

2010 NTELOS Teacher of the Year Awards

VAE sponsors special recognition for the educators who are named by their respective school division as the “Teacher of the Year.” Selected by their peers, these teachers are also nominated for state level recognition. VAE honors these teachers at our Annual Awards Reception each August where they receive a plaque and a \$1000 cash prize from the VAE through the generosity of *NTELOS Inc.* These awards underscore the community’s appreciation for teaching excellence. This year’s honorees are:

Elizabeth Williams *Augusta County Schools*
Russell Laub *Staunton City Schools*
Brian Lundstrom *Waynesboro Public Schools*



Thanks for her teacher’s iPod grant, *iTouch It Up A Notch!*

Jessica Comisford . . . Staunton City Schools

Website and Communications Committee

Jennifer Jones, Coordinator

www.vaeva.org

In 2009-2010, the committee focused on updating the VAE website. VAE partnered with The McClung Companies to launch a more robust website. The website features a new look and feel, with user friendly navigation for teachers as well as community members. The website continues to deliver the valuable information that our teachers need—such as grant information and The Resource Manual. As we know, a company, group or organizations’ web presence is very important in today’s age of the online communication. The new and improved VAE website delivers high quality and represents the quality of work the Valley Alliance for Education delivers to our area schools.

Dawbarn Award Committee

Pam Huggins, Chair

The Dawbarn Education Awards celebrate and reward exceptional individuals in the Community of Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County. Established in 1992 by H. Dunlop "Buz" Dawbarn, this fund aims to improve public education. Each year, the awards event honors educators who have demonstrated a commitment to inspiring, encouraging, and fostering the education of young people. VAE is proud to assist the Community Foundation each year in the selection of the amazing educators and student advocates who receive these awards.

The deadline for the 2010 Dawbarn Award nominations is October 1st. Nomination forms are available through the schools, public libraries, or can be requested from Christiana Shields at the Community Foundation office (540-213-2150) or accessed on the web at www.communityfoundationcbr.org. Forms are also available on VAE's website at www.vaeva.org.

The awards honor ten individuals each year (at least four of whom must be currently teaching in a K-12 classroom) who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to inspiring belief in the importance of education and learning, encouraging good citizenship and personal responsibility and fostering high standards of achievement in learning among the young people in our public schools. The criteria used to evaluate those nominated are: exceptional dedication and commitment, superior leadership and motivational skills, and a strong record of success in improving the attitude and the achievement of students.

The 2009 Dawbarn Award Winners

Richard Clark Adams, Traveling Educator

Linda Bowen, Special Education Teacher, R.E. Lee High School

Shirley Cason, Special Education Aide, Westwood Hills Elementary School

Jeff Griffith, Pastor, Community Fellowship Church

Thea Jordan, Title I Home-School Liaison

Alexander D. Kirtley, English Teacher, Wilson Memorial High School

Angela Young Larner, Science Teacher, Wilson Memorial High School

Joey Mason, 5th Grade Teacher, Westwood Hills Elementary School

Sandra Bocock Powell, 5th/6th Grade Teacher, Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents

Jennifer L. Rexrode, Assistant Principal, Valley Vocational Technical Center

Dear Sir:

Thank you for providing the money for the airliner in our class. I liked when we used it to decode root words and research the characteristics of manatees. We have also used it to bypass complex games like the intellectual brain game known as Jeopardy.

Thank you again

New technology in our schools . . .

