



Damn the Torpedoes...

Middleburg Town Council Approves Sewer Tap

Monty Tayloe

The Middleburg Town Council meeting Thursday night was dominated by discussion concerning water and sewer tap use availability fees. The council voted 4-2 to establish a separate account for water tap use availability fees on Thursday night. This account will isolate Middleburg's income from water availability fees from the rest of the money associated with town water so that those funds can be used specifically for utility improvements.

"We charge availability fees because it costs to provide capacity; we should use them to pay for expansion. That money shouldn't go for operations and maintenance," explained council member Mark Snyder, the author of the motion. The issue of separate

accounting for availability fees was not on the September meeting agenda, and there was some confusion among council members when Snyder proposed the motion during the action items phase of the meeting, immedi-

"I don't understand what the motion means, nor do I think those who voted on the motion understand what it means."

- Mayor Tim Dimos

ately after the council approved a water and sewer tap request that was on the agenda.

"Usually there are packets, agendas, discussion items . . . the council was taken by surprise by this vote," commented Mayor Tim Dimos.

Despite the lack of usual process, and with two dissenting votes, Snyder's motion passed quickly, so quickly that some council members were left unsure of what they had enacted, and it is unclear how town administrator Mike Casey and treasurer Betty Wolford will put the new resolution into effect.

"I don't understand what the motion means, nor do I think those who voted on the motion understand what it means," said Dimos.

Council members Snyder, Helen Hyre, and Bundles Murdock, who together make up the public works sub-committee of the Middleburg town council, were unconcerned about the lack of discussion regarding the water availability money. Council mem-

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Jay Hubbard

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Affordable Housing
Project in Middleburg

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Smallest Library Celebrates Big Anniversary

200 Years in Upperville

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Kerry Sheehan Chairs Loudoun Healthcare Campaign

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Middleburg Eccentric welcomes and encourages Letters to the Editor.

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Gannett Offset prints and circulates *Middleburg Eccentric* for *Middleburg Eccentric LLC*.

Middleburg Eccentric is published monthly on the 3rd Thursday by *Middleburg Eccentric LLC*.

Controlled circulation: 35,000 to Loudoun, Prince William, Fauquier & Clarke Counties.

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Lockwood takes Hanley Trophy

Clarke County's talented Tory Lockwood was awarded the Timothy C. Handley Memorial Trophy for all around excellence at Fox Chase Farm's last spring/summer season show on Sunday, August 15.

The coveted Hanley Trophy is presented each year to the rider who earns the highest number of points for the entire Spring/Summer Show Season.

Lockwood is pictured here aboard "Twist of Fate" with Joe Fargis (judge for the final show) and four members of the Hanley Family: Maureen Hanley, Eileen Hanley, Christine Hanley and Doreen Hanley Bicoy.

The recipient of the Hanley also receives a VIP trip to the Washington International Horse Show, scheduled for late October at the MCI Center in DC, and a hand-made bronze horse from the Irish Cottage's "Irish Collection."



News of Note

Virginia Lane Opens

Holly Beth Hatcher

On Friday, August 27, Kim Hart, Executive Director of the Windy Hill Foundation, hosted dedication ceremonies marking the completion of "Virginia Lane," a complex of 7 duplex housing units that now graces the western entrance to Middleburg on Route 50.

Designed by architect Bill Turnure and approved by the town's Historic Review Committee, the complex now provides modern, clean, safe, beautifully designed and affordable housing for more than 30 people, including members of our local police, fire and rescue squads.

Derek and Andrea Summers and their two little girls Kaya and Acacia May are typical new tenants. Derek works in Purcellville at the Hayes Stair Co., and Andrea is going to Northern Fairfax Community College. Before moving to Virginia Lane, they lived in a small basement apartment with only one window. Now they have 6 windows downstairs alone and a view with trees.

Derek says the reasonable rents allow him to better provide for his family, allowing Andrea to continue her education and pursue her dream of becoming a midwife, while their two little girls will enjoy new friends next door and a much safer place to live and play.

On Dedication Day, supported by the music of the Golden Tones, Windy Hill's Kim Hart expressed the Foundation's special thanks and

gratitude to all those who'd made the project possible. Virginia Gunnell contributed the 7 acres on which the project was built, one of the largest gifts of its kind in the history of Middleburg. Robert H. Smith's substantial challenge grant inspired an extraordinarily successful fund-raising effort. Congressman Frank Wolf worked hard to secure a \$325,000 federal Housing and Urban Development grant. Their efforts, and those of a list of contributors that filled some four pages in the dedication-day program, have meant that nearly \$2.6 million of the project's \$2.8 million dollar budget has already been raised.

An open-house tour of the Virginia Lane complex revealed well-designed, modern amenities tucked away inside classic, traditional exteriors.

Built to replace housing so dilapidated... it had to be demolished...

Built to replace housing so dilapidated, unsanitary and unsafe that it had to be demolished, the new duplexes feature comfortable and sun-lit rooms and safe parking facilities well off the busy Route 50 roadway. For energy efficiency as well as easy maintenance, a central heating and cooling unit for all the units is housed in a small outbuilding resembling a one-room school. An extension of the Middleburg town limits to



Jay Hubbard

include the Virginia Lane site meant that tenants can enjoy town water and sewer service, while septic drain fields are therefore unnecessary, allowing the preservation of vital wetland areas. Outdoor lighting at Virginia Lane was also designed to keep to an absolute minimum any light pollution of the Middleburg night sky.

Rents at Virginia Lane are "affordable," but different from the sliding-scale and sometimes subsidized rents in other Windy Hill Foundation projects.

Virginia Lane rents are fixed. A 1-bedroom there rents for \$450 a month; a 3-bedroom unit for \$700. Comparable housing in Middleburg can sometimes be found at \$600-\$800 per month, but rents of \$1,000 a month are more typical. Larger, 2- or 3-bedroom

apartments in Middleburg typically rent for as much as \$1,500-\$2,000 a month.

In order to qualify for a Virginia Lane rental, one must already be living or working within a 10-mile radius of Middleburg. A single tenant may qualify if they have an annual income in the \$18,000 to \$36,000 per year range. A couple may qualify if they together earn no more than \$45,000 and pay no more than 1/3 of their income for housing.

There are no rent subsidies applied to the Virginia Lane units, so they are not meant to serve the very poor. "Safe, clean, decent, rent-stable housing must be made available if people of moderate means are to focus on other aspects of their life," says Administrator Stephanie Foran. In such cases, she notes, "The Windy Hill Foundation provides help that is a hand up, not really a handout."

Indeed, Windy Hill is committed to helping residents achieve financial independence, through both education and by helping tenants build sustaining careers. The Foundation sponsors a number of Family Programs, including an after-school club, parenting and computer classes, and a summer youth camp.

Former Town Council member Mark Tate describes the Foundation's work as "... a model of affordable housing for the nation."

"There is always a waiting list at Windy Hill," says Kim Hart, "but it is still a good idea to call and put your name on it. If there are 5 people on the list and a place becomes available, 3 people may have moved out of the area."

For more information on Windy Hill and Virginia Lane, call the Foundation at 540-687-3997.



Lang Washburn



Robert H. Smith



Kim Hart and Louie Kramp



Paul Holzinger

Independence Air CEO Chairs Loudoun Health Care Capital Campaign

Minimum Goal: \$10 million

While announcing more than \$5 million in cash and pledges already raised to date, Kerry Skeen, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the new low-fare airline, Independence Air, recently accepted the chairmanship of this year's Loudoun Healthcare Capital Campaign.

An active member of the Loudoun Healthcare Board, Skeen kicked off the public phase of what's been termed the "Journey to Greatness" capital campaign with Loudoun Healthcare President and CEO Rodney Huebbers at his side. Flanked by a dedicated group of local Independence Air and Loudoun Healthcare employees on the tarmac of Washington Dulles International Airport, with a new FLYi jet as a backdrop, Skeen also announced that Independence Air is pledging 10 pairs of tickets per quarter for the current Fiscal Year (July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005) to be awarded to



charitable supporters of Loudoun Healthcare Foundation's efforts to fund healthcare expansion.

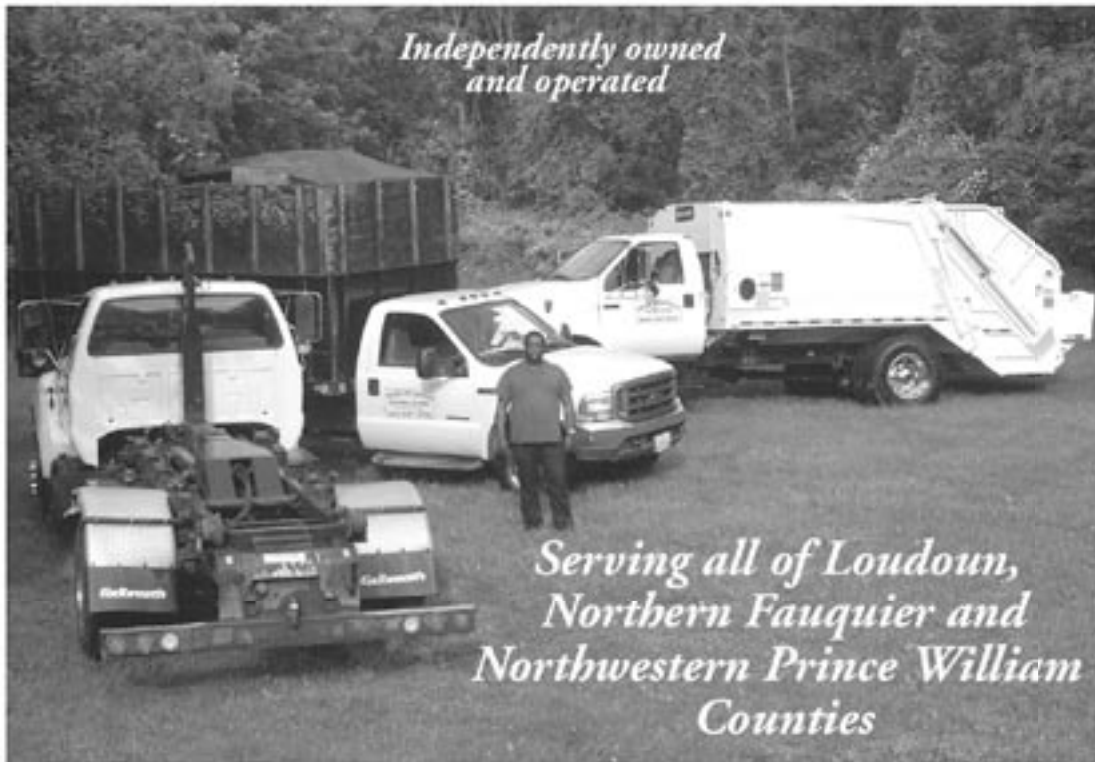
David Goldberg, Vice President for Development and Executive Director of the Loudoun Healthcare Foundation, praised the energy and commitment Mr. Skeen brings to the campaign. "Kerry generates excitement and energy in every endeavor he undertakes," observes Goldberg. "He has served on our Board

of Directors for nearly 3 years, knows the health care quality and accessibility we provide Loudoun County, and has stepped forward with Foundation Board of Trustees to lead us in the expansion of services such as cardiac, cancer and women's services. We are grateful for his vision and enthusiasm."

For more information please contact the Loudoun Healthcare Foundation at 703-771-2801

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News of Note

Smallest Library in U.S. Marks Big Anniversary

Lucy Whittle Goldstein

This month, a very small building, the Upperville Library, is celebrating a very big birthday – its two-hundredth.



Jay Hubbard

The library's annual Membership Tea will take place September 19, 2004, on the grounds of the library in recognition of this milestone.

The free festivities begin at 3 pm, when noted historian Eugene M. Scheel will speak about Upperville's past and legacy. Special guest Michael A. Smith, a direct descendant of the first occupant of

the building in 1804, will be in attendance. The library will offer a free selection of books in need of new homes, as well as a variety of sweet and savory treats. Chamber music from the Piedmont School of Music will begin at 4 pm.

Located squarely on Route 50, adjacent to Trinity Episcopal Church, the Upperville Library may appear, to cars whizzing through town on their way elsewhere, to be just another picturesque cottage built of handsome beige and white stone. But the building deserves more than a passing glance.

