

RAAC Newsletter February 2016



Hello friends!

RAAC's winter season is under way, and I hope you're enjoying one of our programs to stimulate and entertain you in the company of friends and neighbors. As you'll see in the articles below, we have an enticing mix of events to choose from.

First Friday at the Movies is featuring "Sully," another extraordinary performance by Tom Hanks about an even more extraordinary event. I've seen the movie once and can't wait to see it again to catch juicy details that I missed.

Just as compelling is the upcoming Second Friday at the Library talk by Leslie Cockburn about "Fake News and False Stories" and its implications for national security and public skepticism. Leslie is a prize-winning journalist and filmmaker who lives in Rappahannock and for many years was a producer of 60 Minutes and PBS's Frontline. Speaking of hot topics!

Two talented artists, Virginia and Clive Pates, will be speaking at the Feb 18 Soup & Soul. If you missed getting reservations for this sold-out series, don't despair. We have an active wait list, and because of last-minute cancellations, we're able to accommodate many on the list.

Behind the scenes, rehearsals are under way for Tom Stoppard's play "Arcadia" (May 5 and 6), and preparations for our third annual Film Festival at Little Washington (Apr 7 through 9) are in high gear.

I'm pleased to report that RAAC's Community Theatre has had a peaceful transition of power. Peter Hornbostel, who has spearheaded so many imaginative plays over the years, is stepping down as artistic director, and Patty Hardee is stepping up! Please thank both Peter and Patty when you see them next for their willingness to invest so much time, talent, and energy for our collective benefit.

Finally, RAAC's annual membership drive begins in February - a letter should be arriving in your mail soon. Your participation and contributions to the RAAC are vital to supporting RAAC's mission of building community through the arts.

Matthew Black, President, RAAC



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February 2017





*Click on the photo below
to play the movie trailer*



First Friday at the Movies "Sully"

Fri, Feb 3, 8pm, \$6

**Little Washington Theatre
291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**Starring Tom Hanks, Aaron Eckhart,
Laura Linney**

Director Clint Eastwood

Writers Tod Komarnicki, screenplay

Chesley Sullenberger & Jeffrey Zaslow, book

Awards: 5 wins & 22 nominations

Action, adventure, drama; 96 minutes, Rated PG-13

Clint Eastwood transforms the events, in 2009, of Flight 1549 - which Captain Chesley Sullenberger and First Officer Jeff Skiles safely landed in the Hudson River after losing both jets in a bird strike - into a fierce, stark, haunted drama of horror narrowly avoided. Eastwood's depiction of Sully (played, with terse gravity, by Tom Hanks) begins with a shock: the captain's 9/11-esque vision of his plane crashing into New York buildings. The action of the film involves another shock: federal officials question Sully's judgment and subject him and Skiles (Aaron Eckhart) to an investigation that could cost him his job and even his pension.

Eastwood films the doomed flight with a terrifyingly intimate sense of danger, focusing on its existential center, the little red button under the pilot's thumb. The film movingly depicts Sully's modest insistence that he was just doing his job and the collective courage of flight attendants, air-traffic controllers, police officers, and the passengers themselves. But, throughout, Eastwood boldly thrusts attention toward the aftermath of the flight: the nerve-jangling media distortion of events and personalities, plus the investigators' ultimate weapon, a computer simulation of the landing, a movie on which Sully's honor depends. The result is Eastwood's dedicated vision of moviemaking itself.

*- Review by Richard Brody, The New Yorker,
September 12, 2016*

[Click to visit RAAC's First Friday at the Movies webpage.](#)



**Second Friday at the Library
Leslie Cockburn**

Fri, Feb 10, 8pm

**Rappahannock County Public Library
4 Library Lane
Washington, VA 22747**

February's speaker will be the a prize-winning journalist and filmmaker Leslie Cockburn. She will talk about "Fake News and False Stories" and national security and spin and skepticism. For many years a producer for 60 Minutes and PBS's Frontline, among others, Cockburn has covered stories and unearthed scandals around the world.

Cockburn, who lives in Rappahannock, directed the movie "American Casino," about the subprime mortgage crisis. She has spent much of her career overseas, in such spots as Haiti, the Middle East, Cambodia, Pakistan, and Nicaragua. She is the author of Looking for Trouble: One Woman, Six Wars, and a Revolution.

The talk is free. All are welcome.

