Presidential Pondering by Dale Batten

Happy Spring to all!

I would like to first thank you for electing me to serve as your VRA President for 2016. Let me tell you a little about myself. I started in this profession many years ago working directly with persons with disabilities, helping them define their career paths. I also worked with our marketing team visiting employers and performing job analysis. I served as a counselor for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing as well as the Transition Counselor in the absence of counselors while I served as Field Manager. I later moved to the Regional Director position and now have the great pleasure of working a statewide program with internal and external partners, staff, and employers in Workforce Development.

I would like to take a moment to thank Jean Steveson for her service as VRA’s Past President for 2015. I strive to continue the work Jean started and enhance it to the fullest potential.

I am been involved with VRA since my start of employment in this profession. I find this organization to be rewarding and fulfilling. I have met great associates and partners while being a member of VRA. The training and opportunity to serve on committees have given me an opportunity to learn more about the profession and enhance my career path.

In this role as President, I would like to see more members become involved on committees and new faces move to Board positions. As a longtime member of VRA, my goal is to see more faces that have not been seen in Board positions and Committee Chairs. I will be working with colleges to start a Student Chapter for VRA and maybe explore the possibilities of starting a new VRA Job Placement Division. We have great talent and professions in this field. I want to leave this year with a legacy that embraces the different talent in others that can strengthen and continue the great work of this organization.

VRA has been busy over the last couple of months. Our next Board meeting will be held April 22, 2016. All of our meetings are open to the general membership and we would love to have you attend.
and become part of one of our committees. We need your help!

Becky Bowers-Lanier worked hard this winter serving as our Legislative liaison lobbying on funding issues. Becky did an excellent job for VRA this year as our legislative liaison to or for the General Assembly. As President, I would like to thank her for her work.

Please mark your calendars for the following events: Golf Tournament this year will be held September 12, 2016. This will start the opening of the National Rehabilitation Association Conference that will be held in Richmond, VA this year, September 13-15, 2016 at the Omni Hotel. Collaboration Conference will be held in November, 2016 in VA Beach, VA at the Hilton Hotel, Atlantic Avenue, VA Beach, VA.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year with VRA. Please join us!

VRA News
VRA needs YOU!

VRA needs YOU to help with a variety of functions of the organization. Please give of yourself, your time and your talents in ways that are fun and pleasing for you.

There are a number of committees and other behind the scenes work making VRA an effective, efficient and viable organization.

YOU can be an important LINK to the infrastructure and continuing work to build VRA and to make a real difference!

VRA Division and Committee News

VRA Membership Committee Update -- Submitted the Membership and Communications Committee

Please join us in giving a huge welcome to our newest member! --

John Riley, Winchester!

VRA Education Foundation Update -- Submitted by Mary Kaye Johnson, Education Foundation Chairperson

For 2016, this inaugural year of continuing education scholarships, the VRA Foundation Board selected the topic of Transition as the focus area to honor Kristi Lockhart and the important impact Kristi had on the vocational rehabilitation and employment service organization community in Virginia relative to transition aged youth. See the below application and criteria for the scholarships.

Applications should be sent to Mary Kaye Johnston at marykaye.johnston@gmail.com or the VRA Foundation at education@vra.org

The VRA Foundation and Continuing Education Scholarships
2016 Honoring Kristi Lockhart
The Virginia Rehabilitation Education Foundation scholarship is a benefit of membership for those belonging to VRA. In addition to the traditional educational scholarship awarded annually to a VRA member or VRA family member, the VRA Foundation has established another category for scholarships; The Continuing Education Scholarship. These scholarships will allow members to apply for grants for continuing education opportunities. Each year, the VRA Foundation will designate the Continuing Education Scholarship to be given in honor or memory of rehabilitation professional.

For 2016, this inaugural year of continuing education scholarships, the Foundation Board has selected to honor the memory of Kristi Lockhart and the important impact Kristi had on the VR and ESO community in Virginia relative to transition aged youth. While continuing education in Transition topics will be a preference, all are encouraged to apply for topics in their area of interest/concentration.

Who: All VRA members are eligible to apply.

What: The VRA Foundation will offer three $100 continuing education scholarships per year.

When: Deadline for applying for this year’s Continuing Education scholarships is September 1st.

Where: Members who receive the scholarships will determine the continuing education opportunity they will pursue. The funds can be used for continuing education activities such as conferences, online continuing education courses, seminars, etc.

