

WE ARE WINCHESTER

JULY 2024

OLDTOWNIST.COM

FREE



 **SUBSCRIBE**

PHOTO CREDIT
ASHWOOD PHOTOGRAPHY



Genesis Primitive Church

731 Fox Drive, Winchester

You Are Cordially Invited to Walk the Religious Path Travelled By Winchester's Founders; That Path is Historic Christianity

Within Winchester's Central Blocks Stands 9 Historic Churches Serving as Monuments to Winchester's Early Faithful Christians

Prior to Winchester's Birth In 1744, In 1517 In Wittenburg, Germany, Martin Luther Nailed His 95 Theses, to a Catholic Church Door Effectively Starting the Greatest Protestant Church Reformation Ever Known to Mankind

Thank You, Pastor Dan Nicholson
Phone: 540-327-4693
www.genesisprimitivechurch.org



LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Winchester just keeps getting better! Heading into my 23rd year in the area, I'm amazed at the offerings we continue to attract on the walking mall and elsewhere. We can practically eat around the world within blocks, including a new cheese shop bringing us fromage from around the globe that opened recently.

Yet people remain my favorite thing. This month Amber Koehler joins us to cover Faces of Winchester, where we highlight the people that give back in our community. And I am committing to mentioning the people that brighten my days in small but meaningful ways. Like Steve Kisner at Briede Family Vineyards who always welcomes me with the best smile as he takes care of the guests.

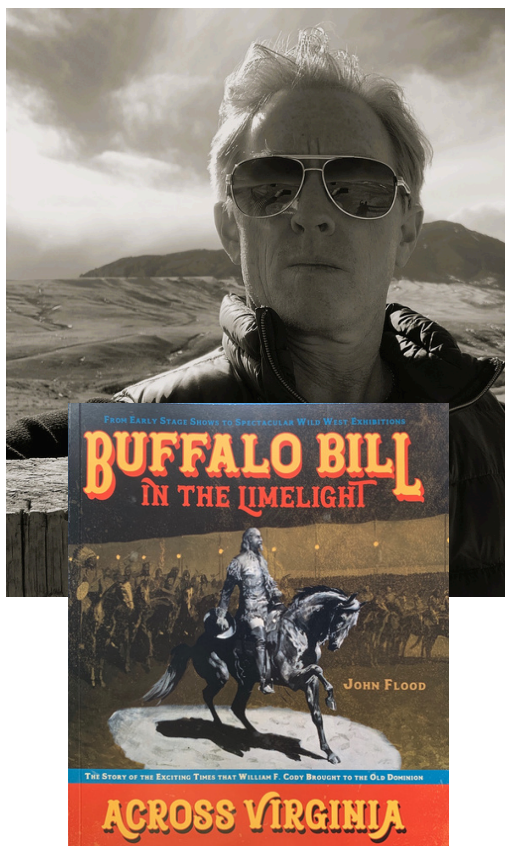
We'll see you in Old Town!



Misty Weaver
& Katie Jordan

**WE ARE
WINCHESTER**

BUFFALO BILL IN THE LIMELIGHT ACROSS VIRGINIA



It was a personal exploration into his own family history that sparked John Flood's interest in the Wild West. Flood discovered a great-great-grandfather of his served in the U.S. Cavalry in the late 1800s. It turns out, he had shared an encampment with Buffalo Bill Cody, the famed soldier, buffalo hunter and larger-than-life showman. Upon making the discovery of his familial connection to Buffalo Bill, Flood dove into a study of the American West and legacy of Buffalo Bill.

While researching, he learned that Winchester also had a connection to the famed figure. In his book, "Buffalo Bill in the Limelight Across Virginia," Flood details Buffalo Bill's Wild West Shows in Virginia, including two shows in Winchester on October 4, 1916. The shows were held on the Berryville Pike Exhibition Grounds, located out National Avenue where we currently have West and East Streets. The show used 11 acres to build its U-shaped arena. It came to town on the railroad into the Piccadilly station at Kent and Piccadilly Streets, utilizing 2-3 trains and 52 train cars. There were 700-800 employees and 500 horses! Everything was unpacked and paraded up to the exhibition grounds.

