

THE VIRGINIA HOME CELEBRATES

STORIES OF
Courage
& *Grace*™

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MARCH 26, 2026

THE JEFFERSON HOTEL

Welcome



Welcome to Stories of Courage & Grace!

When Stories of Courage & Grace began, we set out to bring awareness of The Virginia Home and its mission to the community. We are still sharing our story with new audiences, and it is also a wonderful opportunity to gather with both new and longtime friends of The Home.

We are especially grateful for our friends at NewMarket. Not only are they a Presenting Sponsor tonight, but they have also supported us since our very first event and have helped us grow and thrive.

Tonight, we are proud to welcome a new Presenting Sponsor: Gilbane Building Company. Gilbane is leading the construction of our new facility in Hanover County—creating a beautiful and safe new home for our residents. But they are more than our partners in construction. The Gilbane team cares deeply about our residents and how they will experience this new building.

One team member shared with me that the more immersed they become in this project, the deeper their appreciation grows for the true mission behind our work. He loves meeting residents and hearing how excited they are about their new home. Those encounters have become a powerful motivator for the entire team.

I am truly thankful that Gilbane and NewMarket are part of our community. Ours is a community filled with people who come to The Home for a season—and never truly leave.

Thank you for being part of The Virginia Home.

Laura Stewart
Chair, Board of Trustees

STORIES OF
*Courage
& Grace*

AN EVENING WITH TEAM AGAR

Welcome.....Laura Stewart

Video Presentation“The Virginia Home”

Introduction.....Maggie Reed

Keynote Speaker..... Team Agar

Closing Remarks Doug Vaughan

Please join us for Coffee, Desserts, Cordials and
Book Signing in the Rotunda.

A special thank you to Trish McClendon and Riley Shaia,
Stories of Courage & Grace Co-Chairs.

Keynote Speaker

TeamAgar competes in endurance races around the world and are also accomplished motivational keynote speakers and authors, inspiring us to take on life one step at a time.

Together, they have completed more than 200 races, including five marathons, numerous half marathons, 25Ks, 10Ks, and 5Ks. They have also taken part in over 30 triathlons, ranging from sprint distance to the full Ironman

of 140.6 miles. TeamAgar has attempted five full Ironman races, including the iconic Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii, chronicled by NBC. In September 2022, they completed their first full-distance Ironman in Maryland, where Johnny walked across the finish line.

TeamAgar has been featured on *CBS Mornings*, *The TODAY Show*, *Inside Edition*, *People*, *USA Today*, *NBC Nightly News*, *Huffington Post*, and *ESPN's SportsCenter*, among many others. Their tenacity and indomitable spirit caught the attention of Olympic swimming legend Michael Phelps and Under Armour, leading to appearances in two Under Armour commercials—one alongside Phelps and another with Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson.

At their core, TeamAgar is simply a father and son working together as a team. Johnny, diagnosed with cerebral palsy, has willed himself to become the athlete he always dreamed of being. His dad has been the arms, legs, and power behind him—helping Johnny turn that dream into reality.



About Us

THE VIRGINIA HOME is a private, nonprofit residential community dedicated to adults with physical disabilities who require skilled nursing and therapeutic care. As the only facility of its kind in Virginia, we are both a pioneer and a promise—providing lifelong care in a setting that honors dignity, independence, and belonging.

OUR MISSION is to deliver compassionate, professional care while ensuring the comfort, security, and well-being of every resident—regardless of ability to pay. We believe physical disability should never limit opportunity, purpose, or the simple joy of living. Through expert clinical services, innovative therapies, and a deeply supportive community, we empower residents to live active, meaningful lives on their own terms.



Volunteer Finley Austin with Virgil and Sarah Goldmann at our annual Fall Festival.

As we plan for a new campus and the next chapter of our future, The Virginia Home remains committed to removing barriers, expanding possibilities, and creating environments where individuals with complex physical needs can thrive—not just today, but for generations to come.

OUR HISTORY began with compassion, courage, and foresight. Our founder, Mary Tinsley Greenhow, was a young woman from a prominent Virginia family when a horseback riding accident in the mid-1800s left her permanently paralyzed. While her family was able to provide long-term care, Mary became deeply aware that many others with severe physical disabilities were far less fortunate. She envisioned a place where individuals could receive not only lifelong care, but also companionship, dignity, and security—without fear of abandonment or financial hardship.



Mary Tinsley Greenhow

Through her unwavering determination, The Virginia Home for Incurables was chartered and opened on March 1, 1894.

Since that day, The Virginia Home has evolved with the times—relocating, expanding, modernizing, and ultimately changing its name to reflect a more empowering vision of disability and life. What has never changed is our founding promise: that residents will always come first, and that their care and security will never be compromised.



Nicole Martin models Taylor Bernard's artwork for the Alivia clothing line.

THE VIRGINIA HOME IS GOVERNED by a dedicated volunteer Board of Trustees, supported by a professional leadership team, and a deeply experienced staff—nearly one-third of whom have served for over a decade. Their longevity reflects the culture of care, respect, and personal connection that defines life at The Home.

Our **volunteers** are the heartbeat of our community, enriching daily life through companionship, creativity, celebration, and shared experiences that extend far beyond clinical care.

And at the center of it all are our **residents**—remarkable individuals who inspire everyone they meet. They are artists, athletes, advocates, volunteers, and adventurers. With the support of adaptive technologies and innovative programs like Adventure Seekers, Travel Scholarships, and Summer Olympics, residents ski, surf, finish 5Ks, create art, give back to charities, and continue to explore the world around them.

