



MOREart! Mosaic Mural

Stories from the wall

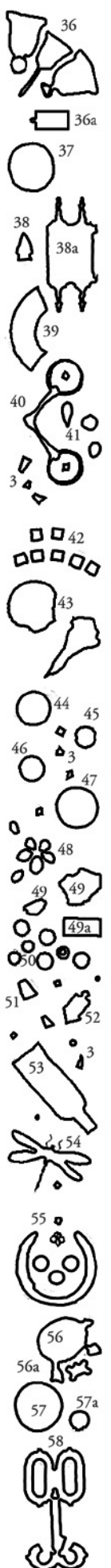
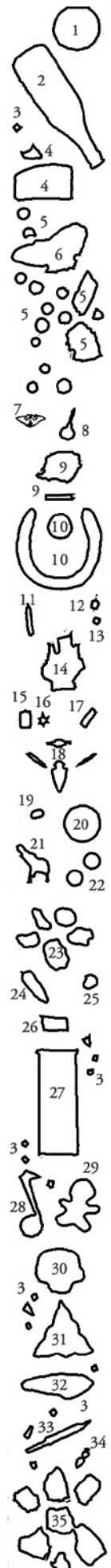
2007



IMAGE MAP OF SPECIAL OBJECTS EMBEDDED IN THE BORDER OF THE MOSAIC MURAL

**LEFT
BORDER**

**RIGHT
BORDER**





1. Jackie Merritt: Hampton, VA
Doorknob



The glass object that I donated for the Mosaic Mural Project I've had for over a decade. It has no family or historical value, but it has for years brought me a sense of calmness and joy.

I found this pretty blue thing in an antique shop, thrown in a bucket with other pieces of broken glass. All I can say about its history is that it's old and it reminds me of a large glass doorknob.

In the mornings, when the sun comes thru my studio window and strikes the beautiful blue hue of the glass, the glow just makes me feel good. I hoped by sharing my pretty blue thing with so many hands that have helped to create this wall of oneness, that just maybe, someone will experience that same joy it has given me.

2. Roxbury Farm and Garden Center:
Fredericksburg, VA
Taka Kola Bottle



A small piece of Fredericksburg's history, this bottle, "Taka Kola," was unearthed on the Roxbury property. It is not easy to find references to its manufacturer, Fredericksburg Bottle Works, but I believe it may be from the 1920s. I would like to add this to a larger piece of history, the MORE mural.

3. Bonnie Fitzgerald: Oakton, VA
Gold smalti from Italy

I am a mosaic artist. Whenever I can, I sneak in a little gold—it gives any piece a special something extra.



4. Samantha Thomason: Fredericksburg, VA
Pieces of pottery and china

The pieces of pottery and china were found in our back yard on Caroline Street and are probably from the 18th or 19th century, when the area behind our house was a busy port of the Rappahannock. We save everything we find to remind us of the past and those who have been there before us.



5, 5a and 5b. *Brenda and John Harris
Fredericksburg, VA

5. coins, 5a. Pottery, 5b. Marine Corps insignia

5. Various coins from countries that we have traveled to independently or as a family.

Japanese Yen, Korean Won, German Marc, Hong Kong Dollar, British Pound, Fraqui Dinar, Kenyan Shilling, Kuwaiti Dinar, Lebanese Pound, Libyan Dinar, Mexican Peso, Turkish Lira, Phillipine Peso, Saudi Riyal.



5a. Spaghetti pottery from Japan.

5b. Father John and son John are both Marines.

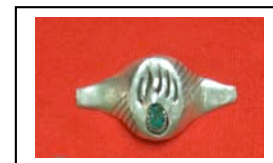
6. D'Angelo Veney: King George, VA
Northern Neck oyster shells

The oyster shells dedicated to this wall are to symbolize my family's deep connection to the waters of the Northern Neck and their livelihood in the fishing industry. My families have fished in and around the waters of Westmoreland and Rappahannock counties –my grandfather's family, since coming to America from the island of Haiti and my grandmother's family since the days of George Washington.

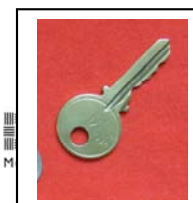


7. Joshua G. Snell: Fredericksburg, VA
Silver bear ring

I've donated this bear ring because it was and will be my way of appreciating a side of my culture I'm unable to celebrate in my day-to-day living.



8. *Cindy Brown: Fredericksburg, VA
Key



Well, my keys connect me to where I am going and where I've been and have given me access from time to time. I never become rid of my keys, as they are a symbol of comfort and connection to me. My key ring consists of assorted keys (which now I have some trouble identifying). Houses, Cars, Mailboxes (of old) hang from my ring. I have parted with one of my old keys (as a donation to the mosaic) to an old mailbox when I lived in Norfolk, Virginia ... oh the sweet freedom of a 20-year-old student—driving an old brown Camaro—without a care in the world—and equally very little fear.

9 and 9a. Brad Taylor: Stafford, VA

9. Piece of Berlin Wall; 9a. 9/11 pin

9. This is a piece of the Berlin Wall that separated East and West Berlin, a divided city, part Communist and part free. I personally chipped this piece of the wall in 1989, one week after Berlin was united and the fall of the Communist regime. To me, this piece is a symbol of unification, a symbol of freedom, and a symbol of overcoming repression. I felt it was appropriate to put this piece of a wall that was a barrier and symbol of division, into the MOREart! mosaic, which is a symbol of breaking down barriers.



