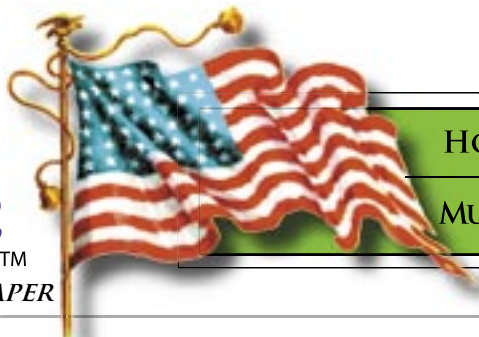




SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FOR SALAMANDER PRESENTATION

JENNIFER HEYNS

On April 28 Mayor Tim Dimos convened a special meeting of the Middleburg Town Council to allow Salamander Hospitality, Inc. to explain their "change in design" for the proposed Salamander Inn project that is located on the northern border of Middleburg, to the Council, the Planning Commission and general public. Noting that the changes were, "of course, of interest to us," Dimos introduced the new President of Salamander Hospitality, Inc., Prem Devadas.

Devadas joined the Salamander organization only three weeks prior to the presentation, in which he outlined "the many changes that are occurring" to nearly 50 people crowded into the Town Office. Also in attendance were representatives from; McGuire Woods LLP, legal representation for Salamander; Oculus, landscape architects for the project; and Dr.

Sheila Johnson, the owner of the Salamander property.

The changes, according to Devadas, were designed to make the Salamander project "one-of-a-kind" on the East Coast. In the new plan "What was characterized as an inn is now a world-class resort." The new design transforms the Salamander project from a 58-room inn to a 120-room resort. However, less acreage will be occupied by the proposed 120-room resort than would have been covered by the 58-room inn. Devadas showed how this was done using two large sitemaps, which allowed easy comparison of the original and new design plans. A "wedding pavilion" in the old plan, was removed and additional space was added to the main building to provide for a conference center. Sites for six cottages in the original plan were also changed to take up less space.

The changes, said Devadas, were made to gear the inn less toward local visitors and more to-

ward business and long-distance travelers who would spend more time on the site. He said that the new design calls for a 50/50 mix of conference guests and "transient/individual travelers, to make it a world-class resort." "It becomes a self-contained experience," said Devadas, "geared toward guests who will stay three plus nights," which means "less trips in and out" on local roads.

An alternate entryway to the

property is also proposed which would take guests past local businesses on Washington Street, then onto Pendleton Street to the resort. The original entryway on Foxcroft Road will still be used, but only for staff members and deliveries. Devadas also emphasized that the only retail at the resort would be a standard sundries shop and also a retail facility for the spa. No other retail facilities are planned, he said, noting this would be good for

local businesses, given the importance of shopping as an activity for guests in any modern resort. The new resort and conference center will also include stables, tennis courts, trails for hiking and riding, a fine-dining restaurant, bar and a 14-treatment-room spa and salon. Although the new Salamander design is geared toward out-of-town visitors, Devadas said that local guests would be welcome to

Continued Page 7

THE GREATEST JOCKEY WHO EVER LIVED

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF EARL SANDE'S TRIPLE CROWN WIN

JAY WILKE

Last year, Smarty Jones captured the hearts and attention of sports fans all over the country and almost single-handedly invigorated the sport of horse racing. This year Giacomo came from behind to underscore the global enthusiasm and anticipation for the Running of the Roses, the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs in Louisville.

Famous horses like Smarty Jones and Seabiscuit receive most of the sport's accolades,

but what about racing's often unheralded heroes? What about the jockeys?

In the 1920s and 1930s, famous jockeys were sports figures that would rival the fame of today's sports stars like Shaquille O'Neil, Cal Ripken, or Brett Favre. Over the years, there have been literally tens of thousands of jockeys racing on America's turf, but only ten managed to capture the Triple Crown, racing's most highly-coveted prize.

One of the most celebrated of these jockeys is Earl Sande,

who won the second Triple Crown in 1930 on Gallant Fox.

This year marks the the 75th anniversary of Sande's Triple Crown triumph as well as his third Kentucky Derby and fifth Belmont Stakes victories. Historians and racing fans all over the country are remembering the brilliant career of Earl Sande.

"Few jockeys were as good as Sande and certainly nobody was ever better," says national turf historian and the leading authority on the history of horse

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PAUL MELLON'S ROW-
LANDSON COLLECTION
COMES HOME

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IT OUT, YOU MIGHT SEE
SOMEONE YOU KNOW

PAGE 28

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Julie Martin 540-364-2100 or 301-674-0244



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Old Denton, Middleburg, VA

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Mary South Hutchison 540-687-6885



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Ruth Ripley 540-687-6395



1903 Arts & Crafts Cottage, The Plains, VA

3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, white clapboard sided and shingled home on lovely large village lot with mature landscaping, white picket fence. Wrap around porch. First floor master suite. Walk to restaurants and shops! Must see!

Julie Martin 540-364-2100 or 301-674-0244



Grace Hill Farm, Upperville, VA

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Carl and Vanessa Lindgren 540-454-0213

Jim Thompson 703-727-9258



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Babette Scully 540-687-3323



The John Braden House, Waterford, VA

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Anita Sisney 703-973-1987

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MIDDLEBURG & ENVIRONS

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TWILIGHT IN THE GARDEN
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A DOGS DAY
ARBOR DAY

FRIENDS FOR LIFE

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ALBERT'S CORNER



JUANITA SWEDENBURG'S BIG DAY IN COURT

After years of determination, The Supreme Court ruled today in favor of Juanita Swedenbourg position that wine lovers should be able to buy directly from our-of-state vineyards, striking down laws banning a practice that has flourished because of the Internet and growing popularity of win-

ery tours, according to the AP news wire.

In a 5-4 decision, the Court agreed with the case made in the Swedenbourg suit, effectively equalizing the rules of commerce in the wine industry and putting an end to the laws in 24 states that barred interstate shipments.

"This is the best day for wine lovers since the invention of the corkscrew," said Clint Bolick, counsel for the Institute of Justice which represented local wineries in the dispute.

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NEWS OF NOTE

MAY MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

JENNIFER HEYNS

The full house at the May 12 Middleburg Town Council meeting produced few comments during the two public hearings. The public hearings were about the 2006 Operating and Capital Budget and Special Use Permit for the Middleburg Bank Parking Lot Facility. Debate about whether or not to hire a full-time economic development staff person for the Town of Middleburg was a primary topic of discussion during the Public Hearing on 2006 Operating and Capital Budget.

Town Administrator Mike Casey began the hearing regarding the Fiscal Year 2006 Budget explaining that the budget reflects; no change in the general fund for

real estate taxes; a 10 percent increase in utility user fees; an increase in planning and zoning fees; and incurring debt in the amount of \$1,254,250 to pay for “a series of capital maintenance costs” and to cover an expenditure of \$360,000 which will be used for “the first step toward a new wastewater treatment plant.”

The budget additionally calls for funding for a new staff member to “provide a more active level of support for the Town’s Economic Development, Tourism & Marketing activities,” said Casey in a memo to Council.

“I hesitate to agree with you that adding a staff person is the best way to go about that,” said Valerie Kelly, who feels Economic Development needs could be met with present resources. Dee Dee

Hubbard spoke against Kelly, stating that an Economic Development position is absolutely needed and can no longer function through volunteerism or the Assistant Town Administrator. As a compromise, Don Woodruff suggested that the Town contract out the position on an as-needed basis.

Although the public hearing ended, Council came back to the subject later when Mayor Dimos allowed Council members to comment on public opinions that had been presented. Councilman Snyder noted that taking funding to establish Economic Development from cash reserves would only serve as a solution for the coming year and wondered where the funds for that position would come from after that. “It’s not sustainable over the long run,” said Snyder. Coun-

cilwoman Eura Lewis defended the new position saying that “it’s amazing” how much work is put on staff members and that having a dedicated Economic Development person would pay off in the long run. Councilwoman Betsy Davis said that she feels strongly that having a person specifically designated to Economic Development would help secure current businesses and possibly bring in more revenue for the Town, which would, in the long run, make the position pay for itself. Mayor Dimos urged Council to approve the new position citing that the Town has contracted work out in the past and found that it is not of the same “consistency and coherence” as if a more familiar member of the Town had done the work. He also noted that there is too much multi-tasking in the Town’s staff already to place the burden on existing members.

The other public hearing, which was held jointly by Council and the Middleburg Planning Commission, was in regard to the Middleburg Bank Parking Lot Facility. Schneider asked for consideration of the number of parking spaces, presently planned at 60, controlled access and vegetative areas in the application for the special use permit.

Don Woodruff made note that the runoff from the bank lot presently carries refuse to the creek that washes up onto lawns and that having a parking lot will only increase the flow. He later suggested that a permeable surface be considered for the parking lot surface instead of black top. Edward Swain commented that there is a lack of parking in town and asked the group to consider that the need for more parking outweighed the loss of shrubbery. Jo Motion directly asked Schneider if the trees were in danger. His response was that the three large evergreens would be removed. John Connor, representation for Middleburg Bank, interceded to ensure Motion that more vegetation will be put in than taken out.

During the Council’s regular meeting session Carl Phillips, Council member from Purcellville, introduced a proposal that western Loudoun secede and form its own rural Catocin County. Phillips is a part of a new organization, Citizens for Catocin County, and urged Middleburg residents to get involved in the movement to form a new county before the Virginia Supreme Court ruling brings Leesburg-like sprawl into Western Loudoun County. The new zoning will require about a dozen new schools to be built in Western Loudoun at a price tag of approximately \$2 billion and substantial transportation improvements at unknown cost according to Phillips. He also noted that taxes would increase as will traffic, crime and social challenges. “There will be a rapid loss of open

space,” said Phillips. Citizens for Catocin County will host a booth at Purcellville Day on May 21 and will be present for a meeting at the Middleburg Community Center on May 25 at 7:30 p.m.

In Staff Reports Police Chief Steven Webber noted that Sergeant Henry Milton Seaton, the only Middleburg police officer to be killed in the line of duty, in 1899, would be honored in a Washington, D.C. reception on May 13.