How: In submitting a request, the member will articulate what the funds will be used for (content of the activity, format of the activity (online course, travel related to a conference, registration for a conference, in person seminar, etc.). They will indicate how the CE will be of benefit to their professional development. After the activity they will provide a brief summary (no more than 2 paragraphs) detailing their experience, whether they would recommend the activity to another, and how they will use the knowledge they have gained professionally to benefit the VRA community.

Application for VRA Foundation Continuing Education Funds

Name:

Employer:

Professional Position:

Description of the Continuing Education Activity:
(Please include CE Provider or Event name, anticipated content, Information you hope to receive and how this relates to your professional role and please limit this information to 1 paragraph).

Agreement to provide post-event evaluation to the VRA Foundation Board: If I am selected for a $100 VRA Foundation Continuing Education scholarships, after attending the continuing education activity, I agree to provide a brief summary (no more than 2 paragraphs) detailing my experience, whether I would recommend
the activity to another professional, and how I will use the knowledge I have gained professionally to benefit the VRA community.

Signature of VRA Member:

__________________________________________________
Date:

_________________________________________________

Other News & Notes

Clean Machine (Employee Highlight!) --Submitted by David Terrell, Vocational Counselor with The Choice Group

Patrick currently works for the Clean Machine in Charlottesville where he washes, dries, vacuums, and details all types of vehicles. Patrick started working with The Choice Group in January 2016 through a combined support team made up of DARS, Goodwill, and Transitions teachers’ efforts from his high school. Patrick has overcome various obstacles and has learned to focus and avoid the many distractions in various environments to become more successful and to achieve his goals of INDEPENDENCE! Although Patrick at first had a limited work history, he achieved an internship while in school and showed a quick progression and ability toward employability. In a way, the Clean Machine is his first official job!

With the help of his supports through DARS, Goodwill, and his Vocational Counselor, Patrick obtained his driver’s license, landed his first job, and is now setting his focus on moving into his own place closer to town and his employer.

This was a most joyous occasion for Patrick to be working at the Clean Machine. Patrick wanted to work outside, around cars, and with his hands. With these interests in mind, he used skills learned from his supports and was hired on the spot.

The myriad of strengths that Patrick possesses contribute immensely to his success. He is a clean cut individual with a calming effect on people around him. Patrick loves animals and has a dog named Poopsy that means the world to him.

Patrick has an innate drive to succeed. He follows through on all of his commitments, works quickly and efficiently, never complains, and feels that no task is beneath him. He is a very honest and kind young man who has pep in his step. Patrick said that he owes it all to his late grandfather who taught him from a young
age to give it his all no matter what he did. His grandfather also taught him how to work on cars and live off of the land.

April 15th will mark one month that he has been at the Clean Machine. The General Manager, supervisors, and co-workers are all impressed with how quickly he learned the job and the level of excellence that he delivers every second of the day. The General Manager commented, “Patrick is awesome! I feel like he is an old soul.”

Being successful at this job has given Patrick more confidence and a beaming sense of accomplishment. He realizes that there is nothing he cannot achieve if he works hard and puts his mind to it. Patrick is truly one of a kind!

DARS Expands Specialized Brain Injury Case Management Services -- Submitted by Patricia Goodall, Program Manager – Brain Injury Services Coordination Unit Virginia Department for Aging & Rehabilitative Services

The 2015 Virginia General Assembly allocated additional funding for specialized brain injury services in State Fiscal Year 2016. The allocation of $300,000 for case management services allowed the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to expand the availability of specialized Brain Injury Case Management services to unserved and underserved areas of the Commonwealth. DARS released a Request for Proposals (RFP) soliciting proposals from existing Brain Injury Services (BIS) Contractors for the establishment of new case management positions. Following a review process, DARS awarded additional funding to the following organizations for the implementation of new case management positions: full-time case management positions in the Richmond (Community Brain Injury Services, Inc.); Charlottesville (The BridgeLine); and Virginia Beach (Community Rehabilitation Case Management Program) areas. In addition, two part-time case management positions were awarded for Lynchburg (Brain Injury Services of Southwest Virginia) and Winchester (Brain Injury Services, Inc.). Each case manager will carry a caseload of approximately 25-35 individuals with acquired brain injury (traumatic and nontraumatic). Local service providers are actively recruiting and training these new providers and services will be available shortly!

This new allocation of state general funds brings the total amount of dedicated funding for brain injury services in Virginia to a little over $5 million. Further, the 2016 General Assembly is recommending another allocation of $375,000 for brain injury services in SFY 2017.