9a. To me, this pin symbolizes the strength of the American spirit and our ability to come together as a nation. It shows our ability to have a united front in the face of adversity. It honors the memory of those who perished that day.



10 and 10a. Andrea Shreve Taylor: Stafford, VA

10. Cloisonné Unitarian–Universalist Chalice mosaic pendant, 10a. Horseshoe

10. My ancestry is English, Scottish, Danish, Bohemian and Welsh. With so many countries in our ethnic background, our family did not identify with any one in particular. Instead, one of our primary sources of “cultural” identity was our church. This pendant is of a Chalice, which is the symbol of the UU religion. It is done in a mosaic style, which is symbolic of my passion and profession: being a mosaic artist.



10a. This horseshoe represents my family roots in Tennessee, where they farmed land, which was originally homesteaded by an ancestor in the 1830s. Many of my fondest childhood memories are of roaming the fields and woods, and the deep sense of kinship and belonging I had with the land and with my extended family of grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins who lived there and nearby.

11. *Gaye Adegbalola: Fredericksburg, VA
Silver cartouche

This silver cartouche was made in Egypt. The hieroglyphics (picture symbols) carved in it spell out “MO’LOLA.” MO’LOLA is a combination of “Moe” and “Adegbalola”—the last name of my partner, Suzanne Moe, combined with my chosen last name. We have made a home and shared life for over 16 years and hope to grow old together. This cartouche symbolizes our togetherness and our life-long commitment to each other.



Aside from the carved “MO’LOLA” name itself, we both love simple, primitive art—like this cartouche, like this mosaic wall mural—which was Suzanne’s original vision and design. A major part of our life’s journey together is to create and to support the creative endeavors of each other ... to dwell in The House of Mo’lola.

12. Valerie Hopson-Bell: Fredericksburg, VA
Class pendant

This donated class pendant was owned by my great aunt, Dorothy M. Ellis Hixon, who graduated Wiley High School in Terre Haute, Indiana. The pendant is engraved on the back with her name and the date she graduated, 06/06/35.



I have chosen to donate this item to reflect all of my “Ellis” roots from Terre Haute, Indiana. All of my immediate family on my mother’s side attended Wiley High School, located at 1101 S. 13th St.

Dorothy was the only sister of Lawrence and Louis Ellis. Lawrence was my grandfather, and the father of my mother, Florence Eugene Ellis Hopson Suggs. Lawrence and Pauline had six children. My grandparents, their siblings and their children, except one, all attended Wiley. Dorothy passed on May 28, 2007, at the age of 92.

Wiley High School has been turned into and is currently being used as the Charles T. Hyte Community Center.

13. Patricia Holland: Fredericksburg, VA

Pendant

The passing of HOPE started many years ago between me and Susan Kelley White, my college roommate. Numerous items in the name of HOPE have been passed.



Please accept this small pendant, being one of the many items that have passed between friends. May we always have HOPE in community.

14. *Gaye Adegbalola: Fredericksburg, VA

Musical notes

Perhaps the greatest source of pride for the Black community in Fredericksburg in the late 1950s and early '60s was the Walker-Grant High school band! It was a time of segregation and a time when Blacks were called inferior. Yet, there was a collective hope in our community when we were blessed with a young woman band director, Blonnie P. Tipton. She had a vision and the determination that we could be the best in the state—regardless of the size of the school, the lack of instruments and uniforms, practice facilities, etc.



My parents, Clarence and Gladys Todd, helped to organize the entire Black community to raise the funds to make Blon's dream, and our collective dream, come true. The Walker-Grant High School "Fighting Tiger" Band was indeed the best in the state—earning a superior ++ rating playing Themes from Tchaikovsky's 5th Symphony—and innumerable additional awards. I played first chair flute in concert band and piccolo during marching band. Many of us made All State Band several years.

At our spring concert in 1959, my parents were given a plaque for "Outstanding Contributions to the Walker-Grant Band." This plaque has adorned my music room for many years. I have removed the notes from it to be placed in the MOREart! Mosaic. They represent hard work, the overcoming of adversity, the pride of community. For me, now a professional musician, they also represent how we should all strive to find "PEACE THRU MUSIC."

15. Reza Marvashti: Stafford, VA

Allah Prayer Blessing

This is a gold engraved Allah that carries spiritual and mystical meaning in the Shia faith.



This scripture taken from the Koran is meant to bring health and protection to the person wearing it. When I was a baby, my father hung it in my crib to ward off sickness and back luck. As a young adult I carried it with my personal belongings on the many forays I took after college. Now, as a father of two young boys, my wife and I hung it in our children's cribs for the exact same reason my father hung it in mine.

As a Christian, I am not a follower of the Shia Muslim faith, but I take great pride in my Persian background and culture. I fully believe in religious tolerance and acceptance, so I feel that this piece represents the hope of a world where religions no longer quarrel, rather they accept each other with the utmost respect. God is great to us all however we choose to worship him.

16. Monica Schultz: Denver, CO

Star of David

The piece I added to the MOREart! Mosaic mural is a family heirloom; probably passed down from my grandmother to my mother and eventually to me. The Star of David is a Jewish symbol that some believe signifies the connection between the spiritual above (triangle pointing upward) and the real world below (triangle facing downward).



My Jewish roots go back to Russia starting in the 1800s. During the 19th and early 20th centuries, Russia was a difficult place for Jews due to religious persecution and prejudice. Jews were forced into ghettos, allowed limited freedoms and threatened by “pogroms” or attacks by mobs against Jewish citizens.

