



# the Rockfish Reader

All the News from RVCC



December 2012

## Greetings From RVCC!

*From Executive Director Stu Mills:*

A quick message this month – there’s so much going on here, we need all available space to tell you about it!

I hope everyone had as terrific a Thanksgiving as I did. I spent a lot of time watching football, eating myself silly, getting the yard winterized – and yes, doing my annual appreciation reflection. One of the things I am most thankful for is this wonderful, crazy job that allows me to feel that I’m giving something back to the community that has given me so much.

Thanksgiving launches the season of giving, and I hope you’ll join me in including RVCC on your gift list this month. One thing that unites all Nelsonians is our spirit of community – and if spirit is the essence of community, then RVCC is its bricks & mortar. We can show our support by renewing our memberships for 2013, and if this year was good for you, perhaps pitching in a little more to help replenish the coffers, or perhaps to help restore the floors (see “*Floor Us!*” on page 2). Please “*Remember to Re-Member*” and [click here](#) to renew and to donate.

I wish each of you a warm, happy, healthy and peaceful holiday season. I have it on good authority that 2013 is going to be a transformative year for RVCC, and I feel privileged and thrilled that I’ll be a part of our shared “happy new year.”

*Stu Mills | Executive Director, RVCC*

## RVCC Welcomes Marie Dennis To The Treasure Chest

The Board & staff of RVCC is thrilled to announce the appointment of **Marie Dennis** to the position of Thrift Store Manager.

Marie is most familiar to the community as part of the restaurant management team at Wintergreen Resort, where she has played an essential role in leading and directing a staff of both domestic and international workers since 1996. In addition, she is a lifelong portrait, wedding, and freelance photographer. Her favorite works hang in the halls of Nelson County High School, where several years of award winning high school productions are showcased through her photographs

A native of Philadelphia, PA, Marie moved to Nelson County with her husband Tom in 1983. Her enthusiasm for thrifting and treasure hunting grew as she raised her children, Genevieve, Gabrielle and Daniel. Her other interests include gardening, genealogy, playing guitar, and painting and re-finishing furniture.

Please stop by and join us in welcoming Marie to RVCC!



*Remember to Re-Member!*

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## COMING EVENTS AT RVCC

**12/1:** Winter Market, Pancake Breakfast & TC Bag Day, Christmas Tree Sales, December Wreath Exhibit

**12/5:** Town Hall Meeting

**12/14:** Coffee House Music: Harps of Gold Christmas Concert

**12/21:** North Branch School’s St George & the Dragon

**1/5:** Red Cross Blood Drive

**1/5:** Jim Brewer Art Reception

## Rockfish Nights a success!

## ROCKFISH NIGHTS

Our annual fundraising gala was a great success! The Silent Auction brought in nearly **\$6,500**, bringing our net profit for the event to just over **\$9,200**. Carolann Hugo's **The Invisible Chef** provided a delectable dinner, and **Acme Swing Mfg Co** kept the dance floor full all night long!

Special thanks to our amazing and tireless Rockfish Nights Committee, without whom none of this would have been possible: **Teresa Battaglia, Cindy Byron, Mary Cunningham, Sue Foley, Sharon Gress, Cheryl Klueh, Lisa Linqvist, Diana Malsky, Bill Perrelli, Sarah Jane Stewart, Sara Taylor, Jenny Upton, and Elaine Weems.**

Thanks to all the Nelson County breweries and wineries who stocked the bar for the evening, and thanks to the [impressive list \(available on our website\)](#) of local businesses, craftspeople and individuals who donated items and services to the Silent Auction.

We look forward to next year!

## Coffee House Music Series: Harps of Gold—December 14

The **Harp Song of the Blue Ridge** Christmas Concert with **Harp Song of the Blue Ridge**, directed by **Virginia Schwening**, will be presented on Friday, December 14th. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m.



Harpmaker **Howard Bryan** will reveal the stories of six exquisite antique gold harps (by Wurlitzer, Lyon-Healy, Blaicher, Erard) from the 19th and 20th centuries as harpists in period costumes bring these gems to life. Finally, the whole ensemble of up to 14 harpists will perform your favorite Christmas Carols. Join us for this amazing and uplifting concert.

### *The Harps of Gold Christmas Concert*

**Friday, December 14, 7pm | In the Auditorium**  
**Adults \$7 | Teens \$5 | Children Free**  
**Refreshments available**

## Christmas Tree Sales Begin December 1

RVCC opens our annual **Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale** on December 1!

These freshly-cut North Carolina **Fraser Firs**, prized for their shape, beauty and longevity, will be available Saturdays from 9:00am-1:00pm in the tree lot. They'll also be available for sale through the Treasure Chest.