The shows featured mock battles and buffalo hunting, shooting displays, horseback riding, and more. At the time it came to Winchester, the show was also incorporating a military preparedness component. The show utilized the first portable electric setup to light up arenas for nighttime shows. Buffalo Bill's show was so popular that in the early 1900s, he was said to have been seen in more cities, towns, and countries by more people than any other person who had ever lived. Interestingly, for thirty years his show began with the playing of the Star-Spangled Banner. The song would not be named as the national anthem of the United States until 1931, leaving some historians to speculate that Buffalo Bill's usage of the song set it up for that honor.

"Buffalo Bill in the Limelight Across Virginia" includes an extensive number of photos, drawings, newspaper clippings, and advertising from the shows to vividly depict the era. Readers will love learning more about the legend and his unexpected presence in Virginia. You can get your own copy of the book at Solenberger's Hardware, by contacting author John Flood, or on Amazon.

In addition to authoring this book, Flood owns Big Legends, a company that will research your family history and write its story. You can learn more at Big-Legends.com

RICHARD'S FRUIT MARKET: FAMILY LEGACY

At Richard's Fruit Market, the past, present, and future of farming are intertwined in a beautiful narrative of family dedication and community spirit. Kayla Lawrence, part of the fifth generation to run the market, shared insights into its storied history and evolving mission with us.

"Our family's farm started in 1953 with my grandparents, James Richard Sr. and Mary Richard," Kayla recalls, at a time when farmers markets weren't really a thing as they are known today. "It was mainly apples, peaches, and a few vegetables back then. My dad and I are continuing what she began, and we've expanded a lot over the years." Kayla's grandmother was the market's driving force for decades, and her influence is still felt. In her memory, the family established the Mary Richard Memorial Scholarship, supporting women in agriculture. "She was the heart of this place," Kayla says.



Today, Richard's Fruit Market is a bustling hub featuring local produce and artisanal goods. "95% of what we sell comes from local sources," Kayla explains. "From soaps and crafts to woodworks and produce, we rely heavily on our community and strive to give back by supporting local artisans and farmers."

Farming is fraught with unpredictability, and the past year has been particularly tough. "We lost 80% of our peaches to a freeze in April, and then a three-month drought hit," Kayla recounts. "You can't control the weather, but you can prepare as best as possible and adapt when necessary."

Richard's Fruit Market isn't just about selling produce. Kayla and her father are working on creating a kid-friendly farm area with wooden pyramids and sandboxes. "We want it to be fun and educational for kids," Kayla shares. The farm is home to miniature cows, ponies, and horses, providing a charming attraction for visitors, and teaching them on the sly about farm life and what goes into the products we need to survive.

July is a highlight at the market, with their biggest event, the Peach Festival, taking place on July 13th. "It's our most popular event, and we're excited for it," Kayla says. Additionally, they're partnering with the Gourd Society to offer a workshop on crafting with gourds, with potential plans to introduce other classes in the future such as canning. We shared stories of watching our grandparents canning and the growing interest, especially locally, of homesteading.

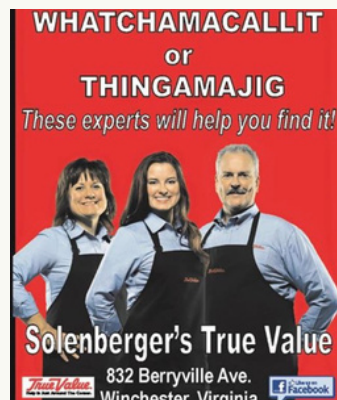
The farm is always evolving. With the apple industry facing difficulties, the Lawrence family is shifting focus to peaches and cattle. "We're planting more peach trees and expanding our cattle operations," Kayla explains. "It's about staying ahead of trends and educating our customers on these changes."

Kayla is also involved with the Farm Bureau Women's Committee of Frederick County, which has launched a farmers market passport program to encourage locals to support their farmers. "Buying local is crucial for our survival," she emphasizes.

As peach season approaches, Kayla offers some advice: "Always go for tree-ripened peaches. They're fresher and tastier. Early in the season, you'll find cling peaches, which cling to the seed, but they're still delicious."

