



## Community Found!



"...IT IS THE PURPOSE OF OUR LIVES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, TO CAUSE A BETTER WORLD..."

~ DR. PETER FAHRNEY

## New Year, New Faces & Moving Forward into 2020

The new year bring changes to the Colonial Beach Community Foundation (CBCF) Board of Directors. The biggest change being long-time President, Dr. Peter Fahrney, whom many consider to be the face of the Foundation, passing the mantle of the presidency to realtor Eric Nelson, another recognizable face well known for his community involvement. Dr. Fahrney is the CBCF's third president and has served in that capacity since 2008. Eric has been a CBCF board member for four years, most recently serving as Vice President of Member Engagement. Because CBCF's bylaws allow emeritus status for board members, Dr. Fahrney still has an active role to play.

### Officers & Other Board Members

As of January 1, CBCF officers are:

- Eric Nelson, President

- Cathy Bokman, Vice President of Organizational Impact
- Merrie Crosby, Vice President of Administration
- Cathy Cabrey, Vice President of Member Engagement
- Thomas Savage, Treasurer
- Michele Inderrieden, Secretary

Additional board members are:

- Marcia Feldman
- Kristine Guido
- Joyce Gunderson
- John Heath
- Mitzi Saffos
- Ann Swope
- Andrew Walker

## Goals & Vision for 2020

Going forward into 2020, incoming President Eric Nelson would like to see CBCF partnering with the Town of Colonial Beach to fill gaps and support community well-being where the town lacks resources. In addition, he wants the CBCF to continue supporting the groups already doing great things in the community, such as CB Kids, the Colonial Beach Humane Society, the Colonial Beach Recreation Association, Downtown Colonial Beach, CB Green Space, and WWER 88.1 FM. Of course, CBCF will continue to grow its own core funds: Beautification; Beach and Water Improvement; Youth Development and Scholarships; Beach Arts and Music Mentoring (BAMM), Scholarships, and School Support; 4-H Summer Camp; Healthcare; Arts and Culture; and the Community Center, as well as initiatives such as beach access.



# Celebrating Peter Fahrney

by Nancy Duggan

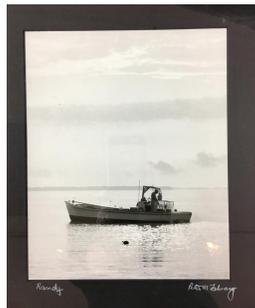
How he lives today is reflective of how he has lived most of his life. For over 32 years, Dr. Peter Fahrney embraced the Hippocratic Oath working as an emergency room doctor. Now, with the same compassion, Dr. Fahrney continues to serve and support people in need.

In the early 1900s, his family bought a simple camping lot in Colonial Beach and later built a cottage on the

site. Dr. Fahrney spent much of his youth exploring the beaches and marshes of the Potomac River. "I liked the freedom and the easy rhythm and style-of-life as lived by the watermen and their families," he says. "I still like the slow-lane atmosphere and the welcome feel of the town; the wildlife and natural beauty as well -- from the gorgeous burst of a sunrise over the Potomac, to the quiet withdrawal and edge-of-dark beyond Monroe Bay."



Born and raised in Frederick, Maryland, Dr. Fahrney attended medical school in Pennsylvania and served in the U.S. Navy, including posts in Spain and Vietnam. There exists an affinity between people and place though, and even with commitments elsewhere, Colonial Beach remained "home" to Dr. Fahrney, which he fully realized upon his retirement.



Dr. Fahrney has spent many hours working with others on the CBCF Board. Fortunately too, there is time for contemplation and capture. Art tells a story, and so it is with Dr. Fahrney's photography, which has appeared in local galleries -- dramatic imagery above and afar the Potomac River. Misty boats, buoys, and waves convey much about the man behind the lens.

I recently met with Peter Fahrney in his impressive beachfront home to chat and learn more about the CBCF, and his role and thoughts.

## **What is the genesis of CBCF?**

The Colonial Beach Foundation began as a means for the Chamber of Commerce to have a philanthropic arm for its long-term goal of improving the quality of life for citizens. In 2005, the Foundation was incorporated and designated a 501(c)(3). Last year, we adopted the name Colonial Beach Community Foundation because it is more reflective of our role in the community. Former resident and councilman Mike Looney wrote the first bylaws, which we still use today.

## **How did you become involved?**

I joined the board in 2006 and was elected to be the Foundation's third president in 2008. Those early years were spent figuring out what we could accomplish. Currently, we are engaged in building membership and resources. Management of those resources is important work now and into

the future.

## What are some of your strongest beliefs with respect to this cause?

I believe it is the purpose of our lives to make a difference, to cause a better world, and that Colonial Beach Community Foundation is a vehicle for that goal.

## What would you like to tell someone who is thinking about volunteering and/or donating?

For those wanting to give to their community, the CBCF is the best place to offer time as a volunteer and/or donate money, either for a cause -- we management 8 separate funds with 14 different projects -- or as a legacy donation for future generations. CBCF has an unblemished record of managing financial resources, and really making the quality of life better in and around our town. Everyone can help.

# Plan Ahead



## February Event

For the Love of Chocolate & Wine  
Friday, February 14, 2020  
6 to 8 PM  
Colonial Beach Community Center  
717 Marshal Ave (on the Point)  
\$40 per person, \$70 per couple

*Purchase tickets and learn more here.*

Please join us for this popular fun and educational CBCF fundraiser that brings the community together over two of nature's greatest gifts -- grapes and cocoa beans.

# Thank You ...

Dabney Vaccaro of Dabney Vaccaro, LLC and Rooted in Wellness, and Sam Triandos, for being Foundation Friends.

Nancy Duggan for this month's cover photo and profile of Dr. Fahrney.

Everyone who has supported the Colonial Beach Community Foundation with your time, service, and donations in 2019. We look forward to an exciting 2020.



*Join the Colonial Beach Volunteer Brigade.*

*Help our community thrive with a donation to CBCF.*

*Reserve the Community Center for your event.*

*Become a WWER 88.1 FM WATTS member.*

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