



# Hickory Neck Nuggets

October 2013

## Avalon: A Center for Women and Children

By Jim Izzo

One of the more recent charities to receive funds from the Hickory Neck Fall Festival is Avalon, which “provides shelter and support to those experiencing domestic violence and sexual assault in the Greater Williamsburg area,” according to its website. “By offering tools for safety, self-sufficiency, and empowerment,” the Center’s mission statement continues, “Avalon works to break the cycle of abuse and helps create a positive future.”

**The number of Avalon’s 24 hour Crisis/Help Line is 757-258-5051, but “If you are afraid for your safety,” the website cautions, call 9-1-1.** “If you can’t get to a phone to call 9-1-1, **Leave** – put yourself out of harm’s way and get to a safe place or a public place where others can see you.”

It is important to remember that “Domestic violence and sexual assault can happen to anyone, regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender. People of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels are affected.”

Avalon’s website is a comprehensive source of information. It explains the nature of domestic violence and its extensive effects, and the various forms of sexual assault. There is a list of the traits of an abuser and a victim. There are guidelines for protecting

yourself in a section on computer, email, and cell phone safety. In addition to emergency shelter, Avalon provides transitional housing; programs include individual and group counseling, support groups for children and teens, as well as adults, community education, and legal advocacy. Their wish list includes such daily necessities as paper products, garbage bags, new comforters and bath towels. For a complete list or to donate or to volunteer, go to [www.avaloncenter.org](http://www.avaloncenter.org).

Terri Christin, executive director, has praised Avalon’s staff for the “level of commitment and professionalism they bring to their jobs. Perhaps the most impressive thing I have seen so far,” she continued, “is the level of support the community gives Avalon, not only monetarily but in donations of time and talent through volunteers.”



Bridget Casey, director of development and communication, commented on Hickory Neck’s contribution to Avalon in last month’s **Nuggets**: “We rely quite a bit on donations from the community to continue serving women, men, and children in need in this community. Unrestricted funds, like those we receive from Hickory Neck Church, are especially wonderful, since we can use the money in the way we deem best to help our clients. Thank you!” ❁

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## Vestry Highlights

The vestry met on September 10, 2013 in the Wilkinson Center. Fred Boelt gave the treasurer's report. As of August 31, 2013, our budgeted income was \$275,328, and our actual income was \$284,618.73. August ended with us being in the black by \$198.00.

Year to date we are in the black by \$9,627, and in addition we made a \$600 payment on the mortgage principal. This brings the outstanding balance to \$280,306.

We had one baptism and one memorial Evensong. Pastoral Care is exploring a Grief Workshop that may be offered in partnership with St. Olaf's Catholic Church.

The New Chapel sound system has benefited from repair and troubleshooting.

Under Outreach, there will be a meeting with Stone House Elementary guidance counselor to explore ways in which our parish can benefit the students.

The next vestry meeting will take place on October 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wilkinson Center.

Jean Jundt, Register.



Sign-up sheets for the weekly **House Church** gatherings during Pentecost are posted in the Narthex.

vice. You would be part of a pool of people who participate in this ministry, so you would only need to drive about once a month. Please consider being the person who makes it possible for someone to come to worship. Contact Sue Edwards if you want to help. (757) 206-1029 or suedwards@cox.net

Hickory Neck is again participating in the **Ruby Tuesday Community Give Back Program** this year. Last year we made over \$300 by Hickory Neck members and friends dining at the Monticello Avenue Ruby Tuesday on one or more of the three designated evenings. The dates this year will be **October 29th, 30th and 31st** (note – these dates are a week later than those mentioned in last month's Nuggets), In order for Hickory Neck to get 20% of the bill for your meal on those dates, each party must present a Give Back Flyer. These flyers will be available in the Narthex in early October. Please take some for your friends and neighbors.

**DRIVERS NEEDED:** We need people to drive some of our members to church. This would require a pick up in Norge for the 8:00 ser-

At Hickory Neck, we welcome everyone to participate in everything freely, member or non-member. However, if you would like to become an official member of Hickory Neck, we want to make that happen for you. Simply call our office, 566-0276, or speak to Father Michael or Father Henry. There are several ways to join. If you have not yet been baptized, we would be overjoyed to speak with you about receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. If you are already baptized, we can transfer you in as a baptized member, and if your letter of membership resides in another congregation, we can write them and effect the transfer. Official membership entitles a person to vote and stand as a candidate in parish elections, but making the commitment of membership is also a good way to affirm your commitment to the mission of Jesus Christ in this place.

### Nuggets Staff

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Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. Items received after this date will be considered for publication in a future issue.

