



# Colonial Williamsburg News

INFORMATION ABOUT COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS  
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Photo by Darnell Vennie

Young guests can navigate a hay maze during the new family program, Patriots at Play, behind the Peyton Randolph House.

## Patriots at Play takes young revolutionaries back in time

Colonial Williamsburg invites revolutionaries of all ages to grab their tricorn hats and head to the Peyton Randolph site for the new, daily family program, Patriots at Play. This interactive program, which celebrated its grand opening June 17, offers ticketed guests fun, hands-on activities that immerse children in 18th-century life.

"Our guests take joy and inspiration in the one-of-a-kind immersive experiences Colonial Williamsburg offers every day. These interactive, hands-on activities are of greatest importance for our youngest guests, many of whom are encountering the past with wonderment for the first time," said **Mitchell B. Reiss**, president and CEO of Colonial Williamsburg. "In Patriots at Play, children and their families can enjoy inspirational fun and create memories they will carry with them for a lifetime."

Activities awaiting young guests include encounters with the coach and livestock animals of Colonial Williamsburg's Rare Breeds Program, 18th-century agricultural

activities, period games and craft activities.

"So many families are drawn to Colonial Williamsburg so that their youngest members can experience amazement at the distant past, whether by hand-crafting a toy with a new friend in costume, or in their first encounter with a lamb or calf," said **Ramona V. Hill**, Colonial Williamsburg journeyman cooper and Patriots at Play supervisor.

Programs change daily throughout the summer. The kids' program features hands-on experiences:

- Hay Maze and Hay Climbing Adventure. Children will be able to self-explore and find their way around a hay maze. The Hay Climbing Adventure allows children to clamber on the bales. It also doubles as a seating area for storytelling.
- Child's Log Fort/Playhouse. Colonial Williamsburg's carpenters are constructing a log fort with pre-cut logs for child-

See **Patriots at Play**, page 4

## A new celebration of "Light and Liberty" marks the nation's 241st birthday this Fourth of July

Colonial Williamsburg marks America's birthday with a full day of fun this Fourth of July, culminating in an all-new celebration of "Light and Liberty," saluting the nation with a soundtrack of patriotic songs to accompany free fireworks over the Governor's Palace.

"Independence Day is a spectacular day of fun and fireworks every year at Colonial Williamsburg, but for the nation's 241st we have a special treat in store," said **Mitchell B. Reiss**, president and CEO of Colonial Williamsburg. "This day, more than any other, reminds us why our core mission remains so vital, and we invite our neighbors and guests from around the nation and world to join us for a new, reimagined celebration of America's enduring story."

This year's fireworks display, "The Lights of Freedom," is the first led by Creative Director of Signature Events **Bill Schermerhorn**, who joined Colonial Williamsburg in 2016 from Macy's Inc. An alumnus of the College of William & Mary, Schermerhorn served as creative director for Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and 4th of July Fireworks, winning two Emmy awards during his tenure of more than three decades.

The new program kicks off at 9 p.m. and is inspired by the words of Thomas Jefferson, who wrote in 1795 that "Light and Liberty go together." It is accompanied musically by "The Lights of Freedom," a medley of 18th-century and popular Americana songs with the title selection co-written by Schermerhorn and Grammy award-winning composer Doug Katsaros. This year's recorded score features performances by Colonial Williamsburg musicians and by The Gentlemen of the College, a William & Mary a cappella group.

"I believe the music completes the show.

It's like watching a ballet and the fireworks are the dancers," said Schermerhorn, whose own birthday falls on July 4. "Everyone should feel their personal American story being celebrated."

### Shields Tavern Breakfast Celebration with Thomas and Martha Jefferson, 8 a.m., Shields Pavilion

Prior to the reading of the Declaration of Independence, guests will be invited to have a casual breakfast experience with Thomas Jefferson (**Kurt Smith**) and Martha Jefferson (**Nicole Brown**). As guests arrive they will be greeted by our staff and escorted to their seats. During the breakfast, there will be a chance to mingle with the Jeffersons in a very casual relaxed setting. At 9 a.m. Mr. Jefferson will invite everyone to walk over to the Capitol and watch as he reads the Declaration of Independence. Mrs. Jefferson will remain with guests who will be escorted there at 9:15 a.m.

