



Colonial Williamsburg News

INFORMATION ABOUT COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS
APRIL 7, 2016 Online at \netapp2\PubRelations\Public\CW_News_Online\cwnews\current.pdf

VOL. 69, NO. 5
This publication is recyclable.

Williamsburg Inn re-opens and returns to greet a new generation

By Joe Straw
Public Relations Manager

The historic Williamsburg Inn has reopened following its most extensive renovation in 15 years, honoring John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s standards of classic elegance and charm while introducing spectacular new aesthetic details, tasteful modern amenities and a thoughtful redesign of guests' welcoming hospitality to create a captivating luxury experience in the heart of Colonial Williamsburg.

Guests and visitors to the crown jewel of Colonial Williamsburg's hotels receive a welcome from doormen in top hats and tails. A new seated check-in features complimentary sparkling wine, water or cider and petit French macarons, while a lobby beverage bar offers in-house guests complementary coffee, espresso drinks, tea and hot chocolate 24 hours a day.

A manager and bellhop personally escort guests to their rooms. There they will find Millcreek Furniture armchairs custom designed by Colonial Williamsburg and featuring interior automatic LED lighting, 40-inch flat screen televisions, Bose radios and Bartech Minibars with an assortment of beverages for purchase, plus a separate compartment for guests' personal items.

An enhanced turn-down amenity includes an ice-chilled Pallini Peachcello cordial presented on a porcelain tray atop a custom-made silk taffeta covered pillow along with three flavors of Dean & DeLuca

chocolates.

"The Williamsburg Inn honors our mission of preservation while maintaining Mr. Rockefeller's high standards of guest comfort," said **Florencio Ferrao**, Colonial Williamsburg vice president of hospitality. "Today's guests seek the same high level of sophistication in a relaxed atmosphere, and I'm confident that our unique new offerings strike the perfect balance."

Colonial Williamsburg's founding benefactor, Rockefeller conceived the Williamsburg Inn and with his wife, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller, closely oversaw its design, construction and furnishing for its 1937 opening. Its scale and 19th-century Regency architectural style were chosen to contrast and complement the colonial architecture of the neighboring Historic Area.

Rooms offer views of the Historic Area, gardens and the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club. Spacious guest bathrooms feature twin marble vanities, Italian marble-enclosed bathtubs and showers. Amenities such as 24-hour room service and Wi-Fi Internet connectivity satisfy the 21st-century traveler's needs.

In the Regency Room, the Williamsburg Inn's award-winning culinary team offers delights served in contemporary elegance, while the Terrace Room and Restoration Bar provide less formal settings to enjoy superbly prepared fare and cocktails. Afternoon tea is served seasonally.

Along with golf, the Williamsburg Inn



Colonial Williamsburg photo

The re-opening of the Williamsburg Inn spotlights spectacular new aesthetic details, tasteful modern amenities and a thoughtful redesign of guests' welcoming hospitality to create a captivating luxury experience.

offers guests a variety of recreational offerings including tennis on eight courts, lawn bowling, biking, croquet, swimming pools and The Spa of Colonial Williamsburg.

Inn guests have included Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip – in 1957 and again in 2007 – Sir Winston Churchill, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, former President and Mrs. George H.W. Bush, Emperor Hirohito of Japan, Salvador Dali, Robin

Williams, Quincy Jones, Barbra Streisand, Betty White and Tom Hanks.

The Williamsburg Inn is listed on the National Trust for Historic Preservation Historic Hotels of America and Leading Hotels of the World. All of its revenues support the Foundation's preservation, research and educational programs.

Want to know more? Visit www.colonialwilliamsburg.com or call 855-296-6627.



Photo by Tom Green

Fire-pit tables provide outdoor seating nearly year-round at the new Williamsburg Lodge restaurant, Sweet Tea & Barley.

