



The Village News

Good Neighbor Village Newsletter "A Special Place for Special People"

Spring/Summer 2008

GNV Welcomes New President of The Board of Directors

Each year, the Good Neighbor Village Board of Directors holds its nominations and elections. One particular change that took place was the nomination and election of an existing Board Member to the position of President and Chairman of the Board.

Fran Brooks is one of two second-generation Board members.

Fran's father, Bill Noftsinger, dedicated his time and talents to the Board for many years. We feel very fortunate to have Fran's talents, personality and abilities guiding Good Neighbor Village. Fran's personal and professional experiences, her love of our residents, her passion to help others and her enthusiastic spirit will ensure that GNV remains *A Special Place for Special People*.

Fran and her husband, Jim, live in the West End of Richmond. Please help us in welcoming Fran to her new position, and thanking Fran and Jim for their continued dedication and support of the residents at Good Neighbor Village. If you need to reach Fran, you may contact The Village via telephone, or, e-mail her at fran.brooks@goodneighborvillage.org.

KOVAR Visits GNV



Art Carroll, Vernard Jackson,
Sidney J. Parker and Mike Thompson

Throughout our twenty-one year history, the Knights of Virginia Assistance for the Retarded, (KOVAR) has been instrumental in helping Good Neighbor Village provide the best environment possible for those we serve. KOVAR has been instrumental in

helping the Village furnish each of our three houses and ensuring that our residents enjoy the same quality of life that they would have in a private home. This includes comfortable well designed furniture that is functional, attractive, and welcoming to guests, visitors and daily use.

We are very appreciative of KOVAR's tireless efforts and happy to announce that they have again helped us purchase new furnishings for our residents. By providing a grant of \$9,214.00, we were able to buy new living room and dining room furniture for Founders cottage and living room furniture for Remington cottage. This funding has helped us maintain a pleasant and welcoming living area.

On Thursday April 24th, we had the pleasure of having Mr. Art Carroll, KOVAR Director, Mr. Vernard Jackson, Past Grand Knight of Council 6457, and Mr. Sidney J. Parker, Grand Knight of Council 6457 visit the Village. During their visit to GNV, Mr. Jackson was honored for his extraordinary efforts on behalf of KOVAR and those they serve. Mike Thompson, our Board President was on hand to thank KOVAR and to extend congratulations to Mr. Jackson. Thanks to KOVAR, and our other many supporters, Good Neighbor Village has been able to provide continual service of the highest quality to our residents and peace of mind to their families.

Good Neighbor Village Welcomes New Executive Director



After an exhausting search and interview process, GNV is happy to announce that a new Executive Director has been identified

and brought on board. Please join us in welcoming Elizabeth Noftsinger to the position of Executive Director.

As a native of Richmond, Elizabeth attended Godwin High School. She then graduated from N.C. State University with a degree in Communication. Elizabeth brings with her a strong background in finance, marketing and communications. In addition, she brings her enthusiasm, fresh ideas and common sense approach.

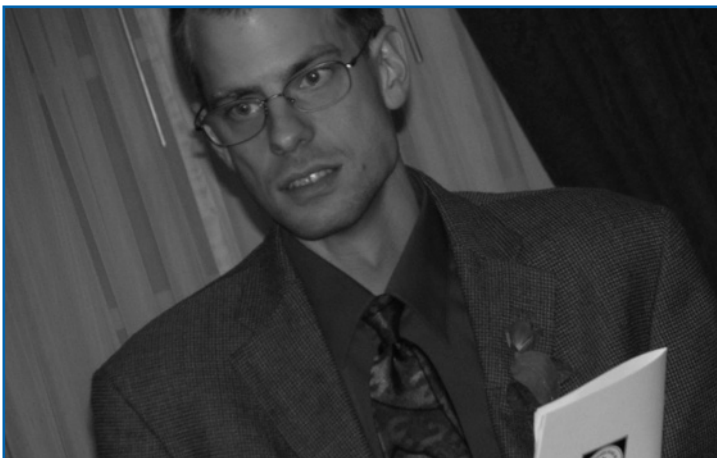
Also unique is the fact that Elizabeth represents a third generation of the Noftsinger family that has given of their time, talents and abilities to GNV. We thank this family for their many combined years of dedication and commitment to the mission and vision of GNV.

Elizabeth also brings personal insight and her first-hand knowledge of the population we serve. Through her life experiences with a family member who has special needs, she has had experience with the patience required, and the joys that are realized when working with those who have special needs and special abilities.

Initially, Elizabeth will be working closely with the staff and the board of directors as she learns

the “ins and outs” of GNV. Although her learning curve will likely be abbreviated due to her first-hand knowledge of The Village, she will still want to take the time to personally meet the families of the residents as well as current and future donors and community partners.