I will never know exactly what drove my family from Russia since I have no living relatives to tell the story. What I do know is that my connection to the “real world” experience of the Jewish people has called me to a spiritual path that directs me to act on behalf of people that suffer oppression; immigrants, people with little economic means, people with disabilities, etc. Judaism, in many ways, is the source of my greater connection to all.

17. Ruth and Lyle Moe, Reston, VA

Nigerian Trader Bead

This bead serves as a reminder of our family’s time in Nigeria, West Africa. Originally made in Venice, Italy, beads such as these were used as



currency for trade in Africa. Now enjoyed as a currency of décor and beauty, trader beads remind us of times past and present.

18, 18a and 18b. Krystle Demboski: Fredericksburg, VA

Arrowhead, bone beads, ring

An arrowhead can show how almost everyone relates back to the Native Americans, no matter what else they are. The bone beads show we are all made of the same thing. The reaper ring symbolizes that we all have one thing in common—we are all mortal.



19. Shirley J. Carlson: Spotsylvania, VA

Metal “stone” inscribed with “Miracles Happen”

“Pass it on!” This stone was given to my friend by a friend during recovery from a near-fatal car accident. My friend gave it to me during my recent struggles. I am “passing on” the positive message to the community at large. No matter whom we are or what our differences might be, we are all connected by such uplifting thoughts.



20. Resa Gibbs: Hampton, VA

Organ Donor Medallion

This medallion represents the precious gift of life and life-sustaining memories that will last forever. I hope the effort, time, and dedication that went into bringing this mosaic mural project to fruition is appreciated and realized for years to come. I believe that the energy that radiates from this wall will heal, unite, and, yes, sustain this community.



21. *Dori Eglevsky, Fredericksburg, VA

Elephant

At some early point in my life I declared my fascination with the largest living land mammal, the



elephant. How every appealing I found this animal and especially its culture to be.

This interest has reaped me a cherished collection of elephant memorabilia that range from elephant figurines and jewelry to furniture, candles, picture frames and so forth. As I walk through my home I feel blessed by the constant reminders that surround me of so many special people in my life—family and friends who have remembered me with such gifts of care and kindness.

Elephants are described as very intelligent and sensitive animals with exceptional memories and lifelong social relationships. They appear to approach human intelligence and emotion. They seem to understand about death and, in fact, engage in intense mourning and burial rituals. They communicate constantly and comfort fellow elephants in pain. They live in societies, not just mere herds. Their caring and nurturing behaviors, their commitment to family, and respect of their elder and sager leaders represent values that have always been important to me.

So it is with my valued participation in MORE, a very special group of members who promote care, concern and respect for others, that the elephant had to be my symbol. *A community structure that nurtures diversity and promotes harmony is an aspiration that I hold dear to my heart.*

Elephants are able to live in many places; however, they are mostly associated with Africa, India, and Southeast Asia, and represent different races evocative of a multicultural mission. The elephant in this mosaic has its trunk up, reflecting the late 19th century popular belief that this is a symbol of good luck!

22. Steve and Helen Schwartz: Fredericksburg, VA

Korean coins

These two Korean coins represent our two children adopted from Korea. We feel that the growing number of biracial families in America is representative of how small the world is becoming.



23. Mary Sullivan: Warrenton, VA

Rocks from the White River in Arkansas

My great-grandmother, Dessie Thomas, was a teacher in a one-room schoolhouse near the White River in Arkansas. When she married Herbert Sease in the early 1900s, she probably had no idea what she was getting herself into! The Sease Family ran one of the biggest stills in the state. In 1922, Herbert was found guilty of murder and sent to prison in Little Rock. Newspaper



reports tell of Dessie baking a file into a pan of cornbread and later smuggling a gun into the jail in an attempt to free Herbert. My great-grandfather was the first person to be executed by the electric chair in the state of Arkansas. He was buried in the school cemetery where his wife once taught.

The rocks that we have included in this mural were collected from the White River. During our childhood vacations, my sister and I would wade into the water with our grandmother and search for the smooth stones with the holes worn through the center. And now that my children are old enough, they enjoy hunting for “holy rocks” with their grandmother (Dessie and Herbert’s granddaughter).

24. *Roy E. McAfee: Fredericksburg, VA

Fishing lure

What can you put on a wall that will show what your heritage is all about? How can you encapsulate the lessons you are taught by your predecessors? The answer escaped me until my hand was once again pricked by an object that I had avoided using for many years.



At first glance, this is a dirty, bent and used fishing lure. It is. It is dirty because of the many times it was cast while my Grandfather spoke his words of wisdom to me. It is bent because Grandfather thought that things work better with a little character to them. It is used because it was used the last time my grandfather took me fishing.

I took it from my tackle box to put on the wall. It reminds me that often things of value are a little dirty; a little bent and a little used.

25. Teresa Wilson: Fredericksburg, VA

Seashell

The seashell to me represents relaxation, peace and quiet. Just sitting at the beach, or walking along the shore, listening to the waves coming to shore and daydreaming or remembering, letting your mind wander. Also it represents the beginning of a new day and the closing with each sunrise and sunset.



26. Jakob Z. Jenni: Fredericksburg, VA

Old pottery

About six years ago while working on a house at the end of Belle Plains Rd., I found this and several other pieces of pottery in the Potomac Creek. I think this was the most interesting one and this project seemed



like a good way to share it.

