

ADVOCATE

A PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

FALL 2004

2004 VJJA INSTITUTE

Williamsburg, Virginia November 3, 4, & 5

As this issue of the *Advocate* goes to print, the VJJA Conference Committee, chaired by Katherine Farmer, is hard at work putting the final touches on VJJA's 2004 Institute. Scheduled for November 3, 4, and 5, in Williamsburg, Virginia, the themes for this year's Institute are Gangs and Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC).

The site of the 2004 Institute is The Williamsburg Hospitality House at 415 Richmond Road. Located across from the College of William & Mary and just two blocks from Colonial Williamsburg, The Hospitality House is billed as "a preferred hotel for the distinguished traveler." The House has 295 guest rooms furnished in 18th century style with 20th century convenience. Each room is equipped with telephone data ports, cable TV with in-room movies, an iron, ironing board, hair dryer, and in-room coffee. WHH offers complimentary underground parking, a fitness center, and game room. The only swimming pool is an outdoor one, which could make for pretty chilly swimming in early November. Or, maybe not. The Hospitality House also has two full-service restaurants: Papillion; and the 415 Grill.

The Institute begins at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 3rd, with

Registration lasting until 1:00 p.m. The General Session runs from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., with welcoming remarks from Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice Director Jerrauld Jones, DJJ's Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator Shauna Epps, and a representative from the Department of Criminal Justice Services. About two dozen vendors of services to kids will be introduced followed by a presentation entitled "Gangs: Local/State/National Trends." The ever-popular President's Reception from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. will wind up the first day of activities.

Thursday morning, November 4th, begins with continued Registration

and a Continental Breakfast, followed by the Keynote Speaker, Michael J. Lindsay, J.D., Ph.D., at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Lindsay's topic is "Meeting the Challenge of Disproportionate Minority Contact." The Association's Annual Business meeting along with the presentation of scholarships and the 2004 Meritorious Service Awards are scheduled from noon until 2:00 p.m.

Thursday afternoon will give Institute participants an opportunity to break out into smaller groups for these Workshop topics: "Checking Your Emotions at the Door: Dealing with Difficult Clients," presented by the Northern Virginia Counseling

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Directions to The Williamsburg Hospitality House:

415 Richmond Rd. Williamsburg, VA 23185

1-800-932-9192

1. From Interstate-64 (East or West), take exit 238.
2. Follow the signs toward Colonial Williamsburg.
3. Take a right at the 2nd traffic light onto Rt. 132.
4. Go through 2 traffic lights (making sure they're green),
5. Then take the next right onto Scotland St.
6. Go 3 blocks to the traffic light and the hotel is on the right.

**** If you are driving a van or SUV Vehicle, the hotel requests that you park in the lot in back of the hotel. DO NOT USE THE UNDERGROUND GARAGE or your vehicle may be scratched due to the low ceiling.**

**** If you are driving any other vehicle, please park in the underground garages.**

Views From the Ledge ...

by Gary Conway



A VJJA Conference in Williamsburg always reminds me of Al Chaplin. Al's business card used to read: *A. Nelson Chaplin, Director, 15th District Court Service Unit, Fredericksburg, Va.* I was frequently tempted to ask him, "When do you plan on becoming THE Nelson Chaplin?" But I never did.

Mr. Chaplin gave me my first job as a P.O. in August of 1977; and during that month and year I attended my very first staff meeting over which Mr. Chaplin presided. Back then, the court service unit staff in Fredericksburg was so small that staff meetings were held in Al's office; and it was *not* a big office. The staff also had to share one bathroom, and utilization of that facility was the only topic on the agenda for the August meeting. Mr. Chaplin expressed significant displeasure that male staff members were failing to lift the toilet seat before urinating. He went on about this issue for over 30 minutes. For some reason, Mr. C. was particularly indignant that his Senior Secretary, Elinore, might one day accidentally sit on a wet toilet seat. "Don't do it again!" he concluded at meeting's end.

Once the Fredericksburg Office moved to better digs on Caroline Street, the toilet seat issue was dropped, so to speak, and living within our budget became paramount. At one staff meeting, Al went on a tirade about the telephone

bills. "The phone bills in this office are too high!" Mr. Chaplin declared; and threatened to put locks on every telephone except the one on Joanna Mastin's desk. P.O.s would have to go through Joanna to make phone calls and she would keep track of every call. Ms. Mastin rolled her eyes.

Just two weeks after the telephone lecture, the staff meeting was focused on mileage reimbursements. "Your mileage claims are too high!" Al shouted; and he didn't have the money in his budget to reimburse for all that travel. Then he grabbed the handset of a nearby telephone and held it out in front of him, shaking it at the staff. "You see this?! It's called a 'telephone,' a great little invention! The next time you think about jumping in your car and going some place, pick up the phone and call! It's a helluva lot cheaper!"

I really liked Mr. Chaplin. You never knew what he would come up with next. He encouraged me to join VJJA (then VJOA), and to attend the Association's Conference in May of 1982. That year's Conference was held in Williamsburg at the Bonhomme Richard.

I can still remember sitting in a training class on the second morning of the 1982 Conference, when Al stuck his balding head in the door and motioned me outside with his index finger. He didn't look happy. "What the hell are you doing in there?!" Al snapped when I joined him in the hallway.

Unsure of what the right answer was, I told the truth. "I'm being trained. Is there something else I'm *supposed* to be doing in there?"

