



# Open Doors

Volume 39 No. 2 Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Inc. (PCHH)  
Second Quarter 2014

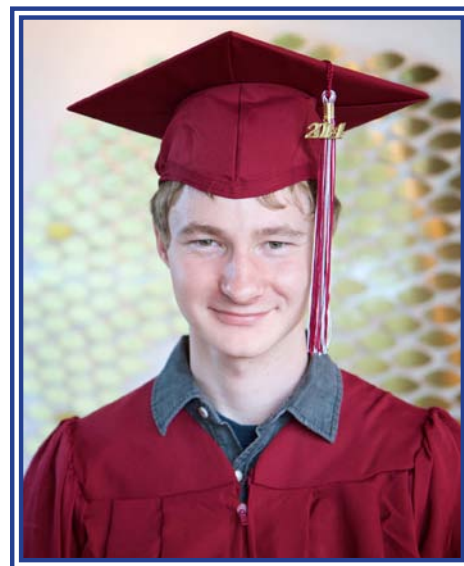
## STUDENTS EARN DIPLOMAS... READY FOR NEXT STEP



**L. J. Sipe**



**Sean Valerga**



**Brandon Musick**

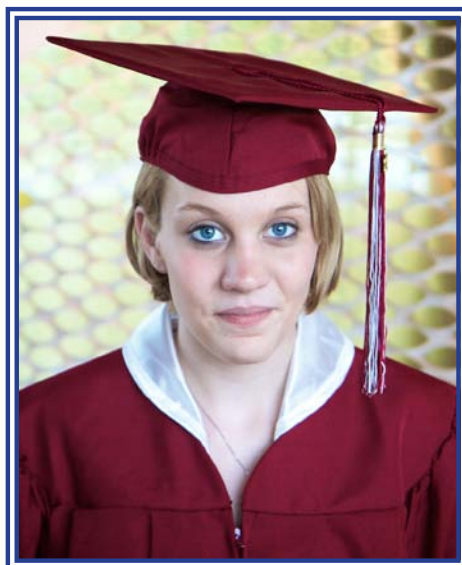
**T**he PCHH 2014 Graduates are indeed ready for the next step.

### **L. J. Sipe**

L. J. is a graduate of Pulaski County High School and will be attending Wytheville Community College this fall studying Computer Science. He enjoys working on or doing anything with computers, playing video games, reading, walking, and playing board games.

### **Sean Valerga**

Sean is a Bland County High School graduate where he enjoyed football and track. He is enrolled in Wytheville Community College's Criminal Justice Program and is considering enlisting in military service. He is assisting the Home this summer with maintenance and lawn care. Sean enjoys hiking, hunting and the outdoors, animals and listening to music.



**Kaitlyn Lowe**

### **Brandon Musick**

Brandon is a graduate of George Wythe High School. He will be attending vocational school in the Auto Body and Mechanics curriculum. Brandon is working for a

local car dealership's collision and repair service this summer. He, along with our other young male graduates, will remain in our Independent Living Program.

### **Kaitlyn Lowe**

Kaitlyn is a George Wythe High School graduate. She aspires to be a theater and English teacher for high schoolers. She is enrolling in Bluefield College this fall to earn a teaching degree in English and Creative Writing. Kaitlyn dreams of serving in the Peace Corp and studying abroad. Kaitlyn recently displayed her talents by winning the regional forensics competition.

### **Congratulations Graduates!**

*We are proud of you in achieving  
this important milestone  
in your lives.*

**Billy Rice**  
Executive Director



of you whose support of our ministry helped make this happen, please accept our heartfelt thanks and take a moment to feel the pride in the accomplishments of our graduates.

*Billy*



## NEXT ALUMNI GATHERING: 2016

### Open Doors

#### Giving Children Hope & Purpose for the Future

P.O. Box 545  
Wytheville, VA 24382  
(276) 228-2861  
FAX (276) 228-8154

www.pchh.org • info@pchh.org

This agency complies with all state and federal non-profit fundraising regulations.  
A financial statement is available for the asking.

Open Doors is an educational publication produced in-house periodically to provide insights about PCHH.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Billy Rice*

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marta Armstrong - Harrisonburg, VA  
Libby Beamer - Christiansburg, VA  
Jim Bunn - Bristol, VA  
\*\* Janet Cassell - Austinville, VA  
Richard Clatterbaugh - Troutville, VA  
Kathy Floyd - Charlottesville, VA  
\* Floyd Gilbert - Virginia Beach, VA  
Tom Gisiner - Vinton, VA  
Linda Gueringer - Richmond, VA  
Charlie Huppuch - Verona, VA  
Denny Jennings - Meadows of Dan, VA  
Sue Legg - Hillsville, VA  
Jayne Sneed - Richmond, VA  
Sara Staley - Marion, VA  
Harley Stewart - Williamsburg, VA  
Anne Teresa - Shepardstown, VA  
Patsy Weeks - Radford, VA  
Ed Whitehead - Bristol, VA

\*Moderator \*\* Vice-Moderator

## PCHH NEEDS

### Current Needs...

- Pool (beach) towels
- Outdoor activity equipment
- Fishing rods, reels, tackle
- Gift cards to McDonald's, Wendy's, Hardee's, etc.
- Cake, brownie, & cookie mixes

Your assistance of helping supply many of these items goes a long way in helping us to be as efficient as possible.

Thank you!

SINCE 1919...

