

# ADVOCATE

A PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2012

## IN THIS ISSUE

2012-2013 State Leadership	1
Tidewater Spring Conference	2
President's Column	3
District Election Results	4-9
35th Fall Institute Review	10
45th B-day "Cake Off"	11
Award & Scholarship Photos	18-21

## REGULAR FEATURES

Colleagues in the Spotlight	12-17
Calendar of Events	25
Resources / Publications	26-27

## **EDITOR**

Tina Casper

## **Contributors**

Beth Stinnett, Katherine Farmer, Katherine Grimm, Tammy Johnson

## **Layout/Design**

Tina Casper

**The Advocate** is a publication of the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association. Reproductions without permission are strictly prohibited. The statements and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members or the Board of Directors. Send contributions to: [advocateeditor@vjjja.net](mailto:advocateeditor@vjjja.net). Learn more at: [www.VJJA.net](http://www.VJJA.net)

## Election Year: New State Leadership

On January 1, 2012, a new slate of officers took office. With all candidates running unopposed, Susan Farmer was elected president; Toni Craig, vice president; Amanda Moseley, secretary; and Thomas Keating, treasurer. Beth Stinnett, immediate past president, completes the state leadership team. Officers will serve two-year terms that expire in December 2013.

**SUSAN FARMER** - From an early age, Susan knew that she wanted to work with children. She was employed at the Virginia Baptist Children's Home for 15 years as a houseparent and supervisor where she developed an independent living program and levels system. During that time, she also performed stand-up comedy and found that making people laugh would be an integral tool in working with the public. After leaving VBCH, Susan became the residence coordinator for the Roanoke Valley YWCA where she maintained a shelter that aided women and children; she eventually assumed the role of executive director. When a probation officer position became available, Susan viewed it as an opportunity to build on her experiences in working with children in need and women leaving prison. It was also an opportunity to bridge a gap and provide opportunities for court-involved youth to become responsible and productive. Susan, Dempsey, Zoe, and Callaway make their home in Salem.



**TONI CRAIG** is a probation supervisor with the Suffolk CSU where she has been employed for 20 years. Previously, Toni was employed by Jackson-Feild Home and the Department of Corrections. In her role at the CSU, she provides supervision, performs intake and probation duties, and is currently the vice chair of VJJA's Tidewater District. Toni is also the former chair of the Suffolk Family Assessment & Planning Team (FAPT). In her free time, Toni volunteers with the Boy Scouts of America. Born to a military family in Pennsylvania, Toni has lived both overseas and coast-to-coast in the United States. She, her husband Jay, and their three dogs live in Chesapeake and son Jace attends JMU. When the weather is nice, the family can be found at campgrounds throughout Virginia or on the water trying to catch that elusive 18-inch flounder.

**AMANDA MOSELEY** is employed by The Hughes Center in Danville where she is the director of business development. In that role, she promotes the program, acts as a liaison to referral sources, oversees admissions, and provides clinical pre-placement screenings. Previously, Mandy worked as a program manager for a boys' group home, an outpatient mental health counselor, a CSA coordinator, and a juvenile probation officer in the 24th District Court Service Unit. Mandy is passionate about her work and takes her role seriously in shaping a brighter future for young individuals. She is an avid reader and especially enjoys mysteries and thrillers. Born in Lynchburg, raised in Campbell County, and after living in several other states, Mandy returned to Virginia and currently makes her home in Altavista. Mandy earned a bachelor's degree in psycholo-



## New State Leadership - Continued

gy from Radford University and a master's degree in counseling from Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, North Carolina.

**TOM KEATING** has been employed in juvenile justice for 17 years. He began as a probation officer in Caroline County and later transferred to the Fredericksburg office. He was subsequently promoted to senior probation officer and assisted with implementing Virginia's first Regional Juvenile Drug Court. Tom is currently a probation supervisor; and he oversees intensive supervision, the school-based probation programs, and the day-to-day operations in the Spotylvania office. In 2001, Tom was awarded VJJA's Meritorious Service Award in the area of Court Services. A



### STATE ELECTION RESULTS

*Chair:*

Susan Farmer - 96  
Write-ins: Beth Stinnett - 1

*Vice Chair:*

Toni Craig - 95  
Write-ins: Charles Dockery - 1

*Secretary:*

Mandy Moseley - 95  
Write-ins: Rodney Hubbard - 1

*Treasurer:*

Tom Keating - 96  
Write-ins: Mike Sawyer - 1

# of Ballots Mailed: 443

# Ballots Cast: 97

*Election Official:*

Lewis Wright, 14th CSU-Henrico

native of Louisa County, Tom received a bachelor's degree from James Madison University. He has been a longstanding member of VJJA and regularly attends conferences. Tom enjoys fishing, golf, and visiting OBX. His true passion, however, is his beloved Boston Red Sox.

**BETH MOHLET STINNETT** is employed as the statewide program manager for the Department of Juvenile Justice. She served three terms as president of VJJA and two terms as secretary of VJJA. Prior to that, Beth served as web liaison and secretary of the Valley District. Beth and her husband Dave and their chocolate lab ZEB reside in Glen Allen.



## Tidewater District Chapter Hosts their 20th Spring Conference

### *Sea of Possibilities*

The 20th Annual Tidewater District Spring Institute's "Sea of Possibilities" was held on March 22 and 23, 2012, at the Quality Inn in Virginia Beach. One hundred thirty-one VJJA members from the entire state registered and attended the two days of training. The keynote speaker, Patrick Slifka of the National Counseling Group spoke on "Drive—What Motivates Us." The afternoon workshops included the "Fatherhood Initiative" presented by Antonio Sutton, Gregg Smith, and Mark Wood of the Norfolk Court Service Unit; "Understanding the Impact of Trauma on Children and Families" presented by Ellen Williams, director of Behavioral Health Service, Center for Child and Family Services; and "Seeing Green Makes People Less

Mean" by Mary Kay Scott, Ed Bradley, and Jack Elder through the Norfolk Botanical Gardens.

The reception was well-attended with DJ Lewis Wright spinning the hits. The Chesterfield Court Service Unit can be proud of Kristen Eichert, who danced her way to victory during the second annual limbo contest! She was awarded a tub of beach supplies for her efforts.

Training on March 23 was presented by Shared Hope International on the topic of "Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking." The speaker was Elizabeth Scaife, program associate with Shared Hope. Following a taco lunch, the FBI presented information on cybercrimes and public corruption.

Twenty-four vendors were represented with vendor Wendi True of Newport News's Behavioral and Mountain Youth Academy squeaking by with a Best in Show win for spring 2012. Harbor Point was a close second by providing a challenge to undefeated Wendi's winning streak. Thomas Gery of the Accomack CSU won the vendor bingo game and took home the grand prize, a Kindle Fire!

A meeting of the VJJA Board of Directors was held on March 21 prior to the Spring Institute. Many members were in attendance and new goals were discussed. Election results were certified during the meeting, so look for the faces of your new district leaders later in this issue.

Through the Eyes of a Child who still has HOPE ...

Glorious Spring has arrived along with the return of the chirping birds, sunshine, and blooms; and for VJJA there are the newly elected/re-elected officers whom I am very excited about as they take their places, standing poised and prepared to serve in all your districts. We are certainly looking to the future with great anticipation and have already begun to move forward in our planning. I am thrilled to announce the appointment of Tina Casper, Northern District member, to be the editor of the ADVOCATE; in addition, she will also serve as Webmaster. Tina has tremendous skills and abilities along with great ideas for a facelift of both in the upcoming months.



young people. They need to be skilled communicators who are consistent, predictable, and able to provide feedback or handle confrontation in a manner that promotes trust and concern. Young people need to believe that the adults are in it for the long haul, and that these adults listen to them, care about them, and are not just seeking conformity and compliance...”

**ALLEN MENDLER and MOE BICKWEAT** Mendler, A.N. and Bickweat, M. (1998) Keeping at-risk youth from becoming delinquent. *Reclaiming Children and Youth*, Vol.7 No.2, pp.91-94

For those that know me and those who will get to know me in the coming months, besides having a sometimes crazy sense of humor, the one BIG thing I want you to know is that I have a passion for working with our youth and families. The Virginia Juvenile Justice Association has provided me not only with wonderful professional development, resources, and advocacy but also with a great network of “like-minded” professionals who have become not only resources but friends and some like family. I want to encourage all of you to pitch in and help continue “building” this organization and participate/contribute in any way possible. You will absolutely get out of VJJA, what you are willing to put into it.

“Youth don’t usually change because of programs—they change because of people. Adult leaders who provide direct service need to be people who are concerned with and care about those with whom they engage. They need to be able to provide and promote new opportunities for

I do want to take a minute to say thank you for trusting me to serve you as your president and please know that I am always available and welcome any questions, comments, or concerns. I can be reached at: [susan.farmer@djj.virginia.gov](mailto:susan.farmer@djj.virginia.gov) and/or (540) 387-6123 ext. 231.

