

The Visitors Viewpoint

Bedford Area Welcome Center News & PR Opportunities

www.Jamestown1607.org *Could you have survived?*

DATE: July 15, 2005

PR OPPORTUNITIES

Learning Vacations: Diana Lambdin Meyer is seeking info on learning vacations – anything from cooking schools to musical instruments to clogging will do. Contact her ASAP at lambdin@aol.com.

Sleep Tight: Laura Daily wants info on how hotels and lodging are ramping up their “Bed Wars” with new bedding, special sleeping rooms, noise abatements, sleep concierges, etc. for a story in AAA World. Deadline is July 20, ldaily@sopris.net.

New Family Resorts: Candyce Stapen (sbstapen@gfvac.com) seeks info on new family-oriented resorts.

Cooking Up a Story: Irvina Lew (irvina@optonline.net) seeks info about chefs who started their careers in big city restaurants and who now have their own well-regarded restaurants outside major cities. Deadline for submittal is August 15.

Mid-Atlantic Tropics: Mary Burnham (burnhamink@bellsouth.net) is looking for tropical holiday getaways, resorts and destinations to escape winter yet still feel the Christmas spirit through decorations, light shows or holiday events. Particularly looking for lodgings in the mid-Atlantic region that have a tropical theme for folks who can't travel to Florida or the Carribbean.

Travel Radio Show: Kal London hosts a travel radio show every weekday morning on two Connecticut radio stations and has interviewed over 2400 travel related guests. *Travel with Kal* airs at 9:30 pm and he is always looking for new material and guests. If you are interested in possibly being interviewed about your travel related business or attraction and could do so at the last minute, contact him at london1021@cox.net.

NEWS & NOTES:

Olde Liberty Station Celebrates 100th Birthday: Recognizing and celebrating the history of the Bedford depot, Olde Liberty Station is holding drawings for Harry's Famous Cheesecakes on July 8, 15, 22 & 29 at noon. A drawing for Dinner for Four will be held on August 5th and the Grand Prize drawing to be held on August 12 is an overnight stay to Cass, WV with excursions on the Cass Scenic Railroad. Drawing the winning ticket will be Virginia Saunders, a Bedford native who is also celebrating her 100 birthday on August 12! Stop in and register today! All drawings are held at noon.

Get Your Tickets!: Tickets are now on sale at the Welcome Center for *Bedford Goes to War*, a drama by author James Morrison. Three performances will be held August 12-14. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children and proceeds go to the National D-Day Memorial.

Jamestown 2007 Seeks Performers: Commemoration events for America's 400th Anniversary 18-month celebration begin in May of 2006 and Prosody Creative Services is building a database of volunteer performers. To be included send a written profile and non-returnable CD or audio cassette to Marcia Brecker, Prosody Creative Services, 410 West Francis Street, Williamsburg, VA 23185. Also advise Marcia if you have upcoming performances in the Mid-Atlantic region. For more information about commemorative events, visit the "Signature Events" section at www.americas400thanniversary.org.

WEEKEND EVENTS

9th Annual Bedford Quilt Show 2005: July 13-26. Exhibit of contemporary quilts showcases the work of dozens of talented quilt makers who use fabric to express their creativity. Sponsored by The Peaks and Pieces Quilt Guild and The Friends of the Bedford Public Library. Bedford Central Library, 2nd floor. 540-586-6319, www.friendsofbedfordlibrary.org.

49th Annual Ruritan Club Horse Show: July 16. New London, 12411 US Hwy 460 E. Forest, adjacent to New London Elementary School. \$4 donation. Shows at noon and 5 pm. For info email Carl Sensabaugh at ruritan1.va@netzero.net.

Hollywood in the Hills: July 16. Bedford's outdoor movie series continues this month with the showing of *October Sky*. Family friendly alcohol-free event. Gates open at 8 pm, showing at dark. Free. Refreshments available. 540-587-5681, www.visitbedford.com.

Music in the Park: July 16, 8-10 pm. Great evening of bluegrass and country music complete with the Old Dominion Cloggers. Food Available. Smith Mountain Lake State Park beach. Free, parking fee applies. 540-297-6066.