It is the smallest library in the United States at 12 ft by 12 ft, and it is one of the oldest, built in 1804. In addition to its long history

as a lending library, it is emerging as an important gathering spot for Upperville residents who are attracted by its dedicated staff and community-building programs.

Anne Zimmer, an Upperville resident who now volunteers at the library, has been connected to the building for most of her life. It was her aunt and great-aunt who, with

the help of other ladies, turned it into a library in 1927.

Pauper Patty

The building began its life as the office of Dr. T.W. Smith, who built it for his obstetrics practice in 1804. After Dr. Smith closed his practice in 1845, it was once used as a shelter for a woman in need. As Zimmer tells it, after the Civil War, the owners of the building allowed a freed slave, called "Pauper Patty," to sleep in the attic because she had nowhere else to go. Patty eventually died in that attic, and the town raised the money to bury her.

After that, the building was used as, among other things, a tearoom.

When the ladies of Upperville started the library in 1927, it was an immediate success. Librarians had a unique system for getting the word out about the library: they delivered books to people in their homes in baby carriages. Zimmer also recalls one librarian who had a peculiar shelving system – by the color of the book jacket.

"The library is an anachronism," Zimmer says. "We want to try to keep that going. We have no computer and no telephone. I haven't the slightest idea how many books we have. We do have a system, but it's not that tightly run."

Zimmer and Dorothy Gow, the president of the association that runs the library, believe that's what makes the Upperville Library unique. Gow says people want a sense of community, a tie to the others who live in the town. She says, "We are still a lending library, but we are turning into a historical society that is really interested in the history of the area."

Meet Your Neighbor

That's why Gow's "History Then and Now Series" at the library has spawned a program called "Meet Your Neighbor," a series of presentations by Upperville and Middleburg residents with interesting stories to tell. Presenters in this series so far have included Zimmer and her husband Fred, a writer and an artist respectively, who shared stories of their extensive travels in Asia, and Edith Fox and Helen Carr, two African-American women in their 90s who spun tales of life in hunt country when they were girls.

Several more eclectic and interesting speakers and presentations are planned for the coming months, many of which will focus on the old homes of the area.

Zimmer also heads a group of people who are writing their memoirs. The group will meet at the library twice a week beginning this month. The library also hopes

to start a book group for area residents.

Annual Dues: \$10

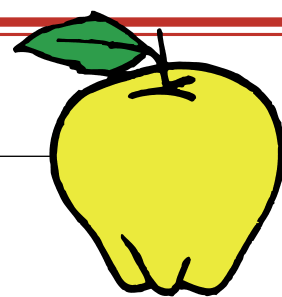
Upperville Library's annual dues are \$10. For that, members gain access to a hefty selection of books – ranging from current best-sellers to children's books to books on Virginia history – and the peace and quiet of a small-town library, where they will never be distracted by the keys of a computer or the ring of a telephone.

The library is open on Thursdays, from noon to 2:00 pm, and there is a book drop available for after-hours returns.

Anne Zimmer is confident that the library continues to be relevant to town residents.

"People are so busy that the community aspect of village life is becoming less and less," she says. "It would be nice to have a village center where people could come and enjoy themselves."

For the people of Upperville, its tiny library on the side of Route 50 is slowly but surely becoming that village center.



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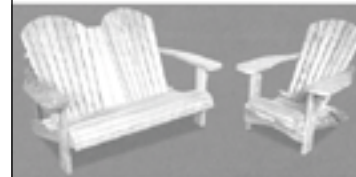
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Middleburg Baptist Joins Worldwide Movement

Beginning September 26 Middleburg Baptist Church on East Federal Street will join a worldwide network of churches, spanning some 60 Christian denominations, engaging in a modern-day revival movement based on Rick Warren's best-selling book, *The Purpose-driven Life*.

The church's "40 Days of Purpose Campaign" will use weekly sermons, devotional readings, scripture memorization, and small-group lessons to promote

what Warren has termed, "God's five purposes for people: worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and evangelism."

Warren, described by Publisher's Weekly as the pastor of a Southern Baptist mega-church in southern California with weekly attendance of more than 15,000, has sold millions of copies of his book, a follow-up to an earlier work designed primarily for pastors, *The Purpose-driven Church*.

For further information call Middleburg Baptist at 540-687-5222.

MIDDLEBURG AREA



DEERHAVEN ~ Upperville, VA

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Pam Hook, R.N. turned 50 this year.



She's in very good company.

When Pam Hook came to our hospital, it was 1976 and she was fresh out of nursing school. Today, Pam brings more than two decades of knowledge and experience to caring for patients at Loudoun Hospital Center. And she isn't the only one. Five members of her department have celebrated their fiftieth birthdays this year—with more to come. "I've known many of the people I work with for a long time," says Pam. "We really work as a team."



Loudoun Healthcare values the significant contributions that older employees bring to our family of health services. And with competitive salaries, flexible work schedules, and excellent benefits, we're proud to have been recognized this year by AARP as one

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www.loudounhealthcare.org

News of Note

Liberty Street Parking for Christmas Public Restrooms on the Way

Holly Beth Hatcher

Two of Middleburg's nagging problems are about to get some help: more downtown parking and public restrooms.

The South Liberty Street parking lot will be built on the site that was purchased several years ago for this purpose. Thirty-one paved

spaces will be available, and trees will line two sides of the lot.

A federal transportation grant of \$160,000 supplemented with the funds to be derived from parking fees and fines will cover the costs of the new parking lot.

Requests for bids are now going out now, with the goal being to open the lot in time for holiday shoppers.

Ask any shop owner what the town needs most after more parking, and they will

say, "Public Restrooms!" Because they've shouted loudly and often, this need is about to be addressed with a public/private partnership initiative.

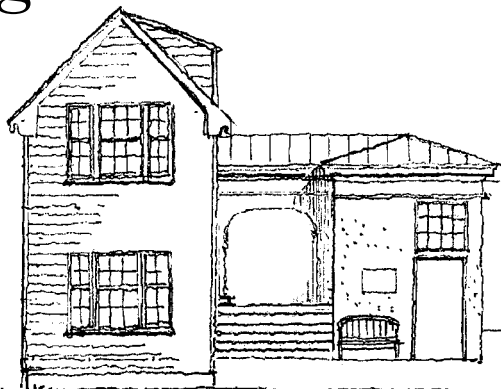
The little building next to the South Liberty Street lot will come down, and in its place two public

restrooms will be built. The new restrooms will be connected to a two-story office building with a breezeway.

The existing building's lot is being purchased by Tyler & Co. Homes, a local Class A general contracting firm, which plans to use the building for their offices, and they will build the restrooms. The town of Middleburg will provide the water and sewer tap, maintenance for the new restrooms and a sidewalk along Liberty Street.

These positive developments present village merchants with a great opportunity to spruce up the back side of Washington Street, which will now be more heavily traveled by pedestrians.

"It would be appropriate for the town, in cooperation with property owners, to identify ways these rear areas can be made more attractive, more accessible and better related to the new parking lot without compromising the delivery and trash disposal needs of the businesses," said Martha



Semmes, Main Street Loudoun Coordinator.

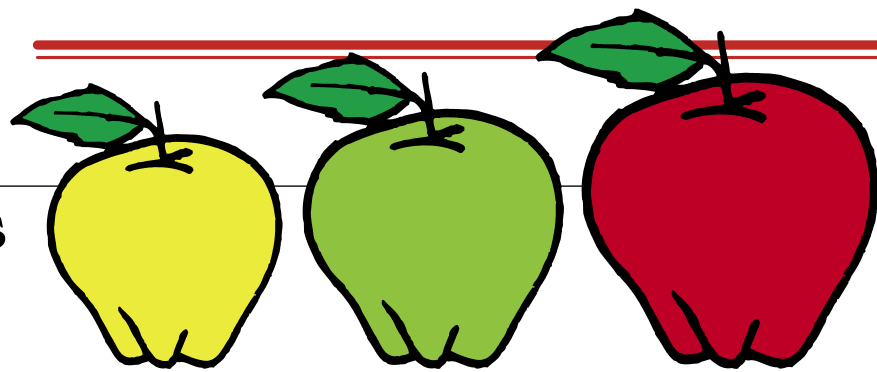
"The Loudoun County Design Cabinet, which is a volunteer group of architects and urban design professionals, could be asked by the Town to conduct a design charrette on this area to help identify solutions that would benefit the

public, the town and the property owners. The Design Cabinet has donated

its time for a number of design charrettes for Loudoun towns over the past several years."

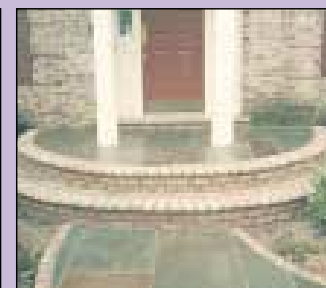
Middleburg will send letters out this month inviting property owners and

tenants to a workshop to discuss this opportunity to create a more attractive commercial sector.



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Virginia Sales Taxes Rise

Holly Beth Hatcher

On September 1st, the combined Virginia state and local sales tax rate went up more than 11%, from 4.5% to a full 5% on everything but food. A new tax on vending machine sales was pegged at 6%.

In an effort to mitigate the impact of these regressive taxes on low-income families, the combined tax on "sales of food for home consumption" remained unchanged at 3% through June 30, 2005. On July 1, 2005, the tax on food is scheduled to be reduced from 3% to 2.5%, with the goal of gradually bringing the food tax down to only 1.5% by July 1, 2007.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that state and local governments derive around 1/3 of their annual revenues from sales and use taxes, and Middleburg reportedly received around \$40,000 in 2003.

Thus, if nothing else, the sales tax provides some incentive to shop locally. Virginia sales taxes are lower than those in all its neighbor states except Maryland (5%) and North Carolina (4.5%). And shopping locally means that a portion of the tax goes into the coffers of local governments.

Some local merchants have told the Eccentric that most affluent consumers in Middleburg may not even notice the increase. For lower-income families, however, payment of an unavoidable and regressive tax eats up a considerably larger portion of total family income, and may well generate complaints.

For those who can afford to shop online, sales tax avoidance is a major motivator (in some surveys second only to "convenience" as a reason for doing so.) Catalog mail order shoppers also tend to avoid paying local sales taxes, despite legal requirements to report all such purchases and pay the tax directly to the state if the seller is not already doing so. Most purchasers, however, seem to be either unaware of the requirement, unsure of how to comply with it, or simply indifferent.

Other tax increases are also now in effect: the fee for recording deeds for land went up 150%, from 10 cents on the dollar to 25 cents; a pack of cigarettes now carries a 20-cent state tax; and a state tax exemption for utility companies has been repealed, which means that telephone and electricity rates may well be raised to compensate for its loss.

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From the Editor's Desk

Lest We Forget

Early in the morning, on the eleventh of September, Admiral Wilson "Bud" Flagg and his wife, Dee, pulled away from Daybreak Farm, just over the mountain in Clarke County, to drive to Dulles Airport. They were flying to La Vegas with a friend. Their flight number was 77.

The morning was clear. They crossed the Blue Ridge at Ashby's Gap, drove down to Paris, continuing east on Route 50 to Upperville. The traffic was noticable now, even so early in the morning, and, as usual, was moving even more slowly by the time they reached Middleburg.

They passed through the village, and no doubt, they saw it all again, without looking at any of it, for what no one knew would be the last time.

They crested the hill at the Chronicle of the Horse. They stopped at the light. Perhaps they glanced at the Red Fox Inn . . . the old Middleburg Bank building across from it . . . maybe they thought how nice it would be to stop for breakfast at the Coach Stop, but couldn't, of course. No time.

The mill and the bridge at Aldie slid past, slowly, but they were always a sign that Gilbert's Corner was near, and that Dulles was not so far now.

The traffic got worse as Route 50 widened before them, but the turn onto Route 28 wasn't far, and there was still plenty of time, an eternity almost, no need to worry.

The site of that new museum was now on their left. Who was it named after? On the right they may have noticed the fountain and eagle at EDS, but probably not. The traffic was heavy now, and one had to be careful.

