don't have time for that anymore."

Almost from the moment that first keg was tapped, business boomed.

"There's a little bit of a lunch crowd, and then usually around four o'clock people start coming in, and we get a much busier tasting room crowd at that point," Tony says. "Fridays and Saturdays are our busiest days, and we do a decent business on Sunday. We're already selling the beer as fast as we can make it, and sometimes faster than we can make it."

There are always twelve taps available, something to appeal to any palate, and a number of Tony's creations have won awards.

"So, if you come in with a group of friends, we want everyone in the group to be able to find at least one beer that they can drink and enjoy," he says, then begins talking about some of their more popular beers. "Let's start off with our blond ale called Stepping Stone, it's got a light crisp taste," he says. "We have Fire Station 5, which is our gold-medal winning amber ale in the Virginia Craft Brewers cup. I'm very proud of that, and I'm also very proud that we won a total of four medals, and you could submit only five beers. We got another gold medal for Venus Rising, which is our double IPA, and we got a silver medal for our stout, which is called Irish Goodbye, and a bronze medal for The Message, which is another double IPA." The Doppler Effect, another original recipe, won first place in the local RVA Blind IPA Challenge. "We won not only first place by the judges, but also people's choice," says Tony. "I'm just going to brag here."

There are many other beers to choose from, including a hoppy American red ale called Ruby Falls; a rotating hop IPA named Love TKO, after the Teddy Pendergrass song; a Belgian dark/strong called the Big Pay Back, coming in with a whopping nine percent alcohol content; and Pablo's Goodbye, a variation of Irish Goodbye, flavored with chocolate, chili peppers and cinnamon.

Currently, the two-pronged business occupies some 5,000 square feet. Of that total, 3,330 square feet is devoted to the sales floor, the brewery, the grain room and the tasting room. The remaining 1,700 square feet is committed to storage. The finished beer is kept in a walk-in cooler back there, as well as yeast and hops, lots of bags of grain, and assorted backup stock for Original Gravity.

In the not-too-distant future, Tony hopes to expand the front of the house. "I would like to get a bigger brew house which would enable us to brew larger batches," he says. "And I would like to expand our tasting room so that we could seat more people there. I mean, we're at the point where we need this. This weekend we were really busy, and were running out of room." Currently, the tasting room seats about fifty, and more on the patio when the weather cooperates. "Right now I'm working



with Henrico County, figuring out how we can expand,” says Tony.

“We’re brewing sixty gallons at a time, two barrels in one brew,” says Tony. “Sometimes I brew two of those batches a day. We sell a lot of growlers, and now crowlers. More of them than growlers because you don’t have to remember to bring a growler with you everywhere you go, or keep it clean. Crowlers are a dollar fifty for the can and then nine or ten bucks for the fill, and it’s a 32-ounce can.”

As business has increased, so, too, has staff. There’s Tony’s right-hand man, Sean Florin, who’s been with him since the beginning. And now Timmy Miller, Cezar, and a recent hire to tend to social media and event planning, Cheyenne Burnham.

Of course, Tony is always there, and on Friday and Saturday nights, his wife Jessica joins him behind the bar. “We get to meet our customers face to face, get some feedback on the beer, which is helpful, that sort of thing,” Tony says. “Lakeside is great. It’s nice and convenient, and we’re very close to 64 and 95. We definitely have our neighborhood, local regulars that come in several times a week, and we’re seeing a lot of new faces, particularly on the weekends.”

He makes his way over to the brewing room on this Monday afternoon, the one day each week Final Gravity is closed. “I look at what we started with five years ago and where we are now and I’m pretty happy about the progress we’ve made in that amount of time,” says Tony Ammendolia. “Wow, look how much has changed.”

Final Gravity
 11-7, Tues & Wed; Thurs, 11-9;
 Fri & Sat 10-9; Sun, 11-6
 6118 Lakeside Avenue
 Richmond, VA 23228
 264-4808



AXSELLE

*An
 Old-Fashioned
 Service Station*

**Family Owned And
 Operated For 65 Years
 Full Automotive Service
 And Repair**

**266-3574
 5515 Lakeside Avenue**

The Cane Connection

*Professional Caning
 and Chair Repair*



Sign up for a caning class!

Class Saturday mornings

Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10-6

*Specializing in fine antique and
 your everyday furniture*

**6941 Lakeside Avenue
 Richmond
 261-6555**



Zorba's EXPRESS

Pizza - Pasta - Subs

FULL ITALIAN MENU

N.Y. Style Pizzas

Baked Spaghetti - Fettucini Alfredo

Lasagna - Manicotti - Ravioli - Tortellini

Veal Marsala - Chicken Marsala

Veal Parmigiana - Chicken Parmigiana

Eggplant Parmigiana - Calzone - Stromboli

Selection of Subs - Selection of Salads

Tiramisu - Canoli - and Much More!

FREE DELIVERY

Monday-Thursday, 11am-10pm;

Friday & Saturday, 11am-11pm;

Sunday, Noon-10pm

4026 MACARTHUR AVENUE

264-5370

1/2 OFF SUB

**Buy One At Regular Price, Get 2nd of
 Equal or Lesser Value, 1/2 OFF!**

Must mention coupon at time of order. With coupon only, Not valid with any other offer.
 Delivery available to limited area. Offer valid through 3/3/17

FOOTBALL SPECIAL

2 Large Cheese Pizzas with Chicken Wings

\$19.99

Must mention coupon at time of order. With coupon only, Not valid with any other offer.
 Delivery available to limited area. Offer valid through 3/3/17

Christopher Kilian Peace

YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN HANOVER COUNTY, particularly in its rural reaches, when you begin seeing the large handmade signs with red and black type against a field of Gadsen yellow. Slogans are generally attacks on liberals, or perceived liberals (Eric Cantor not long ago), and many suggest democracy may be on the verge of collapse. One reads, "How many times will you pass this sign and do nothing for your Country? WAKE UP AMERICA!" You sense pent up anger-turned-to-rage in these messages, not unlike the written rants scrawled on placards by participants in another movement a few years back called Occupy Wall Street. In all I count a total of sixteen yellow signs from the point I cross the Chickahominy on Meadowbridge Road till I make the turn off Old Church Road down a gravel drive to the home of Chris Peace.

It's a mid-nineteenth century brick house that has undergone a complete architectural renovation, and Chris walks me in to a room with a hearth scooped out of a bygone era. When we settle in for this interview, and another one at his law offices in Mechanicsville, Chris starts his story at the beginning. Tempered in the crucible of his own experiences, Chris Peace would emerge as something of an anomaly, a thoughtful conservative with a deep love of Constitutional law, a student of history, and a man of compassion.

