The holiday season is upon us and, like it or not, it's time to start thinking about decorating and shopping for the perfect gifts. The Reynolds Homestead is happy to give you a head start on the season with its first annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair to be held in the Community Enrichment Center on Saturday, November 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Twenty-five artists, artisans and crafters from the Homestead's clubs, exchanges and art guilds will have an amazing selection of handmade items from which to choose. Select from fine framable art and photography; knitted hats, scarves and other clothing; quilted items, herbal teas, handmade ornaments, folk art Santas, handmade baskets, and much, much more!

Sarah Wray will have crafts and games to keep the children busy while you shop, and staff will be cooking up lunch as well. Shoppers can purchase a soup or chili lunch with cornbread, or a hotdog and chips lunch (drinks are included) for only $5.00.

We expect this event to be very popular, so come early and shop to your heart's content! Special thanks go out to Decorative Painters Exchange president and Homestead volunteer Becki Turner for organizing and planning this event.

Evening Workshop for Bed Bound Care

Thursday, November 12, 6:00 p.m.

When illness forces us to bed and limits our activities, even the fluffiest, most comfy mattress in the world becomes a most uncomfortable prison if you can never escape from it.

Caring for a bedbound patient can be a stressful experience, but there is information available to make the experience easier and more effective for both patient and caregiver.

Learn how to manage a bedridden patient and understand techniques for bedmaking, bathing, preventing and caring for wounds, feeding and physical exercise.

The program is being co-sponsored and presented by Legacy Hospice of the Piedmont, whose mission is to provide passionate care to patients, families, and caregivers facing life-limiting illnesses through services suited to their unique physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs. The program is offered free and is recommended for both family and professional caregivers. To register, please call the Reynolds Homestead.

On site registration will begin at 5:30 p.m. and there will be light refreshments, coffee and tea available for participants. The program will begin at 6:00 p.m. and last until 8:00 p.m.

JEB Stuart Art Pick Up

A reminder to all artists with work on exhibition at the 2015 JEB Stuart Art Show: Pick up for non-winning entries is Tuesday & Wednesday, November 3 & 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. Winning entries will be on display at the Patrick County Library in Stuart until November 30.
Massive stars die in collapse under the crush of gravity to form a black hole—a region of such intense gravitational pull that not even light can escape it. Our own Milky Way galaxy has a massive black hole near its center.

What’s inside a collapsed black hole? A new universe being born in a new big-bang! In other words, our universe might well be born from the dying star of a previous universe.

Our universe may be the inside of a black hole birthed by a parent universe. In this lecture David will describe remarkable work on the cosmic evolution of stars, galaxies, and planets that parallels biological evolution.

According to Oliver, as universes are born and die, they evolve by natural election. Some select few evolve life but most fizzle out quickly without ever creating stars. But over the long course of evolution, some will evolve stars with planets that support life. The world of life and the astrophysical world of stars and planets are a seamless unity of creative evolution and continual rounds of birth and death.

Volunteer Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Reynolds Homestead volunteers will be Wednesday, November 4 at 1:00 p.m.

If you are a regular attendee or thinking about attending for the first time, this is a great opportunity to learn more about how you can help the staff fulfill its mission of serving the community. All gifts and talents are welcome and we will serve you lunch!

This month Lisa is fixing quiche served with ham slices and a green salad on the side. Please RSVP to her at martinlm@vt.edu so she can prepare.

Dinner & A Movie: “Le Chef” Nov. 19

A veteran chef faces off against his restaurant group’s new CEO, who wants the establishment to lose a star from its rating in order to bring in a younger chef who specializes in molecular gastronomy.

Lisa will be preparing a French meal that starts with a wild greens salad with Dijon dressing, Coq a Vin, green beans, roasted potatoes, and assorted tarts (Chocolate Pecan, Lemon, and Fruit) for dessert - along with French roast coffee, of course! Dinner is $14 per person and reservations are required. The movie is FREE and you do not have to attend dinner to attend the movie. 6:00 p.m. Movie at 7:00 p.m.
Support Veterans and Families
The Landmark Center partners with Reynolds Homestead to raise money for the Virginia Veterans & Family Support Program.