Richard's Fruit Market continues to thrive through the dedication of the Lawrence family and the support of the local community. Whether you're there for fresh produce, local crafts, or just to enjoy the atmosphere, Richard's Fruit Market is a place where tradition and innovation come together.

For more information on upcoming events and the Peach Festival, visit RichardsFruitMarket.com.



FLEUR DE LIS CHEESE SHOP

During a recent girls' trip to Berkeley Springs, I was thrilled to learn that a local cheese shop was opening a second location on the walking mall in Winchester. As someone who owns a cheese grotto – yes, a mini storage unit specifically for keeping cheese fresh – this news was a delight. I take my cheese consumption very seriously!

Terri Hardin, the owner of Fleur de Lis Cheese Shop on the old town walking mall, shared some fascinating insights about cheese. According to Terri, understanding cheese comes down to three factors: the animal that produced the milk, where the animal lives, and the recipe used. Terri herself dreams of trying camel's milk cheese someday. She explained how the climate where an animal lives affects the taste of the cheese. For instance, England's lush, rain-fed grasses result in milkier and sharper cheeses. There are even cheeses where cows have grazed on chives, resulting in a delightful oniony flavor.

At Fleur de Lis Cheese Shop, you'll find an array of cheeses made from cow, sheep, goat, and buffalo milk. These cheeses are imported from France, England, Spain, Italy, Holland, and Cyprus, with selections changing weekly. We picked up a charcuterie board for two and headed to Briede Family Vineyards to celebrate Father's Day. The board, featuring brie and a delectable Roquefort, paired perfectly with Briede's Tannat as we enjoyed the vineyard views.

Terri enlightened me on the true nature of cheddar and gouda. These are not types of cheese but rather recipes that dictate how to make the cheese. The cheddar recipe, for example, originated in England and has since traveled the world, specifying details like milk temperature, stirring techniques, and additives.

Cheese can sometimes seem intimidating or pretentious, but Terri aims to demystify it. She loves teaching her customers, making pairing suggestions, and guiding them based on their preferences. The shop also offers a variety of other products, from finishing oils and jams to charcuterie boxes and boards – available with both meat and vegetarian options.

Despite being new to the walking mall, Fleur de Lis Cheese Shop has already formed several local partnerships. They source bread from Knead Bread (28 E Piccadilly St) and provide cheeses to The Wine Mill (135 Featherbed Ln) for perfect wine pairings. Terri also plans to collaborate with the Panhandle Apothecary (next door at 15 S Loudoun St) for multi-course chef's table events. Their Berkeley Springs, WV location, also next to a Panhandle Apothecary, hosts tasting events regularly. Terri is excited to introduce custom-made walnut tables to the Winchester shop soon, offering seating for customers.

We encourage you to visit Fleur de Lis Cheese Shop at 17 S Loudoun St. You can also explore their offerings online at BerkeleySpringsCheese.com



W I N C H E S T E R

ESPRESSO
BAR AND CAFE

SINCE 2010

V I R G I N I A

Warm coffeehouse with an authentic selection of espressos plus light snacks, soups and sandwiches.

STOP IN TODAY
OLD TOWN WINCHESTER
165 NORTH LOUDOUN STREET
(540) 686-7209

CONNECT WITH US ON

DAZZLING DIVA
FITNESS

Join us at Dazzling Diva Fitness – the area's premier pole + aerial studio! Let us show you how fitness CAN be fun – and life-changing!

New Student Special – 3 Beginner Pole/Beginner Lyra classes only \$33! DazzlingDivaFitness.com
121 Weems Ln, Winchester

SEE *July events* AND BE SEEN

3 4TH CELEBRATIONS

Multiple celebrations in the area including: Jim Barnett Park, Old Town Walking Mall, Middletown, find your favorite or try a new show - some locations have full day activities!

