



SPRING/SUMMER 2024 | VOL.12

# RAINBOW NEWS

*An e-publication of The Children's Center*



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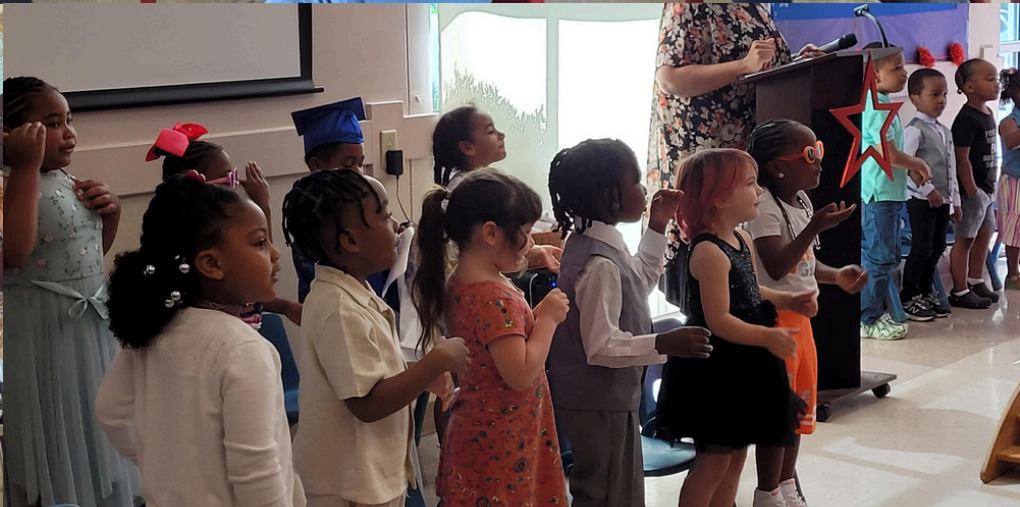
## **HEAD START IS OFF TO KINDERGARTEN**

**JUNE 2024**

The end of another Head Start year has arrived and our teachers and families celebrated children who will be attending kindergarten in the fall. Each Head Start center held a Transition Ceremony where children were recognized and families were welcomed. We also partnered with local school systems in Franklin, Isle of Wight, Suffolk, and Southampton by taking field trips to visit their kindergarten classrooms. Children and families met teachers, principals, and toured the schools!

# MOVING ON!

## *Head Start Transition Ceremonies*





## A DONATION IN COURTLAND

MAY 2024

The Children's Center received donations at our Southampton Head Start Center for a special project! Town Councilman, Perry Goodwyn and his wife, Helene, donated in memory of the late Maxine Darden Nowlin, a longtime public servant in Courtland. The Tidewater News shared an article stating, Maxine "loved children, and Courtland Town Councilman Perry Goodwyn saw to it that this love was honored as he orchestrated a project to give back to the community in her memory."

A few members from the Southampton Sheriff's Department came to visit, too! Thank you to our community partners!

Read more at: <https://www.thetidewaternews.com/.../memorial-donation.../>

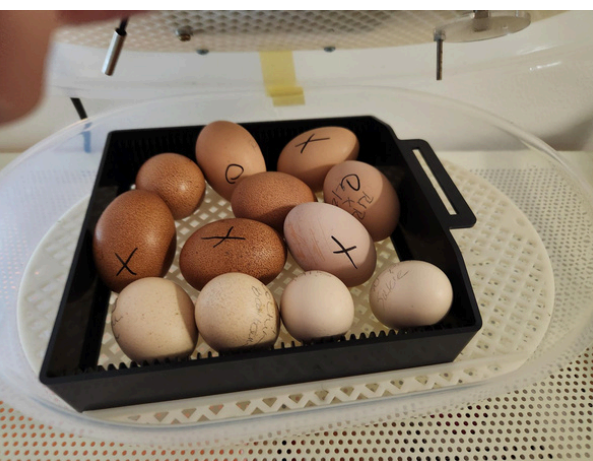




## PRE-K HATCHES CHICKS!

**MARCH 2024**

Every year Ms. Becky's Pre-K class in Franklin gets the chance to hatch out eggs thanks to donations from the Darden family. A few years ago, when their oldest child was in our Pre-K program, they donated the incubator, brooder box and supplies needed to hatch chicks. They continue to provide us with the eggs needed even though their child has moved on to public school. The chicks spent about a week in Pre-K, and then went back to the farm to live. This is such a fun and educational learning experience for the children and everyone at the center loves to come in and see the babies! Thank you Darden family!