"Ever been to Williamsburg?" Mr. Chaplin asked, with no apparent improvement in his mood.

"No, sir."

"Then get out of that class and see the city!" he barked; then turned and walked away with a quiet chuckle and the gait of a bantam rooster. The man was my boss.

What was I to do?

So I toured Colonial Williamsburg that warm Spring day; feeling all the while like a kid ditching school. The Governor's Palace. Bruton Parish Church. Raleigh Tavern. The George Wythe House. Williamsburg certainly has some old stuff, I remember thinking; stuff that is 22 years older now, I suppose.

It was 1993 before I returned to a VJJA Conference in Williamsburg. By that time, I wasn't working for Mr. Chaplin any more. In 1993, the Conference was held at the Fort Magruder Inn, a place where I had spent one of my honeymoons though I can't remember which one at the moment. On the second day of the Conference, November 9, 1993, Mr. Chaplin was scheduled to be at the Awards Luncheon to present Bill Burke with a Meritorious Service Award, and I was looking forward to seeing him again. As the morning's General Session began, DJJ Director Chuck Kehoe approached the lectern for what we thought was to be some welcoming remarks. Instead, he announced that Al Chaplin had died suddenly from a heart attack that morning.

At the first break, folks were milling around outside when I saw a P.O. from my Unit. So as not to tarnish his good reputation, this P.O. shall remain nameless; let's just call him "Chuck;" "Chuck Watts."

I approached Chuck and asked, "You ever been to Williamsburg?"

"Well, yes; yes I have," was the response. But noticing my obvious dejection and sensing that this was not the answer I sought, Chuck added, "But I've never been to the Pottery."

"Well, then," I said, "let's go to the Pottery!"

"Now?" Chuck asked, taken aback by the suggestion.

"Yes, now! Let's go to the Pottery right now!"

So we did.

Bob's Turn

by Robert Bermingham,
VJJA President

I hope this addition of the *Advocate* finds all VJJA members, along with their families and friends, in good health and in good spirits. I know how difficult it is for some to make the transition from the care free days of summer to the activity-packed days that come along with the onset of the fall season and the return of children to school (not to mention the inevitable increase in casework that comes along with schools being open!). I can honestly say that for the first time, I am happy to have the events of summer (especially this *past* summer) behind me as I look forward to a year of helping with homework and watching my children play in countless soccer, lacrosse, basketball and field hockey games. As much as I enjoy the Fall season because of all the changes it brings with it, such as football and cooler temperatures, Fall always means VJJA and the Annual Training Institute. This year's conference is on the horizon and things seem to be falling into place. As in every other aspect of your association, things don't happen without commitment from the membership. Before I get into the remainder of this article, which will include information regarding the Fall Training Institute, legislative issues, and the need for more/new volunteers, I want to thank Scott Warner and

Katherine Farmer for their tireless work in putting this conference together. Without Scott and Katherine, this year's institute accommodations would be the DOC transportation vans parked in the Cedar Lodge parking lot as we all waited for JTS training from Lewis Wright!

As most of you know by now the 2004 Fall Training Institute is being held at the Hospitality House Hotel in historic Williamsburg, Virginia between November 3, 2004 and November 5, 2004. Due to a collaborative effort of the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice and private vendors, members of our association including probation services, residential facilities and the correctional centers will be treated to an outstanding conference that will have something for everyone. We are proud to have training focused on topics such as gangs and Disproportionate Minority Contact, which are significant issues facing juvenile justice systems throughout the country. I believe the knowledge we obtain from this training institute will continue to assist us in our efforts in establishing Virginia as a leader in juvenile justice throughout the country.

One of the many things VJJA does is get involved in legislative issues that impact our members and/or the children we serve. In preparation for the 2005 Legislative session, VJJA is committed to investing its resources into three separate legislative efforts. Our primary efforts will be focused on the inclusion of juvenile probation officers into the VaLORS retirement system. If we have a fighting chance to have any success in regards to VaLORS we **must** have a level of participation from the membership that has never been



reached before now. We will again attempt to use the voice of our membership to reach out and contact individual Delegates and Senators with the hope that they support our inclusion in VaLORS through the introduction of a bill or the support of a bill once introduced. As I have said in past issues, if we are to get more than just lip service and a pat on the back from the General Assembly when it comes to the issue of VaLORS, we must not count on the efforts of just a few but instead must count on the efforts of the entire Association. In addition to working on the VaLORS issue, we will lend our support to the Department in regards to proposed legislation making it a felony to assault a probation officer. Finally, we will continue to pursue the issue of having probation officers relieved from the responsibility of advising juveniles of their rights and conducting financial disclosure investigations. As always, to get involved with any of our association's legislative endeavors, please contact your district chairperson, refer to the VJJA web page or contact the legislative chairperson (who is currently *me!*) for details.

Finally, I **implore** you to get more involved in your organization. VJJA has established itself as the premier

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ADVOCATE

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Membership Matters

by Jim Woolfe

Don't Let This Be Your Last Issue!

If you are reading this column and have not yet renewed your VJJA membership, you may very well be reading your last issue of the *Advocate*. As you know, this newsletter is a benefit of membership which cannot be obtained any other way; unless, of course, you steal a copy. Let's face it folks, your life could be changing dramatically if you don't renew. As I have mentioned in the past, renewing your membership has a direct effect on your overall well being and mental health. It's still only \$15 to renew, so what's the holdup? How much is your health worth?