Schneider reported that the 19-town house development of Steeple Chase Run would be before the Planning Commission in June and the Courtyard in Middleburg project has had its Erosion and Sediment controls put into place. He also attended the Tri-County Parkway Study meeting in Arcola to find that two routes are being carefully considered but that the project would not get under way until 2010 at the earliest.

In Action Items, Council agreed to allow Casey to enter into a contract with Tessa Construction and Tech Co. LLC for the Middleburg Visitor and Commuter Transportation Center, but would not choose a surface material until Casey has a chance to discuss surfacing materials with VDOT and report back. The options currently in place are: paving the entire lot, paving the driving surface only and using either Unilock brick or Grasscrete in the parking spaces.

Council, again, considered forming a Well Head Protection Program Committee and appoint members to it. The committee was a recommendation of the Virginia Department of Health “to protect the entry points to our well system,” said Casey and should have five members of the Town serving three-year terms. Council agreed to establish the committee, but to select the members of their choice in closed session following the meeting.

Schneider reported on Mosby’s Tavern Parking Lot where the owners are asking for waivers of the required buffer space between the building and parking spaces and required landscaping buffer on the side of the building. Council agreed to the waivers and commended the plan, in which more landscaping is being implemented than was required of them, making the street view more pleasing to the eye.

In the final action item Schneider gave Mayor Dimos options for the topic of his three minute presentation to Loudoun County regarding their General Plan. Schneider urged the Mayor to address rising concerns in Western Loudoun due to the Loudoun County Transition Policy Area, namely rampant development, shortage of affordable housing, receding natural resources, increased traffic and a depletion of finite resources which support education, health, transportation

Continued Page 6

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Books & Crannies and Lou Lou are teaming up to help you look smart and be smart about fashion. On June 25, from 6:00-7:30 p.m., Books & Crannies will host a fashion show featuring the beautiful, sophisticated and fun clothing and accessories that have made Lou Lou so popular. We’re also featuring a book (*What You Wear Can Change Your Life*) by the hosts of the British version of the television show “What Not to Wear”—where the fashion advice may be serious, but the presentation is hilarious.

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NEWS OF NOTE

MUST PROGRESS MEAN PAVING PARADISE

LARGEST MID-ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT IN LOUDOUN?

The parking lot and the street leading to Aldie Elementary School were packed with cars on the evening of May 5, and the auditorium was full, but the crowd wasn't for a school event. A group called Citizens to Save the Transition Area was presenting information about 22,000 housing units included in the proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments (CPAMS) for the area of Loudoun County east of Route 15 and generally west of Route 659 (also called the transition area, or Dulles South). If approved, these amendments would allow 74% of the land in the transition area to be developed.

The presentation painted a startling picture.

One of the projects in this set of proposals, by developer Greenvest, is the largest single develop-

ment ever proposed in the entire Mid-Atlantic region. Where the current plan limits developers to an average residential density of 1 unit per acre, the CPAM proposals like Greenvest's ask for 3.5 units per acre. Most of the new traffic that would result--200,000 trips a day in all--will end up on Route 50, and no funds are allocated to improve it. The CPAM proposals in total will require 11 new schools, including 2 new high schools.

Area resident Laura TeKrony spoke for the citizens group. She said that like many of her neighbors, she had moved to Loudoun because she believed the current comprehensive plan would protect the community from overdevelopment. "The main reason I am involved is for our quality of life," said TeKrony. "Twenty-two thousand houses means more time

spent in traffic and less time we can spend as a family. We can't image what Route 50 would be like if these developments are approved."

TeKrony believes an inaccurate picture was being painted by Greenvest's direct mail marketing material, particularly concerning traffic and schools. "We moved into Loudoun so my daughter could go to Aldie Elementary, and are concerned about potential school boundary changes if these large developments are built. Overcrowding is also a real issue when you add more than 8,000 new students. At some point, there will not be enough quality teachers to keep up with the rate of growth. Growth does not pay for growth so it is inevitable that our taxes will increase to pay for the infrastructure and services."

Comprehensive plans are supposed to be long-term policy documents, according to Ed Gorski, Land Use Officer for the Piedmont Environmental Council, and are not intended to change with each election. "The development schemes would result in gridlock, higher taxes and a reduced quality of life not only for Dulles South residents, but all Loudoun residents. They should be rejected by the Board of Supervisors," said Gorski.

Gorski reviewed the current Comprehensive Plan and the specific proposal by developer Greenvest in detail. (Greenvest representatives were in the audience but did not participate in the presentations.) Greenvest's plan brings 15,000 new units in one development alone. (By comparison, South Riding at build-out will only be about 5,700 units.) Greenvest could add a population greater than Leesburg's to an area the current plan intended to be a buffer for the rural west.

The Greenvest proposal includes an innovative funding mechanism, a Community Development Authority (CDA) bond, to pay for schools, roads, and construction of other capital infrastructure. This bond mechanism would require each homeowner to pay about \$2,000 more per year over and above taxes, estimated Gorski. CDAs have previously been used primarily for commercial projects, like Dulles Town Center mall.

Gorski cited some concerns about CDAs. The national financial market would expect the county to be a co-guarantor for the bonds, so Loudoun's credit rating might be adversely affected, which could raise the cost of all county borrowing. It is unclear whether existing homeowners not in the new developments could be included in the area covered by the authority. "Would those who had to pay this additional cost be assured their kids would not be subjected to school boundary changes?" Gorski said he asked school district officials, receiving the answer "of course not, there are no guarantees, it would be up to the school board." The Greenvest proposal alone will re-



quire 7 new schools.

The county has risks too. A potential default on the bonds by the CDA could leave county taxpayers liable for the full CDA bond amount of more than \$400 million. Loudoun Supervisors Burton and Tulloch have previously voiced concerns about CDAs. In addition, more than \$200 million in infrastructure costs would be allocated to the taxpayers over and above the CDAs. "Greenvest is one school short," said Gorski, "and they don't cover any yearly operating costs." To break even, he said, every single family home would need to be assessed at \$950,000.

Proposed commercial development in the CPAM proposals is retail business for the foreseeable future. Gorski commented that the jobs created would be largely minimum-wage.

Gorski reminded the audience that several supervisors had promised that they had no intention to add density to the transition area when they voted in 2004 to bring central sewer and water to the area. Supervisor Snow, Gorski said, stated in a press release that utility extensions are designed to be consistent with the densities allowed in the Comprehensive Plan.

TeKrony introduced a slide that showed a bulldozer labeled Greenvest, leading a line of tightly spaced cars and trucks, as it pushed over a grove of trees. The title of the slide was "They're gonna pave paradise...and put up a parking lot." TeKrony and Gorski both encouraged citizens to attend meetings and hearings, write the supervisors and local papers, and inform friends and neighbors.

Audience reaction was sharply divided. Some said that growth had overtaken Fairfax and was inevitable in Loudoun as well. However, many others voiced concerns about the size of these proposals, or traffic. Comments that the current plan reflected community wishes and should be upheld received the heaviest applause. More community meetings and county hearings will be held on the CPAMS in the months ahead.

TOWN COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

and emergency services. Snyder noted that he believes traffic to be the key issue, while Davis cited tax increases as a primary concern. The Mayor agreed to take Council's opinions into account and Council agreed, unanimously, that the Mayor attend the meeting and speak out against all proposed CPAMS.

Lewis informed the Council of a new committee that she now serves: the Action Advisory Board. The board has just nominated its officers and members and will be headed by Bill Druhan, Mayor of Purcellville. Lewis said that the group would be assessing area needs for housing and rent-

als, day care, transportation and emergency services and working on obtaining grants.

Council then went into closed session to appoint members of the Well Head Advisory Committee and to "consider matters related to the request from Salamander Development LLC for water and wastewater service."

Salamander discussions have yet to be made known to the public, but Council did announce that the newly appointed Well Head Advisory Committee would consist of Trowbridge Littleton, Lisa Patterson, Steven Plescow, Trevor Lord and Missy Jones.

BEN WHITE MEDICAL RELIEF FUND STARTED

Ben White, 53 year-old arborist, animal protector and political organizer, was hospitalized March 29th at Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle. An operation on Thursday revealed widespread abdominal tumors. It appears to be a type of cancer that does not invade organs. Upon his return to Friday Harbor this week, Ben will be treated with aggressive chemotherapy and hormone therapy. His spirit is strong, his confidence is high and he expects a full recovery.

Ben White has lived on San Juan Island since 1995. He has a son, Ben, who is a freshman at Friday Harbor High School, and a daughter, Julia, who graduated last year from Spring Street School.

A renowned animal protector for nearly thirty years, Ben specializes in marine mammal and forest protection. As a consultant to the Animal Welfare Institute, he organized the peaceful marching

turtles brigade at the 1999 World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle and the marching dolphin brigade at the 2003 WTO meeting in Cancun. He is also AWI's representative at annual meetings of the International Whaling Commission and the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species.

As a member of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society he battled the Canadian seal hunt and pirate whaling operations. To stop Naval sonar testing over humpback breeding grounds in Hawaii, he placed himself in the waters for exhausting weeks as a human shield between the whales and the ships.

In January 2005 Ben traveled to Mexico to organize local resistance to the seismic activities of the Research Vessel Maurice Ewing in the rich fishing grounds off the Yucatan Peninsula. He wrote about the onset of his present illness.

Continued Page 8

SALAMANDER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dine at the restaurant or bar, use the conference center and patronize the star-quality salon and spa.

"It's hard to imagine what world-class means until it is built," said Devadas, but he envisions the bar and restaurant becoming a community hub for local residents.

The proposed changes will, no doubt, slow down the approval and building process. A special exception will be required from Loudoun County. Devadas predicted that construction would begin by the end of this year and that the Salamander Resort will be open for the summer season of 2007.

Following his presentation, Devadas, Jonathan Rak of McGuire Woods and Dan Hoover of Oculus answered questions posed by Town Council and Planning Committee members.

