# Brentsville Neighbors

### "Preserving Brentsville's History"

#### March 2014

Welcome Neighbors,

Those who attended the William Hyden program at the Brentsville Courthouse last month seemed to be very well pleased with the information shared. There were just over 50 in attendance which is considered very good for a cold day in February with threats of snow. A lively discussion with a number of questions preceded a hard-hat visit inside the jail. For those who were not able to attend, Bill Backus has provided a synopsis of his presentation in this edition of the newsletter. We look forward to many more programs in the coming months.

As we continue to transcribe School Board Minutes new information keeps flowing from the dusty archives. As suggested on page five, the conversion of the Brentsville Courthouse into a school is becoming a fascinating story. We hope to be able to bring that to you in the April newsletter. To open a chapter about education in Prince William, we have included a very interesting transcript from December 1776. As you read it, I'm sure you will find it interesting how much has remained the same and how much has changed since that time.

Also in the April newsletter will be a history of the Brentsville jail. With restoration in progress, it is important to understand more about the jail from it's concept until present. There is so much information about the jail – statistics and such – collected and compiled by Ron Turner that it would take a very large book to contain it all. Not a bad idea but impractical at this point. So I will be dealing more on ownership and primary use than detailed historical data. It might be boring.

We found the story about Holmes very interesting in that he was able to serve 36 years of military service while being almost deaf. And then, when he left the military service, he returned to his roots as a farmer in North Carolina. After all, isn't that what the Founding Fathers had in mind? Serve your country when called and then return to be a good citizen. It doesn't seem to happen that way any more.

Very best wishes, Kay and Morgan

#### This month:

➤ Letter From Brentsville The Beginnings of Public Ed. page 2 page 6 Where Wild Things Live When War Came page 3 pages 7& 8 William Hyden page 4 ➤ A Letter Written To the Jail page 9 When I'm Wrong page 5 Say Hey to Bill page 9

Letter From Brentsville



I don't know what it is about the old White house in Brentsville that irresistibly attracts stray animals. It may be that it stood empty for so long that they came to consider it public property, or perhaps the

rumor has got abroad that the Websters LIKE animals. At any rate, we are seldom without somebody's cow peering in a window, and cats, dogs, and rabbits cavorting about the back lawn. Occasionally a strange horse ambles across the middle distance and one day Mr. Shoemaker's bull made himself cozily at home in our chicken house!

Not long ago, I read of a woman who has gotten herself all wound up about goats. She claims that the goat industry in this country is going to pot, and something should be done about it. Frankly, I never knew there WAS a goat industry, and after my late, terrifying experience, doubt that there SHOULD be one. Heretofore, my intimate personal relationship with the goat world had been limited to Mrs. Cox's dear little nanny, Blanchette, who once curled up in my lap at an afternoon tea, and under the pretext of making my acquaintance, nibbled three buttons, one-half of the lighted cigarette, and a cracker spread with pate de foi gras which I was about to pop into my mouth.

From time to time I would get reports on Blanchette's behavior. According to Mr. Cox, she was not very well adjusted socially, and insisted on eating fig trees, ivy, and buttons, rather than the passion vine and weeds for which purpose she had been originally procured. In vain did they read Emily Post aloud in her presence, she consumed three pages of the chapter on table manners before their very eyes. This was all very amusing to us. After all, Moor Green IS a mile away. But when Mrs. Stephens, who is practically our next door neighbor, took up the goat craze, then the situation assumed a more serious aspect. True, they were both lady goats, so we didn't have to worry about which direction the wind was coming from, but still—

I was standing at the kitchen sink, languidly washing dishes and wishing something would happen to break the monotony, when squeals of excitement from the children outside called my attention. The door burst open, and "The barnyards full of goats!" screamed a three-year-old, "—and they're eating our FATHER!" Snatching the first weapon that came to hand—which happened to be a broom—I rushed out to do battle. I recall the thought crossing my mind, "Poor old Nick... many's the time I have spoken harshly of him, but surely

he doesn't deserve THIS horrid fate!" I was half way through the orchard running at full tilt, before I spied the beasts, and then stopped suddenly, overcome with laughter. It was FODDER, not FATHER, they were devouring so ravenously!

