



J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College is leading the way in educational opportunities—working with businesses to train employees, with communities to address special needs, and with individuals to develop skills needed to meet the challenges of the new economy. Since 1971, the Richmond community has relied on the college as an open door for learning, a valuable resource, and a pipeline for its workforce.

OPENING DOORS *Changing Lives*

IN SUPPORT OF EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATION

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College Nursing Program Addresses Nurse Shortage

Hospitals throughout Virginia are in critical need of nurses. Nursing homes and assisted living facilities are also facing shortages of registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and certified nurse assistants (CNAs). These are the healthcare workers who give frontline care to patients and residents not only in these settings but also in schools and clinics. The Virginia Partnership for Nursing reports that by 2008 the state will need 30 percent more nurses than are available. Shortages of nurses in U.S. hospitals range from 10 percent to as high as 18 percent in some specialty areas.

J. Sargeant Reynolds is working to address this need. Expanding the pool of nurses and other healthcare workers is one of the college's strategic goals for the five-year plan it began last year.

According to Fran Stanley, head of the JSRCC nursing program, the college is looking to admit as many as 20 more students per year in its RN program and increase minority enrollment. Currently, JSRCC has over 250 students in its nursing program; 120 RNs graduate from the program every year. Each year, the school has more qualified applicants than it has the capacity to accept.

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College recently added an LPN program through its partnership with the Richmond Technical Center, which means the school offers a full career ladder from CNA to RN to students interested in the nursing profession. Graduates from the associate degree program can also transfer to a four-year college or university to further their nursing education.

Stanley, who has been with Reynolds' nursing program for over 20 years and has headed the program since 1983, says the profile of the college's typical nursing student is different from other schools. For one thing, he or she is older—about 29—and is probably juggling a job and a few children in addition to school.

"When I studied nursing, I was a single woman, living in a dorm, going to school full-time and that was hard enough," Stanley observes. "I don't know how they do it."

In fact, more than 96 percent of the school's nursing students are part-time. To make school possible for many of these multi-tasking students with families to support, scholarships are a must. During the past school year, 110 nursing students applied for scholarships and met the required criteria, but funds were

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J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College provides Richmond with about 120 new nurses a year...with plans to increase this number in the near future.



Roland Reynolds,
JSRCC Foundation
Board Member.



Beginning with this issue of Changing Lives, a member of the J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College Educational Foundation Board will address some aspect of their relationship with the college. It is fitting that the first column, written by Roland Reynolds, youngest son of J. Sargeant Reynolds and newest member of the foundation board, feature his father—a man who throughout his life worked to advance the ideals from

From the Board

which the community college has built its mission.

What follows is an excerpt from a speech Mr. Reynolds gave at this past February's J. Sargeant Reynolds annual dinner for the Virginia Young Democrats.

"Probably most of you do not know much about J. Sargeant Reynolds since he died over 30 years ago. Any familiarity with his name may come from an association with the J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, which was named for him shortly after his death. Since I have recently joined the foundation board of the JSRCC let me add a shameless plug. It is the youngest community college in Virginia and today it is larger than University of Richmond, Virginia Union University and Randolph Macon College...combined.

I was asked to say a few words this evening about my father—and so I'd like to give you a brief thumbnail sketch of his life and conclude with a few thoughts on why I believe his legacy might be important not just to the Young Democrats of Virginia but to the broader ideal of youth and community service which I read about in the Charter of the Young Democrats of America.

J. Sargeant Reynolds' Life: J. Sargeant Reynolds, known to most as Sarge, was born in New York City in 1936. Despite his birthplace, he considered himself a Virginian, and with good reason. His father's family hailed from Patrick County in South Western Virginia and his mother, Virginia Sargeant Reynolds, was from central Virginia's Louisa County. Sarge moved to Richmond in 1938, when his father, Richard S. Reynolds, Jr., joined the Reynolds Metals Company, a family-run aluminum business that would be sold 62 years later to the Alcoa Corporation.

My father was educated at St. Christopher's School in Richmond and Woodberry Forest, a private boarding school in

Orange County, Virginia, where he excelled in sports and academics and was honored with the school's highest award for achievement—The Archer Christian Memorial. He attended Princeton and the Wharton School of Finance at The University of Pennsylvania. He knew that he had been given much in life—but he believed (as do I) that you judge a man not by what he is given but by what he achieves with what he is given.

J. Sargeant Reynolds' Political Career: As was expected, my father joined the family aluminum business fresh out of college—but what was unexpected was his passion for the political process and his desire to make a career of public service.

In 1965 he entered into his first political race and was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates. In 1967 he was elected to the State Senate but he resigned his seat in 1969 before completing his term in order to run for Lt. Governor of Virginia. In the fall of 1969 my father was elected Lt. Governor of Virginia. Less than two years later, J. Sargeant Reynolds would be dead from an inoperable brain tumor at the age of 34. It was a meteoric rise to the highest levels of statewide office, but if that is all it was, you wouldn't have asked me here—some 30 years after his death.