Remember to mark your calendars for November 7 and 8, 2012 for the Fall Institute which will be held in Blacksburg, Virginia at The INN at Virginia Tech.

Keep this in mind: “The more we increase the active participation and partnership with young people, the better we serve them. And the more comprehensively we work with them as service partners, the more we increase our public value to the entire community.” - Carmen Martinez.

~ Susan L. Farmer, President



Tidewater Spring Conference participants enjoying the reception.

## New District Leadership: Capital Chapter

### CHAIR: STEPHANIE GARRISON

of the Richmond CSU is currently the director of that court service unit and began her career more than 20 years ago at Bon Air JCC. Under her leadership, the CSU has participated in a number of initiatives designed to improve practice and reduce recidivism. In 2003, Stephanie led the development of the CSU's Graduated Interventions Level System. The CSU successfully implemented JDAI (detention reform), transitional parole, and YASI (risk assessment) and is currently strategically shifting from traditional probation monitoring to behavior-change focused supervision based on the Principles of Effective Supervision or "What Works". During her tenure, the Capital District has encouraged professional networking by holding socials in conjunction with a local winery's "Wine on the Patio" event and has held two crab feasts that were attended by more than 150 individuals. Stephanie is the interim president of the CSU Director Association. She received a BSW from Virginia Commonwealth University. Stephanie enjoys singing, concerts, dancing, and traveling. A native of Lynchburg, she and her family reside in Chesterfield.



### VICE CHAIR: CHARLES "DOC" DOCKERY

(Beaumont JCC) is a regular at both state and local events. He has been a member of VJJA for many years and just completed his first term as treasurer of the Capital District. He recently assisted in planning and executing the district's annual Crab Feast



and Resource Showcase. A career public servant for more than three decades, Doc began his career as a correctional officer in 1981 and has since held positions that include cottage manager, counselor, counselor supervisor, and assistant superintendent. He was recently promoted to superintendent at Beaumont JCC. Doc previously worked at Barrett and Hanover Juvenile Correctional Centers. He obtained a bachelor of arts degree in rehabilitative counseling from Virginia Commonwealth University and also has a post-graduate certificate in public administration. Doc is a certified substance abuse counselor (CSAC). In 2000, he was awarded VJJA's Meritorious Service Award in the Area of Residential Services. Doc enjoys spending time with his family and hiking. He once went on a 100-mile backpacking trip with a resident on the Appalachian Trail.

### SECRETARY: ASHAKI MCNEIL

(DJJ Central) was recently selected as manager of the Department of Juvenile Justice's Re-entry Program. She was previously a coordinator with the Juvenile Justice Program, Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and also served as the disproportionate minority contact coordinator responsible for implementing awareness and initiatives to address the disproportional number of minorities who come in contact with the system. Prior to her work with DCJS, Ashaki spent more than 10 years working with the Department of Juvenile Justice, Correctional Education and the Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention. She continuously seeks ways to improve the overall juvenile justice system and is an



advocate of ensuring that those youth who come in contact with the system are treated fairly. Some of her contributions to the Capital District VJJA have been assisting with the planning and coordination of the annual Crab Feast and an upcoming Parent Resource Fair. Ashaki has a bachelor of science degree in CRJU and is currently completing a master of science degree.

### TREASURER: DEMIAN FUTTERMAN

(DCJS) is currently a program administration specialist II at the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. He manages the grant process for approximately \$5 million across four federal funding streams. An advocate for systems change and continuous improvement, Demian provides technical assistance to more than 70 federally funded grant projects, while ensuring programmatic and fiscal compliance. Previously, Demian was a program director in the central office of the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Demian's prior employment included contributions toward the AECF's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative in Norfolk and working for the Tidewater Youth Services Commission and in the private sector. Demian's contributions toward VJJA's Capital District Chapter include assisting with planning and coordination of the annual Crab Feast and training events. Demian was recently appointed as VJJA's Chair of Scholarships. He earned a bachelor of science degree in human services from Old Dominion University and a master's degree in business management from Troy State University.



## New District Leadership: Blue Ridge Chapter

### CHAIR: AMANDA STANLEY

(TwoChair Solutions) is a private consultant to human services agencies through her company. As a consultant, she provides training, strategic planning, meeting facilitation, outcome studies, and conference planning services to a variety of public and private child and family service agencies, including local social services departments, non-profit mental health agencies, and multijurisdictional consortiums. Her most recent work is in family engagement and its application in child welfare practice. Before involvement with her own business, Amanda was Roanoke's CSA Coordinator and has many years of experience in CSA in utilization management, case management, and FAPT coordination in Roanoke and Bedford. Amanda founded Find-FamilyServices.com (a database of child and family services) to assist case managers and consumers in locating services that matched their needs. Amanda has served as secretary of VJJA's Blue Ridge District since 2010. She grew up in Bedford and continues to reside there with her husband Scott and two boys, Owen and Jeb.



### VICE CHAIR: ANTHONY DRAKE-

FORD (Roanoke CSU) is originally from New Jersey. He migrated south to Richmond and graduated from Ferrum College with a degree in psychology/criminal justice. Anthony played football for 4 years under the legendary Hank Norton and was a 2009 inductee into the Ferrum Sports Hall of



Fame. In 1994, he was the youngest Ferrum graduate to earn the Honor of Distinguished Alumni for his community service. Following participation in mini-camps and NFL tryouts, Anthony began his career as a counselor at a psychiatric hospital in Roanoke. He moved on to work for Planned Parenthood (11 years) as the community education coordinator and part-time for the Roanoke Health Department as coordinator of the Reaching Out to Adolescent Dads Program. During those 11 years, he served on many boards and became a national speaker. Anthony also developed a curriculum on Family Life and Sexuality Education that has been used to educate adolescents across the country. For the past two years, he has served as a coach at Lord Botetourt High School. Anthony has always had a passion for working with children. He has been a member of the VJJA family for eight and a half years and is a school liaison/probation officer in Roanoke.

### TREASURER: CAROLYN PADGETT

(Martinsville CSU). As early as high school and her first year of community college, Carolyn worked with children as a teacher's aide. After raising twin boys, she returned to working with children and has been doing so for five years as an administrative office specialist at the Martinsville Court Service Unit. Previously, Carolyn worked as an executive secretary for the manager of the Virginia Employment Commission in Martinsville and as an administrative secretary at Martinsville/Henry Social Services. Carolyn serves as secretary of the Royal Oaks Townhomes Board of Directors. She enjoys working with com-



puters, making spreadsheets, organizing events, and assisting the probation officers in her unit. She is an avid mystery reader and scrapbook club member. Carolyn enjoys golfing with her husband and spending time with her five grandchildren. She, her husband Paul, and their beautiful dog Bella make their home in Martinsville and wouldn't think of leaving the beautiful countryside.

### SECRETARY: VALERIE CHAMBERS

(City of Lynchburg) serves as the coordinator of the Family Assessment and Planning Team (FAPT) for the City of Lynchburg. In that role, she provides case management services for youth and their families who are in need of coordinated community services and resources. Prior to her current position, Valerie developed and supervised programming for Neighborhood Alternatives (a twelve-week, court-ordered/ community based program in partnership with the Jubilee Center). Valerie held dual positions from 2000 to 2003—one with the City of Lynchburg as youth counselor at Opportunity House and the other with Central Virginia Community Services as a prevention specialist with a focus on prevention services for all levels of the developmental continuum ranging from elementary school-aged children to adult clients. For the past seven years, Valerie has shared her knowledge and expertise part-time at Sweet Briar College as a resident coordinator. She graduated from James Madison University with a bachelor of science degree in health sciences and two minors in family issues and substance abuse and intervention.



## New District Leadership: Northern Chapter

### CHAIR: ELLEN ANASTASI PATTERSON



has been actively involved in VJJA for over twenty-five years. Ellen has been instrumental in planning local trainings and other events. She should be a familiar face to conference-goers as Ellen serves as a conference staff member for VJJA's Fall Institute by assisting with registration and other needed tasks. Ellen began her juvenile justice career in August of 1985 at the 31<sup>st</sup> Court Service Unit in Manassas where she continues to be employed as a probation supervisor. In addition to her active involvement in VJJA, Ellen is a member of Ducks Unlimited and Trinity Episcopal Church. Ellen enjoys spending time with her son, Andrew, and cheering for him at sporting events. They have a wonderful dog, Hannah, and a terrific cat, Triton.

### VICE CHAIR: TAMMY DEIHR

is a long-time member of VJJA.

She began her career as a probation officer in the 15<sup>th</sup> Court Service Unit, left briefly to pursue a position as a social worker, and quickly returned to manage a "one-woman office" in Caroline County. While in that position, Tammy worked with the Caroline School System to create a truancy program. After her position as a probation officer, Tammy transitioned to provide intake



services and was later promoted to supervisor. In that role, she supervised probation and VJCCA staff members and managed the VJCCA budget.

