



Food Pantry and Clothing
Serving the Community Since 1975

NEWS



September 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We welcome September in many ways. Kids are back to school, parents are packing lunches again, and we are looking forward to being in our New Home on Pocahontas Trail.

BIG NEWS: We will begin moving on October 8, and the move should take about 4 days. We will advise when we are ready for clients at the new location. We will announce "Open for Clients" on our Facebook page and our phone message. More on page 2.

September brought the **Kiwanis Shrimp Feast**, held at Jamestown Settlement. Yes, every FISH volunteer and several hundred of our friends that day got soaked by the thunderstorm. But hot dogs still got wrapped, shrimp still got boiled, and it was still a fun time. See page 5.

Sadly, one of our past presidents, Jack Trotter, passed away this past weekend. Jack was deeply involved in securing our current location at Second Street when we needed it. He oversaw the renovations and gave me valuable guidance when I took my first tentative steps as FISH President. Thank you, Jack. See page 3.

Jill Holroyd
FISH President
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IN THIS ISSUE

New Home Update
Driving Directions
Help Needed
[Page 2](#)

In Memoriam - Jack Trotter
Note to Donors
[Page 3](#)

Thrift Extravaganza
New Volunteers
[Page 4](#)

Donations
Shrimp Feast
[Page 5](#)

Volunteer Spotlight
Spreading the Word
Georgia Mamangakis
[Page 6](#)

Donate



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Acknowledgements and Announcements



Update for FISH New Home

7129 Pocahontas Trail

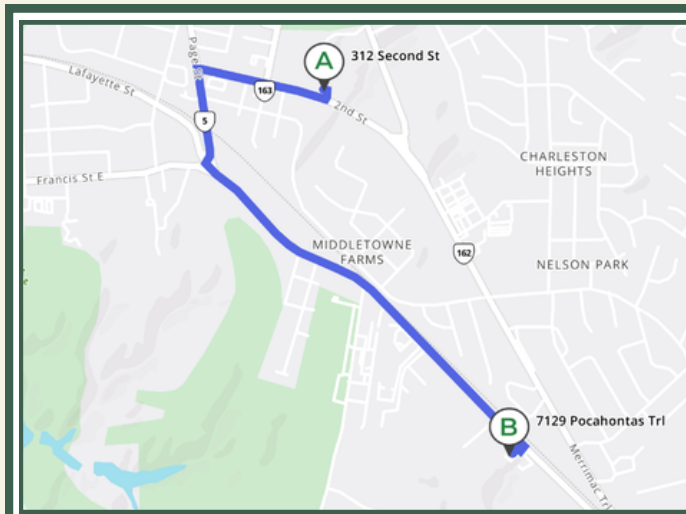


Save the Date – November 7 – Ribbon Cutting and Open House

The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House for dignitaries and donors is scheduled for Saturday, November 7. More information to follow.

After 50 years of all-volunteer service in church closets, loaned houses, a community center, and rental space, FISH will soon offer food, clothing and small housewares assistance in its own home.

[CLICK HERE TO
SUPPORT THE
CAMPAIGN](#)



Directions from 312 Second Street to 7129 Pocahontas Trail

- Turn RIGHT out of the FISH parking lot onto Second Street
- At the traffic light, turn LEFT onto Page St (US-60)
- At the next traffic light, turn LEFT onto Pocahontas Trail (US-60), then travel 1.2 miles
- Turn RIGHT into the New Home parking lot

About a 4-minute drive; less than 2 miles total

**HELP
NEEDED**



We need a few volunteers to serve as contacts on a Facilities Team for our New Home. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Mike Motes, 3892motes@gmail.com or 404-791-5279.



The Monday Closet Crew recently hosted a special evening for Lindsay Lilly at Thai Tara Restaurant. All of our best wishes to the new family of 4!

– Joanne Stark, Volunteer

Acknowledgements and Announcements

In Memoriam

FISH is saddened by the passing of former President Jack Trotter.

Jack passed away on September 12, 2026, after a brief stay at Hospice House. He is survived by his wife, Hollis, of 14 years.

Jack was the driving force behind FISH's relocation from the Waller Mill location to our current address on Second Street. He oversaw all renovations and was highly visible throughout the transition. He was unable to visit FISH's new location on Pocahontas Trail but closely followed the progress as the new building took shape.



FISH has been named as a suggested recipient, along with Hospice House, for donations in Jack's name.

Jack Trotter will be missed, and FISH was fortunate to have him as a past president. [Full Obituary](#)



NOTE TO DONORS

FISH is grateful for every donation, whether small or large. But if there is no name or address, our Thank-You Team is unable to acknowledge the donation.

Sometimes checks come from a brokerage firm, without any identifying information. Donors are welcome to email us at the following address to confirm their check has been received--fishwilliamsburg@gmail.com.

Did You Just Turn 73?

If you are in the age group where it is mandated that you take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA or 401(k), you need to do this annually by December 31.

If this amount goes to a non-profit organization, it is not considered income for tax purposes but does count towards your RMD.

Please check with your tax advisor, if you have any questions.

If you are considering donating to FISH and want your donation to support our new home, please note "**Capital Campaign**".

Thank you.

-- Jeff Deel, Director and Treasurer



Bonnie McNail and I represented FISH at the RPEO 757 Back-to-School & Community Give Back event, co-hosted by **RPEO (Real People Educating Others)** and the **757 Giveback Committee**. 600 children received school supplies, and over 1,000 people attended.

- Susie van Rijn
Director and Special Events Co-Coordinator

Acknowledgements and Announcements

W&M Campus Fundraiser A Thrift Extravaganza!

