

## Special Interest Articles:

- History: Bombshell Nazi Killer
- Knock It Off!
- Catching Fire Film Review

Mechanicsville, VA

E-MAIL:  
areteyearbook@gmail.com

## Arête: The Beginnings

Arête is a word meaning “excellency” or the “excellence of God revealed in the work of salvation,” which comes from the Greek language. Arête Christian Academy uses several Bible verses to define itself, virtue, excellency, perfection (1 Pet. 2:9); the virtue as a force or energy of the Holy Spirit accompanying the preaching of the glorious Gospel, called glory in 2 Pet. 1:3; human virtue in general (Phil. 4:8); courage, fortitude, resolution (2 Pet. 1:5), moral excellence. Mrs. Wendy Hale, an English tutor and one of the “first” families, started Arête in 2006. The first families noticed that the East End community needed home school classes. She said, “It was a long

process getting the school started.” The process included talking to lawyers to make sure they could make this happen and finding tutors who were willing to teach. This hard work was accomplished thanks to three main families: the Hales, the Filegars and the Sjrogrens. She also noted that Arête has changed so much, “the number of students has quadrupled.” At first Arête included a small amount of students and only a few subjects, no organization really at all. She accredits this success with the love given to the kids by the tutors. Other contributions to the school’s growth include the changes in society, an increase in homeschoolers and Arête’s

Biblical views. “The first years, we weren’t sure exactly what to expect.”

When asked if she was happy with the outcome of Arête, she said, without hesitation, “Absolutely! It has grown to be so much more than I ever imagined.”

## Family Spotlight: Tammy Durden

By Jonathan Durden

“80% of blind or visually impaired persons are unemployed- and, to me, that is unacceptable,” Tammy Durden responded. Durden is a self-employed businesswoman who sets appointments for small businesses to help promote them. She primarily hires people with various disabilities so they can, like her, work from the comfort of their own home while making appointments for her. Her clients typically range from health insurance companies to marketing industry and financial services.

The impetus for Durden to hire disabled people is her own disability. About twelve years ago she was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (or M.S.), a

physical illness that severely limits a person’s ability to do everyday activities.

“When we (she and her family) moved to Virginia, it was suggested when I was working as a contract worker, that I start my own business.” Even then she knew she was led to helping people like her. “And so that was always in the back of my head that if my business got big enough, I wanted to be able to hire disabled persons; because I know how hard it is to find that work.”

This isn’t Durden’s only goal in life, however. She said that if she could hire a business

manager one day to run her business that she would want to focus on her true passions: writing and public speaking. Durden wants to share with people what God has done for her and how He has used her illness for good.

Tammy lives to glorify God in everything, including her business. Although there are other goals and milestones she wants to reach, she is content in her situation. “Happy is an emotion, but if you’re content and joyful, I think that says a lot about who God is in your life.”

*Continued on p. 5*

## Welcome

Welcome to Arete Ink – our first story magazine for Arete Christian Academy. The road to this moment was winding and long. There were times we weren't sure we would get here. The experiences we gained will pave the way for new ideas and articles. And our hope is that you enjoy the things we find on the journey to here. Thank you so much for your patience as we stopped to smell the roses along the way. Thank you for all your help as we learned to interview, take pictures, and manage our

publication. Thank you, Mikayla Layell, for lending us your talents for the Arete Ink emblem. Please continue to feel free to contact us with suggestions, questions and ideas to help us build this publication for you. -Your 2013/2014

Journalism & Yearbook staff.

### Journalism:

Rachel Cicero  
Jonathan Durden  
Sarah Fitchett  
Donovan Vest

### Yearbook:

Sam Bausone  
Marisa Bausone  
Anna-Louis Cecil  
Katelyn Dalton  
Meghan Saunders

*Ink emblem the artwork of Mikayla Layell.*



*"And our hope is that you enjoy the things we find on the journey to here."*

## Hunting, Music & Superheroes

By Jonathan Durden

Batman, Iron Man and Imagine Dragons top the list of Donovan Vest's favorites. "I feel like if you really listen to the lyrics, it's actually really relatable," he said regarding Imagine Dragons: Night Visions. But hunting is his all-time favorite sport

Donovan Vest has been hunting since he was eight years old, and loves it to this day. He first learned how to shoot a bb gun at the age of seven, and his first

gun he got when he was twelve, which was a 22 rifle. The next year he bought his first gun-a Thompson Center. Now, his most prized possession is his hunting rifle.