No matter how often one flies, and no matter how early one starts, there's always a sense of urgency at the airport. Parking. The rush to the gate. Passing through Security. Even in those happier days . . . before.

Bud and Dee live on in the hearts and minds of those who knew them, and may the path of their last journey remind us all of the infinite value of the loved and lost.

" . . . and some there be which have no memorial; who are perished as though they had never been . . . but their name liveth forevermore"
Ecclesiasticus 44

Pentagon Memorial Fund

The Pentagon Memorial Fund is a non-profit organization established by the families of the 184 victims of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in Washington, DC.

Its mission is to provide for the construction and permanent maintenance of the Pentagon Memorial, a beautiful park located at the grounds of the attack that will provide a place for reflection, remembrance and renewal.

The fund's goal is to raise some \$30 million for the memorial project: \$17.5 million for construction of the memorial, and \$10 million to create a permanent endowment for the memorial's maintenance.

James Laychak, President of the Pentagon Memorial Fund and brother of victim David Laychak, said, "The victims of the September 11 attack in Washington, DC-our parents, children, brothers and sisters, colleagues and friends-represented a cross-section of America. They were simply going about their everyday lives, yet we lost them in a horrible tragedy. We welcome the support of people from all walks of life as we build the Pentagon Memorial as a tribute to our nation's loss and enduring spirit."

Executive committee member General Hugh Shelton, United States Army (Ret.) and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said, "The Pentagon Memorial will honor the men, women and children taken from us on that dark moment in our country's history. As a site for remembrance, reflection and renewal, the memorial is also an important gift to the families, the survivors and all those who will visit it."

For more information, or to contribute to the Pentagon Memorial Fund phone 1-800-929-4911, or contact the fund on line at www.pentagonmemorial.net.

Letters to the Editor

Freedom of the Press

To the Editor:

Along with most of Middleburg, we were appalled to read that you had received a racist threatening note.

Those of us who treasure freedom of the press, and love this little town with all its wonders and warts, find it difficult to believe that anyone who lives here and knows its people of many colors, could be responsible for such venom.

Please know that we – and everyone we know – share your dismay and stand with you in routing such ignorance and acrimony from our community.

Sincerely,
Audrey and Andrew Bergner
Middleburg, Virginia

Misguided Message

To the Editor:

What a shame that ugly racism has been introduced into the dispute over the scope of Salamander Inn. Whether the awful note you received was from a misguided opponent of Mrs Johnson's plans, or an equally misguided supporter attempting to discredit her opponents, the issue obscures the real issues of environmental protection, land use and types of desired local development. Let us all hope that all involved will ignore this nasty provocation and continue to discuss and argue this important issue as rational, well intentioned persons.

Mitch Diamond
Unison, VA



Rants and Raves

The Job: Kerry the Better Choice

In the last edition of Middleburg Eccentric, a letter to the editor asked readers to help President Bush "finish the job" by giving him their vote this November. In support of the President, the author of the letter listed a variety of policy areas in which he, the author, feels President Bush has done a fantastic job. Topics such as the current state of the nation's economy, the President's contributions to homeland defense, and the current administration's work with the environment were all discussed in glowing terms. Unfortunately, upon closer examination, the President's track record on these issues is less stellar than described in that letter. In reality, economic growth has, once again, slowed; there is a serious credibility gap between the President's rhetoric on strengthening homeland defense and what is really taking place; and the current administration's stewardship of the environment has been handed over to big business.

Looking more closely, last month's letter to the editor mentioned that "the economy is strong and getting stronger." To the contrary, I believe that things are much more mixed than that statement indicates. The truth is that as Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said recently, the "economy has hit a soft patch." The 4-percent-plus growth the nation enjoyed for four straight quarters dropped to only 3 percent in the second quarter (April-June) of this year. Then came the announcement that only 32,000 jobs were created in July. According to leading economists, that is 100,000 fewer jobs than needed to keep up with our population growth. Moreover, the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index is down 1.5% this year (a considerable drop compared to activity in 2003) and the

NASDAQ composite is off 8.2% so far in 2004. Combine these developments with the nation's growing 7.3 trillion dollar debt, an increase in the number of Americans living in poverty for the third straight year (mostly women and children), median household incomes that have stagnated, rising energy costs, the outsourcing of middle-class jobs to overseas markets, and rising health care costs, and one comes away with a more sober view of President Bush's performance on economic matters. In short, it has been less than wonderful.

As for the President's performance regarding homeland defense, one needs to only spend a little time studying the facts before they recognize that President Bush has taken Theodore Roosevelt's famous line "speak softly and carry a big stick" and changed it to "speak loudly and carry a little stick." How have I reached this conclusion? Well, first, as a Senior Fellow in National Security at the Council on Foreign Relations recently pointed out, "although the CIA has concluded that the most likely way weapons of mass destruction (WMD) would enter the United States is by sea, the federal government (led by President Bush) is spending more every three days to finance the war in Iraq than it has provided over the past three years to prop up security of all 361 U.S. commercial seaports." This fact would seem to call into question the progress of the Container Security Initiative mentioned in last month's letter. How about the Bush administration's priority of preventing the spread of WMD overseas? Sounds great in 30-second sound bites, but how about preventing their spread here at home? Unfortunately, the President's rhetoric does not reconcile with the Bush

administration's request to slash funding used to help dispose of commercially held radioactive materials (such as cesium-137 and cobalt-60), which could be used in constructing a dirty bomb here in the United States. Include those examples alongside others such as the Bush administration's neglect in securing our nation's borders and not demanding adequate federal funding for our first-responders (firemen & paramedics), and it becomes painfully evident that the President has come up short in doing all he should be doing to improve homeland defense.

The final issue contained in last month's letter encouraging readers to reelect President Bush stated that the current administration has started to make real improvements to our environment. Again, upon closer examination, this is not the case. As citizens in our democracy, we often rely on federal institutions to safeguard those things that we are incapable of protecting individually. One such area is the environment and our reliance on the Department of Interior to make decisions in the best interest of the entire nation. Unfortunately, and these are facts that can be checked, the Bush administration, and its appointees, have worked hard to eviscerate the laws that have protected our air, water, public lands, and wildlife for the past thirty years. As proponents of the "wise use" school of land management, the Bush administration has appointed numerous officials to a variety of positions within the Department of Interior and the EPA who have direct ties to our nation's agribusiness, oil, and coal industries. Apparently, the potential for a serious conflict-of-interest to arise is not important to President Bush. In addition, the Bush administration has spent the last three years suppressing

scientific data, intimidating civil servants, and providing huge tax breaks to big energy companies all the while exempting these same companies from spending all they should to protect their facilities (oil and/or nuclear) from terrorist attack. Moreover, in 2003, President Bush failed to renew an environmental tax on oil and chemical companies, allowing Superfund to go bankrupt. Is this the sort of environmental stewardship that would make Theodore Roosevelt proud? I do not think so.

For more proof, look no further than the EPA's own statement in 2003 that for the first time since the Clean Water Act was passed thirty years ago, American waterways are getting dirtier. For me, the membership of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Federation of American Scientists, and the Association of American Medical Colleges cannot all be wrong in opposing the Bush administration's practice of blocking all new federal regulations until the underlying science has passed muster in a peer-review process supervised by a Bush appointee at the Office of Management and Budget. I should mention that additional criticism of this policy has come from prominent officials who served in the Nixon, Ford, and George H. W. Bush administrations. Continue your review of President Bush's environmental policies and you also see the growing threat his decisions are causing to small-conservative farmers and fishermen across this country. Anyway you look at it; the Bush administration has sold its responsibility to protect the environment as well as the health of many citizens to some of this country's largest energy and agribusiness corporations. You would not know it by listening to Presi-

dent Bush on the stump, but take a closer look at the facts and you will find a credibility-gap between the rhetoric and reality.

In closing, I want to say that my letter is meant to provoke a closer examination of the current administration's policies during a critical time in our nation's history. Whether in strengthening our economy, making homeland defense the best it can be, or protecting the environment, the Bush administration has not done near as much good as suggested in last month's letter to the editor. Admittedly, there is no way of really knowing whether, if elected, John Kerry would be a good president. History would be the judge of that. However, we do have the last four years of the Bush administration as a guide to George W. Bush's contributions as a leader during a time of war. On the economy, homeland defense, and the environment, he has proven to be a president more interested in style than substance. I know in a day and age of reality television shows, 24-hour news coverage of the Michael Jackson, Scott Peterson, and Kobe Bryant trials, and talk-radio programs filled with half-truths, that the Bush administration benefits when the public is distracted from what is really taking place. My hope is that the American public will navigate through all the meaningless distractions, as well as the fog of war, and seriously evaluate the current administration's policies on a variety of matters. On the issues that impact us the most, it is hard to see where President Bush has earned our support to finish the job.

Sincerely,

Matthew B. Macdonald
Middleburg, VA

News of Note

Virginia Fall Races

Patricia Barraza Vos

The autumn steeplechase season is upon us. Time again to plan the tailgate picnicking, the race spectating, the paddock viewing, the "high-stakes" wagering (\$1 bets only, thank you) and all the rest of the fun that goes along with a day at the races.

Of course steeplechase is not like just any other day at the races. And the Virginia Fall Races, held at Middleburg's own Glenwood Park, are an incomparable event, steeped in local tradition and historically hosting more entries than any other fall meet.

This year marks the fiftieth running of the Virginia Fall Races, and a full schedule of activities is planned for those attending.

First and foremost, naturally, are the races themselves. While attendees of recent Fall Races may recall that National Steeplechase Association-sanctioned races were run on Saturday only, this year marks a return to the running of NSA-sanctioned races both weekend days. According to Gary Barker, Chairman of the Virginia Fall Races, "There are now so many entries, and the races ran

so late last year, that we're running sanctioned races both days."

As of press time, there are a total of 15 races slated for the meet, 7 to run on Saturday and 8 to run on Sunday, with hurdle, timber and flat races featured both days.

So how to plan your weekend? Before choosing a day to attend, why not consider going to both, keeping in mind that proceeds from the meet go to two local charities, the Loudoun Hospital Center in Leesburg and Glenwood Park itself. These two charities have long been the beneficiaries of the Virginia Fall Races, and with such a packed weekend planned for this year, the hope is to donate a meaningful amount once again.

The late Daniel C. Sands donated the 112-acre Glenwood Park to the people of Virginia, and on Saturday the annual Sands Cup will be held in his honor.

New to the card this year is the Emily North Hutchison Memorial allowance hurdle, named for the late, great horsewoman herself. The race, a \$25,000 allowance hurdle, is sponsored by a group of North Hutchison's friends and family. That purse, about triple the

figure of other races on the card, represents the efforts of those grateful to her for her efforts made on behalf of the sport for so many years.

North Hutchison was a long-time, active member of the Virginia Fall Race Committee, as well as serving on the Virginia Steeplechase Association board. It was North Hutchison who was a driving force behind the rule that forbids the use of toe grabs on shoes worn by steeplechasers. Having suffered the loss of some of her own equine athletes as a result of injuries sustained in races where horses wore toe grabs, and having witnessed many friends do so as well, North Hutchison made it her mission to ban the use of the shoes.

She was known not only for her fine string of race horses but was also one of the top show riders of her day. Shortly before her death, Hutchison was awarded the Pegasus Medal of Honor in recognition of her significant contributions to the sport of horse showing.

"Emily North Hutchison was a very forceful member," recalls



Sarah Libbey Greenhalgh

Baker. "And all for the betterment of the sport."

Races aside, plenty of other activities are slated for the weekend meet. On Saturday the Piedmont Gourmet will be sponsoring a tailgate competition, so tailgaters are encouraged to not only bring out the finery but be creative in doing so as well. Also on that day there will be a Family Fun Fair that will include a petting zoo, face painters and pony rides.

Steeplechase racing owes its history to the sport of foxhunting, and this will become very apparent on Sunday when the finals of the Field Hunter Championships of America are held at noon. The Championships are the culmination of a week-long judged competition of fieldhunters who come from across the nation to compete.

On Sunday, those who have qualified during the week of judged hunts sponsored by local Virginia hunts participate in a "mock" hunt on the Glenwood Park racecourse. At this point, judges begin narrowing the field further through a series of tests designed to indicate the suitability and skills of a horse and rider in a hunt field.