The three women who raised him in the modest Cape Cod in Ashland were Janie, who stayed with him while his mother was at work and would become his "best friend"; his grandmother, Nina Kathryn Kilgour Himmelsbach, a great friend and advisor; and, of course, his mother, Nina Kilian Peace, an independent woman, a lawyer, a judge, a supervisor, and something of a force of nature. At age 25, Nina Peace graduated law school and won the Democratic primary for the Ashland District seat on the Hanover County Board of Supervisors. That same year she was made assistant to the dean at T.C. Williams, her alma mater, and later that fall became the youngest and only (at that time) woman ever elected to the Board of Supervisors in Hanover.

She had found her home in Ashland, absolutely adored the county, and was bound and determined to protect it. As the only liberal, and a woman at that, on the good-old-boys Board of Supervisors, Nina had her work cut out for her. It was a joy to watch her debate, running circles around the men who often looked confused at the end of it all. She employed her acid wit, impeccable logic and dagger tongue, and gladly locked horns with fellow supervisors. After her departure from the Board, the meetings lost much of their fire.

Chris recalls a critical moment in both his life, and his mother's career. It exposed him to the underbelly of partisan politics, to the ruthlessness and vengeance sometimes employed by politicians.

"My first exposure to the General Assembly was essentially 1996 and my mother's unsuccessful re-appointment (as juvenile and domestic relations court judge)," he says. "I was a junior at Hampden Sydney College and I remember going to one of the large hearings and walking in the General Assembly building and seeing posters with my name with a big red line through it. It was hard for me at that time to understand that there might be people who would feel that way about my mother, knowing her as I did. It was a great lesson."

When I ask him if he believes these hearings were politically motivated, Chris nods. "I would say it was political," he says. "I would say that my mother probably could have mitigated a lot of that unpleasantness. She chose to take the stand in her defense and I think any good criminal attorney would recommend not doing that. She was not going down without a fight, and unfortunately that episode only reinforced what her accusers were saying which was 'a lack of temperament and demeanor.'" He pauses momentarily, then adds, "That's always an easy out though with a female. Even now people talk about a woman's temperament and demeanor not being judicial. We had a female that was appointed to the 9th District General District Court, the first female from my district to be appointed, and she's a tough lady. That was the criticism through the process. Does she have the demeanor? It was really an old boy network rising up to protect its turf and keep it in house. It shouldn't happen."

Chris returns to 1996 and that day at the General Assembly. Among those he met that morning was Sumptner Priddy, a legendary lobbyist from Hanover, who was instrumental in establishing Virginia's community col-

lege system under the late Governor Mills Godwin. He took the young Chris Peace aside and said, in reference to what was happening to Nina, "Don't let it get to you."

Outside the General Assembly building, Chris had earlier encountered another Hanover Republican, the grand lion of the Party, Delegate Frank Hargrove, a man known for his civility and gentlemanly demeanor. Later, he approached Chris in the lobby and said, "You should always defend your mother, no matter what."

Frank Hargrove would later take Chris under his wing and guide him through the sticky and intricate web of Virginia state politics. Whenever Chris was home from college he would visit Frank at the General Assembly. "Frank actually ended up getting me my very first job out of college working for Herb Bateman who was a 1st District Congressman and a Virginia gentleman, and kind of a moderate at the time," Chris remembers.

After college, Chris, who took to politics like a bird to the sky, applied to law school, but he was wait-listed. "I probably had too much in college," he says with a smile. So he worked for Herb Bateman for a year, and then as legislative aid for Eric Cantor, who was a delegate at the time. "In my first interview with him, he brought up my mother and said, 'A lot of people might find it curious that you are a Republican and that you are your mother's son. And I said, 'Well coming from my family it's really not curious because we are all very independent. We were raised to be educated and to think for ourselves.'" Chris worked for the Delegate Eric Cantor until he ran for Congress.

"I peddled my resume on the Hill, met Ted Kennedy, got a job offer from John Warner, and declined it," says Chris. He'd finally been accepted to law school. He spent his first year at Regent University, and his final two years at University of Richmond, his mother's alma mater.

His decision to go into law did not sit well with his mother. "She didn't want me to become a lawyer," he says. "She said, 'It's become more of a business as opposed to a profession or a calling.' She said, 'It's not what it was when I started.'"

While still in law school, Chris worked as a part-time lobbyist, honing his skills, and ultimately going to work for McGuire Woods Consulting. And though he graduated, it would be some time before Chris began practicing law.

"I took the bar the summer after I graduated law school," he says. "But I didn't do my due diligence in the bar exam, and I didn't pass."

Editor's note:

These interviews with Delegate Chris Peace were conducted two weeks before the presidential election.

BY CHARLES MCGUIGAN
PHOTOS BY REBECCA D'ANGELO

THE CONSCIENCE OF A TRUE CONSERVATIVE



It was a bleak time. “Do I go back to Ashland?” Chris said to himself. “I failed the bar exam, my mom’s a lawyer, she’s been kicked out of a judgeship, our family must suck. You start telling yourself this narrative of what other people think about you.”

Chris would take the bar exam the following February, and again, he would fail. “I was O for two,” he says.

But in between those dark clouds of failure there appeared a silver lining that would light the way for Chris Peace. It started as a chance encounter in Carytown. Alone, on a brisk November Friday night, Chris did what a lot of lonely men and women would do, in those days, at week’s end.

“I was still living on Monument in this apartment at Sheppard, and I went to the Blockbuster in Carytown,” he says. “I see this girl with this guy and I’m by myself, and I’m like, ‘I’m such a loser.’ So I get two movies and go home. I didn’t talk to her, I was like, ‘Well maybe it’s her boyfriend, maybe it’s her brother, and maybe it’s her gay friend and she’s not dating anyone.’”

But the image of this young woman would not leave his mind. Although a cradle Episcopalian, Chris attended other churches. “So, on Sunday night I was going to this thing at WEAG (West End Assembly of God) which was like a GenX meeting,” says Chris.

“It was called Exile and I was there and this girl walks into the church and I said, ‘That girl looks familiar. How do I know this girl?’ And then it came to me, she was at Blockbuster.”

Chris approached her and told her that he was not a stalker. He asked if by any chance she had been at Blockbuster with her boyfriend two nights ago. She nodded, but said, “Oh no, not my boyfriend.” And Chris pounced on the opening. “Great, let’s go out sometime,” he said.