The menu includes Chesapeake Bay Crab eggs benedict with a chervil hollandaise, Rappahannock oysters au gratin, breaded chicken roulade with Virginia ham and goat cheese, scrambled eggs with garden chives, applewood smoked bacon, country sausage links, Southern biscuits and gravy, and skillet-fried potatoes with bell peppers. A choice of beverages – chilled orange and grapefruit juices, coffee and tea – as well as pastries and muffins will be served. Cost is \$76 per couple or \$38 per person.

### The Reading of the Declaration of Independence, 9:30 a.m., Capitol Circle; noon, Courthouse; and 8:50 p.m., Palace Green.

On July 25, 1776, the Declaration of Independence is read to the citizens of Williamsburg. This news arrives only a few weeks

See **Fourth of July**, page 2

## Diversity of AARFAM collections seen in "America's Folk Art" exhibition

By CW Contributor

Some pieces are pure whimsy, others are completely useful.

One thing is certain: All of the objects to be featured in "America's Folk Art," celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum (AARFAM) highlight an art form as culturally rich and diverse as America itself. Through approximately 50 objects that include furniture, sculpture and paintings made between the 1700s and the present, the country's oldest, continuously operating institution solely dedicated to the collection, exhibition and preservation of American folk art will showcase why this art form (historically aimed chiefly at the middle class) is enjoying a popularity resurgence. The exhibition opens July 1 and remains on view through December 2019.

"Abby Aldrich Rockefeller was a visionary collector, recognizing the merits of everything from contemporary art to traditional folk art as early as the 1920s. It is entirely fitting that we celebrate her contributions to the American art world in this, the 60th anniversary of the museum named in her honor," said **Ronald L. Hurst**, Colonial Williamsburg's Carlisle H. Humelsine chief curator and vice president for collections, conservation, and museums.

The AARFAM, however, defines its collection of American folk art as objects made from the 1700s through today by amateur or professional artists and tradesmen for their own pleasure or needs or for sale to the common person.

"America's Folk Art" will illustrate objects created across the country from the Northeast to Oregon, the South to Midwest and date from the 18th to the 21st centuries. The exhibition will offer case studies of a variety of works of art on the themes of inspirations, recycled materials, whimsy and popular art. Another section will pay tribute to Abby Aldrich Rockefeller through a video and display of some of her original pieces.

"From its inception, the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller collection represented some of the finest examples of American folk art," said **Laura Pass Barry**, Juli Granger curator of paintings, drawings and sculpture. "This exhibition celebrates our founder's vision and the sustained growth of the museum collection over the past six decades through a visually rich and dynamic display of material."

Among the many star pieces in "America's Folk Art" is "The Preacher," a carving made of butternut and white pine made (probably) in Indiana, ca. 1870, by an unnamed artist. Mrs. Rockefeller purchased it from the famed art dealer Edith Gregor

Halpert in the early 1930s. At the time Mrs. Halpert acquired the piece, it was believed to be a portrait of the charismatic 19th-century Congregationalist clergyman Henry Ward Beecher. It has since been identified as a stylized version of a famous 19th-century German statue of the 16th-century theologian Martin Luther.

Another of Mrs. Rockefeller's objects given to Colonial Williamsburg to be on view in "America's Folk Art" is the "Liberty Enlightening the World" weathervane, a copper-and-zinc alloy piece probably made in New York between 1900 and 1910. At the time, in order to remain competitive and to encourage new business, weathervane manufacturers periodically introduced fresh, current designs. In this case, the Statue of Liberty, which then was a fairly recent addition to the New York skyline and, when dedicated in 1886 had created an outpouring of national pride, was the inspiration for this weathervane. Undeterred by the fact that the figure had insufficient horizontal elements to be turned effectively by the wind, weathervane makers counteracted the deficiency by mounting the lady on an arrow having a weighted point and broad feathers.

