



VIRGINIA DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S BULLETIN

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May 2009

PILOT FRIENDSHIP AND SERVICE

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Pilot Club of Harrisonburg

Club Operations

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Luncheon Pilot club of Chesapeake

Fundraising

Tammy Watson
Pilot Club of Bristol

Leadership

Leah Powell
Pilot Club of Suffolk



Happy May VA Pilots! It's a beautiful time of year, and we have much to be thankful for. Our 2009 District Convention is just a memory now, but if you weren't there you missed a good one! My mom, Faye Archer, conducted the opening banner ceremony and we jumped in quickly at full speed ahead. We received a wonderful letter from Governor Tim Kaine and his wife, Anne commending us for our "dedication and hard work",

and a nice letter from PI President Debbie Archer, both of which were presented during the weekend. Our ECR Linda Covington was both charming and very informative as she treated us to all sorts of valuable tidbits. Gary Chiaverotti from Norfolk, VA shared his amazing story of losing his wife to a traumatic brain injury, and explained how it changed his life causing him to create The Lynn Fund. He has donated thousands of bike helmets since then and is very excited at the possibility of working with each VA Pilot club. Contact Gary at: Chiaverotti_Gary@bah.com to set up a bike rodeo or some similar event. Many attendees even took home free helmets! Our own Pilot, Jan Maasch and her buddy Amber Roth, spoke, danced, and sang as they explained Camp Still Meadows, a beautiful "idea" of Jan's (campstillmeadows@aol.com). If you are ever near Harrisonburg, stop by the Camp...you will not believe what has been done. You all need to see the wheelchair accessible "treehouse", and experience the fun that happens there every day. We donated lots of great items to the Camp, and any future donations for the new septic system project are very welcome. Thank you! Saturday afternoon included Vince Decker, a professor at Danville Community College, who along with 07-08 governor Janet Cowell and Linda Covington all gave outstanding "marketing" programs. We need to think outside the box, and all these speakers gave us terrific ideas and much to think about concerning ways to promote ourselves, which will help gain new members and thus make our fundraisers and projects much more feasible. Governor-elect Faith introduced her secretary for next year, Dianne Guille, and her appointees and coordinators. We voted to allow governor's bulletins to be emailed, approved the budget which deducted mailing costs and added a small amount for future Anchor Conventions. We also approved a wonderful DAC recommendation which will help each club and members-at-large "market" themselves in ways they may not currently be able to afford. The exciting district awards were presented and we were treated to reports from Tammy Watson on fundraising and Carole Jarvis who showed us the planning and carrying out of our first ever Anchor Convention in the state. Sunny Hahn gave a super Development Team report, Carol Hart helped us share project ideas, and we played "Are you smarter than a 5th grader?" with Barbara Dever and her entertaining contestants. Our lunch and breakfast speakers were very motivational and so interesting, and the banquet entertainment included one of the most awesome violin players I've ever heard. Who knew a violin could play "Orange Blossom Special"?

Friendship and Service

Governor's message continued.....

We turned over the helm to the new officers and learned what special plans are being made for Fall Council, the 2010 District Convention and International Convention in San Diego! Many, many people played a huge part in the planning and execution of this great event, and I thank you all. Most of all my hat goes off to the Luncheon Pilot Club of Danville! I could not have asked for a more wonderful group of women to work with...you are great!

Faith and I are very proud that we have accomplished many things that we set out to do this year...one of which is an event or two that gets Pilot clubs together. In my part of the state that happens Sunday, May 3rd at the St. Jude "Dream Home". The 7 clubs in this area have been invited by my club, the Pilot Club of Chesapeake, to attend a "volunteer reception" in their honor, with hopes of learning of future ways we can work together with St. Jude.

In Danville, the three clubs are working together to organize a "helmet event". The local sheriff's department has joined the team which has also secured a VA Department of Health grant to fund the day. Way to go...all of us!

Happy Mother's Day to all, and especially to my mom. Thanks Mom for all your love and support, not just this year, but every year. You've always been my "biggest fan"! Did you know a lady named Anna Jarvis inspired the first Mother's Day on May 10, 1908 in honor of her mother, Mrs. Reese Jarvis at the Andrews Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia? Grafton is today home to the International Mother's Day shrine. Carole, any relation here?