A mere human being, unless he happens to be Pavvo Nurmi, is at considerable disadvantage in dealing with recalcitrant goats. They sail gracefully over barbed wire fences, and by the time you have crawled through, or under, bleeding and torn, but still clutching your broom grimly, they have circled the field twice, leaped over your head, and started back in the direction from which they came. I got close enough to one to give it a very satisfactory thump with the broom. Apparently it had encountered brooms ere this, because it lit out for the cemetery, calling the others to follow, and casting occasional, reproachful glances back in my direction. The rest of the day the children maintained a goat patrol about the premises, but I guess the varmints must have been busy extracting broom straws from their back sides, for they failed to reappear. However, I do not flatter myself that I have seen the last of them. There is something about the old White house that is irresistible to animals, and I could almost swear I heard the little one murmur as it cleared the last strand of barbed wire: I go now, but I will return!

On Tuesday afternoon the Home Demonstration Club met at the home of Mrs. Whetzel, and officers were elected. Mrs. Whetzel is the new president, and Mrs. John Cox vice president. It was agreed that the first goal of the club during the year will be to raise money for a motion picture projector. Lovely homemade cakes and tea were served.

There was a good attendance from Brentsville at the P.T.A. last Thursday. We understand that the meeting was even larger and more vocal than the last one, and great indignation was expressed by parents whose second and third grade children have to clean the toilets at school, due to the lack of proper janitor service.

In spite of bad weather the showing of movies at the Courthouse last Friday night was a huge success. At the last minute a Laurel and Hardy film had to be substituted for the scheduled picture, but the audience was just as pleased.

The Daughters of America will hold their dance tonight, Friday the 7<sup>th</sup>, at the Courthouse.

Yours, Agnes Webster

The Manassas Messenger, March 7, 1947

## Where WILD things live... Northern Flicker

#### Colaptes auratus - Northern Flicker

Northern Flickers are large, brown woodpeckers with a gentle expression and handsome black-scalloped plumage. On walks, don't be surprised if you scare one up from the ground. It's not where you'd expect to find a woodpecker, but flickers eat mainly ants and beetles, digging for them with their unusual, slightly curved bill. When they fly you'll see a flash of color in the wings – yellow if you're in the East, red if you're in the West – and a bright white flash on the rump.

Although it can climb up the trunks of trees and hammer on wood like other woodpeckers, the Northern Flicker prefers to find food on the ground. Ants are its main food, and the flicker digs in the dirt to find them. It uses its long barbed tongue to lap up the ants.

The Northern Flicker is one of the few North American woodpeckers that is strongly migratory. Flickers in the northern parts of their range move south for the winter, although a few individuals often stay rather far north.

Like most woodpeckers, Northern Flickers drum on objects as a form of communication and territory defense.

In such cases, the object is to make as loud a noise as possible, and that's why woodpeckers sometimes drum on metal objects. One Northern Flicker in Wyoming could be heard drumming on an abandoned tractor from a half-mile away.

The oldest known "yellow-shafted" Northern Flicker lived to be at least 9 years 2 months old, and the oldest "red-shafted" Northern Flicker lived to be at least 8 years 9 months old.

Look for Northern Flickers in woodlands, forest edges, and open fields with scattered trees, as well as city parks and suburbs. In the western mountains they occur in most forest types, including burned forests, all the way up to treeline. You can also find them in wet areas such as streamside woods, flooded swamps, and marsh edges.

Northern Flickers also eat fruits and seeds, especially in winter. Flickers often go after ants underground (where the nutritious larvae live), hammering at the soil the way other woodpeckers drill into wood. They've been seen breaking into cow patties to eat insects living within. Their tongues can dart out 2 inches beyond the end of the bill to snare prey. Other invertebrates eaten include flies, butterflies, moths, and snails. Flickers also eat berries and seeds, especially in winter, including poison oak and ivy, dogwood,

sumac, wild cherry and grape, bayberries, hackberries, and elderberries, and sunflower and thistle seeds.

They normally lay five to eight white eggs once each year. Incubation only takes 11-13 days but their nesting period may range from 24 to 27 days. At hatching the babies are naked, have pink skin, a sharp egg tooth at the tip of it's bill and it's eyes are closed resulting in clumsy movements.

Both sexes help with nest excavation. The entrance hole is about 3 inches in diameter, and the cavity is 13-16 inches

deep. The cavity widens at bottom to make room for eggs and the incubating adult. Inside, the cavity is bare except for a bed of wood chips for the eggs and chicks to rest on. Once nestlings are about 17 days old, they begin clinging to the cavity wall rather than lying on the floor.