A featured painting in the exhibition is See **"America's Folk Art,"** page 2



Colonial Williamsburg photo

Artist **Vollis Simpson** of Lucama, N.C., created the "Ice Cream Scoop Sculpture" in 1955. It features paint on metal with a reflective coating and plastic film. It is a gift of **Ellin and Baron Gordon**.



## “Jefferson & Adams” returns for two days only at Kimball Theatre

The compelling story of two celebrated founding fathers, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, and one astute first lady, Abigail Adams, returns for encore performances. “Jefferson & Adams” will be presented at Colonial Williamsburg’s Kimball Theatre 7:30 p.m. July 1-2.

The live stage production features the original all-star cast of Colonial Williamsburg’s renowned character historian **Bill Barker** as Thomas Jefferson, actress Abigail Schumann as Abigail Adams and the popular Sam Goodyear as John Adams.

Written by Howard Ginsberg, the play tells the story of the turbulent 52-year friendship between Jefferson and Adams

during the early days of the republic, extending through two wars with England, and closing with their fateful death date on the same day, July 4, 1826—exactly 50 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The play reveals the compelling political debates and passionate personal beliefs that helped shape America at its founding and continue to remain relevant today.

General admission to this stirring production is \$18 for general admission and \$15 for seniors and students. Advance tickets are available by calling 1-800-HISTORY.

For more information, call (757) 565-8588 or visit [www.kimballtheatre.com](http://www.kimballtheatre.com).



Colonial Williamsburg photo

Thomas Jefferson (**Bill Barker**), Abigail Adams (**Abigail Schumann**) and John Adams (**Sam Goodyear**) return to the Kimball Theatre with two performances of “Jefferson & Adams.”

## "America's Folk Art"

Continued from page 1

“Wallowa Lake,” an oil on canvas by Stephen W. Harley (1863-1947), painted in Oregon between 1927 and 1928. Harley, who was born and raised on a Michigan farm, found his artistic expression late in life in the magnificent scenery of the Pacific Northwest. He never married and remained on the Midwestern farm through both his parents’ lifetimes. After their deaths, Harley became increasingly restless and hostile to the confining lifestyle represented by farm life. In the mid 1920s, he set off to visit relatives in California and to explore the Pacific Northwest. The landscape there enthralled him, and he made it the subject of four of his five known oil paintings, all of which are in the AARFAM collection along with his sketchbook and photographs.

Across the county in Pennsylvania’s rural

Schwaben Creek Valley, an area settled by Germans from southeastern Pennsylvania and by German immigrants, a distinctive style of decoration was used by a handful of local craftsmen during the 1830s and ‘40s: six-petal, stamped red and yellow flowers and the use of symmetrical birds flanking the central flowers. In a chest of drawers made in 1831 of tulip poplar, yellow and white pine and paint to be shown in “America’s Folk Art,” the flowers framing the case and birds on the drawer fronts show the characteristic style of the region. On the lowest drawer are depictions of praying children, probably copied from very similar examples on printed Pennsylvania German *fraktur* (illustrated birth, baptismal and marriage certificates) of the period.

Of the more decorative objects in “Amer-

ica’s Folk Art” is a fireman’s parade hat, made ca. 1850 in Philadelphia of pressed felt with paint and gilding. In the 18th and 19th centuries, volunteer firemen often named their companies after heroic figures. The Decatur Fire Company of the Frankford District of Philadelphia so honored Stephen Decatur, a young naval lieutenant whose daring exploits in the Tripolitan War (1801-1805) caught the public’s imagination. Show hats like this one were worn when companies turned out for parades and musters, both of these being festive occasions on which companies vied for the approval of the crowd by displaying spiffy, colorful attire and immaculate, well-maintained equipment.

A whimsical example of folk art in the exhibition is Vollis Simpson’s “Ice Cream Scoop Sculpture,” made in 1955 in Luca-

ma, N.C. This colorful confection, which moves with the wind, is studded with ice cream scoops and metal stars cut from cast-off, reflective highway signs. Before World War II, he moved houses as a business. After the war, he and friends opened a machinery repair shop. Between the two jobs, he collected myriad metal, industrial and transportation scraps that eventually became the basis for marvelous sculptures and whirligigs.