She has also been instrumental in developing a CHINS program that includes a locally-funded CHINS officer and an Electronic Incarceration Program that serves as an alternative to secure detention. She now supervises the Caroline and King George County branch offices. Tammy has been active with the Red Cross and was an organizer of the association's "Mash Bash" fundraiser. She is the proud mother of two adult children, Hilary and Justin, and has one grandson, Turner Chase Mason.

### SECRETARY: MEGAN HALL

has been a Northern District VJJA member for seven years. She entered the Human Services field more than fifteen years ago. A native of Mechanicsville, Megan was employed as a crisis counselor and a family life counselor for St. Joseph's Villa for Children in Richmond before joining the staff at Family Preservation Services (FPS)—the largest private provider of community-based services for



children and families in the commonwealth. Currently, Megan is serving as a clinical specialist at Family Preservation Services—Fredericksburg and Culpeper offices while pursuing her doctor of psychology degree full-time. She is a licensed professional counselor (LPC) and a certified sex offender treatment provider (CSOTP). Megan earned a bachelor of science degree from Bridgewater College and a master of education degree from Virginia Tech. She and husband Jason, children Skylar and Brayden, live in Orange with their two dachshunds—Frank-dog and Beans.

### TREASURER: CARLA WHITE

ran for district office for the first time. She has been a regular at VJJA-sponsored professional development events and represented the association at the 2009 National



Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference. For the past seven years, Carla has been employed as the deputy superintendent for programs at Rappahannock Juvenile Detention.

Previously, she worked for the Department of Juvenile Justice as superintendent of Culpeper Detention and assistant superintendent at Culpeper JCC and RDC. Carla has also been a probation officer, shelter care counselor, correctional/rehabilitation counselor, and correctional officer. In addition to her involvement in VJJA, Carla participates in clothing and food drives at her church. She earned a bachelor's degree at Virginia State University and is pursuing a master of business administration (MBA) degree at the University of Mary Washington. She and her daughter make their home in Fredericksburg.

Special Thanks to VJJA Fall Institute  
Sponsors and Supporters



## New District Leadership: Southwest Chapter

**CHAIR: JOE YOUNG**, a life-long resident of Christiansburg, is serving his second term as chair of VJJA's Southwest District. Joe has been employed by the New River Valley Juvenile Detention Home since 1998 and was recently appointed superintendent after previously holding the position as the facility's director of operations. Previously, Joe "ran" as an emergency medical technician with Christiansburg Rescue. He served as first lieutenant (the highest non-paid position on the crew) for four years and was recognized with Crew Member of the Year and Rookie of the Year awards. In his spare time, Joe enjoys hiking and geocaching with his dogs, Nicky and Campbell. He is also a foster parent for dogs through the Virginia Tech's Animal Welfare Foster Program. Joe graduated from Radford University with a bachelor of science degree in



criminal justice. In 2010 he completed a master of business administration degree through Averett University. Joe was the recipient of VJJA's Shepherd Professional Development Scholarship in 2009 and 2011.

**VICE CHAIR: JIM CORNETT**, a past member of the Board of Directors, has been an active member in VJJA since 1973. He served twice as Southwest District Chair. Employed in the juvenile justice field for thirty-six years, Jim received VJJA's Meritorious Award in the Area of Probation in 1985. He has also been recognized "on the job" as he received a commendation from Denton County, Texas, following his participation in an interstate cooperative that led to the apprehension of a juvenile in Virginia. Jim has been active in the community as he has worked with the youth football league for more than twelve years. He recently developed and assisted in implementing a procedure for district-wide intake, maximizing use of personnel for field office coverage. Jim is a veteran of the armed forces (U.S. Navy). He is also a graduate of ETSU where he earned a degree in social work. Passionate about VJJA, Jim plans to bring quality training to the Southwest area.



As a CSA Coordinator, Karen has assisted in organizing the Regional CSA Vendor Fair for the past five years and has facilitated multiple professional development opportunities for human service professionals in the New River Valley. Recently, she began a grass roots mentoring program, a fundraising effort for summer camp scholarships, coordination of holiday time giving, and became involved in environmental awareness for the city. Karen is a lifetime resident of the New River Valley and graduated from Radford University with a degree in social work. She enjoys riding horses and reading. Karen is married and has one daughter.

**TREASURER: RON BELAY** first joined VJJA forty-three years ago and has been an active member during that time. A past member of VJJA's State Board of Directors, Ron served as the association's president for eight years, immediate past president for ten years, and two years each as treasurer and district chair. In addition to serving on the Board, Ron has been active at the local level as he served as treasurer of the Southwest District for the past twelve years. He has also completed a term as president of the Virginia Court Service Unit Director's Association (CSUDA). Professionally, Ron has been employed in juvenile justice for thirty-nine years. He has served as a probation officer, probation supervisor, chief probation officer, and director over the past thirty-two years. Ron is a graduate of Virginia Tech; and he is married with two sons, three step-sons, and one grandson.



**SECRETARY: KAREN LAPLANTE** has been involved in the court system for twenty years. She currently has the position of Juvenile Crime Control/ Comprehensive Services Act Coordinator for the City of Radford.



Special Thanks to VJJA Fall Institute  
Sponsors and Supporters



## New District Leadership: Tidewater Chapter

### CHAIR: KATHERINE GRIMM

(Portsmouth CSU) is serving her second term as the Tidewater District Chair after serving two terms as Vice Chair. She is employed by the Portsmouth Court Service Unit as a probation supervisor. Prior to working in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District CSU, she was employed by the 15<sup>th</sup> District in Spotsylvania. Active in the community, she serves as her agency's representative to the FRIENDS of the Portsmouth Juvenile Court volunteer organization. Nominated by a colleague, Katherine is said to be a strong and capable leader who is admired by her staff. Since joining the 3<sup>rd</sup> District CSU team in 2002, Katherine has had a significant impact on juvenile services in the Portsmouth area and wants to bring that same energy level to VJJA. Katherine is an animal lover who is originally from Lockport, New York. She and her dog and cat family now make their home in Chesapeake.



has been primarily in the areas of experiential education, emergency shelter-care, post-dispositional group homes, reentry services, and community-based services. Ginger is also active in VGIA and serves on the Virginia Beach Community Criminal Justice Board and CPMT. Ginger is an alumna of Virginia Tech and resides in Virginia Beach with her husband Robert and their two children (Sydney and Jackson) and their black lab, Brooks.

### VICE CHAIR: ROBIN BAILEY

(Chesapeake CSU) has been an active member of VJJA for approximately seventeen years. She has served as the secretary of VJJA's Tidewater District for the past ten years. Robin began working at the Norfolk Court Service Unit in 1985, first in intake and then in probation. In 1995 she transferred to the Chesapeake Court Service Unit where she is currently employed. Robin is actively involved as a member of VJJA's Tidewater Local Advisory Board (LAB), serves as the planning chairperson for the Tidewater District's annual spring conference; and serves as conference staff at the Fall Institute. Robin is a member of the Chesapeake FAPT and serves on the training committee for the Chesapeake Court Service Unit. Robin is married with two daughters.



### VICE CHAIR: GINGER PLOEGER

(Tidewater Youth Services Commission). Ginger has been an active VJJA member for the past fourteen years. For the past four years, she has also participated on the Local Advisory Board for the Tidewater Chapter of VJJA. Ginger is the program director for Community-Based Clinical Services of the Tidewater Youth Services Commission. She has served in the capacities of assistant program director and director of both residential and non-residential services since 1998. Ginger's professional background



peake. In addition to working as a probation officer, Marc coordinates his court service unit's law related education courses. Marc is a member of MENSA and the American Society for Public Administration and has been a board member of the FRIENDS of the Portsmouth Juvenile Court for almost four years. He is the chair for the Program Audit Committee and has been the vice president of the board since February 2011. A Tidewater native, Marc, his wonderful wife of nine years, and two daughters make their home in Chesapeake. Marc has been a VJJA member for almost six years and looks forward to becoming more involved.



Special Thanks to VJJA Fall Institute  
Sponsors and Supporters



## New District Leadership: Valley Chapter

**CHAIR: SAMANTHA HIGGINS** (25th CSU—Lexington) is currently involved with the district leadership team and has served as district officer since 1999. In addition to her district post, Sam serves as VJJA's director of membership and is the conference registrar for the VJJA Fall Institute. Sam is employed as a probation supervisor with the 25<sup>th</sup> District Court Service Unit and supervises staff members in Lexington, Covington, and Botetourt. Prior to being promoted to supervisor, Sam was a probation/parole officer in that district. Sam was recently awarded VJJA's 2011 Meritorious Award in the Area of Community Service. On a personal note, she is a graduate of Southern Seminary Junior College, James Madison University, and Radford University and has earned an associate's degree in business administration, a bachelor's degree in public administration, and a master's degree in criminal justice. Sam has been a DJJ employee for fourteen years and a member of VJJA for fifteen. A native of Rockbridge County, she continues to live there with her husband and two children.