Learning Takes Off with Airliner

Judy Robichaux

Staunton City Schools

THANK YOU

Creative Classroom and Technology Grants Committee

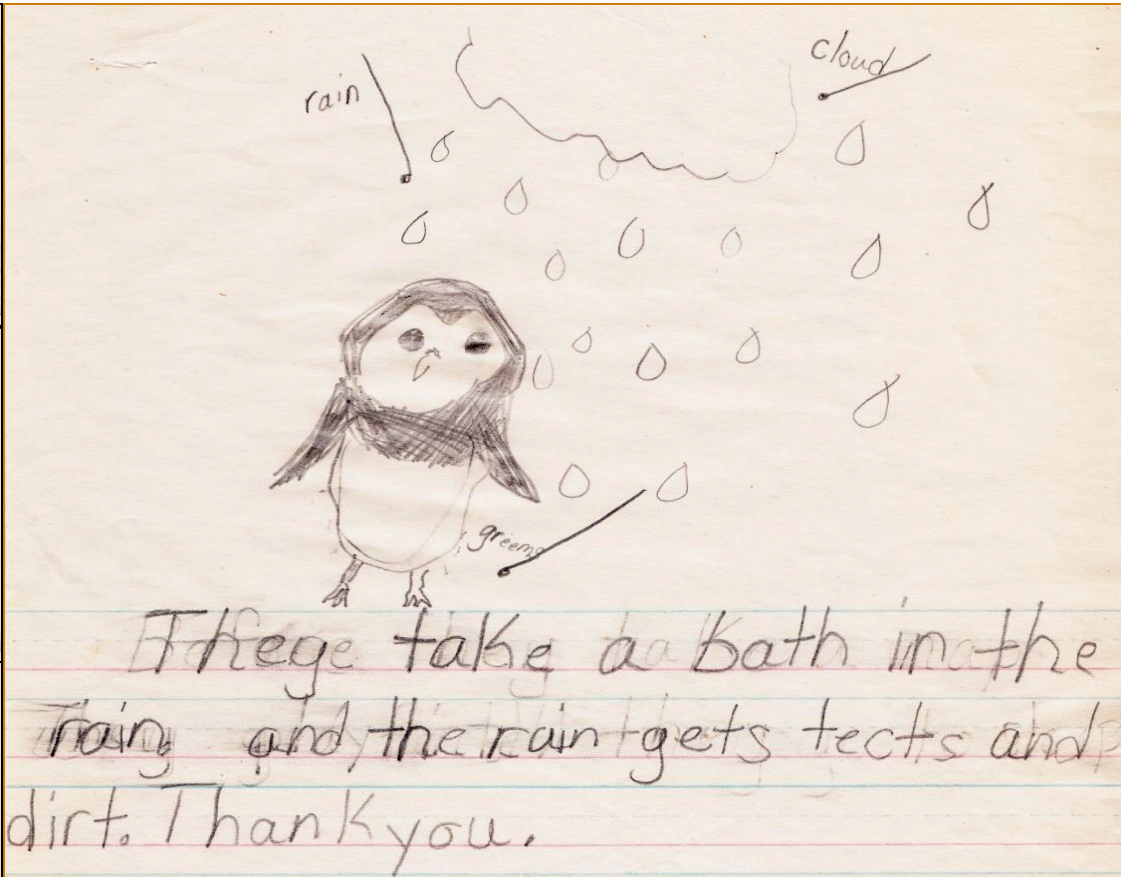
Linda Cauley, Chair

At the May meeting of the VAE Board, members voted to approve the CCG committee recommendations of Creative Classroom Grants for 40 teachers, totaling over \$29,000. Teachers who are awarded these grants have great ideas and big plans for their students which will now be realized thanks to the generosity of our donors who make the CCG program possible. Although not reflected in the table of grant winners, many grants are true team efforts with teachers collaborating across curriculum areas, grade levels and even schools!

Donor funds are leveraged by the teachers into even larger sources of funds. Many of the successful grant proposals had received commitments from School Boards, Superintendents, Principals, PTAs and local businesses.

The equipment and materials purchased through these grants will benefit nearly 5,000 students in all grade levels in our public schools during the 2010-2011 year. CCG teachers are committed to creatively enriching their classrooms to reach and teach all of their students. Their projects are built around some of the most powerful educational strategies emerging from research about how kids learn, especially "brain-based learning" techniques and the use of instructional technology. Students' experiences of core academic subjects will be enriched by integration with the arts, computer technology, games and exercise with significant emphasis placed on building their reading skills across the curriculum. And we all know, when students are engaged, they learn faster and more! Much will be accomplished with an average expenditure of less than \$6.00 per student.