13 PIG ROAST AND BOURBON TASTING

Join us for our 3rd Annual Pig Roast and Bourbon Tasting! We will have other food and other alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks this year. [Youth Development Center](#)

20 COMMUNITY AND CRAFT DAY

Ending Violence Community Day & Craft Show! We strive to build family and community bonds via free family fun where you can make memories, share laughs and help make our community a safer place. [Jim Barnett Park](#)

26 MSV AT NIGHT

Smoke & The Poet, a quilling demonstration, and nighttime access to the gardens and the outdoor exhibition. [MSV](#)

28 DOUGLAS SCHOOL

Join historian Judy Humbert—Douglas alumna and co-author of the book History of Douglas School, Winchester, Virginia—for an overview of the school's storied history. [MSV](#)

Elevating your events so you can **Celebrate** Confidently



SUMMIT
EVENTS



www.SummitEventsCo.Com

SINCLAIR HEALTH CLINIC

Sinclair Health Clinic provides primary care, preventative care, and prenatal care to those who have low-income or are uninsured. It opened its doors in October 1986 as the Free Medical Clinic operating out of the basement of First Presbyterian Church. Local physicians volunteered their time one day a week to see uninsured patients. From the beginning, the clinic has operated without government funding, instead relying on private donations and grant money. The need for the clinic increased rapidly, causing the clinic to relocate to a nearby former fire hall also owned by First Presbyterian Church. It remained in that location until 2003 when it moved to its current home on the Our Health Campus. In 2017, the Board of Directors renamed the clinic after Dr. Terry Sinclair who served as President of the Board for 30 years. Dr. Sinclair was one of the first physicians to volunteer at the clinic and was a strong recruiter of other physicians to help the clinic serve our community.

With such a long history in Winchester, it is surprising how many people still don't know about the clinic and its offerings. The clinic takes Medicaid patients as well as uninsured patients who earn up to three times the federal poverty level. Many hourly workers, part-time workers, and self-employed individuals qualify for free care. In 2023, Sinclair Health Clinic saw 2600 patients totaling around 11,000 visits! Of those 2600, about 1700 were uninsured. Patients who use the clinic have zero copay but may give a free will offering of \$5 if they are able.

There is a pharmacy on the ground floor that is open to anyone in the community. You can fill prescriptions for generic medicines at a fraction of the price of most other pharmacies. It does not accept insurance, yet it can still offer the lowest prices to the consumer because they pass on the savings offered to the clinic.

The clinic is run by Executive Director Dr. Mercedes Abbet who recently celebrated one year with Sinclair Health Clinic. Dr. Abbet and her team are working to spread the word about the clinic, the pharmacy, and the continued need for more volunteer medical workers and funding. The clinic fills the medical gap in the Winchester area. It aims to increase medical care literacy in our community so that more people learn to take care of their health and visit their doctor with preventative care in mind. Healthy individuals with no major concerns should get a checkup annually, while those with chronic conditions need checkups at least 3 times per year.

Sinclair Health Clinic is hosting its next major fundraising event called Sinclair on the Green on September 19. It will be an outdoor, tented gala on the lawn of the Our Health campus. Tickets are expected to go on sale at the end of July.

You can visit Sinclair Health Clinic at the Our Health Campus at 301 N Cameron St #100 or online at SinclairHealthClinic.org



NEED HEALTHCARE?

Friendly, quality care. Judgment-free zone located in Downtown Winchester!

WE ACCEPT MEDICAID!

If you don't have insurance, we can help you apply!



PRIMARY CARE



PRENATAL CARE



MENTAL HEALTH



ON SITE PHARMACY

Serving Adults 18+



(540) 536-1680



sinclairhealthclinic.org



301 N. Cameron St.
Winchester, VA 22601

Winchester Book Gallery Recommends:



In 1950s Tehran, seven-year-old Ellie lives in grand comfort until the untimely death of her father, forcing Ellie and her mother to move to a tiny home downtown. Lonely and bearing the brunt of her mother's endless grievances, Ellie dreams of a friend to alleviate her isolation.

Luckily, on the first day of school, she meets Homa, a kind, passionate girl with a brave and irrepressible spirit. Together, the two girls play games, learn to cook in the stone kitchen of Homa's warm home, wander through the colorful stalls of the Grand Bazaar, and share their ambitions for becoming "lion women."

Misty's note: The parallels between the history of Iran and what is happening in the US, and exploring relationship dynamics between friends where one is "political" and one is not, was enlightening.

WinchesterBookGallery.com

| 7 N. Loudoun St

FACES OF WINCHESTER: ONNA KELLER



As I approached the building at 112 South Kent Street in downtown Winchester, I was greeted outside by four ladies starting their volunteer shift. They warmly welcomed me and opened the door.