“It was a leading question,” Chris says, recalling the incident. “It was the only time up until that point that I used my law school education, and it worked out.”

That Tuesday night they went out and talked for hours, hit it off, and before Chris went to visit his father in Georgia a couple days later, he left flowers at the young woman’s house. In Georgia, Chris got a call from her. She told him she was in Northern Virginia visiting a guy she had been dating. “I don’t know why I’m calling you,” she said. “But I just broke up with him, and I want to see you when I come back.”

The two met up at the White Dog, and again talked for hours. Turns out she was from Hanover, and though she had never met Nina Peace, she knew a lot about Chris’s mother.

“I’m tired of fishing expeditions, just dating, I don’t

want to date unless it leads to something,” Chris told her. “Would you have any problems being a minister’s wife or a governor’s wife?”

“No,” she told him. “I wouldn’t have any problem with either one of those.”

“Good,” said Chris. “Either way you’re living in public housing.”

Her name was Ashley. After dating for seven months, the pair were engaged. Nina threw a river party for them just before Hurricane Isabel struck. It was followed by an engagement party hosted by Chris’s future in-laws. All through their courtship, the pair would drive up to Chevy Chase, Maryland and visit Chris’s grandmother. Nina would drive up separately. They did the same thing on a cold night in late February.

“And so we went up,” Chris says. “We had a great dinner out at the country club on Friday night, went home and went to bed.”

On Saturday, Chris joined his mother, grandmother and fiancé for a day of shopping. His mom insisted that all the women in the wedding party wear the same kind of shoes, and they found just the right ones.

“It was a long day,” Chris recalls. “At the end of it we were all kind of tired so we ordered Chinese, and watched the Matthew McConaughey movie ‘How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days.’”

On Sunday morning, Chris left the house early, and as he pulled the door shut behind him, jiggling the knob to make sure it was locked, a warmth spread through him when he thought of the three women in the house, still sleeping, safe and secure.

After church, as they were making ready to leave for Richmond, Chris and his mom talked in the front yard of his grandmother's house. He told her that he and Ashley, born a Catholic, had disagreements on where they were to be married. They weren't clicking on it. It wasn't anything major, not a deal-breaker, but it concerned Chris. Nina hugged her son, and said, "No matter what you do, no matter what you decide, I will always support you." That was the last day of February 2004, a leap year.

As Ashley and Chris crept along the Beltway, merging south at the Mixing Bowl, which was still under construction, they could see the red running light of Nina's car in front of them as they approached the Springfield exit. His cell phone rang, but Chris decided to let it ring over. The traffic was ungodly, so they got off the interstate, and made their way over to Route 1 where the traffic thinned. Chris pulled over to the shoulder and checked the

message on his cell phone. It was from Nina. "Hey guys, I'm just calling to tell you I love you, and how good it was to be with you guys this whole weekend," she said.

After returning to their apartment on Monument Avenue and unpacking, Chris and Ashley returned to their car for night services at WEAG. On the sidewalk, an inexplicable wooziness washed over Chris like the first wave of a panic attack. He felt as if his knees were going to buckle. He was light-headed, sensed he might faint. Chris had never experienced anything like it, before or since.

They attended services, and on their way back down Monument Avenue, Chris received a call from Ed, Nina's husband at the time. "Your mom's had a heart attack," Ed said. "You need to go to the hospital." By the time Ashley and Chris arrived at the hospital, Nina was dead. It was congenital heart failure, not induced by lifestyle; Nina's heart had literally exploded.

Unbeknownst to Chris, Nina had done two things over that final weekend in Maryland that seemed to indicate she had a sense she was not long for the world.

"Without my knowledge, my mother



gave Ashley a file and said, 'If anything should ever happen to me these are all the things I want for my funeral,' Chris says. "So that was amazing, and it was all good stuff and really helped because we were losing it."

The next thing Chris and Ashley had to do was tell Nina's mother what had happened. They didn't want to call her on the phone, so the next morning Chris's future in-laws drove the couple back up to Chevy Chase. As the car proceeded north on Route 301 and passed Hanover Courthouse, Chris's heart fluttered in gratitude. Hanover Circuit Court Judge John R. Alderman

had had the flags lowered to half-mast in honor of Nina Kilian Peace, who had spent much of her professional life at the courthouse complex, whether representing her constituents at the Board of Supervisors' meetings, sitting on the bench of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, or representing clients, many on a pro-bono basis.

Once Ashley and Chris arrived and told Nina's mother about her daughter's death, the family began making funeral arrangements for the next Saturday. At some point during that week, Ed, Chris's stepfather, called and told him he had gone to Nina's law office on

DOT'S
BACK INN

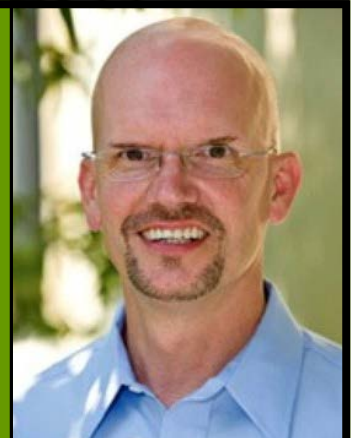
4030 MACARTHUR AVENUE ★ 266-3167

Monday thru Saturday
9 am to Midnight
Sunday 10 am to 3

NOW SERVING
SUNDAY
BRUNCH

The Honorable
Chris A. Hilbert

Councilman, Richmond City Council
Northside 3rd Voter District



Northside 3rd Voter District 2017 MEETINGS

All Northside 3rd Voter District Residents invited to attend!

4th Thursday of each month
Locations vary
6:00-8:00 p.m.

January 27, 2017
February 24, 2017
March 23, 2017
April 27, 2017
May 25, 2017
June 22, 2017
July 27, 2017
August 24, 2017
September 28, 2017
October 26, 2017
November-December TBA

CONTACT
804.646.6055 (tel) or email
chris.hilbert@richmondgov.com

Goals, Updates & Accomplishments

England Street in Ashland to search for her will. He came up empty-handed.

"Listen, buddy," Chris told him. "I'm focused on all this other stuff, I don't know why you're focused on that now. And I don't know why you know where it is because I don't know where it is. We have to let that go for now; we'll figure it out later."

Nina Peace was buried in the family cemetery in Hillsboro, just off Route 9, in Loudon County. On the way back to Chevy Chase from the graveside surface, a rainbow appeared, spanning the road like a bridge. Back at his grandmother's house, exhausted and drained, Chris, with his fiancé, retreated to the bedroom his mother had grown up in. He sat on the edge of the bed, his head lowered. "I don't think we're going to find that will," he said, turning to Ashley.