He attended public school up until the fifth grade, when he was then put in the private school system, which was no better or different for him, since he "might as well have been going to public school." Donovan then enrolled in Arete

Christian Academy in eighth grade, and has been going there since, making many friends along the way.



Photo by Donovan Vest



Photo by Jonathan Durden

## It Opens Doors

By Donovan Vest

Sitting in a chair, Norman Stephenson thought how to answer the question. "I was about ten years old when I started playing the guitar." His father made him play guitar, but he's "more than glad" that he did. "It opened up a lot of doors for me," he added. At age ten, he also went hunting for the first time. Stephenson's father only took him once or twice, but he hunted every chance he got. Like most teenagers Stephenson

was a bit rebellious. His parents had mentioned it before, but one day while they were in town, they decided to go to the Navy Recruitment Center. Stephenson passed the requirements, and went into the Navy. He excelled in basic training and was even voted honor man out of more than fifty-five other men. He used to go to church when he was young but didn't start going again until very recently. His stepson, Rod, gave him a

motorcycle and Norman's friend, Ray, painted it for him. Stephenson was going to pay him but Ray didn't want anything for it. So Stephenson repaid him by attending the men's retreat at Ray's church. When he came back he acted like a completely different person. Since then he's been saved and baptized. He's always tried new things and that sums up my grandpa pretty well.

## Bombshell Nazi Killer dies at 98

By Tony Rennell – U.K.

She stares into the camera with a coquettish half-smile and an unflinching come-hither look. The eyebrows are plucked, the lips full, the long auburn hair a classic 1940s style, falling onto the shoulders of her khaki uniform.

She could easily have been one of the sassy songbirds who brightened up World War II. But this was the face of Nancy Wake, one of that conflict's bravest underground fighters against the Germans in France — and certainly the most stylish.

A male comrade-in-arms in the French Resistance summed her up as: 'The most feminine woman I know, until the fighting starts. And then she is like five men.' She lived up to both parts of that compliment.

So feminine was she that when escaping from pursuers on one notable occasion, she dressed in a smart frock, silk stockings, high-heeled shoes and a camel-hair coat, arguing that she didn't want to look like a hunted

woman. In that same outfit, she jumped from a moving train into a vineyard to avoid capture at a Nazi checkpoint.

And so aggressive was she that, after being parachuted into France as a Special Operations Executive agent, she disposed of a German guard with her bare hands and liked nothing better than bowling along in the front seat of a fast car through the countryside, a Sten gun on her lap and a cigar between her teeth, in search of Germans to kill.

Passionate and impulsive, with a tendency to draw attention to herself, she was not the ideal undercover agent. Her superiors didn't think she would last long behind enemy lines.

But Wake proved them wrong and died this week, aged 98, in a nursing home for retired veterans in London. Her death brought to an end a life of such daring, courage and glamour that she was the inspiration for the Sebastian Faulks novel *Charlotte Gray*, which was made into a

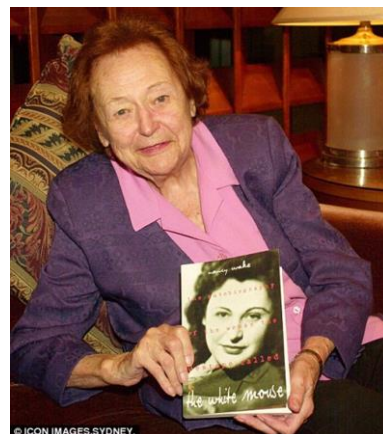
film starring Cate Blanchett.

Much of Wake's extraordinary life was lived under assumed identities. She carried papers as Nancy Fiocca (her married name) and Lucienne Cartier. Her official SOE identity was Andree, though a gay friend in the service called her 'Gertie'. On one operation she was tagged 'Witch'.

But the best-known name was the one the Gestapo gave her when they put her on their 'most wanted' list, with a five million franc price on her head — that of 'the White Mouse', because she always managed to wriggle out of their traps.

As the net closed around her, she headed for the mountains, leaving Henri behind, and made the punishing two-day trek over the Pyrenees to neutral Spain and from there, via Gibraltar, to Britain by mid-1943.

