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Virtual Job and Internship Fair

This spring, local high school students could find future employment or an internship opportunity, from an online source. On the **PIEDMONT FUTURES** website (www.pvcc.edu/futures) is a list of more than 60 job and internship opportunities appropriate for students up to 18 years old. Available for everyone to use, high school counselors have this re-

source to guide their students into making the summer profitable and fun, as well as providing on-the-job experience.

“I appreciate an opportunity to mentor youth.”

PIEDMONT FUTURE Volunteer

The job listing will con-

tinue into the fall with after-school and weekend job possibilities as well as valuable volunteer positions for teens. Please fill out the online job listing form or contact **PIEDMONT FUTURES** if your business will be hiring teens or would be able to offer an internship opportunity to students interested in learning about and contributing to your business.

Good-Bye Evelyn

Budget cuts have not allowed **PIEDMONT FUTURES** to continue on as a three person office, so our director, Evelyn Gorman, has stepped down to allow the initiative she founded to continue. Erin Hughey-Commers and Suzanne Healy will be carrying us forward. **PIEDMONT FUTURES** is funded by the school boards of Charlottesville, Albemarle, Fluvanna, Nelson and Greene

Counties. Evelyn leaves us with this thought:

“It has been my pleasure to offer businesses and organizations opportunities to support our public schools and to create a regional focus on career education within our shared communities. Most of all, it has been my distinct privilege to serve our area students with new ideas and pathways for creating a bright, sure future for themselves. Volunteer

today to make someone's future happen!”

Thank you Evelyn and we wish you the best on your next journey!





Mark Your Calendar

Fall 08—Lunchtime speakers at elementary schools

Nov 17th & 18th
7th Grade Career Expo

Dec-Feb 09
Commonwealth Scholars Presentations

March 12th- 13th 09
10th Grade Career Days

7th Grade Career Expo

Coming up on November 17th and 18th at UVA's Newcomb Hall, will be the annual **7th Grade Career Expo**. Middle school students from the counties of Albemarle, Nelson, Greene and Fluvanna and the City of Charlottesville will come together to take the first steps of finding the right career choice. The process starts with being inspired, intrigued, curious and motivated. Students have to imagine themselves in the adult world, with all the options open to them, doing a job that sounds fun and worthwhile. If students have not heard about a career area, they will have a hard time imaging them-

selves in that job. According to one presenter, "It allowed me to look at and analyze my job from an outside perspective."

Sue Sheffield, from Albemarle County Schools, and **Lee Davis**, of **Charlottesville City Schools**, coordinate this event. **PIEDMONT FUTURES** has been asked to find approximately 50 businesses to set up tables for the two days, and 20 speakers to talk about career readiness skills. Students will also hear about college preparation from UVA students.

A catered lunch will be

provided, partially funded by a grant from the **Charlottesville Albemarle Rotary Club**. Being surrounded by all that youthful energy can be tiring and everyone looks forward to a relaxing break in the day. **PIEDMONT FUTURES** will be talking to area business to help us provide a variety of choices for the lunch break. Please consider having your business participate in the **Expo** and feel "the excitement of sharing (your) career with young people" as expressed by one of last year's attendees.

Above and Beyond

While we appreciate all of our participants, occasionally, we meet volunteers who are very enthusiastic and exceed all expectations. These volunteers are often called on at the last minute to fill a cancellation, volunteer before being asked, volunteer for multiple occasions and bring us other volunteers.

A **Special Thank You** goes out to:

- Nancy Cranwell**-SPCA
- Mary Loose DeViney**-Tuel Jewelers
- Dr. Shannon Franklin**-Crozet Eye Care
- Jonathan Hines**- Scriptor Services
- Joe Hughes**- Charlottesville Fire Dept. Caption
- Denny King**-Paladin Media Group

- Michael Lachance**-Nelson County Extension Agent
- Robert Mayfield**-Tenaska Virginia Generating Station
- Hannah Catherine Munro**-Virginia High School League
- Michael Steele**-Huntington Learning Center
- Ralph Watson**-State Farm



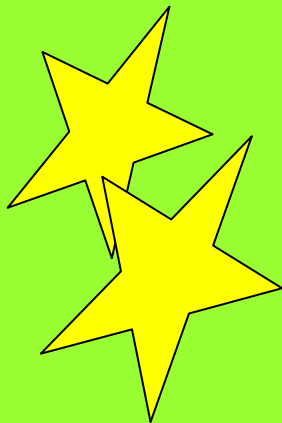
What our Business Partners say about their volunteer experience:

"I learned that these children are really in tune with their community. They asked wonderful, well thought-out questions. It was a delightful opportunity and I hope to appear again."

"I found the experience rewarding."

"Invite me back!!"