Sweet Tea & Barley opens at Williamsburg Lodge with signature cocktails, inspired Southern fare

The historic Williamsburg Lodge offers a refined yet casual regional dining experience at the new Sweet Tea & Barley, reflecting Colonial Williamsburg's growing appeal to wider audiences.

Sweet Tea & Barley encompasses the lounge area near the hotel's original fireplace, also offering a new terrace dining space just outside. Heated umbrellas and fire-pit tables provide outdoor seating nearly year-round.

The menu includes Southern fare such as bourbon honey pork and cornmeal crusted catfish, small bites such as barbecued pork rinds and fried green tomatoes, signature cocktails, craft beers and a wine list with some unexpected selections.

"Sweet Tea & Barley is another initia-

tive Colonial Williamsburg has implemented during the past year to reach new audiences," said **Florencio Ferrao**, Colonial Williamsburg vice president of hospitality. "We hope the community will think of Sweet Tea & Barley as a great destination for enjoying cocktails after work, watching favorite sporting events, relaxing and joining friends outside by the fire pits and listening to music on the weekend."

Sweet Tea & Barley is open 4-11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 2-11 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Live entertainment is presented Friday and Saturday nights from 7 p.m.

Want to know more? Visit www.colonialwilliamsburg.com or call 855-296-6627.

Civil rights pioneers ring bell in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

By Joe Straw
Public Relations Manager

Leaders of the American civil rights movement joined the city's historic First Baptist Church for a "Weekend of Remembrances" honoring the triumphs and sacrifices of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., culminating April 4 when the Rev. Drs. Virgil A. Wood and Owen C. Cardwell Jr. "Let Freedom Ring" to commemorate the 48th anniversary of King's death.

Wood served on the National Executive Board of King's Southern Christian Leadership Council and coordinated the Virginia delegation to the Aug. 28, 1963 March on Washington that ended with King's "I Have

a Dream" speech. He retired in 2005 after more than 50 years as a church leader, educator and activist.

Wood preached to the First Baptist Church congregation at 11 a.m. April 3 and then participated in an evening vespers service starting at 5 p.m. joined by Cardwell, founder and pastor of Richmond's New Canaan International Church. In 1962 Cardwell was one of the first two African-American students to attend Lynchburg's E.C. Glass High School and met King during his visit in support of desegregation.

At 10 a.m. Monday, Wood and Cardwell joined members of First Baptist Church in

ringing its restored Freedom Bell to commemorate the day's solemn anniversary and to mark progress toward realization of King's dream as well as work unfinished.

"While the struggle for justice and equality continues, we've made it this far by Dr. King's leadership and that of his contemporaries like Dr. Wood and Dr. Cardwell," said Rev. Dr. Reginald Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church. "Our call for the nation to join us and 'Let Freedom Ring' began with a challenge but has given way to a movement, one that I know benefits immensely from the wisdom Dr. Wood and Dr. Cardwell imparted during their visit."

"Dr. King's conviction and absolute courage inspire us toward the ideals our nation set for itself 240 years ago, which he articulated so perfectly for a modern world," said **Mitchell B. Reiss**, president and CEO of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. "We are deeply grateful that Dr. Wood and Dr. Cardwell, who stood with Dr. King at vanguard of the struggle for civil rights, joined us in Williamsburg and ring the Freedom Bell in a call to honor his message and memory."

The Let Freedom Ring Challenge was made possible in part by a generous grant from sponsoring partner the Ford Foundation of New York.



Photo by Lael White

Colonial Williamsburg employees had the opportunity to operate replica 18th-century firearms at the new educational musket range before its grand opening on Saturday, March 19. Participants included: (front row, left to right) Allison Heinbaugh, Penna Rogers, Rachel West, Jennifer Lyon, Jessica Ross and Sheri Wood; (back row, left to right) Clay Smith, Jim Morris, Katie Van Duinen, Ryan Kindley, Justin Chapman and Michael Nelson.