[Click to visit RAAC's Second Friday at the Library webpage.](#)



Soup & Soul
Virginia Rood Pates & Clive Pates
Sat, Feb 18
Ruthie Windsor-Mann
Sat, Mar 18

RAAC's annual Soup & Soul series offers an opportunity to hear from local artists about their work and their creative process. The events are held in host homes in the county and include a potluck dinner along with soup provided by the hosts.

The 2017 Soup & Soul series features **ceramic artist Virginia Rood Pates** and **painter Clive Pates** (February 18) and **painter Ruthie Windsor-Mann** (March 18). All of this year's featured artists are veterans of RAAC's annual Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour.

These events are full, but RAAC's website provides a chance to place your name on a [wait list](#). We are often able to accommodate folks from the wait list as we get closer to the event.

Virginia Rood Pates is an American ceramic artist who creates wheel-thrown and altered forms in a wide variety of clay bodies, often including collected materials from the local environment and glazed with unusual colors and surfaces. Currently an Associate Professor in Ceramics at Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia has exhibited nationally and internationally as well as in this region.

Clive Pates has spent most of his career working both as a painter and sculptor. As a British national, he spent his early career in the United Kingdom but has since lived and worked in various parts of the United States, where his work has been informed by the landscapes he has inhabited. He and his wife Virginia moved to northern Virginia in 2012.

It's all about the light, and light is abundant in the studio and the paintings of **Ruthie Windsor-Mann's** work in oil, watercolor, and pen & ink. Sometimes her buildings, landscapes, still lifes, bird nests, mountain scenes, and hay bales are created using just one medium, but lately she has been experimenting with all three disciplines in one painting.

[Click to visit RAAC's Soup & Soul webpage.](#)

Claudia Mitchell
**ARTS
FUND**



Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund
Calling all artists & arts organizations!
Deadline to submit grant applications March 15

New grant guidelines and the 2017 application form are available on RAAC's [website](#). Please spread the word to established and emerging Rappahannock artists and organizations.

UPDATES ON PRIOR GRANTEES

Barbara Heile has been leading process painting sessions twice a month at the Rappahannock Senior Center. She engages the seniors in a spontaneous, creative process that is both playful and challenging (sample at left). Barbara reports that "the seniors all agree that it is surprisingly relaxing to paint for process rather than product."

Donna LaPre debuted her newly renovated studio (at left) during a December open house and sale. For 2017 she plans some collaborative photography and illustration projects, as well as textile & fiber arts mini-class and instruction opportunities. The studio has been inspiring to Donna and all her visitors, with its ample open space and a new look.

Paul Reisler's "Bouncin" made its concert-reading debut in December at George Mason University. GMU music theater students (at left) presented some of Kid Pan Alley's best songs, which Paul had woven into a play with the assistance of a Mitchell Fund grant. GMU workshopped the new musical and helped develop it for performance.

KC Bosch's "Stealing Days," a book of his poetry and photographs (book cover at left) was published with a 2015 Mitchell Fund grant. It will be taught in a Bridgewater College "Studies in Poetry" class this spring. Bridgewater Professor Nicole Yurcaba and KC have read together at several events and were featured writers at Bridgewater's International Poetry Festival in January.

Since 2013, RAAC has awarded more than \$112,000 in grants to Rappahannock artists and organizations.

[Click to visit RAAC's Mitchell Fund webpages.](#)



Film Festival at Little Washington Coming soon!

The Film Festival Screening Committee is busy eating popcorn while watching over 100 submitted shorts, features, documentaries, and student films from filmmakers near and far. The variety and quality of films received bodes well for this year's Festival lineup, making the final program selection a difficult task, according to Festival Director Theresa Wood. And given that the screening period is still under way and films are still arriving, the Festival promises to be a blockbuster weekend of entertainment!

Building on last year's Children's Hour program, an expanded program is in work this year as well, featuring works by young filmmakers from both Rappahannock and elsewhere in Virginia.

The Festival will be held April 7 through 9, 2017. For more Festival information, as well as information on volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, contact Theresa Wood at 817-403-0496 or email fflw2017@gmail.com.

[Click to visit RAAC's Film Festival webpages.](#)



RAAC Community Theatre Patty Hardee named artistic director

RAAC's Community Theatre Committee has named Patty Hardee as the theater's new artistic director to succeed Peter Hornbostel. She has served on the committee since 2008 and has acted in several RAAC productions, including *The Shepherd's Play*, *The Kings Play*, *The Dining Room*, *Proof*, *Uncle Vanya*, and *You Can't Take it With You*. Taking small roles she could make her own, Patty has appeared in large-cast holiday productions. She has also directed many RAAC productions, including *The Good Doctor*; *Love, Loss, and What I Wore*; *The Odd Couple*; and the most recent holiday show, *The 12 Days of Christmas*.