Thank you, Velma Barr-Malcolm, our club president of the year, for sharing these words: To each and every one of you, I'd like to say...take the time for a loved one or friend! Just a whisper in their ear that you love them and hold their friendship dear. Take the time to say "Thank you", "I'm sorry", "Please forgive me", or "It's okay"! For if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regrets for today!



Terri



President Debbie has re-issued her challenge—one new member each by June 30, 2009. You still have time to bring that special person to Pilot and share our Friendship and Service. Just a reminder, the PI Convention is just around the corner and every club is expected to send a delegate. Your club will want to be part of the planning and the fellowship. Plus don't forget that if you send in your \$20.00 for PIF you could win one of the Treasure Chests given away. It is all for good. Yours and ours. See you there.

Debbie Archer
President
PI/PIF 2008 - 2009

Cat Fish





Faith Stamps
Governor-elect

What a great District Convention we had! It was wonderful to see everyone and I look forward to serving the district next year as Governor. Thank you to everyone who, at some point during the weekend, pitched in to help!!

A few lessons on leadership from Abraham Lincoln:

- Listen to differing voices
- Create a climate where people can disagree without fear
- Learn on the job to acknowledge errors
- Turn failure into success
- Being willing to share success creates an "emotional bank account"
- Understand your own weaknesses
- Understand how to relax to replenish
- And always – when angry or frustrated, channel that energy in a positive way.

Bobbie B. Hudson
PIF Representative
2006-2007 Pilot International President

Thanks to all of you for "knocking my socks off" with your donations to the PI Treasure Chest and your participation in the VA PIF Take-Out Boxes Project. I knew the amounts would be good but I had no idea they would be fantastic! The amount collected for the Treasure Chest was \$355.00 in gift cards, checks and cash. The amount collected from the take-out boxes was a whopping \$1347.94. The winner of the free registration to the PI/PIF Convention were the Members At Large with a donation of \$395.00. Congratulations to them and I wish I had been able to give all the clubs who went over \$100.00 a free registration as well. Thanks from the bottom of my heart for your support and help this year, it has been a joy to be the VA PIF Rep. I am sure Past Governor Terri will continue the enthusiasm with one of her creative ideas!

All clubs except one turned in a PEP report and they were all 3 stars! Way to go VA!

We had outstanding participation in Pacesetter, 250 Clubs and had five 250 Members. Thank you so much!

We had one scholarship application sent in and we should know the results by June. I had hoped we would know by convention but we will continue to keep our fingers crossed.

I LOVE the VA District, they NEVER let me down! You are all the best!

Dreama Hudson
District Chaplain

So glad to have seen each and every one of you at convention. Thanks so much for the compliments, I enjoyed every minute of it. Below you will find the poem I read and so many wanted.

Each morning when I wake, I say
I place my hand in God's today.
I know he'll walk close by my side
My ever wandering step to guide.
He leads me with the tenderest care
When paths are dark and I despair.
No need for me to understand
if I but hold fast to his hand.
My hand in His!! No surer way
To walk in safety through each day.
By his great bounty I am fed
Warmed by his love, and comforted.
When at day's end I seek my rest
And realize how much I'm blessed
My thanks pour out to him, and then,
I place my hands in God's again.

God bless you all, Dreama

COORDINATOR

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Carol Hart **District Projects Coordinator**

I always feel re-energized after a successful Pilot project. The smiling faces of the children who watched a BrainMinder™ Buddies presentation, the proud child wearing a new bicycle helmet, the senior with dementia who just won a Bingo prize, the camper with a traumatic brain injury who just received a goodie bag...the individuals we serve make all the hard work worthwhile. No matter how tired I am at the end of the project, I am proud of the work we are doing, and I am proud to be a Pilot.

Maybe some of our friends would like to feel that way too? Why not use a project to share Pilot? Invite a non-Pilot friend to help. Almost any project can use an extra pair of hands. Seeing the worthwhile work that Pilot clubs do in our communities could be a much better introduction to your club than a business meeting.