Northern Flickers usually excavate nest holes in dead or diseased tree trunks or large branches. In northern North America look for nests in trembling aspens, which are susceptible to a heartrot that makes for easy excavation. Unlike many woodpeckers, flickers often reuse

cavities that they or another species excavated in a previous year. Nests are generally placed 6-15 feet off the ground, but on rare occasions can be over 100 feet high. Northern Flickers have been known to nest in old burrows of Belted Kingfishers or Bank Swallows.

Northern Flickers don't act like typical woodpeckers. They mainly forage on the ground, sometimes among sparrows and blackbirds. When flushed, flickers often perch erect on thin horizontal branches rather than hitching up or around a tree trunk. Flickers do fly like most woodpeckers do, rising and falling smoothly as they intersperse periods of flapping with gliding. Early in spring and summer, rivals may face off in a display sometimes called a "fencing duel," while a prospective mate looks on. Two birds face each other on a branch, bills pointed upward, and bob their heads in time while drawing a loop or figure-eight pattern in the air, often giving rhythmic wicka calls at the same time.

They are widespread and common, but populations are declining.

Source: http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/northern\_flicker/lifehistory



### William Hyden

## Bill Backus

In December 1832, a young man was passing through Prince William County on his way back to New York. Unfortunately for William Hyden, his arrest as a runaway slave would be the start of an unimaginable story that would last nearly two years. While no diary or journal from William Hyden has been found, by using court documents, newspaper advertisements, and government petitions we can stitch together most of Hyden's ordeal.

William Hyden was born in New York around 1815 a free man, where he spent the first 14 years of his life and received an education. In 1829, at the ripe age of 14 he decided to emigrate to Ohio, most likely in pursuit of a better future. While we do not know where Hyden settled and what he did in Ohio, testimony in an 1835 petition suggests that Hyden may have worked on the river. However the Buckeye state was not as welcoming as many African Americans thought. In 1803 and 1807 Ohio passed a series of laws known as the Black Laws that restricted the rights of black Ohioans. After years of racial tension, a race riot broke out in Cincinnati in 1829 forcing many blacks to emigrate to Canada and elevating men to political power who championed rigidly enforcing the Black Laws. After three years living in Ohio and being harassed by these Black Laws, Hyden decided that the Buckeye State was not the place to make his livelihood and to return to New York. We do not know why he chose this particular route, but in returning to New York William passed through Prince William where he was captured as a runaway slave and thrown into the Brentsville Jail on December 9, 1832. Abiding by Virginia law Basil Brawner, the jailor at the time, posted newspaper advertisements in at least one Richmond newspaper and more than likely Alexandria newspapers, posting information about Hyden's appearance. By late 1833, with no one claiming Hyden as their runaway slave, Prince William County Court ordered that the value of Hyden be assessed and that he be auctioned off on January 1, 1834. Acting as an agent for a slave trader, Robert Lipscomb placed the highest bid on Hyden for \$452 (just over \$10,000 today). When the slave trader arrived in Brentsville he refused to pay the \$452. With Hyden's sale into slavery regressing, Brawner sent him with James Fewell down to Fredericksburg and Richmond to be auctioned off into slavery. When no bidders appeared in those two cites, Hyden was returned to Brentsville where he was auctioned off on a court day to several slave traders. However like the previous auctions, no one appeared to purchase Hyden because the traders were concerned that Hyden's light complexion and his education made it very likely he could "too easily escape from slavery and pass himself for a free man." Hyden was returned to the jail where he escaped in late 1834 or early 1835, disappearing into history. With Hyden's successful escape, Basil Brawner was responsible for the fees that Hyden's imprisonment incurred. If someone had purchased Hyden at auction, a portion of the revenue would have been put towards those fees. Owing a substantial amount of money, Brawner petitioned the General Assembly to forgive his debts. Unfortunately for Brawner, the legislature failed to approve his petition ending the story of William Hyden and Brentsville.

## "When I'm wrong I say I'm wrong"

## Morgan Breeden

Several issues have recently surfaced that showed the stories I've been telling about Brentsville are wrong. The more I pondered it, the more I realized that since I don't hesitate to stand up and tell you that I think what's going on with the jail windows are wrong, then I must be held accountable to the same standards. I started reflecting on one of my favorite movies, Dirty Dancing (1987), when Jake Houseman said to Johnny: "When I'm wrong, I say I'm wrong." So now it's my turn. I was wrong!