**VICE CHAIR: TIM SMITH** (Shenandoah Valley Detention) is a long-time VJJA member. Before becoming involved in the juvenile justice field, Tim was vice president of a department store chain for twenty-four years. That background was helpful when Tim was required to plan a



cost-effective facility that could provide high-quality programs for juveniles in the Shenandoah Valley. As superintendent of the Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Detention Home for more than a decade, Tim oversaw the construction of a \$9.5 million, 55-bed, state-of-the-art facility that opened its doors in 2004 and features air-compressed doors over electronic locks; 50-year linoleum floors over 25-year vinyl; white, heat-deflecting roofing; and sensor-activated, low-energy lighting. Shenandoah became one of the first detention centers in the nation to use a "green" approach to its operating systems. Tim and the SVJDH Commission also had reduced costs down by managing the project rather than hiring a general contractor. These are some of the many reasons that Tim was awarded VJJA's 2008 Meritorious Award in the Area of Residential Services.

**SECRETARY: TERESA KENNEDY** (Centra Health) has been a Valley District member for eight years. She is a graduate of Brookville High School in Lynchburg and earned a degree in psychology at James Madison University. Her work ex-

perience includes providing direct care to residents of the Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents; being a foster care social worker at Staunton, Augusta County DSS; an in-home worker; and the regional coordinator and director of FPS. Teresa is currently employed at Centra Health as the assistant coordinator for intensive in-home services in Lexington and Rockbridge County. Teresa is a resident of Staunton.



**TREASURER: SHEILA PARKER** (Rockbridge CSA) is a native of Rockbridge County. She graduated from Lexington High School and is currently employed as the coordinator of the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) for Rockbridge County and the cities of Lexington and Buena Vista. Earlier, Sheila was employed by the Rockbridge Area Community Services Board (RACSB) for eighteen years. Sheila has been described as dedicated to obtaining quality services for the youth and families residing in her localities. She also serves as a resource for other professionals in the Rockbridge area and across the commonwealth. She has been a VJJA member for seven years and has assisted in planning and presenting local professional developmental opportunities. Sheila is active in her community and invested in her family. She is the proud mother of two teenage sons; and she, her husband Tracy, and her sons (Jason and Nathan) reside in Rockbridge County.



Special Thanks to VJJA Fall Institute  
Sponsors and Supporters



### 35th Fall Juvenile Justice Institute

## *Under Construction: Building Our Skills to Impact Others*

The VJJA's 35th Fall Juvenile Justice Institute was held on November 2 and 3, 2011, at the Wyndham Virginia Crossings Resort in Glen Allen. More than 300 participants, exhibitors, and speakers participated in the two-day event. The assembled group represented court services, secure detention, detention alternatives, the judiciary, corrections, social services, mental health, education, and more.

The conference was opened by President Beth Stinnett. Plenary session speakers included Patti Wood, "Reading Body Language: Communication that Transforms"; Dr. Gary Sibcy, "Dealing with Explosive Behaviors"; and Dr. Miriam Halpern, "Out of Our Minds: Behavior and the Brain."

Workshop speakers included Patrick Slifka, "The Three Horseman"; Tonya



President Stinnett Providing Opening Remarks



Conference Staff Hard At Work  
Patterson, Bailey, Higgins, Maynard

Pulliam, "How Witnessing Domestic Violence Impacts Children"; and Beth Stinnett and Stephanie Garrison, "Leading Change Initiatives."

There were fifty exhibitors in attendance, including Bronze Level Sponsors, AMI Kids, Family Preservation Services, Harbor Point Behavioral Health, Brighton Behavioral Health, National Counseling Group, and Grafton Integrated Health. In addition, there were exhibits on formal learning opportunities and companion events designed to recognize excellence, foster networking, stimulate peer-to-peer learning, and celebration of the association's forty-fifth anniversary.

Special guests included three retired board members—David James, Diane Shelton, and Sheila Hightower.



## 45th VJJA Birthday Celebrated with "Cake Off"

For the Virginia Juvenile Justice's forty-fifth anniversary, a birthday celebration was held in conjunction with the thirty-fifth Fall Institute. A representative from each of VJJA's six district chapters baked a cake for a "Cake-Off."

The bakers included Katherine Farmer, Capital District Chapter; Wendi Blum True, Tidewater District Chapter; Amanda Stanley, Blue Ridge District Chapter; Sheila Parker, Valley District Chapter; Ellen Patterson, Northern District Chapter; and Karen LaPlante, Southwest District Chapter.

Celebrity judges were: Barry Green, retired director of the Department of Juvenile Justice; Stephan Stark, NCG (formerly with Intercept Youth Services); Bob Birmingham, immediate past president of VJJA; Diane Shelton, VJJA lifetime member; Leslie Kelley, Grafton; George Young, NCG; Dana White, Brighton Behavioral Health.



*Cake Off Judges  
Judging Cakes on Presentation*



*Judging Cakes on Originality are  
Young, Shelton, Stark, and Green*



*Cake Off Judges and Event Staff  
Getting a Closer Look*



*Baker Katherine Farmer Trying to  
Bribe Judge Barry Green*



*Entry From: Wendi True  
Tidewater District Chapter*



*Entry From: Katherine Farmer  
Capital District Chapter*



*Entry From: Amanda Stanley  
Blue Ridge District Chapter*



*Entry From: Karen LaPlante  
Southwest District Chapter*



*Winning Entry: Sheila Parker  
Valley District Chapter*



*Entry From: Ellen Patterson  
Northern District Chapter*

## Colleagues in the Spotlight

**LETTA PORTER JONES**, Capital District, celebrated a ten-year milestone of service with the Commonwealth of Virginia. A former probation officer and post-dispositional coordinator, Letta is employed as the Department of Juvenile Justices' Interstate Compact Specialist. (February 2012)



Capital District Chapter Member **STEPHAN STARK** has accepted the position of vice president of planning and development at the National Counseling Group. Stephan had been a senior director at Intercept Youth Services for fourteen years. He was a former district officer of the VJJA Capital District Chapter and an exhibitor and participant at the VJJA Fall Institute.



**COLLEEN FRENCH**, Southwest District, has joined the staff of DSS's Piedmont Region as a licensing administrator. She was previously superintendent of the New River Valley Juvenile Detention Home. Colleen is a former member of the VJJA Board of Directors and was the 2005 recipient of VJJA's Meritorious Award in the Area of Residential Services. She was also a former recipient of VJJA's Robert E. Shepherd Professional Development Scholarship.



**MATT BOND**, Capital District Member, has been promoted to senior probation officer with DJJ's 14th District Court Service Unit—Henrico. He will serve as court expeditor. Matt has been a probation officer since 2000. (November 2011)



**KRISTEN MARSHALL** has joined DJJ's Legislative and Research Unit as a research analyst. She previously worked with the Alliance for Excellent Education in the District of Columbia. Kristen earned her bachelor of arts degree in sociology at the College of William and Mary and a master of science degree in social policy at the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn). At UPenn, Kristen focused her research on the child welfare system, writing policy memoranda and analyses on current legislation relating to the issue and participating in in-depth examinations of the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoption Act of 2008.



**ANDREA MCMAHON** accepted the position of DJJ's detention specialist. She had been the agency's transition specialist for the past six years. Prior to that, Andrea had been a probation officer with the Roanoke Court Service Unit and also the Chesterfield Court Service Unit. Andrea is a former VJJA award winner,



having won the association's 1997 Professional Development Scholarship. She obtained a bachelor of science degree and a master of science degree in criminal justice from Radford University. Andrea, her husband Kyle, and their two sons (Ben and Ethan) make their home in Mechanicsville. (September 2011)

Congratulations to the Vice Chair of VJJA's Capital District Chapter, **CHARLES (DOC) DOCKERY**, on his recent promotion to superintendent of DJJ's Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center. Doc has been employed by the Department of Juvenile Justice (and its predecessor agencies) for three decades, beginning his career as cottage staff and advancing through the ranks to include housing unit manager, counselor, counselor supervisor, and assistant superintendent of programs. A longtime member, Doc was the recipient of VJJA's 2000 Meritorious Award in the Area of Residential Services. (December 2011)



Congratulations to **SEAN MILNER** on being selected as director of DJJ's 14th District Court Service Unit—Henrico. Sean had been the director of the 2A Court Service Unit on the Eastern Shore for the past five years and previously served as a probation officer for four years. Sean also has a background as a substance abuse counselor and is a veteran of the U.S. Navy. (October 2011)

## Colleagues in the Spotlight

Former VJJA President **BETH MOHLER STINNETT** was promoted to DJJ's statewide program manager. She had been a probation supervisor and the director of the Richmond CSU's Serious or Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP). Prior to that, Beth was a program development specialist, program and contract monitor, management analyst senior, senior probation officer, probation officer, volunteer coordinator and correctional counselor. (Nov. 2011)



After thirteen years, **VALERIE BOYKIN** has returned to the commonwealth's juvenile justice scene as director of the Norfolk CSU. She began her career as a probation officer in Franklin County and then transferred to the Norfolk CSU where she became a supervisor in 1992. In 1992, Valerie became the parole services manager for DJJ.