It wasn’t until after he retired at age 65 that he began to create wonderful pieces; wind-driven pieces of all shapes, materials and color attracted the attention of passers-by. This piece is one of his smaller creations.

“America’s Folk Art” is generously funded by Don and Elaine Bogus.

## Fourth of July

Continued from page 1

after Virginia’s representatives have adopted their own Declaration of Rights and a Constitution for the new state. No ticket required.

### Salute to the States, 10 a.m., Market Square

A special militia, in commemoration of the anniversary of the birth of our nation, musters to salute the 13 original states. The Fifes and Drums play, flags of each state are displayed, and muskets and cannon celebrate the event. No ticket required.

### "1776," noon and 4 p.m., Kimball Theatre

The classic musical retelling of the drafting and passage of the Declaration of Independence in the “foul, fetid, fuming, foggy, filthy” Philadelphia summer of 1776. By turns funny, dramatic, and poignant, and based on the period documents, the film stars Ken Howard as Thomas Jefferson and William Daniels as John Adams (obnoxious and disliked). Tickets \$5.

### Auction, 1 p.m.

An auction will be held at the Market House Stage and includes items from retail stores as well as auction-exclusive merchandise not available elsewhere. Artisan vendors make one-of-a-kind items such as folk art, pottery, pewter, glassware and more. The assortment of merchandise changes for each auction. No ticket required.

### Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg

Mr. Key’s Poem, Our National Anthem, 2:30 and 4:30 p.m., Hennessee Auditorium. “Oh say can you see” are the familiar and powerful first words of a poem written by 35-year-old lawyer and amateur poet Francis Scott Key on Sept. 14, 1814. The poem, inspired by the Battle of Baltimore eventually became America’s national anthem. Francis Scott Key recounts the events that inspired his hand and musicians Kelly Kennedy and John Turner share popular songs from the first quarter of the 19th century. Guests discover the history of the tune and the words that did not become our official national anthem until 1931, amidst considerable controversy and opposition, especially from the Women’s Christian Temperance Union. Museum admission

plus separate ticket required.

### Food Trucks

Guests can purchase food and cold beverages from 4 - 10 p.m. from food trucks on Duke of Gloucester Street next to Merchants Square.

### Williamsburg Lodge Family Fourth Celebration, 4 p.m., Virginia Room

Guests celebrate the Fourth of July with an evening of food, entertainment and fireworks for the entire family. Children’s games and activities will take place on the Virginia lawn starting at 4 - 7 p.m. Cash bar will be available at the Williamsburg Lodge, Virginia Room from 4 - 7:30 p.m. “An American Original Buffet Dinner” will be served from 5 - 7:30 p.m. at the Williamsburg Lodge, Virginia Room. Dinner entertainment will be provided by The Jangling Reinharts. Fifes & Drums will escort guests from the Lodge to a reserved area of Palace Green at 7:45 p.m. The evening will be concluded with Colonial Williamsburg’s annual Fourth of July fireworks display. Cost is \$89.95 for adults and \$50.95 for youth and include dinner, children’s games, special seating for programs, including fireworks on Palace Green, tax and gratuity.

### Chowning's Independence Day Celebration, 6 p.m.

Guests are greeted by costumed staff and presented with a complimentary 16-ounce engraved pint glass. Guests can redeem two free beverages or purchase a pint of five different offerings of beer. In addition, red and white wine and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. In the garden area, fresh Chesapeake Bay oysters will be grilled and served with fresh lemon and hot sauce offered on the side. Additional grilled items include curry chicken drumettes, large turkey wings rubbed in sage and mustard, rosemary skewers of beef and garden peppers and culinary historian, author, interpreter and “Afroculinaria” blogger Michael Twitty’s world-famous mop-rubbed Virginia spareribs. The final table will be set up like a groaning board, offering different salads, vegetables, fruit and freshly made dressings.

Guests will enjoy live music from 6 -



Colonial Williamsburg photo

Colonial Williamsburg’s Fifes & Drums will perform during the Foundation’s annual July Fourth celebration.