3 Days – October 27, 28 & 29

Our 2026 fundraiser is **Extra Special** this year. An **Extra Day** on campus means we need **Extra Help**. **Extra Parking** means we can advertise more widely in the community.

Please help with publicity by posting printed flyers (available at FISH) or by forwarding this newsletter.

To sign up to help at checkout, tidy inventory, and assist shoppers, please click [here](#). Or look for a sign-up sheet at FISH.

An **Extra Day** means proceeds may top last year's \$14,200. 100% of the proceeds support FISH at a time of **Extra Need**.

Questions or suggestions: Karen Berquist, KABERQ@wm.edu

Thank you for your help.

William & Mary Sadler Center
200 Stadium Drive
Tidewater Rooms A & B

October 27 (Tuesday):

Setup 9:00 am – 6:00 pm

followed by **The Twilight Sale** from 7:00 - 10:00 pm

October 28 (Wednesday):

Sale from 10:00 am - 10:00 pm

October 29 (Thursday):

Sale from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

followed by **Breakdown** from 2:00 - 6:00 pm

See the fun we have in this under 3-minute video.

Click on photo below.



-- Karen Berquist, Campus Thrift Extravaganza Coordinator

Thrift Comes to Campus

WHEN: TUESDAY, OCT. 27, 7PM - 10PM
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28, 10AM - 10PM
THURSDAY, OCT 29, 10AM - 3PM

WHERE: SADLER CENTER, TIDEWATER A & B

WHAT: COSTUMES, FORMAL WEAR, VINTAGE, GLOBAL, JEWELRY, & MORE ALL BELOW THRIFT STORE PRICES!

Sign up to volunteer:

All proceeds benefit FISH
FOOD PANTRY AND CLOTHES CLOSET

Welcome New Volunteers

Thank you for choosing FISH!

- Agnes Serena
- Ashley Laneve
- Bill Wilson
- Jane Mount
- Joyce Schatzman
- Luke Iacobucci
- Matt Chambers
- Traci Fairchild

CORRECTION

In "A Client's Thank You" last month, I incorrectly identified the volunteer as Karen Berquist. It should have read, "A client came into the Clothing Closet to share a picture of herself and a friend taken on Mother's Day. She explained they had been to FISH the Friday before and had been helped by Volunteer Karen Dailey. They felt wonderful dressed so well by FISH and had received many compliments.

I apologize for the mistake.

Kathleen Pock, Editor

DONATIONS

PORCH

The 15 **PORCH** neighborhoods that came to FISH this month outdid themselves with the donations weighing in at more than 5,000 pounds. Many thanks to Sarah Weiser and her neighborhood leaders who do such great work.



Earlier and separately, the **Porch Ford's Colony** donation of 1,886 pounds of non-perishables arrived at the perfect time!



-- Maura Rush, VP and Food Donations Coordinator

thank
you

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church

FISH is so grateful for the continued financial support and many volunteers that we are given by the **Williamsburg Presbyterian Church**. Jim Winthrop stopped by to give us a generous check from the church. We are fortunate to have such wonderful support.

-- Maura Rush, VP and Food Donations Coordinator



Kiwanis Shrimp Feast

FISH is honored to be selected as a Headliner for the Kiwanis Club of Williamsburg for 2026-2027. This is a "working grant" in which FISH volunteers help the Kiwanis at some of their fundraising programs and then receive financial support the following year.

The **Shrimp Feast** was held on September 12. In addition to the terrific shrimp dinner and music by Brasswind, the heavens provided a downpour, which added interest.

Past Shrimp Feast in sunnier weather





VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Spreading the Word

Georgia Mamangakis

Pantry, Clothes Closet & Thrift Extravaganza



When I first learned about FISH in the early 80s, I began supporting it with food and clothing. In the back of my mind, I planned to volunteer after I retired, but my spouse had a stroke, which caused a bit of a delay. Now I volunteer one day a month in the Pantry and one day a month in the Clothes Closet. In addition, to my scheduled volunteer time, I assist with the Thrift Extravaganza by sorting and pricing jewelry. I also try to recruit volunteers to assist with the Thrift sale. Lastly, I enjoy collecting, transporting, and delivering all the Williamsburg Estate donations they donate to FISH weekly.

My appreciation for FISH has grown, and I can't help but spread the word by soliciting on its behalf. I've done so at Williamsburg Estate Services, Hannah's Closet, ReStore, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg Landing, and even at yard sales. Most yard sales have unsold items at the end of the day, so I ask the owners to consider donating to FISH, and I leave my contact information. If they decide to donate leftovers, it's a win-win because I select what FISH needs, and they experience the joy of giving. I also pick up donations from friends and acquaintances who cannot get to FISH during our operating hours. This has proven to be a good source of donations for both Pantry and Clothing and even produced several good-sized monetary donations.

A deeply eye-opening experience at FISH was taking a homeless woman through the Clothing Closet so she could select slacks, shirts, underwear, and outerwear. Some of what we offered was not useful to her (dresses, purses, scarves, hosiery), but her gratitude was deep and overwhelming. This may have been because she was overwhelmed by what she saw as incredible generosity, something she clearly had not previously experienced.

I enjoy gardening, reading, and travel. I have rescued dogs and been involved in breed-specific rescue for over 30 years. Currently, we have one mixed-breed female, Thorro, who is very small but keeps our household happy. She is also a good traveler.

From my wonderful experience at FISH, the saying is true: "The first person served in service is the server."



A nod to the generations at FISH:

When my mom visited me from Florida in December 2025, she worked a shift with me because she wanted to see where I had been spending so much of my time. It was a special time for both of us.