J. Sargeant Reynolds' Legacy: My father's success in political campaigns was simply a by-product of his burning desire to leave the world a better place than he found it—partially perhaps because he believed it was his responsibility but mostly because he simply believed it was right. He connected with people from all walks of life and they elevated him to higher levels of political office because they believed in his conviction and they trusted he would help. His quick humor and sharp intellect were his chief allies as he championed civil rights and education initiatives above all.

At the time of his death there was a natural tendency by some to focus on the "loss" of a rising politician and on "what might have been." But sad stories run their course and eventually are forgotten. I believe the continuing interest in J. Sargeant Reynolds has little to do with a life cut short and everything to do with a short life filled with achievement and dedicated to public service.

Perhaps my father somehow knew that time would not be on his side—but I believe the important lesson of his story is that we cannot wait until tomorrow to serve our families, communities and friends. Life is a hollow gift—starved for service to others to give it meaning. Life is also tenuous and temperamental and doesn't always run its full course. My father was blessed because he earned the opportunity to serve this great Commonwealth before he died. I hope his legacy will continue to inspire future generations. THANK YOU."



J. Sargeant Reynolds

Giving Clubs

As J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College looks to its future in the selection of a new president and continues to fulfill its strategic five-year plan, the school relies on an important group of leaders who support the college through contributions and a strong belief in its mission.

Among the most dedicated of these supporters are the men, women, corporations, foundations and other organizations that participate in three societies—the Reynolds Society, the Medallion Society and the new Legacy Society. Members of these societies demonstrate a remarkable devotion to J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College and its high ideal of advancing educational opportunities for the residents of Central Virginia.

THE MEDALLION SOCIETY is the highest honor that the J. Sargeant Reynolds Educational Foundation can bestow on individuals, foundations and corporations for their support of the college. This society honors significant support that is inspirational and transformational in nature.

Gil and Fannie Rosenthal, the most recent inductees to the Medallion Society, exemplify this tradition of longevity and deep commitment to J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. Gil Rosenthal is one of the college's original board members, appointed by the city of Richmond when

the college first opened. He has also served on the school's foundation board and has supported a variety of programs through donations and volunteer efforts.

Rosenthal says he and his wife have contributed to the school because it is an affordable higher education opportunity for a diverse student body. "Reynolds is the only institution of higher education in the Richmond area that offers such a wide scope of educational opportunities," he says. Rosenthal is impressed that the school provides resources to meet a range of interests and works directly with industry to design training for the workplace. At J. Sargeant Reynolds, he notes, students can train in diesel mechanics or take the first steps toward a university degree.

Members of the Medallion Society also include corporations such as Ukrop's

Super Markets, which established the Ukrop's Center for Culinary Education with a \$500,000 contribution. This was the largest, single donation ever given to the college. Another group honored by the society represents some friends and family of J. Sargeant Reynolds who collected funds to create a memorial room. The room is located in the library of the downtown campus and includes personal mementoes of the college's namesake.

MEDALLION SOCIETY

1995
Metropolitan Health Foundation, Inc.
The Eric and Jeanette Lipman Foundation
Lucy F. Gordon

1996
Home Builders Association of Richmond
Nathan and Sophia Gumenick Philanthropic Fund
Virginia Sargeant Reynolds Foundation

1997
Dr. Robert T. Greene
Retail Merchants Association of Greater Richmond

1998
Ukrop's Super Markets, Inc.

1999
Mary Ballou Reynolds Ballentine
Michael P. Gleason
Jeffrey H. Gumenick
Joseph H. Holleman
Andrew H. McCutcheon
Mark R. Merhige
J. Sargeant Reynolds, Jr.
J. Gordon Valentine

2001
Gilbert and Fannie Rosenthal

Fannie and Gilbert Rosenthal are members of the Medallion Society.



Advancing Educational Opportunities

“When John graduated from high school, he needed someplace to go...We developed a two-year certificate (for students with mental disabilities) so students would be employable when they finished...That’s still the formula today.”

Floyd Boothe, Reynolds Society

THE REYNOLDS SOCIETY provides for the current needs of the college. Members contribute \$1,000 or more annually to support any number of college programs. One member of the Reynolds Society, Floyd Boothe, supports a program that is designed to meet the needs of a special group of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College students.

The Program for Adults in Vocational Education (PAVE) is for students with mental disabilities, including mild retardation, severe learning disabilities and emotional disabilities. PAVE provides post-secondary training that allows these students to receive real-life job skills and participate in internships that can lead to successful employment.

