

# JOURNEYS

*Because it is in the process, as much as the progress, that we measure each journey.*

Winter 2017

*A publication of  
St. Mary's Home.*

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*We provide quality,  
specialized care within a  
homelike environment for  
children and adults with  
severe disabilities, so each  
person can achieve his or  
her fullest potential.*



## It's Fall, Y'all

### Kids, Community Come Together to Celebrate

Rachel enjoyed dinner outdoors with her parents. Isaiah met some superheroes. And other children and young adults, and their families, plus friends in the community, celebrated the start of the season at our second annual It's Fall, Y'all.

Because of the generosity of our sponsors and of donors like you, the Sept. 22 event raised more than \$40,000 to help Rachel, Isaiah and other individuals who live at St. Mary's Home and The Albero House receive the complex, around-the-clock care they need.

PRA Group, Inc., a longtime supporter of St. Mary's, donated \$20,000 to be lead sponsor for the second year in a row. Additionally, food partner Baker's Crust generously donated all of the delicious food, including pulled pork BBQ, beef brisket, pork belly tacos and oysters.

Guests enjoyed live bluegrass music by More Perfect Jones, craft beer from Tradition Brewing Co., a tour of St. Mary's and family-friendly activities including face painting, cornhole and a visit from the Hampton Roads Superhero Squad.

Additional sponsors were Peter Decker Children's Charity, Sertoma Club of Norfolk, Children's Specialty Group, Coastal Prosthetics and Orthotics, London & Norfolk Ltd., Mermaid Factory, Casone Enterprises, Pilot Media, Strayseed Landscaping, Tradition Brewing Co. and an anonymous donor.

If you'd like information about how you can become a sponsor of St. Mary's Home, please contact Kristen Nelson, our giving manager, at (757) 622-2208 ext. 328 or [knelson@smhdc.org](mailto:knelson@smhdc.org).

*See more photos from this event on page 2.*

# Kids, Community Come Together to Celebrate

## In the News Coverage

THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

**Sept. 27**

*Story about the Hampton Roads Superhero Squad who were part of St. Mary's fall fundraiser.*

**Sept. 23**

*Layla, who lives at St. Mary's, and her aunt were featured in a photo of members of the Hampton Roads Realtors Association with a mural they created for the Home.*

**Aug. 16**

*"Compass" story about Girl Scouts organizing a weeklong camp at St. Mary's.*

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ALTDAILY.COM

**Sept. 19**

*Story previewing It's Fall, Y'all event.*

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COVA BIZ MAGAZINE

**August/September issue**

*Item about St. Mary's Home winning first-place awards from the Public Relations Society of America-Hampton Roads chapter, for newsletters and media relations.*

**October/November issue**

*Item about PRA Group donating \$20,000 to be the lead sponsor of St. Mary's It's Fall, Y'all event.*

*Enjoying St. Mary's It's Fall, Y'all on Sept. 22 are, from left, Shannon Edsall, St. Mary's director of operational support; Nancy Wilcox, immediate past president of St. Mary's Board, holding her granddaughter; Sharon S. Goodwyn, president of St. Mary's Board; H. Wayne Jones, St. Mary's CEO; and Michael P. Cotter, president of St. Mary's Foundation Board of Directors.*

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# Girl Scouts' Camp Connects Kids

Children painted on canvas, decorated ceiling tiles, tried out musical instruments, showed off their sense of style and enjoyed other fun activities during a five-day camp organized by two young volunteers.

Girl Scouts Emerson Miller and Morgan Lynch, seventh graders at Great Neck Middle School in Virginia Beach, got the idea for Camp Aloha when they toured St. Mary's with their troop. The camp was fun for the children at St. Mary's and fostered a connection between them and their peers in the community. "It's important for the kids here to play with kids of all ability levels," said Nicole Hoskins Jones, St. Mary's director of recreational therapy.

Thank you, Emerson and Morgan, for making summer so much fun for our kids! And congratulations for earning the highest award a Girl Scout cadette can earn, the Girl Scout Silver Award, for your efforts!



## More News Coverage

HAMPTON ROADS  
REALTOR MAGAZINE

### September issue

Story about members of Hampton Roads Realtors Association painting a mural for St. Mary's.

TIDEWATER BIZ

### June 27

Item about St. Mary's Home winning two first-place awards from the Public Relations Society of America-Hampton Roads chapter.

"COAST LIVE" ON WTKR

### March 23

Story about Todd Rosenlieb Dance Studio included footage of students in St. Mary's "Dance & Movement" class.

