



HOMESTEAD HIGHLIGHTS

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On Exhibit

The 3rd Annual Exhibition of the Patrick Henry Photography Club is on display in the Continuing Education Center until April 29.

The Homestead Postcard Club Exhibit: Easter Cards



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Dessert & Coffee with . . . Civil War Experts

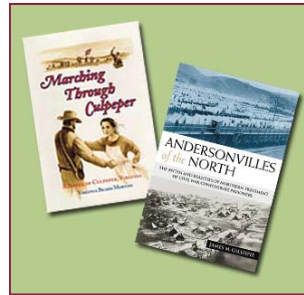
The Reynolds Homestead Virginia Tech Continuing Education Center is sponsoring a Civil War panel discussion on Sunday afternoon, April 19, from 3:00 until 4:30 pm in the main hall. Dessert and coffee will be provided. Three renowned Civil War historians will give a presentation on different topics and attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions. Topics and presenters include:

Dr. Bob Meadows, a civil war enthusiast who has collected over 500 Civil War books, will talk about the importance of southwest Virginia in the War. Bob has made over 100 presentations to organizations, school groups, and university classes, and has led 50 group tours of various Civil War battlefields. He has served as a re-enactor and written many articles based upon his extensive research. Dr. Meadows holds a doctorate degree from Virginia Tech and has been involved in state 4-H leadership and extension activities for over 30 years. Bob resides in Blacksburg.

Ms. Virginia Morton, a Richmond native, has lived in Culpeper for forty years. The Longwood University graduate became fascinated with Culpeper's vast Civil War history and decided to tell Culpeper's story to the world. Her historical novel, *Marching through Culpeper*, has sold over 10,000 copies. In addition, she conducts Civil War tours of historic downtown Culpeper, as well battlefield

available for purchase and Virginia's discussion will focus on the successful career of J.E.B. Stuart.

Dr. Jay Gillispie, a faculty member at Sampson Community College in Clinton, NC, will talk about the treatment of Confederate prisoners in Northern prisons. Jay holds a doctorate in American History from the University of Mississippi and has published numerous Civil War articles in the *North and South* magazine. Recently, he authored the book *Andersonvilles of the North*, and copies will be available for purchase. Jay serves on the board at the Averasboro Battlefield Museum and has conducted numerous lectures for community groups and public schools. Having published many articles and reviews on Civil War prison scholarship, he was asked to speak at the Museum of the Confederacy to give his perspective on military prisons.



tours at Brandy Station, Cedar Mountain, and Kelly's Ford. Virginia was featured in a PBS travel show "Great Drives: The Journey through Hallowed Ground." Copies of *Marching Through Culpeper* will be

Confederate memorabilia will also be on display in the Continuing Education Center.

Don't Forget Hokie Day!

The Patrick Henry Chapter of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association and the staff of the Reynolds Homestead invite you to join us for a day of family fun on **April 4th from noon until 3:00 p.m.** Free food ... free photo opportunities with the HokieBird and Easter bunny... free raffle tickets to win gift baskets and other give-a-ways... and a silent auction for an

autographed basketball and football! Tours of the historic home will be conducted and students interested in attending VT will have a chance to talk to university representatives. Children will hunt eggs and enjoy the play "The New Adventures of Spring Rabbit." Come and show your Hokie pride!



 **VirginiaTech**
Invent the Future

LEARNING-DISCOVERY-ENGAGEMENT

Honoring Administrative Professionals

The Reynolds Homestead Virginia Tech Continuing Education Center is sponsoring a seminar and luncheon on **Thursday, April 22 from noon until 2:00 p.m.** to pay tribute to administrative assistants and office managers.

This is a way for supervisors and managers to say thank you to staff members for their contributions. Participants will enjoy a buffet lunch and receive important information about "Business Etiquette." The cost is \$25.00 per person which includes lunch and the professional development seminar. Door prizes will be given.



Susan Shively, featured speaker, will talk about the appropriate social skills that are needed in today's workplace, and will share tips and techniques about effective listening and communication. The seminar will also

A Message from Director Kay Dunkley

provide participants advice on responding properly in different situations. Ms. Shively has served as an administrative assistant for senior level management for over 31 years at Tultex, VDOT, and presently at Patrick Henry Community College. Susan is also a certified trainer for Achieve Global Customer Service Training. Participants will come away feeling empowered and confident about the important role they play.