During peak season, from April through October, the new Salamander resort should employ more than 200 people, including its own security staff. The new conference center, an extension of the main hotel building, would probably be booked primarily for events attracting outside guests to the hotel, but would, of course, also be available for local events. The architecture for the new design puts heavy emphasis on natural stone, slate roofing and other high quality exterior materials. "We thought, as a team, that the building should be less French Provincial and more Virginian," said Devadas. "The lines of the buildings actually become a bit simpler." Room rates would average \$400-500 per night during peak season and near \$250 off season. Spa packages, depending on the treatments, will range from \$100 to \$300.

McGuire Woods' Jonathan Rak explained that Salamander purposely made this presentation

before submitting the plans to Loudoun County, with the hope of keeping the lines of communication open for future negotiations, especially regarding the new entryway and water and sewer lines. He made it clear that Salamander still hopes to be allowed to tie into the Town's water and sewer lines, but have an approved on-site treatment plant and drainfield plan they will implement if council does not offer the connections they seek. According to Devadas, Salamander Hospitality, Inc. plans to host a series of meetings to create a cohesive relationship with the town and to build a resort that creates a "win-win situation".

"Our resolve is to be good neighbors, as is yours," said Dimos as he adjourned the meeting.

No questions from the public were taken, although Salamander representatives stayed to speak unofficially with residents. Missy Schukraft, of McGuire Woods, explained to a few listeners that a road analysis is being conducted on the newly proposed entryway and that they will report back when the impact statement is complete.

After speaking with a few people, Sheila Johnson seemed pleased at the outcome. "I think the response is very favorable," said Johnson. "We want to continue these dialogues in a very open manner." Johnson, later, said that she was thrilled to have Devadas on board "because Prem has experience, vision and foresight. He gave me a big reality check; he said that we could make it much better and use less space." "When she commits to something, she does it and she does it right," said Devadas of Johnson.

The site plans used in Devadas presentation may be viewed on request at the Salamander Development offices at 100 West Washington Street.

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Photo by Madelyn Columbo Marzani



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OUR EARTH

HANGING BASKETS

THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE

With Mother's Day behind us, I know that a lot of you have new hanging baskets. These lovely hanging containers, filled with trailing annual plants can be a real joy to own and a real burden to care for. It's a challenge to keep them looking good through bouts of heat and hot drying winds. I have a few tips that may help make the process a little easier. To begin with consider the watering requirements of plastic or moss lined containers as they are hung from overhead brackets. Don't think that you can miss a day without watering! The plants in the containers are usually root-bound, they may look fresh and lovely with lots of long trailers, but many were potted in February in a warm greenhouse. These potted plants may have already run out of soil to hold excess moisture, the root ball has become nothing more than a mass of fine roots. The first thing that I suggest for holding them over and actually making them better is to add as much potting soil to the top of the container

as it will hold. Overflow of excess soil will wash out with initial waterings but the little that stays will give the plants a boost and help maintain more moisture. I need to add that not all potting soils are alike. Most are soilless or peat based with little to no fertilizer. We use "Pro-Mix", a soilless potting soil that provides a charge of fertilizer that will last for about 6 weeks and will breath new life into your hanging baskets. Adding fresh potting soil should become a regular occurrence, something you may want to do several times during the summer. Each time you top dress you will see a real surge in the growth of your plants.

Removing spent flowers is also important, finished flowers



develop into seed pods and both need removed to encourage more flowers. The seed pod looks like a swollen green capsule, usually located at the end of a stem or where the flower used to be. Pinch these off and don't be afraid to pinch off some of the stem to encourage branching of the flowering stem. Lastly fertilize. Hanging baskets bought from growers are usually fertilized with each watering. Taking them home and giving them nothing more than a regular watering is like withdrawing their food. I recommend a diluted liquid fer-

tilizer twice a month. You will see a real boost in growth in the weeks that follow after each application. The dosage can be given at half strength, in fact greenhouse growers often use a rather diluted application on a day to day basis.

Your hanging basket can develop into something that only gets better for the next few months.

Hanging baskets aren't much different than containers of flowering annuals, there will be waves of color often followed by a resting period. By following the simple rules of proper light, water, pinching and fertilizing, you will enjoy your hanging basket for many months

BEN WHITE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

ness in his Yucatan Diary, a daily journal about his organizing effort that was carried in the online version of the Journal of the San Juans and the San Juan Islander. After returning from that effort, while his illness worsened, Ben began preparation for an upcoming effort at the United Nations by animal protection groups to put the use of intense underwater sound on the global agenda

Locally, Ben created Natural Guard Tree Care, a group of young arborists who maintain and preserve island trees. In 2004 he was the Green Party candidate for County Commissioner. During his campaign he pledged that if elected he would return 20% of his salary to the San Juan Island

School district. His platform was uncompromising in its insistence on environmental preservation as the only way to maintain island sustainability.

Ben's medical bills will likely reach \$100,000. He has no medical insurance. Anyone wishing to help this courageous "voice for the voiceless" is encouraged to donate to the Ben White Medical Relief Fund at Islanders Bank. No donation is too small.

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NEWS OF NOTE

CITIZENS FOR CATOCTIN COUNTY TO MEET IN MIDDLEBURG

Citizens for Catoctin County, in the second of a series of informational meetings for Western Loudoun citizens, invites residents to a discuss the formation of a new county at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 25, at the Middleburg Community Center, 300 Washington St. (business Route 50).

At the meeting CCC leaders will discuss the progress of the effort, including reports from committee chairmen studying economic feasibility, boundaries, legal and legislative issues, volunteering, and fundraising efforts. This is an opportunity for Western

Loudoun's citizens to become informed about this movement.

Citizens for Catoctin County is a citizens' organization that is exploring the viability of creating a new county from the western portion of Loudoun County. If successful, it would be the first new county created in Virginia since the late 1880s. The organization counts more than a hundred members and is growing weekly. "At each of our meetings we've seen more than a dozen new faces, while our website is receiving numerous hits each day," said Meissner.

GREATEST JOCKEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

racing, Tom Gilcoyne. After rising from the ranks of the leaky-roof circuit, Sande became horse racing's top jockey in the 1920s.

During his career, Sande ranked as the top-money winning jockey in 1921, 1923, and 1927. His winnings in 1923 set a record that stood for 20 years. His feat that year is even more impressive when you consider that Sande did not even participate in winter racing and thus rode hundreds of fewer races than did other jockeys.

"In a time when America is short on heroes, Earl Sande stands for hard work, the pursuit of excellence, and pure integrity," says Richard J. Maturi, author of the recently published Triple Crown Winner: The Earl Sande Saga, the first and only book to recount Sande's story in detail.

"Even though he was one of the country's biggest sports heroes during the Golden Age of Sports in the 1920s, Earl never let his stature on the track interfere with his relationship with people."

As he researched Sande for his book, Maturi found himself fascinated with his unique subject.

"Sande was the least likely person to become a famous jockey," Maturi says. "He was so tall the other jockeys called him 'Longback.'" His riding style also stood out from the field.

Opera

While other jockeys routinely used the whip to get the most of their mount, Sande used it sparingly and sung Italian opera to his horses," Maturi says.

Not only did Sande ride many famous horses, he also won races on many longshots that were considered mediocre. Sande won significant races with as many as ninety-two different horses. "It really didn't matter what horse he was riding," Maturi says. "The fans put their money on Sande."

Tragedy

In 1924, Sande suffered a

severe injury and was told that he would never ride again. Tragedy struck again in 1927 when his young wife passed away. "Despite these tremendous obstacles, Sande never gave up," Maturi says. "Through sheer determination and willpower, he overcame both of these tragedies."

Sande's acclaim in the new millennium is growing. On February 17th, the South Dakota State Legislature issued a Commemoration of Sande and the release of Maturi's book. The Idaho Legislature also issued a Proclamation honoring Sande and the book on March 18th.

Due to the popularity of the Oscar-nominated movie, Seabiscuit, casual racing fans always ask about Sande's links to the famous horse. Unfortunately, the two racing icons never met on a race track as Sande retired as a jockey before Seabiscuit's run.

However, he did train Stagehand, who bested Seabiscuit in record time during the Santa Anita Handicap. To this day, Sande ranks as the only person to ever achieve top money-winning honors both as a jockey and a trainer.

Sande's lifetime in-the-money percentage of 60.9% ranks at the top of all Hall of Fame jockeys. Red Pollard, famously portrayed by Tobey Maguire, is not even in the Hall of Fame. Off the racing track, Sande may eclipse Seabiscuit as well.

Based on Maturi's biography, a movie about the life of Earl Sande is currently in the works.

"No sports hero ever had more panache than Sande, but this great adventure tale is no long shot," says Ed Hotaling, author of numerous horse-racing books. "Sande's story will make a stupendous film." As Sande's saga rides onto the silver screen, we will finally see him receive his just due here in the modern era.

To learn more, visit www.triplecrownwinnerearlsande.com.

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NEW! We offer early drop off for children at 7:30 am. Campers will be supervised in the lounge until camp begins at 9 am

FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK

THANKS FOR A BEAUTIFUL SPRING

Our sincere thanks go to Middleburg Beautification and Preservation, Inc. This has been an exceptionally beautiful spring and we owe the pleasure of strolling down our blooming streets to Punkin Lee and Susan Howard who lead this group of dedicated volunteers.

MBP, Inc. began as a citizens committee and has grown to become the very best example of a successful public-private partnership. They raise all the funds needed to keep Middleburg green and beautiful.

Middleburg is known for its lovely flora and fauna not to mention the plentiful benches available in our village. None of this would be possible without Punkin and Susan and their hard working and talented volunteers.

Care of Trees also deserves a vote of thanks for their involvement in this community initiative. Both Peter and Bonnie Diehl have gone above and beyond to help ensure that we have a healthy treescape to enjoy.