Please send submissions to [nuggets@hickoryneck.org](mailto:nuggets@hickoryneck.org)

# Citrus Sales

By Nancy and Steve Snyder



With the 13th Annual Fall Festival fast approaching, it's not too early to start thinking about the 2nd Annual Hickory Neck Citrus Sales. That's right, folks. Our first sale of those delicious Florida navel oranges and pink grapefruit is next month. Orders will need to be placed by no later than **November 5th** and the first sale of the 2013-1014 season will take place on **Wednesday, November 13th**.

If you were a customer last year, you will receive an email or flyer by mid-October providing all the sale dates and prices for this year. Copies of the flyer will also be available in the Narthex, or you can contact us at [nansteve13@cox.net](mailto:nansteve13@cox.net) or 804-557-3175 to obtain a copy.

Like last year, there will be three ways you can place an order: by email at [hncfruit@cox.net](mailto:hncfruit@cox.net), by email at [nansteve13@cox.net](mailto:nansteve13@cox.net), or by leaving a voice mail at (757) 741-8776.

Also like last year, it will take a lot of volunteer help to make these sales successful. We'll need many strong backs to help unload the 18-wheelers that will arrive at HNC (or an alternate site, which will require transporting the fruit to HNC by car and unloading again) sometime the afternoon before the sale. On sale day, we'll need volunteers to verify orders, record advance orders, assist customers with selecting their fruit, collect payments and transport orders to customer vehicles. If you're interesting in assisting with one of these functions, please let us know by the end of October.

The proceeds from these sales are used to pay down the church mortgage. Last year Fred Boelt was able to make an additional mortgage payment of \$2,195 with monies raised from our citrus sales. With your help, and five sale days instead of the four we had last year, our goal for this year is to reach \$3,000.



## Saraband

By Sarah Ford Bland

"Tree of Life and Love—The Blossoming of Song Since Vatican II" was the theme of the annual conference of the Hymn Society of America, held this summer at the University of Richmond. Although I've known about this organization, which is actually based in Richmond, for many years, I had never joined it or attended its annual conference, which is held in a different part of the country each year. Since it was

taking place in my own backyard, I decided I couldn't pass up the opportunity, that it would be the perfect springboard for beginning my music ministry at Hickory Neck.

What a fun couple of days! Of course there was lots of singing. Especially uplifting was the opening evening hymn festival at beautiful River Road Church (Baptist). The classes and sessions I attended were informative and inspiring, including psalm singing, new multicultural hymnody, and the introduction of Lift Up Your Hearts, the new hymnal for the Christian Reformed Church. As I browsed through this large impressive collection, I was happily surprised to find a hymn written by Dr. Ruth Griffioen, my friend and colleague at William and Mary. Its inclusion was news to her when I mentioned it recently! She shared with me that it was written

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OCTOBER



## Birthdays

2 Terri Christin	17 Abigail Best
4 Madeline Hanlon	17 Sue Dugan
5 Robert Harcourt	19 Tina Sinclair
6 Christine Barnes	19 Roland Todd
7 Tom Gee	19 Bunkie Righter
7 Penny Orth	22 Linda Wever
8 John Greenman	27 Lynn Geddy
8 Joanna Parsons	28 Jim Izzo
8 Gavin Kingsley	28 Ann Stone
11 Mary Teale	28 Geraldine Baker
14 Ethel Margroum	30 Randy Tanner
15 Karen Dutro	30 Ron Houser
15 Diane McQueen	31 Jean Hancock
16 Ray Laroche	31 Joan Forrest
17 Linda Becker	31 Rachel Harcourt
17 Chris Zoglman	

## Anniversaries

4 Christine & Steve Barnes
13 Janice & Len Wagner
14 Rebecca & Michael Smith
15 Carrol & Dal Bailey
15 Penny & Vic Shumaker
16 Tess & John Schaffner
21 Cheryl & Mayes Mathews
27 Terri & Gary Lensenmeyer

*Did we miss your big day? If your birthday or anniversary is this month and you are not listed above, please send the information to [Nuggets@hickoryneck.org](mailto:Nuggets@hickoryneck.org)*



(08/31/13)

YTD Budget Income	\$275,328.00
YTD Actual Income	\$284,618.73
YTD Budget Expense	\$286,048.20
YTD Actual Expense	\$274,992.12

August was a break-even month that ended \$198 in the black. The diligence of our parishioners for keeping their contributions current and the careful management of expenses by our ministry leaders are paying dividends. While some summers have been financially challenging at Hickory Neck, this summer has been a pleasant exception. Year-to-date, we are in the black by \$9,627. Additionally, we made an extra \$600 payment on the mortgage principal, bringing the outstanding balance to \$280,306 as of August 31st.

As you read this, we have recently passed through the Autumnal Equinox, signaling a reprieve from the heat and humidity. The vivid summer colors will soon turn to muted hues brought on by approaching frosts. It is a time to harvest and store up for winter. A portion of our harvest should be returned to God in thanksgiving for its bounty. We are fortunate that the harvest on our Holy Hill is shared by many, both materially and spiritually.