Nobody could have objected if, by then, she had decided she had done her bit. Instead, in London she volunteered for SOE's French section and, despite reservations that she was too much of a party-girl, she was taken on and trained in survival skills, armed combat, Morse code and



surveillance.

Six weeks before D-Day, she was parachuted into the heavily-forested and mountainous Auvergne region of central France to prepare local Resistance groups, the Maquis, for the job of harrying the Germans and delaying their reinforcements once the invasion began.

Nancy never lost her softer side, for all the horrors of war. Two American weapons instructors dropped into her forest hideout found a jar of flowers beside their makeshift beds.

## Commentary: Knock It Off

By Donovan Vest

Sitting in his quiet living room the middle aged man reaches for his coffee. With a shaky hand he picks it up and takes a sip. As he finishes the phone rings. He shakily stands up and shuffles his feet towards the phone. The man answers the phone and says hello with a stutter. The caller is his wife. She asks him how he's feeling today. It takes him a moment to respond but he stutters the words I'm doing ok. This man is Bob Stevens. He was a successful electrician until becoming another unfortunate victim to the "knockout game". Bob suffered major brain damage from the initial blow of the assailant and then the fall onto the pavement, causing him to have uncontrollable shaking and stuttering. His family was well off financially but since the

incident his wife has had to get a part time job.

Though this story is not real it does not make it any less true. This year many people have been victims of the knockout game and other similar types of attacks. But, why? Why are teens and young adults taking part in such despicable acts? They don't care about hurting someone or the consequences of doing so. Did anyone ever teach them? Yes, but not to be God-centered or family centered. They taught them to be self-centered and that is where the problem lies.

If you look through history every nation, country, empire, etc. that has fallen, fell because of its society becoming self-centered and defying God. An example would be the Roman Empire. It fell because of greed which is caused by and causes

people to only care about themselves. The Babylonians were another prime example of defying God. Most people remember the Bible story about the Babylonians building the tower of Babel to reach into heaven. They defied God in two ways. One, God told man to go throughout the world; instead they grouped together. Second, the Tower of Babel became their idol which was a sin. God made the people speak different languages, thereby stopping construction of the tower and spreading man throughout the Earth. With America's society becoming more self-centered and trying to get rid of God we will inevitably go down the same path. So how do we prevent this?

There are many possible solutions but there is only one that is guaranteed to work, and

that is to get the focus back on God or at least the family. How do we do that? Start with the churches. Sadly, in most churches the focus has turned away from God and instead to the pastor, money, activities, and the list goes on. Once we get the focus back towards God in churches we go out as missionaries to our communities. Eventually having Christians go throughout the world teaching people His Word. That is how we can fix issues like the knockout game. Not by the government stepping in, financial assistance, or therapy (at least by themselves) but by putting the focus back on God.



## Everywhere the Sun has touched



“Adventurous, gourmet and a Christ-follower,” are the words Mrs. Cindy Redfern used to describe herself. Redfern teaches a class at Arête in which she has quite some experience: geography! Redfern traveled everywhere with her parents as a child. She realized she wanted to continue to travel as an adult and has traveled all over the place, except for Antarctica and South America; however she quoted quite clearly, “those places are on my list, I plan to go there eventually, and I will!”

Her favorite places she has visited were Australia and New

Zealand. She couldn’t decide which of the two she enjoyed most, so “put them both in, why not.” New Zealand and Australia were her favorites because the people there looked and talked exactly the same as she did, just with a cute little accent. “The people are so laid back and were a better community than the other places. “I mean, gosh, there were more sheep than there were people.” Her favorite part about traveling is the food, “every continent has its own signature flavor and I like that.”

Because of her great love of travelling, she brought her

children, Scott and Skylar, on a few trips. “I wanted them to have a worldview, make sure they knew that God loved all kinds of kinds, and not just white Americans.” When asked how traveling impacted her life, she said, “I don’t see in color, to me everyone is the same. I have a better appreciation for other cultures. I focus more on the similarities between other people rather than the differences.”

*Continued on p. 6*



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## A Patriot and a Philanthropist

By Jonathan Durden

*“Instead of talking about government, I would be involved in government”.* L. Saunders”

“I’m more interested in helping others decide on their own views [about government]. I don’t want to tell my views and influence somebody else in a class.” Lynn Saunders’ main philosophy when it comes to teaching government developed when she started getting involved. Saunders always enjoyed politics, so instead of expressing her own opinions to sway her students to agree like many government teachers do, she instructs them to generate their own opinions and views on issues and government.