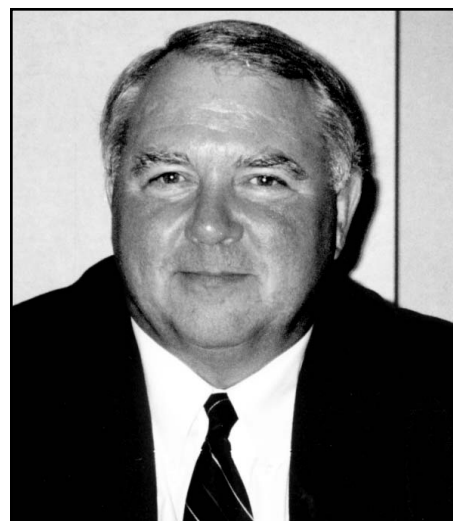
Have you noticed that the stores are now featuring displays of Christmas items next to bats, witches and pumpkins? I don't know how they missed the opportunity to highlight the entire display with a great big Turkey Centerpiece to capture all three magical events in one totally disturbing display. Anyway, since this will be the last issue before the New Year, and for some, the last issue ever, let me be among the first to

wish all of you a fun filled Halloween, bountiful Thanksgiving, a wondrous Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

This time of year is also one of my favorites. It's that time of year when the senses come alive and the crisp cool freshness of the Fall air awakens the quiescent essence of your soul, which springs forth like dancing elves on a sea of marshmallows. YEE GADS!!!! Where did that come from? Now that's what I call disturbing. Anyway, Fall is also the time of year where I bemoan yet another lost season of baseball with my pitiful Mets and, as all Redskin

"It's still only \$15 to renew, so what's the holdup? How much is your health worth?"

fans are prone to do every year, look forward to another hope filled season of the NFL. So far, this hope filled season has sprung a small leak. I am confident, however, that by the time you read this the Skins will have rebounded from a 1-3 start to a promising 3-3 or maybe 4-3 record. This is also the time of year when we check the pulse of VJJA's Membership rolls. Last year at Conference time, we had 529 members; and with a month to go we currently have 510 paid members. This is pret-



ty good, but we can do better. Please encourage your co-workers to join VJJA and help them move towards an improved lifestyle.

After some difficulties in finally getting our new seals with the correct year, we will be getting them out to you between now and the Conference. Hopefully by the time you get the *Advocate* you will have your new seal. Certificates will also be sent to all the new members. If you are sitting there with your new seal and don't have anything to stick it to, let me know and I'll send you a new Certificate.

Our new Web site continues to add new features every day, so check it out at www.vjja.org. As always, if you have any questions about membership or you need a Certificate or Seal, just e-mail me at james.woolf@djj.virginia.gov or call @ 757-427-4361.

Once again, I want to thank all of you for your wonderful support of VJJA and I look forward to seeing old friends and meeting the new members at the Conference in November.

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Just Us

by R. Erich Telsch

Maybe I see things a little differently, but when I hear about natural disasters my first inclination is to get up and go there. Not vacationing, not storm chasing, not to surf in the surging waves; but to help folks like you and me. In the aftermath of Hurricane Isabel, and the fires in California, and recently when Hurricane Charley tore up huge portions of Florida, my mind keeps coming back to an emergency response concept that might prove beneficial to Virginia and other states.

As you are aware, when employees are concentrating on emergency concerns at home, and also duty-bound to perform in the criminal justice business, it is very difficult to maintain focus and stamina. The length of time our colleagues endure such stress clearly affects their ability to perform their essential job elements. Personal and family safety issues, coupled with fatiguing physical constraints due to natural disasters (roads washed away, power outages, and so forth), affect the ability of states to provide corrections and juvenile justice services.

In the interest of public safety, I believe states can help each other in these times of stress by banding their resources. Like coordinated fire-fighting and rescue personnel (our own Fairfax County being a prime example), generic skills translate well from one area to another, one region to another. Often the closest, neighboring areas are also experiencing similar difficulties, so it would be important to solicit assistance from more distant, unaffected locales.

If each state identified twenty-five Juvenile Justice employees who could respond to emergencies, the nation would have a pool of 1250 trained, competent, dependable individuals who could substitute for affected states' employees and provide reliable services. The number of personnel requested to respond would be determined by the receiving state based on the nature of their emergency. The affected state would be responsible to coordinate and direct the work effort. However, each state would absorb its own costs in the spirit of volunteerism and, similar to any insurance premium, we thus incur a small, fixed amount today to ensure against a greater, unknown financial disaster in the future - when we may need assistance.

Looking only at Juvenile Justice, the twenty-five employees should represent a specific mix of abilities. For example, a typical state Juvenile Justice Emergency Response Group (an 'erg' is a unit of work in physics)

might consist of nine (9) juvenile correctional officers, two (2) institutional supervisors, nine (9) probation and parole officers, two (2) community supervisors, one (1) administrator, one (1) logistics/financial supervisor, and one (1) maintenance technician. The combined talents of these twenty-five employees should be able to cover shifts at

any detention home, group home, correctional center, or court services office. They could provide direct juvenile contact, mechanical services, communications, transportation, perimeter security, and the like, around the clock in twelve-hour shifts. This would free up local area community personnel to do essential field work – like finding parolees whose mobile homes don't exist anymore. It would relieve local institutional personnel long enough to assess damage and create necessary repairs. While certainly not experts in local procedures, the level of competence of these individuals (all selected with five or more years experience) would compensate with at least rational, measured, and safe responses to any situation they may encounter. Any necessary legal issues can be resolved by the individual receiving states (swearing-in of officers, etc.), or through a form of interstate compact agreement.