And then he looked across the room at a chest of drawers topped with a mirror. Tucked between the frame and the glass were several sheets of yellow legal pad paper, tri-folded. He rose from the bed, removed the papers from the mirror, unfolded them, then began to read. "This is her will," he said to Ashley.

"It was so bizarre," says Chris. "So she had not only given Ashley the file

for the funeral planning, but she had thought to take the will from her office and put it in the only place that we would find it. Isn't that eerie and strange. She was really well when we visited, and we had a great time, and then she goes home and dies. That was almost supernatural. When you start to think about all these things, who you're surrounded by, whose input, what your life trajectory is. I have a very unusual name. Christopher, bearer of Christ, and Peace. The blessed life, the experiences, the women, the failures to persevere and to overcome, the redemption stories. All of these things, and my wife has always said: 'We have some calling, some future calling, some destiny to fulfill.' All of these things can't just happen out of nothing."

Adjustments were hard with the passing of his mother, but Chris got back in the saddle. "I just carried on," he says. "I started my own lobbying company. I had an office down on Main Street. I got a great job at McGuire Woods Consulting. Ashley and I were married and we built a house in Hanover."

Then in 2005 an opportunity to run for House of Delegates arose when State Senator Bill Bolling ran for lieutenant governor. His vacated seat would be sought by Delegate Ryan McDougle,

who represented the 97th District. "I said, 'Carpe diem,'" says Chris. "Mom's not here anymore. What else do I have to lose?"

And then a funny thing happened. Virtually every one of Nina Peace's political enemies offered Chris assistance in his desire to be elected. "Kirby Porter (Hanover commonwealth's attorney) was the very first elected official to host a fundraiser for me for my first election at his home," Chris says. "Frank Hargrove, as I said, helped me get my first job, and Bill Bolling endorsed me for office. Bill was probably the catalyst, if not the vehicle, to have my mother not reappointed as judge. And Stuart Cook (Hanover sheriff) ended up endorsing me as well."

When I ask him why this was so, Chris says, "I sort of think that nature tries to seek some balance, and I just wonder if people's conscience weighs on them, or they see it as an opportunity to make something good out of something that wasn't. There is sort of this redemptive thing."

In the special election held that fall, Chris Peace was elected delegate, winning by 220 votes. He's held the seat ever since. And, incidentally, Chris would ultimately pass not only the Virginia bar, but the D.C. bar, as well, and like

his mother before him, hang his shingle and create a lucrative law practice.

Many years ago, Chris's grandmother, Kathryn Himmelsbach, who just died a couple years ago, imparted sage advice to her grandson. "I try to be somewhat measured," he says. "A lot of that developed out of my experience with my mother's judgeship and my grandmother, who was a great friend of mine, advising me that, 'Your mother's a wonderful person, she's brilliant, she's very capable, but she can be her own worst enemy.'"

Chris has earned a reputation at the General Assembly as a leader who will work with his peers across the aisle. "Jennifer McClellan and I are very good friends," says Chris. "We've done education reform, we've done domestic violence. We carried the marriage bill this year that changed the legal marriage age. And I didn't see it as Democrat or Republican, although that's there. We're frankly different in every way on paper. She's an urban delegate, I'm a suburban delegate; she's black, I'm white; she's a woman, I'm a man; she's a Democrat, I'm a Republican. But it's not strange or foreign to me because of the home I grew up in. My newsletter is called the Peace Progress."

He takes to heart what his constitu-

Diamond DOG HOUSE

**Make Boarding Reservations For
Your Winter Vacation Today!**

Diamond Dog House Does Doggie Daycare
Overnight Boarding, Bath and Nails.

**Treat Your Dog To One Of Our
Hand Made Leashes And Collars**

**Throughout The Long Winter
Bring Your Dogs To Us For Daycare...
They Love It!**

Let Your Dogs Come And Play Every Day At Our House

1712 Ellen Road,
Richmond, VA 23230
Across from the Diamond

www.diamond-dog-house.com



(804) 254-4101

fax (804) 200-5621

diamonddoghouse@verizon.net

ents, through their votes, have entrusted in him. "I'm conservative and I'm not," Chris says. "I think the labels are kind of irrelevant. Because the policy is what's important, and the people are what are important. We should be solving problems and we should be recognizing what the problems are."

In recent years, he has seen a steep rise in Tea Party supporters, and the use of one symbol to supplant another. "It's pretty clear, and I've commented on it many times," says Chris. "In areas of the state where prior to Obama's election there were Confederate flags, immediately after (the election) every single one of those became a yellow one because it was more politically acceptable, and that's a tribal issue."

Despite his support of conservative issues and his endorsements by conservative groups some within his own party have dubbed him moderate. "I have an A-plus NRA rating, I've had close to 100 percent from the Family Foundation, I was endorsed by the CPAC group," Chris says. "All the conservative credentials one could want, along with the voting record, but because of the way I carry myself and some of the issues I pursue like mental health reform, foster care reform, domestic violence, chairing the commis-

sion on Youth, I could go on and on, housing and homelessness, some of my colleagues actually perceive me to be a moderate, and it's not just when I wear bowties."

Chris mentions a book he's currently reading, "Dominion of Memories: Jefferson, Madison & the Decline of Virginia," by historian Susan Dunn, which traces the decline of the Commonwealth, which had produced the brightest luminaries of the Republic—Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Mason, Marshall, and so on.

"It's the second or third generation after the Founders, and every time those second and third generation people are faced with significant questions about whether we progress or whether we retreat, we chose the wrong thing," says Chris. "Whether that was building a canal to Ohio which never came to fruition because the General Assembly stopped the funding. Whether it was having rail that couldn't connect because the gauges were different throughout the state. Whether it was abolition in 1831 which failed and actually solidified slavery as an industry. You know, all of these things compounding and getting us to 1860. You look even at Calhoun. I mean he was a national progressive, but then retreated. Washington

urged us to avoid entangling alliances, to avoid political faction, and to join a national federal movement. So instead of us offering universal education like New England was, we didn't and we were illiterate by and large. People who came through Virginia during that period were impressed by the lack of books and libraries."

He looks at Virginia's history in increments of 50 years. "Start at 1860 and then you're in the teens and you have the suffragist movement, you've got Jim Crow, eugenics," he says. "Fifty years later you've got massive resistance and civil rights. And then another fifty years and here we are. And you wonder, what are the questions today? And the most dominant voices in the public square right now are to progress or go backwards."