She left Virginia in 1998 to become the deputy administrator for the Youth Services Administration in the District of Columbia. Since 2003, Valerie has been a consultant to organizations including the University of Maryland, Boys and Girls Club of America, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In 1996, Valerie was presented VJJA's Meritorious Award in the Area of Administration. (January 2012)

Blue Ridge District Member **ROBERT FOSTER** was promoted to regional program manager with DJJ. Prior to this, he was the director of the 21st District CSU (Martinsville, Patrick County, and Henry County). Robert began working for DJJ in 1990. He manages the Western Region Court Service Units (21st, 22nd, 23rd, 23A, 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th) and Abraxas House Community Youth Home. Robert is a former member of the VJJA Board of Directors. (September 2011)



Tidewater District Chapter colleague **CLAUDETTE OVERTON** retired as director of DJJ's 4th District Court Service Unit-Norfolk after more than 36 years of service to the commonwealth. During that time, Claudette served as probation officer, mediator, probation supervisor, deputy director, and director. Over the years, she received many accolades, including VJJA's 2009 Meritorious Award in the Area of Administration. Under her leadership, the Norfolk CSU and community successfully participated in a number of practice improvement initiatives, most notably the AECF's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). In 2008, Claudette was selected for participation in the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Inaugural Applied Leadership Network. (January 2012)



Capital District Chapter colleague **REGINA HURT** was promoted to regional program manager. Regina began her career with DJJ as a juvenile correctional officer and then followed as a correctional counselor and assistant superintendent of programs at the Reception and Diagnostic Center. Most recently, she served as DJJ's re-entry program manager. Regina graduated from Longwood University with a degree in psychology. (August 2011)

**TYRONE JACKSON**, Tidewater District Chapter, was promoted to probation supervisor with DJJ's 9<sup>th</sup> District Court Service Unit - Williamsburg. In this role, Tyrone manages the commonwealth's Video Intake Unit. Prior to the promotion, Tyrone had been a senior probation officer in that unit since 2006 and a probation officer with the 9th CSU since 1998. Also, he was previously an intake officer in Rockville, Maryland. Tyrone attended Xavier University of Louisiana (New Orleans) where he obtained a bachelor's degree in accounting.



Capital District Chapter colleague **ASHAKI MCNEIL** has joined DJJ as the agency's re-entry program manager. Ashaki will manage the development and implementation of a statewide re-entry



## Colleagues in the Spotlight

service delivery system that supports the effective transition of juvenile offenders from commitment to parole. Ashaki was formerly with the Department of Criminal Justice Services where she served as a program analyst and disproportionate minority contact coordinator. Prior to this, she spent over ten years working with DJJ, Correctional Education, and the Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (GOSAP). Ashaki holds a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice and is currently pursuing a master of science degree. (November 2011)

Capital District's **SCOTT REINER** was promoted to DJJ's regional program manager. He began his



career with DJJ in 1987 as a psychologist at Beaumont JCC. Over the next twelve years, Scott worked to build and improve the agency's substance abuse programs in both the JCCs and CSUs, including the design and management of DJJ's SABRE program. For the past twelve years, Scott worked with the court service units to develop practice improvements. For the past six years he was also the manager for the VJCCA program. In his new role, Scott will manage the 14th, 16th, and 26th Court Service Units and Beaumont JCC. (August 2011)

VJJA Vice President **TONI CRAIG** celebrated the milestone of twenty years of service with the Commonwealth of Virginia. Toni is em-

ployed as a probation supervisor at Department of Juvenile Justice's 5th District Court Service Unit—Suffolk. In addition to serving as vice president, Toni has been appointed VJJA's director of institute planning. (February 2012)



VJJA President **SUSAN FARMER**



was presented the Roanoke Area Youth Substance Abuse Coalition's (RAYSAC's) 2011 Professional Service Award. Susan is a probation officer with the 23rd District Court Service Unit—Salem. (Sept. 2011)

VJJA Board Member **KATHERINE FARMER** has joined the Department of Juvenile Justice's Central Administration as the agency's community programs specialist (Transitional Services Funding—294 and VJCCA monitoring). Formerly a senior probation officer with the Department of Juvenile



Justice's 14th District CSU—Henrico, Katherine has been a state employee for more than two decades, working for both the Department of Correctional Education and the Department of Juvenile Justice. She is the proud mother of twins, Martin and Jonathan, both of whom are serving in the armed services. (January 2012)

Long time Tidewater District Chapter member **PAUL GREGGS** bid farewell to the Tidewater Youth Services Commission (TYSC) to accept a position with the Salvation Army directing a sixty-bed Veterans' Transitional Shelter. Paul had worked for the TYSC for twenty-two years. He last



served as director of Lynnhaven Boys Home. Paul will continue to work part-time for the TYSC facilitating Aggression Replacement Training (ART) groups. Paul is a former member of VJJA's Board of Directors and won the association's 2005 Meritorious Award in the Area of Community Service. (Feb 2012)

VJJA's Northern District Chapter welcomes **TERRI STOTT** and congratulates her on her selection as regional program manager for DJJ's Division of Operations. Ms. Stott had been the residential services director in Prince William County. (September 2011)



Capital District Chapter Member **ANGELA VALENTINE** reached the professional milestone of thirty-five years of service to the Commonwealth. Angela is DJJ's community programs manager. A long-time VJJA member, in 2006, Angela was presented the Meritorious Award in the Area of Administration. She and her husband Rick have two grown sons, Nicholas and Matthew.

## Colleagues in the Spotlight

Northern District's **STEVE SPERO** reached the professional milestone of twenty-five years of service with local government. Steve is a community service probation officer III with Fairfax County. (Feb. 2012)

Capital District Chapter member, **GINA RAPISARDA WINDSOR**, retired from the 14th District Court Service Unit- Henrico after thirty-three years as a probation officer. (December 2011)



**NATALIE DALTON** joined the staff of the DJJ's Central Office as a community programs specialist. She previously worked as a parole supervisor for DJJ's 13th District Court Service Unit—Richmond. Natalie has also worked for the Roanoke CSU, Roanoke County CSU, Intercept Youth Services and Psychiatric Solutions. (February 2012)



**MIKKI PLEASANTS** was promoted to senior probation officer at DJJ's 14th Court Service Unit in Henrico. She is a former VJJA Board Member having previously served as chair of the Capital District

**STEVE CHARLSON** joined the staff of DJJ's 13th District Court Service Unit—Richmond as a probation/parole supervisor. Steve had been a probation supervisor in the agency's 5th District Court Service Unit-Suffolk. (January 2012)

Congratulations to **KRIS ECKARD** who reached the professional milestone of twenty-five years of service with local government. Kris is a parole officer II with Fairfax County's Special Services Unit. (February 2012)



**SARAH WRAY** joined the staff of the Tidewater Youth Services Commission (TYSC) in Portsmouth as assistant director of the Challenge Outreach For Youth (COFY) Program. She had been a probation officer with DJJ's 3rd District CSU- Portsmouth since 2006. Prior to this, Sarah worked with at-risk and court-involved children in the state of New Jersey. Sarah, her husband, four-year-old daughter, and 2 dogs make their home in Portsmouth.

**GEORGINA THOMPSON**, probation officer for the Fairfax County CSU, was named one of the most Outstanding Women in the Washington Metropolitan Area by WABC TV and Toyota. She was honored at an elite luncheon and received a monetary award and multiple items in a "SWAG" bag. (October 2011)

**JARED MILLER**, senior research analyst for DJJ's Legislative and Research Unit, shaved his beard and grew a "cheesy" mustache for a good cause, participating in M4K Richmond's "Stache Bash 2011." M4K Richmond, Inc. is a volunteer-

run organization that was founded in 2003 with the goal of raising money for local children's charities while having fun growing mustaches. Jared said cutting his facial hair was a small price to pay to raise money for the ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation, Greater Richmond SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now), and the Children's Hospital Foundation. See pictures and learn more at: [www.m4krichmond.org](http://www.m4krichmond.org)

**GEORGE PEOPLES** joined the Department of Juvenile Justice as a transition specialist at J.T. Mastin Annex. George previously worked as a career pathways teacher. He began his career with DJJ in 1996 as recreation supervisor and joined the Department of Correctional Education (DCE) in 1997. George has a bachelor's degree in education and graduated from the University of Toledo in Ohio.

**GREGORY HARRISON**, probation officer with the 28<sup>th</sup> District Court Service Unit-Abingdon, was selected as one of thirty ambassadors to represent state employees at the Governor's Employee Town Hall at the Patrick Henry Building on Capital Square in Richmond. (December 2011)

**ELIZABETH JONES** has joined the DJJ staff. A transition specialist at Beaumont JCC, Elizabeth has been employed by the commonwealth for nearly twenty-five years. She was



Scan w/ your smart phone to read more about or submit news for "Colleagues in the Spotlight"

## Colleagues in the Spotlight

previously at Barrett and Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Centers. Active in the Virginia Association of Correctional Educators as a member and officer, Elizabeth is also a DCE master teacher.