8:45 p.m. At the conclusion of the music, the band will remind guests that viewing the fireworks will be on the Palace Green.

Cost is \$76 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance of the event.

### Thomas Jefferson Wine Dinner, 6 p.m., King’s Arms Tavern

Guests will enjoy a four-course meal of some of Thomas Jefferson’s favorite dishes that are each paired with his favorite wines from around the world. The guests will take home an engraved dessert glass. The evening starts off with a champagne toast in anticipation of Jefferson’s arrival. Once Mr. Jefferson (actor-interpreter **Kurt Smith**) arrives, he addresses the guests, explains the evening’s menu and shares fond memories related to each course. After dinner, Mr. Jefferson invites guests to VIP Viewing at the Palace Green where he will read the Declaration of Independence from the balcony of the Governor’s Palace prior to the fireworks display.

The menu includes Chesapeake Bay-style crab cake with leek fondue and roasted corn relish; roasted golden beet salad served on artisan greens, goat cheese, basil pesto and Virginia ham dust; pan-seared petite filet of beef with rosemary-roasted wild mushrooms, shallot confit summer vege-

table bouquet and brandy crema. Dinner concludes with a dark chocolate truffle tart served with dried cherry compote and vanilla sorbet.

### “The Lights of Freedom” Fireworks Display, 9 p.m.

Guests revel in the free fireworks ignited from two locations behind the Governor’s Palace with viewing on Market Square and Palace Green. Afterward, they enjoy the pageantry of a torch-lit Fifes and Drums march from Palace Green, down Duke of Gloucester Street, ending on Botetourt Street.

### Parking

Guests can take advantage of free parking at the Colonial Williamsburg Regional Visitor Center where they can park, purchase tickets and use the shuttle bus service. Please note the pedestrian bridge to the Revolutionary City is closed from 8:45 - 10 p.m.

Bus service will be limited to a 30-minute schedule from 1 - 8 p.m. There will be Express Bus Service from the Visitor Center to the Governor’s Palace from 8 - 9 p.m. All bus service stops at 9 p.m. and resumes at 11 p.m.

Tickets and additional information are available at Colonial Williamsburg ticketing locations and online at [colonialwilliamsburg.com](http://colonialwilliamsburg.com) or by calling 855-296-6627.



## Ride 2 Recovery vets visit Liberty Lounge



Photos by Meghan McNicholas

Colonial Williamsburg welcomed Ride 2 Recovery on Thursday, June 1. (Above) The disabled veterans group rode down Duke of Gloucester Street and took a break at Liberty Lounge. Employees and volunteers handed out ice cold bottled water. (Center) Paul Frieling, mayor of Williamsburg (far left), and Mitchell B. Reiss and Elisabeth Reiss (center) accepted T-shirts from John Wordin, president and founder of Ride 2 Recovery (far right). (Bottom) Col. George Washington, portrayed by actor-interpreter Ron Carnegie, greeted veterans at the stop. Ride 2 Recovery, a groundbreaking veterans program started in 2008, uses cycling-based activities as therapy for veterans.



## Summer Breeze concert series kicks off in July in Merchants Square

The free Summer Breeze concert series kicks off July 5 with the Big Band sounds of 504 Supreme featuring the Truetone Honeys.

The concerts, sponsored by Colonial Williamsburg's Merchants Square and Morgan Stanley Williamsburg Branch, continue Wednesdays through Aug. 30 and showcase genres including jazz, rock, jam, rhythm-and-blues and pop.

Shows begin at 7 p.m. on Duke of Gloucester Street:

- July 12: Bobby Blackhat Band (Blues)
- July 19: Dharma Bombs (New Orleans/Dixieland)
- July 26: Good Shot Judy (Jazz Crooner)

- Aug 2: Truetone Honeys featuring 504 Supreme (1940's Andrews Sisters-styled Jazz Group)
- Aug 9: The Michael Clark Band (R&B)
- Aug 16: USAF Heritage of America band
- Aug 23: USAF Rhythm and Blues Jazz Ensemble
- Aug 30: Heritage Brass Ensemble

This year guests can dance to the music of their favorite bands on a dance floor. Summer Breeze concertgoers are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets.