## ANGELA GARY RECOGNIZED AT CAMP AS LOCAL LIVING LEGEND FEBRUARY 2024

On February 29, 2024, Ms. Angela Gary was honored at Camp Community College as a Local Living Legend for Black History Month. Ms. Angela's recognition reads as follows:

Angela Gary, a native of Southampton County, is nearing the completion of a 40-year tenure at the Children's Center. Angela currently serves as a Lead Early Head Start Teacher and has taught and influenced hundreds of children and families in the Western Tidewater Community. "I've had the opportunity to work with families, service coordinators, social services, and many other community services professionals," she said. Ms. Gary has a special place in her heart for special needs children. "When I first decided to work in Early Intervention, I really felt like special needs children were not getting the attention they needed. After being with the Children's Center program, I saw that no child was left behind or left out. I've watched the children grow, learn, and pass their educational goals, one child at a time," she said. She has also served as a Safe Group Sitter Class Teacher, Rural Infant Care Project Instructor (Franklin and Southampton County), Danny Chitwic Project teacher, Southampton Extension Service Technician, and Parent Group Instructor. She is a graduate of Camp Community College!

Thank you, Ms. Angela, for your years of service and commitment to the Children's Center and your community! We are so proud of you! You are irreplaceable and truly one of a kind. And just like Ms. Angela said in her 'Thank You' speech- "We still have a lot of work to do."





# *In the Classroom*



**All classrooms are implementing the STREAMin3 curriculum and children are enjoying the interactive activities! This curriculum is funded by the Obici Healthcare Foundation and the Virginia Department of Education.**



Follow us on Facebook so you don't miss anything!  
@thechildrenscenterVA

# BETTER TOGETHER

*The latest community partnership news!*



## AUTISM ADVOCATES

Thank you to Stepping Stones for sharing a presentation and information at the "All things Autism" hybrid meeting at the beginning of May!

## READ ACROSS AMERICA

Thanks to the many volunteer readers who came to our centers to read to children on Read Across America Day!



## VDH VISITS TCC

Ms. Woodard from the Virginia Health Department came to visit our Franklin location! Children participated in a glow germ activity and learned how to properly wash their hands to get rid of all the germs!

# FAMILY FUN

## *Home-based PACT Events*



Many guest speakers joined us at PACT events over the last few months to discuss nutrition, dental care, grocery shopping, literacy, outdoor safety, music & movement, and more!

Homebased families also participated in a reading challenge! We partnered with the local libraries to gift families with books!



We held end of year celebrations and gave families summer safety tips, ideas for summer activities to do with children, and more!

# DONOR RECOGNITION

***January 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024***

We embrace the community as our partner in serving children. Donations help make our programs stronger. The Children's Center extends many thanks to the good friends who have made donations between January 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024. You can donate online at [www.childrenscenterva.com/donate](http://www.childrenscenterva.com/donate).