27. Leigh D'Lugos: Fredericksburg, VA

Glass rainbow sun catcher



For me the rainbow symbolizes a “bright” hope for both tolerance and inclusiveness of diversity in our society. The true achievement of which can never be fully realized without providing equality for all citizens.

28. Andra Faye: Woodford, VA

Blue note

I’ve submitted my stained glass “blue note” because the blue note is what defines “blues” musically, and to me, Fredericksburg & blues music are intertwined. I moved to F’burg in 1997 (from my hometown of Indianapolis, IN) to make my home closer to my band mates in Saffire–The Uppity Blues Women.



I discovered a wonderfully diverse town that welcomed me with wide–open arms, in music & art, and heart & soul. I taught myself stained glass & found that the local art community is as warm & welcoming as the music community.

I am so pleased to be part of this wonderful MOREart! project and hope that we all continue to reach out & find that our similarities are so much more important than our differences.

**29. *Dr. J. Richard Garnett Jr. and his wife, Ann
Fredericksburg, VA**

Gingerbread boy



Ann has many collections but to our family, she is probably best known for her collection and love of all things gingerbread. The entire family – and many friends!– look forward to each winter when Ann bakes her famous gingerbread boy cookies.

These cookies bring us closer to friends and family, and have done so for decades. Now our grandchildren, Joe and Sarah, carry on our family tradition.

30. “Rags” AKA Keith Boykin: Fredericksburg, VA
Skull belt buckle

When a skull is found, you know you are looking at a human.

We are all the same in this way and at this level it does not matter what your social standing, bedroom preferences, political affiliations, color, race or religion are. We are all the same.



31. Mary Ellen Wheeler: Fredericksburg, VA
Kells Triskeles glazed clay “tile”

Triskeles, associated with the Trinity, are found throughout the “Book of Kells” as decorative motifs and spiritual symbols. The 9th century manuscript, containing the four gospels of the Vulgate edition according to St. Jerome, is the richly decorated medieval treasure preserved at Trinity University, Dublin, Ireland.

It is believed to be the work of the monks at the monastery of Iona, Scotland. In 807 AD it was taken to the Monastery of Kells in Ireland for safekeeping during a series of Viking raids. It remained at Kells until the English armies of Cromwell camped out in the Monastery in 1654. The “Book of Kells” was at that time secretly removed to Dublin and soon thereafter presented to Trinity College for protection.

The *Triskeles* tile represents many aspects of my personal Irish and religious heritage. More importantly, though, I feel it represents the collaborative efforts of “warring” peoples to set aside their grievances, if only for a moment, to preserve an artistic masterpiece. Its preservation demonstrates the joint efforts of the Irish, the Scottish and the English in reverence to their common Christian heritage from the Middle Ages.



32. Carla Bailey: Fredericksburg, VA
Rock with fossil

The past didn’t go anywhere. We’re all, in whatever form we take, part of the vast, largely incomprehensible, continuum of life.



33. *Suzanne Moe: Fredericksburg, VA
Tattoo tube



Tattooing is one of the earliest forms of self-expression. It has roots in no particular society, and is found in the cultures of all people. Early skin art had many purposes: healing, protection, tribal identification, status & rites of passage. Clearly the desire to personalize one's body has characterized humanity throughout recorded history.

As a tattoo artist, I am privileged to connect with all kinds of people. I am humbled and honored by the trust bestowed upon me to transform and empower others through design.

34. Ruth Golden: Fredericksburg, VA

The lone earring—can it survive alone?

Scrambling for something to put into this beautiful wall, I stumbled upon a single earring, part of a set that I loved for years until one went missing.

Earrings are usually found in pairs, a supporting balance of beauty. What is my balance of beauty? It's all about coming to terms with the real me. Part German, part Choctaw Indian. Stubborn and ruthless. Cold and conniving. But what else am I? I'm sensitive, smart, big-hearted, funny, talented, hard working, always ready to share the wealth, and able to bring people together.

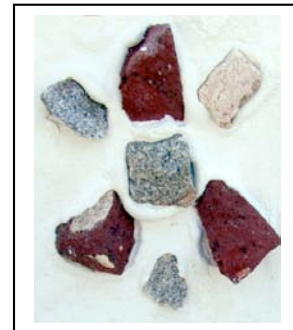
My mixed cultural background has created a roux of fine qualities mixed with strong personality traits. No longer will I be afraid of them. I will be the person I am meant to be because I am no longer afraid of standing alone.



35. City of Fredericksburg: Fredericksburg, VA *Cobblestones and bricks*

The cobblestones included in the city's donation reflect the old maritime and commerce of the city's earlier days. Some streets in the downtown area were paved with cobblestones, which some speculate served as ballast on ships that docked along the city's waterfront, once a major seaport for international trade.

Bricks used in the construction of homes and buildings in Fredericksburg were, in colonial and antebellum days, fashioned out of red clay, frequently by slaves and indentured servants. Mortar was created from ground oyster shells. Note the small twigs and other organic objects in the mortar.



36 and 36a. *Ana Chichester: **Fredericksburg, VA**

36. Cuban Flag, 36a. silver bells



36. The Cuban flag was created by Narciso Lopez in 1849, and put together by Emilia Tolon.

The colors represent the aspiration for freedom that all Cubans share: Red, white and blue. Three blue stripes represent the states into which the island was divided at that time; two white stripes imply the force and dedication of the struggle for independence; a red triangle for equality, fraternity and liberty, and the blood shed by men and women alike in the pursuit of freedom during the wars of independence of 1868 and 1895; a white five-sided star, inside the red triangle, stands as a symbol of freedom between nations.