Trophies will be awarded for Field Hunter Champion, Reserve Champion, Best Turned Out, Most Suitable, and Champion of (past) Champions.

Gates open both days at 11 am; post time is 2 pm. Tickets, box seats, railside and tailgate picnic parking spaces can be purchased in advance by calling the Race Office at 540-687-5662 or by visiting the website at www.vafallraces.com. General admission is \$20.00 per car (4 people).



Bonnie Glen

Middleburg, Virginia

1915 stucco Virginia farmhouse with 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, den with wood floors, built-in bookcases and 2 fireplaces. 24 acres of open pasture make this a manageable horse property in a great location. Extensive perennial gardens, stone walls and mature trees. Bank barn, 3-car garage, large run-in shed, 6 stalls and a guest house overlooking a spring-fed pond. \$1,600,000.



Bright Prospect

The Plains, Virginia

Very private, charming, well designed home with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Master bedroom on main level. Fireplace, built-in bookcases, wood floors and full unfinished basement. Separate 2-car garage. 93 acres with beautiful landscaping and large spring-fed pond. \$1,600,000.



Windcrest Lane

Middleburg, Virginia

Log, stone, and frame house circa 1790 enlarged and updated in excellent condition. Exposed log and stone inside and out, 4+bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 3 fireplaces, lovely floors. The home is surrounded by mature landscaping and affords mountain views and privacy. Improvements include screened porch and rear flagstone terrace overlooking 4 acre pond with white sand beach, 2-stall barn with tack room and loft, 2 run in sheds, log cabin with stone fireplace and smoke house. 46.61 rolling acres, with new fencing. \$2,060,000.



Kentshire

Delaplane, Virginia

Brick and frame house on 15 rolling acres. Home built in 1988. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, and 2 car garage. Improvements include 3-stall barn and new fencing, great mountain views. \$699,000.



Waverly Hill

Middleburg, Virginia

Elegant custom colonial with stucco exterior. 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, ash floors, high ceilings, energy efficient and low maintenance. 2-car garage. 20 very private, mostly wooded acres with mountain views and frontage on Goose Creek. Minutes to Middleburg. \$2,575,000.

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It's Your Business

Understanding Your Credit Score

Sandra Costin Atkins, CPA/PFS - Helen L. Modly, CFP, CHFC, CDFIA

Planning to buy a new home? You will want to understand the credit score that lenders will be using to qualify you for a new mortgage. Your credit score is often referred to as your FICO score because it is calculated using software developed by Fair Isaac and Company. FICO scores range from 300 to 850, and the higher the better.

Why is my FICO score important?

In general, your score is an assessment of how you have managed credit in the past, and has a large impact on interest rates that lenders will offer you for a loan. Look at the different rates offered to borrowers with different FICO scores as of July 21, 2004 for a \$150,000, 30-year, fixed mortgage*.

Who determines my FICO score and how?

Any credit related transaction or inquiry you make is reported to one or more of the three major credit bureaus, TransUnion, Experian, or Equifax. They use

several factors in the calculation of your score. The three most important are: Your payment history, your payment history, and your payment history. Paying your bills on time is the single most important action you can take to build a solid credit history. If you do get into trouble, contact your lenders

history of paying on time is less risky than one with a six-month history. This can be an especially critical issue for women who find themselves "suddenly single" due to death or divorce and don't have an extensive history in their own names.

Another factor is your out-

"available limit" may help your score. Beware of opening several new accounts just before applying for a mortgage. This tactic won't usually help and will actually lower your score. Your length of time at your present residence, whether you own or rent your home and your employment history are other

choose from among several report options that include your FICO score and credit reports from one or all three of the agencies for a small fee. You can also contact each agency directly to obtain a credit report and your score. Equifax (800-685-1111), TransUnion (800-916-8800), and Experian (888-397-3742).

FICO score	Interest Rate	Monthly Payment
720-850	5.91%	\$ 891
620-670	7.72%	\$1,072
500-559	9.29%	\$1,238

*source: www.myfico.com, a division of Fair Isaac & Co.

early and often. You can repair a bad history, even a bankruptcy, but it takes time to create a track record that reflects responsible use of credit.

How long you have successfully managed credit is also a key factor in the calculation of your score. A borrower with a 20-year

standing balances in relation to your overall available credit limit. A borrower whose balance represents 95% of all available credit is more risky than a borrower whose balances equal only 20% of their available limits. HINT: don't close unused accounts if you are considering a new loan. The excess

factors considered.

Beware of firms that claim to be able to repair or improve your scores dramatically in a short period of time. This just isn't possible.

How can I find out what my FICO score is now?

Go to www.myfico.com and

Sandra Costin Atkins and Helen L. Modly are principals of Focus Financial Consultants, Ltd., in Middleburg, VA. The firm offers wealth management services, including comprehensive financial planning, fee-only investment management, and specialized divorce-related consulting. Ms. Atkins is a CPA with a specialty designation as a Personal Financial Specialist (PFS). She has been a member of the Middleburg business community for 28 years. Ms. Modly is a Certified Financial Planner, as well as a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst. She has lived in Fauquier County for 20 years.

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Photo by Jim Poston

SHOP FRIDAY EVENINGS UNTIL 9 PM BETWEEN THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS

Courtesy of The Middleburg Eccentric

Things to Do

Lisa Reagan to Perform at Rice Center Show Tunes Fill the Air

Lyric soprano Lisa Reagan will perform a two-hour concert of popular show tunes at Warrenton's Rice Theater, Highland Center for the Arts, 8 PM Sat., Oct. 2. Tenor Byron Jones of the Washington National Opera will join her in a duet of David Foster's The Prayer and Frank Peterson's Time to Say Goodbye. Also on the program will be songs from Reagan's two albums, Satori and Arcana.



"Lisa routinely packs concert halls. Hers is a voice not to be missed," says John Jennings, GRAMMY award

winner and producer for Mary Chapin Carpenter. Jennings, who will accompany Reagan on guitar during her concert, has appeared on albums by the Indigo Girls, George Jones, and Kathy Mattea, to name a few. He is currently working with Reagan on her next album, Arcana.

For information and tickets call 540-341-0381 or check www.highlandcenter-forthearts.org

67th Running of International Gold Cup

The 2004 International Gold Cup marks the 67th running of this prestigious race with all its traditional attendant events and festivities. Tickets should be ordered early. General admission car passes (admitting one vehicle and six occupants) are \$50 in advance, \$60 week of the race. For more information contact the Virginia Gold Cup Association at 540-347-1215 or order tickets online at www.vagoldcup.com

61st Annual Waterford Fair

Virginia's oldest juried crafts fair marks its sixty-first anniversary this year when the Annual Waterford "Homes Tour & Crafts Exhibit" (known locally as "The Waterford Fair") returns for a three-day run: October 1, 2 and 3 from 10 am to 5 pm daily.

World famous and a visual and artistic delight, the Homes Tour and Craft Exhibit is held each autumn in the National Historic Landmark village of Waterford. This 1733 village, founded by Quakers, offers historic homes open for tour, 160 juried heritage craftsmen with hands-on demonstrations, continuous traditional music and dance, Colonial-era militia encampments, marching fife and drum corps, Civil War re-enactors, with skirmishes throughout the weekend. Tickets at the gate are \$15 per person per day, children 12 and under are free. Advance tickets through September 30 at \$13 per person per day (ticket orders by mail, phone or email must be received by September 20).

Advance tickets may be charged by phone through the Waterford Foundation office at 540-882-3085 or 882-3018. Or send your check (please specify dates you wish to attend), along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Waterford Foundation, P.O. Box 142, Waterford, VA 20197. Or, call the Foundation office for a ticket outlet near you. Bus groups and groups of 20 or more are \$12 per person and must be booked in advance. Call the Waterford Foundation Office for group arrangements. Ticket orders by mail, phone or e-mail must be received by September 20.

Waterford is located just 45 miles northwest of Washington, DC and in close proximity to Dulles International Airport. To get there: take the Dulles Toll Road/Greenway to Leesburg, exit and follow signs for Route 7 West. Continue on Route 7 and Exit onto Route 9 West to Route 662 and follow to Waterford. Call 540-882-3085 or 882-3018 for more information or visit the web at www.waterfordva.org

Oatlands Hosts Fall Garden Demonstrations

Oatlands is featuring four lecture and garden demonstrations throughout September and October at 10 a.m:

- Thurs., Sept. 16, 2004, "Fall Pruning, Favorite Tools and Protecting Your Plantings from Deer" by Dan Bauer from The Care of Trees
- Thurs., Sept. 23, 2004, "Creating a Bird Habitat in Your Garden" by Peter Deahl
- Thurs., Oct. 7, 2004, "Forcing Bulbs and Branches" by Carol Sherman
- Thurs., Oct. 21, 2004, "Fall Arrangements for Holiday Tables" by Linda Weiner

Cost is \$15 per session, and \$10 per session for Friends of Oatlands.

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The Second Annual Middleburg Art Show

**October 2nd & 3rd, 2004
10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Middleburg Community Center, Middleburg, VA**

*Opening Night Reception
Friday, October 1st, 2004
5:00pm to 8:00pm*

The show is open to the public and admission is free. Admission to Opening Night is free for exhibitors, sponsors, and Middleburg Art League members. For everyone else, admission is \$5 per person. Enjoy refreshments, meet the artists, and preview the art before the show. For more information about the show, please call Aeron Hynes @ 540-687-8799 or email middleburgart@yahoo.com.

Spend a little time in our backyard *Middleburg, Virginia* This August and September 2004!

SEPTEMBER

September 17
Father Daughter Dance
Middleburg Community Center
Middleburg, VA

September 18
Middleburg Humane Open House
Farm Shelter
Marshall, VA

September 19
Oatlands Bridal Fair
Oatlands
Leesburg, VA

September 21~26
Middleburg Classic Horse Show
Great Meadow
The Plains, VA

September 25 & 26
13th Middleburg Horse Trials
Glenwood Park
Middleburg, VA

OCTOBER

October 1, 2 & 3
2nd Annual Middleburg Art Show
Middleburg Community Center
Middleburg, VA
October 2 & 3

Virginia Fall Race Meet
Glenwood Park
Middleburg, VA

October 2 & 3
Waterford Crafts Fair
and Homes Tour
Waterford, VA

October 16
Aldie Harvest Festival
Aldie, VA
October 16

Mystery Dinner Theater
Middleburg Community Center
Middleburg, VA
October 16 & 17
Loudoun Fall Farms Tour
Middleburg Area

October 16
International Gold Cup
Great Meadow
The Plains, VA

October 16 & 17
Oatlands Fall Antiques Show
Oatlands
Leesburg, VA



Damn the Torpedoes...

Continued From Page 1

bers Snyder and Hyre explained that the issue had already been discussed in sessions of the public works committee, although no formal report on that subject has been presented to the Middleburg town council as a whole.

"I think this will be revisited, we'll clean up the mess a month from now . . . it was ill considered to spring this on the council without normal process," said Dimos.

Route 50 Task Force

Also under discussion by the council was council member Margaret New's report on the September 7 meeting of the county board's Route 50 Task Force Sub-Group, which she attended along with town administrator Mike Casey as representatives of Middleburg. New's report presented an overview of the sub-group's meeting, primarily concerned with the 20 requests for comprehensive plan amendments, or CPAMs, which have been filed in Loudoun County. The CPAMs consist of changes to the land use for various pieces of property, generally for the purposes of building new businesses or residential communities. According to New's report, 30,000 to 40,000 additional units could be built, with most developments feeding into Route 50. The task force, chaired by Merritt Jones, is attempting to get feedback from the community and local governments about this projected rise in development, and New's report included her request that the council send Casey to the task force's future meetings to represent the interests of Middleburg. New also asked the council to pass a resolution as a gesture of support for the task force's cause.

"We need to be at the table," said New.

The council postponed a formal statement to the task force but agreed to send Casey to further meetings in order to gather more information.

"We just need to know more . . . sometimes you jump from the frying pan to the fire with these things," explained council member Eura Lewis.