Retreat is commonly caused by fear, often very real fear. "This notion of Make America Great Again is a romantic notion," Chris continues. "I think we're overly romantic. So you think of things from 2008—international conflict crisis, funding of wars, domestic economic collapse, no peace and insecurity, both abroad and at home, civil unrest, Ferguson, etc. All of this stuff. It's understandable human nature wants to go back to a place where they feel safe

and secure again. It's like the person who goes into the hole with the lights on and thinks they're enlightened. It's the opposite of Plato in 'The Republic'. He talks about the light that will lead man out of the cave."

The picture he paints is grim. "Well, the light of enlightenment, there isn't that right now, there doesn't seem to be," says Chris. "I think we're retreating to the cave in many respects, into tribalism and that really endangers us."

One of his favorite Civil War heroes was James Longstreet, a man much maligned because he challenged a veritable deity in the minds of many white Southerners. "He was a Confederate general, but he was willing to question a god essentially, (Robert E.) Lee, in his decision-making," Chris says. "After the war he goes to Mexico, he becomes a Republican, and he helps to essentially establish the Union, and also fights for equal rights for African-Americans. Jubal Early and others lambasted him and he was the scapegoat post-war when people were writing the narrative of the Lost Cause."

Politicians like Longstreet have a particular appeal to Chris. "I've always liked that type of person," says Chris. "I liked McCain in 2000 because he was the maverick. I got on board with

Classic Touch Cleaning

Simplifying Lives
One House
At a Time!

Residential Cleaning

1229 Bellevue Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227

(804) 262-6979

E-mail: classicouchcleaning@verizon.net

Website: www.classicouchcleaning.com

NorthSide Grille

Chart a course to Richmond's
finest family neighborhood restaurant
in the heart of Bellevue

Monday through Saturday: 11am till closing*

Sunday: 10am till closing*

Join us early for brunch or dollar tacos later in the day

*limited menu after 10 pm

Your Family Friendly Neighborhood Restaurant
Join Us for Happy Hour Specials 3-6pm, Mon-Fri

1217 Bellevue Avenue • 266-4403

Bush. I loved Kaisich for that very reason. One of my favorite political people is John Danforth, Here's a guy who was ambassador to the UN, he's an Episcopal minister, he was attorney general of Missouri, US senator, a Renaissance man. And people say he's a moderate. Not really. In his AG's office in Missouri two of his deputies were John Ashcroft and Clarence Thomas so hardly a liberal, hardly a moderate. Moderate now means weak and squishy."

A man of considerable faith, Chris mentions a sort of foundation embraced by his religious denomination. "The Episcopal Church believes in tradition, reason and experience, the three-legged stool," Chris says. "And so those all need to shape our politics, our discourse."

But those legs that support the seat of that stool seem to be weakening. "We are falling to the lowest common denominator now, which is easier, it's more comfortable," says Chris. "It's harder in the grey, people want to have certainty. That's why the tribalism has emerged post-recession. People were very vulnerable. They lost their homes. They lost everything in many cases. And so they wanted things to go back to where they were—predictable, certain, safe, and so it's understandable."



He hopes there comes a time when Republicans will embrace the notion of not alienating whole demographic voting blocks. "The Republican Party now, I think, can also take a lesson from the past in terms of how it positions itself to grow by inclusion rather than the opposite, which is where we are now," Chris says. "People may think a lot of things about Carl Rove, but I don't think anyone will not deny that he's a political genius, and in 1999 and 2000 he positioned George W. Bush as the compassionate conservative."

He considers the Republican nomi-

nee for president, and the movement that has propelled him. "I think that the rise of this movement has more in common with the French Revolution than the American Revolution," Chris says. "The American Revolution was not a populist movement. The other one was based on mob rule, hysteria, inflaming passions, and they wanted to blame someone. I mean we have similar arguments now, Occupy Wall Street, the Tea Party, who are not politically, totally dissimilar. And so you know what I would be concerned about? Where do we go from here? Do we have a storming of the Bastille, are we going to turn inward against each other because of fears of what is outside the gate. And the concern is how do we react to it? Do we react positively and move forward and persevere? Or do we blame each other, turn against each other, and divide?"

He pauses for a long time. "We've seen that happen before, and it was very costly," says Chris. "I would hope that does not happen again. The Civil War was the biggest example of it. And we've had political disagreements and discourse and there have been rough campaigns throughout American history. But I think our leaders also bear responsibility to know that when passions are inflamed, tempers are close to

the surface, not to stoke them further."

Within his own party in Virginia, he has noticed changes that prevent both sides from working together. "I had an interesting conversation when Tim Kaine was selected [as Hilary Clinton's running mate]," Chris says. "My experience with him as a person has always been very positive. He conducts himself well. He was the first governor I served with and he did everything the right way in the mansion in terms of courtesy, respect, hospitality. No controversy, so scandal, no criminal action, and we disagreed on policies because he wanted to raise the gas tax when I was running; I was opposed to that. Those were his principals and ideology from a political perspective, but I never questioned him as a person and would say that he was a class act. And I got a lot of blow back for that, and people questioned my bona fides as a conservative and as a Republican. You can't say anything nice about somebody if they happen to be on the other side of the aisle, and I think that's unfortunate."

As Chris Peace sees it, the Republican Party needs to build out its base. "We have to build by inclusion and coalitions," he says. "You can still be a very strong conservative, pro-family,

The Hermitage: A Nice Place to Visit, But ...

... It's even better, when you live here!

Come see what the excitement's all about at **The Hermitage** — the only Richmond continuing care community without an entrance fee.

At The Hermitage, our residents are as busy as they choose, enjoying interesting activities and plentiful outings. And our central location makes it easy for family and friends to drop by. See for yourself the fresh new spirit at Richmond's landmark retirement community.



The
HERMITAGE
Distinguished past - Vibrant future

For more information, contact us at:

(804) 474-1800 hermitage-vumh.com

1600 Westwood Avenue Richmond, VA 23227



We offer:

- Independent Living
- Assisted Living
- Nursing Care
- Two Secure Memory Care Neighborhoods
- Speech, Physical, and Occupational Rehab Services



COME DANCE WITH US!