36a. Three family mementos, silver bells that belonged to my sons when they were children. One has inscribed the name of my youngest son, Philip Henry Chichester (born 1989). The other two belonged to Daniel Chichester (born 1983) and Jay Chichester (born 1985).

37. Moe family: Reston, VA.

“Globe” glass ball



My father, Lyle Moe, was born and raised on a rural family farm in Alamo, North Dakota. My mother, Ruth Marenberg, was a city girl, born and raised in Washington, D.C., with extended family in New York. My father is Lutheran, my mother, Jewish. The love my parents share transcends boundaries, and exemplifies the value of living honestly, with integrity, and being true to one’s self.

My father’s knowledge of agriculture, and his desire to provide for his family while also allowing us to travel and see the world, led him to a career as a Foreign Service Diplomat with the United States Department of Agriculture. My mother’s brilliance and unparalleled joie-de-vivre has always been dedicated to family first.

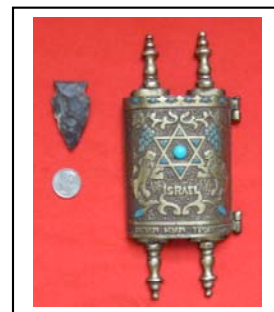
My family (Mom, Dad, brother Ken, sister Rochelle and I) has lived in several countries, including India, Nigeria, Denmark, and the USA. My father served his final post in the Philippines, before his retirement. Growing up overseas and experiencing other cultures, religions and views taught me at an early age that people are more alike than we are different.

This glass paperweight symbolizes the world, the planet we all share and dwell on as one race: human.

38 and 38a. *Suzanne Moe: Fredericksburg, VA

38. Arrowhead, 38a. Torah

38. My father’s mother (my grandmother), Aurelia Dahlke, was from a German family. Her father (my



great-grandfather) homesteaded the land in North Dakota in 1904, and there is a marker by his old stone house testifying to that.

My father's father (my grandfather), Otto Moe, was from a Norwegian family. He settled in North Dakota in 1920. The Sioux Indians once lived on the land near my father's birthplace. Many stone circles from teepees, Indian gravesites and buffalo rocks can be readily found throughout the prairie today. The arrowhead I've chosen to include in the wall comes from my grandfather Otto's personal collection, and (according to geologists), is 4,000 years old.

38a. My mother's mother (my grandmother), Sadie Breier, was from a Polish family. My mother's father (my grandfather), Philip Marenberg, was from a Russian family.

The Torah Scroll is the sacred book of the Jews . It consists of the first 5 books of Moses. The beauty of the Torah is that it can be read by rich and poor alike, dispersed or ghettoed observers.

Study is the heart of the Jewish religious practice. It provides the highest mode of worship and represents learning as an act of love. Basically, "Torah is both the arrow and the heart of Judaism"—and a beautiful representation of my heritage. The Scroll of the Torah that is included in the MOREart! wall comes from Israel, and was displayed on my grandparents' dresser for years. It honors my mother, Ruth, my uncle, Paul and my grandparents, Sadie and Philip.

39. Jeanne M. Schmidt: Fredericksburg, VA

Floral-pattern china saucer

This saucer is one piece of a twelve-piece set belonging to my Grandmother. This china was used for all our Sunday and holiday dinners over the years. It was during these dinners with family, extended family and friends that a bond and foundation of support was created for each other. My parents continued this energy by creating a wonderful family support system for their six children over the last fifty years. Today the ripple effect reaches to their children's spouses, partners, as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren just by sitting down to share a meal.



40. Kathryn Southard and Tim Butts: Welcome, MD

Horse bit



The bit represents the profound insight into the human/equine relationship. So much can be communicated to the horse with subtle pressure and unspoken cues—all through the bit. The form of the bit has changed little over the centuries in its simplicity and utilitarianism.

41. Laura Shepherd: Fredericksburg, VA

High-fired clay pieces

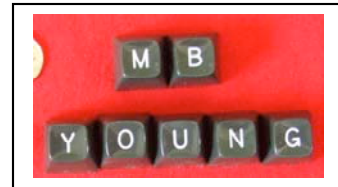
This clay was dug and worked on the other side of the earth in New Zealand. The world is small and we now have a specific piece of their earth in our wall. The world is vast and we are different ... the world is small we are the same. In very culture and religion we stand on the earth and breathe the air.



42. *Marguerite Bailey Young: Fredericksburg, VA

MB YOUNG typewriter keys

I have been an educator all my life. I have taught business at Walker-Grant High School. I have been principal at Maury Elementary School. I have been the curriculum specialist at Central Office—all in Fredericksburg City Public Schools. I have taken pride in my work and pride in my students. Many of my students have grown to be beautiful adults and have made outstanding achievements.



Obviously, I cannot write about them all, but perhaps my “crowning glory” as business teacher came in 1964. That year, I had two students who distinguished themselves in advanced typing. They could type 100 correct words per minute for five minutes—definitely no easy feat. They had it all—determination, dedication, physical dexterity, attention to accuracy and incredible endurance. After both graduated from Virginia State College (now University) in 1968, skills learned in typing carried over to their distinguished careers. One, Terry Edwards, earned honors from the White House and the Governor of New Jersey for exceptional work in Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The other, Pamela Bridgewater, is presently the U.S. Ambassador to Ghana.