Many thanks to the financial generosity of our donors and the time donated by committee members in reviewing the grants that make it possible for VAE to support classroom teachers in such an awesome fashion!!



Learning about the habits of Owls . . .
Owl Diner
Janis Rule . . . Waynesboro Public Schools



"Thinking" about Math . .
All Hands on Math
Nicola Cahill
Augusta County Schools

Grant Winners for 2010-2011

Division	School	Level	Lead Teacher		Title
Augusta	Clymore	Elementary	Susie	Shreckhise	<i>iTouch the Future</i>
Augusta	Clymore	Elementary	Tabitha	Kaczorowski	<i>Using iPods to Increase Classroom Differentiation</i>
Augusta	Craigsville	Elementary	Kristy	Breeden	<i>Powerup: Empowering Learning using Literacy Centers "Take Two"</i>
Augusta	Fort Defiance	High	Elizabeth	Williams	<i>Foliage Up, Roots Down, Fun All Around</i>
Augusta	Fort Defiance	High	Elizabeth	Williams	<i>Seeking Solutions to Animal Care Problems</i>
Augusta	Fort Defiance	High	Patricia	Collins	<i>Classics Revival</i>
Augusta	Riverheads	Elementary	Linda	Brake	<i>Flip It!</i>
Augusta	Riverheads	Elementary	Tessa	Buchanan	<i>Read It! Measure It! Apply It!</i>
Augusta	Riverheads	Elementary	Tessa	Buchanan	<i>Who's Who? A Biographical Study</i>
Augusta	Riverheads	Elementary	Tina	Dolfi	<i>It's the SAME: A 21st Century Approach to Student-Centered Science</i>
Augusta	Stewart	Middle	Linda	Petzke	<i>Saving Our Past for the Future</i>
Augusta	Stuarts Draft	Elementary	Joanne	Coffey	<i>Cross Curricular Robotics</i>
Augusta	Wilson	Elementary	Crystal	Choate	<i>Plants: Getting to the Root of Them</i>
Augusta	Wilson	Elementary	Jody	Coffey	<i>Just In Time</i>
Augusta	Wilson	Middle	Kristin	Carr	<i>Poultry Power</i>
Augusta	Wilson	Middle	Kristin	Carr	<i>Dog Days</i>
Regional	VVTC	High	Bobbie	Sprouse	<i>Animal Care, Ownership and Careers</i>
Staunton	Bessie Weller	Elementary	Christy	Davis	<i>Open a Can O'Worms</i>
Staunton	Bessie Weller	Elementary	Christy	Davis	<i>"Wii" Like to Move It</i>
Staunton	Bessie Weller	Elementary	Tina	Purdy	<i>Rock, Paper, Scissors - Ancient Greece and Rome</i>
Staunton	Lee	High	Tiara	Saufley	<i>Hey! Can I Tell You Something? Improving Peer Interaction in Students with Several Disabilities Using an iPod Touch</i>
Waynesboro	Berkeley Glenn	Elementary	Cathleen	Holdsworth	<i>Learning Through Linking: Community Helpers</i>
Waynesboro	Berkeley Glenn	Elementary	Jenna	Frank	<i>Swing into the Rainforest</i>
Waynesboro	Berkeley Glenn	Elementary	Jenna	Frank	<i>Life Below the Surface</i>
Waynesboro	Berkeley Glenn	Elementary	Lauren	Matyisin	<i>iTouch - iLearn</i>
Waynesboro	Berkeley Glenn	Elementary	Randy	Wingfield	<i>Science: It's Really Magic</i>
Waynesboro	Waynesboro	High	Candace	Donnelly	<i>Good Beverage Choices = Better Health</i>
Waynesboro	Waynesboro	High	Curtis	Barker	<i>Measuring Speed</i>
Waynesboro	Waynesboro	High	Judy	Musick	<i>Keyboarding Skills Last a Lifetime</i>
Waynesboro	Westwood Hills	Elementary	Angela	Eutsler	<i>Jumping the Sight Word Hurdle</i>
Waynesboro	Westwood Hills	Elementary	Angela	Eutsler	<i>4-4-4</i>
Waynesboro	Westwood Hills	Elementary	Barbara	Willis	<i>Math Bytes: Let's Digitize Problem-Solving</i>
Waynesboro	Westwood Hills	Elementary	Jennifer	Harner	<i>Colorful Hands and Hearts Around the World</i>
Waynesboro	Westwood Hills	Elementary	Desirae	Diehl	<i>Picturing History</i>
Waynesboro	Westwood Hills	Elementary	Erin	Shiflett	<i>Hands On Historians</i>
Waynesboro	Westwood Hills	Elementary	Joey	Mason	<i>Making Math Connections Through Manipulatives</i>
Waynesboro	William Perry	Elementary	Jenna	Frank	<i>Polyhedra Who?</i>
Waynesboro	William Perry	Elementary	Jenna	Frank	<i>Hola Estudiantes</i>
Waynesboro	William Perry	Elementary	Jenna	Frank	<i>What Makes a Garden Grow?</i>