Guests can operate replica 18th-century firearms at musket range

Colonial Williamsburg's educational musket range offers Revolutionary City guests an opportunity to learn about and operate the types of firearms that won independence and supported life and livelihood in early America.

Guests learn from costumed interpreters about the history of flintlock weapons, particularly in colonial Virginia, their mechanics, use in hunting and defense, plus safety and proper handling.

Guests are able to prime and fire replicas of two of early America's most important firearms: a "Brown Bess" British short land service pattern musket and a fowling piece, a precursor of the modern shotgun.

The range's Brown Bess replicas reflect the variety manufactured between 1768 and 1804 within a broader category spanning from 1717 and 1815. They are the

type of musket used by both British and American soldiers during the American Revolution.

The range is designed by C. Vargas & Associates, Ltd., consulting engineers, of Jacksonville, Fla.

The range is accessible only by ticketed guests via a shuttle from the Williamsburg Lodge. Admission includes instruction, safety equipment, firearms, ammunition and targets.

To participate, guests must present photo ID to purchase tickets on-site. Tickets are \$119 and are available to guests ages 14 and older. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Additional information is available at Colonial Williamsburg ticketing locations and hospitality properties, online at www.colonialwilliamsburg.com or by calling 855-296-6627.

Applicants Wanted:

ERHI employees encouraged to apply for Professional Development Center Grants

Applicants are being sought for the Professional Development Center Grants for Education, Research and Historical Interpretation (ERHI) employees. The amount of the grants has increased from \$400 to \$1,000 in 2016. The next deadline for applications is April 15.

Employees in this division will bring greater knowledge and improved skills to their areas of interest. Continuing education can include, but is not limited to, seminars and conferences, courses, lectures, programs, research projects, presentations related to current or planned programming, exhibits and interpretive sites and museums. Travel expenses include tuition expenses, museum or park admission, performance admission, meals and other reimbursable expenses.

"The increase in award amount gives employees so much more opportunity," said **Mary Carter**, supervisor of actor-interpreters. "I hope employees will think outside of the box a little more this year. All of us on the committee look forward to seeing what experiences employees are looking to grow from."

Professional development opportunities may include:

- Visiting a historical city such as Annapolis or Charleston to walk their historic streets and gain a better understanding of their layouts.
- Taking a course on public speaking or vocal lessons.
- Visiting the location of a battlefield or the forgotten foundations of a building which may not include a museum visit. Perhaps your request for funds will only include the expense of mileage to stand on the ground where something took place.

- Camping in a national park so that you can observe the ranger's programs and see how our national parks use interpretation with their guests.

- Visiting an art museum to see how they present information to the public.
- Going to see a play such as "Hamilton."
- Considering forms of performance, tours or displays that we currently do not utilize at Colonial Williamsburg.

To date, several ERHI employees have taken advantage of the program and include:

- Actor-interpreter **Nicole Brown** researched Hannah Powell at the Library of Virginia and the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond.
- Actor-interpreter **Hope Alyssa Wright** visited Monticello in the fall to study Elizabeth Hemings and the free and enslaved black community in greater Charlottesville and Albemarle County.
- Actor-interpreter **Gerald K. Underdown** visited Oatlands Plantation, the home built by George Carter, youngest son of Robert Carter III.
- Three Colonial Williamsburg employees attended the Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums Annual Conference which came to Williamsburg. Public sites interpreters **Audrey DeAngelis** and **Scott D. Krogh** and livestock husbander **Layne Anderson** attended the June conference.
- Apprentice weaver **Ann Goode** attended the "Weaving Theory and Drafting" workshop offered at the Mannings Handweaving School and Supply Center last July in East Berlin, Pa.
- Apprentice weaver **Gretchen Johnson**

Letter to the President

Guest expresses appreciation for care given to him, his wife during CW stay

To the staff and the security personnel who were at the Governor's Palace at 9:30 p.m. on 1 January 2016,

I wish to thank you all for the care and attention that was given to me when I fainted during the concert. Your concern for my health and well-being was appreciated. I would further like to thank you for the courtesy shown to my wife.