(Natalie and Audrey) at

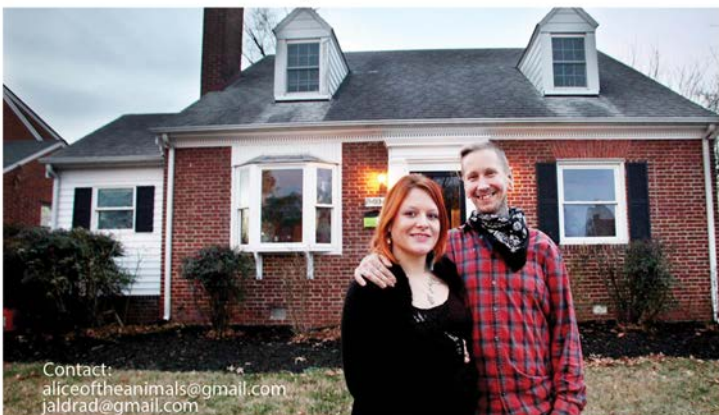
SCOTT BOYER TEACHES DANCE

Ages 3 to adult, priced from \$210.

804-798-9364

scottboyerteachesdance@yahoo.com

Welcome to the Neighborhood Alice and Jason!!



Contact:
aliceoftheanimals@gmail.com
jaldrad@gmail.com

Louisa Alice, an artist, is the owner/operator of a successful petsitting business: "Alice of the Animals". Jason is a pet groomer, chef, artist, and horticulturist. They have a dog, two cats, and are expecting their first child in May!



Rebecca D'Angelo

Real Estate Agent

Licensed in the State of Virginia

Clients receive a complimentary photo session

804.709.7707 (landline)
703.407.6043 (cell)
804.335.1414 (office)
RDAngelo@GoHTR.com

www.hometownrealtyservices.com
www.dangeloRVarealtor.com
FB @dangeloRVarealtor



3027 W. Cary St. RVA

pro-life, anti-tax and all those things, and still reach out to communities of need, communities that have been oppressed, communities that have low socio-economic standing, and build bridges there. So whether it's homeless advocacy, or domestic violence, or foster care and youth issues, or the environment. There are so many opportunities for our party to grow and to achieve, except for the fact that we have people who will say, 'Well, you're not a real Republican if you do this.' It's not something you can speculate about, it is a real phenomenon. If you're thought of as thoughtful, compassionate, reasoned, reasonable, willing to work with people, compromise, those are all bad words."

For years, in one way or other, Chris has been an historic preservationist. He was executive director of the Historic Pole Green Church Foundation. "Pole Green Church was where Patrick Henry learned about religious freedom," he says. "During my time we raised well over several million dollars. We built the visitors' center, we acquired the birthplace of Patrick Henry, Studley." And then Chris created the Road to Revolution Heritage Trail connecting all the historic sites in Hanover. "Ultimately we expanded that to the entire state," he says. "Mount Vernon,

Monticello, Stratford Hall, all of these are part of the Road to Revolution."

Chris is currently working on a tribute to a group of Virginians often neglected by the powers that be. He has worked with his good friend Chief Ken Adams of the Upper Mattaponi on this project. "Ken came to me after the Civil Rights monument was erected and said Virginia Indians are missing here at Capitol Square and so I put up a resolution set up a commission and in 2007 we did an inventory of all state capitals and what they do to recognize native peoples," he says. "We visited every reservation we visited every tribe."

This will be different than any of the other monuments in Capitol Square. "One it should be a tribute, it shouldn't be a memorial, because Virginia Indians are still living and contributing so it's not looking backwards, it's contemporaneous and forward-looking, and that tribute should be reflective of their spirituality, of nature, and respect for the Creator," says Chris. "So the landscape architecture installation will be built into the slope going from the Bell Tower towards the Poe statue along Ninth, and it is as though you sliced a nautilus shell in half and it's the spiral, and in the middle will be a con-



Thinking about selling your home in Northside?

Contact me for a FREE market analysis.

I have expertise in Market Valuations, Negotiations, Advertising, Home Staging, Inspections, Appraisals, Investing & Mortgage Financing.



Chris Hollister REALTOR®

Hollister Properties
5407 Patterson Ave., Suite 101 Richmond, VA 23226
804.240.9415
chris@hollistersales.com



www.HollisterSales.com

"Don't throw it away!"

WANTED

old postcard posters magazines
calendars scrapbooks catalogues
photos advertising sheet music maps

BUY SELL APPRAISE

WHITING'S
OLD PAPER

746-4710

DECATUR'S
GARAGE

Round the Car Service

Bellevue's Full-Service
Auto Repair for 25 Years

Bobby Shore

4031 MacArthur Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227

(804) 262-7582

stant flowing basin with Virginia river names on it. So we've raised a little over \$300,000 and our goal is \$500,000."

He considers the three women who raised him and instilled in him a sense of justice, and a love of the rule of law. These three women—the two Ninas and Janie—are now all dead. "I'm certainly no Ted Kennedy," Chris says. "But I've now had to give a homily or eulogy for all three of the women who helped raise me. My mother, my grandmother and Janie."

And he thinks of his wife, Ashley, and their daughter, Nina Camden, and the family dog, who also happens to be female. "The women of my life," he says and adds. "In an age of conflict, in an age of strife and polarization, and fracturedness and brokenness, don't you need peace? Isn't that what you need? Peace be with you." Chris entertains the idea of one day running for a higher elected office.

He invites me to imagine a train pulling into the old Ashland depot on Railroad Avenue. As the engine grinds and hisses to a halt, the Shiloh Baptist Church Choir begins to sing "He's Done Enough", slowly building momentum in call and response until reaching the re-sounding crescendo that transcends the world itself. And then there is a silence

like eternity. That's when the door on the caboose opens and a man dressed in a suit and bowtie makes his way across the narrow platform. He grabs the rail that is festooned with red, white and blue bunting. He begins talking to those who have gathered, hearkening back to old-time political campaigns, to candidates like Lincoln and Truman, men who always sought common ground and reached out to the people in their own towns and villages. Across the tracks, and just to the south, in front of the Dick Gillis Library, sits the bronze bust of Nina Kilian Peace that seems to stare over at the bronze likeness of Jay Pace, the voice of Hanover County for generations, a journalist's journalist, an editor's editor, a man who honored the fourth estate and worked diligently to keep government transparent. And to the north of the caboose there is the college—towers to secondary education, buttresses that ensure the health of a republic. Flanking the tracks, both sides of this wide street are packed with successful, privately-owned, independent businesses, the economic prowess of a free market economy.

