

## COMMUNITY GARDEN & URBAN FARMING

by *Leanne Harrow*  
*Williamsburg Community Growers*

Nurturing plants helps us feel a sense of accomplishment and connection to the land and community. Research shows that growing your own food increases physical health and promotes a healthy lifestyle. For these reasons, **Williamsburg Community Growers (WCG)** has developed a thriving community garden, teaching farm, and unique outdoor education space.

Located on 10 acres between Warhill High School and the James City County Stadium, the land is within the Dominion Energy power line corridor that has been repurposed for agricultural use.

Because gardening can benefit our physical, mental, and social wellbeing, it is important that people of all abilities are included. With support from a Williamsburg Community Foundation grant, WCG is building accessible gardens. *(See photo at right of volunteers building raised beds).*

This grant falls under the Foundation's focus area of **Environment & Conservation**.

WCG's mission goes beyond creating gardening space, to promoting healthy lifestyles, educating the public, and promoting conservation practices. Students from local schools and Merrimac Detention Center have been involved with seed starting, planting and harvesting. In 2018, the farm donated over 650 pounds of produce to community groups and food insecure families. Local schools have also received fresh produce for their cafeterias.

To promote conservation, WCG uses county curbside collection leaves to make compost that enriches the soil; collaborates with area beekeepers to establish a pollinator area; and waters the gardens using storm water runoff that has been filtered and cleaned by two wetland systems and a restored stream.

With help from the WCF and many others, the community garden is growing!

## GRANTS



**Williamsburg Community Growers** is just one of 16 local organizations that received grant support from WCF in April. Visit our website to learn more about these grants.

**Want to apply for a grant for your organization?** The next deadline is **January 15, 2020**.

For grant guidelines and application, please visit the WCF website, or contact the office at 757-259-1660. We look forward to talking with you!

## STRATEGIES TO MAXIMIZE THE BENEFIT OF YOUR CHARITABLE GIFT

Did you know that the new tax law resulted in a decrease in contributions to nonprofit organizations in 2018? Here are a few strategies to make the most of your giving this year:

### Strategy one: The Field-of-Interest Fund

The field-of-interest fund provides grants to local nonprofit organizations in an area of your choice (e.g. the arts, education, etc.) You can pick from one of our six focus areas or establish a fund with your choice of criteria. If you are 70½ or older, this is a great option for IRA giving. You can donate your required distribution from your IRA (up to \$100,000) and it will be excluded from your gross income for the year. Your fund will provide yearly grants to local charities in your favorite area every year.

### Strategy two: The Donor-Advised Fund

A donor-advised fund is like a “charitable checking account” that allows you to take an immediate deduction on your gifts to the fund, then use the fund to make donations over time. With the new tax law, you might consider “**bunching**” several years of giving into one gift to a donor-advised fund. For example: let’s say you normally give \$7,000 to several charities over the course of a year, but can no longer deduct those gifts with the new standard deduction. Making a larger gift of \$20,000 to create a donor-advised fund helps you get above the standard deduction (\$12,000 individual/\$24,000 married). You can now make gifts over the next several years so that your favorite charities receive annual support.

Please contact the Foundation office for more information about these strategies and others to help support our community.



## WELCOME NEW TRUSTEES

The board of trustees would like to thank and recognize those trustees who retired from the board this year: **Paul Gerhardt (Chair), Bill Roberts (Treasurer), Susanna Hickman, Sterling Nichols, Sam Powell, and Howard Smith Sr.** Their service, leadership, and hard work have been invaluable.

We also welcome several new trustees:

President of Middle Peninsula Insurance, **Joe Harrow** (top left), brings a wealth of knowledge to the board. He currently serves as chair of the board of Angels of Mercy Clinic.

**Lori Conen** (top right), retired from Siemens with extensive experience in human resources. She serves as an Executive Partner at William & Mary Mason School of Business.

**Jack Haldeman** (bottom right) is retired from a career in investment management and has been very involved in local community planning.

**Carter Sonders** (bottom left) is the Director of Principle Gifts at Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. She has served on the W-JCC Scholarship Committee at WCF for many years.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: TY HUNDLEY RECEIVES SCRUGGS SCHOLARSHIP

**Fannye Scruggs Rorer** considered it her great privilege to care for thousands of patients in her 52 years as a registered nurse. While at Williamsburg Community Hospital, Eastern State, and Bell Hospital, Fannye worked in emergency rooms, OB/Delivery, out-patient surgery, and as an operating room nurse. She was so beloved that patients would schedule their surgeries to ensure that she could be the nurse that took care of them.

It is very fitting that **Ty Garland Hundley** is the first recipient of a nursing scholarship given in Fannye's memory by **Pam and Lee Scruggs**. Ty graduated this year from Lafayette High School where she maintained honor roll grades, ran indoor and outdoor track, and volunteered with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. She plans to study nursing in order to become a neonatal nurse practitioner one day. Ty describes herself as strong and determined, outgoing and independent — all traits that will serve her well as she heads to school this fall.



Ty Garland Hundley received the first ever Fannye Scruggs Rorer, RN Memorial Nursing Scholarship, given by **Pam and Lee Scruggs** to honor Lee's mother. Ty is heading to Virginia Commonwealth University this fall. We wish you luck, Ty!

## 45 YEARS STRONG: WJCC SCHOLARSHIP FUND



2019 marked the 45th year that our community has provided college scholarships for local public high school students! Over **\$90,000** in scholarships were awarded to **66 students** from Jamestown, Lafayette, and Warhill. Several new scholarships were given by generous local donors, many for students with financial need. Please visit our website to see the list of scholarship recipients.

**If you would like to learn more about creating a scholarship, please contact Nancy Sullivan at 757-259-1660.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sep. 11 & Oct. 18, 12 - 1pm Lunch & Learn

Location: WCF Boardroom  
Enjoy lunch from Carrot Tree, learn about the Foundation's grants and scholarship programs in a small group setting. No cost.

### Oct. 30, 12 - 1:30 pm Fall Grants Lunch

Location: Ford's Colony  
All are welcome to attend! Grant awards are presented and nonprofit leaders speak about their program's impact our community. No cost.

**Please RSVP to 757-259-1660.**

Williamsburg  
**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**

Celebrating 20 Years

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Save the Date!  
20th Anniversary Gala  
October 10, 2020  
William & Mary  
Alumni House



The Greater Williamsburg Community Trust (DBA Williamsburg Community Foundation) is a tax-exempt public charity under section 501©(3) of the IRS code. EIN #54-1927558

## SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday, October 2, 2019**

*Charitable Giving after Tax Reform*  
**How to Help Your Clients  
Navigate the New Rules**

Continuing Education Credits Available

*Presented  
by:*

Williamsburg  
**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
Celebrating 20 Years



### Who should attend?

Estate Planning Attorneys, CPAs, CFPs, Bank Trust Officers, Insurance Agents and other professional advisors with an interest in helping their clients navigate the new tax law for philanthropic purposes.

### Date/Time:

October. 2, 2019  
8:15-10:45am

### Location:

The Stryker Center  
412 North Boundary St.  
Williamsburg, VA 23185

For full details on continuing education credits, please visit: [masoncompanies.com/credits/wcf/](http://masoncompanies.com/credits/wcf/)