In the early 1980s Patty began her theater career performing stand-up comedy at open mikes in clubs around DC and Baltimore. She studied improv with area teachers Sylvia Toone and Gary Jacobs, and with ComedySportz and Arena Stage. She has also performed improv and sketch comedy.

For many years Patty studied acting with well-known LA and New York actor/teacher Eric Morris and taught his method in DC. She performed with the Source Theatre in main stage productions and Source summer festival 10-minute plays.

Patty wrote and performed her own one-woman show called *The New Wave Woman Is Flying Scared* and was a long-time company member of *Murder Upon Request*, a comedy improv murder-mystery group that performed throughout the DC area.

RAAC Theatre Committee chair Sallie Morgan expressed RAAC's appreciation for both Hornbostel's and Hardee's leadership. "The entire community has been blessed by the energy and vision Peter Hornbostel has brought to the RAAC Theatre over the past decade, and we are now most fortunate to have an experienced, enthusiastic thespian and director like Patty Hardee to take up the mantle. Look for many more great RAAC Theatre productions to come."

[Click to visit RAAC's Community Theatre webpage.](#)



**RAAC membership drive
Starting soon!**

Our annual fundraising drive is imminent, and you'll soon be receiving a letter inviting you to renew or join if you aren't already a supporter. We urge you to unite with friends and neighbors to build and sustain a strong RAAC through your contribution. Together we can Inspire Art and Build Community!

Your financial support of RAAC will leverage our volunteers in running our arts programs and keeping our administrative infrastructure working. Individual support is also a bellwether of the community's commitment to and belief in the arts as a community building block.

As a member of the RAAC family, you will get early notice of Soup& Soul gatherings, upcoming plays, movies, and more. AND you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that you're supporting a vibrant organization.

RAAC continues to expand and enhance its programs, launch new ideas, and find interesting ways to collaborate with other organizations. We're excited about our momentum, and we're reassured and motivated by your support. We truly believe that the arts strengthen our community in ways that enliven all of us.

We look forward to your membership in the RAAC community - ***thank you!***

[Click to visit RAAC's website.](#)



Art Beat Rappahannock, February 2017

Featuring non-RAAC arts events in Rappahannock County

Theater

- Feb 11, 4pm, **Castleton Theatre**, John Hardy, Rattlesnake, one-man performance. [DETAILS](#)
- Feb 12, 3pm, **Little Washington Theatre**, pianist Joel Fan. [DETAILS](#)
- Feb 19, 2pm, Lions Club Music Contest. [DETAILS](#)
- Feb 26, 3pm, La Cafamore Trio, CCLC benefit concert. [DETAILS](#)

Music

- Feb 4, 8pm, **Headmasters Pub**, Madonnas in a Field
Feb 11, 8pm, Haze and Dacey
Feb 18, 8pm, Sixling Twin
Feb 25, 8pm, Bobby G and Friends [DETAILS](#)
- Feb 4, 8pm, **Griffin Tavern**, Andre Fox Band
Feb 11, 8pm, Dubious Trio!
Feb 18, 8pm, Robie Limon Band
Feb 25, 8pm, Vinyl Tracks! [DETAILS](#)
- Feb 11, 1:30pm, **Gadino Cellars**, Dontez Harris [DETAILS](#)

Art

- Feb, **Gay Street Gallery**, show in progress. [DETAILS](#)
- Feb, **Haley Fine Art**, ongoing exhibition. [DETAILS](#)
- Feb, **Middle Street Gallery**, now in a new location at 31 Main St, Sperryville; ongoing exhibition. [DETAILS](#)
- Feb, **RH Ballard Gallery**, ongoing exhibition. [DETAILS](#)

To submit an event, email artbeat@raac.org.

Please note: For inclusion in Art Beat, event details should be emailed to artbeat@raac.org by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

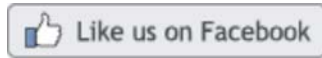
Mark Your Calendar!

For all the details, additions, and schedule changes, visit [RAAC's calendar](#).
New events are added frequently, so please check often.

www.raac.org

Rappahannock Association for Arts and Community
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Washington, VA 22747

1-800-695-6075
RAAC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization staffed solely by volunteers.
Email us at newsletter@raac.org



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