While I'd like to end the story here I suppose it would leave you asking, "Wrong about what?" So I'll start with three things (no doubt there will be more):

1: I've been telling everyone there were at least 13 people hanged on the courthouse grounds. As I have now learned, that is not the case.

In all fairness, based on information we had at the time, the number 13 seemed to be accurate. But as Ron Turner points out, "At one time if a person was sentenced to death by a hanging with the date of the hanging listed we assumed it was carried out. But, later we have found that at least 6 of those sentenced were changed by the Governor. I'm still not positive that Joseph Burgess was hung but there is no record he wasn't. As of today I don't think the number is more than seven. We now know being sentenced to be hung and it actually being carried out are two different things. You can see by the number of murder cases there is room for error." Based on the records Ron has been able to find. there were 29 known cases in Brentsville where the defendant could have received the death penalty. Some others (Slaves) that were charged with theft or house burning did receive the death penalty but were changed later to a lesser sentence.

Now, I'm not sure an exact number is even necessary — with the number of records destroyed during the war it's appropriate to understand that trials were conducted, sentences were handed down and in some, but not all cases, the execution took place.

- 2: I've also been telling visitors that the courthouse was used as a public school from 1910 until 1929. Also not true. It is half correct but I'm not sure if it's better to be half correct or half wrong. The school did close in the Spring of 1929 but the Brentsville District School Board didn't actually buy the property until August 1912 after many delays (sounds like a good story for a future newsletter) which means the graded school was opened in the Fall of 1912.
- 3. Most recently I was asked when the county took possession of the jail. I thought it was mid 1970's when the Park Authority obtained possession of the property but no... not right either! The county actually obtained ownership of the jail in March 1964 and turned it over to the Park Authority shortly after their creation in 1979. I refrain from going into any more detail about this right now because the history of the jail ownership will be offered separately.

Nothing is worse than that moment when you realize you're wrong. Again.

# The Beginnings of Public Education in Virginia, 1776 - 1860

**1776.** DEC. 22. AN ACT TO ESTABLISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Whereas, it appeareth that the great advantages which civilized and polished nations enjoy, beyond the savage and barbarous nations of the world, are principally derived from the invention and use of letters, by means whereof the knowledge and experience of past ages are recorded and transmitted; so that man, availing himself in succession of the accumulated wisdom and discoveries of his predecessors, is enabled more successfully to pursue and improve not only those arts, which contribute to the support, convenience, and ornament of life, but those also, which tend to illumine and ennoble his understanding and his nature;

And whereas, upon a review of the history of mankind, it seemeth that however favorable republican government, founded on the principles of equal liberty, justice and order, may be to human happiness, no real stability, or lasting permanency thereof can be rationally hoped for, if the minds of the citizens be not rendered liberal and humane, and be not fully impressed with the importance of those principles from whence these blessings proceed, with a view, therefore, to lay the first foundations of a system of education, which may tend to produce those desirable purposes;

- 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That in every county within this Commonwealth, there shall be chosen annually, by the electors qualified to vote for delegates, three of the most honest and able men of their county, to be called the aldermen of the county
- 3. The said aldermen, or any two of them, annually on the second Monday in May, if it be fair, and if not, then on the next fair day, excluding Sunday, shall meet at the Court House of their county, and shall then and there proceed to consider the expediency of carrying the subsequent parts and provisions of this present act into execution, within their counties respectively, having regard to the state of the population within the same. And if it shall seem expedient to the said aldermen in any year, to carry into effect the subsequent parts and provisions of this act, the said aldermen are hereby empowered and required to proceed to divide their said county into sections, regulating the size of

the said sections, according to the best of their discretion, so as they may contain a convenient number of children to make up a school, and be of such convenient size that all the children within each section may daily attend the school to be established therein.

- 4. The householders residing within every section shall meet on the first Monday in September next after the aldermen of their county shall have determined that it is expedient that the provisions of this act shall be carried into execution within the same. The householders, being so assembled, shall choose the most convenient place within their section, for building a schoolhouse .....
- 6. At every one of these schools shall be taught reading, writing, and common arithmetic; and all the free children, male and female, resident within the respective sections, shall be entitled to receive tuition gratis, for the term of three years, and as much longer at their private expense, as their parents, guardians, or friends, shall think proper. The said aldermen shall from time to time appoint a teacher to each school, and shall remove him as they see cause. They, or some one of them, shall visit every school once in every half year, at the least, examine the scholars, and superintend the conduct of the teachers in everything relative to his school.
- 7. The salary of the teacher with the expense of building and repairing a schoolhouse in each section shall be defrayed by the inhabitants of each county in proportion to the amount of their public assessments and county levies, to be ascertained by the aldermen of each county respectively, and shall be collected by the sheriff of each county .....
- 9. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the court of each county, at which a majority of the acting magistrates thereof shall be present, shall first determine the year in which the first election of said aldermen shall be made, and until they so determine no such election shall be made. And the court of each county shall annually, until each election be made, at their court in the month of March, take this subject into consideration and decide thereon.