Barbara Dever **Club Operations Coordinator**

Remember to make "friendship and service" a reality...try to involve other Pilots and be a friend! The Danville clubs are currently working together and organizing an upcoming bike rodeo. Way to go! And the southeastern clubs are all being invited by governor Terri and the PC of Chesapeake to attend a "volunteer reception" at the St. Jude Dream Home on May 3rd at 5pm where they will meet a St. Jude representative and hear of exciting opportunities to work together. St. Jude and Pilot coming together in Virginia is a wonderful thing!

Tammy Watson **Fundraising Coordinator**

101 Fund raising ideas continued...

Pancake breakfast, pretzel sales, pizza sales, Party in the Park, Plant sales, Pony rides, popcorn stand, Photography sittings, pecans, Pampered Chef, poinsettias, quilt show and sales, Queen's Luncheon, Raffles, Rubber duck race, runathon, scrap booking, shoe fashion show, soccer tournament, spaghetti supper, softball tournament, storytelling, stand-up comic show, spinners, solicit businesses, scratch cards, spa day, sweater swap/sale, scarecrow make and take sale! Contact me for more information on these and many other ideas.



My mom is a neverending song in my heart of comfort, happiness, and being. I may sometimes forget the words but I always remember the tune. -Graycie Harmon

A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie. -Tenneva Jordan

A suburban mother's role is to deliver children obstetrically once, and by car forever after. -Peter De Vries

Sing out loud in the car even, or especially, if it embarrasses your children. -Marilyn Penland



ANCHOR SPOTLIGHT

FIRST ANCHOR CONVENTION

The goals of our first Anchor Convention were to:

- Improve COMMUNICATION between ANCHOR CLUBS
- Encourage Pilot / Anchor Communication and Participation
- Help Anchors to learn more about Pilot projects—such as Project Lifesaver, Provisional Memberships, Pilot Grants and Awards, BrainMinders
- Develop leadership skills of Anchors
- Encourage participation in a state-wide service project: Camp Bruce McCoy tote bags filled with items for campers with brain injuries and disorders

Our Anchor Convention was held on Saturday, March 21, from 9 am to 2 pm at the Great Bridge Presbyterian Church in Chesapeake, VA. “Anchor Beach Party” was the theme of our convention. There were 114 people in attendance which included:

- 80 Anchors
- 25 Pilots
- 9 Advisors

Each Anchor Club gave a presentation on one of their service projects for the year, and each of the clubs had been very busy serving others in the community.

Awards presented at this convention were:

- Largest Club Membership – Tennessee High (sponsored by PC of Bristol)
- Most Members Attending Convention – Lakeland High (sponsored by PC of Suffolk)
- Freedom Foundation Winner – Lakeland High (sponsored by PC of Suffolk)
- Service Project Presentation – Grassfield High (sponsored by the Luncheon PC of Chesapeake)
- Anchor Club of the Year – Great Bridge Christian Academy (sponsored by the Luncheon PC of Chesapeake)

Thanks to all Anchors, Advisors, and Pilots who helped to make this first Anchor Convention a success! All of us working together can make a great difference in the lives of others!



Welcome Hickory Middle School Anchors!
Shown above are Lynnsey Ellis, Rachel Anderson, and Gabrielle Mosher, three Anchors of the Hickory Middle School Anchor Club which was chartered on April 9.



Jim Hahn of the Pilot Club of Norfolk presents the Anchor Club of the Year Award to Christina Weeks and Sarah Smith of the Great Bridge Christian Academy Anchor Club



The Bulletin Board



STANDING RULE CHANGE PASSED AT CONVENTION

C. Finances 3.,h. District Governor's Bulletin will be mailed or **emailed** when available to all Club Presidents in the District, Coordinators, Past Governors, Headquarters, members of the Executive Committee, Past PI Presidents and Governors of other Districts.

VOLUNTEER RECEPTION – MAY 3RD

Recently your Pilot club president or representative received an invitation similar to this:

Terri F. Anderson, VA District Governor, The Pilot Club of Chesapeake, and St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital cordially invite you to join us for a volunteer reception on Sunday, May 3rd, 5pm at the St. Jude Dream Home 1845 Burson Drive, Chesapeake 23323.