I send these typing keys to symbolize not only my years of teaching, but they also represent the life skills, the “keys”, I tried to give all of my students.

43. Tina and Rick Chitwood: Locust Grove, VA

Shells

Ocean, Sea, the shore, hundreds of trips. First as a child to the Jersey shore, a family tradition.



As a young adult we ventured to the eastern beach of Ocean City, where I brought my own children for many years, enjoying much sun, more family, amusement rides, body surfing and collecting shells. We always seemed to find shell hunting one of our most important pastimes when we hit the beach. It was about who could find the biggest, or the most colorful. Shape, size and if you could hear the ocean were the most important attributes. I still have many of these shells around the house and in a few flowerbeds outside. I remember a trip to North Carolina one year. My oldest son was about 12. He had been in a heated competition with his brother that day on who was going to find the biggest conch shell. I remember Nick diving, going under the water at intervals a little too long for my comfort zone. However, he was insistent the shell was there somewhere. Low and behold he came screaming up the beach, a grin on his face a mile wide, holding the biggest shell we had ever seen. He had won, much to his brother's dismay. I still have that shell. He is almost 29 and I'll never forget the day he gave it to me on the beach, where wonderment still amazed us all.

44. Lanetta and Norman Schools: Falmouth, VA

Brass doorknob

Inside doorknob from Moncure Conway House (c. 1807). Probably from 1825–1850s period, during time Conway family was in residence. Family members of M.D. Conway and house slaves—Eliza and Dunmore Gwinn—most likely touched it many times. In July 1862, M.D. Conway accompanied over 30 family slaves to Yellow Springs, Ohio, to be free. Conway House is a designated Underground Railroad/Network to Freedom site.



45. Iretha R. Bumbrey: Fredericksburg, VA

Chauffeur's badge

This badge, dated 1927, belonged to my father, James A. Richardson, Jr., better known as Sox Richardson. He was one of the first African American cab drivers in Fredericksburg. He started driving for Hilldrup Cab Co. and later became proprietor of Richardson Taxi Service. It was located a few blocks from Roxbury Mills, at 207 Lafayette Blvd. Just across the street from the RF & P train depot. The building that he used as a cab stand was said to have been General Burnside's meat house, which was noted in a Free Lance–Star article some years ago. He had a thriving business and hired other drivers, also.

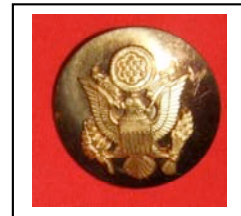


Sox drove a cab for nearly 50 years. Some people considered him a historian because he could point out various places as he drove and tell their history. He was well known and well liked throughout this community and surrounding counties. He had many regular customers and many parents relied on him to transport their Mary Washington College students to and from the train station. He was married to the late Ellen Washington and they had five children. He was the great-grandfather of Joy Cunningham, one of the participants in the Mosaic Wall Mural Project for Roxbury Mills, as well as the grandson of Xavier Richardson, who serves on the MORE board of directors.

46. Ashley McNeil: Fredericksburg, VA

Grandfather's Army pin

This is my grandfather's Army pin. He served as a medic in the 69th Armored Battalion of the Big Red One Division. He received his basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and was station at Fort Riley, Kan. He also trained at Camp Irwin, California.



47. Fredericksburg Sister City Association: Fredericksburg, VA

Pewter Medallion

Fredericksburg and Frejus, France, have been sister cities since 1980. It is a Citizens Diplomacy organization under the umbrella of Sister Cities International. The primary purpose of the organization is to link American cities to cities of similar interest throughout the world and thus promote global peace and understanding through person-to-person contact. The profound friendship between Frejus, France, and Fredericksburg is the Sister Cities movement at its best. Our primary objective is to cause the people of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and the people of similar cities of foreign nations, particularly the City of Frejus, France, to acquire a consciousness of each other, to understand one another as individuals, as members of their community, as citizens of their country, and as part of the family of nation; and to foster a continuing relationship of mutual concern with these people and communities.



48. Fredericksburg-Princes Town Sister City Association: Fredericksburg, VA

CEDIS—Ghanian currency

The CEDIS shell is the original Ghanian currency, used for trading of goods and services. This shell was discovered



during an archaeological dig at Ferry Farm, where it was on display. In December 2006, a delegation from Ghana identified it as their original currency. The CEDIS represents the relationship between the slave-holding state and the slave-trading state, as does the FPTSCA. It represents the transfer of power and wealth via human bondage. It represents the HOPE of reconciliation for each state and all of its peoples.

49 and 49a. Jean Ann Dabb: Falmouth, VA
49. Stones, 49a. Key chain fob

The key chain fob represents the 100-year anniversary of the founding of statehood for Utah—my home state. It is a state with extraordinary geology and since stone is an important material in historic mosaics, I wanted to include stone that is unique to Utah. The stone is variscite—this version of it known as Utah lite because it is the only place in the world where the mineral elements create this distinctive color.



50. Suzanne Carr Rossi: Fredericksburg, VA
Coins from around the world

After traveling to Australia at 18 years old, my eyes were opened to different cultures and I developed a better understanding of all people. Coins from Mexico, Australia, Belize, England, Bahamas, Japan and, of course, the U.S.



51. Professor Carole Garmon, University of Mary Washington, and the students of the ARTS 332: Sculpture II course
Fredericksburg, VA
Old thimble



This thimble was given out as one of many tokens during the NEO art show. The show was a fundraising event, and an interactive art “happening” that invited the viewer to participate and become a part of the art. The students chose to donate the proceeds of their show to MOREart!.