To the musicians, I am sorry. The doctors have given me a lot of tests and believe they may have found the reason for my fainting.

To the security personnel who took my wife and I from Riverside Doctors' Hospital to our room at the Lodge at 2 a.m. 2 January, thank you.

Yours,

Todd A. Dickel
Willow Street, Pa.

George Washington scholar returns to Art Museums for lectures

Dr. Peter Henriques returns with lectures on George Washington's life in April. The one-hour lectures will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Hennessee Auditorium at the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg.

- **The Return of George Washington: 1783-1789**, Tuesday, April 12. Henriques will discuss George Washington's short retirement at Mount Vernon after the American Revolution and his return to public life for the Constitutional Convention and eventual presidency.
- **George Washington and the Creation of Nationhood**, Wednesday, April 13. Henriques discusses George Washington's election as president, his political collaborations with Jefferson, Madison and Hamilton, and early crises such as the French Revolution.
- **George Washington's Final Retirement** – Wednesday, April 20. Henriques discusses George Washington's return to private life with Martha and his final years at Mount Vernon.

Henriques is professor of history, emeritus, at George Mason University. He is the author of "Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington."

Henriques is professor of history, emeritus, at George Mason University. He is the author of "Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington."

Henriques is professor of history, emeritus, at George Mason University. He is the author of "Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington."

Henriques is professor of history, emeritus, at George Mason University. He is the author of "Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington."

Henriques is professor of history, emeritus, at George Mason University. He is the author of "Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington."

- Group interpreter **Gina Conroy** wanted a greater understanding of the maternal influence of Mary Ball Washington on the life of her son, George Washington. Last October, she visited historic sites in Fredericksburg, Va., the Mary Washington House and the Rising Tavern, which was built as a residence by George's brother Charles in 1760, the Hugh Mercer Apothecary and the St. James House built by James Mercer, Mrs. Washington's attorney.

- Orientation interpreter **Nicole Justice** attended the National Association of Interpretation's National Conference on Nov. 10 – 14 in Virginia Beach.

- Actor-interpreters **David Catanese** and **Kemper McDowell** received a grant to attend the Virginia Beach Bash Stage Combat Workshop on April 2-3 at Regent University. The workshop is sanctioned and operated by the Society of American Fight Directors, the premier stage combat organization in the United States.

- **Claire McKercher** will be visiting the Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop in Fredericksburg, Va., and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum in Alexandria, Va.

- **Katie Watkins** of military programs received a grant to attend two Virginia Association of Museums workshops last year.

- Actor-interpreter **Sharon Hollands** visited the Virginia Historical Society to examine Carter Braxton Jr.'s journal of London. The younger Braxton was sent to England to study law in the late 1780s. Sharon, who portrays Carter Braxton Jr.'s mother, Elizabeth, wanted to explore what London was like during that period of time.

- **Kimberly Costa** of Historic Foodways registered for the Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums Annual Conference in 2016 in Baton Rouge, La.

Regular, non-exempt, non-supervisory staff members with direct interpretive contact with guests are eligible to apply for grants of \$1,000 for professional development activities including seminars, conferences, courses, programs, research projects and presentations related to current or planned programming, exhibits or interpretive sites. Awards may be used for, but are not limited to, travel, tuition expenses, museum admission, meals and general expenses.

Applications for the award are accepted in the spring and fall. A selection committee of representatives from qualified departments will select award recipients. Current committee members are: **Mary Carter**, chair, **Cathy Hellier**, **Susan Gilliam**, **Stewart Pittman**, **Karen Watson** and **Jason Whitehead**.

Want to know more? Employees from the education, research and historical interpretation division can review the Frequently Asked Questions and download an application on the Intranet at <http://intranet/historiccareer/RHI/index.htm>. Applications should be submitted to **Brenda Leek** through interoffice mail at BHS or bleek@cwcf.org.