Given our recent experience with Hurricane Isabel, I am sure you can agree what a relief it would have been for institutional staff, for example, to have been able to go home for twenty-four hours and take care of their families. When their attention is diverted, it unfortunately places our employees and colleagues at greater risk. However, if such a coordinated (national or regional) Juvenile Justice ERG was in place, we might have been able to request fifty or seventy-five personnel from other states, who would have willingly volunteered to help us. If trained officers and staff from other states could provide even 48 hours of coverage relief, our colleagues might well re-adjust their personal affairs enough to continue to maintain public safety



“In the interest of public safety, I believe states can help each other in these times of stress by banding their resources.”

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Just Us

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and yet feel comforted knowing they took care of their own families during severe circumstances.

There have been times of natural calamity in Virginia when I wished I could have given my staff even one shift off to care for their families. I have been through floods, drought, blizzards, and ice storms here in Virginia, but the worst by far was weeks of smoke from forest fires. You could close your eyes to the sting, but you had to keep breathing. After weeks of stench and breathing in smoke, it truly begins to wear on employees and wards to be in such affected areas. I can only imagine how the Californians cope during the Santa Anna winds.

While I recognize that most states are reticent to accept such direct assistance, if there is anything I can do to help offer our services to others, please contact me. Better yet, contact the decision makers in our state, and our elected officials as well. Obviously, this program would grow exponentially if adult corrections could be stimulated to do the same thing. Given the increased numbers on the adult side, perhaps fifty correctional officers and twenty-five P&P officers from each state might be necessary. But the concept of measured assistance between states, in a professional area as specialized as ours, would remain the same. Involving the Department of Homeland Security might be one way of establishing such a network, though one would have to have a great deal of influence and it might end up looking radically different in design.

YOU READ HIS COMMENTARY IN *THE ADVOCATE*.

NOW SEE WHAT HE REALLY
HAS ON HIS MIND!

R. ERICH TELSCH

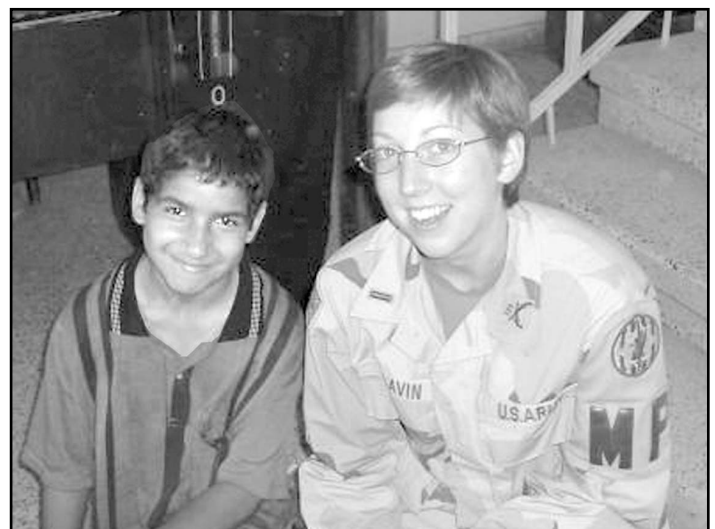
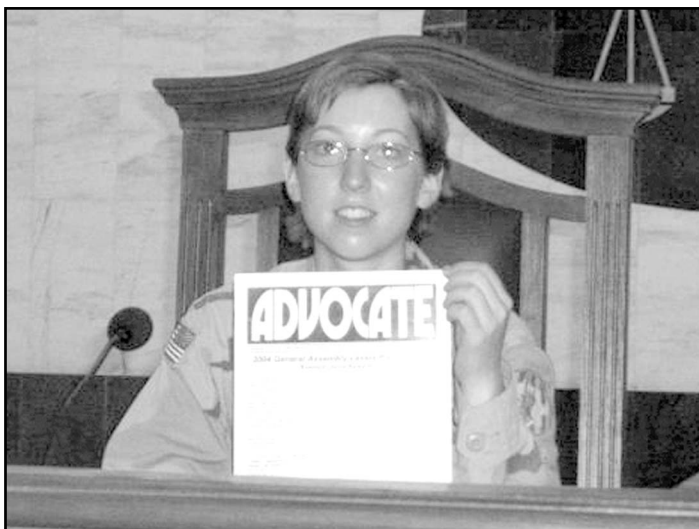
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It is difficult for any state to ask for help, and difficult for states to offer help at times, but when disaster strikes we have to do something - we're all in this together. This business is never easy, and it is harder still when our employees have personal and family safety issues with which to contend. If now is not the appropriate time for our organization to pursue this concept, I certainly understand; but I believe we would have a waiting list of officers volunteering for such duty. As for me, I'll be the first volunteer if asked to serve. I would be honored to lead a group of Virginia's juvenile probation and correctional officers anywhere to provide professional respite coverage. Not all of us would be picked, but you can put me down for Hawaii. Somebody has to do it. *Mahalo*.



Second Lieutenant Katherine Savin is a Platoon Leader in the 410th Military Police Company, Baghdad. Her mission is convoy security and the training of Iraq's police force. At left, she reads her issue of the Advocate at the Central Criminal Court of Iraq (CCCI). At right, Lt. Savin poses with a young Iraqi. Katherine served a DJJ internship with the 25th District CSU in Waynesboro during the Spring of 2003. She has been in Iraq since February, 2004.