To register, call Michele Faircloth at (276) 694-7181, extension 21. The deadline to reserve a seat is April 16.

Homestead Hosts Food Drive in April for "Day of Remembrance"

In observance of the Day of Remembrance at Virginia Tech (April 16), the Reynolds Homestead will be hosting a food drive for the month of April. Visitors to the Homestead are asked to bring a food or household item such as

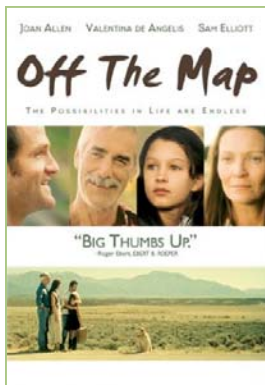
paper towels or dishwashing liquid to donate to the Patrick County Community Food Bank.

"We are a donation site throughout the year," says Lisa Martin, program coordinator, "but we're making a special push in April to

drive up donations. The economic situation has increased our need in the area."

Donations may be brought to the Continuing Education Center during business hours or to any event.

Dinner and a Movie Night



The monthly "Dinner and a Movie Night" at the Reynolds Homestead for April features the 2005 drama "Off the Map," starring Sam Elliott and Joan Allen. Movie night is Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 p.m. The movie is free, but attendees are asked to bring an item to donate to the PC Food Bank.

Across the ancient high desert landscape of northern New Mexico, an extraordinary family embarks on a lyrical journey of self-discovery that reveals unexpected moments of grace and the

unpredictable but enduring nature of love. In Campbell Scott's "Off the Map," the poetry of a time and a place marked by simplicity comes into full bloom.

For those who would like to make an evening of it, Eydie Clifton will be featuring Southwestern fare for dinner. The cost is \$10 per person and reservations are required by April 14. Dinner begins promptly at 6:15. Call the Homestead at 276-694-7181 to reserve a seat. Dinner & a Movie makes a great date night!

Looking Back . . . And Ahead

Volunteer Historic Interpreters at Smithfield: Front to back, left to right: Jane Hughes, Darnell Cockram, Glennwood Ginter, Janet Demiray, Beth Ford (staff), Shirley Keene, Linda Wilson, Mary Jo Leet, Lisa Martin (staff), Jeanne Stillman, and Renae Wagoner.

Center Photo: Lisa Martin and Kay Dunkley receive the new Artisan Trail signage from Charlotte Gardner of 'Round the Mountain

Tour Season Begins

The Rock Spring Plantation will be open for weekend tours beginning Saturday, April 4 through Sunday, November 1, 2009. Tour hours are 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students.

The Homestead Volunteer Interpreters visited Historic Smithfield Plantation on March 18, where they received a tour of the beautiful 1772 home and learned about the volunteer program there.



Homestead Joins RTM Artisan Trail

The Reynolds Homestead is pleased to now be a part of 'Round the Mountain's Artisan

Trail. RTM is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote sustainable economic development in the region by assisting local artisans with marketing, education, and entrepreneurial opportunities. As a trail site member, we will be highlighting the works of our local artisans and RTM will direct tourists and visitors our way.



Book Sale and Silent Art Auction Donations Sought

Support the Homestead's summer programming for children by making a generous donation of new or used books, CDs, DVDs, games, and art. Last year your generosity brought in

over \$700 in funds for youth programs, and we hope to double that amount in 2009.

If you have items you would like to donate, please bring them to the Homestead between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday between now and May 15. If you need someone to pick up your items, please contact Beth Ford at elford2@vt.edu.

The book sale will kick off on Sunday, June 7 with an appearance by Libby Bondurant discussing her book "Grazing Along the Crooked Road" at 2:00 p.m. The sale will run through Thursday, June 11.