Including the thimble in the wall honors the generosity and efforts of Professor Garmon and her students, and it symbolizes the coming together of the college community and the general community, as well as the beauty of all art and spontaneous creativity.

52. Laura L. Hutchison: Spotsylvania, VA

Turtle

My maternal grandmother, Ruth Mahoney, collected turtles—statues, figurines, jewelry. As far back as I can remember, she had shelves filled with turtles, and people brought them back for her from all over the world. She lived in Massachusetts, so we only got to see her a couple times a year. When my sister and I were little, she told us how turtles were ancient creatures, and being so, were among the wisest on the planet. Though she was Irish, she often mentioned how Native Americans put great stock in the wisdom of turtles and consider them sacred.



My grandmother was diagnosed with cancer when I was in college, and her condition deteriorated rapidly. My mom, an only child, went to Massachusetts to be with her. After my grandmother died, my mom brought home boxes of the turtles. Each had been washed and wrapped in pieces of paper towel. She gave them to me. It seems my grandmother thought I'd be able to use a little extra wisdom in my life. She was right.

That was in 1991. Since then, I've added countless turtles to my grandmother's collection. People have given me turtles as gifts. They surround me on my desk at work as I write this. Over the years, I have found that I'm a lot like a turtle. I withdraw into my shell when I am threatened. I am slow-moving and deliberate sometimes. Like the turtles who live 100 years, I believe I am a survivor. Whenever I see a real turtle, I take it as a kind of message ... that my grandmother's spirit remains with me, that her wisdom flows through my veins, that I am being watched over. And I hope that I am living up to the gift she gave me.

53. Terri Mullen: Fredericksburg, VA

Creomulsion cough medicine clear glass bottle

We moved to Fredericksburg in 1989 from Long Island, N.Y. The home we bought on Franklin Street below the college was sold to us by the Carters, who built it. The house and yard were very basic and did not have much in the yard. As we began to plant our garden, we found many things. One of them was this bottle. I thought it was very cool and we later found out



that most of the topsoil in our yard was from the counties because ours was not level.

54. Paula Raudenbush: Fredericksburg, VA

Painted copper dragonfly

As a child, while fishing with my father, I became intrigued with dragonflies. This fascination persisted into adulthood and when, at about age 50, an American Indian told me the dragonfly was my spirit guide or totem, it confirmed what I must have already known. The dragonfly connects me to water and air—my second totem, the lizard, grounds me. Between the two, I feel well cared for.



55, 55a, 55b, 55c, *Debby Girvan:

Fredericksburg, VA

55. Crystal heart, 55a. Brownie pin, 55b. Canadian coins, 55c. horseshoe

55. I've had this crystal heart since I was a little girl. I loved it because of the prisms it cast and its sparkle. Now I know why my own daughters love things that sparkle and shine.

I chose it because sometimes you love things, not because they are worth a lot of money but because they are just beautiful in their own way. And I believe that all good in the world comes from love.



55a. This was my Brownie pin when I was 8 years old. As a former Brownie and Girl Scout I am happy that my own daughters have taken an interest in scouting. Our youngest daughter, McKenzie is a Brownie and our older, daughter Emme is a Girl Scout. This will be the third year as the leader for McKenzie's Brownie troop which I truly enjoy.

Girl Scouts teach young girls to be strong, smart and confident. It is one of few youth organizations that spans through hundreds of countries around the world and has survived through generations. It teaches world understanding and cultural enlightenment. I believe by learning and growing with our children, we can seek the good in others and make the world a more peaceful place to live.

55b. My husband, Ross, was born a Canadian but has since become an American citizen. This wasn't a light or easy decision but the best decision for him professionally and for our family and it was important to him to be able to vote and participate fully in other civic activities.

When I traveled to Canada for business and met my husband, the biggest surprise to me was that not all Canadians are like Americans. I was surprised at the negative impression the media and some of our busloads of loud tacky tourists leave with Canadians. I was called (affectionately, I think) a "Yank" and other unprintable nicknames by his siblings and cousins. Fortunately, my husband liked me just fine, even though he suffered more than his fair share of "Dudley Do-Right" jokes from my family. He no longer pronounces, "about" as "a-boat" and we don't call our couch a "chesterfield." But he still calls a sweatshirt a "sweater" and the occasional, "Eh" slips out. And he really likes Canadian beer—but then, so do I!

The funny thing about Canadian money is that it's not only multi-colored just like the Monopoly game but their coins have nicknames, too. A 2-Dollar coin is known in Canada as a "Toonie" and a 1-dollar coin is called a "Loonie." My husband is my best friend and I chose a "toonie" to symbolize our friendship and marriage. We could probably make good use of the "Loonie" too but I'll save that for another day.

One of the greatest bonding experiences we've had as a family as the day he was sworn in as an American. Ironically we weren't going to go to the ceremony—the entire bureaucratic ordeal made us think it would just be one more hurdle to get through. But we are so glad we went. It wasn't just the ceremony, but all the families in the room that day that moved us. We didn't know everyone's backgrounds or experiences, but we could read them on their faces.

It helped us to appreciate the good fortune, opportunities and freedoms we all share as American.

55c. Our children saved this horseshoe from their preschool days at Hazelwild—what they affectionately used to call "Farm School." It was the first school for them and the first time they were away from home. It reminds me of the day I picked up our son when he was 3 (he is now 12) with a worried look on his face he explained how one of his classmates got "nibbled" by one of the horses.