While You're Browsing...

What web sites help you do your job? Not too many years ago, most of us were without e-mail and without access to the web. Now it seems that we cannot live without this technology. Policy and Procedure, Agency Directory information and even the Code of Virginia can all be found on line, so fewer and fewer big notebooks or directories are filling our office shelves. Which web sites are you finding helpful? Please share your tips and hot sites (just job-related ones, please) with your colleagues throughout the Commonwealth.

One of the best sites is the official DJJ Home Page. This site is your portal to 'Inside DJJ' and many fine links to national sites, other states and even VJJA. The 'Inside DJJ' tab takes the user to all institutions, detention centers, and court service units. It also includes up-to-date training opportunities and tools to help you register. The site is easy to locate: www.djj.state.va.us.

Placement programs or private vendors (CSA and otherwise) can be found at www.dmhmrzas.state.va.us. The Code sections that you seek can be found at the helpful Sentencing Commission site, www.vcsc.state.va.us; at the legislative-judicial site, <http://leg1.state.va.us/>; or at a similar site that links to forms, mediation programs and other courts, <http://www.courts.state.va.us>. Most state courts are now on line and can be found at <http://208.210.219.132/vadistrict/select.jsp>. This is a new and easy way to do limited adult record checks for specific courts. Some folks may also want to access the state VISSTA training, easily found at <http://www.vcu.edu/vissta/atcs/>.


A few national or federal sites may likewise be of interest. Anyone can subscribe to a list service; just email justinfo@ncjrs.org to be added to the justice information newsletter from the National Center for Justice Research (or see www.ncjrs.org). Research and articles can be found at many sites, including the juvenile justice publications link at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/>. Grant and funding information is easy to locate at the Office of Justice site, www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fundsopps.htm; or at a similar community policing site, www.cops.usdoj.gov. Some readers will find the Child Welfare League of America Juvenile Justice site useful at <http://www.cwla.org/programs/juvenilejustice>; or check out another state DJJ research site at <http://www.djj.state.fl.us/>.

Teenagers!

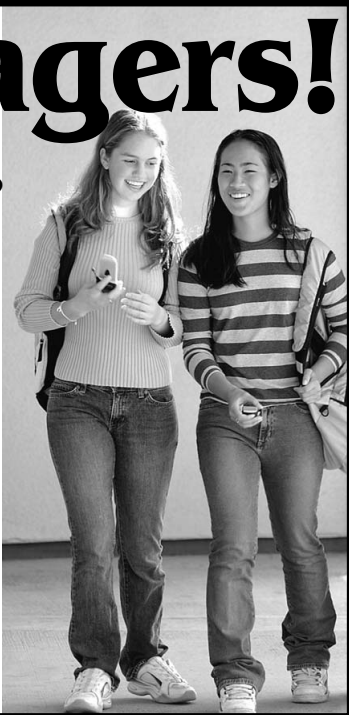
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2004 VJJA Institute

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Group; "Anger Management and Working with Adolescent Females," presented by Family Focus; and "Family Connections," presented by Life Journeys, Inc. From 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., the Association will host a first ever "Leadership Mixer." This event is designed to encourage members to get more involved in VJJA, particularly in leadership roles. The evening concludes with the VJJA Social starting at 8:00 p.m. and ending at... well, it starts at 8:00 p.m. VJJA's own "Dr. Gray" (Lewis Wright) will be providing the music.

The Institute finishes up on Friday with another Continental Breakfast at 8:30 a.m., followed from 9:00 a.m. until noon with an FBI presentation on "Domestic Terrorism." The annual Marathon Door Prize Give-Away we be drawn as the last order of business.

Remember to VOTE November 2nd

Book Review

by Eric Assur

Gates of Injustice: The Crisis in America's Prisons

Alan Elsner

Financial Times-Prentice Hall publisher, 2004

Hardcover, 264 pages

A Virginia Federal District Court judge recently sentenced a member of the "Virginia Jihad network" to 85 years in prison. The early summer Washington Post headline read: "Judge Angered by Rules Mandating Life Term for 1 Man, 85 Years for a Another." In an unusual comment, the judge noted that a mandatory minimum sentence for individuals involved in paintball practice and some conspir-

"The focus of this book is on the adult system; but the concepts of incarceration, mandated minimum sentences and aftercare or post incarceration treatment apply to the juvenile court population as well."

atorial activity in the post 9/11 era made no sense. The Alexandria judge noted that murderers often received lesser sentences. The judge followed the law. The court imposed the mandatory minimum sentence, with no consideration for early release unless it is later requested by the prosecutors. The defense attorney called the sentence the "greatest miscarriage of justice that I have ever been involved in."

Well, the author of Gates of Justice would agree. We simply do not need to sentence every drug user to a long prison sentence. There must be a better way to do business. Gates is a travel guide and tour of our prisons. The result is a not so favorable report; and a recommendation that everyone avoid

spending any time in most any correctional center. The focus of this book is on the adult system; but the concepts of incarceration, mandated minimum sentences and aftercare or post incarceration treatment apply to the juvenile court population as well. The Super Max prisons built in Virginia a decade or more ago are frequently mentioned. One could easily become mildly depressed just reading this book. Is there anything being done well in our institutions, or to reduce what is the world's highest rate of incarceration?