MIDDLEBURG ECCENTRIC WELCOMES AND ENCOURAGES LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. LETTERS MUST BE SIGNED AND INCLUDE WRITER’S NAME, ADDRESS AND DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER. PLEASE SUBMIT LETTER VIA EMAIL: EDITOR@MBECC.COM OR P.O. BOX 1768, MIDDLEBURG VA 20118

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I am grateful for your attention to and concern for Middleburg Elementary evidenced by your April 21 article. However, the headline seems to have generated alarm in some readers, so I would like to clarify the school’s current status. Middleburg Elementary has not recently been threatened with closure--a point Principal Gary Wilkers makes clear in the content of the article. Though, in recent years, closure of Middleburg, Aldie and other rural schools has been suggested by some county officials, I believe that if the Middleburg community remains vigilant, there is great hope for Middleburg Elementary’s future. In fact, the recent attendance policy change passed by the Loudoun County School Board, allowing students from other schools to attend Middleburg, was in response to our ongoing efforts to keep Middleburg thriving and secure. The measure was conceived by fellow small schools advocate Dave Quanbeck, and representative Priscilla Godfrey worked with fellow school board members to win support for the measure. By bringing in students from other small schools and from elementary schools in more populated areas, we hope to demonstrate our viability while providing an increasingly positive learning environment for our neighborhood children. Additionally, we hope to give more children in the public school system the opportunity to experience the intimate, nurtur-

ing environment and excellent education that only a small neighborhood school can provide. With effort, we may persuade county officials that smaller neighborhood schools should be the rule for public education, rather than the exception. We are very fortunate to have such a caring and responsive press and community in Middleburg, and if we all work diligently, we can preserve this historic school for the next generation of Middleburgers. Thank you for your continuing support.

Carla Passarello
Middleburg Virginia

To the Editor:

Missile-Less In Middleburg

Last September, on a visit to Concord, Massachusetts, I witnessed a site as shocking as it was amazing. There, common drivers (and, by Gawd, Yankees) were, with courtesy and good will, stopping at crosswalks for pedestrians! As God is my witness, I saw it happen a dozen times in one weekend.

Back in Middleburg and some two weeks later, as Jay Trier will attest, I was nearly struck by a car while walking through the crosswalk on Route 50 at Pendleton Street. Missile-less, baseball-bat-less, even snowball-less at the time, I was reduced to hurling a few sharp words at my would-be assailant. The single-digit “salute” he gave me in return spoke volumes. Who was I, a mere pedestrian, to impinge on his right to wheel his crotch rocket through the streets of Middleburg any way he wished?

Have you noticed the sign about crosswalks at the entrance to Town? Do you recall that futile effort a few years ago when local police actually set up those funky little plastic pedestals at each crosswalk saying that our Town enforced the crosswalk ordinance? When, and why, did we just give up on all that?

I’m embarrassed, and frankly angry, that our legal system continues to harass, yes harass, our friend and neighbor Dee Dee Hubbard (anger management my pitoot) while a reckless driver, in my humble opinion, goes scott free.

I am reminded of a few lines from Frost’s poem “Two Tramps in Mud Time:”

The blows that a life of self control,
Failed to strike for the common good,
That day, giving loose to [her] soul,
[She] spent on the unimportant [expletive deleted].

Our 120-pound-soaking-wet “David” hath smote the two-ton Goliath. You Go, Girl!

Kim Hart
Middleburg Virginia

RANTS & RAVES

Each month in this space Mark Tate (Red) and Dan Morrow (Blue) provide absolutely definitive, perfectly reasoned and indisputably global solutions to all the world’s great problems . . . in 150 words or less. Send your problems to Mark and Dan at: redvsblue@mbecc.com

RED VS BLUE

★★★★★★★★★
MARK TATE

SCHOOL QUALITY: CLARKE VS. LOUDOUN

Recently, Newsweek magazine ranked Clarke County High School as one of the top 100 in America. Loudoun County spends more dollars per pupil than any other county in Virginia. Why does Clarke County rank higher than Loudoun County?

Loudoun County has one of the best school systems in the nation. Great teachers, state of the art teacher equipment, anything a schools system could want...except space.

As one of the fastest growing counties in the nation Loudoun’s School system is also trying to catch up. Clarke County on the other hand has been very successful in controlling growth in a county of about 13,000 people as compared to more than 200,000 people in Loudoun. Loudoun County spends more money than any other system, pays higher salaries than any other system and as a result takes some of the best teachers from surrounding school systems (including Clarke County). Because of Loudoun’s rapid growth it has to focus on finding space to accommodate the ever growing student population. And Loudoun does a great job educating all the students in Loudoun County Schools System.

Clarke County on the other hand does not have that problem of uncontrolled growth.

And as a result they are able to produce a great school system with a lot less money per student. Clarke County is also able to produce an incredible partnership with the parents of their students, and the families that choose to use an alternate method of educating their children.

REZONING: WHAT TO DO?

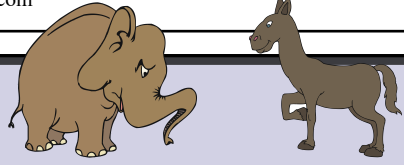
Now that the Supreme Court of Virginia has overturned the downzoning in Loudoun County the Board of Supervisors are presented difficult decision. What should this Board of Supervisors do? Should they come to a compromise on the density of Western Loudoun?

As long as I have lived in Loudoun County (which is most of my life) land use and growth have been the hottest of political topics. Now with the decision from the courts making the zoning in Western Loudoun the same as the overcrowded Eastern Loudoun the Board of Supervisors are considering a compromise on the density in Western Loudoun.

I really do not think this is out of kindness. They know they can not afford to provide the schools and roads for all that growth. With overcrowded Schools and roads now, when the zoning is one house per 50 acres, they can not possibly support building out Western Loudoun and then trying to find enough taxes to pay for all those services.

★★★★★★★★★

DAN MORROW



Mark, I would argue that one can learn little, if anything, about the quality of Loudoun vs. Clarke County schools from the Newsweek rankings . . . much less anything about how to improve either.

Newsweek “rated” each and every American high school by simply dividing the number of advanced placement tests taken by all students at the school by the number of graduating seniors.

The ratio, for 87th ranked Clarke County High School in Berryville (the 9th best score in Virginia), was 2.877. The ratio for 279th ranked Loudoun Valley High was 2.026. The ratios imply, roughly at best, that the average senior at each of the two schools took two or three advanced placement tests.

What does this tell us?

The important question is not HOW MANY tests a senior takes, but HOW WELL THEY SCORE.

And those scores are most threatened by a pervasive, mean-spirited, dogmatic, intolerant, medieval, anti-scientific contempt for education in general, and educated people in particular, manifested by the ideologues of the right in this county, in this state, in this country and around the world.

Mark and I have long agreed that growth in Loudoun County, though sad, is inevitable . . .and because inevitable, demands intelligent management.

We disagree most often about who should manage that growth and by what standards.

Mark argues that we “leftists” think DOT mean the Dictatorship of the Threatened, and the end of all property rights. I retort that his narrow-minded pro-growth friends on the Republican right will bring us all the joys of the Rockville Pike, and make us objects of scorn for those who will suffer from our stewardship of the County . . . or lack of it.

We both know, I believe, that the only hope for both of us and the County we love, is a well-defined development plan, drawn by disinterested experts of good will, and defended by an ethical and insightful Board of Supervisors, held to account by a watchful electorate. I also think we both agree that this Board either cannot, or will not, do the job.

INOVA LOUDOUN HOSPITAL STATEMENT

REACTION TO STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER’S REMAND DECISION

Commissioner Stroube’s decision to uphold his previous ruling is disappointing, but not surprising. By approving HCA Broadlands and denying inpatient beds at Inova Loudoun Hospital’s Cornwall campus, the Commissioner has effectively slowed development of higher level medical services and impeded better geographical access to hospital and health care services for all the residents of Loudoun County. We will appeal the decision.

The overriding issue in this debate has always been and will continue to be the best health care plan for the citizens of Loudoun County. The Board of Supervisors has made it clear through adoption of its health care Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPAM) that it wants rational geographic distribution of hospitals in Loudoun County so that every citizen has equal access to health care. A hospital in Broadlands undermines this goal. Even so, HCA has filed suit to overturn the health care CPAM and the Commissioner’s most recent decisions ignore the wishes of local government.

The only positive note for Loudoun County in the Commissioner’s opinion is his acknowledgement that if HCA Broadlands fails to get zoning approval, then “a procedure to revoke any then-effective COPN for failure to achieve substantial progress in implementing the project is available and would be appropriate.” The Loudoun County Planning Commission has voted to recommend denial of HCA Broadlands zoning on 14 points of zoning law. The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the case June 22.

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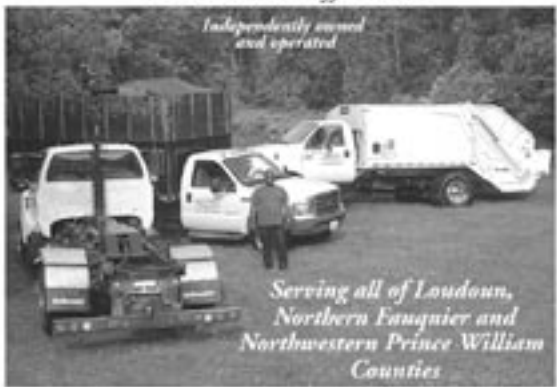
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PASTIMES

SALAD, SNIFFLES AND BASIC VINAIGRETTES

FROM BEHIND THE STOVE

BRIAN LICHOROWIC

Living in a climate where the change of seasons has a direct effect on the growing season, the return of the farmer's markets signifies not only the arrival of the Equinox but also the offering of the Earth's first, fresh bounty. It's also the time when scores of people suffer from the plague of allergy attacks and their only salvation is a horsed-sized pill that alleviates the suffering.

Several websites make the claim that ingestion of local vegetation and pollen into the body can help build up a tolerance for those suffering with environmental allergies - over time reducing the effects of the culprits. Although it didn't make sense to me at first, it is the same approach as a flu shot. The flu vaccination con-

tains strains of the flu virus, thereby slowly allowing it to enter our bloodstream with the hope that our bodies build up a tolerance for the virus should we come into contact. So, after suffering the true torments of allergy season, I started giving this ingestion theory a try a couple years ago.