For more information, visit <http://www.merchantsquare.org/events/>.

## Christiana Campbell's Tavern hosts All-American Tea Parties

By Anna Cordle  
Public Relations Coordinator

Colonial Williamsburg invites guests of all ages to take time to go back with its All-American Tea Parties the first and third Saturday of each month through Aug. 19. The events, hosted by Mrs. Campbell at Christiana Campbell's Tavern, feature a special blend of tea and sippets. Guests are encouraged to bring their period-inspired dolls and partake in the festivities from 1 - 3 p.m.

Greeted by Mrs. Campbell, guests are escorted to a private dining room for tea service. There, she offers lessons in 18th-century etiquette for young gentlewomen and shares stories of adventure set along Duke of Gloucester Street. After tea, guests are invited to participate in a scavenger hunt inspired by the history of the American Girl® doll, Felicity, searching for items and locations in the Historic Area. Upon completion of the scavenger hunt, guests may redeem completed lists for a specially engraved cookie tray at the William Pitt store.

"We are excited to introduce the All-American Tea Party series at Christiana Campbell's

tavern," said Mark Florimonte, director of Historic Area food and beverage. "Interactive events like these allow families to create lasting memories at Colonial Williamsburg over period food, drink and merriment."

An All-American Tea Party ticket includes:

- A bread course of sweet potato muffins, blueberry scones, raspberry soda bread, whipped mascarpone, lemon curd and clotted cream
- Tea sandwiches including ham and cheese with honey mustard, peanut butter and jelly checker board, American aged cheddar cheese sippets and chicken salad-stuffed croissants
- A dessert course of chocolate-dipped strawberries, mini walnut pie, coconut macarons, mini AMERICAN HERITAGE® chocolate chip cookies and wild berry fruit tartelette
- Tea, cider or chocolate milk
- Historic Area scavenger hunt
- Specially engraved silver cookie tray

Tickets are \$39.95 per person and are available at [colonialwilliamsburg.com/tea-parties](http://colonialwilliamsburg.com/tea-parties) or by calling 855-296-6627.

## Milestone Memories

### Pat Hearn enjoys career in Historic Area, museums and development

**EMPLOYEE NAME:** Pat Hearn  
**POSITION:** Administrative assistant/writer in development

**WHAT I DO:** Most recently, I worked in Colonial Williamsburg's development team as an administrative assistant and then writer.

**WHAT OTHER POSITIONS HAVE YOU HELD AT COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG:** I first worked with Colonial Williamsburg while studying for a master's degree in colonial American history at the College of William & Mary. The Foundation and the college offered a fellowship in the Interpretation of Historic Sites. My thesis was about milliners and millinery in colonial Virginia, and I worked in costume in the Margaret Hunter Shop on weekends and in the summer.

After working in museums in North Carolina, I came back to Colonial Williamsburg as registrar at the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Center (pre-move to current site). Just as I began working there, Bassett Hall—and its wonderful folk art—was given to the Foundation. I became administrative curator of Bassett Hall, working on orientation exhibitions, training interpreters, researching the collections and operating the house as an exhibition building open daily.

There were many exciting and unexpected experiences at Bassett Hall. We became a home to welcome Rockefeller family members for several stays. Heads of state stayed at Bassett Hall during special events. For example, Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus of



Pat Hearn

the Netherlands stayed several days. The late French President François Mitterrand and his entourage stayed at Bassett Hall twice.

I enjoyed being part of the museums division for several years. Then I ventured to the Atlanta History Center for several years before moving back to Williamsburg. The Williamsburg Institute called me back to the Foundation and a challenging job as program manager of conferences like Antiques Forum. When the Institute was discontinued, I joined the development staff at the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, working on the capital campaign for the 2007 commemoration.

**HOBBIES/INTERESTS:** Having retired in November of 2016, I am enjoying time to read, pursue family research and explore new opportunities.