Prisons are money makers for many; and they provide jobs for people in small towns. Jail and prison suppliers now sell products needed to run a prison. The private sector competes for the dollars that can be earned by running an institution. The reader is told that prisons are a \$40 billion a year enterprise. This book is full of data; Chapter Two alone has 77 footnotes. After scanning or reading 12 chapters and lots of data, the reader is provided with an additional 22 pages of end notes and an almost equally long index. We are told that the U. S. State Department's Annual Human Rights Practices Report outlines prison conditions in 196 countries; but omits any comment on U.S. prisons and human rights in our own facilities. This book sheds some light on the state of corrections in the richest nation in the world. We are asked to consider whether or not we get much in return for the \$30,000 we spend per inmate each year; and if we have made any progress since Charles Dickens visited U. S. prisons in 1842.

The focus of this book is broad.

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Prisons in many of our states were visited by the author, but no single state is singled out. Wallens Ridge and other Virginia prisons are often used as illustrations of how *not* to reduce recidivism or provide a system that has any lasting and positive benefit to society. The book is up to date and covers a great deal of territory. It is worth looking at, but not something that will surprise too many who now work in the field. As the reader is told, "prisons have always held a powerful fascination for Americans." This book puts what the viewer sees in The Shawshank Redemption, The Green Mile or Cool Hand Luke into words.

HELP WANTED: Old Advocates

In preparation for VJJA's 40th Birthday Celebration in 2006, the *Advocate* Staff is putting together two special projects. First, we are working to research and write a comprehensive history of the Association. The *Advocate* plans to divide our 40 years into four decades, and to publish this history in our quarterly publications beginning in January, 2006:

- Winter, 2006 issue - 1966 to 1976;**
- Spring, 2006 issue - 1976 to 1986;**
- Summer, 2006 issue - 1986 to 1996; and**
- Fall, 2006 issue - 1996 to 2006.**

In conjunction with the written history project, it is our goal to collect a copy of every issue of the *Advocate* ever distributed for placement in the Association's archives. This will be difficult at best, but impossible without the help of our members.

Currently in our archives, we have 65 back issues of the *Advocate*. These issues span the time period from the very first *Advocate* which was published in September of 1975, to the Fall, 2004 issue that you are now reading. The problem is that we currently don't know what we don't have.

Initially, the *Advocate* was published bi-monthly. It switched to a quarterly publication in 1977. However, sometimes issues did not get published. For example, in 2001 we know for certain that there was no Summer issue of the *Advocate* published. There is, therefore, no use in trying to find it; it never existed in the first place.

But what about all those other years where there appear to be gaps? We don't know how many issues of the *Advocate* were published in 1982; but only the Fall, 1982 issue is in the archives. Are the Winter, Spring, and Summer issues from 1982 still floating around out there someplace? This is why we need your help.

Listed below are all of the *Advocate* issues currently in the Association's archives. ***If you have any issues which are not on this list***, please consider donating those issues to VJJA. You can do this by contacting the Advocate Editor at: P.O. Box 1336, Staunton, VA.

Archived Issues

1975	1979	1984	1988	1993	1998
September	None	March	Winter	February	February
October			Spring	June	July
	1980	1985	Summer	September	October
1976	Winter	Spring			
February	Spring	Fall	1989	1994	1999
April			Spring	October	January
July	1981	1986	Summer		
November	Complete Set	Winter		1995	2000
		Spring	1990	None	Fall
		Fall	Winter		
1977			Summer	1996	2001-2004
May	1982			March	
Summer	Fall	1987	1991	July	Complete Sets
		Spring	Winter	October	
1978	1983	Summer	Summer		
Winter	Spring			1997	
Fall	December			October	
			1992		
			None		



On August 13, 2004, the Valley District sponsored training on "Media Messages and the Promotion of Juvenile Delinquency." The presenter was Kelly Shifflett, Director of Prevention Specialist Programs for the Rockbridge Area Community Services Board. There was a great turnout for this event which added 17 new members to the District, plus 4 renewals! Lunch and a business meeting were held afterwards. The Honorable Ben Cline, local Delegate, graciously accepted an invitation to come out for this event; and he was given information regarding VALORS, which hopefully will benefit our members in the (near) future.



On August 10, 2004, Delegate Rob Bell presented Citizen Legislator Awards to nine citizens who were instrumental in securing passage of important legislation during the 2004 General Assembly. The Virginia Juvenile Justice Association was presented an award for their work on HB 653 which amended and reenacted 16.1-247 and 16.1-249 of the Code of Virginia relating to custody and confinement for juvenile offenses. The VJJA Award was accepted by Teri Larsen. Senator Chuck Colgan also sponsored the same bill on the Senate side on VJJA's behalf, SB 577. HB 653 allows juvenile intake officers and magistrates the authority to order confinement of a person 18 years of age or older in jail rather than in a juvenile detention center for an offense that occurred prior to the person obtaining the age of 18. Prior to this new law, the authority was limited to judges.

Hello, Williamsburg!

by Gina Pullen

Well, it appears that Fall is here, and we all know what that means! The VJJA Training Institute is near! So fellow VJJA members, forget your carb-watching or calorie-counting commitments; they'll be impossible to keep during those two and one-half days in November. The site of this year's Institute, the Williamsburg Hospitality House, is centrally located for fine dining. Nearby on Richmond Road, there are menus and prices to satisfy just about everyone. Of course, Williamsburg has its share of chain restaurants; but there are also some specialty eateries that range from surf to turf with prices from \$ to \$\$\$\$.