We hope you and your entire club can attend! The purpose of this event is to gather together as south-eastern Virginia Pilots and have a little fun! April Warren from St. Jude will be there to discuss various opportunities for us as Pilots to work with that wonderful organization. They have many, many fundraisers and projects already in place, and would love for us to be part of that. St. Jude is one of PI's primary focuses, and the VA District can do our part. The Pilot Club of Chesapeake is offering wine, cheese, desserts...and lots of smiles!

We hope you can all attend...and bring your friends! RSVP with the total from your club to Terri 432-1016.

ST. JUDE DREAM HOME GIVEAWAY

Fact sheet has been posted under the Documents section on the VA District website.

THANKS TO PORTSMOUTH PRESIDENT DONNA WILLIAMS FOR THE WEATHER REPORT

"Any day I'm vertical is a good day" ...that's what I always say. If you ask me "How are you?", I'll answer "GREAT!" because in saying so, I make it so. When life gives me dark clouds and rain, I appreciate the moisture that brings a soft curl to my hair. When life gives me sunshine, I gratefully turn my face up to feel its warmth on my cheeks. Life's events and experiences are like the weather...they come and go, no matter what my preference. So, what the heck? I might as well decide to enjoy them. For indeed, there is a time for every purpose under Heaven. And each season brings its own unique blessings!

BRAINMINDERS SAFETY CALENDAR CONTEST

Are you looking for great public relations, a community service, good publicity and a year-long impact? Who isn't?? The BrainMinders Safety Calendar Contest will certainly fill the bill. Each club should sponsor this contest in their local schools. The rules are simple—the entry must be on a blank sheet of paper and contestants need to be between the ages of 4 and 18. Winners will be chosen for originality and creativity. The sponsoring club sets its own deadlines and prize lineup. The grand prize winner(s) will be submitted by the club for entry into the International Contest (entry fee is \$25). The deadline for the International competition is September 30th. Think about it !!

PI CONVENTION

2009 Pilot International Convention...in San Diego, California July 7-10th. Held at the breathtakingly beautiful Sheraton Hotel and Marina. Register on line now!

GOODSEARCH

Set up a browser page on your computer for GoodSearch and designate Pilot International Foundation as the charity of choice and every time you browse on GoodSearch a penny goes in Pilot's piggy bank. When you shop at Amazon or any GoodShop source a certain percentage is donated to Pilot International Foundation. www.goodsearch.com

CONSTANT CONTACT

Sign up for Constant Contact on the PI website to receive all the important information!

DISTRICT PRESENTATIONS

Presentations made at the District Convention have been posted to the VA District website.





ALBEMARLE/CHARLOTTESVILLE:

Courtney Elliott, we sincerely missed you at convention and know you would have been there if you could! Condolences to Doris Morris and family on the death of her brother. Get well to member Agnes Anderson who had her knee replaced, and to Addie Milton who has been ill. Prayers to Lois Elliott and Courtney as they deal with Lois' sister's terminal cancer situation. Get well to Nancy Seal's brother who had a bad fall.

Bristol:

This club is already making plans for a very special 2010 District Convention! They are electing officers and president Velma has challenged each member to bring in at least one new member before June! Go Velma! Yeah to new member Janie Peterson, a social worker for "Aide and Assist Home Care". You will love this group. They are one terrific club with lots of exciting ideas. They also have plans to visit veterans in a nursing home with "goodies".

Chesapeake:

This club is kicking off spring in grand style by presenting BrainMinder™ shows. They held the annual "Spring Party" at Southeastern VA Training Center, where each resident received a nice spring top and the club served ice cream, punch and cookies. Yeah to 3 new members: Mary Fulford, Betty Fulford and Melissa Michalski! Welcome to a wonderful organization and an exciting club! Continued prayers to member Sharon Francis and family as they deal with a recent house fire. Cards may be sent to: 3500 Ballahack Rd., Chesapeake 23322-2878.

Luncheon Chesapeake:

Senator Harry Blevins spoke at a recent meeting to discuss the stimulus money, and they are filling wrapped shoe boxes for battered and homeless women for Mother's Day with personal items like picture frames, nail polish, jewelry, make up, etc. They are tutoring at Thurgood Marshall school, and conducted another great plant sale during the last weekend of April. That's a great way to make money and have fun at the same time with fellow Pilots. Anchors sold refreshments as their fundraiser during the Pilot event. They assembled a great Brain Awareness display at the Library, and picked up a proclamation from the mayor.