For questions or comments regarding these new services and the service providers, please contact DARS’ Brain Injury Services Coordination Unit (patti.goodall@dars.virginia.gov or donna.cantrell@dars.virginia.gov).

DARS Lifespan Respite Voucher Program -- Submitted by Patricia Goodall, Program Manager – Brain Injury Services Coordination Unit Virginia Department for Aging & Rehabilitative Services

Respite Funding Available for Caregivers of Family Members with Brain Injury !!!

Are you an unpaid family caregiver providing care for a relative with Brain Injury in your household? Learn how to apply to receive up to $400 in reimbursement payments to purchase respite services. The $400 voucher allows caregivers to pay for respite, giving caregivers a temporary break from the ongoing stress of providing in home care.
DARS’ Lifespan Respite Voucher Program can reimburse up to $400 per household for respite services to assist Virginians with Brain Injuries and the family members who provide their care. This special “Brain Injury Respite” funding expires at the end of June 30th, so apply SOON!

To apply for the Virginia Lifespan Respite Voucher Program:

- You must be a Virginia caregiver of a child / adult with a Brain Injury who resides in your household full-time.

- You may receive up to $400 in reimbursement funds per family per year. The primary family caregiver for the person receiving care must apply for the funds.

- You may not use the reimbursement Respite funds to pay for normal household expenses or daycare, for example, so that the caregiver can go to work. The purpose is to provide a “break from caregiving” by allowing the family caregiver to purchase outside respite care.

- Funds are limited! Not everyone who applies will be approved even if eligible. The “Brain Injury” dedicated funding for Respite is dependent upon the availability of funds, which expire June 30th.

To apply, visit [http://www.vda.virginia.gov/respiteservices.asp](http://www.vda.virginia.gov/respiteservices.asp), e-mail Liz Havenner, Respite Program Administrator, at mary.strawderman@dars.virginia.gov, or call (804) 662-7505

Definition:
Respite is planned or emergency care provided to a child or adult with a special need in order to provide temporary relief to the family caregiver of that child or adult. Respite services may be provided by an individual or organization on a temporary basis, in a variety of settings, including the family home, adult day centers, respite centers, or residential care facilities. Respite is a key component of family support and home and community based long-term services and supports. Respite services strengthen family systems while protecting the health and well-being of both caregivers and care recipients. (Definition from ARCH National Respite Network & Resource Center)

**VRCEA News and Updates! -- Submitted by Marie Worley, VRCEA President**

A big hello from VRCEA! I am honored and excited to serve as the President of VRCEA for 2016. Of course, an association is only as good as its Board and officers and committee chairs- each and every one is important for VRCEA to be successful in our mission.

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce our members to you Bonnie Henn, Kelly Desclos-Estes, Ami Williams, Jane Bennet-Bailey, Loretta Harris, Karen Akers, Ron Simmons, Rhonda Chandler, Mary Kaye Johnston, Paula McMahon, and Kathleen
We welcome our newest VRCEA member, Dawn Mosely, who won a membership at the Collaborations Conference 2016. She has already agreed to help us out with trainings!

We have been busy this first quarter with defining our goals as an organization and then beginning to implement them. Our two top goals are to provide training and education to both rehabilitation professionals and educators in our community. VRCEA is fortunate to have Board and Officers across the State who can reach out to their local communities.

We have already provided a training in Lynchburg on March 2nd, *A Brief Review of Mental Health Disorders*, that was very successful and welcomed by both school educators and rehabilitation professionals. The feedback we received was positive and the training was well attended. CRC’s credits were provided. Our next training will be in Richmond on May 13th- we will be celebrating Rehabilitation Counselor and Educators Day! Woohoo! This historically fantastic training will include updated education on Ethics and Self Care. We have a lineup of four engaging speakers and look forward to celebrating a day of recognizing our professions, networking, and yet another opportunity to obtain CRC’s. We are in the midst of planning our trainings in other parts of the State at this time.

Next, we would like to be able to reach out to graduate students and welcome them aboard to their professional association. We plan to attend local universities to introduce VRCEA to senior classes.

Lastly, VRCEA would love to hear from you and what you would like us to provide to you to meet your professional needs- we are here for you! Come join us!