Restoration complete on Peyton Randolph Coach, Wythe Chariot

Two of Colonial Williamsburg's carriages are fully restored and returned to the fleet. The Peyton Randolph Coach and the Wythe Chariot were sent to Glinkowski Carriages in Gostyń, Poland, for restoration. It took seven months for the carriages to be rebuilt.

According to **Paul Bennett**, Bill and Jean Lane Director of Coach and Livestock, the carriages will improve the guest experience. "Colonial Williamsburg is unique," he said. "You won't find a carriage ride that uses reproduction 17th- and 18th-century carriages anywhere. It gives guests the feel of traveling back in time."

Since the restoration, the Randolph Coach has a body that can be placed on it on cold, wet days and can serve as an open carriage on sunny days.

Colonial Williamsburg purchased its first carriage in 1929, the "Goode Coach" constructed circa 1850. In 1949 the vehicle was altered to more closely resemble a late 18th-century coach. Rechristened the Peyton Randolph Coach, it is adorned with the Randolph family coat-of-arms. Typical of lightweight coaches of the colonial era, the Randolph Coach exemplifies what the renowned 18th-century carriage maker William Felton described as "a four-wheeled,

closed vehicle with two seats facing each other inside, and a coachman's seat or box in front...for families [it is] the most convenient of any in use."

Purchased in 1940, the Wythe Chariot was originally known as the Lafayette Coach and was constructed sometime around 1825-50. In 1951 it was converted to the style of a late 18th-century chariot or "half-coach" – so named because it only had one seat behind the coachman's box. In 1768 George Wythe wrote from Williamsburg to London requesting "a well built handsome post-chariot" decorated with his family's coat-of-arms. The same family crest graces Colonial Williamsburg's Wythe Chariot in memory of one of the city's most prominent and influential patriots.

The Wythe Chariot features two seats and a 30-minute tour of the Revolutionary City.

These carriages will be featured at the National Sporting Library and Museum Carriage Showcase event in Middleton, Va. "We want to introduce our carriages to a wider equine audience," Paul said.

Ten drivers are available to drive 23 horses used in the carriage program. Each driver is paired with two horses and rotates the use of the carriages.



Photo by Darnell Vennie

Purchased in 1940, the Wythe Chariot was originally known as the Lafayette Coach and was constructed sometime around 1825-50.

Carriage drivers are **Adam Canaday, Bob Couperthwaite, Dan Hard, Eric Hunter, Emily Krogh, Ed Merkley, Lee Peters** and **Karen Watson**. Fill-in drivers are **Kris Goeckeritz** and **Rachel Under-**

down.

Want to know more? Visit the Making History blog at <http://makinghistorynow.com/2016/03/refurbished-carriages-back-on-duke-of-gloucester-street/>



The Peyton Randolph Coach is now a more versatile coach. (Photo left) **Paul Bennett**, Bill and Jean Lane Director of Coach and Livestock, **Nicholas Von Engel** and **Adam Canaday** worked to assemble the open carriage that can be used to carry passengers on sunny days. (Photo right) A body can be placed on the carriage to protect guests from inclement weather.



Photos by Darnell Vennie

CW coachmen recipients of driving proficiency certificates



Photo by Penna Rogers

Colonial Williamsburg's coachmen were recently awarded Driving Level Proficiency I and the Driving Proficiency Road Driving certificates from the Carriage Association of America. Employees who were at the ceremony included: **Paul Bennett**, Bill and Jean Lane Director of Coach and Livestock, **Bob Couperthwaite**, **Kris Goeckeritz**, **Adam Canaday**, **Karen Watson**, **Lee Peters**, **Ed Merkley**, **Eric Hunter** and **Dan Hard**. Not pictured is **Rachel Underdown**. For more than 50 years, Colonial Williamsburg's guests have enjoyed touring Duke of Gloucester Street in the manner and fashion of the 18th century as passengers on one of the Foundation's horse-drawn coaches. The coach and livestock program has been operating these unique tours continuously since 1947, when daily carriage rides through the Historic Area were offered for 50 cents per person. Today, more than 35,000 guests embark on the 15- or 30-minute journey through Colonial Williamsburg each year.