I'm not a doctor and I don't play one on TV and if you ever see me staying at a Holiday Inn Express, shoot me. But I can read and reason and I know my body. So I have consistently eaten local produce and have been cooking and eating a generous amount of local honey (wildflower mostly) so my body can absorb a bit of pollen.

During this experiment to reduce my new Hunt Country allergy symptoms, I discovered that my major symptoms have sub-

sided noticeably without the aid of the good 'ole allergy pill. However, I continue to be susceptible to sneezing fits now and then (good for cleaning out the pipes). But for the most part I eat better, sneeze less, and feel better. So even if it's a placebo, it's working.

With the farmers markets providing all the bounty I needed, I discovered a few different ways to feed myself without growing tired of a plain, old salad everyday. Here are three different base vinaigrettes for three of my favorite salads of the season.

Sweet Baby Carrot and Spring Fennel Salad
I'm guessing that in many fridges, like ours, these are usually the last two remaining fresh veggies left after every thing else has been exhausted- carrots and fennel.

It took me awhile to find a really enjoyable way to prepare the two. The sweetness of the honey adds to the natural sweetness of the carrot and the subtle licorice taste of the fennel. Kids will like this.

2 bulbs of fennel, sliced thinly
1 lb of baby carrots, grated or chopped into small bite size pieces
1 med red pepper, chopped
1/4 cup of local honey
Pinch of salt and ground black pepper

Basic French Vinaigrette
1 tsp salt
2 tsp red wine vinegar
3-4 tablespoons first, cold-pressed olive oil
Fresh ground pepper

Cut off and set aside the feathery green ends of the fennel bulbs. Slice bulbs only and put into a bowl with the carrots. Prepare the vinaigrette and place in shaker container to mix well. Season salad with salt and pepper and drizzle with honey to taste. You may not need to add all of it. If you take the time to research the raw nutrition of this dish, you'll discover that it contains a good amount of protein, niacin and other vitamins.

Salad of Mixed Spring Greens, Chevre Cheese & Walnuts with Walnut Vinaigrette
Simplicity is key for me when it comes to salads. This is fast, easy and different enough that your family will think you spent hours picking the greens and pressing the oil yourself. BTW: Walnut oil is available in just about every grocery store in our area.

8 oz. bag of mixed spring greens from the Middleburg Farmer's Market
1 med. log of chevre (goat) cheese, about 1" diameter, sliced into medallions
1/4 cup walnuts, whole
1/6 cup honey
2 tbl butter
1 tbl olive oil
2 tbl brown sugar
Pinch of salt



Walnut Vinaigrette
1 tsp salt
2 tsp red wine vinegar
3-4 tablespoons walnut oil
Fresh ground pepper

In a Teflon saucepan over low to medium heat, saute walnuts in the butter and olive oil. (When olive oil is added to butter, it does not burn). Add the honey, brown sugar and salt and cook until lightly browned. Remove from pan immediately and allow walnuts to cool on a plate.

Wash and dry the greens and arrange on plate. Place the medallions of chevre cheese (or substitute goats cheese) on top. Prepare the vinaigrette and place in shaker container to mix well. Drizzle the vinaigrette and sprinkle the chopped walnuts over the entire plate. (What's happening to me? I used "drizzle" and "sprinkle" in the same sentence. Maybe I need a pill.)

Green Bean Salad with Radicchio & Fava Beans
This is a light salad, made from fresh beans rather than canned or frozen. Definitely worth the trouble for this very nourishing lunch or side dish. And since the movie "Silence of the Lambs," fava beans seem to have a certain reverence at the table these days.

1/2 pound of dried fava beans, cooked and drained
1/2 lb fresh spring green beans, cut into 1" lengths
1/4 cup of Herb Vinaigrette
1 med. head of fresh radicchio, washed and separated
Pinch of salt and ground black pepper

Basic Herb Vinaigrette
1 tsp salt
2 tsp red wine vinegar
Fresh ground pepper

2 tbs of fresh herbs, chopped (Summer Savory is wonderful in this dish but feel free to improvise)
3-4 tbs first, cold-pressed olive oil

Note: Cook the fava beans properly to realize the potential of this dish. Soak them overnight and boil accordingly. Don't overcook. Think...what would Hannibal Lector do?

In a pot of boiling water place the cooked fava beans and the raw green beans together for 5 minutes until the green beans are bright green and remain crisp. Don't worry about over cooking the beans an extra 5 minutes will not make a difference. You're just trying to heat them up a bit. Drain well and place into a bowl. Add vinaigrette and salt and pepper to taste. Mix well and allow to cool. Before serving, fold in the radicchio gently. Serve with a nice "Chianti".

Comment or catastrophes?
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Debbie McDaniel, manager of our Middleburg office, is up to her neck in horses. Point-to-point races. Middleburg Spring Races. Upperville Colt and Horse Show. Fall Races. Supporting equestrian activities just goes with being a part of the Middleburg community. Same way with the Middleburg office's support of the Windy Hill Foundation, Main Street Middleburg and the annual Christmas parade. Debbie and her office team wouldn't have it any other way. They approach banking the same way. So if you're with another bank, you should talk to Debbie about the many financial services her office provides. We know money matters, and that superior service is the key. That's what makes Middleburg Bank a horse of a different color.

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PASTIMES

COOKING WITH THE BIG BOYS *PART I*

ED MCGUSHIN

Cooking has been a principle distraction virtually all of my adult life. During the course of two successive twenty-year careers, one in the service of Uncle Sam and the other building an information technology business, my passion for food helped me maintain balance and perspective. You simply can't worry about your in-box while nursing a soufflé.

Now that I am mostly retired, I am able to devote even more time and energy in pursuit of all things culinary.

A year ago, as a gift, my dear wife, for whom I have served nearly forty years as personal chef, sent me off to the Culinary Institute of America at Hyde Park, New York, where I attended a one-week French cuisine 'boot camp'. It was a grand experience shared with more than a dozen other home-grown food enthusiasts. We learned about the regional flavors of France, refined and developed new cooking techniques, and gained some insight into the challenging environment of a professional production kitchen.

This year brought another gift and a second pilgrimage to the CIA, the food enthusiasts' Mecca. In April, I participated in a Pro-chef Level 2 class on Mediterranean cuisine. Having held a catering license at one point in life qualifies me as a member of the trade and therefore able to enroll in continuing education classes at the CIA.

The Pro-chef series is designed for professional chefs seeking certification of more advanced skills. Level 2 is the intermediate skill level, appropriately ranked as

a two-Toque degree of difficulty, and produces a certified status of "Chef de Cuisine". The only certification standard beyond Level 3, Executive Chef, is Certified Master Chef. There are presently only 70 Certified Master Chefs in the United States.

My wife Sandy joined me for the week and we drove to Poughkeepsie, New York, on the Sunday before the class began.

Located on the banks of the Hudson River, Poughkeepsie is just 3 miles south of the CIA campus, and is a good launching pad from which to visit attractions throughout the region. A former Jesuit seminary, the CIA campus is stunning, despite major expansion currently underway to accommodate the phenomenal growth in the culinary industry.

The former seminary chapel now serves as the grand dining hall, where saintly figures stare down from stained glass windows on a congregation of young men and women in chefs' whites, praying for success in today's practice.

The students at the CIA are uniformly attractive, polite, and friendly. There is no obvious unsightly body piercing and chef's pants are actually worn at waist level. This undoubtedly reflects the fact that students are graded as much on appearance and demeanor as on techniques. This is, after all, the hospitality industry.

By 6:45 on Monday morning, 15 minutes before the opening lecture, I was seated in classroom #1 of the J. Willard Marriott Continuing Education Center.

This gave me a few minutes to look through the program of instruction and meet a few of my classmates, all 14 of whom were

professional chefs. Harvey works at a large country club in Memphis, Tennessee. Bob is director of nutritional services at a medical center in Rockport, Maine. Connie is a personal chef to the rich and famous.

Peter is the chief culinary director of the US Army in Europe. Dennis is a restaurant line cook who attended the class on a scholarship awarded by his employer...the International House of Pancakes! Caterers, restaurateurs, corporate chefs, hospital and nursing home chefs, the culinary industry was widely and well represented in our tiny student body.

About half of the students were pursuing Level 2 certification, and all of them were twenty to forty years my junior.

Any concerns I might have had were quickly dispelled as my new colleagues accepted me as a kindred spirit in pursuit of my own culinary development, albeit from a different, and somewhat belated, starting point. Whenever I needed an extra hand during the week, one was quickly and quietly extended.

Promptly at 7:00, Chef David Kamen, an Associate Professor of Culinary Arts, welcomed the class and described the week that would follow. A 1988 graduate of the CIA, Chef Kamen spent several years cooking in New York City restaurants and hotels before entering the education field. Prior to returning to the CIA in 1999, he was chairman of the culinary department of the New York Food and Hotel Management School.

Watch for Part II of "Cooking With the Big Boys" in the June issue of the Eccentric.



BETTER THERE THAN HERE....

SEVENTH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

The Wizards have set the bar higher than any of them have probably yet realized. They are now, officially, in this millennium, a real-life, honest-to-God, playoff team. Yes, by the time you read this they will be sitting at home, wondering if anybody thought to get the license plate of that championship-bound semi out of Florida that just pancaked them on the highway of post-season basketball like so much road-kill.

(By the way, I didn't get the plate number, but I saw the guy driving; a little half-pint wearing number three. This is his second

full year in the league. His name's Dwayne Wade, and for those of you just emerging from hibernation, he's in for the long haul.)

Back to the Wiz... Abe's boys have clearly made their splash. Now, the hard part starts.

Nobody will accept another decades-long slide into the stinker. They've got to back it up, next year, the year after that, and into the foreseeable future. Theoretically, they'll even improve. Washington has a solid core, some solid, though inconsistent, bench-players, and a coach who clearly knows what he's doing.

Better than all of that, though, they have Kwame.

