

the Chronicle

BUILDING THE FUTURE

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Community Service Awards Dinner Set for Feb. 22

The Community Service Awards Dinner, an annual fundraiser for Commonwealth Catholic Charities, is planned for Wednesday, Feb. 22 at the Holiday Inn Select Koger South in Richmond.

World-renowned **Chef Paul Elbling and Marie-Antoinette Elbling**, owners of the award-winning La Petite France restaurant, will receive the 2006 **Samuel H. Dibert Award**. For more than 30 years, the Elblings have called on their culinary skills and knowledge to support cancer research and the prevention of heart disease. Their determination to help the less fortunate lead to the decision to host fundraisers on behalf of the Little Sisters of the Poor and the Sacred Heart Center.

Gary Glover, president of Puritan Cleaners, will accept the **Ukrop's Community Service Award**. Mr. Glover and Puritan Cleaners will be recognized for

the company's outstanding Coats for Kids Program, work on behalf of the Central Virginia Food Bank and support of America's military troops.

Guest speaker will be **Daphne Maxwell Reid**, actress and co-founder of New Millennium Studios in Petersburg. Mrs. Reid starred as Aunt Viv in the NBC hit comedy "The Fresh Prince of

Bel Air" and shared the spotlight with husband Tim Reid in the CBS shows "Frank's Place" and "Snoops." The talented actress also appeared in the feature films "Once Upon A Time . . . When We Were Colored People," and "Protocol."

The event begins at 6:00 p.m. Cost to attend the dinner and awards presentation is \$70.00 per person. Corporate sponsorship opportunities are also available. A special Meet and Greet Reception for the award recipients and guest speaker will also be held earlier that evening. For details, sponsorship information and reservations, contact Cabell Gorman in the CCC Richmond office at 804-545-5909 or e-mail Cabell_gorman@cccova.org.



Daphne Maxwell Reid

The Community Service Awards Dinner is sponsored by Bon Secours Richmond Health Systems, Capital One and 88.9FM WCVF Richmond/Community Idea Stations.



"All Aboard" Kids Show Coming to Roanoke

Commonwealth Catholic Charities will bring the **Learning Station**, a critically acclaimed national musical performing troupe, to Roanoke this spring to entertain children and families at a new CCC fundraising event.

"Commonwealth Catholic Charities Presents the Learning Station" is planned for Saturday, June 10 at Roanoke College. The Learning Station will perform its popular "All Aboard" show, an interactive song and dance production that highlights cultural acceptance, the importance of reading and lessons in saying "no" to strangers. "All Aboard" appeals to children ages 11 and younger. **John Walsh**, host of Fox-TV's "America's Most

The Learning Station

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Dear Friends of CCC:

In order to remain faithful to our mission, Commonwealth Catholic Charities is guided by a set of core values: faith, dignity of human life, family, diversity, community and accessibility. They are our organiza-



tion's public testament to the reason we are called to empower individuals, strengthen families and build community. Every day, we promise our clients, employees, donors, board members,

volunteers and funding partners, as well as the communities we serve, that we will strive to be an agency of excellence.

We constantly reach out to people and bring them into the circle of excellence. There are many working people who go into debt because of illness or another family emergency. For them excellence means a return to financial stability. This issue of *The Chronicle* includes information about our Debt Management Services, which offers debt repayment to those people who may be living on the edge of bankruptcy. Through participation in the program, people recover from financial crisis and establish working budgets. For most who come to us, it may be the first time in quite a while that they can see a light at the end of the tunnel. The values of faith, family and community are once again affirmed.

You may be saving a family and helping them return to financial health by discretely referring your friends and loved ones to us. Or you may need the service yourself. With help from a CCC certified credit counselor, you will once again be on the road to excel in life's challenges, both personal and financial.

Rev. David J. Bergner,
SDS, DSW, ACSW
Executive Director

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Wanted," described "All Aboard" as "an example of what educators want to accomplish throughout the country . . . programs that work and are fun for children."

"The Learning Station offers a unique opportunity for families to bond and to learn. Commonwealth Catholic Charities is excited to sponsor The Learning Station and to have this group visit the Roanoke Valley," said **Scott Sartini**, chair of CCC's Roanoke Advisory Committee.

The event begins at 2:00 p.m. with the one-hour "All Aboard" show. Guests will be treated to an ice cream party following the performance. Individual tickets are \$15.00 each. To reserve your tickets now, contact Alison Drennan in the CCC Roanoke office at 540-278-1637 or e-mail Alison_drennan@cccova.org. Opportunities for sponsorship are also available.

CCC offers life-changing human services throughout the Roanoke Valley including adoption, pregnancy counseling, therapeutic foster care, services for older adults living alone, individual and family counseling and supervised visitation for children and their noncustodial parents. "We want Roanoke residents to know about these services, and how they can enrich and improve their lives and their children's future," said CCC Executive Director **Rev. David J. Bergner**.