"I love the Cat Stevens' song," says Christopher Peace. "Can you imagine? Get on the Peace Train. So, how good would that be?" **NJ**

Hermitage Grill
A NORTHSIDE DINING EXPERIENCE



Bigger & Better Than Ever
Tuesday-Friday 11-11 • Saturday 3-11 • Sunday Brunch 9-3

Carry Out & Catering Available

6010 Hermitage Road
264-7400



VENUS RISING
GOLD MEDAL - DOUBLE IPA
2016 Virginia Craft Brewers Cup

FIRE STATION 5
GOLD MEDAL - AMERICAN AMBER ALE
2016 Virginia Craft Brewers Cup

THE MESSAGE
BRONZE MEDAL - DOUBLE IPA
2016 Virginia Craft Brewers Cup

DOPPLER EFFECT IPA
1ST PLACE & PEOPLE'S CHOICE
RVA Blind IPA Challenge

IRISH GOODBYE
SILVER MEDAL - STOUT
2016 Virginia Craft Brewers Cup

FINAL GRAVITY BREWING CO.
6118 Lakeside Avenue Richmond VA 804-264-4808 www.OGGRAVITY.com
Tasting Room Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 11-7 Thursday, 11-9 Friday and Saturday, 10-9 Sunday, 11-6



7th Annual Bluegrass Festival

Saturday, February 11
1-8 pm

Live Music
Vendors • Food
Tons Of Recovery Fun!

BRUNSWICK STEW SALE
To pre-order stew at \$10 per
quart, contact Alden Gregory
at aldeng@meshin.org or
(804) 249-1845

**HATCHER MEMORIAL
BAPTIST CHURCH**
2300 Dumbarton Road
Richmond, VA 23228

McShin



Foundation

www.meshin.org

RAINBOW MINUTES

by BRIAN BURNS and JUDD PROCTOR

In the Navy



THE DISCO-ERA SINGING group, The Village People, formed in 1977. Their ensemble included an American Indian, police officer, cowboy, construction worker, biker and military man - all macho types that attracted a gay male audience. Their appeal quickly spilled over into mainstream pop, with the general public quite unaware of the hidden meanings of their lyrics and attire.

In their 1979 song, "In the Navy," they sang of the joys of being in the Navy with other young men.

The U. S. Navy even considered using "In the Navy" in its recruiting advertising campaign on TV and radio and allowed the music video for the song to be shot aboard the USS Reasoner FF1063 at the San Diego Naval Base, complete with cute Navy recruits as extras.

But for some reason, the campaign was cancelled.

Valentines Through the Ages

Throughout history, Cupid's arrow has found its way to straights and gays alike. Of course, many stories of same-sex lovers have been silenced.

The Christian Church destroyed records about the ancient Greek poet Sappho, who was overcome with passion for another woman named Anactoria.

Around 320 B.C., Alexander the Great and his lover Hephaestion were inseparable, whether it was on the battlefield or in their private quarters.

In 1865, poet Walt Whitman became smitten with longtime companion Peter Doyle in the cozy confines of a horsecar.

In the early 1900s, author Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas fell in love for a lifetime.

And in July of 2005, Emilio Menendez and Carlos German became the first gay couple to marry in Spain, a triumph of common sense and the state of law.

Here's to all the sweethearts of 2017.

Audre Lorde, The Warrior

The prolific writer, Audre Lorde, is a tough act to follow. She proudly identified herself as a "black feminist lesbian mother poet." In 1991, she was named Poet Laureate of New York State.

One of Lorde's major prose works was *The Cancer Journal*, one of the first books to give the viewpoint of a lesbian of color. Comprised of her journal entries and essays, the book chronicles her experiences with breast cancer

and mastectomy, though in the role of warrior rather than victim. In 1981, the book won the American Library Association Gay Caucus Book of the Year Award, and became a lifeline for others with cancer.

Just before Lorde lost her fight with cancer in 1992, she ceremoniously took the name Gambda Adisa, which translates to, "Warrior: She Who Makes Her Meaning Known."

The Kansas State Industrial Farm for Women

by JACK R. JOHNSON

THE PHOTOGRAPHS are hauntingly familiar: row upon row of women facing forward or in profile, classic mug shot poses. The black and white images that seem as if they could have been snapped yesterday are from the Lansing History Museum in Kansas, documenting the inmates of the Kanas Industrial Farm for Women.

They look like quintessential farm girls, in their late teens and early twenties, sun-tanned or freckled. Many of them were plucked on their way from a dance or a party and sentenced for up to six months or more to the farm for the crime of lascivious conduct, a euphemism for prostitution.

But they weren't prostitutes.

Consider Carry Cox and Mary Walker.

The Columbus Daily Advocate reported that a doctor with the public board of health had initiated a raid on a dance hall, and Cox and Walker were arrested for violating Chapter 205, a law passed in 1917 to help fight the spread of venereal disease from all the GIs coming home from World War I.

After Chapter 205 passed, the population for the Kansas Industrial Farm more than quadrupled. Women were rounded up wholesale from dance halls and bars and tested for venereal disease, and those testing positive were quarantined. Those testing negative were released after a few days.

But since county health board supervisors and other officials decided who was 'suspect' and who they could examine, young women of a certain age were consistently targeted. According to Jennifer Myers, site supervisor for the Lansing Historical Museum, "They would detain women for a couple of days, examine them, do tests to see if they had diseases. The tests were really inaccurate, so if they thought she might be sexually active, that might be reason [enough] to diagnose her with syphilis or gonorrhea."

Nikki Perry who has researched the Chapter 250 law for her doctorate at the University of Kansas said that besides being rounded up in raids, some of the women who went to Lansing in those



days had been turned in out of revenge, by their boyfriends, after arguments.

"The women would be going to a dance in this town two hours away," Perry says, "and on the way home, they reported what we would now call date rape. The man drove them out into the middle of nowhere and said, 'Have sex with me or I'll leave you here.'"

Some women turned themselves in because they didn't have money to get treated anywhere else, so they headed to the farm for what was, in the days before penicillin, ineffective (and often toxic) treatment.

"To get treatment for syphilis and gonorrhea was very expensive, and the state did not invest in free public health clinics during this time, so a lot of women didn't have any options," Perry says. "These women were responsible, they were trying to take

care of themselves. They just didn't have the resources. It's problematic that they had to turn themselves into a prison to get treatment."

Between 1917 and 1942, approximately 5,000 women were imprisoned at the Kansas State Industrial Farm where they lived and worked alongside other female criminals. Prior to 1917, it the industrial farm prisoner population was twenty. Myers said that in her research for the museum, she could find no man ever charged under the Chapter 250 law.

You can see images from the Lansing Museum Exhibit for the Kansas State Industrial Farm for Women at the link below:

lansingmuseum.omeka.net/exhibits/show/faces-of-the-kansas-state-peni/faces-of-the-kansas-state-peni

HAYES BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION

FREE ESTIMATES

321-2216

- General Contractor
- Interior Painting
- Exterior Painting
- Roofing
- Decks

Pet Sitting Services

DONNA DUFFIELD

(804) 397-6720

Loving Care where your pet is most comfortable—their own home!