**Wilson Workforce Rehabilitation Center News and Updates! -- Submitted by Jackie M. Davis, WWRC Representative**

The first three consumers from WWRC to complete the CVS training module as part of the Materials Handling Program at WWRC are now participating in internships with two CVS stores in Staunton, and one in Waynesboro, Virginia. WWRC is coordinating with CVS’s Workforce Development Manager and District Managers through LaPearl Smith, DARS Business Development Manager. Everyone agrees that seeing these smiling faces at these various stores is worth all the work that has gone into the DARS initiative to work with CVS. WWRC also offers a special thanks to the consumers Field Counselors, Kim Shepard, Ami Williams, and Nikki Thompson, for their support. According to CVS, there are multiple jobs available across Virginia at their stores and they are thrilled with the startup of WWRC’s training facility, which was donated by CVS to the WWRC Foundation.
WWRC’s Manufacturing Academy

Several students have been selected for WWRC’s “Dream It Do It” Manufacturing Academy. This will open the door to the goldmine for consumers and let them take a look into the world of possibilities that are becoming available in modern manufacturing.

The Virginia Manufacturers Association (VMA) has said that one of the first goals in building Virginia’s workforce is to reduce the interest gaps in these jobs. WWRC’s first Academy is scheduled from May 30 through June 3, with approximately a dozen consumers who have an interest in learning about manufacturing. Jim Leech will be heading up the Academy with support from the entire WWRC Team and our partners in the Field. Consumers will build a fully functioning solar-powered water purification plant using water from WWRC’s lake, and then bottle the water. They will also get lectures and introductory information on manufacturing from Jim, who is a retired engineer with decades of experience in manufacturing in facilities like “The Hershey Company.” Jim also started the Mechatronics Training program at Blue Ridge Community College, and provided training to numerous plants throughout Virginia. He joins the WWRC team to spearhead the Academy and he will build-out the Manufacturing Technology Training program at WWRC through the summer with the first cohort of students to begin around August.

Our staff have been busily working with the Manufacturing Skills Institute to get WWRC Instructors, Jim Leech, Steve Sweeney and Dwight Foster, certified to teach the curriculum that prepares students to sit for the national exam and obtain their Manufacturing Technician 1 (MT1) credential. In addition to this, WWRC has retooled its Vocational Evaluation checklist and interest inventory to help guide DRS Counselors in selecting students who are likely to be successful in the MTT program.

Finally, it is through the partnership with the Joe Ashley, in the Grants and Special Programs area, that WWRC is able to evolve this program with support of Innovation and Expansion funds, as well as support from the Career Pathways Grant. Part of WWRC’s role, as this program evolves, will be to help others learn techniques and strategies that will enable someone with a disability to be successful in obtaining the MT1 Certification and, ultimately, employment. VMA anticipates that there could be upwards of 60,000 jobs in modern manufacturing in the next couple of years.

Lastly, WWRC has been extremely fortunate to benefit from ongoing consultation with our BDM team, under the direction of Dee Dee Batten, the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, and guidance from EO23 and EO46 as this initiative evolves. There could still be a few slots available for the upcoming Academy. Candidates for this pilot must have completed PERT and have some interest in manufacturing. Emily West, newly appointed Project Manager for the Career Pathways Grant, is also involved to support this initiative and help consumers plan for a career pathway.

(New Episode with Jim Leech Available)
**Vocational Rehabilitation Workforce Studio Podcast**

WWRC's Foundation publish the Vocational Rehabilitation Workforce Studio podcast with success stories about Vocational Rehabilitation, focusing on clients, employers and Vocational Rehabilitation professionals.

The WWRC Business School has gotten involved, and three students have helped transcribe these podcasts. Their work sets a new standard for efficiency and perfection. Pictured in front L-R: Katherynne Guare, Samantha McClaugherty, Sarah Donkers with Rick Sizemore

**New Driving Simulator**

WWRC has a new Driving Simulator that will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of driving services at WWRC. The technological improvements in “driving simulators” have improved to such a degree that they are now becoming readily accepted by professional clinicians.

The system has been installed, training was completed on February 10, and simulators are now in use. Clay Huie, Director of Occupational Therapy, is not only hopeful that the simulator will provide valuable, objective information on the driving potential of DARS consumers, but that the simulator will be used as a training tool, as well. The unit is made by “drive safety.”

**New Counselors Skills Training at WWRC**

On February 9 and 10, eleven new counselors spent time at WWRC getting to know the campus and learning about the Center’s Medical-to-Work Rehabilitation program, Workforce Driven Training programs, and the Center’s transitional services. The counselors all said that the highlight of their visit was the consumer-guided tour and to hear the consumer’s prospective on WWRC services.
“Thank you so much for the wonderful experience at WWRC this week. It was good to hear about the role of WWRC in vocational rehabilitation, and to see the various programs and the students in action. I’m amazed at WWRC’s progress from when I first visited years ago. It was good then, but so much better for our clients having the skills to compete in today’s job market.”