Business-Education Exchange Committee

Ann Leatherwood, Chair

VAE's Business-Education Exchange Committee operates through a series of work groups, combining resources with the Greater Augusta Regional Chamber of Commerce's Education Committee. For more information - or to volunteer - please contact Ann Leatherwood at 540/453-2304, or by email at leatherwooda@brcc.edu.

Areas of interest include:

Community Resource Manual

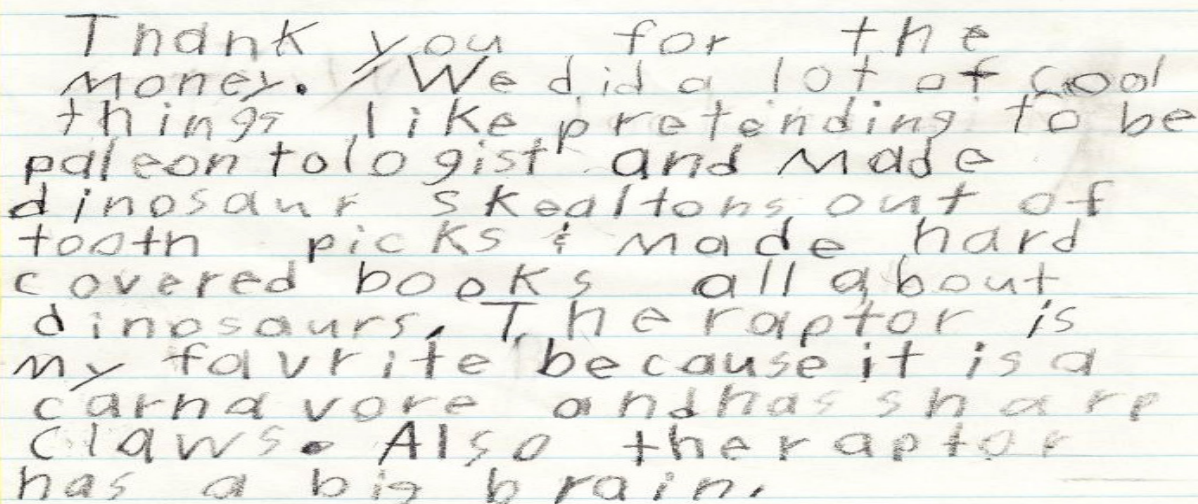
VAE's online Community Resource Manual lists individuals who are willing to visit classrooms to share their areas of expertise. Entries are organized by category, making it easy for teachers to find just the right speaker for a class visit. Teachers familiar with the resource manual report that it is a user-friendly, valuable tool, and have commented that volunteer presenters were interesting and provided students with a "real life perspective." To boost awareness of this resource, area superintendents shared the link (<http://www.vaeva.org/resourcemanual.html>) with principals and teachers in September. Hits to that web page shot up dramatically as a result.

