



March - April
2021

Editor: Olivia Buell

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!
[HTTPS://WILLIAMSBURGFISH.WEEBLY.COM/](https://williamsburgfish.weebly.com/)

Greetings,

The pandemic continues to cause problems for Americans and for FISH. We have managed to stay open with minimal workers being exposed to potential danger. James City County seems to be declining in the number of cases. More folks are being vaccinated but at a slow pace. As more of us are vaccinated, I am hopeful that more will feel comfortable volunteering. This can lead to an expansion of hours and services. Thanks to Martha Buell for her efforts at finding volunteers.

FISH is the proud owner of a new van, which will be used to pick up and deliver food from stores. It can also be used by shoppers at the Food Pantry. Joe Benedetti's group can also use it to deliver food to the homeless at hotels. Thanks to Mike Motes and Holly and Jack Trotter for shopping for the van and putting in the time.

By now, many of you may have heard that Child Development Resources is planning on purchasing our building. We have been promised that most of our space will still be available to us. Members of the board met with representatives of CDR to discuss future plans, but no decisions have been made. Provisions would need to be made for us to continue using the building. Ultimately, we may be forced to look elsewhere for space.

This is a challenging time for us. Let's hope that all works out and we can continue our mission in the community.

Stay healthy and safe.

Gene Bruss

President

**GO LIKE US ON
FACEBOOK!
OUR PAGE IS
"WILLIAMSBURG
FISH INC".**

FISH IN 2020

After suspending direct service to clients due to COVID safety concerns, FISH used its resources to provide more than \$35,000 in food supplies to partner organizations distributing food. During its seven months of 2020 direct operation, FISH served approximately 2,260 unique individuals in 942 households with food, clothing and/or housewares. More than 1,600 grocery orders were filled and almost 2,700 outfits of clothing were distributed.

Besides serving clients at headquarters, in 2020 FISH funded a monthly Mobile Food Pantry in partnership with the Salvation Army, provided crockpots for families living in area motels, helped stock the W&M Food Pantry, and began a program that makes emergency groceries available to motel residents.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Contact Martha Buell at
757-345-2646!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Maura Rush

Maura Rush was born, raised, educated (BA in Psych; MBA in Organizational Behavior), and married in New York City, but lived in Texas and Pennsylvania before coming to northern Virginia in 1986. She and her husband Tom, who also volunteers at FISH, will be married 49 years in June and have three children and four grandchildren. After she retired from SAIC as a VP for Human Resources, they moved to Ford's Colony in 2012 because of proximity to family and having three golf courses made this a good choice for the two avid golfers. As past Tournament Director and LGA President, she has had the opportunity to direct food drives and fundraising that benefited FISH over the years. Golf has kept her sane during the pandemic, having played 148 rounds in 2020, but FISH became a big focus as well. She is very glad to spend a lot of time working with large donations, stocking shelves, and bagging groceries during this time but can't wait to get back to the old normal of providing families with food monthly.



2021 CLOSURES

Monday, May 31 (Memorial Day)

Monday, July 5 (July 4th Observance)

Monday, September 6 (Labor Day)

Monday, October 11 (Columbus Day)

Thursday, November 11 (Veteran's Day)

Wednesday, November 24 (Closes at Noon)

Thursday & Friday, November 25 & 26 (Thanksgiving Day and
Following Day)

Friday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

Friday, December 31 (New Year's Eve)



FISH's new van



James City Lions Club
volunteers Dan Fontaine and
Ruth Bott help FISH stock
shelves