[Code 1803, Chap. CXCIX.]

# When WAR Came to Brentsville

HEADQUARTERS AQUIA DISTRICT,. Fredericksburg, March 15, 1862.

General [LEE:]

Your letter is received. There is already in depot at Fredericksburg a large supply of commissary and quartermaster stores, and I will give direction for all that remains in the Northern Neck to be forwarded with the utmost dispatch, though I am almost certain that it will be unnecessary, as there is littl doubt that the status of this part of Virginia will be fixed long before the present supply is consumed. There appears to be no doubt that Hooker's division has crossed the river at Evansport, and that a column of 5,000 or 6,000 men have reached Brentsville from the direction of Manassas. Dumfries is also occupied in force, whether from Evansport or via the Occoquan, I can't say. All of which seems to indicate a concentration by the enemy for an attack on Fredericksburg; and I am clearly of opinion that they should be met and given battle before they reach this city. I have directed Colonel Maloney to concentrate his forces for the defense of Fort Lowry, and I have also caused a battery of four guns to be placed on the Rappahannock 4 miles below here..

I am, general, very respectfully,. TH. H. HOLMES, Major-General.

#### **Theophilus Hunter Holmes**

Born: November 13, 1804, Sampson County,

North Carolina

**Died:** June 21, 1880 (aged 75),

Fayetteville, North Carolina **Allegiance:** United States of

America, Confederate States of America

**Service/branch:** United States Army, Confederate States Army

Years of service: 1829–61 (USA), 1861–65

(CSA)

Rank: Major (USA), Lieutenant General

(CSA)

Commands held: Trans-Mississippi

Department, District of Arkansas

**Battles/wars:** Second Seminole War. Mexican-American War, Battle of Monterrey, American Civil War, Seven Days Battles. Battle of Helena

**Theophilus Hunter Holmes** was a career United States Army officer and a Confederate Lieutenant General in the American Civil War. A friend and protégé of the Confederate



President, Jefferson Davis, he was appointed commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department, but failed in his keytask, which was to defend the Confederacy's hold on the Mississippi.

Holmes was born in Sampson County, North Carolina, in 1804. His father, Gabriel Holmes, was a former Governor of North Carolina and U.S. Congressman. After a failed attempt at plantation managing, Holmes asked his father for an appointment to the United States Military Academy, from

which he graduated in 1829. He was ranked 44 out of 46, in his class. Holmes was apparently quite deaf, and was almost never aware of loud gunfire.

I, who knew [Holmes] from his school-boy days, who served with him in garrison and in field, and with pride watched him as he gallantly led a storming party up a rocky

(Continued on page 8)

height at Monterey, and was intimately acquainted with his whole career during our sectional war, bear willing testimony to the purity, self-abnegation, generosity, fidelity and gallantry, which characterized him as a man and a soldier.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis, in his book The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government

After graduating, Holmes was commissioned a brevet second lieutenant in the 7th U.S. Infantry. In 1838, Holmes attained the rank of Captain. During his early services, Holmes served in Florida, the Indian Territory, and Texas. Holmes also served in the Second Seminole War, with distinction. In 1841, he married Laura Whetmore, with whom he would have eight children. During the Mexican-American War, he was brevetted to major for the Battle of Monterrey in September 1846. This promotion was due to Jefferson Davis witnessing his courageous actions there. He received a full promotion to major of the 8th U.S. Infantry in 1855.

Almost immediately after the firing on Fort Sumter, Holmes resigned his commission in the U.S. Army and his command of Fort Columbus, Governors Island in New York City on April 22, 1861, having accepted a commission as a Colonel in the Confederate States Army in March. He commanded the coastal defenses of the Department of North Carolina and then served as a brigadier general in the North Carolina Militia. He was appointed Brigadier General on June 5, 1861, commanding the Department of Fredericksburg. Holmes was assigned to P.G.T. Beauregard, for the First Battle of Bull Run. Beauregard sent Holmes orders to attack the Union left, but by the time the orders reached him the Confederacy was already victorious. He was promoted to Major General on October 7, 1861.