When asked to provide a comment for our newsletter, Elizabeth simply said, “I am truly excited to be part of the Good Neighbor Village family. I see what a wonderful organization it is and cannot wait to see what we will make it together.” Please take a moment to help us welcome Elizabeth to GNV. If you would like to reach her directly, you may contact her at GNV by telephone, or by e-mailing her at liz.noftsinger@goodneighborvillage.org.



Happy Holidays

CONTRIBUTORS

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE MANY FRIENDS OF GOOD NEIGHBOR VILLAGE

The following gifts were received November, 2007 through October, 2008

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Mr. & Mrs. James Brooks - In Memory of Bernice Wyatt

Gifts to support the work of Good Neighbor Village may be designated for General Support, the Scholarship Fund, the Building Fund or the Endowment Fund. Honorary Gifts and Memorial Gifts are a good way to recognize or remember a friend or loved one.

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TO THE MANY FRIENDS AND CONTRIBUTORS
OF GOOD NEIGHBOR VILLAGE

THANKS!



As the Holiday Season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and on those who have helped to shape our community in a most significant way. We value our relationship with you and look forward to working with you in the year to come. We wish you a very happy Holiday Season and a New Year filled with peace and prosperity.



WELCOME OUR NEWEST RESIDENT

Good Neighbor Village is very pleased to welcome our newest resident Sarah. Sarah moved from Highland Springs to Remington Cottage on February 1st and has quickly become a part of the Good Neighbor Village family. She and her suitemate, Claudia, have become fast friends. When asked what she liked most about the Village Sarah said that her new friends and the GNV staff top the list.

In addition to her social life at the Village, Sarah keeps busy with work at the ARC, loves playing computer games on her laptop, and enjoys reading and walking. Sarah can be seen proudly wearing her Ukrop's Monument Avenue 10K Tee Shirt she received for completing last month's event. Sarah said that next year she plans to recruit other members of the Village to see that we have a good showing!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



GNV would not be the home that it is without the help of our other group of special people – the GNV staff. The GNV staff works around the clock to make sure that the residents have the opportunity to live in a welcoming, safe and comfortable setting.

As is the case with any good employee, their efforts get by us with too few thanks and even less recognition for a job well done. In each newsletter, we have taken the opportunity to highlight a staff member and thank them for their efforts. In this edition of our newsletter, we would like to highlight our Program Director, Glenn Davis.

A native Richmonder, Glenn has called White Stone, Va. “home” since his youth. After graduating from Lancaster High School, Glen attended Virginia Wesleyan College where he earned a degree in Behavioral Science.

Since 1989, Glenn has dedicated his life to helping people improve the quality of their lives.

In 1979, Glenn was critically injured in an automobile accident. For more than a year, Glenn re-learned the things that most of us take for granted every day – walking and talking. Thankfully, Glenn made a full recovery. Few of us are challenged in this way during our lives. Overcoming a challenge like this and persevering reaffirms that Glenn has what it takes to deal with the day to day challenges that come with his position.

In 2001, Glenn joined the GNV family. He not only oversees the operational aspect of GNV, but also serves as our resident “licensing guru.” Glenn takes pride in the fact that GNV has never been “cited” for a deficiency upon inspection.

Glenn currently lives in Gloucester, Va. with his wife, Cheryl and their son, Nickolas. Cheryl and Nickolas visit dad at work on occasion, and also join us for special events. Please join us in thanking Glenn for all that he does for Good Neighbor Village!

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President's Perspective

As always, we hope this newsletter finds you and yours doing well. Good Neighbor Village has had a busy few months. After the departure of Bill Sinyard, a search committee was established which advertised for, and interviewed, many candidates for the position of Executive Director. Fortunately, the efforts of the committee paid off when we found the newest addition to the GNV family. We would like to welcome Elizabeth Noftsinger to the position of Executive Director. We would also like to thank Sandy Thompson for serving in the familiar capacity of "interim" Executive Director.

Currently, we are working with more than 10 families as they evaluate GNV as a potential home for their family member. Word of mouth and our presence on the internet have increased our visibility in the community and have resulted in new inquiries about our mission. As news about GNV spreads, we are contacted almost daily with e-mail inquiries and telephone calls.

Board Members, Judy Kelly and Tom Ogburn are working tirelessly with volunteers Jo Lord and Lisa Harlow to create a seven minute promotional video of The Village. These creative folks have worked throughout the summer to capture the essence of what we are about. The residents thoroughly enjoyed their movie-making Saturday in August - complete with make-up and personal interviews! Thank you to everyone for their tireless efforts. We anxiously await the Red Carpet Preview this fall.

As always, we extend an invitation to everyone to visit us on Buffin Road. We also encourage you to view our web site: www.GoodNeighborVillage.org. We thank each of you for everything you have done to make Good Neighbor Village "A Special Place for Special People."

Fran Brooks
President, Board of Directors
Good Neighbor Village



GOOD NEIGHBOR VILLAGE, INC.

“A Special Place for Special People”

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