Danville:

President Voinda Garrett says, " Who do you know that you can invite to come with you to the next meeting? Imagine what we can do if everyone just invites one person! Wow! Just think of the possibilities! I can see our group doubling in size from each of us asking just one person, and that would be tremendous!" A gas raffle is underway with this club's members.

Luncheon Danville:

These lovely ladies have their feet propped up (hopefully), after a very successful District Convention. The decorations, entertainment, personal touches...and friendly smiles were all perfect! Prayers to member Diane Arnold in hopes that she feels much, much better very soon. Also a big "pat on the back" to Diane who recently had an article in the local paper.

Dan River:

Congratulations to this club and to new member Patsy Conner. You have joined a wonderful group, and we hope you enjoy all the club has to offer.

Club Highlights cont....

Harrisonburg:

Condolences to member and District Treasurer Joey Mitchem and family in the loss of husband Doug's mother. Good idea: voted for each member to give \$2 so the club can donate their \$50 gift cards to PI for International Convention. On May 13 Fun Fest begins in Harrisonburg, and by participating in this weekly evening on the grounds event, the club gains lots of publicity and serves the community! On May 16th BrainMinder™ Buddies will be presented to WVPT Kids Book Festival. James Madison University's Equestrian Team hosted a fundraiser for Camp Still Meadows at Cold Stone Creamery...what a wonderful idea! Think outside the box! The April meeting included a program by an occupational therapist who works with people affected by brain trauma.

Isle of Wight:

Received Brain Awareness proclamation from Smithfield Town Council, and presented a 2-day BrainMinder™ Buddies program at the Smithfield Library...they've also ordered new puppets! They donated stuffed animals to Isle of Wight and Windsor Police Departments. Representatives from both groups attended a recent meeting to extend their appreciation.

Nansemond River:

This club received a proclamation from the mayor for Brain Awareness Week. President Suzanne Moore recently enjoyed a much needed vacation in Key West. They are conducting a spring flower sale, and manned a "rest station" at the March of Dimes Walk on April 26th, at which they will also donate granola bars, Nabs and assorted snacks.

Portsmouth:

This club celebrated 61 years of Pilot in Portsmouth recently! And are proud of all their many accomplishments...including the support of H.E.R (Help and Emergency Response, Inc) by assisting women in developing independence and learning skills that enable and empower them to leave violent relationships. April included a "Paper and Toiletries" shower for the shelter and the coordinator.

Suffolk:

Congratulations to all on another successful Civic Night...their 22nd annual! Many city officials attended to watch as special organizations and wonderful individuals were honored. Welcome to new members Eva Jean Cheeks and Phyllis Byrum. You have joined a wonderful organization and I'm confident you will thoroughly enjoy this great group. They are supporting "A Day in the Country" Poker Run motorcycle ride fundraiser on May 2nd to benefit Relay for Life! Yeah to member Angie Twiford who recently enjoyed a cruise, and to member Lynda Lee Lunday who is heading to Sweden with her mom! They have 2 Anchors going to Freedom's Foundation this year, and are presenting BrainMinder™ to 7 schools in the near future with a total so far of 488 children having seen the program....and the Anchors helped! They also received a proclamation from the mayor for Brain Awareness Week and are planning a yard sale as a future fundraiser.