I kid you not. Kwame Brown

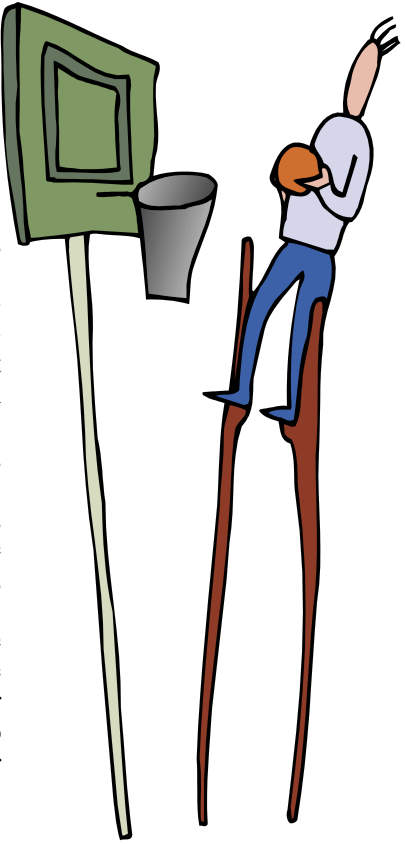
may be the best thing the Wizards have going for them right now. Remember last off-season, the front-office wanted to sign him to an extension? Remember Kwame didn't like the terms (aka, dollars) and decided to play his way into the big bucks? Well, when you've played you're way into a team-imposed, season-ending suspension, during the playoffs, it's a fair bet you ain't getting the big-bucks.

So the Wiz find themselves in the actual drivers seat with a gifted, can't-miss type of talent, who, remarkably, keeps missing. Usually, the Wizards pick these guys up, much to the amusement of whatever snake-oil-selling agent / opposing GM / charlatan is pull-

ing the strings that week. No more, however. Not with these Wizards.

There are plenty of deep-pocketed teams that would kill for a talent like Brown, and even more that are convinced they could turn him around where the Wiz have failed. So fine, ship him off to New York, Dallas, LA, Minnesota, wherever. Get some decent talent for him, and wash your hands of the whole episode. If he succeeds elsewhere, more power to him.

If not, if, as is more likely, he remains an enigma, never quite playing that full season, never quite averaging the numbers to match his physique, well, better there than here.



A HOME FOR ALL SEASONS

WELCOME HOME

WANDA K. CROSSLEY

Spring has sprung, but it may still be winter inside your home.

As seasonal change is invigorating outside, the variety of change inside your home can also have an extraordinary effect on

you and your family's mood and attitude.

Whether you wish to do a lot, or a little, you will enjoy the benefits of a home for all seasons. Consider these ideas when you begin.

Freshen up your upholstery with bright new summer slipcovers. Heavy woven winter fabrics with rich colors, designs and texture are perfect for cozying up to a warm fire. But summer fabrics of lightweight cotton brighten up a room and are cool to the skin. While you're at it, re-cover your winter throw pillows in whimsical contrasting colors and designs.

Once considered a luxury, summer pillow and upholstery slipcovers are more affordable

than you might think. They custom fit your pieces like a tailored suit. They are zippered and Velcro-ed for easy installation and quickly removable for same-day wash and wear. On the off-season, cotton slipcovers are easily stored in a closet without the need for mothproofing.

Summer breeze makes you feel fine, so take down those heavy window treatments, put up lighter, airy sheers and open the windows. Today's sheers come in fun textures and colors, including polka-dots, stripes and prints. Sheers are simple and carefree and easier to make than complex window treatments.

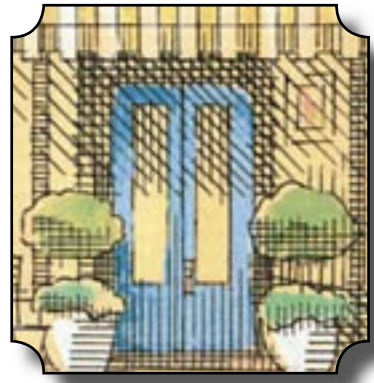
Rearrange your furniture so you have more access to the sun-

light and look out at your garden in bloom, rather than being focused on the fireplace. Furniture with harmonious shapes and classical proportions will look attractive in many different arrangements.

Roll up your area rugs and walk barefoot on your hardwood floors for a couple months.

Hang botanical prints or some new artwork you love that's light and sunny to replace the heavy oils and thick frames. Scatter summer seashore and gardening books on the coffee table and bring out the colored vases for fresh flowers from the garden.

Now how about a little running fountain in that sunroom or sitting room? Even a small wall mounted piece will offer a little



water trickle, giving the ambiance of being outside.

Find some new bright colored striped or print tablecloths for the kitchen table and bring out your casual summer china.

Now, make some iced tea and settle in to a crisp, light context for the new season.

Wanda Crossley is the owner of The English Manor in Leesburg, Virginia

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HAMPTON HOUSE

ALL WORK FOR OUR PLEASURE - A COUNTRY LIFESTYLE STORE



STEVEN SCHWARTZ

Melissa Neal and Brooke Thomson, two local Middleburg residents, had a dream; to open a store that offered some of the finest things they had found only in New York, England, and Italy. So, on May 1st Hampton House opened for business. "Although we've only been open for a short time, we're very pleased with the response. We specialize in high quality items for people who appreciate the country lifestyle," said Melissa.

A life-sized horse stands at the window, wrapped in a colorful blanket. "A lot of people are surprised to find that we offer much more than just things for horse people," Melissa explains, "It's true that we do have great items for horse enthusiasts. For example, we're the exclusive American dealer for Lansdown Custom Horse Rugs from England. These are all hand sewn and are available in custom colors; they do fine embroidery and family crests (the company supplies the Royal Family). The blankets are custom fitted for your horse (or dog) to minimize rubbing. The fit is beyond anything we've ever seen." "For the stable we have Gardy Bloemer trunks made of antique leather, and iron and copper racks for cleaning bridles which," says Melissa, "are also great for hanging pots in the kitchen."

There's a wide variety of gifts, including Ettinger of London flasks, trays, and martini shakers, and beautiful ceramics modeled on 14th - 18th century designs, hand blown Czech glass, and lifestyle books. For entertaining in the home, Hampton House has colorful table linens, pitchers and trays. "We carry a lot of items made of horn, which are very popular."

You can find antiques, shooting and walking sticks, elegant barware, plus Kenneth Jay Lane jewelry, men's silver accessories,



ries, and an assortment of Italian leather and crochet gloves favored, once again, by the Queen. A large painting of a greyhound hangs on one wall. "This is by a local artist, Susan Van Wagoner. She is a tremendously talented portrait artist who is nationally known for her large scale portraits of pets," says Melissa.

For both men and women, the store offers Beretta (yes the same Italian company that makes firearms) clothing for the field and country lifestyle. Melissa holds up a plaid jacket, "This Chrysalis jacket is made to order and there are a lot of colors and plaids from which to choose."

Things for the garden, gifts for gardeners, items for the home and stable, and apparel for the field - Hampton House offers a fine selection of items for discriminating people.

"Everyone has been absolutely wonderful to us, including the other retailers in town. Brooke and I had a dream, and here we are!"

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THE MEADOWS



Washington, VA •c.1749 Manor house •Greek revival wings added 1810 •Completely restored with modern fieldstone kitchen & grand living room additions in 1990 •Central air •Heated Pool •Paved driveway •Specimen trees •Pond •21+ acres in the village **\$2,995,000**

FOXLEIGH



Delightful country property on 26+ acres just outside of Middleburg •1st floor Master Suite with luxurious bath •4 Bedrooms •4 Baths •Formal Dining Room & Living Room •Pine paneled family room •5 fireplaces •Gourmet kitchen •Heated pool •Separate 4 car garage **\$2,975,000**

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190 acres •Bordered by North Fork Goose Creek & Crooked Run •Spring fed pond w/dock •4 bedroom Cape with wrap-around porch •Gazebo •8stall barn •Board fenced paddocks **\$2,750,000**

CHATEAU DES CHIENS



French style country farmhouse built around old silo •Rich in architectural detail and charm •11+ acres includes remodeled 100+ year old farmhouse •Pond •Stream •Small estate vineyard •Orange County Hunt Territory **\$2,675,000**

LEITRIM



Georgian Colonial •High ceilings, wood floors and gorgeous millwork •4 Fireplaces •Gourmet kitchen •Banquet sized dining room •Sun-filled Great Room •Wine Cellar •17+/- acres **\$2,390,000**

DREAMCATCHER FARM



Bluemont •11+ acres located between the Appalachian Trail & Shenandoah River •Renovated kitchen and baths •Master suite with fireplace •Screened porch •Separate guest suite •Sunroom with wooded views •Board fenced paddocks **\$929,000**

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Jewel box in the village of Middleburg •Hard-to-find sophisticated one level living •Within walking distance to shops, restaurants, library •New kitchen, baths, grt. rm. addition w/wet bar •2 Stone F.P. •Huge flagstone terrace **\$785,000**

CAELI FARM



Orange County Hunt Territory •406+/- acres •With mountain views •Streams (Hungry Run and The Little River) •Pond •Stone walls •Presently being farmed sAbundant wildlife •Within five minutes of Middleburg **\$12,500 per acre**

For further information regarding the properties above or for any of your property requirements please contact any of our qualified agents. All inquiries shall be held in the strictest of confidence.

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PHOTOS BY JAY HUBBARD

HOME FARM'S GRAND OPENING

SHOWPLACE FOR SUSTAINABLE, ORGANIC, HUMANE FARMING

Town dignitaries, Mayor Tim Dimos helped Sandy Lerner officially open her Home Farm Store in Middleburg, Virginia last weekend with tastings of Ancient White Park cheeses, honey and many other organic delicacies, and an opportunity to meet organic farmers from this region and beyond who believe they are leading a revolution in American health.

Sandy Lerner and Don Roden, served preview party guests Friday evening at the 1930's soda fountain offering delicious egg creams, sodas, sundaes and shakes.

Organic farmers from musician Dave Matthews' farm in Scottsville, Virginia and Dielle Flieshman's Over-the-Grass Farm

talked with guests and customers about their organic and humane farming approaches and procedures, and representatives from Humane Farm Animal Care and the Slow Food movement answered many questions from customers.