Saunders began teaching geography at a middle school, then moved on to teach

government at Lee Davis High School, where she developed a strong liking for the subject. Saunders would occasionally take her students on field trips to various places like D.C. and the General Assembly, where they could get to know their delegates.

In the course of all of this, however, Saunders came across a good opportunity to get more involved with her passion. As the president of the teachers in Hanover County, she was working with Delegate Frank Hargrove on his Education Committee. Hargrove asked Saunders if she knew anyone that could be his legislative aid, and she asked if she could step up to the task. “I just thought it would

be wonderful. Instead of talking about government, I would be involved in government.” Later, Saunders worked on various cases as a legal assistant in the Attorney General’s office.

When she started a family, she left, but the experience of working, particularly alongside Hargrove, greatly inspired her to show pride in America. “[Hargrove] was the first one I’ve ever met that was such a ‘ra-ra’ [for government] and not ashamed to show it. He felt like patriotism was so important.”

That enthusiasm for government was definitely something that Saunders took away from her time working at the General Assembly. “I really

## Many Choices

By Rachel Cicero

"My husband and I couldn't handle or agree with the public school's SOL testing and the moral values of these middle and high schooled kids; they were just awful." Susan Marston, a Mary Washington College graduate, took matters into her own hands and began homeschooling. She chose to home school her two daughters, Sam and Megan for their middle and high school years. She then began to teach P.E. and Spanish at a co-op. Her hard work paid off and a friend recommended she teach at Arête Christian Academy. "Me having the opportunity to teach kids is what I absolutely love to do, it was an easily made choice. God gave us our answer," Marston started working at the end of 2012. Now she teaches several subjects: Anatomy; Physiology, Algebra 1 and 2, and biology.

But Marston also has a side job working at Kings Dominion

Amusement Park as a guest services employee. She originally worked there in the 80's, where she met her husband. "I needed an alternate job to have more income, so I worked in guest services." She talked about food with her boss every chance she had. Since she had a vast knowledge of food and beverages from her experience of working at previous jobs, such as Coca-Cola. She was offered a job as a food supervisor for all the restaurants in Kings Dominion. "Working at Kings Dominion as a food safety supervisor has definitely been the most fun job there." She gives full credit to God for where her life has taken her and which paths she has chosen.



## Patriot (cont'd)

latched on to wearing the colors, and my family room is all American flags and red white and blue. My house is painted blue with red shutters and white trim." She certainly has great pride in America, and believes that no one should be afraid to show it.

In addition to her patriotism, Saunders also has a very charitable spirit. She is currently working for a non-profit organization called Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Functions, or MCEF for short. This organization has many hats. It helps people who cannot afford to pay their water or electricity bills and try to keep their water and power running. They not only do that, but they also have food pantries and clothes closets. Right now,

however, they are in need of some teen clothing for their teen clothing closet. "What I've found was that we were sending teens to the adult closet to find jeans, we needed cool clothes." So MCEF is always in need of teen clothing such as jeans or hoodies with cool graphics on them. If you'd like to donate clothes to MCEF, you can simply give them to Lynn Saunders at Arete anytime between 9:00-10:30AM.

## Durden (cont'd)

To contact Tammy or learn more about her business, you can find out more at her website:

<http://tammysoffices.com>

*"Happy is an emotion, but if you're content and joyful, I think that says a lot about who God is in your life." – T. Durden*

***Yum Articles...*****Easy Chocolate  
Lover's Cheese Pie**

Submitted by Fitchett

Heat oven to 450 F

Beat cream cheese and sugar in a large mixing bowl with mixer until well blended.

Add eggs and vanilla; Stir in 1 and 2/3 cups small chocolate chips; pour into crust

Bake 10 minutes. Without opening oven door, reduce temperature to 250F; continue baking 30 minutes or just until set. Remove from oven to wire rack. Cool completely. Cover; refrigerate until thoroughly chilled.

Place remaining 1/3 cup chips and whip cream in small microwave safe bowl. Microwave at HIGH (100%) 20 to 30 seconds or just until chips are melted and mixture is smooth when stirred. Cool slightly; spread over top of cheese pie. Refrigerate 15 minutes or until topping set. Cover; refrigerate leftover cheese pie.