Aldie Mill

The council also considered issuing a public statement concerning the Aldie Mill. The historic mill was restored and is currently operated by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF), which has proposed giving the mill to the Loudoun County Government to manage as it does several other historic sites. Mayor Dimos presented the council with a draft of a letter of support for this proposal from the Middleburg Town Council to the board of supervisors, and the council resolved to gather more information before voting to send the letter.

"The Aldie Mill is a very significant tourist asset to our area and it's certainly in our interest to support measures to ensure its vitality," said Mayor Dimos.

Other Items

The Middleburg town council unveiled a new parliamentary process at their September meeting. The new procedure is called a consent agenda, and is designed to streamline the council meetings by presenting all of the agenda items that do not require discussion or deliberation for a vote in one block unit. Any council member may remove something from the consent agenda if they feel it requires discussion or further thought. The consent agenda items for the September meeting consisted of the minutes of the last meeting and the appointment of docents for the Pink Box.

At 8:00 pm September 10, the council paused during their meeting for a moment of silence to honor all of the US soldiers currently overseas fighting. The moment of silence was suggested by members of the public attending the meeting, and was applauded by town zoning administrator Marchant Snyder, who only recently returned from operations in Afghanistan.

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News of Note

Twenty Years of Caring and Healing

Lisa Leonard

If you live in the Middleburg area and sport a set of whiskers and a tail, you probably know Jack and Janet. They are the kind people that make you feel better, and you are ever so grateful to wag your tail goodbye, too. Chances are you've known them all your life; it's even likely they were the ones who stayed up all night helping you and your littermates into this world. Your owner knows them as Dr. Jack Love and Dr. Janet McKim of the Middleburg Animal Hospital, who for 20 years have been here to heal and care for our families' pets.

Jack and Janet met while attending Ohio State Veterinary School; they graduated in 1980, and married soon afterwards. Janet's best friend happened to be living in the DC area, and after several visits, they knew this would be the place to live. They started working in the McLean area, and soon after establishing themselves began looking in

1984 for a permanent place for their practice.

That's how they found Middleburg. An existing veterinarian practice was for sale here that included both a veterinary facility and property. Best of all, as Janet put it, "We could afford it!"

Janet was pregnant with their first child when they bought the property in September, 1984, and Jack says he's always felt that there must have been some special fate involved in their finding such a special community and opportunity at that time in their lives.

They had just enough time to move in and start work; their son was born in November, 1984. From the start they were busy, seven days a week, and handling emergencies, too, because at that time there wasn't an emergency animal hospital in the entire county.

Janet, in fact, returned to work only 10 days after her son

was born. "I just brought the baby to work; there wasn't much down time in those years," she said.

Two years later Jack and Janet had their second child, and she came to work, too. As Jack said "We would trade them off in the waiting room, let clients hold the baby while we took the animals; of course, this only worked until our children got feet, then we had to find child care."

Jack and Janet's veterinary practice now focuses on small animals, dogs and cats, and – at times – wildlife, including deer, birds and the occasional turtle with a cracked shell. (Janet glues them back together.)

Love and McKim love animals. "Our policy is to do as much as we can to help any animal in need . . . animals owned by those who really can't afford to take care of them . . . and animals that, sadly, don't have homes at all," says Janet. "I think in 20 years we probably

have never put an animal down if there was any way at all that we could help it."

Excerpts from our interview:

How have you managed working 24/7 all these years?

Jack: In 1995, Janet was instrumental in starting the animal emergency hospital in Leesburg. This has been a huge relief. Part of the personality of veterinarians is that you want to take care of everything; it was a little hard to give up, but then it was hard on us to do it all the time. So it did give us a life at a time when our kids were getting into things and we could be there for them.

Janet: Also, there is a better quality of [emergency] care there, they have board certified people in emergency medicine, which is almost unheard of outside of a university; the emergency hospital is really excellent.

Do either of you have special projects that you are com-

mitted to?

Janet: We are both working towards a specialty; Jack is going to get certified in 'Ultrasonography' (the application of ultrasound technology for non-invasive internal viewing).

Jack: I just got named to the Board of Directors of the International Veterinary Ultrasound Society, and Janet has recently been certified in Chinese herbal medicine.

Janet: I've been certified in veterinary acupuncture for 12 years and in Chinese herbs for about 2 years. The Chinese have been practicing these skills for 5,000 years on people, but also they have charts for working on chickens, horses, pigs, but it was the western people that developed the charts for cats and dogs. It is interesting, now that China is starting to have dogs and cats as pets, there is bartering going on – for us trading our charts and knowledge for information from them. Veterinary acupuncture



Jay Hubbard

is amazing, how well it works when nothing else will.

Can you give me an example?

Janet: The dogs most prone to back problems are Dachshunds, or Corgis, because of their long backs. I've had 2 Dachshunds who were paralyzed and beyond surgery who are now walking because of acupuncture, and they do not have to be treated anymore. The first was about 10 years ago, the second was 3 years ago, and they are both still out on the road today. So sometimes it is really impressive, and other times it is just one more thing you can do. I blend western with eastern; I don't treat just with eastern, but with the exception of backs, I'll only use acupuncture.

They have done western studies on acupuncture, and there are 150 things we can measure through blood tests or electrically that you can modify through acupuncture points. You can

raise a white blood cell count, or lower a white blood cell count with acupuncture points, so we are proving from a scientific realm why it works.

Tell us how the Chinese herbs play a role in what you do.

Janet: I look at herbs as more like internal medicine, so I use those for a lot of chronic case. To put it into western terms they have a lot of antiviral, and antibacterial herbs, and in western medicine we are pretty limited with what we can do for viruses. I can actually do more with eastern medicine with viruses than western medicine.

Jack: Janet mentioned that acupuncture has something else to offer us, which is sort of one of our philosophies. We don't want to say (unless there is nothing else we can do) that there is nothing left for us to do; we like to give options. We do a lot of research; we also use the Internet using a veterinarian network we subscribe to, and we look

in books, and call specialists. We just don't say – if we don't know – “that is all there is”. We want to give our patients a worthy advocate board, and the best chance we can.

How do you integrate the ultrasound into your practice?

Jack: It's been incredible. Ultrasound was being widely used when I got into it about three years ago; in fact, we were using it so much that the doctor who was coming here to do it, we couldn't get him here enough. We use it a lot on urinary problems, on hearts to detect heart disease. You can pick up on things before they become a real problem and start the patient on preventive medicines. Also for abdominal masses, if I feel something in the abdomen, we can ultrasound it, and get an idea what it is hooked to. It is extremely helpful in picking up things that we would have missed otherwise, so it is a great tool.

Have you ever had people bring you aquatic creatures to heal?

Jack: We do not do aquatics.

Janet: Except for Oscar! Mr. Harmon, who owns the video store, has Oscars. They are big fish, and are really interesting because they really do interact with you, they don't just swim around. They would respond to him: he would touch them, and they appeared to enjoy it. They are almost like cats in the water. So when his Oscar got sick, because I don't know anything about aquatic medicine, what we ended up doing was calling the Baltimore Aquarium for guidance. We don't do this on a routine basis, but we talked to them and put Oscar on a type of antibiotic, and he recovered.

I guess you two do go the extra mile. What do you like about having your practice here?

Jack: The community has been great to us. The neat thing

about being in a small and stable community is that we see families and their kids grow up, all the way to college. We also see the full life track of their animals. It is nice to be there at the beginning of an animals' life, but it is also important to be there at the end too.

Janet: It is a very personal thing, so we will come to our clients' homes. It is more of a comfortable place, with family and friends around. It is just what one should do for an old friend.

The Middleburg Animal Hospital's motto is “Gentle words, capable hands, caring hearts.” The vets both have proved this true and a great deal more. Happy twentieth anniversary, Jack and Janet, and may there be many more!



Lisa Leonard

Art of Citizenship

Gorbachev Exhibit Opens at Byrne Gallery

Yuri Gorbachev, widely regarded as the brightest star in the constellation of Russian artists who came to the United States from the former USSR, will exhibit his works at Middleburg's Byrne Gallery. The artist will meet guests and patrons at the opening of his exhibit on October 11th from 5-8 pm. The show runs until Octo-

ber 31st.

Gorbachev's work reflects his great love for Russia, where he began his highly regarded career in ceramics. Twenty years later, when he began to work in oil on canvas, he received even greater acclaim.

His visits to the Far East have greatly influenced his paintings in both style and technique. New York Times writer Carey Goldberg describes Gorbachev's work as radiating a joie de vivre that acts as a tonic on all who see it.

"Gorbachev's art is uplifting not only with its beauty but with an exuberance as potent as the blooming of northern plants in summer," Goldberg wrote.

The Byrne Gallery exhibit will include paintings that have been shown at The Moscow Museum of Modern Art,



The National Fine Art Museum of the Ukraine, The Russian Museum of Kiev, The Rudana Museum of Bali and at The Joint Gorbachev/Chagall Exhibition in Prague.

Gorbachev's career has flourished in New York City,

and his solo exhibits across the U.S., in Europe, Asia and Australia have been exceptionally successful. His work is now represented in the permanent collections of the Louvre, the Kremlin Museum, the Tsarskoye Selo

{part of the Hermitage Collection, the United Nations and the White House. Many important collectors include Gorbachev's work in their collections.

Gorbachev's extensive travels during the past eight years have had a notable impact on his artistic development as his style moved from naïve to more intricate work. His use of a sophisticated technique in which gold, copper and formulated lacquers are layered over oil on canvas is described as unique and closely resembling a ceramic technique.

Rizzoli International, the prestigious art book publishers, published "The Art of Yuri Gorbachev" in 1998, an honor enjoyed by few Russian artists.

The public is welcome to attend the exhibit opening where Mr. Gorbachev will sign his recently published book.



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Health & Well Being

Auction to Benefit Special Children

Terry Sharrer

It is a fair guess that Septembers bring two things: hurricanes and fall festivals, sometimes simultaneously. Last year, "Isabel" narrowly missed the 13th annual auction that the Amish and Mennonites of Lancaster County, PA hold to benefit their medical facility, The Clinic for Special Children. By the morning of that third Saturday in September, the big blow had passed, and the sun shown again on the event that drew 1,428 registered bidders to 3,228 items (most notably quilts), and a groaning board of pork barbeque, fried chicken, soft pretzels, freshly made potato chips and strawberry pies. The "English" came from all over, as their

car license plates told. And, weather permitting, the same will take place again this September 18th, starting at 8:30 am (with quilts and major furniture pieces starting under the hammer at 11:15 am) inside the Leola Produce Auction, Brethren Church Road (off Rt. 23), Leola, PA (east of Lancaster). The most attractive feature of this event, however, is not what it is, but what it does—providing support for what may be the best medical care for difficult diseases available anywhere in the world. The contrast between "the Plain People," who typically have neither automobiles nor electricity in their homes, but have become pioneers of molecular medicine, is nothing short of dumbfounding.