The Home Farm Store, the only "cut-to-order" butcher shop in the area, offers local USDA certified organic Humane Animal Care certified beef and poultry. According to the Washington Post, the store is "perhaps the most striking butcher shop in the region."

Home Farm specializes in humanely raised, heritage-breed, organic and natural meats, poultry and game, and offers a full line of fresh organic fruits, herbs and

vegetables, organic groceries and fresh baked goods and prepared foods.

During the festivities, Sandy Lerner of Ayrshire Farm in Upperville, Virginia spoke eloquently about the importance of sustainable, organic and humane farming, and Ayrshire Estate Manager Keith McMillan talked about the heirloom fruits and vegetables he grows at the farm.

The Home Farm Store is located at 1 E. Washington Street, Middleburg, Virginia at the corner of Madison.



SANDY LERNER, DON RODEN



CAROL JENKINS



DONI RODEN, DON RODEN, TIM DIMOS, SANDY LERNER, MIMI STEIN, RYAN FORD

NEW CHEF AT THE ASHBY INN



Brian A. Pellatt is the new chef at The Ashby Inn in Paris, VA. Mr. Pellatt managed the inn's kitchen from 1994 to 1997 before leaving to open his own restaurant, One Block West in Winchester, VA.

"We could not be happier at Brian's return. He's a pro with a refreshing new slant on food," said Roma Sherman, who has owned the inn and restaurant with her husband John, since 1985.

Before coming to the inn, Mr. Pellatt worked at Jean Louis at the Watergate and the Jockey Club in Washington, D.C.

LISA KILGOUR NAMED MIDDLEBURG BANK'S VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS

Lisa Kilgour has been named Middleburg Bank's Senior Vice President of Operations, a promotion from her prior Vice President position. Kilgour will supervise and coordinate banking operations, including Image and Data Processing, Deposit Operations, Electronic Banking and Loan Operations.

Kilgour joined Middleburg Bank in 1995. She began her career in financial services over 20 years ago, working for Farmers & Merchants National Bank and Middletown Valley Bank. She is an ACH Accredited Professional and a graduate of the BAI School of Bank Operations and Technology. She also attended Virginia Tech and received her B.A. in Business from National Lewis University in Evanston, Illinois.

Kilgour is a native of Loudoun County and is an active member of the community. She is involved in the Purcellville Rotary Golf Tournament, which benefits western Loudoun charities and has served on the Loudoun Hospital Golf Classic committee.

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COLD CRICK FARM is entered by a 1/2 mile paved driveway winding its way through forest and gardens. The **Main Residence**, both elegant and rustic, sits beside a pond framed by a stone bridge and waterfall. The **Foyer, Library and Dining Room** all feature slate flooring and beamed ceilings. A two-story entertaining **Solarium** with a spectacular hand-hewn floating staircase and sliding glass doors lead to a 1,200 square foot **Trex Deck** resting over the pond. The **Family Room** has a stone fireplace and is open to the **Galley Kitchen**. The **Sun/Breakfast Room** features a glass ceiling, three glass walls and a heated ceramic tile floor. A hallway with **Wet Bar** leads to the **Sitting Room**, a **Full Bath** and stairs to the lower level **Study** with a fireplace and sliding glass door walkout. An **Elevator** services the upper level **Theater, Office, Two Bedrooms, and Three Full Baths**. Extensive storage space offers room for expansion. The attached **2-Car Garage** connects to additional workrooms and a **Half Bath**. The walkway to the front door is heated.

An exquisite **Log Guest House** creates a courtyard setting. The **Guest House** features a front porch, open kitchen, stone fireplace, exposed logs, three bedrooms and two baths.

The three level **Farm Manager's House** has three bedrooms, two baths and a garage.

A **Tennis Court, Gardening House**, 2-bay detached equipment **Garage, Vegetable Garden** and a **Paddock** fenced for horses complete the property.

Offered at \$4,500,000.



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Fauquier County, VA

is criss- crossed by streams. The property is in two parcels and is fenced for cattle. Easy access to I-66.

315+ beautiful rolling acres in Northern Fauquier County in the Orange County Hunt territory with views of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Ashby Gap and Cobbler Mountain. The property includes a two-story, three-bedroom farmhouse, circa 1889, an old barn, a large pond and

Offered at \$2,500,000.

CARTER FARM LANE
Middleburg, Virginia

Grohe & Rocky Mountain hardware, built-in cabinets, striking granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, gleaming hardwood floors, fireplace and sunroom with slate floor.

Offered at \$970,000.

Perfect gem in excellent condition with 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths. Wide panel hardwood and brick flooring. Gorgeous kitchen opened to bright and spacious breakfast room. Family room with wrap around Pella windows and French doors to rear deck. Living room with fireplace, separate dining room, and main floor master bedroom. The property is well landscaped in a mature setting with a stone retaining wall and offers a large fenced paddock for horses.

Investment opportunity-Family subdivision rights for a total of three (3) lots.

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ART & CITIZENSHIP

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PATRICIA BARRAZA VOS

Paul Mellon's great appreciation for Thomas Rowlandson, the great chronicler of 18th and 19th century rural life in England, is amply apparent in the current show of Rowlandson's work at the National Sporting Library in Middleburg, Virginia.

Organized by John Baskett, author and authority on Rowlandson, who became Mellon's first art curator, the exhibit includes Mellon's extensive collection that he began in 1961.

A trip to the National Sporting Library always provides the visitor with an opportunity to reach back in time with its seemingly endless collection of books, photographs and artwork depicting sporting life of yore, and that opportunity has never been more apparent than now as one gazes on the Rowlandson show.

The story of how the exhibit came to be is one of happy coincidences.

Lorian Peralta-Ramos, a member of the Library Chairman's Council, was visiting London when she attended a lecture by Mr. Baskett. Speaking with him after the lecture she discovered that he would be visiting Virginia later in the month to visit with Beverly Carter, executrix to the late

Paul Mellon, whose office happens to be next door to the Library.

Ms. Peralta-Ramos encouraged Baskett to stop in at the Library.

According to NSL Acting Director Rebecca Tomlinson, Baskett's visit was an inspiring one. "He walked into the Founder's Room and said, 'I can see Thomas Rowlandson on these walls.'" Of course, as they say, any piece of genius is 10 percent inspiration and 90 percent perspiration so from that moment of insight forward much work had to be done to display the fragile, important pieces here.

Critical to the achievement of this feat was the collaboration of the Yale Center for British Art which houses the Paul Mellon Collection, home to the pieces now on display in Middleburg. Amy Meyer, director of the Yale Center, worked with Baskett and Tomlinson to facilitate the borrowing and hanging of pieces. According to Tomlinson, the staff at the Yale Center was enthusiastic about showing Paul Mellon's art in his home town.

The Yale Center's Paul Mellon Collection contains about 400 pieces, of which 36 Rowlandsons are now at the NSL. While that may not sound like many, the works on display here provide a nice introduction to Row-

landson's work. According to Mr. Baskett, "The selection was made with a view to showing Rowlandson as a social commentator rather than a cartoonist."

Rowlandson is most well known as a caricaturist. However, he was an accomplished visual journalist of his time, his pen and ink drawings, sometimes carefully, sometimes whimsically, chronicling scenes from urban as well as country life.

Gambling Debt

Rowlandson had shown early promise as a painter and studied at the Royal Academy and in Paris. Had he not plunged into gambling debt at a fairly young age he might have pursued life as a serious painter. Finding himself in debt, however, and fending off poverty he had to seek more dependable income. A friend suggested caricatures as a means of making a living, a line of work he pursued with early and continued success.

Born and raised in London, Rowlandson was raised, by a French aunt. Her influence included many trips, for leisure and study, to France prior to the Napoleonic wars.

Rowlandson had great affection for the French and it shows in his kinder depictions of them than his

fellow Englishmen (most of whom he depicts as rather rotund.)

Rowlandson lived in the city but he spent a great deal of time in the English countryside, visiting with friends at their country estates. This provided him with many opportunities to observe and finally to draw scenes of country life.

It is these drawings which will most likely draw amuse the foxhunters and equestrians among us. The various hunting scenes capture all the glory, beauty, fun and potential disaster (see, "How to Twist Your Neck" for a humorous take on a not so funny foxhunting possibility) that we experience to this day out hunting.

From the drawings on display, one senses that Rowlandson was a romantic with a sense of humor, a great appreciator of beauty with a keen eye for detail. One can enjoy portraits of aristocrats, french and English hunting scenes, caricatures (see "A Worn Out Debaucher" for a hilarious example of the work for which Rowlandson is known) and perhaps best of all, drawings that reveal in intimate and affectionate detail daily life, capturing for the 21st century viewer moments which feel familiar, only better.



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PARENTS & PROGENY

FIRST LADY OF LIBERIA SPEAKS AT NOTRE DAME ACADEMY IN SUPPORT OF THE AFRICAN FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

The First Lady of Liberia, Mrs. Rosie-Lee Bryant, visited Notre Dame Academy on May 6 in an effort to raise awareness and support of the African Friendship Exchange (AFE), the community service project brainchild of Notre Dame Academy juniors Paris Henderson and Taylor Walters. Walters and Henderson started the non-profit AFE to bring various types of relief to children in Africa.

“The organization has many different chapters and the one that is being worked on right now is Li.F.E links or Liberian Friendship Exchange,” said Henderson. “We started the organization to help rebuild the war-torn country’s school system. It all started as a project

to meet our community service requirement at Notre Dame Academy, but it grew into so much more,” she continued.

After just one month, Li.F.E Links has raised more than \$4,000 and has pledged for medical equipment and left-over textbooks - which made Notre Dame Academy a natural partner for the project.

When the First Lady came to Notre Dame Academy there was a lot of excitement and anticipation. Everyone wanted to know who was the Lady in the beautiful African garb in the lobby? When they found out, the students made a beautiful gesture. Through a dress down day -- where each student pays \$2.00 to wear regular out of uniform clothes to raise money for charity -- the stu-

dents raised more than \$1,000 in one afternoon. After the First Lady spoke, everyone wanted to know what more they could do to help. It brought the school community together and demonstrated the caring environment at Notre Dame Academy. Walters and Henderson say they are proud to go to such a wonderful school that fosters the idea that we should all want

to give back to the world.