Friday, November the 13th could be your lucky day at the Reynolds Homestead if you would like to try your hand at Las Vegas-style gambling, and it all benefits a great cause: Virginia veterans and their families.

The $35.00 ticket for the event gets your chips to gamble with for the evening, so you will not “lose” money - and you can purchase more chips if you like. Try your hand at roulette, blackjack, poker or craps - dress up and come get your Vegas on! Prizes will be awarded to winners and all profits benefit the veterans support program.

The evening will begin with cocktails (cash bar) at 6:00 p.m. and the games begin at 7:00. Tickets are available at The Landmark Center and at the Reynolds Homestead. Good luck!

UPCOMING IN DECEMBER

Make Plans Now for Victorian Christmas
Enjoy the holidays at the Reynolds Homestead with several family friendly events to attend. The authentically decorated Rock Spring Plantation house will be open during these events, and group tours can be arranged.

Victorian Christmas is a 40-year tradition here at the Reynolds Homestead, with events throughout the holiday season sure to delight you and your family.

Chamber of Commerce After Hours (December 3)
All members of the Chamber and their guests are invited to attend this networking event. Enjoy delicious refreshments, a tour of the decorated historic home, and holiday entertainment. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Polar Express Pajama Party (December 5)
Children of all ages enjoy this pajama party, dinner and movie experience. Get your ticket punched and climb aboard for an evening of holiday fun starting at 6:00 p.m. This event sells out quickly, so don’t miss getting a seat! $8.00 per person

Victorian Christmas Open House (December 6)
Join us from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. for the Victorian Christmas Open House at the Rock Spring Plantation. Costumed guides will lead you on a tour the plantation home decorated in Victorian Christmas splendor. This event is free to the public.

Fringe Band at 2:30 p.m. The Fringe Band is an acoustic variety band that will perform many of their favorites today along with a few Christmas songs. Also appearing will be Brandon Hooker, a very talented pianist from Lawsonville, NC. $12.00 adults/$6.00 students.

Holiday and Classical Pops with the Rainier Trio featuring Soprano Leslie Mabe (December 17)
This event is a mix of some classical and popular Christmas favorites, including “Lara’s Theme,” “Nutcracker Suite,” “Ave Maria” and many more familiar tunes to put everyone in the Christmas spirit. The performance begins at 7:00 p.m. Reservations are requested and the cost of admission is $10 for adults and $5 for students.
Sound of Fractions Helps Students with Math

Reynolds Homestead partners with Third Lab at Virginia Tech to establish two after school math programs in the local community.

Third Lab specializes in educational tools, curricula, and activities that promote learning grounded in research and educational goals. Chris Frisina, a computer science graduate student at VT, developed the curriculum for the program and worked with our staff to set up two six week programs at Woolwine Elementary School and Stuart United Methodist Church. Frisina is creating educational technology for students and has designed a program, Sound of Fractions, which uses percussion to teach the relationship between part and whole, the foundation of understanding fractions.

The program meets once a week at each location and helps students solidify their understandings of fractions with a new approach. The curriculum incorporates some artistic elements as well as time spent exploring fractions and sound on computers, which the students really enjoy!

The program continues through the beginning of December and includes a research element that will help further develop the Sound of Fractions technology.

Many thanks to Dee Owens, principal at Woolwine Elementary, and our wonderful RH volunteer, Becki Turner for helping to set up this program with her church’s after school program. Both Owens and Turner have been vital in developing this partnership and providing a new service to the wonderful students of Patrick County! Kudos also to Sarah Wray who has been instrumental in organizing and putting this program in place.

November 8: Hike to Lavendar Farm
Hike the 3 mile loop trail at High Country Lavender Farm, which is situated at 3,000 feet elevation in Meadows of Dan. Guest fee is $2.00 if not a member of the club. 2:00 p.m.

November 12: Senior Luncheon
We always look forward to our annual luncheon for the Patrick County Seniors at Rotary in Stuart. Come on out to see what we cook up! 11:00 a.m.

Thanksgiving Closing Schedule
The Reynolds Homestead will close at noon on Wednesday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving Holiday, reopening on Monday, November 30.