"Special children" is a euphemism for those born with inherited disorders, which, in the cases of the Amish and Old Order Mennonites, have a faith basis. Both sects trace their origin to a group of religious dissenters in Switzerland who performed the first adult baptism on January 21, 1525. Marriage within the faith kept the "Anabaptists" together, though they splintered into subgroup after subgroup. Genetic disorders of the founders then became amplified among their inbred descendants. About half of the 26,500 Old Order Mennonites living in Lancaster County today share only five surnames: Martin, Zimmerman, Hoover, Nolt and Weaver. Similarly,

Zook, Yoder, Hershberger, King, Hochstetler and Miller are the most prominent family names among Lancaster's 16,000 Amish. Because of the so-called "founder effect," ten inherited diseases that present among the Old Order Mennonites are not found in the Amish; fourteen disorders of the Amish are not seen among the Mennonites. Other disorders that trace back to a time before their separation in 1711 are seen in both. In all, the Clinic for Special Children treats some eighty "inborn errors" that are rare—sometimes exceedingly rare—

Amish and Mennonite farmers erected the frame, after which they held a dinner, like the scene in "Witness." Each family brought a dish and a blessing. Already, the Plain People had their doctor—Holmes Morton, a high-school dropout from the coalfields of West Virginia, who had been a boilerman in the Navy before "talking" his way into Trinity College, graduating with a Phi Beta Kappa key, and going on to Harvard Medical School. The Plain People had met him as a clinical geneticist at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and it was to them

that he felt "a calling." When newspaper reporters—especially one from The Wall Street Journal—began to pick up on this

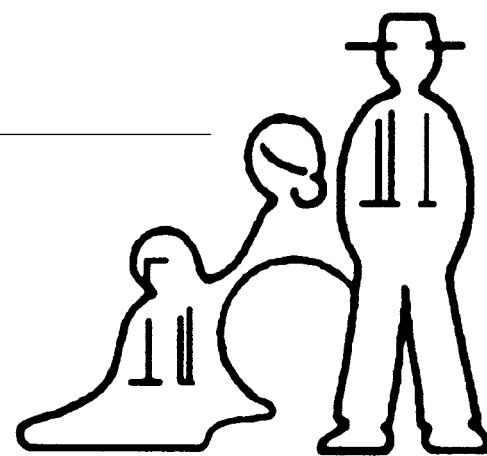
extraordinary story of a molecular country-doctor and the families who believe God sent him to save their faith, contributions came like manna from heaven. This money, along with the auction proceeds, fees for services (for example, \$35 for a genetic screening test that would cost \$600 at a major children's hospital), and contract income for genetic testing, paid for most of the "high tech" equipment that is more often found at places like Johns Hopkins or the Na-

tional Institutes of Health. The amino acid analyzer, however, was a gift from the Weaverland and Groffdale Mennonite Conferences.

What the Clinic brings to its patients not only is exemplary screening, but highly accurate diagnostics integrated into primary care, which follows the patients' health through everyday circumstances—preventing some crises and acting quickly when prevention fails. This is an important model even for patients who don't travel by horse and buggy.

There is nothing contradictory about the Old Order way of life and way the Clinic operates. Both derive from Romans 12:2: "And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." Since 1960, when geneticists from Johns Hopkins became the first "medical tourists" among the Plain People, these sects have engaged molecular medicine, prompting the Human Genome Project, as a means to a future. They are not anti-modern; they simply follow a different guiding light through the modern world.

In 1993, Dr. Morton re-



ceived the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism, and in the ceremony at The Johns Hopkins University, he said this: "Special children are people who hope to suffer less and lead fulfilled lives through the help of others. Within their families and communities they are not merely the object of compassion and love, but often are the very source. Special children shape the Amish and Mennonite cultures and inspire work such as that at the Clinic in important and forceful ways. We should not underestimate the value of their lives, however brief or however difficult. We should not assume that the Plain culture, or our own culture, would be better without them. . . if we allow them, they will teach us love." No better words express why this place exists, or what it means to the rest of us who for have to settle for medicine that far too often is less effective and more expensive.

Special children shape the Amish and Mennonite cultures and inspire work

among Americans of European ancestry today. Relevant genealogy is kept in the Clinic's database, "MennGen," of 90,000 individuals living between the 1520s and now.

The Clinic itself sits between cornfields and cow pastures, off horse-trodden Bunker Hill Road south of Strasburg, PA. Its parking lot has horse rails and water buckets, and the building looks like the work of a barn-raising because it was. On November 17, 1990, fifty



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Labor Given to Preserve Timeless Trees

Bonnie Deahl, *The Care of Trees*

Two specimen Japanese dissectum maples at Oatlands stand guard side by side next to the newly renovated greenhouse. They have grown there for over 100 years. Over the years, local tree and garden professionals have volunteered long hours to prune and preserve these trees. Certified Arborists Peter Deahl of The Pruning School and Scott Johnston of Johnston Tree Care recently spent over 15 man-hours pruning dead wood and giving character to these beloved trees. Additional time was given by Jackie Ellis, professional gardener, and also Bonnie Deahl, Certified Arborist with The Care of Trees, to open them up and lend a help-



ing hand.

Japanese dissectum (cut-leaf) maples are considered to be specimen trees and have a high value in the world of trees. They are slow-growing trees that often find places in urban landscapes. Left untouched, these trees develop a dense canopy that gives the appearance of a billowy cloud or a waterfall. When they are skillfully pruned to gently open up windows into the heart of the tree, one can see and appreciate the ethereal beauty that only nature can produce.

Both Peter and Scott talk about how tree professionals were able to enhance the beauty of these maples. The dense growth prevented the beauty of the trees' inner framework

Continued Page 23

The Maidstone Ordinary - Circa 1763

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Parents & Progeny

Notre Dame Academy Launches Fall Sports Season with Young Teams, High Hopes

Notre Dame Academy is looking forward to an interesting fall sports season, as the seven teams welcome five new coaches and many new faces to the playing fields. With the exception of the women's varsity volleyball team - which returns the entire state championship roster from last year - this fall is anticipated to be a building year for the other programs.

"We will have fun, learn a lot, and hope to get some wins," said Paige Kettering, a junior from Warrenton who is in her third year on the women's varsity tennis team. The team has first year coach Richard Simpson, a local pro, teaching them the game this year.

The women's varsity volleyball team -- last year's Virginia Independent School League Division II state champions - is excited about the opportunity to repeat.

"We are hoping to be even better than last year," said senior Ashlynn Nuckols of Upperville. She hopes for an undefeated season to top the one loss season of last year's championship run. With new coach Shelly Franko at the helm, Nuckols has high hopes of achieving her goal.

Despite losing key seniors, the mountain biking team should fare well again this year, returning a strong team that won the 24 Hours at Snow Shoe race in June and will compete in the Quantico meet in early September. Senior Charles Jones of Leesburg, a four-year member of the team, looks forward to another great season. Second year coach Jamie East is back as well, and anticipates a strong showing from the co-ed team.

Soccer and field hockey, led by first year Notre Dame Academy coaches Bill Moravek and Kenneth Humphreys respectively, will benefit from an outpouring of freshman interest and enthusiasm.

"Even though our team is young, our coach has high goals, and we look forward to the challenge," said Liz Ritonina, a junior from Leesburg and third year player.

Men's Varsity Soccer senior Dana Scobey of Round Hill says that the team should be competitive and that it's nice to have the new faces and excitement on the team. Coach Moravek led the Notre Dame Academy women's varsity soccer team last spring in his first coaching position at the school.



Caption: From left to Right - Back: Nick Grillo '05, Ashlynn Nuckols '05, Paige Kettering '06, Charles Jones '05, Dana Scobey '05; Front from left: Liz Ritonina '06 and Taylor Gilmore '05.

The golf team, like the other fall sports teams, has also drawn the attention of many new students. Senior player Nick Grillo of Ashburn and first year coach Brett Oliver of Stoneleigh Golf Club in Round Hill will lead the young group.

One reason for the consistent interest and influx of new faces on Notre Dame Academy sports teams is the athletic department's "open

door" policy.

"If students want to learn a sport and be part of a team they can do that at Notre Dame Academy," said school athletic director Michael Lockhart. "We value sports participation

as essential to the overall education and development of these young people. They each have something to contribute."

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Our Earth

Labor Given to Preserve Timeless Trees

Continued From Page 21

from shining through. It is hard to believe that there may have once been discussion to move or even remove these trees. Peter, co-founder of The Pruning School, has taught several classes on how to prune Japanese maples in particular. "Once you prune little windows into these trees, you can begin to see the trunk and intricate branching structure that is so characteristic of Japanese maples. Maples have a characteristic pattern of growth that must be thinned out for the health of the trees." When trees age, they take on a character all their own. Except for removing deadwood, light thinning is usually all that is necessary. A thin layer of mulch, preferably

wood chips placed out beyond the drip line, is also needed to showcase these trees.

The recent renovation of the greenhouse at Oatlands was done using wood from trees at Oatlands lost in past storms. The wood was milled into hardwood flooring and was used as the base of the front of the greenhouse. Says Oatlands Director David Boyce, "The goal of the restoration is to once again return the greenhouse to working condition, which will make it the oldest working greenhouse in this country!" The twin maples that have endured many years unmarred by the passage of time add to its legacy.

If you have not visited

Oatlands, take some time to tour the mansion, and walk through the extensive gardens. Among the other trees of note besides the two maples are two large Blue Atlas Cedars, perhaps the largest Ginkgo in the state (near the greenhouse), a Golden Larch tree, and a towering English Oak, to name a few...did I mention the boxwoods too?

By giving their time to preserve these trees, the tree-care professionals have a common goal of doing what they truly love. The best thing is that their effort is a labor of love to



preserve these living legacies. They all consider the giving of their time as well worth the spirit of the project. There are some places we go that have a

life all their own. I would do anything to drop what I am doing no matter what and be a part of it.



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Pastimes

Newton's Apple Dessert

Sweet Revenge

Susan Williams

The apple has enjoyed a long and storied role in the development of human society. We are all familiar with the apple as the object of the temptation of Adam by Eve. A lesser-known tale is the origin of the apple desert, which I describe below, and is attributed to Mrs. Isaac Newton, the wife of the famed English scientist of the 17th century.

I shall enlighten you with a brief synopsis of the story: In 1666, Isaac Newton was, according to local legend, taking a nap under a tree when a large apple dropped onto his head. Isaac arose, holding his head and muttered, in his best Latin, "gravis", meaning "heavy", which undoubtedly was true. As an aside, it should be noted that, at that moment, passing in the lane, was a member of the Royal Physical Society of England, who misinterpreted Newton's utterance as "gravity", and immediately assumed that Newton had just discovered the origin of celestial mechanics, the concept of gravitation. But I digress.

Upon hearing the commotion in the orchard, Mrs. Newton did

what every housewife would do in this circumstance, ignored her injured husband and searched for the fallen apple. Finding the apple, she was irritated that Isaac's cranium had left a bruise, which made it unsuitable for sale at the local market. However, being both frugal and inventive, she took a knife and sliced the apple, removing bruised section, and with some condiments she had in the Newton kitchen, concocted the following, legendary recipe:

Newton's Apple Dessert:

8 apples*
2 cups sugar
2 cups flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 1/2 teaspoon salt
2 eggs
2/3 cup melted butter
Cinnamon
Vanilla ice cream

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Peel and slice apples, then transfer them to a 9 x 13 inch baking dish. Set aside.

Sift together sugar, flour, bak-

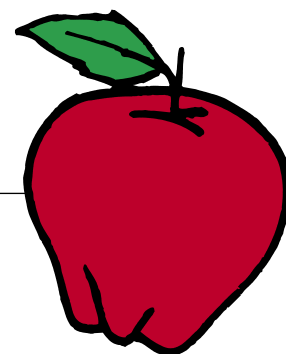
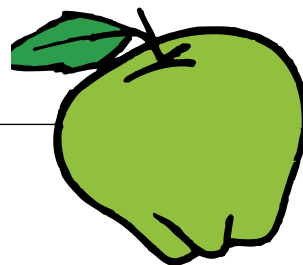
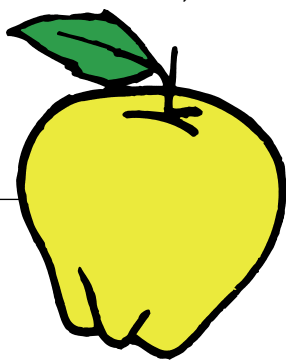
ing powder and salt into a large bowl. Work in eggs until mixture looks like a crumb topping. Sprinkle mixture evenly over apples. Pour melted butter over mixture and sprinkle with cinnamon.

Bake until apples are bubbling and topping is golden, about 40 to 45 minutes. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream. Serves 8

*Any variety of apple, or combinations varieties work with this recipe.

Author's note: I have nearly exhausted my meager recipe file. My remaining recipes are entitled: "Hot Dogs Provencal" and "Squirrel Tartare with Bud Light", the latter contributed by my game-hunter husband.

With the Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, and New Year's holiday celebrations coming soon, I would, seriously, appreciate your favorite family recipes for this column. Please send your recipes with any real or, since we are in the political season, grossly exaggerated stories about them, to me at: Sweetrevenge@mbec.com



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Join Us

Roving Roaster Secrets

From Behind the Stove

Brian Lichorowic

As we know, the best recipes are exchanged virally – spread by word of mouth. Similar to that hair shampoo commercial of yesteryear depicting a handsome, young woman touting how beautiful the shampoo made her hair, she was forced to share her secret with others by “telling her two friends, who then told their two friends, and so on and so on...”