"It is a great program. I really enjoy the opportunity to speak and meet with the participants, share career information and answer their questions."

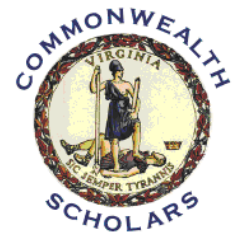


Looking Ahead

After the 7th Grade Career Expo in November, our next major recruitment effort will be in November, December and January 2009 for the **Commonwealth Scholars** Program, taking place at area middle schools. Virginia has been a leader in this national program, implementing it in more schools than any other state. The goal is to motivate 8th grade students to take rigorous classes in high school to prepare them for the work world ahead of them. Adults in the community have been through this same journey and can share their perspective with the students. **PIEDMONT FUTURES** has been

thanked for, "the chance to explain the importance of what being in school meant to me and what it could mean to students today." Many presenters also enjoy sharing their experience of how they came to be in their current job. Presenters find it can build confidence in their public speaking skills as well as a new awareness of the perspective of today's 13 year olds. The classroom presentation is a PowerPoint, updated with current salary and job opportunity information. Only Walton Middle School (Dec 4) and Fluvanna Middle School (Feb 18)

have picked dates so far, but keep this program in mind as a way you can be involved in your community. There will be a training session prior to the morning presentations, so speakers can enter the classroom feeling fully prepared.



*From
Competence to
Excellence*

Lunchtime Speakers

Our lunch speaker series finished up at two Albemarle County elementary schools and **Tye River Elementary School** in Nelson County this spring. Fifth-graders got to hear about many different career areas during their lunch at **Agnor-Hurt Elementary School**. According to one speaker, "the children at Agnor-Hurt asked excellent questions." School Counselor Carol Fox is enthusiastic about continuing the se-

ries into the fall of 2008. **Murray Elementary School**, in Ivy, hosted four speakers this spring. Students there had the option of coming to hear the speaker during lunch, and as word spread about the program, more and more students appeared to hear the featured speaker. There will be a new School Counselor at Murray this fall who is working to fit the program into Murray's

schedule. Tye River Elementary also plans to continue the series, bring in speakers who work in Nelson County for a local emphasis.



Officer Larry Cindrick from the Nelson County Sheriff's Office at Tye River Elementary School

Dollars and Sense



PIEDMONT FUTURES

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We're on the Web:

www.pvcc.edu/futures

**Connecting
Commerce to
Classroom
is the
Key**

**"It was
fun...thanks
for having me"**

**Comment from
presenter**

A class project of the **Leadership Charlottesville** Class of 2007-2008 fits right in with the objectives of **PIEDMONT FUTURES**. They have developed a financial curriculum to educate high school students about making the correct financial decisions. Topics included in the program are identity theft, credit management, investment and banking basics as well as modules on gaining and retaining a job and reading a paycheck. The business leaders who developed the program taught it with success last year at **Monticello High School**. **PIEDMONT FUTURES** is interested in expanding

this 6-week curriculum to additional area high schools. **Dollars and Sense** was developed by **Brian Roy** of MCS, **Brett Spitale** of the Alzheimer's Association, **Shelia Grissom**, City of Charlottesville, CPA **Edward Schmitz** of Hantzmon Wiebel, Attorney **Wesley Martin** of Scott, Kroner and **Will Landreth** of BB&T. They recently presented their idea to the **Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce**, with the purpose of getting other business leaders interested in teaching their program in area high schools. The next step is to get local high schools on board. School admin-

istrators are challenged to find time in the school day to include this valuable and useful information. One idea being considered is to add **Dollars and Sense** to government class, required of all 12th grade students.

Leadership Charlottesville is a signature membership, community-building program of the **Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce** with a goal of building an active corps of engaged, dedicated and successful citizens. **PIEDMONT FUTURES** is looking forward to working with this civic-minded group.

About PIEDMONT FUTURES...

PIEDMONT FUTURES engages local businesses and other organizations in the education of school children in the surrounding communities. We are funded by the school systems of Charlottesville and the counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene and Nelson, in collaboration with **Pied-**

mont Virginia Community College. Our goal is to strengthen existing business-education collaboration, facilitate new partnership opportunities and to offer a more comprehensive career exploration opportunity. Today's students face daunting choices, as to training and education. Schools cannot meet the growing career

education need alone. The direct involvement of business in k-12 education assures that students receive the necessary skills and training for effective employment. **PIEDMONT FUTURES** is creating a community focus on career education to better serve all area students.

Your Business Can Help!

- ✓ Financial Donations to offset catering costs
- ✓ Offer internships to 9-12th grade students
- ✓ Participate in Career Expos, Job Fairs and Career Days
- ✓ Support your employees as school volunteers and speakers
- ✓ Become a Career Speaker