



Food Pantry and Clothing
Serving the Community Since 1975

NEWS

June 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow FISH Volunteers:

This month's newsletter is packed, so my comments will be limited to three issues that deserve emphasis.

First, as promised when we resumed the masking requirement last month for both volunteers and clients, the Board of Directors carefully re-considered the masking decision on June 16, and decided to continue the practice for at least another month. I ask for your cooperation so that we can all remain safe.

Second, we've been challenged with inter-team communications for as long as I can remember. Significant things that happen on a Monday, for example, aren't always passed along to teams that follow. To remedy this, we have started a daily log for each team to record significant events as they occur. This will provide a ready reference for the FISH staff and coordinators and assist in the more efficient conduct of our operations. If nothing significant happens on your shift, simply state that.

Finally, I'm pleased to report that after a lengthy period of due diligence, on Monday, June 20, the Williamsburg Area Transportation Authority (WATA) will begin bus service to FISH. During this trial, WATA buses will stop at a temporary bus stop adjacent to 312 Second Street at 10:41 AM, 12:41 PM and 2:41 PM.

Regards,
Jack

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In Memoriam



We are saddened by the passing of one of our FISH founders, Ling Ngo.

Ling passed away peacefully on May 29, 2022 at home, surrounded by family. She is survived by her spouse of 64 years, Reggie.

We were privileged that Ling and Reggie were able to attend the Open House at FISH's new location on April 9, where we honored the founders. Ling's vision, organizational skills and caring dedication brought FISH to life.

We are grateful to Ling and her family for naming FISH as her charity of choice for donations, in lieu of flowers.

[Full Obituary.](#)



FISH Open House
April 9, 2022



"What a great lady whose heart was bigger than she was. And how wonderful that she founded FISH."

*- Sister Mary Jeanne Oesterle
Walsingham Academy*



TowneBank donated 30 bags of food and clothing in memory of Ling Ngo and to honor her son who was formerly a bank manager.

As of June 15, FISH has received \$4,900 donated in Ling's memory.

What a remarkable outpouring of love for this precious lady and her beloved organization.

Recently, sisters of the Williamsburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority generously donated 45 bags of non-perishable canned goods, and then helped FISH volunteers stock the shelves!



Pictured from left to right are: Trena Glass, Roberta Ferrell-Holiday, Alisa Brooks and Marian Shearin.



The same generous donor who anonymously donates holiday and Mother's Day baskets for our clients, also creates Father's Day gift bags.

Thank you for these special treats.

Thank You

The Bruton Parish Episcopal Church collected 180 bags of canned goods during its June food drive.



At the spring Queens Lake Ladies Night, the ladies collected over \$600 to donate to FISH, plus the following day delivered a houswarming gift basket welcoming FISH to The Edge District:

- coffee from Column 15,
- a plant from Williamsburg Floral, and
- donut holes from Emily's Donuts.

We are touched by your thoughtfulness, generosity, and warm welcome!



The Williamsburg Universalist Unitarian Church selected FISH to receive this month's "Share the Plate" collection, plus invited FISH President Jack Trotter to update the community on changes at FISH. We appreciate this special gift and opportunity!

Click below to view our new video.

THIS MONTH'S SHARE THE PLATE RECIPIENT

FISH Inc. is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit agency providing food, clothing and shoes, cleaning and hygiene products, and small housewares to our less fortunate neighbors.



Online donations may be made by clicking the Donate button on our website at

williamsburgfish.weebly.com



All donations directly support FISH services to our neighbors in need.



On May 23, Lisa Granger, on her Making a Difference Monday program, sat down with FISH President Jack Trotter and gave her listening audience an opportunity to learn more about FISH's impact on this community, and how the community can support FISH.

Listen to the podcast [here](#).



New Volunteers

- Ashley Turner
- Barbara Riebe
- Gail Garber

Welcome to FISH!

Leaving us at this time:
Pat Evers





CLOSET CLEANING?

When you are cleaning your closets, please remember that FISH also collects unusual items, in addition to everyday and Sunday wear. For example, vintage, formal, holiday and international items are considered treasures by the W&M students for use in theatrical productions, for Halloween, etc.

Your attic treasures are included in the William & Mary Catholic Campus Ministry's (CCM) annual campus fundraiser, called The Costume Sale, which is historically held in October.

- You may donate your items any time of the year.
- All expenses for this event are covered by CCM and some generous community members.
- 100% of the proceeds are returned to FISH.

Last year this event raised over \$5,600 which allows FISH to purchase specific items that are in shortage.

If you have questions, please contact Karen Berquist at fishwilliamsburg@gmail.com.

FISH Focus



FISH is grateful to Karen Berquist for applying her expertise, and recording FISH's history in 2014. Since 1979, Karen has supported FISH by working on Ad Hoc projects--her favorite being The Costume Sale. The energy that Karen and the W&M students generate at this event is contagious which is one of the reasons it is so successful.

Thank you, Karen and the CCM team, for your commitment and enthusiasm.



[Here](#) is the one-minute video of last year's event!