## GIVING CHILDREN HOPE & PURPOSE FOR THE FUTURE

### COVENANT CHURCHES

Our Covenant Church Wall is growing but we have room for more. If your church has not signed on, please contact us.

There are several churches who support us regularly whose name is not listed on our wall. We want to recognize your support. You already qualify with the support you are giving, all we need is your okay to include you.

Please consider joining our family in this way. If you would like more information, call us or go online to our website, [www.pchh.org](http://www.pchh.org).

We are so thankful for the 54 churches whose names and hometowns are engraved on the plaques on the Covenant Church Wall in our Board Room. Come join us!

All across the country families are celebrating the milestone of high school graduation, and the Children's Home family is no different. They add to the hundreds of young men and women who have accomplished this goal while residing with us. Their stories are as diverse as their personalities, but they all have one thing in common – the unique struggle that goes with being removed from your home and dealing with whatever horrors that accompanied that decision.

The smiles you see on the faces of the graduates that grace the cover of our newsletter were not there the first time they walked through our doors. It is a scary time for them, and it is an experience that most of us cannot comprehend. To get from that day to walking across the stage to receive their diploma is a testament to their resolve and the love and direction they receive from our staff. As a member of our Children's Home family, I hope you share in the great pride we take in our graduate's accomplishments.

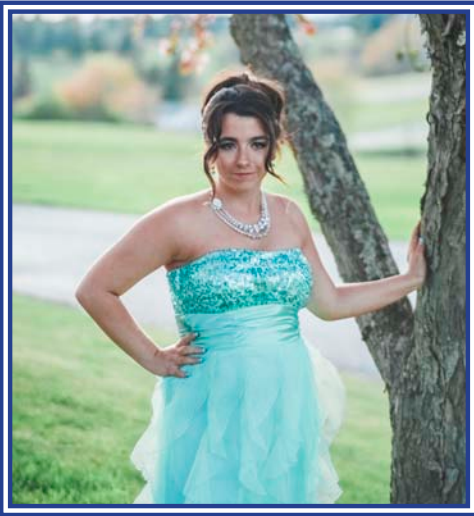
I want to share one more thought with you. I believe our mission, "giving children hope and purpose for the future", is never more relevant than at graduation. Most children come to us with very little hope and purpose in their lives. During their time with us they have rehabilitated their spirit and were exposed to people and events that will shape their life forever. They now have hope, and the ability to determine their purpose in life. To those



## PROM NIGHT 2014... A SPECIAL TIME



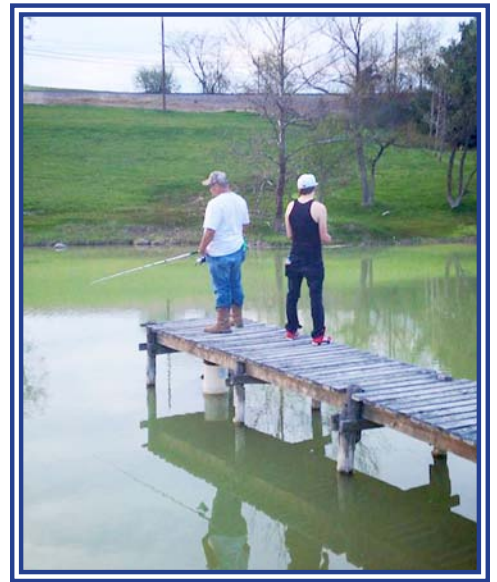
Prom Night is very exciting for those Junior and Senior students participating in this special extra-curricular activity. The actual night of the Prom is special but the anticipation and flurry of activity preparing for it is adrenaline producing time as well.



## FISHING IS FUN!

Fishing has always been about more than just landing fish. Our pond has served as an ideal location for deep contemplation, evaluating circumstances, and dreaming of ways to find one's self... and yes, experiencing the joy of landing a fish.

Some of our residents have been fishing before they come to us; but for many, we get to introduce them to the sport.



## GRASS IS GROWING! 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Seems like only yesterday we were fighting the cold weather and praying for warm weather. Spring has sprung and the grass is not only green, it's growing like crazy. Keeping 45 acres manicured is a challenge!



We are in the planning phase of our 100th Anniversary. The Children's Home began in September 1919 and 2019 is not far away.

If you have stories to share or suggestions as to how we can make this once-in-a-lifetime event special, PLEASE let us know. We want it to be memorable, unforgettable and meaningful.

You can e-mail us at [info@pchh.org](mailto:info@pchh.org), mail us at P. O. Box 545, Wytheville, VA 24382, or bring it by the office at 425 Grayson Road, Wytheville.

We know 2019 will be here before we know it... help us make this celebration worthy of the occasion. We look forward to your input.

## A SERIOUS NEED

The Home has a need for 2 gently used vehicles. Our strategy for transportation of residents is one van and one car for each of our cottages.

The vans serve us well when we transport the entire cottage to activities or trips. However, every day we need to transport only a couple residents at a time. We have been able to reduce the mileage cost by utilizing lower-cost per mile regular cars when we transport residents to doctor's appointments, work, court dates, or other necessary locations.

Four-door vehicles or mini-vans provide safe, reliable transportation for less cost per mile than vans. If you would like to donate one, please call 276-228-2861.



# FUN, FITNESS, FOAM 5K CHALLENGE...



GIVING CHILDREN HOPE & PURPOSE FOR THE FUTURE

CHECK OUR WEB SITE:

**[WWW.PCHH.ORG](http://WWW.PCHH.ORG)**



MANY THANKS TO  
OUR SPONSORS!