## Thank You, and Congratulations, to We Promise Foundation

Congratulations to We Promise Foundation for being recognized as the 2017 Outstanding Foundation/Corporation by the local chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals! The Foundation, the charitable arm of Chartway Federal Credit Union, was honored at a National Philanthropy Day reception on Nov. 9.

This summer, Shanyla, Seth and Latrell were among the children who were able to attend Camp Horizon — and check out fun places like the Virginia Beach Public Schools Planetarium — due to the continued generosity of We Promise Foundation. The Foundation, a longtime supporter of St. Mary's, gave the Home a \$27,000 grant for camp.



## You Can Help Spread the Word About St. Mary's

Does your club, organization or business need speakers? We can help. Our staff members enjoy speaking about St. Mary's and the exceptional care, education, therapies and recreational programs we offer for individuals with disabilities.

Our presentation is designed to fit easily into your breakfast, lunch or dinner program format, at no cost, and includes a lively, professional, 10-minute video, "The Power of Touch." Our speakers also are prepared for a short question-and-answer period.

To book a speaker from St. Mary's Home at no cost, please contact Sonja Barisic, APR, director of marketing communications, at sbarisic@smhdc.org or (757) 352-2700.



# Beach Ambassadors Raise \$15,500

**S**hanyla and Zach were on hand to greet our friends from Beach Ambassadors when they visited to present \$15,500 they raised for St. Mary's Home from their Battle of the Beers event. Thank you so much for your ongoing generosity to the children and young adults!

Earlier in the summer, Aly, who lives in The Albero House, had a great time visiting Hunt Club Farm with Beach Ambassadors, including Andy Beale. Andy's brewery, Tradition Brewing Company, provided beer for our It's Fall, Ya'll celebration. Field trips are fun, but they are even better with friends.



# Realtors Brighten Kids' Days With Art



**W**hen Layla checked out some new artwork at St. Mary's, she saw a familiar face. Her aunt, Raynelle Ricks, was among members of the Hampton Roads Realtors Association who painted a mural over the summer during the organization's charitable Paintfest. The mural now hangs in a main hallway at the Home. Thank you for making all of our kids' days brighter with your creativity!

# New School Year, New Supplies

Over the summer, Abigale kept busy helping out our new school principal, Susan Albert, by testing markers to make sure they were in working order. Then, Abigale and other kids at St. Mary's Home headed back to class with bags of fresh school supplies generously donated by employees at Pilot Media Solutions. Thank you for thinking of our kids!



## Join Our FAMILY

Subscribe to our periodic email newsletter at [saintmaryshome.org](http://saintmaryshome.org).

Find us as StMarysHome on:



Check out our blog at:



[saintmaryshome.org/news/blog-2](http://saintmaryshome.org/news/blog-2)

Plus, find our Auxiliary Board as StMarysAuxBoard on:



# Volunteers Show They Care During Day of Caring at St. Mary's

Thank you to the 20 employees from Trader Interactive who volunteered at St. Mary's Home for the United Way of South Hampton Roads Day of Caring in September. Because of you, the children and young adults got to tie-dye new T-shirts for school, play cornhole and participate in other fun activities. They even made some beautiful cards to celebrate our employees later in the month during Direct Support Professionals Week. What an amazing day!



# Staff Development Director Retires After 39 Years

Susan Kok, RN retired in August as our director of staff development after 39 years of service. She had a profound impact on the children and young adults, families and staff, as well as affiliated nursing programs.

Susan first came to St. Mary's in 1976 with extensive nursing experience. She began her career in 1968 as a licensed practical nurse. She graduated from Castleton State College in Vermont as a registered nurse and served on the Cardiac Care Unit staff of Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston for three years. While also being a devoted Navy spouse, she served on the Critical Care Unit staff at Truesdale Hospital in Fall River, Mass.; in the U.S. Navy Base Dependents' Clinic in Manama, Bahrain; and, during a break after her first few years at St. Mary's, as a nursing instructor for the state of Maine and private duty nurse for new born quadruplets.

Susan returned to Norfolk in 1981 and resumed her employment at St. Mary's. At times she served as assistant director of nursing and interim chief nursing officer. Countless staff members passed through her thorough orientations, and she taught many parents how to care for their children outside the Home.

Nursing students from Thomas Nelson Community College and the Virginia Beach School of Practical Nursing who benefitted from Susan's high quality, person-centered orientations twice selected her as the keynote speaker at their graduations. In 2014, the Virginia Health and Medical Sciences Educators Association recognized Susan with an Award of Merit.