The National Counseling Group (NCG) announced the opening of their New River/Christiansburg office under the leadership of site director **BRIAN HOFF**. Brian earned a master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. His areas of focus have included assisting families who have children on the autism spectrum, adolescent young men at high risk for removal from the home, couples in need of counseling, and parents seeking additional skills. With his managerial background, Brian was described as excited about his new role with NCG. He plans to continue NCG's legacy of excellent clinical work and professionalism in the New River Valley.



**CHRISTINA HALL** has joined DJJ's Legislative and Research Unit as a policy analyst. She began her career as a probation officer with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice where she was promoted within the department to quality assurance analyst. For the past three years, Christina worked as a project coordinator for Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) efforts with the North Caroli-



na Division of Juvenile Justice. She has a bachelor of science and master of science degree in criminology from Florida State University. She also has an associate of science degree in paralegal/legal studies from Tallahassee Community College. (February 2012)

**MELISSA SMITH** has joined the DJJ staff. As transition coordinator, Melissa will supervise the agency's transition specialists. She previously worked at the Hanover and Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Centers. Melissa earned a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**KATHERINE GRIMM** has reached the 25-year professional milestone with the Commonwealth of Virginia. She is a probation supervisor with DJJ's 3rd District Court Service Unit—Portsmouth. Katherine is also chair of VJJA's Tidewater District Chapter. She and her dog and cat family reside in Chesapeake.



**DR. RICHARD CLAYTOR** is engaged in a partnership with the National Counseling Group's Roanoke office. He has practiced in central and southwest Virginia for fifteen years. He was previously employed at Lewis-Gale Hospital, Central Virginia Community Services Board (CSB), and Family Preservation Services (FPS). Dr. Claytor is a graduate of Hampton University and the University of Virginia Medical School. He completed his residency in general psychiatry and

completed a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at the Georgetown University Medical Center's Department of Psychiatry. It was reported that Dr. Claytor is excited about beginning his partnering NCG's Roanoke Office and with vice President of Operations for the Southwest Region, Angela Porter. Dr. Claytor and his wife Sharon have two children—Ricky and Lyla.

The New River Valley Juvenile Detention Commission has announced the appointment of **JOE YOUNG** as acting superintendent at the New River Valley Juvenile Detention Home. Joe is the chairperson for VJJA's Southwest District Chapter. (February 2012)

**DONET (DEE) ROSE** has been selected as director of Tidewater Youth Services Commission's Lynnhaven Boys Home. Dee had been the assistant director of TYSC's Westhaven Boys Home where it was reported that she demonstrated a strong combination of administrative, leadership, and clinical skills. Prior to joining the TYSC full-time, Dee worked for the commission on a part-time basis while employed full-time as the program manager for the apartment-based independent living program at the Barry Robinson Center. She transitioned to the Commission on a full time basis in 2008. Dee holds a master of social work degree from Norfolk State University (NSU).



## Colleagues in the Spotlight

**HELIVI HOLLAND**, has stepped down as director of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice to return to her native Suffolk as that area's city attorney. She had served as director of the agency since her appointment by the Honorable Governor Bob McDonnell in May 2010.

Ms. Holland came to the Department of Juvenile Justice after having served in the appointed position of deputy city attorney for the City of Suffolk. In that capacity, she appeared weekly in Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court representing the Suffolk Department of Social Services in child welfare cases. Additionally, she supervised the assistant city attorneys and support staff of the Office of the City Attorney, wrote and managed the office's budget, represented the Department of Human Resources, served on the Management Advisory Team of the City and served as the liaison to the city courts.



*Opening Remarks, 2011  
Tidewater Spring Conference*

As a prosecutor for more than ten years, Ms. Holland served in the Portsmouth and Suffolk offices of the commonwealth's attorney. In addition to writing and managing grants, she prosecuted major juvenile crimes in Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. Her prosecutorial style and training skills on criminal prosecution earned her the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice's Circuit Victim Assistance Award, the NOBLE National Lloyd Sealy Award, and the Community Services Award for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

For more than 12 years, Ms. Holland served as an adjunct professor at Paul D. Camp Community College, teaching on two campuses and at a correctional facility of the Virginia Department of Corrections. Ms. Holland continues to be active in her community as she has served on numerous community boards and foundations.

## From the Editor

I'd like to introduce myself to you. I'm Tina Casper, the new editor of the *Advocate* and VJJA website. I first want to apologize for not having the website up-to-date. Beth Stinnett has done a great job of managing the site, and we hope to meet very soon to "hand over the reigns." On a personal note, I have been employed with the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for twenty-two years and currently work part-time as a management analyst with the Research and Development Unit. I am a mom to two active daughters. I first joined the Northern District Chapter of VJJA when it was known as VJOA. I have enjoyed being behind the scenes as I watched this amazing organization grow. I assisted with the very first VJJA website and with a few fall institutes—from publications, to go-fer, to technical assistance. The VJJA



members that I have met never cease to amaze me with their talent, skills, and passion for juvenile justice. They know how to get the job done and have a great time while doing it. I am honored to serve as your editor and hope to continue to make you proud of your *Advocate*. I am joined by Wendi True, who will provide information on residential matters. We are looking for contributors from each district, detention, and probation. In the future, look for "Where in the World?" where you will be able to guess the location of the *Advocate*, submit your guess, and possibly win a prize (or at least be mentioned in the *Advocate*). Also, back by popular demand, "Views from the Ledge." If you have information or ideas to share, please do not hesitate to contact me at 703-246-2016 or through e-mail at [Tina.Casper@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:Tina.Casper@FairfaxCounty.gov).

## 2011 VJJA Meritorious Award Winners & Shepherd Professional Development Scholarship Recipients



*Meritorious Award Winner in  
the Area of Court Services*

### **VANN DAVIS**

21st Court Service Unit - Martinsville

Excerpted from a letter received from an appreciative parent, "I just want you to know what effect you had on my son. You were kind, and fair, and tough – perfect! I'm not sure how many success stories you hear about, but my son is one, and you are a part of it."



*Meritorious Award Winner in  
the Area of Residential Services*

### **GREG HARPER**

Fairfax Boys Probation Home

Greg has also been honored as Jaycee of the Year and is part of the Call to Action Committee regarding the Plight of African Americans in the juvenile justice system.

In his free time, Greg has been preparing to become a personal trainer. He also enjoys spending time with his wife Evelyn and poodle Coco.



*Meritorious Award Winner in  
the Area of Administration*

### **TIM DOTSON**

Highlands Juvenile Detention Home

Tim began his career in the coal mines of Southwest Virginia. After one day of crawling around on his knees digging, he left the coal mine with two realizations—the first being that he would never do that again and the second being a deep abiding respect and admiration for the men and women who work in the mines each day to provide for their families. He joined the staff at the Appalachian Learning Center and has been employed in juvenile justice ever since.

## 2011 VJJA Meritorious Award Winners & Shepherd Professional Development Scholarship Recipients



*Meritorious Award Winner in  
the Area of Community Service*

### **SAMANTHA HIGGINS**

25th Court Service Unit - Lexington

President, Parent-Teacher Association  
Team Captain, Relay for Life  
Coach, Little League Softball  
Grower/Contributor, Beautiful Lengths & Locks of Love  
VJJA Valley District Chapter Chair  
VJJA Director of Membership & Conference Registrar  
Probation Supervisor - Mother - Wife - Sister- Friend



Robert E. Shepherd Jr. Professional  
Development Scholarship Recipient

### **JOE YOUNG**

New River Juvenile Detention

Superintendent,  
New River Valley Juvenile Detention Home



Robert E. Shepherd Jr. Professional  
Development Scholarship Recipient

### **TONI CRAIG**

5th Court Service Unit - Suffolk

Vice-President VJJA  
Vice-Chair, Tidewater District Chapter  
Probation Supervisor, Suffolk CSU  
Volunteer, Boy Scouts of America

## 2011 VJJA Meritorious Award Winners & Shepherd Professional Development Scholarship Recipients



*Lifetime  
Membership*

**SHEILA HIGHTOWER**  
retired from VA Beach CSU

Prior to her retirement, Sheila served for many years as a member of the VJJA Board of Directors and Fall Institute Planning Committee. She served as Director of Public Relations and Director of Exhibitors.



*Exhibitor "Best in Show" &  
Exhibitor "Best SWAG"*

**WENDI TRUE &  
AMANDA MOSELEY**

Wendi True was representing Newport News Behavioral Health and Mountain Youth Academy.

Amanda Moseley was representing The Hughes Center.



*45th VJJA Birthday  
"Cake Off" Champion Baker*

**SHEILA PARKER**  
Rockbridge CSA

In celebration of the 45th Anniversary of the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association, a birthday celebration was held in conjunction with the 35th Fall Institute. Sheila's cake representing the Valley District incorporated the conference's construction theme and won the "Cake-Off."

