

## WELCOME OUR NEW PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

First a big thank you to **Thomas Wagner** for his steadfast service as president for the past three years, and to **Abena Foreman-Trice** for serving faithfully as Vice President since 2020, and to **Linda Baker** for serving on the board for six years. All three have reached the end of their term limits but remain excited to see the renovations completed.



Second, please welcome the leaders who will succeed Thom and Abena. Our incoming president, **Elizabeth Respess** moved to Staunton in 2019 from Washington, D.C., where she spent her career at Arnold & Porter LLP, a \$1B international law firm with 15 offices. She served as Executive Director, overseeing all aspects of the Firm's business. In her retirement, in addition to now leading the Arcadia Project, she and her husband Howard enjoy walking through Staunton

with their dog, gardening, and the many musical, theatre, and film events our city offers

We also want to welcome our new vice president, **Nancy Ivey**. Nancy brings 33 years of expertise at Newport News Shipbuilding, where she was a program manager for two classes of fast attack submarines. Her responsibilities for multimillion dollar contract execution through financial and resource analysis and reporting will help us navigate the execution of our Industrial Revitalization Fund grant.





Third, we are happy to introduce two brand-new board members. **Cassondra Baber** is a seasoned prosecutor with a decade of experience, first as a judicial law clerk and then as Assistant State's Attorney in Baltimore City and now as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney here in Staunton. Originally from Maryland, she relocated to Virginia in 2019 and has called Staunton home since 2022. Outside of her professional life, she

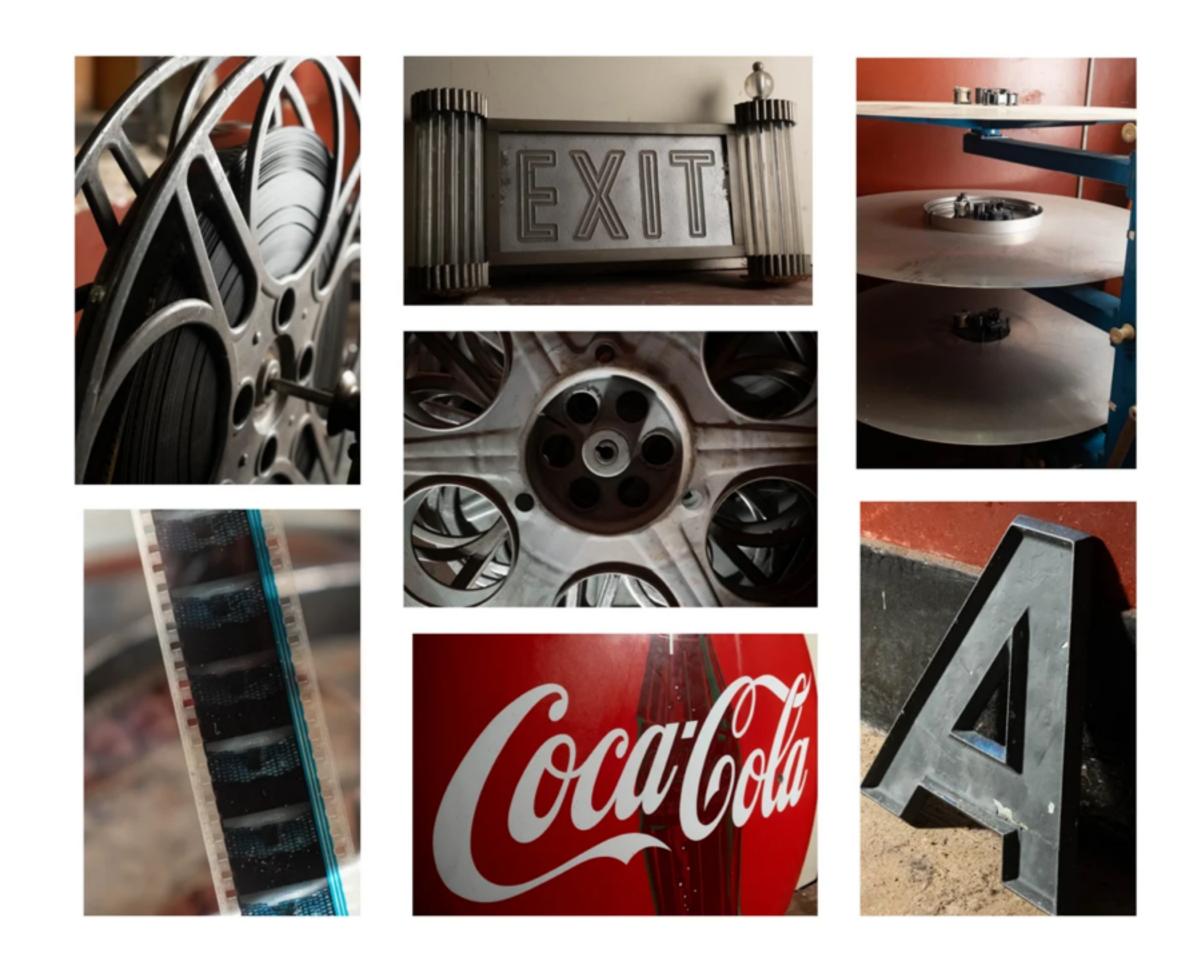


enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband, John, and their 20-month-old son, Burton, and working on restoring their historic home built in 1849.

Mary Clare Vogt brings skills from her career as an administrator and training coordinator for an environmental health and safety firm and as director of alumnae relations and fundraising in parochial school education. Now retired in Staunton, she frequently volunteers at Arcadia Project, particularly during QCMM. She and her husband, Bob, also enjoy sailing their boat, which they keep in Northern New Jersey.



## **HIDDEN TREASURE PHOTO COLLAGE**



Our intern, Carmen Kennedy, photographed some hidden treasures from the old theatre. "I was really interested in photographing the historical artifacts in the theatre, specifically the film reels," said Carmen. We agree, the artifacts evoke the fabulous styling of yesteryear and will be repurposed in our interior décor scheme!

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