

MOVIE DEBUTS

# Civil War soldiers touched by an angel

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In times of war, there are often many selfless acts by soldiers. For one soldier during the Civil War, the color of his uniform did not stop him from doing what was right.

The story of Confederate soldier Richard Rowland Kirkland is the inspiration behind the movie, "The Angel of Marye's Heights," which will be making its Central Virginia debut at Liberty on Saturday, Sept. 18 at Liberty.

According to the movie's website, www.theangelmovie.com, Kirkland's legacy came about on December 14, 1862. The night before, there had been a cease-fire between the Union and the Confederacy. During that time, the sound of rifles being fired had been substituted by the cries of wounded soldiers. The following morning, the sounds of suffering had become too much for Kirkland to bear and with the hesitant consent of his commanding officer he crossed enemy lines to help enemy wounded soldiers.

"The Angel of Marye's Heights" premiered in Fredericksburg, the site of the battle where the incident occurred, in July and received a favorable response.

"As a filmmaker one of the most exciting and pivotal moments in the public release of your film is the audience's response," writer, producer, director and editor Clint Ross said. "What I saw at the premiere was undoubtedly that people got it. We had a loud applause multiple times, especially, when I told them this was my thesis film."

At the premiere, the audience was informed that donations would be taken to cover the costs of producing a DVD for the movie. The amount of donations received was enough to cover a tenth of the cost to produce the DVD.

"This tells me that people want to have this as a collection for their personal movie



**THE REALITY OF WAR** — "The Angel of Marye's Heights," which chronicles the life of a Civil War soldier, will be screened at Liberty on Sept. 18.

libraries," Ross said. "They want to watch it again, but they also want to be part of spreading this story to the general public."

According to Ross, many tough questions are brought up in the film such as the complexity of war and the constant struggle to defy human nature.

"In the film, one of the interviewees makes a statement that, 'It's easy to think that you would risk your life for a friend, but to risk your life for an enemy is something very rare indeed,' Ross said. "That basically is the story of Richard Kirkland and the incredible message that this film offers, what do we do with our enemies both big and small? It strongly reflects what we ultimately believe and that is universally challenging."

The producers of the movie will be donating all proceeds raised from the screening to the National Civil War Chaplains Museum located on campus. The funds will be used for the daily operation of the museum. The producer, director and cast members will be at the screening to discuss the making of the video.

"It will also help the museum to purchase more

artifacts, complete its research center and undertake more research projects," Museum Director Kenny Rowlette said.

By attending the screening, both students and the community will have the opportunity to witness an act that is seldom heard of.

"It will show them that during the Civil War, what has been called the 'last gentleman's war,' men of both the North and the South were generally God-fearing men who showed compassion and mercy to each other although they fought against each other for different reasons," Rowlette said. "They will be reminded that in all circumstances and at all times it is the absolute duty of Christians to have love for their fellow men and women even their enemies."

"The Angel of Marye's Heights" will be shown at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18 in DeMoss 1113. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. For more information about the movie and the story of Richard Kirkland, visit www.theangelmovie.com.

SMITH IS A NEWS REPORTER

# ELECTION 2010

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The Republican Victory Center at the Candler's Mountain shopping center opened Thursday. U.S. Congressman Bob Goodlatte (R-6), Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli and U.S. Congress fifth congressional district candidate Robert Hurt made remarks at the opening ceremony.



CAT HEWETT

Liberty University College Republicans along with close to 100 local residents attended the event. Hurt is leading Democratic incumbent Tom Perriello in a recent WDBJ7 poll 61 percent to 35 percent.

**VICTORY CENTER** — Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli (above) and U.S. Congressional candidate Robert Hurt (R-5) (below) meet and greet locals.

Fifth District incumbent Tom Perriello (D) held a town hall meeting at Captain D's seafood restaurant. Local residents, including Vietnam veterans, questioned Perriello's voting record and other issues.



CAT HEWETT

"I think we are at the point where we can't trust our elected officials in the government," one local resident said.

The election will be Tuesday, Nov. 2.

ZOSH IS THE EDITOR IN CHIEF



MELINDA ZOSH

**TOWN HALL MEETING** — U.S. Congressman Tom Perriello (D-5) addressed constituents' concerns.

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