## 2011 VJJA Meritorious Award Winners & Shepherd Professional Development Scholarship Recipients



*Service to the Association  
President - Three Terms*

**BETH STINNETT**  
VADJJ - Community Programs

President  
January 2006—December 2011  
Secretary  
January 2000—December 2005  
also served as Webmaster & District Officer

---



*Service to the Association  
President - Two Terms*

**BOB BERMINGHAM**  
Fairfax County Court Service Unit

President  
January 2002—December 2005  
Immediate Past President  
January 2006—December 2011  
also served as Legislative Liaison & District Officer

---



*Service to the Association  
President - Three Terms*

**LEWIS WRIGHT**  
14th Court Service Unit - Henrico

President  
January 1996—December 2001  
Currently  
Director of Governance & Bylaws

## Capital District Holds Crab Feast & Resource Showcase

The Capital District Chapter of VJJA held its annual Crab Feast and Resource Showcase on September 16, 2011 at the Mechanicsville Showplace. More than a hundred participants and thirty exhibitors participated in the event featuring food, music, and prizes. The planners served three-hundred pieces of chicken and twelve bushels of crabs. Attendees included workers from a wide variety of juvenile justice agencies, schools, advocacy groups, and a special guest—the Honorable Congressman Bobby C. Scott.

Led by Event Chair Tammy Johnson and district officers Stephanie Garrison (Richmond CSU), Charles Dockery

(Beaumont JCC), Stephan Stark (NCG), the planning committee included Greg Hopkins (Richmond Juvenile Drug Court), Anita Wiles (Family Focus), Stephanie Green (Richmond CSU), Elsie Mangualt (Hanover JCC), and Theresa Watkins (Onward & Upward).

Tammy Johnson indicated that she was honored to serve as chair and was pleased with the turnout. “The event gets bigger and better every year and provides an excellent opportunity for networking and fellowship with professionals who have a shared passion for intervening with court-involved kids.”



Local leaders Charles Dockery, Stephanie Garrison, Tammy Johnson with Congressman Scott



Elsie Mangualt, Congressman Scott and Rudi Jackson, Manterfly Youth Development

## Tidewater Chapter Holds Annual “Winter Blues”

On February 3, 2012, VJJA’s Tidewater District held its annual “Winter Blues” training. This event was partnered with United Health Services facilities, the Kempsville Center for Behavioral Health, and the Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center. The topic of the training was suicide prevention with information presented on services available through the Jason Foundation. The featured speaker was Brooke Hemphill of the Virginia Beach Psychi-

atric Center. Rosanne Foggins of the Kempsville Center provided the venue and offered tours following the training. Thirty-five members attended the half-day event, including nine new/renewing members.

Following the training, participants judged original artwork submitted by members and voted on a logo/ mascot for the Tidewater District Chapter. The winning logo was submitted by

Anna Hall, 9th District CSU-Williamsburg; and it was featured on Spring Conference t-shirts.



## Santa Claus Shuffle 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Walk

For the second consecutive year, VJJA’s Tidewater District Chapter formed a team to participate in the Tidewater Youth Service Foundation’s *Santa Clause Shuffle* to raise money for at-risk youth. This year’s team included of twenty-six athletes, doubling the previous year’s participation. Team members sported VJJA logowear and antlers!



(Pictured L-R)

Robin Bailey, Teresa Johnson, and Beth St. John, Chesapeake CSU; and Katherine Grimm, Portsmouth CSU.

## Northern District Chapter News

By Chair Ellen Patterson, Northern District

In 2011, the Northern District offered two excellent trainings for VJJA members. The first training, "Mistletoe Madness," was held on December 1, 2011 and was presented by Director of Training J. Patrick Slifka and Clinical Supervisor Arezoo Khanzadeh of the National Counseling Group. The informative and lighthearted training focused on an amusing look into cultural diversity with the major em-

phasis on being culturally competent with diverse populations and how the holiday season affords opportunities to increase our sensitivity toward all. This training was presented at Bailey's Pub and Grill in Fredericksburg.

On April 15, 2011, we offered a two-part training in Woodbridge: "From Victim to Survivor: Embracing the Rainbow of Emotions Following Trauma" and "Self-Esteem, Social Acceptance and the Female Adolescent." This was presented by

Director of Training J. Patrick Slifka and Clinical Supervisor Natalie Salera of the National Counseling Group.

We are hoping to offer two trainings again this year. If anyone has suggestions or ideas for training or special activities, please contact any of the Northern District officers.

For more information on the Northern District, please contact Probation Supervisor Ellen Anastasi Patterson of the 31st District Court Service Unit, at 703-792-6205.

## VSIAS 10th Anniversary Conference Set

The 2012 Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction Studies has announced its tenth anniversary conference, "*Professional Treatment Saves Lives and Money.*" The event is scheduled for July 16 and 17, 2012, at the Williamsburg Hospitality House in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Topics will include: prescription-assisted recovery, accountability within traditional peer-supported

recovery, neurological aspects of addiction/recovery, and Screening and Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT).

Early bird registration will be available between March 31 and May 31, 2012. Regular registration will be available from June 1 to July 1, 2012. Special rates are available for students and active duty members of the military. A limited num-

ber of scholarships are available for individuals belonging to SACAVA, VAADAC, or VADAP with an April 1, 2012, deadline for application.

Participant and exhibit information is available at [www.vsiias.org](http://www.vsiias.org). Additional event information is available by calling 804-254-0110 or at [vasummerinstitute@verizon.net](mailto:vasummerinstitute@verizon.net).

## VADJJ Moves Into New Headquarters

The Department of Juvenile Justice's central headquarters have been relocated from 700 Centre to the Main Street Center at 600 East Main Street in Richmond. The agency occupies the 14th and 20th floors of the twenty-four floor building, which is managed by the Commonwealth's Department of General Services, Division of Engineering and Buildings, Bureau of Facilities Management.

Other agencies sharing Main Street Center are the Department of Taxation, Internal Revenue Service, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Employee Dispute Resolution, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation. The agency's mailing address remains: PO Box 1110, Richmond, VA 23218-1110.



Main Street Center  
600 Main Street, Richmond

## Appointments to the VJJA Board January 2012–December 2013

Director of Governance & Bylaws  
**LEWIS WRIGHT**

Director of Institute Planning  
**TONI CRAIG**

Director of Marketing  
**WENDI TRUE**

Director of Membership  
**Samantha Higgins**

Co-Director of Meeting Logistics  
**TRACEY CHILES**

Co-Director of Meeting Logistics  
**JOE YOUNG**

Thanks to the following individuals for lending their time and talents as members of the VJJA Board of Directors.

Interested in becoming more actively involved?  
Contact Susan Farmer at [president@vjja.net](mailto:president@vjja.net)

Director of Partnerships  
**VACANT**

Director of Profess. Development  
**DEMIAN FUTTERMAN**

Director of Publications (Advocate)  
**TINA CASPER**

Director of Recognition & Awards  
**BETH STINNETT**

Director of Technology (Website)  
**TINA CASPER**

## 20th “Expressions” Youth Art Show Held

“Expressions,” an annual display of artwork created by residents in Virginia’s juvenile correctional centers adorned the atrium of the Virginia General Assembly Building from February 13 to 17, 2012. The pieces below was one of more than a hundred art works and forty cutting boards made available for purchase during the exhibit sponsored by the Virginia Department of Correctional Education in partnership with the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice and Youth Industries. This year marked the 20th anniversary of the collaborative event



*Photos courtesy of Robin Farmer, Public Information Officer, Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice*

# Calendar of Events

VJJA Board of Directors Meeting .....Friday, June 29, 2012  
Elk Hill  
1025 Park Street, Charlottesville  
10:00am to 2:-00pm

Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week .....July 15 - 21, 2012

VA Summer Institute for Addiction Studies.....July 16 - 17, 2012

VJJA Board of Directors Meeting .....Friday, September 14, 2012  
Richmond  
Please note—This is the same date as the Crab Feast

VJJA Board of Directors Meeting .....Tuesday, Nov 6, 2012  
Board Room  
Inn at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg  
6:30 p.m.

VJJA 36th Fall Juvenile Justice Institute.....November 7 - 8, 2012

Santa Claus Shuffle .....December 15, 2012



VJJA member Rudi Jackson meets the Honorable Robert C. "Bobby" Scott, U.S. Congressman, at VJJA's Capital District Chapter's Annual Crab Feast.

