

Connecting People Who Care with Causes that Matter...Forever.

williamsburgcommunityfoundation.org | 757-259-1660

Fall 2017

The Community Connection

Volume 11, Issue 1

Jenny Wible Leaves Largest Gift in Foundation's History

A Colonial Williamsburg employee for over twenty years, Jenny Wible worked hard, cared deeply for her family, her pets, her flowers and her faith. She lived a fairly ordinary life; but upon her passing this year at age 94, Jenny did something extraordinary for her community. Her estate gift of \$3 million – the largest gift in the Foundation's history-created **The Jenny E. Wible Fund** to support three organizations that reflect her deeply held values: **Walsingham Academy, St. Bede Catholic Church, and the Salvation Army of Williamsburg.**

"Jenny was very faithful, a very proper lady, and very frugal. She never spent any money on herself," said her good friend Sherry Monk. "She was very giving. Whenever someone was in need, she would give what she had." Born in Germany in 1923, Jenny Erna Pfeutezenreuther Wible grew up in a furniture-making family that shared a strong Catholic faith. After the war, she married an American soldier named George Wible, and they moved to the U.S. where he worked at Fort Eustis, while she worked in the dining halls at CW. A private person, Jenny lived a quiet life in retirement, yet always helping those in need where she could — whether it was sick neighbor or a stray cat on Harrison Avenue.



The Jenny E. Wible Fund will continue her legacy of service for years to come with annual grants to benefit Williamsburg. At Salvation Army, this will mean more low-income families and individuals can get the help they need with rent, food, clothing, school supplies, utilities and paying for medication, as well as transitional housing. At St. Bede, funds will be used to support various ministries, including education for all ages. At Walsingham, funds will support financial aid.

"We are all blessed to be a part of this community" said President Sister Mary Jeanne Oesterle, "and Mrs. Wible wanted to ensure that the values of a Walsingham education will be instilled in generations of students yet to walk these hall-ways."



(Back,L-R) Devin Arnold, Dir. of Advancement for Walsingham Academy, Rev. Monsignor Timothy Keeney, Pastor of St. Bede, Paul Gerhardt, Chair of WCF Board of Trustees, Lt. Jeremy Lind of Salvation Army; (Front Row) Bea Sanford, St. Bede Development Dir., Sister Mary Jeanne Oesterle, Walsingham Academy President, Nancy Sullivan & Ginny Gasink, Williamsburg Community Foundation.

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Spring Community Endowment Grants



Williamsburg Community Foundation awarded \$31,464 in grants on April 19 at a luncheon sponsored by generous gifts from Oleta Coach Lines, Inc. and Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center. 2015 WJCC Scholarship recipient Jeremiah Antle (pictured left with his mom Cathy) spoke about

his experiences to WCF guests at the grant lunch. He has been very involved in the community, while also working and going to Thomas Nelson Community College, and planning to trans-

fer to Appalachian State University

this fall.

Colonial Heritage Community Foundation

Senior Services

Senior Champions provides adult day services for local seniors, and offers family caregiver much needed respite from their demanding responsibilities.

Early Childhood Music School

Children & Young Adults

Elliot's Song provides specialized music education to preschool children in our community who are at risk for

academic failure due to financial or developmental disadvantages.

Girl Scout Council of the Colonial Coast

Environment and Conservation

This grant supports renovation of Camp Skimino, which is located in Williamsburg and open to the public.

Literacy for Life

Health and Community Wellness

This grant will support a new curriculum, the Workplace Excellence Series, which will train adult learners in verbal and nonverbal communication, time management, corporate culture and writing for the workplace.

Olde Towne Medical and Dental Center

Health and Community Wellness

Olde Towne will use this grant to purchase medical equipment and bilingual educational materials for prenatal patients, 35% of whom are Spanish-speaking. The only prenatal clinic in the area for uninsured women, OTMC sees 1500 prenatal patient visits annually.

Virginia Peninsula Foodbank

Children and Young Adults

The BackPack Program provides 250 children in WJCC public elementary schools who are at risk of food insecurity portable bags of nutritious food over the weekends during the school year, to nourish them when school resources are not available to them.

Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra

Arts and Culture

This grant supported "Carnival of the Animals," an interactive, multi-sensory concert that will focus on music about animals, including a professional orchestra, Virginia Regional Ballet dancers, artist Bob Oller, narrator Elisabeth Reiss and two student piano soloists.



Williamsburg Landing Outstanding Service to Seniors Award

Greg Storer and Kathy Kammer presented the first annual Williamsburg Landing Outstanding Service to Seniors Award to Rita Smith (photo, top right) of Williamsburg Area Faith in Action and the Hospice House Guild Volunteers (bottom right). The Williamsburg Landing Fund was created at WCF to honor those who have exhibited distinguished service in the field of senior services within greater Williamsburg.





Save the date! Fall Grants Lunch—October 24 at Ford's Colony

WJCC Scholarship Fund Awards a Record \$61,600 in 2017

Dear Ms. Virnell Bruce,

Receiving this scholarship from you not only touched me with your selflessness, but inspired me to give this journey my all. Speaking with you at the ceremony showed me how much people appreciate my work and take into account my dreams and hopes. I feel so empowered to go out there and give it everything I have. You are such an incredible person who worked so hard throughout everything to get where they wanted to go and seeing this, you are quite the idol for me... I will try to follow in your example, to work hard, to live life, to do what interests me and makes me happy, and I will no doubt give back just as you have. You have touched my life and given me new perspective and I thank you a thousand times over... Not only am I thankful for the scholarship, but I am thankful that I had a chance to meet you and talk to you. You are an amazing woman and lady and I hope to do your gift justice.

Sincerely, Susan Foster



The Virnell Bruce Scholarship is awarded to a female student with high academic achievement. Ms. Bruce is pictured here with 2017 recipient Susan Foster of Warhill High School. This year, 51 students received scholarships thanks to local donors.



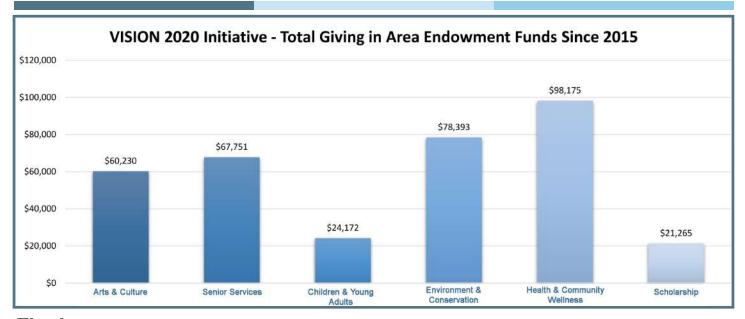
Peninsula law enforcement leaders with Harry and Judy Wason.

Wasons Invest in Public Safety

Local residents Harry and Judy Wason partnered with WCF this spring to make a \$75,000 grant for advanced crime-fighting, community communications, and student safety and information technologies to be utilized on the Peninsula.

"If you help one officer, one person, one student, it will one of the best investments we've ever made" said Mrs. Wason, speaking to law enforcement officials from across the peninsula.

To learn more, visit www.theappdownload.com.



Thanks to your support, \$349,986 has been raised so far in the six area endowment funds! The Health & Wellness Fund has already met its match challenge, and <u>matching dollars are still available</u> for gifts in any amount to the other five area funds.

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