My first steps through the threshold were met with the clean smell of disinfectant and even more smiles. I waited in the lobby for a moment before being escorted through a door to the inner workings of CCAP. Seated in the first small office was the brightest smile so far, that of Onna Keller, Volunteer Coordinator.

Ms. Keller began her time with CCAP as a volunteer in February 2023, straightening and assisting in the organization's clothing house, located right next door. She quickly grew to love the mission, teamwork, and feeling of family in her hours spent there, and when the position for Volunteer Coordinator opened, she submitted her resume. "I was in a not-so-great point in my life, unsure of where I belonged. I was struggling with finances, personal matters, and family issues. I realized that I really looked forward to my time here, witnessing the glimmers and seeing how our community steps up."

Fast forward nearly one year later, and Onna knows the names of all the 200 volunteers giving their time to over 19,000 Winchester City and Frederick County residents in need. She is one of only two paid employees, so she was pulled in many directions while she showed me around. From greetings and hugs to questions from volunteers and clients, Onna had time for a moment with everyone, not letting anyone pass her without exchanging kind words.

She oversees the hands that pitch in, organizing and coordinating not just a food pantry and clothing house (CCAP's most well-known areas) but the lesser-known services that are offered as well. There are also departments where residents can get financial assistance for utility

bills, rent, a bike gift program, work boots, firewood (a coordinated effort with a local Rotary Club, available November – April), a local Community "Freedge" project, pet food and supplies, charcoal, cleaning and hygiene products, and so much more. Ms. Keller works the other side of coordinating volunteers as well, by establishing relationships with other nonprofit organizations in the area to ensure that all areas of need are covered. She also reaches out to local retailers and businesses to garner support through donations and pickup services.

It obviously takes a lot of hands and hearts to pull all these services together, and Onna is the driving force, making sure those hands are kept busy and feel appreciated. "There's an abundance of happiness here. It's a place where people actually want to come to help."

That statement was evident as she walked me around, explaining all that these volunteers do in just a few hours each day. Many of them, she explained, come in several times a week, and they all work as a family, united by a common purpose. "They look forward to it. I heard a few people say– myself included– that after a long holiday weekend, we couldn't wait to come back in."

This is more than a job to Onna; it's her calling. "It's a daily reminder of the blessings that I have and the joy I'm able to witness spread." Onna herself is a single mother of two with financial insecurities in her own not-so-distant past. Her bright smile today is brought by joining all CCAP's volunteers together to roll up their sleeves and get a job done. But more than that, her smile is because she is passionate about her work, all that this organization is able to accomplish, and the family that grows there. "This job, this place, saved my life. I didn't just need a job; I needed purpose. I needed to make a difference."

And she most definitely is.

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, reach out to Onna Keller at volcoordinator@ccapwinchester.com or call (540) 662-4318.

Amber Koehler has lived in Winchester for 22 years.

She owns Twice Is Nice Consignments in our downtown area and loves to support all things local.



WE ARE
WINCHESTER

**UNDER CONTRACT
1088 LAKEVIEW DR**

**JUST SOLD - OVER LIST
109 SHUMARD CT**

**UNDER CONTRACT
123 MAVERICK CT**

WON IN MULTIPLE OFFERS

**COMING SOON
325 MASTERS DR**

**ONE LEVEL LIVING READY
FOR A REMODEL!**

MISTY WEAVER & KATIE JORDAN

Our mission at the Dream Weaver Team is simple: to turn your dream lifestyle into your reality. Real estate is an investment in your future, and experience matters. Our team has decades of experience as investors and agents.

OUR MARKETING STARTS WITH:

- Professional photography and videography
- 3D walk through, floor plans
- Full social media marketing



FIND YOUR HOME VALUE

THANK YOU TO OUR CLIENTS AND SUPPORTERS!

We appreciate your trust in us! It was a clean sweep in the Winchester Star awards, with Katie taking 1st place and Misty taking 2nd!



**READY FOR AN
EPIC AGENT?
REACH OUT!**

VOTED #1 AGENT 2023 & 2024

540-999-8826

misty@dreamweaverteam.com