Boothe was inspired by his son John, who was mentally retarded, to start PAVE. “When John graduated from high school, he needed someplace to go,” Boothe says. His dream was to work in a bakery.” Boothe and another parent worked with the Virginia Department of Education and the General Assembly to get this program off the ground. After a number of meetings, surveys with parents across the state, as well as lobbying efforts, Boothe and his partners were able to secure funding for PAVE in 1990. “This was brand new for Virginia,” he says. PAVE offers four career studies certificates for food service assistants, child care assistants, clerical assistants and healthcare companions. Students entering the program must have completed a high school program with a diploma or G.E.D. and possess the social skills necessary to function independently among their peers in a college environment.

In addition to the specific skills needed for the various certificates, the program teaches basic reading and math. In the second year of the program, students participate in internships to get more hands-on experience. Businesses throughout the Richmond area have opened their doors to provide these opportunities to PAVE students. “We developed the two-year certificate so students would be employable when they finished the program,” Boothe says. “That’s still the formula today.”

John Boothe died at age 25, about one year before the program got started. Floyd Boothe is still active in PAVE and serves as its chairman. As part of his continuing commitment, Boothe has established a scholarship fund to honor his son’s memory and help students who cannot afford the tuition. The fund provides for eight scholarships a year, Boothe says.



REYNOLDS SOCIETY MEMBERS

2001 - 2002
as of April 2002

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Alexander
Mr. James C. Aman
Mr. Arthur W. Arundel
Mr. and Mrs. Bryant W. Baird, Jr.
Mrs. Mary Ballou Reynolds Ballentine
Mrs. Ann T. Beane
Ms. Beverly S. Beck
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Beck, Jr.
Mr. Floyd G. Boothe
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bourque

Mr. Frank B. Bradley III
Dr. S. A. Burnette and Ms. Virginia C. Smithson
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dougherty
Ms. Louise L. Foster
Mr. and Mrs. J. Douglas Freeman
Mr. and Mrs. Dimitri B. Georgiadis
Mr. L. H. Ginn
Mr. and Mrs. L. Michael Gracik, Jr.
Dr. Joanna D. Hanks
Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hipple
Mr. James E. Holmes
Ms. Rose Liggan
Ms. Elizabeth S. Littlefield and Mr. Michael L. Edwards

Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Luck III
Mrs. Sharon H. Mallory
Ms. Mary Tyler McClenahan
Mr. and Mrs. Michael McDermid
Ms. Louise H. Minor
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Parker
Mr. and Mrs. R. Roland Reynolds
Mrs. Virginia S. Reynolds
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Rooney
Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert M. Rosenthal
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas W. Stopkey
Mr. Richard N. Thomas
Mrs. and Mrs. Randolph W. Wyckoff

Floyd Boothe, a member of the Reynolds Society, was inspired by his son.

This spring, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College created the LEGACY SOCIETY for individuals who have named the school in their wills. These planned gifts will help provide for the school's future.

J. Douglas Freeman is one of the charter members of the Legacy Society and has a long and varied association with J. Sargeant Reynolds. Freeman serves on both the college's board and the foundation board. He is also a graduate of the school.

After retiring from a long career in broadcasting,

Freeman, who is also a graduate of

Princeton University and Virginia Commonwealth University, started taking courses in horticulture and received his associate degree from J. Sargeant Reynolds in 1998. He now works as the facilities manager at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Richmond's West End.

"I'm totally sold on the college," Freeman says. "I believe in our mission to provide a quality education that is available and affordable."

Freeman says that including the college in his will supports a true legacy and is a tribute to the man for whom the school was named.

Freeman had the opportunity to work with J. Sargeant Reynolds and admired him as a man and a politician. "He had guts," Freeman says.

"If I were given \$1,000, but there was one condition that I spend it in the most beneficial way for the City of Richmond and its environs, without hesitation,

I would give it to the JSRCC

LEGACY SOCIETY CHARTER MEMBERS

Mr. James C. Aman
Dr. S. A. Burnette and Ms. Virginia C. Smithson
Mr. J. Douglas Freeman
Mr. and Mrs. Dimitri B. Georgiadis
Ms. Peggy B. Pinchbeck (Posthumously)
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Rooney
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph W. Wyckoff

The Foundation Board will accept Charter Members to the Legacy Society until May 1, 2003. After that, new inductees to the Legacy Society will become regular members.

Educational Foundation," Freeman says.

Freeman adds that he supports many educational and charitable organizations, but he is especially proud of the bequest he made to J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College in his will. "This is the best way I know to ensure the college's strong future," he says.



J. Douglas Freeman, Charter member of the Legacy Society.

Opportunities through Giving Clubs



Irving Taylor of Verizon presents \$125,000 check to President S. A. Burnette of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College and Anne Dale of Workforce One to support the Verizon TechnoTrain, a mobile computer classroom.