Academic Achievers Recognition

The Chamber's May 12, 2010 Academic Achievers Recognition honored 33 high school seniors from 12 area public and private schools and awarded a record thirteen, \$1,000 scholarships. Four were donated by the Augusta Health Foundation, three by the Wal-Mart Distribution Center, two by StellarOne and one each by The McClung Companies, NTELOS Inc., the Professional Women's Networking Luncheon (an affiliate of the Successful Women's Alliance Network), and Valley Industrial Piping. VAE representatives served on the review team to determine scholarship winners.

Mentorship Program

Mentorship programs this year in Augusta County, Staunton and Waynesboro school systems offered 195 students a chance to experience what work is really like in their chosen fields. These experiences - in settings ranging from offices and schools to industries and hospitals - allow students to see first-hand how the work world differs from the classroom. For a list of participating businesses, please visit the Valley Alliance for Education website at <http://www.vaeva.org/mentorship.html>. To involve your business in mentoring high school students from Augusta County, Staunton and/or Waynesboro, please contact Jenny Groh, Augusta County Schools Mentorship Coordinator, at 540/245-5015 or at mentorship@augusta.k12.va.us.



Thank you for the money. We did a lot of cool things like pretending to be paleontologist and made dinosaur skeletons out of tooth picks & made hard covered books all about dinosaurs. The raptor is my favorite because it is a carnivore and has sharp claws. Also the raptor has a big brain.

Field Trip to the

*Shenandoah
Valley Discovery Museum*

Dino Bones Rock

Jenna Frank

Waynesboro City Schools

VAE Funding and Support

The Valley Alliance for Education (VAE) is a non-profit organization that depends on its Board members and donors for financial support and for the volunteering of time and talent. We have been blessed on both fronts. The Board of Directors meets every third Tuesday at 7:00 am in September, November, March and May at one of the area public schools or local businesses. Guests and visitors are always welcome.

During the 2009-2010 fiscal year, VAE again received over \$30,000 from community-based contributions to support its operating budget. A framed "Honor Roll of Donors" is posted in every public school and in the offices of the local governments. VAE is also supported by the *Buz Dabarn Endowment Fund* managed through the Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge.

For information about specific meeting dates and locations, or to support VAE financially, log onto www.vaeva.org or contact Lisa Lovelady, Executive Secretary at 540/943-0029 or lovelad@ntelos.net.

Valley Alliance for Education is an all-volunteer Virginia non-profit organization, qualified as a 501 (c) (3) under the Internal Revenue Code. As such, VAE is directed by a Board of Directors and its programs are supported through committees and individual activities.

2010-2011 Officers: Fran Gomez, President; Ann Leatherwood, Vice-President; Greg Godsey, Treasurer

Committee Chairs: Ann Leatherwood, Business Education Exchange; Linda Cauley, Creative Classroom Grants; Pam Huggins, Dabarn Awards; Fran Gomez, Fundraising; Jennifer Jones, Website and Communications and Jenny Groh, Mentorship Coordinator

Past Presidents: Danny Alexander, Ken Boward, Woody Carr, Revonda Crawford, John Davis, Doug Guynn, Tom Harris, Pam Huggins, Sue Krzastek, Dave Maccarelli, Steve Millo, Bill Pfost, Sam Phillips and Sandi Scannelli.



The 2010-2011 ALLIANCE ADVISORY



Valley Alliance for Education
P. O. Box 515
Fishersville, Virginia 22939
www.vaeva.org

Valley Alliance For Education
P. O. Box 515
Fishersville, VA 22939

Area business leaders and citizens established the Valley Alliance for Education (VAE) in 1990.

Our mission:

Valley Alliance for Education is a regional partnership of employers, educators and community volunteers established to promote excellence in the public schools, which will result in an improved quality of life and economic prosperity in the region.

We realize our mission by:

- Encouraging creative and innovative instructional programs in K-12 classrooms
- Creating opportunities for effective dialogue and partnerships between employers and educators in the region
- Inspiring teaching excellence and supporting workforce development

President's Remarks . . .