## Recent Publications

Find these and other publications at: [www.vjja.net/resources.html](http://www.vjja.net/resources.html)

### Doorways to Delinquency; Multisystem Involvement

NCJFCJ's research division, the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), recently published a groundbreaking study on the prevalence of child welfare involvement among delinquent youth in the newly released [Doorways to Delinquency: Multisystem Involvement of Delinquent Youth in King County \(Seattle, WA\)](#). The study's findings indicate that about two-thirds of all youth referred on a delinquency matter in King County (Seattle, Washington) in 2006 (>4,000 youth) had some form of child welfare involvement and such involvement was correlated with poorer juvenile justice outcomes, particularly for youth of color and females. Specifically, youth with child welfare involvement were found to start their offending a year earlier, on average, than delinquent youth with no previous child welfare involvement, had longer stays in detention and placement (70 days vs. 19 days), and reoffended at a rate more than twice as great as delinquent youth with no previous child welfare involvement (70% vs. 34%). The study also found that delinquent youth with extensive child welfare histories spent time in an average of 12 different placements each year, at an estimated annual cost of \$8.6 million for the 226 youth in this category. <http://www.ncjj.org> (October 2011)

### 2011 KIDS COUNT Databook

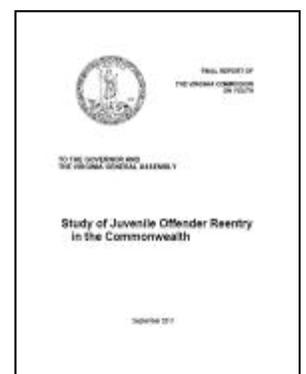
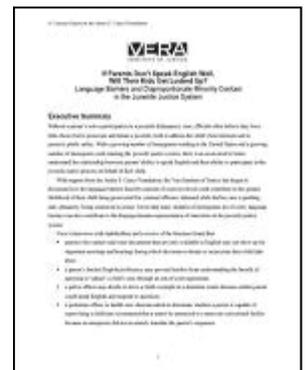
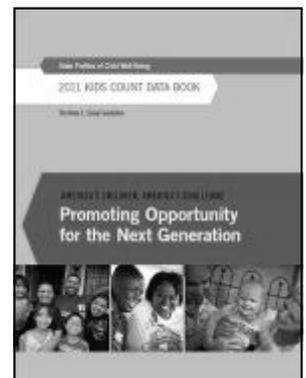
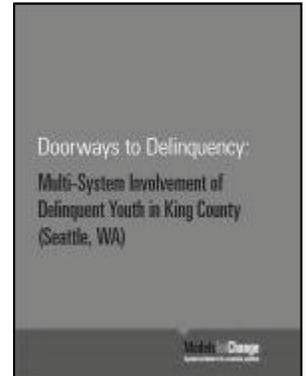
Each year, the Annie E. Casey Foundation's *KIDS COUNT Data Book* provides information and data trends on the conditions of children and families in the United States. In the 2011 edition, the essay, "America's Children, America's Challenge: Promoting Opportunity for the Next Generation," explores how children and families are faring in the wake of the recession and why it's important to help children reach their full potential and become part of a robust economy and society. You will find national and state-by-state data and rankings on ten key indicators of child well-being in the book. <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/Default.aspx>

### If Parents Don't Speak English Well, Will Their Kids Get Locked Up?

Language Barriers and Disproportionate Minority Contact in the Juvenile Justice System: With support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Vera Institute of Justice has begun to document how the language barriers faced by parents of court-involved youth contribute to the greater likelihood of their child being prosecuted for criminal offenses, detained while his/her case is pending, and, ultimately, being sentenced to prison. Given that many children of immigrants are of color, language barriers can also contribute to the disproportionate representation of minorities in the juvenile justice system. <http://www.aecf.org/KnowledgeCenter/>

### Commission on Youth: Study of Juvenile Offender Reentry in the Commonwealth

The majority of juveniles entering Virginia's juvenile justice system have complex needs, including mental health and substance abuse. These juveniles may be receiving services from multiple systems, such as child welfare, special education, mental health and juvenile justice. In Fiscal Year 2009, the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) received 85,578 intake complaints, 16,626 new probation cases and 17,202 pre-dispositional placements. During this twelve-month period, 819 juveniles were committed to DJJ. Virginia spends over \$120,000 per year to confine a youth in a juvenile correctional center. According to DJJ, the majority of juvenile offenders placed in confinement will eventually be released into the community as the percentage of juveniles who return to their communities is nearly 100%. Thus, it is important to establish approaches that enhance successful community reintegration for juvenile offenders. The fundamental goal of successful community reintegration is that juveniles not reoffend as they begin building a foundation for a successful and productive future. With that goal in mind, the Commission on Youth conducted a one-year study to examine challenges confronting the juvenile as he or she returns to the community, to identify barriers to successful reentry, and to recommend system improvements. <http://vcy.virginia.gov/>

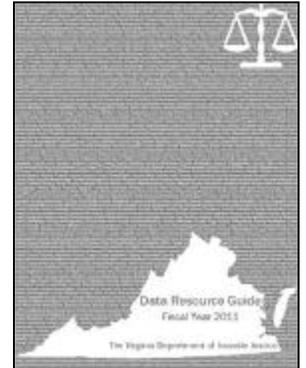


## Recent Publications

Find these and other publications at: [www.vjja.net/resources.html](http://www.vjja.net/resources.html)

### VADJJ FY 2011 Data Resource Guide

The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice has released the *2011 Data Resource Guide*. First published in FY 2001, the guide has become a key source of information for professionals who work with system-involved children in the commonwealth. The document provides descriptions of key programs and functions within the VADJJ, as well as demographic information and other data on court-involved young people. The information can be used to assess needs for the commonwealth as a whole as well as specific localities. The guide can be viewed or downloaded from the resource section of the Department of Juvenile Justice's website at: [www.djj.virginia.gov](http://www.djj.virginia.gov) (December 2011)



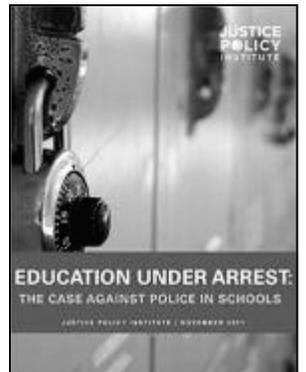
### No Place for Kids: The Case for Reducing Juvenile Incarceration

A new report, *No Place for Kids: The Case for Reducing Juvenile Incarceration*, published by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, assembles decades of research as well as persuasive new data to demonstrate that America's heavy reliance on juvenile incarceration has not paid off and, in fact, is a failed strategy for combating youth crime. The latest official national count of youth in custody, conducted in 2007, found that roughly 60,500 U.S. youths were confined in correctional facilities or other residential programs each night on the order of a juvenile delinquency court. The largest share of committed youth—about 40% of the total, disproportionately youth of color—are held in locked long-term correctional facilities operated by state governments or private contractors hired by states. <http://www.jdaihelpdesk.org>



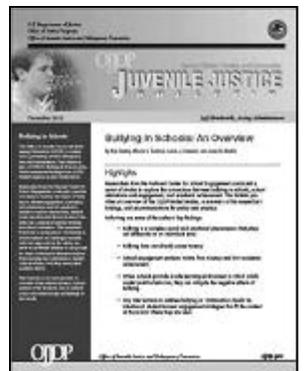
### Education Under Arrest: The Case Against Police in Schools

The increase in the presence of law enforcement in schools, especially in the form of school resource officers (SROs), has coincided with increases in referrals to the justice system, especially for minor offenses such as disorderly conduct. This is causing lasting harm to youth as arrests and referrals to the juvenile justice system disrupt the educational process and can lead to suspension, expulsion, or other alienation from school. All these negative effects influence youth to drop out of school and put them at greater risk of becoming involved in the justice system later on, all at tremendous costs for taxpayers as well as the youth themselves and their communities. <http://www.justicepolicy.org> (November 2011)



### Bullying in Schools: An Overview

This publication examines the connection between different types and frequencies of bullying, truancy, and student achievement and whether students' engagement in school mediates these factors. This bulletin discusses the results of three studies conducted in 2007 at the National Center for School Engagement and compares these results with those from a Swedish study. The authors conclude that victimization in the form of bullying can distance students from learning. Schools can overcome this negative effect if they adopt strategies that engage students in their work and thereby create positive learning environments that produce academic achievement. NCJ234205 Ken Seeley, Martin L. Tombari, Laurie J. Bennett, and Jason B. Dunkle <http://ojjdp.gov/publications> (December 2011)



### Trying Juveniles As Adults: An Analysis of State Transfer Laws and Reporting

This bulletin, part of the Juvenile Offenders and Victims National Report Series, provides the latest overview of state transfer laws and practices and examines available state-level data on juveniles adjudicated in the criminal justice system. In the 1980s and 1990s, legislatures in nearly every state expanded transfer laws that allowed or required the prosecution of juveniles in adult criminal courts. The impact is difficult to assess as there are no national data sets available that track youth who have been tried and sentenced. Also, state data are difficult to find or assess accurately; thus, further research is needed. NCJ232434 Patrick Griffin, Sean Addie, Benjamin Adams, and Kathy Firestone <https://www.ncjrs.gov> (September 2011)

# ADVOCATE



**SPRING 2012 ISSUE**

Virginia Juvenile Justice Association (VJJA)  
Tina Casper, Editor  
c/o Fairfax Court Service Unit  
4110 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 201  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
703.246.2016  
advocateeditor@vija.net  
www.vija.net

Follow us or hear from us through these online forums, or visit our website at: [www.VJJA.net](http://www.VJJA.net).



Scan this code  
with your smart  
phone for instant  
access to our website!