Richmond Road boasts Ruby Tuesdays, well-known for their great hamburgers and huge salads; and Appleby's, the most frequented establishment at the Richmond conference in years gone by. Along Richmond Road, you will also find the Outback Steak House, and the Yukon Steak House, which offer similar entrees: steak! The Olive Garden is always a good choice for tasty Italian food and prices that won't empty your wallet. Hmmm, love those breadsticks and salad! There is a relatively new eatery called Red, White and Blue on Richmond Road which I hear has really good barbeque with large portions and reasonable prices. Check with DJJ Director Jerraud Jones for a review of this establishment; word is that he really enjoys the food there.

I have two favorite restaurants on Richmond Road. Steve and I have been to the Aberdeen Barn so often that our pictures are on the restaurant's website. Jim Woolf's picture can be found there, too. As far as I'm concerned, the Aberdeen Barn has some of the best prime rib and steaks in Williamsburg. Dining there always begins with a crock of tasty cheddar cheese with breadsticks and crackers, which unfortunately we consume much too heartily before our

entrees are served. I have never been disappointed with my visits to the Barn, and the service is excellent. My other favorite is Milano's Italian Restaurant which has a huge, always fresh salad bar that comes with your meals. For a sample of several entrees, try the combo which usually contains three separate items like chicken, veal, or eggplant parmigiana. They also have an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner with soup and salad bar for around ten bucks.

I also like Tequila Rose, which is authentic Mexican cuisine. While I have never actually eaten at Rose's location on Richmond Road, I do frequent its sister restaurant on Merrimac Trail. In the past, I was never a fan of Mexican food, probably because the closest I ever came to "real" Mexican cuisine was Taco Bell. However, I love the food at the Rose! The menu is large with too many choices, but all wonderfully delicious. I have tried quite a few of the entrees (and Margueritas) and have yet to find one I wouldn't choose again. The portions are very large and the prices are a plus, too – moderately inexpensive.

Around the block on **Scotland Street** you can find Paul's Deli, with a menu of deli sandwiches, subs, burgers, pizza, and Italian entrees. It is a very casual, sports-type deli. Paul's is another one of those places I always leave waddling and moaning and groaning because I've eaten too much; but it is sooooo good. Large portions. Good food. Low prices. Some of our more mature senior members should watch out, though. Paul's is a William & Mary hangout. If you go there, be prepared to really feel your age!

If you care to venture over to **Rt. 60, Pocahontas Trail (Busch Gardens)**, there are several good places to dine as well. I like Sal's Italian Restaurant and the Sportsman's Bar & Grille, both located in the Festival Marketplace. The Sportsman

is a favorite of the locals, where the owner mingles with the diners and makes them feel right at home. They have good sandwiches, particularly the Reuben, with delicious home fries. The jumbo steamed shrimp is wonderful! We even saw retired NFL football coach Mark Levy in there once. Wow! Of course, the Sportsman has multiple televisions so you can view your favorite sport.

In the same general area, there is a great seafood restaurant, The Whaling Company, which has been around for a while so some of you may be familiar with it. They are always changing their menu so it is interesting to dine there. In the Village Shops at Kingsmill, which is directly opposite the Festival Marketplace, is another one of my favorites, Mr. Liu's Chinese Restaurant. Some of his entrees are large enough for two people to share, which is what we often do with the highly recommended Moo Shoo Pork. If you're in the mood for French Cuisine, Le Yaca is known for its excellent wine selection, and Chef-Owner Daniel Yves Abid was chef at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney (impressive, huh?).

Finally, there is always **Duke of Gloucester St.**, where you find Christina Campbell's Tavern and Chownings; both with Colonial Williamsburg fare and flair. (Reservations Suggested). The Trellis Restaurant is a great place for lunch with its outdoor patio and specialty sandwiches. Dinner at any of these spots will be a bit pricey, so consider that before making your decision. For a flavor of days gone by, however, they are all excellent places to dine.

Hopefully, this research will help you decide where to eat on those two big nights out in Williamsburg. While this is certainly not the extent of our fare in Williamsburg, space dictates that you don't get me started; don't even get me started. Have a great stay in Williamsburg!

John Newell Retires



In the picture which accompanies this article, John Newell might be smiling because he is retiring from the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice on November 1st. Then again, John just naturally smiles a lot, anyway. John began his career in 1965, when the Department of Juvenile Justice was the Division of Welfare & Institutions. Word has it that John is the second most tenured employee in the Division of Community Programs, perhaps in the entire agency. He began his career as a Special Placements Coordinator with the Department, based at the Reception & Diagnostic Center. At RDC, John used “239” funding, and later “286” funds, to place direct care wards into alternative placements. After the placements were successfully facilitated, John took particular joy in traveling around maintaining regular contacts with those kids. In recent years, John has had daily operational responsibility for DJJ’s “294” program, a funding source for contracted, transitional services for parolees, as the Department’s Transitional Services Specialist. In that capacity, John has been assisting parole officers in their service brokerage role by helping them purchase community-based services.