Elaine Chase, CWDP, Alexandria DRS

Success Story

Rod Early is an engineer working in manufacturing and lives with his family in Staunton, Virginia. In June of 2013, he was involved in an accident while operating heavy equipment causing near fatal injuries that required a prolonged hospitalization and multiple surgeries. His injuries included a ruptured aorta, injuries to his thoracic and lumbar spine, multiple rib fractures, a punctured lung, and a large wound to his thigh that required a skin graft. Following the accident, Rod went through inpatient treatment at UVA to stabilize his medical injuries and then was transferred to HealthSouth to begin his rehabilitation. Near the end of his inpatient treatment, he met Tracy Topolosky, DARS Counselor, who leads the Agency’s efforts to offer services to consumers with complex medical needs. After initial counseling, Rod came to the Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center (WWRC) for extensive therapy to restore his mobility and increase his independence in functional daily activities.

During his nine months of inpatient and outpatient services received at WWRC from September 2013–June 2014, he participated in both Physical and Occupational Therapy. Rod made substantial gains, particularly in the instrumental activities of daily living, functional standing activities, walking, and balance, as well as overall strength and endurance. He progressed from being able to walk only household distances with assistance and a walker, to walking independently with either a rollator or two quad canes in the home and for limited distances in the community. He also mastered going up and down standard ramps and curbs and gained independence walking up and down flights of stairs safely. His walking speed improved by about 400%, and his distance for walking increased seven-fold.

Partway through this therapy program, Rod’s treatment team began working with him and his employer, Daikin, located in Verona, Virginia, to consider his return to employment. Daikin’s Director of Human Resources, Larry Kroggel, indicated that Rod was a highly valued employee and Daikin would place a high value on his return to work. He had worked for them for 27 years prior to his injury. WWRC Physical
Therapist, Kate Baxter, and Occupational Therapist, Sonya Gasser, and Rod made a work site visit to Daikin and provided consultation on modifications needed for return to work. Rod’s parking space was shifted to a new entrance location and a ramp and automatic doors were installed. Daikin purchased a powered utility cart to facilitate travel across the manufacturing floor to various plant locations and purchased a more stable accessible apparatus for Rod to safely climb that would allow him to reach heights necessary for his job tasks working on large scale industrial cooling units. Rod is currently working full time at Daiken and has said that without the services at WWRC he would likely still be in a wheelchair and probably unemployed. See highlights of Rod’s program and other WWRC success stories in this brief 3 minute video.

**Important Save the Dates and Trainings!**

**VRCEA Training Events!!!**

- May 13 Training in Richmond details to follow

VRCEA Rehabilitation Counselor DAY 2016

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Rappahannock Goodwill Services and the Department of Aging and Rehabilitation Services are sponsors for the event. Vendors include MidAtlantic Bath Fitters, Mobility Prosthetics and Orthotics, Med Air, Mobility Super Center, Canines for Disabled Kids, Access Mobility and All American Mobility, rehabilitation medicine physicians, vision therapists, the Washington Group special needs financial planners, the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and much more.

Several workshops are scheduled for the day. The Washington Group will discuss long-term, special needs financial planning; Med Air will demonstrate proper seating for wheelchair users; Canines for Disabled Kids will present on therapy dogs; and the dRC’s Deaf and Hard of Hearing Coordinator will speak on 911 as it relates to people with disabilities and demonstrate deaf and hard of hearing equipment. Kevin Koziol, dRC’s ADA Network Coordinator, will present on the ADA and how it relates to employment and assistive technology in the schools.
The event is free to the public and is geared for people with disabilities, seniors, their family members and caregivers, therapists, medical and human service personnel, and the general public. To register, link to www.drcexpo.eventbrite.com.

The dRC is also sponsoring its third Walk 'N Roll Fredericksburg on April 10 from noon to 4 p.m. around Fredericksburg’s Heritage Trail. Goals of the Walk and Roll include disability awareness for the general public, awareness of recreational opportunities for people with disabilities, and fundraising for the dRC’s Equipment Connection, the dRC’s durable medical equipment reuse program. Teams are now being formed and walkers and rollers are encouraged to bring their dogs. Prizes will be awarded for the most team spirit, the biggest fundraiser, and the cutest and funniest canines. To register, link to www.walkandrollfred.myevent.com.
Contact the dRC at drc@cildrc.org or 540-373-2559 for additional information or questions.