Ingredients

3 packages ( 8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened

¾ cup sugar

3 eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

2 cups (12- ounce package) Hershey's mini chips,

Semi Sweet chocolate, divided

1 extra serving size packaged graham cracker crumb crush (9 ounces)

2 teaspoon whip cream

**Arete Asks:**

When will the yearbook be distributed?

The 2013-2014 yearbooks will be distributed at the end of the year picnic. We hope to see you in the pages of the yearbook!

Do you have a question we can help answer?

Contact: areteyearbook@gmail.com

But for all the feminine wiles she employed to get what she wanted, she knew where to draw the line. She was loyal to Henri, the husband she loved.

The sadness was that after the liberation she returned to Marseille to discover that Henri was dead. Shortly after her flight from the city, he had been caught, imprisoned and tortured. The Gestapo shot him.

She blamed herself for his death. If he'd told them where she was, he might have lived. But he refused.

**Movie Review**

by: Jonathan Durden

*Catching Fire*, aka the most anticipated movie of the year for all *Hunger Games* fans old and new alike, certainly lived up to the hype. For those unfamiliar to the series, let me summarize: The first *Hunger Games* yielded two victors: Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark. In an effort to convince the tyrant leader of the districts, President Snow, that they are in love and not rebellion, Katniss and Peeta become a couple. Snow is unconvinced, so as a twist on the games (which occurs every twenty-five years known as a Quarter Quell), he decides the tributes for the games should be reaped from the existing pool of victors. Since Katniss is the only female victor in her district, she is returning to the games, and possibly death. Peeta volunteers in the place of their mentor, Haymitch, and enters the games as well. Katniss and Peeta find unlikely allies and more twists and turns

**Everywhere (cont'd)**

Matthew 28:16-20 are her favorite Bible verses. "It literally says GO and make disciples of the nations, I can so relate to this. I always want to GO somewhere." She has such passion for other traditions and cultures. Redfern has been everywhere the sun has touched.

She was festooned with honours — a British George Medal, the French Legion d'Honneur and three Croix de Guerre. She remarried, returned to Australia to live, took up politics for a while, then came back to Britain to retire in 2001.

Her body is to be cremated, but at her request the ashes will be scattered in the Auvergne.

Read more:

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-2023973/Blisteringly-sexy-killed-Nazis-bare-hands-5-](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-2023973/Blisteringly-sexy-killed-Nazis-bare-hands-5-million-franc-bounty-head-As-dies-98-extraordinary-story-real-Charlotte-Gray.html#ixzz2q38xUI5X)

[million-franc-bounty-head-As-dies-98-extraordinary-story-real-Charlotte-Gray.html#ixzz2q38xUI5X](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-2023973/Blisteringly-sexy-killed-Nazis-bare-hands-5-million-franc-bounty-head-As-dies-98-extraordinary-story-real-Charlotte-Gray.html#ixzz2q38xUI5X)

along the way than you count along the way.

Unlike the adaption of the first book of the three-book series, *The Hunger Games*, the movie adaption for *Catching Fire* certainly pays more attention to the book, even in small details like Finnick asking Katniss, "want a sugar cube?" and the interaction between new gamemaker Plutarch Heavensbee and Katniss. The arena was exactly as I imagined it when I read the book, along with the occurrences that happen during the games.

Though most of the movie was exactly how I pictured it, there were a few parts they left out that I wish they would have left in. For instance: Haymitch's *Hunger Games* video. I know it doesn't necessarily fit in with the "big picture" of the plot, but it would have still been pretty cool to see young Haymitch win the *Hunger Games* and to see the historical differences in the

arena and how some of the public figures looked twenty-five years ago (Ceasar Flickerman, for example).

However, the part in the book when Katniss goes hunting and comes across two people in the woods with bread that had a mocking jay emblem on it was missing from the movie. These people were from one of the districts that claimed to be on their way to district thirteen; a lost district that they believe is still in existence. This scene is important because it both shows signs of rebellion and of Katniss being the face for that rebellion. It also gives the suggestion of district thirteen still being alive.

All in all, I would give *Catching Fire* an 8/10. It really delivered on all fronts: picture, acting, accuracy, and action.



Photo by Rachel Cicero