Christmas Tree prices start at \$40. RVCC Members get a **\$5 discount!**

Volunteers are needed to help sell trees on **December 8, 15, and 22**. Please contact us at [rockfishcc@gmail.com](mailto:rockfishcc@gmail.com) if you can help.



## Town Hall Meeting—December 5

RVCC will host a **TOWN HALL MEETING** on **Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** in the auditorium. North District Supervisor **Tommy Harvey**, Central District Supervisor **Connie Brennan** and County Administrator **Stephen Carter** will be on hand to discuss county issues, address your concerns and answer your questions. While all topics are up for discussion, the status of the broadband project that we have mentioned in previous newsletters will definitely be on the agenda. For more information you can call the county offices at 434-263-7000 or email RVCC at [rockfishcc@gmail.com](mailto:rockfishcc@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you there!



## WHO ARE OUR TENANTS?

[Alexander Driving School](#)

[Carol De La Herran: Reiki](#)

[Claudia Gibson Catering](#)

[Susan Gorman: Derby Vixen](#)

[Habitat for Humanity](#)

[John Helfrick: Afton Laser Arts](#)

[Sallie Justice: Life Coaching](#)

[Cathy Kiehl: Art Therapy](#)

[David Lipscomb: Virginia Rock Shop](#)

[K Robins Designs: Symbolic Jewelry](#)

[Mitchell Webster: Heritage Basket Studio & Caning](#)

[Rosalba Valentino Designs](#)

[Karen Walker-Cooke: Core Fitness Synergy](#)

## FLOOR US!

Our campaign to refinish the beautiful maple floors throughout RVCC is nearly half-way to our goal of \$10,000! Please visit [www.rockfishcc.org](http://www.rockfishcc.org) for complete "Floor Us!" information. Your donation will be immortalized on the RVCC Floor Plan in the foyer!

## Treasure Chest Hours:

**Tuesday-Friday**

**10am-4pm**

**Saturday**

**9am-4pm**

**(434) 361-0103**

[rvccthrifstore@gmail.com](mailto:rvccthrifstore@gmail.com)

## Holiday Market—Saturday, December 1

The **Sixth Annual Community Market** season continues this Saturday, December 1! These indoor Winter Markets feature local produce, meats, cheeses, jams, baked goods, plants, greenery, art and crafts.

The markets run 9:00am-noon on the first Saturday of the month and each market coincides with **RVCC's Pancake Breakfast**.

### 2012 Winter Markets

December 1 (with live music by **Rockfish Gap**)

### 2013 Winter Markets

February 2 (with live music by **the Warmed Over Boys**)

March 2 | April 6

For more information, contact Donna Kincaid at [mountainvision@earthlink.net](mailto:mountainvision@earthlink.net).



## WHO ARE OUR TEACHERS?

### Yoga

Martina Compton | Sandra Pleasants | Brian Webb | Karen Walker-Cooke

### Fitness & Zumba

Karen Walker-Cooke | Heidi Davis

### Driver Training

Leslie Alexander

### Life Coaching

Sallie Justice

### Weight Watchers

Karen Asher

### Sewing Instruction

Rosalba Valentino

### Zero Balancing

Elizabeth Martin

For a full class schedule, visit [www.rockfishcc.org](http://www.rockfishcc.org)

## December Art Exhibit: Holiday Wreaths



### CALLING ALL WREATH MAKERS!

The Art Committee at the Rockfish Valley Community Center invites you to submit a hand-made or hand-decorated wreath to be exhibited in our main hall for the month of December, 2012. Traditional and non-traditional wreaths are welcome. You can use the wreath form to express a hobby, sport, activity, favorite poem, etc.

Requirements for exhibiting wreaths:

- ◆ Natural and other materials are fine.
- ◆ Every wreath **MUST** have a tag on it indicating the maker's name, phone number and email address (if you have one). If you want your wreath to be for sale, please write the price on your tag.
- ◆ Deliver your wreath to the main office at RVCC **by December 7th**. The Art Committee will hang the wreaths.

If you wish, you may include a description of your inspiration or design on the tag or on a card to be displayed with your wreath.

If you have any questions please contact **Sue Chase** at: 540 456-8176 or [schase@cstone.net](mailto:schase@cstone.net).

## Red Cross Blood Drive Comes to RVCC Jan. 5

**Saturday, January 5, 9:30am-2:30pm**

This drive is being sponsored by **Blue Mountain Brewery!** The first 50 donors to sign up will receive a **\$10 coupon** at the registration table the day of the drive. The coupon can be spent on any food and beverage at Blue Mountain Brewery.