Allow me to share my secret chicken roaster recipes with you – uncommonly good recipes that have been tweaked and adjusted to yield the moistest of flesh, the freshest of ingredients and a peaceful calm that settles at the table because the dishes are so good no one is talking!

Mind you, these recipes are not your typical chicken recipes. They seem whacked but are truly delicious. Consider this a practice run for the soon-to-be-unveiled Thanksgiving turkey, a larger version of the roaster, if you will. I like to think of the roaster like a turkey that was put in clothes dryer – shrunken by the heat.

Each of these recipes cooks better in an oven with a convection setting. The circulating heat allows for more even cooking at a lower temperature. As always, most of the fresh ingredients are available at our farmer's market and local vendors.

Chicken in Heavy Cream over Haricots Verts

There should be a health warning on this dish! Jamie Oliver has to get base credit for this, but I did make a few modifications that make this beyond “South Beach friendly.”

1 young roaster chicken, rinsed
6 lemons, cut in halves
1 cup or 2 good bunches of fresh sage
1 quart of heavy cream
1/2 to 1 lb Gruyere cheese
2 lbs green beans (haricots verts)

Use a good-sized pot or dutch oven (something that is oven safe and can hold a whole chicken). Place the chicken in the pot. Squeeze and rub the lemons over the chicken, then put the lemons into the cavity. Do the same with the sage – squeeze and grind it up in your hands and rub it all over

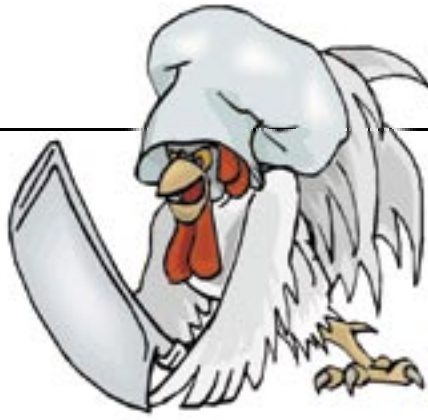
the chicken. Shove the leaves and stems into the cavity.

Fill the pot 1/3 of the way with the cream (just enough to cover the thighs).

The trick here is slow cooking. Set your oven to the convection setting at 350°. Place in the oven for the better part of one hour. When the chicken is done (use a meat thermometer) remove it from the pot and set aside. In your pot you should have a mixture that looks like loose cottage cheese. This is the result from the citric acid from the lemon which reacts with the cream to create a loose cheese.

Place the pot on the stove on low heat and drop in the Gruyere cheese. Use a whisk and blend it for 5 minutes. It will solidify and thicken the more you whisk. If you like it thicker and creamier, by all means, add more Gruyere. When you're done, you should basically have lemon/sage flavored string cheese. It's a gift from God.

Steam lightly a bunch of haricots verts. Slice a chicken portion and place on top of the haricots verts. Scoop/heap/drizzle,



whatever moves you, some of the cheese mixture over it. Sit back, enjoy and feel your arteries clogging. Makes 6 servings.

Fallen Down Drunk Brew Butt Chicken

If you're new to the concept of the Beer or Brew Butt Chicken you can learn more about it here: <http://usadeepsouth.ms11.net/beerchicken.html>

As simple as the concept is, you'd be surprised to learn that a good Beer or Brew Butt Chicken requires some experience. It's harder than it looks. Over the years, I've discovered that some of the best Brew Butt fans are the BBQ set – the folks that do biker/motorcycle runs and events. These guys and gals are the pros! I've heard all of the feedback one could get on the subject regarding various techniques, mini theses on the right spices, and which beer brands work best.

Continued Page 26



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Pastimes

Roving Roaster Secrets

Continued From Page 25

Although BBQ grills are probably where this dish originated, I think a convection oven works best. This recipe will yield a chicken outlandishly moist.

Two important things to remember: 1) You have to get the beer to temperature without boiling it, so slow cooking is a must; and 2) You have to use a good dark beer. Don't use Guinness. You don't cook with Guinness. You drink Guinness. Also, inside a Guinness can is an apparatus that keeps it draft fresh...avoid this, as it could create a problem with high heat.

- 1 young roaster chicken
- 1 can of dark beer with can, room temperature (I use an Amber Bock)
- 4 cloves of garlic, crushed

Open the can and then punch 2 more dime-sized holes in the top of the can. Leave the can 3/4 full of beer (go ahead and have a sip for inspiration). Crush the garlic cloves, drop them into the open beer can, and insert it open end first into the chicken cavity. Sit the chicken up on the can in a roasting pan to capture the juices.

If the legs are placed forward, the chicken will usually sit right up on the can without any help needed. If help is needed to keep it straight, prop with oven-safe cups/saucers. Cook at 350° for 45 minutes, then tip it over on its belly. Cook for 10 more minutes, then flip it over on its back for another 10 minutes or until the meat is cooked. It should be pretty close to finished when you can twist the leg bone (bikers don't use thermometers).

Serve with some mashed potatoes and fresh corn on the cob. Makes 6 servings.

Butter & Parsley Chicken Lather

One chicken and two other ingredients – it can't get easier than this and it's tasty! Simple and classic.

If you know how to butterfly the bird, this is a great recipe for that. Lay flat on roasting pan. (It also works fine if the roaster is kept whole.) Again, slow cooking is a must so that the butter will not burn.

- 1 young roaster chicken
- 1/2 pound butter (Amish,

- English or European), room temperature
- 2 cups flat leaf parsley, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste

In a bowl, blend the chopped parsley and butter. Add a few good pinches of sea salt and cracked black pepper.

Push the butter under the skin of the chicken, particularly around the breasts. Lather the outside of the bird with the mixture as well. Place in a baking pan.

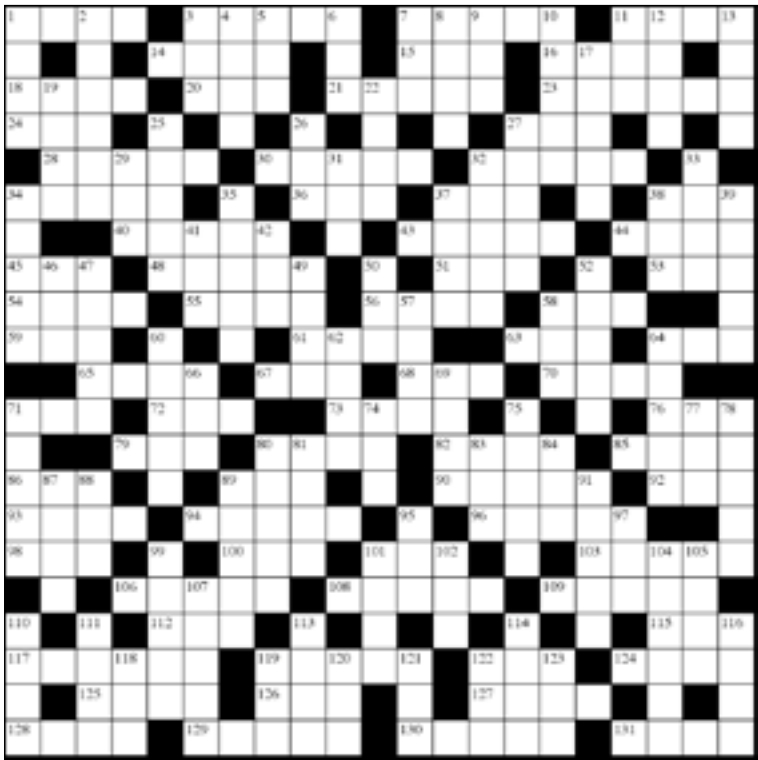
Cook at 325°, check it after 90 minutes, and then check it every 10 minutes or until done. If you can twist the leg bone, it's ready. The bird will be golden brown and moist. Ready to go right to your table with any side dishes you desire.

Makes 6 servings (or just 1 for some).

Serving suggestion – Let it cool and pick at it with your fingers during an entire Redskins game. Simple pleasures.

Comments or Catastrophes behindthestove@mbec.com

September Crossword



- ACROSS
- 1 Naive person

3 Single stem

7 Pierces with horn

11 Reflected sound

14 Male offsprings

15 1

16 Bone of the forearm

18 Beehive

20 Light meal

21 Juice of the rubber tree

23 Monetary unit of Spain

24 Atmosphere

27 Brassiere

28 Woody vines

30 Arab chief

32 Delineation

34 Explosion

36 10th letter of the Hebrew alphabet

37 Legendary emperor of China

38 Block up

40 Metal spike used by mountaineers

43 One of the Leeward Islands

44 Mentor

45 Move from side to side

48 Strange and mysterious

51 Sesame plant

53 Indian dish

54 Beige

55 Vale

56 Way out

58 Wily

59 Meadow

61 Former name of Thailand

63 As being

64 Sparse fluid

65 Deprived of the sense of hearing

67 Debutante

68 Upper limb

70 Sicilian volcano

71 Stimulus

72 Color

73 Scottish Gaelic

76 Legal science

79 Captive soldier

80 Cab

82 Soon

85 8th letter of the Hebrew alphabet

86 Petroleum

89 Sorrowful

90 One of the United Arab Emirates

92 Perceive with the eyes

93 Hip bones

94 Having jaws

96 Daughter of one's brother or sister

98 Corded cloth

100 Tavern

101 Long-sleeved linen vestment

103 Hipbone

106 Short and fat

108 Leers

109 Pungent bulb

112 Seed of a legume

115 Decease

117 Flowering shrub of the genus Rhododendron

119 Rouse from sleep

122 Belonging to us

124 Short letter

125 Wagon

126 Malt beverage

127 Legume

128 An alcoholic

129 Sturdy

130 Untidy

131 Egyptian goddess of fertility

34 The intestine

35 Made a hole

37 Abominable snowman

38 A failure

39 Hybrids

41 Spread out for drying

42 Naught

46 Very skilled person

47 Class

49 Otherwise

50 New Zealand parrot

52 Winged

57 Christmas

58 Bring civil action against

60 Brother of Moses

62 Mountain goat

64 Strong winds

66 Not many

69 Peruse

71 Church singers

74 Manipulate

75 Perchlike game fish

77 Consumed

78 Engulf

80 Yellowish brown color

81 Capital of Yemen

83 Convent dweller

84 Not

87 Holly

88 Edge

89 Goatlike antelope

91 Frosting

95 Entirely

97 Biblical high priest

99 Hard drinker

101 Malarial fever

102 Ten decibels

104 Pertaining to iodine

105 Single entity

107 End of life

110 Soft lambskin leather

111 Very bad

113 Having little hair

114 Goes to law

116 Long fish

118 Put Down

119 Armed conflict

120 Lock opener

121 Vietnam

122 Observation

123 Narrow beam of light

123 Falsehood
- DOWN
- 1 US space agency

2 Spain and Portugal

3 Having a high temperature

4 Once more

5 North American nation

6 Honey

7 Obtained

8 Singles

9 King

10 Above

11 Abstract being

12 City in NW France

13 Gemstone

17 Covered with leaves

19 Slay

22 Sour

25 Undo

26 Bashful

27 Grill

29 Viper

31 Long period of time

32 Life-boat lowering device

33 Monetary unit of Yugoslavia

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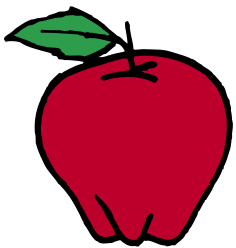
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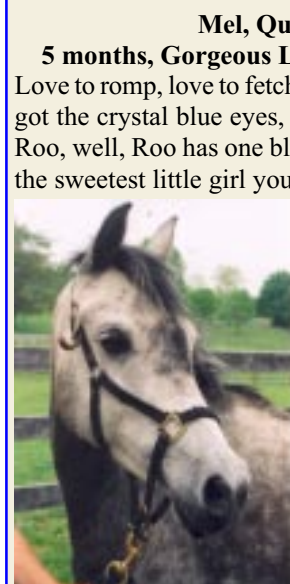
Freckles
3 months, Funny Beagle/ Spaniel cross, spayed female
OK, what's up? My brothers and sisters have all left and here I am. I thought I was smart to sit politely and look up into people's faces but maybe I should have jumped around a little more! Please come meet me. I promise to leave a paw print on your heart.