**ADVICE TO NEW EMPLOYEES:** The best thing about my experiences at Colonial Williamsburg has been the wonderful people who really care about this special place—and embody Hospitality and Courtesy toward both guests and coworkers.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Your Story

Dame shares women's stories through her characters

EMPLOYEE NAME:

Corinne E. Dame

POSITION: Actor-interpreter

**YEARS OF SERVICE:** I started at Colonial Williamsburg more than 11 years ago as an actor-interpreter. In that time I have portrayed more than 20 different historical figures on the streets and on the stage.

**WHAT I DO:** Presently, I am portraying two historical individuals—Elizabeth Wythe, the wife of George Wythe, and Elizabeth Maloney, an Irish woman who had two children with Moses, an enslaved man.

As Elizabeth Wythe, I discuss a woman's role in managing a household, her education, her duties to her husband and her country, how she fits in society and how the Age of Enlightenment affects women. When I portray Elizabeth Maloney, I discuss societal expectations, miscegenation and how the laws affect her.

I recently finished directing "A Perfect Adornment," as an experience in the Randolph House. It has been well received, and I am very proud of my talented cast and assistant director for making this a success.

**WHAT I LIKE ABOUT MY JOB:**

I love performing, whether it be on stage or film. When I was hired at Colonial Williamsburg for this new programming, "Revolutionary City," I was excited to have an acting job with benefits. But the true benefit Colonial Williamsburg provides me with is a sense of pride in my work.

I feel this pride when I bring the importance of a woman's role in our history to light. There have been too many times in the past 11 years where I have had guests, both male and female, ask me if I am "allowed to speak," or "won't my husband be upset that I am speaking in public," or tell me that my place is in the kitchen. Most often, they don't even ask my name, but instead ask who my husband is. I don't fault the guests. They arrive here with many misconceptions about women in our history. But when this happens, it is the perfect opportunity to really delve into how women were an integral part of our nation's history.

Another aspect of my job that I love is the connections I can make with guests. I used to think that acting didn't really make a difference in anyone else's life other than my own. But here at Colonial Williamsburg, I have had the privilege of speaking to people from all walks of life. And often, I find guests opening up to me and thanking me for telling the story. I didn't realize the difference I could make in their lives, simply by sharing the story of our nation through the eyes of my character. But guests connect to it, and often find correlations to their own lives, which makes what I share with them, relevant. When I make myself (or my character) vulnerable, the guest is more likely to be vulnerable. And it is truly humbling when they choose to share those vulnerabilities with me.

**WHAT I DO TO IMPROVE THE GUEST EXPERIENCE:**

I strive to help guests gain a better appreciation of our nation's early history and the important role that women played in it. When I have these interpretations or perform in scripted scenes, my goal is to help the guests shape their own opinions about our nation's history. It isn't my job to tell guests how they should look at or feel about their history, but it is my job to open their minds and hearts to it. When they come in with preconceived no-



Corinne E. Dame

tions, misconceptions or fear of opening up to the past, I endeavor to guide them toward the truth in whatever way they need.

**MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES:**

Years ago, I was portraying a woman by the name of Molly Megargee and was sitting on some boxes writing a letter. I was approached by two young sisters and their mother, and they asked me what I was doing. I showed them the quill and let them write a little, while explaining the importance of penmanship and how people communicated with one another. But the conversation branched out to travel, horses, economy and what types of money we use, etc. They ended up looking at their watch and over an hour had gone by. They had to go to the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum for a doll exhibit and said their goodbyes. The next day I heard young voices shouting "Molly! Molly!" down the street. I turned and saw my two friends running toward me. They had been looking for me since yesterday. They had both made me clothespin dolls. I still have them to this day.

Another memorable experience is of a scripted scene, "For Cause and Country." I was portraying Barbry Hoy, and her husband Alexander was preparing to enlist in the Continental Army. In the scene, the Hoys argue about the pros and cons of enlistment. After the performance, a woman came up to me and said she was also the wife of a soldier. My performance resonated very strongly with her because she felt as if she was watching her own past play in front of her. She was appreciative of the fact that we tell the story of the soldier's wife and the sacrifices she makes, because it is often a forgotten story. This was just one of hundreds of women who expressed similar experiences and views after they saw this scene. And I am proud to tell these women's stories.

**BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

I was awarded the Mary and Donald Gonzales Field Experience Fund scholarship in the fall 2014 and in August 2015. I spent two-and-a-half weeks in England and Scotland to better study the life of Lady Dunmore. The Gonzales award allowed me to dive deeper by going to the United Kingdom, and it was one of the most wonderful experiences of my life. I am now able to bring her story back to Colonial Williamsburg for the Teacher Institute programs this summer.

I received a bachelor of fine arts degree from James Madison University with a focus in theater.

**INTERESTS/HOBBIES:**

I love all art forms—acting, dancing, singing, painting (although I'm terrible at the painting). I am also a huge crafter: scrapbooking, knitting, sewing, collages, etc. I am getting married in October, which has put a lot of my DIY skills to use. I am so happy to begin this new chapter of my life with the man who holds my whole heart and soul. I also happen to be a huge San Francisco 49ers fan and animal lover.



Photo by Darnell Vennie

Young guests have the opportunity to encounter a calf in the Rare Breeds program.

Patriots at Play

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dren to play in. "It's like using giant Lincoln logs," Hill said.

- African-American-style Wattle Fence. Children can construct wattle fences that may be used in the garden at the Peyton Randolph House.
- Crate vs. Barrel. During this race, kids roll barrels and carry crates around a circuit.
- Kids Loom. Children have the opportunity to learn simple weaving. The Weave Shop is donating yarn to help with the project.
- Quill Writing/Drawing. Children learn basic penmanship with a quill.
- Sand boxes. Kids can explore sand boxes with wooden spoons to find hidden treasure.

Young guests have the opportunity to make souvenirs to take home:

- Marbles. Colonial Williamsburg's brickyard provides clay so kids can make their own marbles.
- Wood blocks. Young guests can stamp their name on wooden blocks.

Patriots at Play features water activities to cool guests during the summer months:

- Boat Adventures. The Colonial Williamsburg coopers created shallow tubs so young guests can sail toy boats.

- Sea Sponge Relay. Children take a sea sponge, dunk it in a tub of water and squeeze it out at another bucket.
- Leather Mug Relay. Kids can fill up a leather mug with water, transfer the contents to another bucket and go back for more water. Whoever fills up their buckets first, wins the game.

Popular 18th-century children's games include tug of war, droughts, nine pins, trap ball, graces, table quoits and loggets. "Loggets were similar to horseshoes. Players threw loggets or sticks at a stake," Hill said. "King Henry VIII banned his soldiers from playing this game because he thought it interfered with their military training."

Hill has had a wonderful time working with the products division, interpretive program development, training department, sites and orientation, coach and livestock, Cooper Shop, Wheelwright Shop, Weave Shop, Carpenter Shop, Joiner Shop and Historic Foodways to pull these programs together. "This has been a fantastic collaborative effort of many people in redesigning how we engage kids visiting Colonial Williamsburg," she said.

A Colonial Williamsburg ticket is required to attend Patriots at Play. Programs will be held weather permitting.

Remembering Friends...

**Ms. Catherine White** died May 13 in Charles City. Her 13 years of service began in 1977 as a housekeeper at the Golden Horseshoe Golf Course clubhouse. She was a steward there when she retired in 1991. She is survived by four daughters and three sons.

**Mr. Leo C. Ward** died May 30 in Williamsburg. He came to the Foundation in 1962 as a butcher at the Commissary. He later held positions as commissary super-

visor at the Williamsburg Lodge and Williamsburg Inn; manager at Campbell's Tavern; manager of receiving and distribution at Chowning's Tavern and Commissary operations manager. He was a hospitality ranger at the Williamsburg Inn Clubhouse when he retired in 1991 with 28 years of service. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, seven grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Marketplace

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garage kept, 6-speed, power window locks, tilt, cruise, air conditioning, appearance package, towing, running boards, soft top, custom tire cover with lock, custom locking lugs, 35x12.5R17LT tires. \$18,000 OBO. Current NADA is \$20,400 and Kelley Blue Book is \$19,691. **TEXT:** 757-532-6237.

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