During the Seven Days Battles of the Peninsula Campaign of 1862, Holmes was in charge of the Department of North Carolina, rather than under Robert E. Lee in the Army of Northern Virginia. His division consisted of the brigades of Brigadier Generals Junius Daniel, John G. Walker, Henry A. Wise, and the cavalry brigade of Brig. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart. On June 30, 1862, while the battle of Glendale was fought to the north, Holmes was ordered to cannonade retreating Federals near Malvern Hill. His force was repulsed at Turkey Bridge by artillery fire from Malvern

Hill and by the Federal gunboats Galena and Aroostook on the James. During the battle of Malvern Hill on July 1, 1862, his force was in reserve.

After the Peninsula Campaign, Holmes became the commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department. He was promoted to Lieutenant General, on October 10, 1862, by Jefferson Davis. During his time as commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department, Holmes failed to perform his most important duty. That duty was to defend the Confederacy's hold on the Mississippi River. He refused to send troops to relieve Vicksburg, during the Vicksburg Campaign. After numerous complaints were sent to Davis, Holmes was relieved as head of the Trans-Mississippi Department, in March 1863.

After Holmes was relieved as head of the Trans-Mississippi Department, General Kirby Smith made him head of the District of Arkansas. Holmes decided to attack the Unionheld city of Helena, Arkansas. He planned a coordinated attack in conjunction with Sterling Price, John S. Marmaduke, James Fleming Fagan, and, Governor of Arkansas, Harris Flanagin. Despite miscommunication, the Confederates had some success. After hours of fighting, a general retreat was called, and the Confederates pulled back to Little Rock, Arkansas. After returning from his failed expedition, Holmes was confined to a sick bed. Aftermonths of sickness, he returned to his command, in November 1863. Kirby Smith reported that Holmes was losing his memory, and that he needed to be replaced. In March 1864, Holmes was relieved as head of the District of Arkansas.

In April 1864, Holmes commanded the Reserve Forces of North Carolina. Holmes saw little action after being appointed to this new position. He held this position until the end of the Civil War. He, along with General Joseph E. Johnston, surrendered to William Tecumseh Sherman on April 26, 1865.

He returned to North Carolina, where he spent the rest of his life as a farmer. Holmes died in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and is buried there in McPherson Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

#### A Letter Written TO the Brentsville Jail Contributed by Ron Turner

Envelope George W. Clifford Brentsville Jailor of Prince William County Va

Wilmington NC May 12th 1851

G. W. Clifford Jailor Prince William County Va

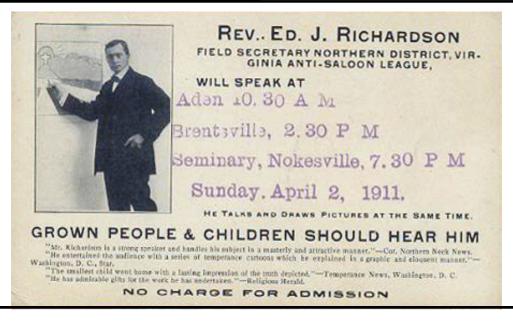
Dear sir your letter of 1<sup>st</sup> inst is at hand. In reply to your enquires about the Molatto Man. I had some time ago an apprentice by the of Wm Hasler or as he was sometimes called Wm Buford - heard of himhe was in jail at Washington City about two months ago & sent such information to the Jailor there as I supposed would identify the person. I have heard nothing from him since—if this is the person that served his time with me he will tell whose daughter I married if he gives the names Sophia W. Tennett daughter of Revnd Jesse Tennett I think you should take it for granted he is the man.

Respectfully Yours James Cassiday

#### Say Hey to Bill



Starting in January Bill Backus has been transferred as the historic interpreter to Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre. He comes from Ben Lomond Historic Site and Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park and has been with the County's Historic Preservation Division since 2010. Prior to coming to the County, Bill was a National Park Service Ranger at Vicksburg National Military Park and Petersburg National Battlefield. Possessing a bachelor's degree in Historic Preservation from the University of Mary Washington, Bill's particular interest lies in Antebellum and Civil War-era history.



# Brentsville Neighbors

"Preserving Brentsville's History"

Contact us on: morganbreeden@aol.com All back issues on:

http://www.historicprincewilliam.org/brentsvilleneighbors/index.html

IN GOD WE TRUST

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