I am honored to serve as VAE's President – what a great year! In spite of the difficult economic climate and severe budget shortfalls, we maintained our individual and corporate support and ended the year with more contributions than expected. Thanks to our dedicated Board and contributors, we are building a secure future for our organization.

I am proud to report that we raised over \$30,000 this year, which funded 40 Creative Classroom Grants in the 2010 grant cycle. This brings the total amount awarded by the program to \$453,000 since our inception. These grants have benefitted thousands of students and are particularly important in lean years when school systems are considering major cuts and may lack the funding for innovative or alternative educational programs.

Our organization is also involved with many other wonderful programs that benefit the students in our community. The mentorship program provided opportunities for numerous high school students to gain experience in the working world and our Board was impressed at our May meeting with presentations given by several mentorship students demonstrating how much they learned.

We partnered with the Greater Augusta Regional Chamber of Commerce in the selection of a record number of Academic Achievers scholarship winners this year and also partnered with the Community Foundation in selecting the Dawbarn Award recipients. Congratulations to the 2010 Teachers of the Year for Augusta County, Waynesboro Public and Staunton City Schools, who were honored with a cash award, courtesy of NTELOS, at our Annual Reception this year. It is so important to recognize those wonderful educators who dedicate their lives to helping our children.

We worked with The McClung Companies this year to revamp our outdated website. I encourage you to visit us at www.vaeva.org and see our new look! Please review this newsletter for more information about our programs. Thank you so much for your support!

Fran Gomez

Dear VAE,
Thank you for granting my teacher the money to buy Flip Video cameras and wonderful Fluency books. I enjoyed video taping my friends. We sent you a cd of us. I hope I am on it. I have brown hair and blue eyes and eight years old.

Enjoying the books and video camera!

Flip for Fluency

Tessa Buchanan

Augusta County Schools

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



Financial Report

7/1/08-6/30/09

7/01/09-6/30/10

Beginning Cash	\$65,577	\$68,419
Total receipts	\$42,686	\$39,159
Total disbursements	\$39,844	\$45,587
Ending Cash	\$68,149	\$61,999

(Changed for the final print—corrections)

The Community Foundation Of the Central Blue Ridge Buz Dawbarn VAE Endowment Fund is \$36,766 as of 12/31/09

Fundraising/Treasurer's Report *(numbers were corrected for the final print)*

Greg Godsey, Treasurer

Thank you for your continued support of VAE! The 2009 fiscal year from 7/1/2008 to 6/30/09, resulted in another solid fundraising year for the VAE, despite the current economic climate - this year we raised \$30,891 and spent \$32,148 on programs with Interest income, with the Dawbarn fund interest paying out of our operating expenses for overhead. Donors contributed \$30,891 to support the mission of promoting educational programs in the public schools of Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County.

We are also proud that only 22 cents of every dollar raised is used to cover administrative costs for the organization, thus leaving 78 cents of every dollar available for our Creative Classroom and Technology Grants, Teacher of the Year Awards and other program services. Our administrative costs increased slightly this year with an update of our computer equipment as well as our website.

We can now accept stock gifts as well as gifts via bank draft. Donors may also contribute online at www.vaeva.org. VAE is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, charitable organization and all gifts are tax-deductible. Please consider making a gift or increasing your gift in 2010-2011. If you have any questions regarding VAE's finances or giving to VAE, please call me at 540/820-1940.

2009—2010 Honor Roll of Donors

Benefactors

Augusta Health Care Foundation
BB & T Barger Insurance
Cadence, Inc.
County of Augusta
Buz Dawbarn Endowment Fund
Hershey Chocolate of Virginia, Inc.
Jim and Pam Huggins
Elizabeth D. Menaker
NTELOS, Inc.
Target Distribution Center
Wharton, Aldhizer & Weaver, PLC
One Anonymous Benefactor

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Rotary Club
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John Riley
Bill and Nat Sowers
Teri Sumey
Mr. and Mrs. Paul P. Vames
Verona Ruritan Club
Virginia Frame Builders and
Supply
Steve and Dori Walk
Mildred G. Weems
Chip Yates
One anonymous friend