Susan left St. Mary's with fond memories of her beloved Courtney David, a St. Mary's resident of 14 years. Thank you, Susan, for your legacy of professionalism and caring!



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*The Albero House Medical Director*

## Meet the Board of St. Mary's Home



Sharon S. Goodwyn



H. Gregory Kilduff

The Board of Directors of St. Mary's Home held elections earlier this year.

### The officers are:

- President Sharon S. Goodwyn, *Hunton & Williams*
- Vice President H. Gregory Kilduff
- Treasurer George L. Consolvo, *Kaufman & Canoles, P.C.*
- Secretary Allen "Trey" Hardin White III, D.D.S., *Oceanfront Dentistry*

### The directors are:

- Michael P. Cotter, *U. S. Bankruptcy Court*
- Christopher B. D'Surney, *Virginia Port Authority*
- Michael E. Duffy, *Merrill Lynch*
- Richard N. Knapp, *Quick180*
- Vincent A. Napolitano, *Napolitano Homes*
- Alvin J. Schexnider, Ph.D., *Schexnider & Associates, LLC*
- Nancy Wilcox, *Wilcox Nation Inc., immediate past president of St. Mary's Board*

*Congratulations, and thank you for your commitment to the children and young adults of St. Mary's Home and The Albero House.*



George L. Consolvo



Allen "Trey" Hardin White III, D.D.S.

# Auxiliary, Supporters Make a Difference for Individuals With Disabilities

The children and young adults will benefit from more community outings and much-needed medical equipment because of the generosity of sponsors and donors like you who helped St. Mary's Auxiliary Board Gala and Auction raise \$80,000. Thank you!

About 300 people attended the Auxiliary Board's 12th annual Gala this spring at the Peter G. Decker Jr. Half Moone Center on Norfolk's downtown waterfront.

For the seventh year in a row, presenting sponsor Checkered Flag Auto Group donated a car for the Auxiliary to raffle off at the end of the event. The raffle raised \$23,000, with the 2017 silver Toyota Corolla going to Cathy Engesser of Virginia Beach.

Additional Gala sponsors were PRA Group, Kerneos Inc., TowneBank, Kaufman & Canoles P.C., George and Linda Consolvo, PF&A Design, Mercer, Roof Engineering, TS&W, Teamsters Local 822 and Vandeventer Black.

The Norfolk Strolling Silver Strings provided musical entertainment for the evening.

**Save the Date:** *The amazing women of our Auxiliary already are hard at work planning a great Gala for you on April 14, 2018, featuring a raffle for a new car sponsored by Checkered Flag. To sponsor, to buy raffle tickets or for info: (757) 446-6780 ext. 381*



**C**olton, who lives at The Albergo House for adults on St. Mary's campus, was a special guest at the St. Mary's Auxiliary Gala and Auction. With Colton are his mother, Roxane Ward, center, and Nancy Wilcox, immediate past president of St. Mary's Board of Directors and co-chair of the 2017 Gala. (photo courtesy Carl Anderson of Hampton Roads Photography)

## One Night. A Lifetime of Change.®

Founders Inn and Spa  
Virginia Beach

Featuring a raffle for a brand new car courtesy of Checkered Flag

For raffle tickets, sponsorship opportunities or to donate auction items call 757-446-6780 ext. 381 or visit [saintmaryshome.org](http://saintmaryshome.org)

AUXILIARY BOARD OF ST. MARY'S HOME

13TH ANNUAL

# gala & auction

APRIL 14 2018



*A good life.*

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saintmaryshome.org

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or sbarisic@smhdc.org.

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# Give the Gift of a Good Life

**C**hildren like Iker, as well as young adults and staff, visit with Santa (awesome volunteer Mo Patrick of Dominion Energy) during the holidays each year. On Christmas Day, they gather with families and volunteers to open gifts and celebrate the season.

This holiday, please make your gift to St. Mary's Home. Your support will help the children and young adults benefit from well-rounded care as well as the activities, special excursions and everyday joys that add up to a good life here.

You help children and young adults with severe disabilities — at the holidays and all year long! Remember to make your gift by Dec. 31 to get your tax deduction for 2017.



To donate:

- Go online to [saintmaryshome.org](http://saintmaryshome.org)
- Call (757) 622-2208 or (800) 237-6555
- Send your gift in the envelope provided with this newsletter

***You make a difference. Thank you and Happy Holidays!***