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Help for Individuals Stressed Over Debt

Mounting credit card debt, delinquent accounts and medical bills cause overwhelming financial stress to millions of individuals and families each year. In 2005, the **CCC Debt Management and Financial Counseling Program** helped nearly 250 individuals and families gain financial stability through credit counseling. Those who take advantage of the program's offerings learn budgeting and how to set financial goals. Debt may also be reduced or eliminated.

"Many clients approach their debt management appointments feeling ashamed and embarrassed," said **Barbara McEntyre**, supervisor of CCC's Debt Management and Financial Counseling Program. Mrs. McEntyre said that most clients leave her office feeling relieved and confident about the individualized debt management plans she has recommended.

While most individuals seek help for credit card debt, Mrs. McEntyre states that the CCC program can also assist those threatened by housing foreclosure.



CCC is a HUD certified Housing counseling agency and offers pre-purchase, post-purchase, delinquent and pre-foreclosure housing counseling. Unfortunately, many individuals facing foreclosure are unaware that this type of assistance is available. She has also seen an increase in the number of clients struggling with Pay Day Loans. "I just didn't know there was anyone who could

help me with this," said a client who received assistance for a Pay Day Loan. "I am finally getting control of my life," the client said.

CCC Debt Management and Financial Counseling is a component of CCC's HELP (Help in Emergencies and Long-term Planning) Program and is available at the Richmond office. For details or to schedule a consultation with a certified counselor, contact Barbara McEntyre at 804-545-5931 or e-mail Barbara_mcentyre@cccova.org. **There is no charge for financial, budget, credit or housing counseling. Individuals who become clients of the program are charged a small monthly fee.**

CCC Winter Wish List



Foster Parents and Mentors

CCC foster parents receive complete training, 24-hour professional staff support and stipend.

Contacts:

CCC Norton office –
Donna Boggs: 276-679-1195
Donna_boggs@cccova.org

CCC Richmond office –
Bebe Tran: 804-545-5949
Bebe_tran@cccova.org

CCC Roanoke office –
Mary Sue Libassi: 540-278-1627
Marysue_libassi@cccova.org

Infant Car Seats and Cribs

CCC Pregnancy Counseling programs need donations of infant car seats, carriers, cribs and pack 'n plays for young mothers receiving assistance. Additional items needed are diapers (all sizes), baby formula and baby clothes.

In Richmond:
Tami Hudson
804-272-2235
203 B Twinridge Lane

In Roanoke:
Marge Savage
540-344-5107
820 Campbell Ave., SW



CASA of Lee, Scott and Wise Counties Receives National Recognition

The Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program of Lee, Scott and Wise Counties, a Commonwealth Catholic Charities program, has been awarded certification by the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association. This certification recognizes that CASA of Lee, Scott and Wise Counties is in compliance with national CASA's high standards for quality child advocacy. "Trained, committed volunteers working with only a few children at a time make CASA effective," said CASA coordinator Nicky Fleenor. For information about CASA volunteer opportunities, contact Nicky Fleenor at 276-679-2272 or email svc_casa@cccova.org.



From left: Nicky Fleenor, CCC Casa coordinator and CASA volunteers Shirley Rogers, Jennifer Lester, Mary Jane Stallard and Jack Mulins are advocates for abused and neglected children.

Emergency Food Pantry (Richmond/Willow Lawn Office)

Canned fruit	Granola bars
Canned meat	Jelly
Canned soup	Peanut butter
Canned vegetables	Spaghetti sauce
Crackers	
Dry cereal	
Dry pasta and rice	

Independence for Seniors Needs Volunteers

This Roanoke based program is recruiting now for volunteers to provide companionship and support to homebound individuals in the Roanoke area. For details contact Sharon Day, 540-344-5107, e-mail: Sharon_day@cccova.org.



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Commonwealth Catholic Charities,
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit social service
organization, has been assisting the
residents of central and southwestern
Virginia since 1923. Services are
provided to all regardless of race,
religion, creed or country of origin.

ACCREDITED



The Chronicle is a quarterly publication produced for the employees, volunteers, contributors, clients and friends of Commonwealth Catholic Charities. If you are interested in sharing comments or contributing story ideas, please contact the editor by e-mail at paula_ritter@cccofva.org.

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Annual Community Service Awards Dinner



Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2006 • 6:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Select Koger South • Richmond, VA

Honorees
Chef Paul and Marie-Antoinette Elbling
Recipients of the Samuel H. Dibert Award

&
Puritan Cleaners
Recipient of the Ukrop's Community Service Award

Guest Speaker
Daphne Maxwell Reid
Actress and co-founder of New Millennium Studios

Sponsored by Bon Secours Richmond Health System,
Capital One and Community Idea Stations

Details and cost information inside!

Be our Guest!

CCC hosts V.I.P. (Very Important Programs) luncheons to highlight services. The luncheons are designed to educate individuals, groups, foundations and potential donors and volunteers about CCC. To receive your invitation, please call Julie Owen in the development office at 804-545-5935 or e-mail Julie_owen@cccofva.org.

VIP Luncheon Schedule (Richmond)

March 8
May 10

VIP
Luncheons
Coming
Soon to
Roanoke!