Nikko
3 year old, gentle Cattle Dog cross, neutered male
Please give me a chance. I have been here at the shelter for a year now and I really want to go home. I don't understand why no one wants me. I can sit and shake. I walk calmly on a leash. I give gentle kisses and hugs. I am everyone's best friend, but that doesn't seem to be enough. Don't take it personally if I'm a little shy when we first meet, I had a hard beginning. Please give me a chance.



Cleopatra
10 week old, Hilarious Hound mix, female
Me and my sister, Clementine, were abandoned at a live-stock sale barn. It's hard to be little puppies on your own in this big scary world! We are so happy to be here at the shelter with lots of friends to play with but our dream is to have our very own family to love with a big fenced yard!



Mel, Quigley, and Roo
5 months, Gorgeous Lab crosses, 2 male, 1 female
Love to romp, love to fetch, love the water, love you! Mel's got the crystal blue eyes, Quigley's got a great smile, and Roo, well, Roo has one blue and one brown eye and is just the sweetest little girl you could ever ask for!

Maizey
5 year old, Attractive dappled grey Arabian cross, 13 H pony mare
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Sidney's Pup

Sydney
2-3 year old Super special Lab cross, neutered male
My puppies and I were dumped on a country road. I used my head to protect my puppies from a bad person who threw a caustic material at us. Please remember that beauty is only skin deep. I'm the perfect example of why they say dogs are man's best friend. My scars will always be present but my bad memories have faded and my spirits are high.



Sidney

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- * Shelter tours*



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- * Baked goodies, Ice cream* and . . .
- * The Reunion of Janey, her 10 pups, and their new human families at 1:00pm*

A wonderful family day in the country

Albert's Corner

A monthly column for people who share Their homes with four-legged friends.



Sometimes the job of a world-class canine journalist can be quite demanding. This arti-

cle, for instance, required months of testing and learning about various toys. (Some dog had to do it.) The results are in, and I'm prepared to offer my thoughts on things that can make a dog's life a little more fun and interesting.

Let's begin by discussing my favorite category: toys that squeak. Unfortunately, because I'm a typical terrier, I love to find the squeaker, pull it out, and make sure it never squeaks again. For this reason, my people always supervise me when I play with my favorite soft and squeaky toys. Apparently, I could swallow the squeaker and end up risking my life. I would never do such a thing, but I can't seem to convince my people otherwise. If you have a dog like me who loves to tear his toys apart, it's best to use a lot of caution. Keep an eye on your dog when he's playing with this type of toy and throw the toy away when it begins to fall apart. There are, however, some soft and squeaky toys that do not pose as big of a threat to chewers. These toys, made by Material Dog, have removable and replaceable squeakers that can be taken out when a dog is going to be alone.

There are many other terrific toys available, some of which have just entered the marketplace. A new line of durable chew toys from West Paw Design offers products made of indestructible material that come with a guarantee. If your dog destroys the toy, you can send it back to the manufacturer for a free replacement! Premier has also introduced a line of durable toys with a variety of functions – some are designed with grooves to make chewing more satisfying, some dispense treats, and some make interesting noises. Whole Dog Journal likes these toys a lot, giving some of them an enthusiastic "4 Paws" rating. Planet Dog also offers a line of highly durable toys called Or-

bee balls, bones, and discs. These unusual toys are some of the longest-lasting and safest. Of course, there are also Kongs – the highly durable rubber toys that have become a staple in millions of dog homes around the country.

To keep your dog interested in his toys, it's a good idea to rotate them. Keep a small selection available at any given time, and introduce "new" toys each week. The available toys should have different purposes – an interactive toy, a ball, and a chew toy, for instance. (If your dog has a comfort toy that he always carries gently and babies, however, you should leave that toy out for him at all times.) It's also a good idea to play hide and seek with your dog when rotating toys, allowing him to "find" the new toys with your help. Found toys are always a little more intriguing than toys that are handed to a dog.

Whether you are buying toys or fashioning them out of household items like tennis balls, the most important things to consider are safety and appropriateness. A toy should never be small enough to fit entirely in a dog's mouth. Balls that are too small can become lodged in a pet's throat during a routine game of fetch. Also, toys should not have parts that can break, fall off, or be quickly ingested. The safest way to choose toys is to buy products intended for dogs and manufactured by responsible companies. The safest way to use toys is to keep a constant watchful eye on their condition. While it is unfortunate, the very nature of the way most dogs play means that most toys have a limited life.

So that's what I've learned. As I said, doing the research for this article took a lot out of me. I'm extremely tired from so much play! Perhaps I'll end for now and get down to the grueling business of testing dog beds. A dog's work is never done.

Albert, a Jack Russell Terrier, is Chairman of the Board of Wylie Wagg, a shop for dogs, cats, and their people, in Middleburg.

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All Work for our Pleasure



Lou Lou's New in Town

Steven Schwartz

On August 14th, a new women's clothing shop opened on South Madison Street in Middleburg. Named Lou Lou, it is a boutique owned by Tara Wegdam and managed by Barbara Riddleberger, two very familiar names in Middleburg's retail community.

Barbara, a five year employee, formerly managed the Creme de la Creme store in the same location. "So many of my loyal customers couldn't wait for the new dress shop to open."

The store is one of many in Tara's family, her great-grandparents opened their first store in the 1800's, where they sold hats and women's clothing in the little town of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Taking over the space from Creme de la Creme, Tara had to come up with a name but felt it would be too confusing to call the store the "French Shoppe", the name of her family's store, so she and Barbara came up with the name Lou Lou.

The store features Italian leather jackets, jeans and cotton sweaters, cocktail dresses, knit ponchos, accessories - all with a contemporary flair unique to Middleburg. "We carry



sizes from 0 to 18," says Barbara, "Our goal is to provide the local market with a wide selection at reasonable prices - we have Leather jackets for \$180, ponchos for \$30, suede pants for \$120; even a boucle jacket and pants suit for only \$150.00!"

"We even see mothers come in with their teenage daughters," says Tara, "they appreciate being able to find clothes here in town that their girls want to wear without making a trip to the mall." "We're constantly getting new merchandise, so a lot of people are constantly popping in to check on what's new."

Barbara adds, "We want people to feel comfortable and relaxed, to come in and try anything on without worrying about messing up the changing rooms. We've even had several impromptu dress-up parties where customers are trying everything on and getting feedback from complete strangers. It's a lot of fun."



Steven Schwartz

Lou Lou
17 S. Madison St.
Middleburg, Va 20117
540-687-8702

Mon - Fri 10:00 - 5:30
Sat - 10:00 - 6:00
Sun - 12:00 - 5:30



Save The Date
Saturday, October 16, 2004
Murder Mystery Dinner
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Call 540-687-6373 for Reservations



Art Within Reach

Steven Schwartz

One of the rewards for taking a stroll off Middleburg's main drag is to discover The Studio at 17 West Federal Street. The gallery is a vibrant, inviting space filled with the current (through September) art show of beautiful fine art photography. The Studio's owner is Franny Kansteiner, who immediately brings out a large, bright, dynamic painting of an African baobab tree. "My husband Walter and I share a deep love of Africa, wildlife, and conservation, and often the art in the gallery reflects those passions."

Two years ago Franny and Valli Arader opened their gallery as a place to study the arts, so they named it The Studio. They have 8 - 10 shows a year coupled with lectures, workshops, play and book readings, and film and salsa dance workshops. One such upcoming event is a short story reading by John Rolfe Gardiner on October 1st.

"Seeing all the talented artists in Virginia who need a place to showcase their work, we made a conscious decision to focus on contemporary art; and to offer styles a little outside of what people expect to see in Middleburg. Our goal is to provide a place that's lively and interesting, and to find ways to help connect people to the arts and this community."

In a corner a soft coated Wheaton terrier changes position and goes back to sleep. "That's Clara," Franny laughs, "She's the hardest working dog in America."

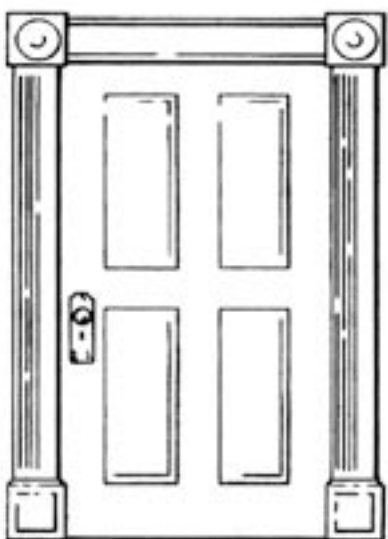
"In addition to selecting museum quality art, we make sure our shows have all price levels. Some of our paintings sell for thousands of dollars, but if you are a collector just starting out, you'll find pieces that sell in the hundreds." In addition to fine art, you can find unique gift items as well.

For those who seek the unique, The Studio combines a great atmosphere, interesting artist workshops, and a range of prices to bring art within reach.



The Studio
17 West Federal Street
Middleburg, Virginia 20118
540-687-3131
fkstudio@crosslink.net

Monday - Saturday 10:00 - 4:00
Closed Tuesdays and Sundays



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WHIRLWIND FARM



Well designed traditional stucco house on 56 acres ♦Elaborate 1st floor master suite w/his & her baths ♦3 BR's all w/adjoining Baths ♦Family room w/FP off well appointed kitchen ♦Solarium ♦Formal sitting room w/French doors leading to pool & terrace ♦Guest quarters above 3-car garage ♦OC Hunt Territory ♦Pastoral Views ♦Privacy **\$3,900,000**

DELAFLANE MANOR



Extraordinary brick manor on 76 beautifully landscaped acres ♦High ceilings ♦Gorgeous millwork ♦Stone & hardwood floors ♦Historic residence w/updated kitchen & BA's ♦Approx 12,000 sf of living space ♦Library ♦Sunrooms ♦Office ♦7+ BR's ♦Formal living & dining rooms ♦Pool ♦Spa ♦Brick terraces ♦Pond ♦Stream ♦Tenant house **\$3,600,000**

MONTVALLON



Country French style manor ♦25 secluded acres with breathtaking views ♦Approx 6500 sq ft of elegant living space ♦Beautifully appointed rooms ♦High ceilings ♦Extraordinary quality throughout ♦Manicured gardens enhance the pool and grounds ♦Flagstone terraces ♦Fabulous master suite with vaulted ceilings, fireplace, wet bar and deck **\$2,395,000**

ROBIN HILL



Classic European style residence ♦5 BR, 5 Full BA ♦Superior craftsmanship with meticulous attention to quality and detail ♦Luxury combined with exquisite comfort and style ♦Bright rooms with high ceilings ♦French doors ♦Terrace with far stretching views, fountain and the most lovely infinity pool ♦A must see for the most discerning connoisseur **\$2,300,000**

FELDSPAR FARM



Charming Circa 1800 farm on 13+ rolling acres ♦Beautifully renovated w/beamed kitchen & luxurious master ♦3 additional BR's w/2 BA's ♦Private office/studio ♦Original fireplaces ♦Finished lower level ♦Wonderful 5-stall stone bank barn ♦Gorgeous pond and spring house ♦Stone walls ♦Ideal for horses ♦Located on a picturesque country lane **\$1,390,000**

STONE OAKS



Custom built all brick residence ♦14+/- acres in Piedmont Hunt territory just outside the village of Upperville ♦Master suite with sitting room ♦Three additional bedrooms ♦Formal living and dining room ♦Family room ♦Sun room ♦2 car-garage ♦Deck ♦Seperate brick building for an office/studio ♦Towering trees, stone walls **\$1,300,000**

PAXSON RD



17+/- acre horse farm located just 2 miles from Round Hill ♦Black board fencing & stone walls surround this charming 5 BR, 3.5 BA all brick Colonial home ♦Bright new sunroom w/radiant heat flagstone floor ♦4 FP's ♦Full basement w/separate entrance ♦Pool ♦2-car garage ♦10 stall barn w/tack room ♦Several paddocks ♦Run-in shed ♦3 ponds **\$895,000**

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