Nursing Shortage (continued from page 1)

available to help only 42 students. Fortunately, many of the healthcare agencies that so desperately need to recruit more nurses are stepping up to the plate and providing scholarships to ensure that students get the education and training they need.

These institutions and agencies are sponsoring scholarships for students who are then committed to working for that hospital or agency for a certain period of time. Some of the scholarships also require that students work paid intern positions while they are going to school. The end result is that more students can attend nursing school and more can attend full-time.

Next year, the Bon Secours Richmond Health System will begin offering 10 full-tuition

scholarships to J. Sargeant Reynolds nursing students each year. Students can earn scholarships for two years, completely covering the cost of tuition the entire time they're in the program. According to Jim Godwin, administrative director of human resources for Bon Secours, students will be required to work a minimum of 40 hours a month at one of Bon Secours' hospitals, which include Richmond Community Hospital, Memorial Regional Hospital and St. Mary's, or work in its home care program. In addition, the recipient must work for Bon Secours full-time for one year after completing the nursing program and getting a nursing license.

"This program is reflective of Bon Secours' overall commitment to prepare the next generation of healthcare professionals to serve

the people of Central Virginia," Godwin says.

Institutions like Bon Secours are drawn to J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is the quality of students. "Nursing leaders at Bon Secours report that Reynolds graduates are among the best that they see," Godwin says. In fact, the school's graduates pass the national licensure exam for RNs at a higher rate than the state and national average.

Other scholarships programs available to Reynolds nursing students include the Grace Hospital Alumnae Association Scholarship for students beginning the program, and the Metropolitan Health Foundation Nursing Scholarships for students who have completed their clinical programs. A newly endowed nursing scholarship targets students

Nursing



just entering the program. The Mary Washington Foundation and Retreat Hospital offer Reynolds nursing students scholarships and internship opportunities as well as job placement once they graduate.

Rose Liggan, scholarship coordinator for the college, reports that close to \$100,000 is available to nursing students for scholarships. The recently established VCU Health Systems Nursing Scholarship gives nursing students similar opportunities as well as funding to cover expenses that are not usually covered by scholarships, such as child or elderly care.

Such innovative programs should go a long way to help students enter the program. Fran Stanley says another way to meet the needs of today's students is to expand distance delivery and provide a more flexible course

schedule with weekend and evening classes. "This would allow more working students to attend the program," Stanley says. "We need to expand into non-traditional delivery."

Right now, the college permits certified paramedics who want to become nurses to take all their courses via the Internet. Reynolds started this program in January 2001. These students take the entire program online, Stanley says. "They respond to various questions and situations that instructors post on the Internet," she reports, "And are constantly Emailing back and forth with instructors."

Stanley says this type of program is effective and would appeal to other students with job obligations. Putting this program in place, however, also means adding more faculty. Currently, the college has about 20 part-time and 11 full-time faculty members. Adding faculty requires more funding. To address this need, the college has recently established a task force whose goal is to advise the college on how it can build capacity in its nursing program to increase the numbers of nurses available to practice in Metro Richmond. As usual, the college is looking to the community and its long-time partners for help in this mission.

Additional funds will help J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College not only expand its faculty but also its laboratories where students practice important clinical skills. New funding will also allow the school to update its technology and equipment. "We have AV materials we can't use because we don't have money to buy updated equipment," Stanley reports.


Stanley would also like to introduce the use of palm pilots—portable computers that would allow students to store information

**“As a hospital
volunteer, I’ve seen
the need for nurses in
the Richmond area.
After this experience,
the thought of not
being able to complete
my education saddens
me. Without this
scholarship, that
would be my fate.”**

Patricia Sgro, future pediatric nurse

on drugs, dosages and other patient needs, so they wouldn't need to carry around heavy texts and notebooks. Again, such a program would require more funding.

While it's important that J. Sargeant Reynolds keep its nursing school labs, equipment and technology up-to-date, the most important result of expanding its program will be to increase the number of nurses available to serve healthcare facilities and patients throughout Central Virginia.



Shortage

JSRCC President Announces Retirement

After thirty-seven years in community college education, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College President S. A. Burnette announced his plans for retirement effective December 31, 2002.

He has served as president of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College since 1976.

Under Burnette's leadership, JSRCC has grown to become the third largest community college in the Virginia system. "Dr. Burnette is an exceptional team builder, and he is known for his development of other leaders. He will be greatly missed," says James Copp, chair of the J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College Board.



Peter Bernard (far right), CEO of Bon Secours Richmond Health System, presents \$20,000 to S.A. Burnette (second from left) for nursing scholarships. Others pictured (from left to right) Patricia Robertson, COO of St. Mary's Hospital and member of JSRCC Foundation, Elizabeth Littlefield, Executive Director of JSRCC Foundation and Sister Rosemary Smith, S.C., Senior Vice President, Sponsorship, Bon Secours Virginia. See related article beginning on page 1.