Colonial Williamsburg's coachmen were recently awarded driving certificates from the Carriage Association of America (CAA) on March 9 at the stables.

The Driving Level Proficiency I and the Driving Proficiency Road Driving certificates were awarded to carriage drivers **Adam Canaday**, **Bob Couperthwaite**, **Dan Hard**, **Eric Hunter**, **Kris Goeckeritz**, **Emily Krogh**, **Ed Merkley**, **Lee Peters**, **Rachel Underdown** and **Karen Watson**.

Coachmen underwent training from November 2015 to January 2016.

Driving Level Proficiency I covers har-

ness knowledge, harnessing and putting to, practical driving, horse care and general knowledge. Driving Proficiency Road Driving is recommended for coachmen who are driving horses on public roads and in traffic.

Paul Bennett, Bill and Jean Lane Director of Coach and Livestock, said he wants his coachmen to study for the proficiency level 2. "That means the coachmen will be more qualified to drive a team of two horses."

The CAA Driver Proficiency Program increases awareness and knowledge of safety and correctly driving horse-drawn vehicles.

Employee Referral and Recognition program

Employees who bring new talent to Colonial Williamsburg by referring applicants who are hired and successfully employed for 30 days will be recognized through the Employee Referral and Recognition program.

Monetary awards of \$75 for hourly employees and \$150 for salaried employees will be given to employees with successful referrals. Referring employees will receive the bonus in their normal paycheck on the pay date immediately following their referral's first 30 days of employment.

In addition to the monetary reward, employees will be publicly recognized and thanked for their referrals.

Employees from across the Foundation can participate in the program with the exception of human resources professionals directly involved in hiring and hiring managers for referrals of positions within their own departments. Former employees who return to the Foundation after a five-year absence are considered new hires.

To nominate someone for the award employees can find cards at work units throughout the Foundation, on bulletin boards and on the Intranet.



Coach and livestock introduces guests to Rare Breed animals

EMPLOYEE NAME:

Layne Anderson

POSITION: Livestock husband/interpreter, Coach and Livestock

YEARS OF SERVICE: "I began my employment with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in August 2014 in my current position."

WHAT I DO: "My primary responsibilities include the care and feeding of many of the animals in Colonial Williamsburg's Rare Breeds program. This includes the Leicester Longwool sheep, Milking Red Devon cattle, and Dominique and Nankin Bantam chickens. We presently have about 50 Leicester Longwool sheep in our animal population, along with 20 Milking Red Devon cattle and countless Dominique and Nankin Bantam chickens, all animals that likely would have been in 18th-century Williamsburg."

"My day begins at 6:30 each morning, four days a week, where I provide feed for the animals I am responsible for, make sure they have a sufficient water supply and do an overall assessment of their physical condition. We want to make sure that all of our animals in the Rare Breeds program are properly cared for, are well fed and have an adequate water supply each day. Colonial Williamsburg has many pasture lands and stables where our animals are housed, some in the Historic Area and other local pasture lands owned by the Foundation."

"We make a second round of visits to each of these sites at approximately 3:30 in the afternoon where we make certain they are all accounted for, and provide feed and water as necessary. In the warmer months, our cattle and many of our sheep are able to graze entirely on grass. During cooler months, sheep and cattle are supplemented with hay and grain and chickens are provided with a mixed diet of granular food that we prepare for them year-round."