The Best of the Best *Our District Award Winners!*



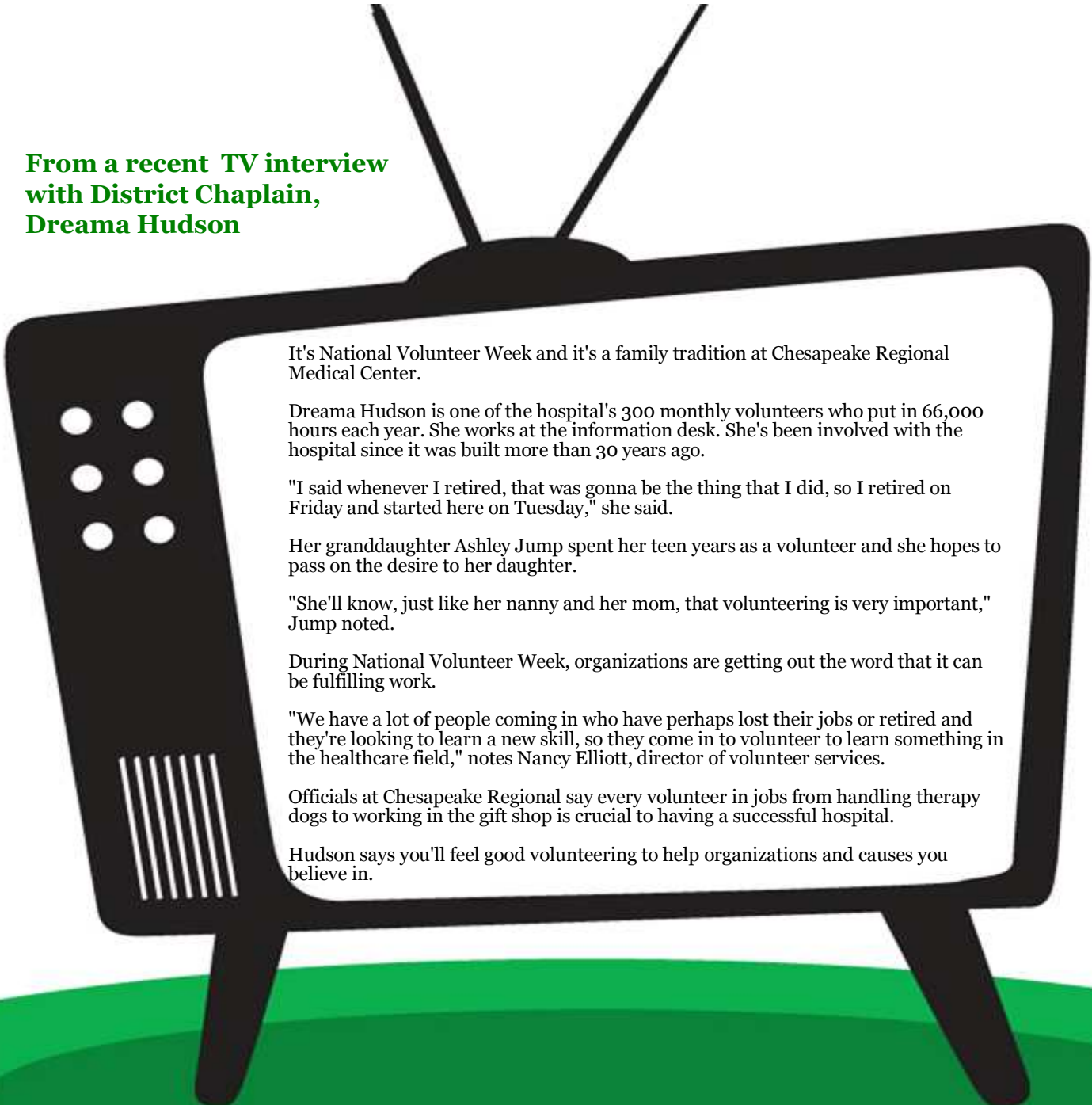
- 1. Sweetest Sweetheart...**We received 5 nominations...all very sweet sweethearts! The winner was chosen because she does everything for her club. She serves as Director, edits the newsletter, writes grants, designs Christmas tea invitations, takes photos at events and handles club publicity. She participates in almost every club activity and has recruited new members, all while battling breast cancer and dealing with radiation this year. Our sweetest sweetheart, for the Pilot club of Harrisonburg....**Carol Hart**
- 2. Closest connection w/ Project Lifesaver....**For bringing Project Lifesaver to Pilot years ago...**Nancy Gray (Chesapeake)**, and for encouraging and continuing our relationship with Project Lifesaver by speaking at their conventions, serving on their Advisory Board and offering financial support...**Bobbie Hudson, Danville.**
- 3. Most original fundraiser...**For a wonderful evening of entertainment, that this year raised \$12,000...**Nansemond River's "Womanless Beauty Pageant"**, and secondly, using the theme "If I only had a brain..." this club offered shirts, jeans, patches and hair color to be used to assemble a "scarecrow" that they sold for \$10 at a fall festival...**Harrisonburg's "Make your own Scarecrow booth"** .
- 4. Most original project...**There are so many projects in the district, but the most original goes to the club that provides the funds for three musical performances, by outstanding musical groups, to entertain the patients and their families at Lake Taylor Transitional Care Hospital during the summer months on the beautiful grounds of the hospital. The winner is the **Pilot club of Norfolk/Virginia Beach for "Music on the lawn"**.
- 5. Most new members in a club...Congratulations to Suffolk-7**, and honorable mention to: Harrisonburg-5, Luncheon Chesapeake-5
- 6. Most members sponsored by a single member.** We've had a truly amazing year in this category!
Bristol, Velma Barr-Malcolm, Harrisonburg, Audrey Smith, Suffolk, Margaret Smith, Nansemond River, Nancy Roundtree.
- 7. Most service hours by a club...Portsmouth with 399 hours between July 2008 and Feb. 2009.** They routinely answer roll call with their individual number of hours performed that month.
- 8. Outstanding Anchor Liaison....**Anyone who has worked with children or teachers who are volunteering their time knows this is not always an easy position to hold. Anchors are the next generation of our club and the future of community service work. They are charming, full of life and so excited about our cause. This outstanding liaison participates in her Anchors' projects, fundraisers and coordinates "socials". She has applied for and received PI grants, and annually packs her Anchors up for a road trip to Freedom's Foundation in Pennsylvania. The winner is...**Suzanne Langston (Suffolk)** .
- 9. Outstanding club president...**In our opinion every club president is outstanding! We've had a wonderful group this year, but one president was nominated for leading "with grace, joy and a caring heart for our community". Her members call her the "encourager". Anyone who has ever talked to her soon feels her passion and genuine concern that strongly mirrors all Pilot stands for. **From the Pilot club of Bristol, Velma Barr-Malcolm.**
- 10. Outstanding Pilot of the year!** With a ready smile and an always encouraging word, this Pilot exemplifies "friendship and service"! While striving to focus on our mission, her actions this year have changed the course of VA district Pilot history. Her dedication to our cause is a model of focus and efficiency....**Carole Jarvis (Luncheon Chesapeake).**