John is a current resident of Ashland, Virginia; he moved there when he was six years old. John’s father was a salesman for the B.W. Wilson Paper Co., and his mother was a high school English teacher. It should come as no surprise where John got his command of the English language, and his propensity for correcting those who butcher it. John remained in Ashland for undergraduate school, graduating from Randolph Macon College in 1964 with a degree in Political Science. In 1980, he earned a master’s degree in Urban & Regional Planning (MURP) from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Though the MURP degree seems an odd fit for a juvenile justice employee, John’s extracurricular activities help to explain it. As the former mayor of Ashland, John believes in supporting local businesses and maintaining small town atmospheres. He and his wife were featured in the PBS Documentary “STORE WARS”, which documented Wal-Mart’s failed attempt to locate in Ashland. Though he is no longer the mayor, John continues to be involved in local politics. He also serves on the Boards of Directors of Scenic Virginia, the Hanover Arts and Activities Center, the Hanover Black Heritage Society, and works with the Virginia High Speed Rail Development Committee and the Virginia Association of Railway Patrons.

John’s interest in politics extends far beyond local matters. A liberal democrat to be sure, John loves to get involved in spirited debates with co-workers. *Advocate* Editor Gary Conway remembers many such exchanges with John. “John and I are direct political opposites, and we’ve had some good discussions,” Conway says. “But we’ve never exchanged a cross word. Usually, we just wind up laughing at each other.”

John’s love for travel makes him the perfect fit as a Scenic Virginia Board Member. He has traveled scenic by-ways all over

the United States and beyond, sending his co-workers back at the office teaser postcards from along the way. For years John made these jaunts in a VW bug, a vehicle rumored to have logged nearly a million miles before being traded in on a Honda. In addition to his extensive in-state travel, John has been to England and Scotland three times, Ireland twice (where he kissed the Blarney Stone), and to Mexico once on a liquor run.

A man of many passions, John also loves following the weather, an interest he has had since childhood. Known around his office as “Weatherman John,” Mr. Newell probably knows more about the weather than some meteorologists. John is also the official amateur weatherman for Channel 12 in Richmond.

When John isn’t charting weather patterns or planning his next trip to the Grand Canyon, he can be found watching sports or listening to music. A college basketball fanatic, John loves to attend the home games at Randolph Macon and U.Va. He also loves Broadway musicals and symphonic music. John and his wife, Susan, usually go out for live music at least once a week. Their favorite “hangout” is the Ashland Coffee and Tea, where they have become groupies of a local band, ‘The Burnt Taters.’ Far out!

A devoted husband, John has been married for 33 years to the former Susan Manson. They met on a blind date, February 1, 1970. That night, John and Susan shared a Caesar salad for two at the Raleigh Grill, then went to a movie at Lowe’s; ‘The Secret of Santa Victoria.’ Susan shares John’s passions for college basketball, music and travel; John obviously is married to his best friend.

Though not a charter member, John joined VJOA shortly after the Association was founded in 1966. He has been active in the organization in many capacities over the years; and received the Association’s 1998 Meritorious Service Award in the Field of Residential Care.

Janie Schu is “happy for John ... but sad for our Department for losing such a capable and caring person. I cannot tell you how many times John has helped me find funding to provide services to kids!” Michele Banalett says, “I never have seen him upset and out of sorts. He was always kind and kept focused on his job.” Barry Green describes John as “a good guy who cares a lot about people.” Rick Smith observes that “John’s long term dream is to be a Virginia Tech Hokie. If we could find a way to help him fulfill that dream, we would celebrate his retirement right!”

After retiring, John plans to repaint his house, take a trip out West, and do some walking and “some (small) mountain climbing, followed by knee surgery.” John also vows that retirement will include “more abuse of alcohol (he’s trying to switch from Legends Lager to red wine at the suggestion of his cardiologist) while listening to Blue Grass, Folk, Jazz and Blues at the Ashland Coffee and Tea, two blocks from my (newly repainted) home.”

We hope John’s retirement plans also include remaining involved with VJJA. On behalf of our Membership, the *Advocate* wishes Mr. Newell all the best; and thanks.

Advocate

Virginia Juvenile Justice Association
c/o P.O. Box 1336
Staunton, VA. 24402

ph.: 540-245-5028
fax: 540-245-5326
e-mail: conwaygl@djj.state.va.us
website: www.vjja.org

Bob's Turn

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organization of its kind in Virginia because of what the Association stands for and the level of commitment its membership has shown in the past. In order to keep the tradition of VJJA alive we must have more participation from the membership and identify individuals willing to accept the responsibilities associated with holding office at the state or local level. If an organization is going to thrive and prosper, an infusion of energy, new ideas and different perspectives is needed. This can only occur if people volunteer their time to assist on committees or hold office at the local or state level. If you are at the conference, please take the time to attend the VJJA

Leadership Mixer (Thursday Nov 4 from 5:15 to 6:15) where you can meet with Board members and committee chairs and find out information about how and why to become more involved in the Association. Additional information pertaining to the Leadership Mixer will be offered at the onset of the conference.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Williamsburg in November for yet another great VJJA Conference! Any questions regarding the conference can be directed to Katherine Farmer or Scott Warner.

See you in Williamsburg!
Bob

TIDEWATER DISTRICT'S

14th Annual SPRING INSTITUTE

**Diane Floyd,
Va. Beach CSU**

The Tidewater District will hold its two day training event March 24 & 25, 2005 at the Quality Inn, 705 Atlantic Avenue, Va. Beach. Rooms will be \$59 + tax and all rooms are oceanfront. Registration costs will be low and as usual, VJJA members get priority! Flyers will be sent out sometime in February. Hope to see you there!