Fred Boelt





## Our Prologue

by Martha W. McCartney

### *The Benefit of Clergy*

Most modern Americans, if seeking the benefit of clergy, would hurry to the nearest church. But in colonial Virginia, the term “benefit of clergy” had another meaning. It was a legal mechanism, rooted in English statute law and practiced here, that allowed a felony conviction to be set aside. During the seventeenth century, many infractions of the law were considered capital offences. However, a white male, convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to death, could be reprieved if he asked for the benefit of clergy. At first, only white male felons who could read were eligible for the benefit of clergy. Typically, a convicted felon would be asked why he shouldn’t be executed, whereupon he could ask for the benefit of clergy. The prisoner would then qualify himself by reading a passage from the Bible. Justices of the colony’s highest court, which tried capital crimes, had a great deal of discretion in deciding whether mercy should be shown.



In 1629 a 14-year-old servant, William Read, was indicted for murdering John Burrows of Jamestown. Read, who testified in his own defense, claimed that Burrows had tried to seize his knife and was mortally wounded in the struggle that ensued. A jury found Read guilty of manslaughter. However, the youth knew his legal rights, demanded the benefit of clergy, and was freed. Afterward, he probably was subjected to some form of corporal punishment, such as being publicly flogged or branded with a hot iron.

As time went on, the benefit of clergy was extended to those who had committed felonies, such as theft, then considered a capital crime. This occurred in response to public sentiment and a gradual change in official attitudes. From 1692 on, county courts had jurisdiction whenever slaves were accused of a crime, but free blacks and Indians continued to be tried by justices of the colony’s higher courts. Sometimes, convicted felons asked to be transported out of the colony. In 1732 the Virginia Assembly decided that the benefit of clergy could be granted to slaves, free blacks, white women, and Indians convicted of a felony. Simultaneously, the legislature eliminated the literacy requirement that previously had been in effect. Still, colonial justice was harsh and the Virginia Gazette often reported the punishment that occurred in the wake of a crime. ❁

#### *Saraband, from page 3*

for the 100th anniversary of Houghton College. She wrote a tune for it too, but the editor chose to use a different one.

Sometimes hymns are written with a particular tune in mind, but more often they are not. If you read the fine print identifying hymn and tune writers, and their dates, which are found underneath the hymns in *The Hymnal 1982*, you may be surprised at what you find. Most of the hymns have a story behind their genesis.

Have you ever been inspired to try writing a hymn? The Hymn Society “. . . sponsors searches for new hymns on subjects of current interest and need. . .” It also has a place on its website to post them. Here is the link if you would like to read what others have submitted, and perhaps post one of your own: [www.thehymnsociety.org](http://www.thehymnsociety.org). At the bottom of the Home Page, click Hymn Texts.



## Good News About GoodSwipe

By Steve Snyder

Several years ago, I first tried to interest our congregation in earning money for Hickory Neck by joining an online program called GoodSearch. Initially, the idea was that you register a credit card or cards with GoodSearch and designate Hickory Neck as the charity you would like to support. Then, by dining at certain restaurants a percentage of your bill would accrue to Hickory Neck. The selection of restaurants in the Williamsburg area was not all that great, but the first year about 15 people signed up and Fred Boelt received a check for a little over \$100 at the end of the year. Since then, participation has dropped off even though the program grew in terms of the number of restaurants included and also expanded to include online purchases from a significant number of retailers. In spite of my writing several additional Nuggets articles on the subject, I have been unable to garner any additional interest, and our annual Hickory Neck GoodSearch checks have been on the order of \$50 or less for the past two years.

A recent program change prompts me to try again. GoodSearch has evolved into GoodSwipe! Now, Hickory Neck benefits if you use a registered credit card at any business that participates in the program. That's right! Go to a Regal Movie, swipe your card, and Hickory Neck will get a 2.4% of your ticket price (and you'll get an



email in a few days telling you how much you earned for your charity). Over 50,000 business locations now participate in the GoodSwipe program, including 7-Eleven (1.5%), Dunkin Donuts (0.5%), Outback Steakhouse (3.0%), Kmart (1.5%), Burger King (1.5%), Old Navy (3.0%), Gap (3.0%), Quiznos (2.4%) and Sears (1.5%). Granted, a burger and French fries at Burger King isn't going to earn much for the church, but it all adds up. On the other hand, if you buy a new washer or dryer from Sears...

Please consider joining the GoodSwipe program. It's a simple, easy way to earn money for Hickory Neck. All you have to do is go to <http://www.goodsearch.com/goodswipe> and follow the instructions to register your card(s), designate Hickory Neck Episcopal Church as the charity you wish to support, and start earning donations.