Rodrigue's Blue Dog: July 16-August 27. Louisiana artist George Rodrigue creates a whimsical world for his famous Blue Dog to enjoy. Guests can use oil pastels to create a world for Blue Dog in the Imagination Studios from 10 am-12 on July 16 & 30 and August 13 & 27. Amazement Square, 434-845-1888 ext. 32, www.amazementsquare.org.

Rove With A Ranger: July 16, 11 am. Children 9 and older are invited to take a behind-the-scenes tour of the life of a park ranger. Free. Booker T. Washington National Memorial, 540-721-2094, www.nps.gov/btw.

Saturdays in the Cemetery: July 16, 10 am. Sandwiching in Symbolism. Take a walking tour with Cemetery Director Jane White, and explore the religious, secular and

botanical symbols within Old City Cemetery. Learn about the obvious and hidden meanings of various architecture, graves and landscape. Free, donations are welcome. 434-847-1465.

Wake-N-Skate Wakeboarding Tournament: July 16-18, Smith Mountain Lake. For info call 540-721-1941.

Roanoke Valley RibFest: July 16, 10-10. Competitive event includes professional ribbers, restaurants and backyard barbecuers. Patrons can sample ribs and cast their vote for the People's Choice Award. Music, children's activities, contests and more. Elmwood Park, Downtown Roanoke, 540-344-4691.

Mercury vs. Mullein: July 17, noon-5. Learn about medical care through the centuries at this special Sunday Afternoon in the Park historic program. Virginia's Explore Park, MP 115, Blue Ridge Parkway. 800-842-9163, www.explorepark.org.

Doc Watson at Lime Kiln: July 17, 7:30 pm. Concert by legendary six-time Grammy Award Winner. Theatre at Lime Kiln, Lexington. 540-463-3074.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Storyteller Lynn Ruehlmann: July 21, 10 am. This program, "Quilting Aesop", is designed for children, their families and the young at heart. Lynn has been working as a professional storyteller for more than fifteen years. Bedford Central Library, 540-586-8911, ext. 11. www.firendsofbedfordlibrary.org.

Hunter's Retreat – The Battle at Liberty: July 22-24. Reenactment of the 1864 Civil War battle. Centertown Bedford, 540-586-2148, www.centertownbedford.com.

The Music Man: July 22-23. Presented by the Encore Youth Theatre. Showtimes are 7:30 pm on 7/22 and 2:30 pm on 7/23. Academy of Fine Arts, Lynchburg. 434-846-8499, www.academyfinearts.com.

Family Day at D-Day: July 23, 10-5 pm. Discover the lessons and legacy of World War II through interactive programs tours and projects. Activities include Victory Garden projects, book-signings, conversations with veterans, story stations, living history, miniature WWII models and more. Bring the family and enjoy a day at the Memorial. 540-586-3329, www.dday.org.

Farm Tour and Open House: July 23, 11-2. Food and fun for the whole family. Come for a day of fun on the farm and enjoy a pig-picking and bluegrass music. Royal Oak Farm, 2855 Orrix Creek Road (off Rte. 24 on Rte. 731). Free, 540-297-3299.

300 Years of Fashion: July 24, Noon-5. Discover the fashionable way to dress in three different time periods at this special Sunday afternoon historic program. Explore Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Milepost 115, www.explorepark.org, 800-842-9163.

ONGOING EVENTS:

Summer Events at the Park: Smith Mountain Lake State Park, 540-297-6066.

Caribbean Festival: The Point at Mariners Landing hosts “Welcome to the Islands” every Wednesday night in June, July and August. Steel Drum Band performs from 6-9. Adults and children’s island menus. 540-297-4900, 800-851-4988, www.marinerslanding.com.

Plantation Tours at Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest: June 1-October 31. Saturdays at 2:45 pm. Learn about the enslaved community and the sights and sounds of Jefferson’s farm. 434-525-1806, www.poplarforest.org.

Art UpStairs: Through July 30. Exhibit by Dave Wertz and Michael Maxwell. Upstairs at Bedford Hardware. 540-586-8811.

Country Cruise: Every Wednesday, 8-10 pm. The Southern Belle now features Country Night Under the Stars, a 2 hour cruise with a great BBQ buffet and your favorite country tunes. 540-483-3881, www.southernbellecruises.com.

See www.visitbedford.com for a full listing of 2005/2006 events by month.

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Submit calendar items to: nanci@visitbedford.com

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