"Between feeding times, we must provide proper pasture maintenance at each of our sites, mend any fences that might require attention and talk to our visitors about the animals that we care for in the Rare Breeds program. "Some of my work is performed in costume, and at other times I wear regular work clothes, especially when I am making my early morning rounds. While in costume, we conduct a Rare Breeds program for our visitors twice a week in various pastures and five days each week we plan to bring some of our Leicester Longwool sheep to the new Marker House where visitors can observe these rare animals up close and personal. I am now 'rehearsing' with these animals to make sure they are well behaved when they meet the public."

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT MY JOB: "I love working outside and with the animals in the Rare Breeds program, a special program in Colonial Williamsburg and one in which has gained national and international notoriety since its inception. Being involved in the breeding of these animals to ensure their continued preservation is also a special part of my job. All of our coach and livestock staff know that our animals must be fed and cared for daily, so we must brave all sorts of inclement weather to ensure this happens. We all work together to provide for the safety and care of all of our animals in the Rare Breeds program."

WHAT I DO TO IMPROVE THE GUEST EXPERIENCE: "This year we will begin a program that will give our guests a first-hand experience in learning more about the animals in the Rare Breeds program. This program will be-



Photo by Penna Rogers

Layne Anderson took sheep from the pasture next to the St. George Tucker House to a pen adjacent to the Weavers for a sheep shearing demonstration.

gin at the end of March from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. five days a week and will feature four of our wethers and Leicester Longwool sheep as our 'Animal Ambassadors.' We believe that these animals will give our guests, especially the children, an excellent opportunity to learn about these animals as they see them up close and are even able to touch them. We may recruit more 'Animal Ambassadors' for our programs in the future, depending on the success of this initial endeavor. Hopefully, this will be a pleasant experience for both the animals and our guests."

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES: "Last year one of our sheep gave birth to two ewes and one ram, and I was involved in helping the mother in caring for her three offspring. I helped bottle feed the ewes four times each day during the first month at 6 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and midnight, and then three times daily for the following month. It was a lot of work throughout the entire day but was also rewarding for me personally."

"I also learned to shear many of our Leicester Longwools, which occurs each spring. Although it is painless to the sheep, they often have to be held in rather awkward positions, but we try to make them as comfortable as possible."

BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT: "Last October, I was fortunate enough to receive a Gonzales Field Experience Fund grant that allowed me to attend the national conference of the Livestock Conservancy in Santa Rosa, Calif. This was my first visit to California, and I was able to meet a lot of new people who were also interested in rare breeds and the breeding of historic animals. The Livestock Conservancy is focused on preserving and promoting rare and endangered breeds of livestock and poultry. I was able to attend many valuable sessions on the breeding of poultry, including an intensive workshop on selecting chickens for breeding, which will be useful to our breeding program at Colonial Williamsburg. This three-day conference was very beneficial to me both personally and professionally."

INTERESTS/HOBBIES: "I love being outdoors and have a strong interest in hiking and gardening. I also love to cook and spending time with my husband, Joel, who works in the Tin Shop at the Anderson Public Armoury and Blacksmith Shop. I also have two cats of my own and have a genuine interest in animals and the conservation of wildlife and rare livestock breeds."

News Briefs

Now employees can receive 40 percent off during spring sale

Colonial Williamsburg's products division has added spring dates for the Employee Sale. Employees will receive a 40 percent discount in all official Colonial Williamsburg stores from April 14 - 17.

All employees, dependents, volunteers and retirees are eligible to receive a 40 percent discount. Don't forget to bring your current ID card with the 2016 sticker to receive your discount.

The sale does *not* include furniture (including occasional pieces), gift cards, Historic Trades products, Hartley Greens creamware, and spa products or services. The sale also does not include www.williamsburgmarketplace.com and is not applicable to previous purchases and cannot be combined with any other offers. Shipping will not be available during the sale. No holds, rain checks or gift wrap requests.

April is National Volunteer Month

Thank volunteers for the work they do throughout The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation during National Volunteer Week, April 10 - 16.