Promoting Pilot Clubs Around Virginia is a program to assist individual clubs in the Virginia District. A critical component of the success of the VA District is the ability to promote the mission of Pilot International (PI). One of PI's major goals in recent years is the successful promotion of Pilot and brain injury awareness. Funding is now available for clubs and members-at-large (MAL) to implement a plan to assist with the promotion of Pilot activities. Clubs and MAL selected will receive up to \$300 per fiscal year to purchase materials to implement a project focused specifically on the mission of PI. All applications will be due by the 15th of each month from September – December 2009. The application will be posted on the VA District website starting July 1, 2009.

This funding was made available through the following approved DAC recommendation passed at the District Convention:

The District Administrative Council recommended that the Virginia District allocate \$7800 of the general funds to be set aside for a "mini-grant" opportunity. This money can be applied for once a year for a period of up to three years and to include members-at-large, at a \$300 limit by each club for the sole purpose of club promotion.

**From a recent TV interview
with District Chaplain,
Dreama Hudson**



It's National Volunteer Week and it's a family tradition at Chesapeake Regional Medical Center.

Dreama Hudson is one of the hospital's 300 monthly volunteers who put in 66,000 hours each year. She works at the information desk. She's been involved with the hospital since it was built more than 30 years ago.

"I said whenever I retired, that was gonna be the thing that I did, so I retired on Friday and started here on Tuesday," she said.

Her granddaughter Ashley Jump spent her teen years as a volunteer and she hopes to pass on the desire to her daughter.

"She'll know, just like her nanny and her mom, that volunteering is very important," Jump noted.

During National Volunteer Week, organizations are getting out the word that it can be fulfilling work.

"We have a lot of people coming in who have perhaps lost their jobs or retired and they're looking to learn a new skill, so they come in to volunteer to learn something in the healthcare field," notes Nancy Elliott, director of volunteer services.

Officials at Chesapeake Regional say every volunteer in jobs from handling therapy dogs to working in the gift shop is crucial to having a successful hospital.

Hudson says you'll feel good volunteering to help organizations and causes you believe in.