## **In Memory**

### ***Faith Atkinson***

Paul & Diana Conco

### ***Sammy Bradshaw***

Charlotte Whitley

### ***Jessie Brockenbrough***

Amanda Daugherty

### ***Jessie Cobb***

Kay Cloutier

### ***Steven Daugherty***

Amanda Daugherty

### ***Roger Wilson Drake III***

Roger Drake

### ***Lewis Dunlow***

Owen & Ann Gillette

### ***Charlotte Bristol Faison***

Gene & Mary Faison

### ***Leah & Marshall Hubbard***

Mark Hubbard

### ***Mr. & Mrs. William Thomas Jones***

Judith Terrell

### ***Emerson B. Kitchen***

Joe & Linda Drake

### ***Mrs. Muche***

Carrie Jones

### ***Rose Pierce***

Denise Smith-Barnes

### ***Eley Powell***

Lauren Harper

### ***Sandra E. Rountree***

Joe & Linda Drake

## **In Memory**

### ***Virginia Rountree***

William & Sheryl Brinkley

Gene Crabtree

Kevin & Rosalind Cutchins

Joseph & Vicky Doxey

Carolyn Drier

Ella Ellis

Linda Lytton

Tabatha Sunday School at Hillcrest

Baptist Church

Nils & Nancy Melkerson

LaRoyce Nixon

Mike & Janet Owen

Tom & Lynda Rountree

Doris Schompert

### ***Palmer Runnels***

Georgianna Runnels

### ***Vince Snidow***

Charlotte Whitley

### ***Charles Stewart***

Amanda Daugherty

### ***Joe Scalco***

Holly Ferguson

### ***John Wade***

Charlotte Whitley

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## **In Honor**

### ***Bachman Children***

Margaret Bachman

### ***Taylor Rowell Barlow***

Hannah Bain

### ***Holden & Elliott Beard***

Kelsey & Andrew Beard

### ***Charlie***

Joshua & Lindsay Anderson

### ***Rosalind Cutchins***

John R. & Louise J. Harrup

Holly Lane

Mitzi McCoy

T. Kent & Jennifer Stephenson

Janice Tawney

### ***Jhase & Archur***

Victoria Bailey

### ***Geneva Kee***

Patricia Ellsworth

### ***The Lawson Company Employee***

### ***Ravon Perez***

Lawson Family Foundation

Fund of the Hampton Roads

Community Foundation

### ***Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Powell III***

Paige Powell

### ***The Lawson Company Employee***

### ***Lisa Smith***

Lawson Family Foundation

Fund of the Hampton Roads

Community Foundation

### ***Bill & Bonnie Widner***

Owen & Ann Gillette

## **Donors & In Kind**

Anonymous

Bryon & Nancy Arnone

Margaret Bachman

Victoria Bailey

Hannah Bain

Lyle Beckner

Crystal Brinkley

William & Sheryl Brinkley

Amy & William Britt

Anne Bruehl

Beth Bryant

Keisha Bullock

Kay Cloutier

Kevin & Rosalind Cutchins

Ronald & Ella Daughtrey

Joseph & Vicky Doxey

Roger Drake

Joe & Linda Drake

Carolyn Drier

Ella Ellis

Gerald & Corliss Faircloth

Candice Ferguson

Deborah Goodwyn

Owen & Ann Gillette

Ranjit & Lakshmi Goudar

William Gwaltney

Kathy & Timothy Hamer

Lauren Harper

John R. & Louise J. Harrup

Bruce Herbkersman

Holly Lane

Sandra McNally

## **Donors & In Kind**

LaRoyce Nixon

Janet Owen

Paul Phillips

Darrell Pretlow

Benay Patrick

Kym Pool

Paige Powell

Jacquelyn Pugh

Tamie & Todd Rittenhouse

Tom & Lynda Rountree

Georgianna Runnels

V Tracy Savage

Doris Schompert

Denise Smith-Barnes

Jennifer & Matt Spencer

Jennifer Stephenson

Janice Tawney

G.Lee Taylor

Judith Terrell

Christopher Tsitsera

Albert Valentine

Charlotte Whitley

Donate by scanning  
this code!



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## Community Donors

Birdsong Peanuts  
Center for Nonprofit Excellence  
City of Franklin  
City of Suffolk  
Department of HHS Office of Head Start  
Eastern VA Medical School  
James River Equipment  
Fidelity Charitable  
First Horizon  
Franklin Presbyterian Church  
Franklin-Southampton United Way  
Hillcrest Baptist Church  
Lawson Family Foundation Fund of the Hampton  
Roads Community Foundation  
Obici Healthcare Foundation  
Pab's Peanut Company  
Richard Bennett Trust  
Suffolk Foundation  
United Way of South Hampton Roads  
USDA  
Virginia Early Childhood Foundation



Our Early Intervention  
Team celebrated  
World Down  
Syndrome Day!



A large, stylized rainbow arches across the top of the page. The rainbow has three distinct bands of color: red, yellow, and blue. The text 'HOW YOU CAN HELP!' is centered over the rainbow in a large, bold, black font with a white outline.

# HOW YOU CAN HELP!

## Donate!

You can donate directly to the Children's Center through our website [www.childrenscenterva.com](http://www.childrenscenterva.com), or by mail at 700 Campbell Avenue, Franklin, VA 23851. Your donation can be made in memory or honor of a loved one or friend and designated to a particular building or program. Have you considered a continuing monthly donation by credit card? Click on the DONATE button at the top of our website! When you pay through PayPal you have the option to make your payment recurring!

## In Kind Gifts

We accept In-kind gifts including classroom supplies and materials. We accept classroom art supplies, educational toys, recreational toys, and other general supplies. You can donate these items to any center!

## Planned Giving

You can make an impact on children for many years to come through planned giving. Planned gifts also give back and can help you prepare for your future. This allows you to take a sizeable tax deduction, and provide favorable capital gains tax treatment. Planned giving allows you to leave a legacy that fits your philanthropic goals.

## Follow Us!

The Children's Center is on Facebook and Instagram! Follow us on both so you never miss an update or photo! Sharing our page, including our posts and photos, can help us reach more people and carry out our mission every day!

## Amazon Smile

Do you shop on Amazon? The Children's Center participates in Amazon Smile. Each time you make a purchase, a small percentage of your purchase can be donated to us! Set this up by typing in Amazon Smile in your Amazon search bar and then type in Children's Center 1983 and click on The Children's Center in Franklin, VA!

## Rite Aid Kid Cents

The Children's Center is part of the Rite Aid Kid Cents program! You can round up your change when you make a purchase at any Rite Aid in the country and designate it to The Children's Center. Go to [www.kidscents.com](http://www.kidscents.com) for more details!

## NAP Tax Credits

The Virginia Neighborhood Assistance Program provides tax incentives for individuals who donate \$500 or more to The Children's Center in a 6 month period.

# The Children's Center



**The Children's Center is a partner with United Way South Hampton Roads and United Way Franklin Southampton Area. You can designate your United Way or Combined Virginia Campaign to us at Agency #5076!**

***Commonwealth of Virginia campaign  
#29-005076***



**@thechildrenscentroffical**



**@TheChildrensCenterVA**

The Children's Center is an equal opportunity provider and employer (minorities/ females/disabled/veterans). We recruit, employ, train, compensate, and promote without regard to race, religion, creed, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, or any other basis protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.

*We thank you for your continued support in  
our efforts to nurture and  
educate children and families!*

**[www.childrenscenterva.com](http://www.childrenscenterva.com)**