Colonial Williamsburg has approximately 1,000 volunteers who give of their time, skills and knowledge throughout the Foundation, and it takes very little to let them know how much they are appreciated.

Maybe this year you could show your appreciation for your volunteers in a fun, practical way:

- Have a small ice cream social for your department and the volunteers
- A handwritten "Thank You" always goes a long way, especially if everyone signs it

- A Starbucks gift card for a cup of coffee is always appreciated
- Bake a cake and have a volunteer appreciation party in the office
- Have a "chat and chew" with bagels and coffee in the morning
- Give them a potted thyme plant with a note: "Thank you for your *thyme*"
- A little candle with a tag: "No one holds a candle to you"
- A bag with a chocolate bar, marshmallow and graham cracker labeled: "We need *more* volunteers like you!"

Volunteers contribute to every division in the Foundation. In 2013, volunteers contributed approximately 100,000 hours.

VITA volunteers offer free income tax assistance

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, sponsored by The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, will provide free tax assistance to employees, retirees and volunteers.

Through April 16, VITA volunteers, certified by the Internal Revenue Service, will complete "while-you-wait" Federal and Virginia income tax returns on a first-come, first-served basis at the following locations:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-5:30 p.m. at Bruton Heights School Education Center, Room 204;
- Wednesdays (all tax season) 2-5:30 p.m. at James City County Recreation Center, 5301 Longhill Road, Room C;
- Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Quarterpath Recreation Center, 202

Quarterpath Road.

Filers should bring:

- Year 2015 tax documents, including wage and earnings statements (W2s and 1099s), receipts for deductions;
- a copy of Federal and State tax returns for 2014;
- a driver's license or other government-issued picture ID;
- dependent Social Security card(s) if claiming dependents;
- health insurance information (e.g., Form 1095);
- bank account routing information, and any other relevant information about income, expenses and deductions.

For more information, contact **Jane Lloyd** at 220-7163 or jlloyd@cwcf.org.

Participate in the Wellness Revolution

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation kicked off 2016 with the launch of the Wellness Revolution – a wellness program that provides the tools and support our employees need to be healthy. We have partnered with Viverae™ to bring employees the best wellness program possible.

This venture is aimed at helping employees lead healthier lives, and the Wellness Revolution is offering some exciting activities. We will be hosting Foundation-wide challenges and also offering a premium reduction for 2017 healthcare premiums.

Posters around the Foundation describe the current challenge, Let's Get Moving! Employees can register through April 16. Employees compete against their colleagues for a chance to win a FitBit, and bragging rights, so be sure you sign up today.

Employees may have already heard about

the potential for a premium reduction in 2017, but how does it work? Any employee who completes a member health assessment, visits their doctor for a preventive care visit and gets their biometric screening done (on-site screening event details are coming soon!) by Dec. 1 will receive a \$25 reduction in health insurance contributions each pay period in 2017. This totals \$650 worth of savings in 2017.

Employees who haven't signed up to be part of the Wellness Revolution, visit www.myviverae.com to set up their account.

Employees are asked to post their progress or pictures to Foundation Nation #wellnessrevolution! Employees can access Foundation Nation by going to: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/496103930549190/>

Want to know more? Contact **Amy Goldschmidt** at 220-7026 with any questions.

Colonial Williamsburg News is published by the Office of Internal Communications for Colonial Williamsburg employees. Send correspondence to: Colonial Williamsburg News, GPO 132, fax to 220-7702 or e-mail to propag@cwcf.org.

Public Relations DirectorKevin Crossett, 7286

EditorPenna Rogers, 7121

Contributors: Dave Doady, Tom Green, Tracy Gadden, Jane Lloyd, Chuck Reising, Jessica Ross, Joe Straw, Darnell Vennie, Rachel West, Lad White, Sheri Wood

This publication is recyclable.

©2016 Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

View Colonial Williamsburg News online at www.cwcf.org/PubRelations/Public/CW_News_Online/venues/current.pdf