I had a serious accident on a horse when I was 10 and have been uneasy around horses ever since. Despite my past experience and that first "nibble" our entire family grew to love that school and farm and all the animals and people there.

Bringing people together sometimes requires overcoming adversity and the unexpected. It sometimes requires the will and perseverance to face challenges. I also believe this horseshoe represents luck—and who couldn't use a little of that every now and then?

56 and 56a. *Susan Garnett-Spears and her husband, Richard: Fredericksburg, VA

56. Ceramic turtle, 56a. Three dog tags

56. The ceramic turtle belonged to my grandfather, Arthur H. Schwartz. Grandpa was an industrial arts teacher at James Monroe, a sports enthusiast, and avid collector of many items, and a wonderful grandfather. He passed away when I was a freshman at VCU and it has always broken my heart that my husband Richard never met him... I am convinced they would have been *soul mates*.



Richard did have the opportunity to know and love my grandmother, Lorraine Schwartz. Since 1993 we have been blessed to live in my grandparents home nestled beneath the college in a wonderful neighborhood. We were so inspired by their marriage that we chose their anniversary as our wedding date: June 12. Our hope was that their magic would rub off on us. It has for 14 years so far!

56a. These dog tags are precious to us. We don't have children, so our animals are truly our kids. The 2001 license belonged to our beloved Lab mix, Mick, who passed in 2001. Mick loved nothing more in this world than for us to walk him downtown, particularly by the Kenmore Avenue tennis courts. If you're ever over there, follow the brick sidewalk beside it and when you're near but not-quite to the stands; you'll find a brick with his name on it. I loved him with my whole heart; I still miss him every day. And if you ever run into Richard, ask to see his keys. He still carries one of Mick's tags on his key ring.

Eddie is our current lab mix. We included his "city tag" from 2006 - which of course made him "legal" to walk around our streets - and his ID tag in case he ever got lost. Eddie may be best known for starring in the "Doggy Happy Hour" ads this spring, or for being written about in "Front Porch" magazine. At home, he's best known as an "Angel Muffin Pie," and in the neighborhood, as best buddy to Beauregard, Bailey, Buck, Poker, Blue, Sasha, Bo-Bo, and Samantha (*he gets around!*). ☺

57 and 57a. *Marceline R. Catlett: Fredericksburg, VA

57. Ceramic plaque, 57a. Blessing stone

57. Symbolizes my love for my family.



57a. Symbolizes my faith in GOD. Blessings come in many forms. Some you touch and some you feel. Let this simple little treasure remind you what is real. Each day brings new beginnings with each new hope along the way. May your life be filled with blessings as you walk your path each day.

Thank you God for the many blessings.

58. Doug Pfaff and George Cowart: Fredericksburg, VA

House numbers: 3100

These metal house numbers were the original numbers on our house in the city. The brick rambler was built in 1956 in the Normandy Village area near the Rappahannock River. We purchased the house in 2003 and have done extensive renovations and restoration. We have attempted to maintain as much of the original mid-century features and personality as possible. The house represents an important era of growth and rebirth in the Fredericksburg area and for us personally, it represents our coming together as a couple and building a future while still honoring our pasts.



In addition, our landscape design business (Foxglove Gardens) was born and nurtured in this house. We like to think that we've played an important role in the beautification of Fredericksburg through our landscape designs and installations.

This house has seen its share of struggles but more importantly has been the site of lots of love and happiness. We're hoping for many more decades of that love and happiness.

** MORE Founding Board member*

Donated items for the mosaic border come from the founding members of the Multicultural OutReach Effort (MORE), members of the youth Art Team, and from those who donated talent and time, contributed through in-kind donations, or financially sponsored the project during the months prior to the on-site installation.

About The MOREart! Downtown Community Mosaic Mural Project:

This community project was an initiative by the MORE (Multicultural OutReach Effort) organization to celebrate diversity and promote cultural and racial harmony through creative, artistic expression.

The garden theme of the design was created to complement the physical site location at Roxbury Mills Farm and Garden Center. The mural wall is 32' wide x 8" high, and is located on Jackson Street, by the back entrance to Roxbury.

Various pieces and fragments of different materials, colors, textures and cultures have been successfully combined to create a beautiful and unified mosaic mural which symbolically embodies the affirming message of MORE: to plant seeds of hope, to nurture diversity, and cultivate harmony.

Two project directors (Suzanne Moe & Andrea Shreve Taylor) met with a selected nine member multicultural Youth Art Team from February – June 2007. This core team met on a weekly basis to create and assemble pieces of the mosaic mural indoors at the Original Walker–Grant School, so they could prepare to transfer the large panels directly on to the wall during the installation week, scheduled for June.

The on-site installation of the mural took place during the week of June 18 – 22, from 9am – 3pm each day. During this time, the Youth Art Team members became responsible community leaders and instructors, with help from over 300 diverse members of the community.

The Unveiling Ceremony & Community Celebration took place on Friday, July 6th, at Roxbury Mills Farm & Garden Center. Mayor Tom Tomzak proclaimed July 6th, 2007 “MORE Day” in Fredericksburg and nearly 500 people celebrated this great community accomplishment.



MISSION: *The Multicultural OutReach Effort is an organization of advocates committed to developing a community that utilizes diversity to enrich itself and bring people together.*

VISION: *We are a catalyst to create cultural, economic and social opportunities for the*

Fredericksburg community through leadership, communication, and education.

For more information, please visit www.morefredericksburg.org.