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**Message from VCU School of Rehab Counseling - Save the Date!!**

Hello! The Department of Rehabilitation Counseling is 60 years old! Please save the date of Thursday, May 5, 2016 to celebrate with us. We will hold a reception from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond.

Our special Guest Speaker will be Lawrence Carter-Long. Lawrence has worked extensively in the non-profit sector and is an internationally recognized artist, media analyst and presenter. He is currently with the National Council on Disability in Washington, D.C.

Hoping you can join us and catch up with old friends and colleagues. Look for an invitation to follow in March.

If you have any old photos that you would like to share, please send them to me, Amy Armstrong, atajarmstr@vcu.edu.
Have you MOVED, changed jobs, or email addresses? If so, please contact NRA or VRA at info@vra.org with the new information so we will know how to contact you!

Please visit www.vra.org also to contact us!
Editor’s Note — Submitted by Dawn Scott, NewsNotes Editor

VRA wants to thank you for your continued support and advertisement in this quarterly membership newsletter. It is made available to all VRA members, occasionally legislators, and is posted on the website at www.vra.org with exposure to the public. The rates remain the same and are as follows:

¼ a page is $15 per issue or $50 for the full year

½ a page is $24 per issue or $90 for the full year

A full page is $50 per issue or $175 for the entire year

A billing form is available for completion and should be submitted with payment to VRA. Ads may be purchased throughout the year and should be submitted as a Word document. Article submissions are also appreciated to be in the Word format and pictures are welcome as separate attachments. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact me at dawn.scott@vra.org or phone at 434-326-2185.

Connect with other members of VRA!

Do you have a story to share? Go to the VRA member LinkedIn discussion board. This is a secure, professional networking site devoted to issues and interests of our members. VARL also has a site for leadership topics.

VRA LinkedIn Network:
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=2114298
VARL LinkedIn Network:
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=2613703

Network with other members of VRA by joining the VRA Facebook group! Members can discuss VRA issues and upcoming events on this social networking website:
https://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/groups/258928867454860
### VRA Events Calendar

Mark your calendars for these important dates for your state and national associations

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 25th</td>
<td>NewsNotes Deadline, First Quarter</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 22nd</td>
<td>10-12pm; VRA Board Meeting, Richmond</td>
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<td>April 10th</td>
<td>disAbility Walk ‘N Roll, Fredericksburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 10-12th</td>
<td>2016 NRA Government Affairs Summit, Alexandria</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7th</td>
<td>disAbility Resource Center for Independent Living Expo, Fredericksburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13th</td>
<td>VRCEA Rehabilitation Counselor Day training, Richmond</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 17th</td>
<td>NewsNotes Deadline, Second Quarter</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 22nd</td>
<td>10-12pm; VRA Board Meeting, Richmond</td>
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<td>Sept 12th</td>
<td>VRA Golf Tournament, Richmond</td>
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<td>Sept 13-15th</td>
<td>NRA Conference, Richmond</td>
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<td>Sept 16th</td>
<td>NewsNotes Deadline, Third Quarter</td>
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<td>Oct 21st</td>
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<td>Nov</td>
<td>Collaborations Conference; VA Beach</td>
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<td>Dec 2nd</td>
<td>10-12pm; VRA Board Meeting, Richmond</td>
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<td>Dec 16th</td>
<td>NewsNotes Deadline, Fourth Quarter</td>
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**Deadline for next issue’s NewsNotes articles is June 17th, 2016**

Send to newsnotes@vra.org

VRA would like to hear from YOU! What would you like to see included in the NewsNotes? How do you use the NewsNotes and the information provided? What would be useful to you?

Thank you for your time in assisting us!
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<th>Role</th>
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<td>Jean Stevenson</td>
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<td>Eleanor Williams</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Adair Jensen-Smith</td>
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<td>VRCEA President</td>
<td>Marie Worley</td>
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<td>VARL President</td>
<td>Robin Metcalf</td>
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<td>NewsNotes Editor</td>
<td>Dawn Scott</td>
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**Next Deadline for NewsNotes:** June 17th, 2016

Please Submit NewsNotes articles to Dawn Scott by Email at: newsnotes@vra.org

Or send by US Mail to: VRA NewsNotes c/o Mary Kaye Johnston 4612 Kingsrow Drive Glen Allen, VA 23060 804-965-0514