Tom Harris Mentorship Program

Jenny Groh, Board Mentorship Representative

Each year, the Mentorship Program continues to provide over 100 students with professional experiences in their chosen fields. Professional environments provide valuable insights to students as they perform necessary work for their mentors. Regular evaluations by mentors guide students in meeting professional expectations and enable students to determine their suitability for a particular field. Mentors have an opportunity to share their enthusiasm and expertise with some of the most talented students in the area, while influencing and making contributions to the direction of public education in the Valley.

County of Augusta

Jenny Groh, Coordinator

ACFD-Emergency Services
ACFD-Firefighting
ACSD Law Enforcement
Augusta Health
Ashby Animal Clinic
Augusta County
Commonwealth Attorney
Augusta County Extension
Office
Augusta Pediatrics
Bethesda Physical Therapy
Beverly Manor Middle
School
Blue Ridge Area Food
Bank
Blue Ridge Church of
Christ
Blue Ridge Pediatrics
Brunk and Hylton
Engineering Inc.
Campbell Painting
Contractor
Carded Graphics
Clair Park Animal Hospital
Dr. Stacy Clark
Clymore Elementary
School
Commonwealth Veterinary
Clinic
Complete Family and
Cosmetic Dentistry
DuPont Credit Union
First Baptist Church of
Waynesboro
Fort Defiance High School
Franklin, Denny, Ward and
Lawson
Game and Inland Fishery
Headwaters Soil and Water
Conservation
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Kirk Knott, Accountant
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Delegate Steve Landes
Lineage Architects
Marks and Harrison,
Attorneys-at-Law
Miller and Miller, DMD
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Staunton News Leader
The News Virginian
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Rehabilitation
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Real Estate III
Riddleberger Brothers, Inc.
Riverheads Elementary
School
RMH—Oncology
Rutherford Real Estate, Inc
Shenandoah Valley
Physical Therapy
Shenandoah Valley
Surgical Associates
Stewart Middle School
Stonewall Jackson Hotel
Stuarts Draft High School
Stuarts Draft Middle School
Stump Elementary School
SVAP-Aircraft Mechanics
UVA Home Health
Verona Elementary School
Virginia Wildlife Center
WHSV - Staunton
Westwood Veterinary
Alan White, DMD
Wilson Elementary School
Wilson Memorial High
School
Wilson Middle School
YMCA-Staunton

City of Staunton

Jackie Kurtz, Coordinator

ABC Children's Health Care
American Shakespeare
Center
American Frontier Culture
Museum
Animal Clinic of Verona
Augusta Health
Baja Bean
Balzer and Associates
Barren Ridge Physical
Therapy
Bethesda Physical Therapy
City of Staunton
Community Bank
Department of Social
Services
Gypsy Hill Golf
Middle River Veterinary
Hospital
Specialty Blades
Staunton City Schools
Staunton Downtown
Development Association
Staunton Police
Department
Stonewall Jackson Hotel
and Conference Center
Valley Animal Hospital
Woodrow Wilson
Presidential Library
Woodrow Wilson
Rehabilitative Center

City of Waynesboro

**Bobbie Gilbert and David
Hennel, Coordinators**

Animal Hospital of Virginia
Barren Ridge Physical
Therapy
Berkeley Glenn
Elementary School
Commonwealth Attorney's
Office
DuPont Community Credit
Union
Kate Collins Middle School
Mountain Laurel Studio
Parrott Orthodontics
Shenandoah Marlins
Aquatic Club
The News Virginian
Waynesboro High School
Wenonah Elementary
School
Westwood Hills
Elementary School
Wildlife Center of Virginia
William Perry Elementary

Dear. VAE
Thank you for giving us money to buy
math supplies such as rulers, protractors,
shapes, flashcards, and division cards.
Sincerely,
Darron

A student's thanks . . .

All Hands on Math

Nicola Cahill

**Augusta County
Schools**