FOR THE SERIOUS CHOCOHOLIC

Finest Quality Handmade Chocolates

Open Tuesday through Friday, 10:30 till 3:30

And also by appointment

Find us on Facebook for additional hours

VALENTINE'S DAY TREATS & TRUFFLES

Drop into our shop on Lakeside Avenue

THE HUB SHOPPING CENTER

6929 Lakeside Avenue
Richmond, VA 23228

804-363-6873

www.choccravings.com

30% off entire order

RVA
Shirts

.com

promo code: noj30

like the way NORTH of the JAMES magazine looks?



text 804 980 5604 call

contact DOBEY DESIGN for all your graphic needs

JOIN
CHARLES MCGUIGAN
AT 12:30 EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON
ON WRIR-FM 97.3 FOR AUDIO STORIES
ON
A GRAIN OF SAND



SOMEBODY'S ABOUT TO SAY SOMETHING. JUST LISTEN.

BOOK REVIEW

The Hidden Life of Trees

by FRAN WITHROW

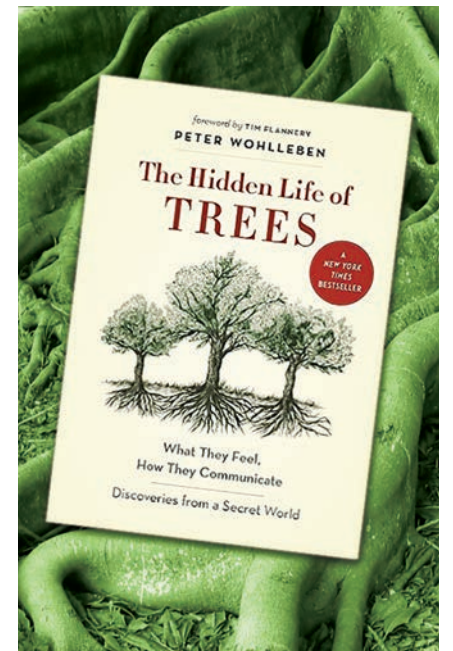
THIS BOOK HAS been on my “to read” list for months. Though it is a slim book, it took me a while to finish it. Consequently I pondered what I learned every day as I walked the dogs through my wooded neighborhood. I confess I have taken trees for granted: sweeping leaves off the deck with a sigh, gathering dropped branches after a storm. These silent giants didn’t seem to do much else. Oh, how wrong I was.

Author Peter Wohlleben, a forester who lives in Germany and runs an environmentally friendly woodland, has studied trees for years, and the knowledge he imparts is massive. Did you know trees talk to each other? Trees growing close together stretch their roots out toward one other, and fungi connect those roots in a “wood wide web.” Thus they can warn each other about disease, insects and other dangers. Trees are supposed to grow close together.

Wohlleben explains that natural forests are things of genius: young trees grow very slowly under the shade of their mothers, and this slow growth allows them to develop into healthier, longer-lived trees. The trees we plant in our yards or those who live in thinned out forests grow fast, but are not as strong.

In a native forest, the mother tree captures most of the sunlight, but once she dies after several hundred years, the littler ones, who have spent years growing slowly but well, can make a beeline for the sun. In a mere twenty years or so (not much time in the life of a tree, Wohlleben notes), a new tree closes the gap and the cycle begins again.

Wohlleben’s descriptions of how trees deal with a wound from a beetle or broken branch, why certain trees like willows do better close to a river, or how girdling a tree is tantamount to abuse, is eye-opening. Who knew? I can tell you that after I finished the book I walked down to the dogwood standing all alone in my front yard and apologized for



the fact that it was growing old in relative isolation.

Here’s another fascinating bit of information for you: have you ever wondered why tree roots seem to gravitate toward our underground water pipes? Urban soil is so compacted that tree roots have a hard time breathing. The soil around water lines is looser, so tree roots search out these spaces to make it easier to breathe and grow.

And how about this: right here in Virginia is the Healing Harvest Forest Foundation, created to harvest timber sustainably and compassionately. Instead of using heavy machinery that damages nearby trees and compacts the soil, this group uses horses and oxen, and takes only the weaker trees.

I invite you to read for yourself and find out why walking among deciduous trees is more relaxing than strolling among conifers, or why trees can only grow to a certain height. If you do, you may, like me, never look at trees quite the same way again. **NJ**

The Hidden Life of Trees
by Peter Wohlleben
\$29.95
Greystone Books
288 pages

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION by DOUG DOBEY



FARMERS' MARKET

Open Year Round

More Info at www.LakesideFarmersMarket.net

WELCOME TO THE EIGHTH SEASON AT LAKESIDE TOWNE CENTER
6110 LAKESIDE AVENUE | HENRICO/RICHMOND VA 23228

OFFERING FARM RAISED PRODUCTS, BAKED GOODS, FRESH SEAFOOD,
AND PLANTS AND FLOWERS

YEAR ROUND FARMERS' MARKET

OPEN Saturday mornings and all day Wednesday



Visit us on [FACEBOOK](#) for the latest seasonal hours 

NORTHSIDE'S HOME CENTER ON LAKESIDE AVENUE



LAKESIDE BEDDING

For years you have trusted Appliances on Lakeside with your appliances needs. Now you can trust us with a comfortable night's sleep

Lakeside Bedding is the place to come for the best experience to purchase your new Serta mattress

To add to the shopping experience, Lakeside Bedding fairly prices its product so you know exactly what you will pay



APPLIANCES ON LAKESIDE

Voted #1 for Appliances by Richmond Magazine
Appliances on Lakeside is the place to visit for the latest in appliances

We also offer a large assortment of in stock parts and are able to get most special orders next day

Come in today to work with the most experienced sales staff for all of your appliance needs



PINNACLE
Cabinetry & Design

PINNACLE CABINETRY & DESIGN

For 25 years, we've had the privilege of designing dream kitchens and baths for our clients

Our knowledge and expertise can give you the best value for your investment

Through effective design and management of the installation process we can help you enjoy your new kitchen or bath



KitchenAid[®]
FOR THE WAY IT'S MADE™

Speed Queen[®]



5418 Lakeside Ave. • Richmond, VA 23228 • 804-266-7621

Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am-7 pm • Friday 8:30 am- 6 pm • Saturday 8:30 am-4 pm • Sunday: Closed

www.AppliancesOnLakeside.com