Spring Frolic on May 2

Mark your calendars now for the annual Spring Frolic at the Homestead. Enjoy performances by the PC Dancing Arts Center and the PC elementary student choir. The annual "Quilts of the Blue Ridge and Piedmont" and student art exhibitions will be open. The Zephyr Lightning Bolts and young bluesman T.C. Carter will rock the lawn in the afternoon. Games and activities for children, crafts and vendors for adults, and, of course, food will be available as well. 10:00

Teen Night featuring "Poverty Level"



The Homestead is excited to host its first **"Teen Night"** on **Friday, April 10** from 7:00 until 10:00 p.m. Kicking off the inaugural event will be the band "Poverty

Level," giving students the opportunity to meet, mingle, dance, and enjoy a fun evening.

The event is open to all students in grades 8-12, and students should be prepared to show a valid school I.D. Admission is only \$5.00 which includes refreshments.

Attendees will also get a chance to fill out a survey

indicating what types of activities they would like to see the Reynolds Homestead feature for their age group.

All students in Patrick, Henry, and surrounding counties are invited to attend.

April 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 History Around Us Noon	2	3	4 Hokie Day Noon-3:00 Quilters 2:00
5	6 Sterling Edwards Workshop 9-4 Teen Board 4:00 Photo Club 6:30	7 Sterling Edwards Workshop 9-4	8 Sterling Edwards Workshop 9-4 Postcard Club 7:00	9 Sterling Edwards Workshop 9-4	10 Sterling Edwards Workshop 9-4 Teen Night 7:00	11
12 Easter 	13 Yoga 7:00	14 Great Books II 6:30	15	16 VT Day of Remembrance Dinner & Movie 6:15/7:00	17	18
19 Dessert & Coffee Civil War Panel 3:00	20 Decorative Painters 9:30 Yoga 7:00	21 AARP Safe Driver 9-1	22 AARP Safe Driver 9-1 Admin Prof Luncheon 12:00	23 David Oliver: Genghis Khan 7:00	24	25
26	27 Yoga 7:00	28	29	30		

What's Going On?

Clubs and Exchanges

The Homestead **Quilters Exchange** will continue its program "Crazy Quilts" with Christina Oosthoek on Saturday, April 4 at 2:00 p.m. The **Patrick Henry Photography Club** meets Monday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested in photography is welcome to attend. The **Homestead Postcard Club** meets on Wednesday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m., with a program by Bob Orren of Radford about the history of the Martinsville NASCAR race. The public is welcome to attend Postcard Club presentations. Meeting at 9:30 on Monday, April 20, the Homestead **Decorative Painters Exchange** continues its "Magnolia and Ivy" project.

Get Fit with Yoga

Fitness instructor Eydie Clifton leads "Yoga for Beginners" on three consecutive Mondays beginning April 13 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Yoga is an ancient exercise that increases circulation and flexibility and improves posture, and it is appropriate for students of any fitness level. \$30 and registration is required.

AARP Driver Safety Course

The Driver Safety Program is a recognized way to refresh your knowledge so you can drive more deftly on today's busy and sometimes challenging roads. The program helps drivers aged 50 and up become aware of and counteract changes that occur due to aging by adjusting driving habits. Upon completing the course,



students may qualify for an automobile insurance discount from their insurance company. Bill Boylan, instructor. Advance registration required. \$12 for AARP members; \$14 for non-members.

David Oliver: "Genghis Khan and Human Evolution"

Genghis Khan came to power by uniting many of the nomadic tribes of northeast

Asia. After founding the Mongol Empire and being proclaimed "Genghis Khan", he started the Mongol invasions and raids of the Kara-Khitan Khanate, Caucasus, Khwarezmid Empire, Western Xia and Jin dynasties. During his life, the Mongol Empire eventually occupied a substantial portion of Central Asia.

Researchers have discovered that 1 in 12 men across Europe, Asia, and China is a direct descendant of Genghis Khan. David's lecture will address how genetic evidence, combined with the written history of Genghis and his sons, offers a profound demonstration of natural selection in human beings. Refreshments served. 7:00 p.m.

Great Books/Great Conversations

The discussion group will be reading Fyodor Dostoevsky, "The Grand Inquisitor" this month. Tuesday, April 14, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

**Register for any class by calling
(276) 694-7181.**