As The Virginia Home prepares for our **NEW HOME IN HANOVER COUNTY**, we do so with the same spirit that launched us more than a century ago: bold moves, big dreams, and an unshakable belief in the value of every life.



The future of The Virginia Home is not just about a new campus—it is about expanding opportunity, deepening community, and honoring Mary Tinsley Greenhow’s vision in ways she could only have imagined.

With a grateful heart and a big smile, JonJon Strother offers a sweet reminder of why we do what we do.

Courage

TREVOR

Trevor, an only child from Mechanicsville, lived at home with his parents before moving to The Virginia Home in February 2021. Arriving during the pandemic, he saw the transition not as a challenge, but as the start of a wonderful new chapter. Even during lockdown, Trevor remembers feeling genuinely happy, energized by his newfound independence and the opportunities that lay ahead. Over the past five years, he has truly found his groove and embraced life in the community.



Trevor says his favorite things about The Virginia Home are the food and the staff, but what stands out most are relationships. “I’ve made such good friendships with so many people throughout The Home,” he shares. He especially loves music therapy, which allows him to express his creative spirit. “I’m a creative type that loves to express myself, and through music therapy I truly get to do that. The staff and residents all give to each other every day. We give our hearts, our compassion, and our friendship.”

Trevor is intentional about how he spends his time, investing deeply in the activities that matter most to him. He enjoys music therapy, improv sessions, spending time with the maintenance team, and getting to know new volunteers. Naturally curious, he takes a sincere interest in others’ cultures and experiences and is always learning something new. Whether roaming the halls with a smile or surfing the web in his room, Trevor brings warmth, intelligence, and a positive outlook to every day.

and Grace

KELSEY

Kelsey is a relatively new resident, joining The Virginia Home community in 2024. A proud twin from Powhatan, she brings joy and bright energy wherever she goes. Since moving to The Home, Kelsey has embraced a life filled with friendship, laughter, and fun. “I love The Home because I get my own freedom. I get to do whatever I want every day living here,” she shares with a smile.

For Kelsey, that sense of independence means everything. She is deeply grateful for the opportunity to live in a place that not only supports her needs but also empowers her to live life on her own terms. Kelsey is always quick to add a heartfelt thank you to everyone who gives so generously of themselves to make her life at The Home so special.

Kelsey describes The Virginia Home as a place full of friendly people who make her life fun. Her laughter is contagious, and her joyful spirit lights up the halls. Sweet, kind, and thoughtful, she is a loyal friend and a familiar presence in several therapy departments, where she actively participates.

Her favorite color is blue, and she loves watching cooking shows, dancing to her favorite country and Christian music, and enjoying all things Disney. Family time is especially important to her, and she treasures every moment spent with loved ones. Kelsey also stays busy as a devoted full-time mom to her beloved Reborn baby dolls. In the evenings, she and a group of friends often gather for girl-time—watching TV, chatting, and sharing laughs—creating simple, sweet moments that make her community feel like home.



Incredible Stories



Thank you for 14 years of Courage & Grace!

2011 **Mitch Albom**

Best-selling author of *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*.

2012 **Marcus Luttrell**

Retired Navy SEAL and author of *Lone Survivor*.

2013 **Rudy Giuliani**

107th Mayor of New York City, present at Ground Zero on September 11th.

2014 **Lopez Lomong**

One of the Lost Boys of Sudan, who became a two-time U.S. Olympian.

2015 **Marlee Matlin & Henry Winkler**

Actor, author and director Henry Winkler and award-winning actress and activist Marlee Matlin.

2016 **Christopher Gardner**

Best-selling author of the 2006 autobiography *The Pursuit of Happyness*.

2017 **Captain Scott Kelly**

NASA astronaut who spent a historic, record-breaking year in space.

2018 **Jenna Bush Hager and Barbara Pierce Bush**

Daughters of former president George W. Bush.

2019 **Gary Sinise**

Actor, philanthropist and advocate for America's servicemen and women.

2022 **David Feherty**

Professional golfer and golf analyst, author and television sports host.

2023 **Jeff Henderson**

Former drug-dealer turned award-winning celebrity chef and best-selling author.

2024 **Brooke Shields**

Actor, stage and screen, best-selling author and advocate for women in the arts.

2025 **Jon Dorenbos**

Retired Philadelphia Eagles NFL player, world-class magician, survivor of profound personal tragedy, and a powerful, relentlessly positive motivational speaker.



Our speakers also visit with residents before the evening event, creating meaningful connections and sharing personal moments of inspiration. From top: (opposite page) Mitch Albom; (this page) Gary Sinise, Brooke Shields and GeNienne Samuels.

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Gilbane is honored to serve as the Presenting Sponsor of Stories of Courage & Grace™, celebrating the extraordinary strength of The Virginia Home community. We're equally proud to be building the organization's new home, a transformative campus that will expand care and independence for adults with physical disabilities. Supporting this milestone reflects our continued and deep commitment to creating spaces that uplift lives and strengthen this vital mission.





We're proud to support The Virginia Home.

Being a good citizen means doing more than simply complying with laws. It also means supporting causes that improve the community at large.

We value The Virginia Home and the difference it makes in the lives of their residents. Thank you for letting us be a small part in helping you provide such compassionate and professional care to those in need.


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Where Love Lives



We have been honored to know and support the remarkable residents of The Virginia Home.

— The Goodwin and August Families

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