**"The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood."**

Just one donation can help save the lives of up to three people...please sign up to donate today! It only takes a few minutes of your time to donate, and you can replenish at the **Pancake Breakfast!** If you can help, contact the RVCC office at 434-361-0100 or email [rockfishcc@gmail.com](mailto:rockfishcc@gmail.com). For more information about the donation process, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).



### Electronics & Cork Recycling

**Do you have broken electronics like these lying around?**

- ◆ inkjet cartridges
- ◆ laser toners
- ◆ digital cameras
- ◆ iPods and other MP3 players
- ◆ Calculators
- ◆ Laptops
- ◆ GPS devices
- ◆ cell phones

You can recycle these items and your corks and donate the proceeds to the Center! Just put them in the box in the front foyer, and the Funding Factory will recycle them.

## RVCC welcomes Mitchell Webster's Heritage Basket Studio & Chair Caning

**Mitchell Webster** has been a master basket-weaver and caner for over 20 years. He started weaving traditional, utilitarian baskets in the ribbed "egg" style (native to Appalachia) in 1991. In 2000, he was juried into the **Artisan Center of Virginia** by Michael Monroe, the former curator of the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery. His baskets have been sold through the **Colonial Williamsburg Foundation**, and he's currently preparing for the **Smithsonian Craft Show**.

Over the years, Mitchell found that many of his baskets were purchased as works of art rather than functional pieces. As a result, his repertoire has expanded to include a wider variety of art baskets, including the original ribbed Egg baskets, zigzag Twill baskets, and Shaker Cat-Head baskets. Even the more functional pieces, such as the traditional Market basket, represent a variety of weaving patterns and braided cane-work on the handles. Mitchell strives to marry traditional weaving principles with contemporary artistry to create functional baskets with new, eye-pleasing designs and forms.



Mitchell will also be offering chair caning and seat-weaving at his new RVCC studio space. While he's in the process of moving in, please contact him at [mcw1961@gmail.com](mailto:mcw1961@gmail.com) to make an appointment to see his work, or visit his blog: <http://hbs1991.wordpress.com>.



## Upcoming Events at RVCC

12/1: **First Saturday!** Winter Market, Pancake Breakfast, Bag Day at the Treasure Chest, Christmas Tree Sales Begin. Breakfast open 8:30am-10:30am, Market opens at 9am.

12/1: **Dulcimer Workshop** with Dinah Ansley. 9:30am, in the small Conference Room.

To register, contact Dinah at [dulcimerdinah@nelsoncable.com](mailto:dulcimerdinah@nelsoncable.com).

12/5: **Town Hall Meeting**, 7pm.

12/14: **Coffee House Music Series: Harps of Gold Concert**, 7pm, In the Auditorium

12/21: **North Branch School's 29th Annual production of St George & the Dragon**

1/5: **Red Cross Blood Drive**, 9:30am-2:30pm. Sign up to donate at [rockfishcc@gmail.com](mailto:rockfishcc@gmail.com).

1/5: **January Art Exhibit & Reception: Jim Brewer**

1/12: **Giving Hope Foundation—Miss Giving Hope Pageant**. More info at [www.givinghopefoundationinc.org](http://www.givinghopefoundationinc.org).

2/9: **February Photography Exhibit: Laura Parker, Sarah Loken & Patrick Parrish**

**Starting in January - COURSE FOR CREATIVE CHANGEMAKERS:** An 8 wk class with Life Coach, Sallie Justice. Call 962-3794 for more info and to register.

For a full schedule of ongoing workshops and classes, visit [www.rockfishcc.org](http://www.rockfishcc.org).

Please update your address books! Our new email is [rockfishcc@gmail.com](mailto:rockfishcc@gmail.com)

[www.rockfishcc.org](http://www.rockfishcc.org)

190 Rockfish School Ln | Afton, Va 22920

RVCC Office: 434-361-0100 | Treasure Chest: 434-361-0103

## WHO'S OUR TEAM?

### RVCC Board of Directors 2012-2013

*President*

**Gifford Childs**

*Vice President*

**Sarah Jane Stewart**

*Treasurer*

**Bob Kinney**

**Sue Chase**

**Chuck Kiehl**

**Cheryl Klueh**

**Bill Perrelli**

**Bob Yoder**

**Rob Cooke**

**Sharon Gress**

### RVCC Staff

*Executive Director*

**G. Stuart Mills**

*Operations Manager*

**Sara Taylor**

### Treasure Chest

*Manager*

**Marie Dennis**

*Assistant Managers*

**Betsy Greenleaf**

**Eleanor Massie**

Check out our **NEW**  
[facebook page!](#)



**Volunteers and members needed!**

**We invite you to join us at the Rockfish Valley Community Center...**

**Where Community Happens!**