“Notre Dame Academy certainly gave on that day, and continues to give back, each and every day,” said Walters.



FIRST LADY OF LIBERIA, MRS. ROSIE-LEE BRYANT, WITH PARIS HENDERSON AND TAYLOR WALTERS, BOTH NOTRE DAME ACADEMY JUNIORS AND FOUNDERS OF THE AFRICAN FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE.

SCHOOL NEWS

MIDDLEBURG ELEMENTARY

Middleburg Elementary Students Perform The Pied Piper of Hamelin with the Virginia Opera Company

Middleburg Elementary fifth graders and selected fourth graders will present The Pied Piper of Hamelin with the Virginia Opera Company on Wednesday, May 25, at 7:00 p.m.

The Virginia Opera Company will conduct a residency program with the students prior to the event. The entire cast will perform for the student body at 1:00 p.m. and will perform for the parents and the general public at 7:00. The entire community is invited, so mark your calendars.

Middleburg Elementary Students Present Spring Musical

Middleburg Elementary Students will present their Spring Musical, “Look Behind as Well as Before” on June 2, at 7:00 p.m. All students from kindergarten to fifth grade will participate.

“Look Behind as Well as Before” is based on a folk tale from

Congo, Africa. Students will sing, dance, and play instruments as they weave this African folk tale.

Please plan to attend this entertaining and educational event.

The musical will be directed by Middleburg’s Music Director, Mrs. Wendy Testa.

HIGHLAND SCHOOL

Big congratulations to all students who participated in the recent spelling bee for Grades 3-5. Winners and participants are as follows:

Grade 5 first place and Grand Champion Cullen McCarthy, second place Alan Schlichting, third place Zach Whitt and Taylor Wills.

Grade 4 first place Fiona McCarthy, second place Carlton Helandsjo, third place Trevor Achilles and Katie Wonders.

Grade 3 first place Faith Scheifelbein, second place Gus Moshos, third place Sierra Aceto, Julia Bennett, Cayley Eaton and Mary Stewart Pierson.

Connor Lounsbury, Grade 7, will star in one of the lead roles

in the upcoming production of “Seussical, The Musical,” by the Pied Piper Theatre. Connor was one of about 40 selected from the more than 150 children who tried out for the production. The play is centered around a 13-year-old boy named Jo Jo, played by Connor, whom Dr. Seuss calls “a thinker that thinks, thinks.” The musical will be performed at Osbourn Park High School in Manassas on Saturday, May 7 and 14 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 8 and 15 at 3:30 p.m. Call (703) 330-ARTS for more information.

Enrollment in Highland’s Summer Camp program is progressing rapidly. This week’s spotlight is on the popular Harry Potter camps. During the weeks of June 20 and 27, campers between the ages of 8-12 will have the chance to attend classes in Potions and Care of Magical Creatures, play in Quidditch matches and more. There’s always something new brewing at the Harry Potter camp!

On Wednesday, parents gathered in the Black Box Theater for a Grade 2 performance of several musical pieces and recitations - the

first Highland production in this intimate space. Accompanied by Lise Hicklin on her acoustic guitar, they concluded the program with a musical Irish Blessing.

Afterwards, Senior Highland “Lifer” Andrew Farrar made a presentation announcing the dedication of the Black Box Theater in honor of one of Highland’s favorite teachers, Mrs. Lise Hicklin. Obviously surprised by the revelation that the event was in her honor, Mrs. Hicklin remarked, “I’m just simply overwhelmed. It really means so much to me to have such a beautiful legacy here at Highland, the place I love. Many, many

thanks to you all.”

Mrs. Hicklin has taught more than 200 students during her many years at Highland. Through her example she teaches a legacy of a love for learning, patience, compassion and maintaining a sense of humor to the entire school community.

National Geographic Editor Visits Highland School

Chris Johns, newly named Editor of National Geographic magazine, shared his dream with Highland students as part of the School’s Earth Day celebration, which this year focused on Africa.

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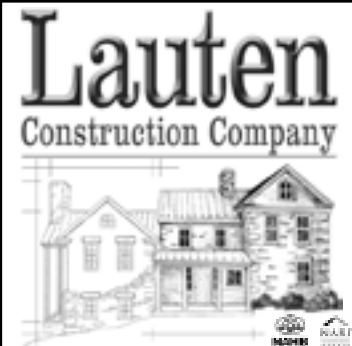
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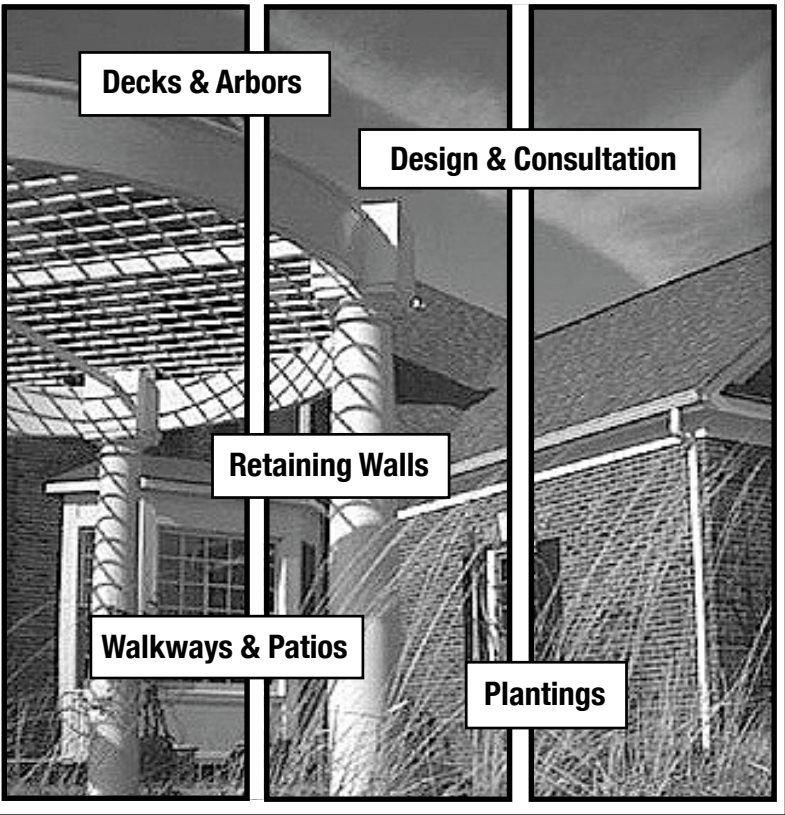


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PARENTS & PROGENY

SCHOOLS NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

He showed the group many photographs of Africa, some taken on the ground, others taken by a camera on the shoe of a man with a propeller on his back. Of his travels to Africa he said "it's a fascinating place. It's one of the most interesting places I've been to in the world."

He showed students photos of hippos in the water, crocodiles, women building huts, lions, pygmy boys in a rite of passage, a priest in Nairobi, oil wells in the Niger Delta, rare mountain zebras, and even a photo of a baby elephant walking through a hotel lobby. The students were fascinated.

He, much like Joseph Likuton before him, reiterated to students that the problems and issues that Africa faces are really not that different from those we face here in the United States. "We must find a balance between the needs of people and a healthy environment," he offered. "It is important that we leave a world in which our children can thrive."

As editor, Johns hopes to make the magazine bolder, more exciting, and more entertaining. "National Geographic is an institution I really believe in," he concluded, "and we're really excited about where we can take this magazine."

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY STUDENTS EXCEL ON NATIONAL LATIN EXAM

Notre Dame Academy's Latin students came, saw and conquered the National Latin Exam earlier this spring (results just in). The students joined other Latin students across the nation in taking this hour-long exam. Students were tested on their grammatical, historical, cultural, and mythological knowledge. The text also contained a reading comprehension passage from which the students answered questions. Notre Dame Academy is very pleased to congratulate several of our Latin scholars for their fine performance on the exam.

Latin I - Matthew Minnicino (Leesburg) - Magna Cum Laude Catherine Abrahamson (Round Hill) - Magna Cum Laude Jacqueline Mains (Upperville) - Cum Laude

Latin II - Karl Albert (Marshall) - Magna Cum Laude, Matthew Rudy (Warrenton) - Magna Cum Laude, Andrew Larson (Sterling) - Cum Laude

Latin III/IV Prose - Gregory Sherman (Middleburg) - Silver Medal - Maxima Cum, Laude Katherine Nolan (Berryville) - Cum Laude, Charles Jones (Leesburg) - Cum Laude

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Photo by Shannon McChery

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Tallwinds

Delaplane, Virginia

Charming stucco home in wooded setting in Delaplane on 11 very private acres. High ceilings, and large windows fill the house with natural light. Living areas and master suite are located on the main level with generous room sizes and lovely millwork. \$1,150,000.



Stringfellow Farm

Round Hill, Virginia

Grand country home, restored and enlarged. 8-12 bedrooms, 9 1/2 baths, 3 fireplaces, 13,000 square feet. Ample room for a home office. Amenities include built-in bookcases, bar and wood floors. Situated on 17.91 acres, gently rolling and mostly open with mountain views. Improvements include a barn, pool with pool house, and 2-car garage. \$1,875,000.

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FACES & PLACES

MIDDLEBURG SPRING RACES

GLENWOOD PARK ~ APRIL 23, 2005

PHOTOS BY JIM POSTON

Community leaders and citizens of all ages came to Glenwood Park last month to watch the storied Spring Steeplechase Races. Beautiful weather provided a perfect beginning for the day, and even though the rains won out, the crowd's enthusiasm was not dampened.

The Middleburg Spring Races offer visitors an elegant, civilized, old-fashioned race meeting that takes place on one of the

finest courses in America. This is the oldest Race Day in Virginia and the course is one of the most elaborate and unique of its kind.

Steeplechases have been run for hundreds of years from church steeple to church steeple across rolling countryside. These races began in County Cork in 1752 and moved to England first before beginning in the United States at the end of the nineteenth century.



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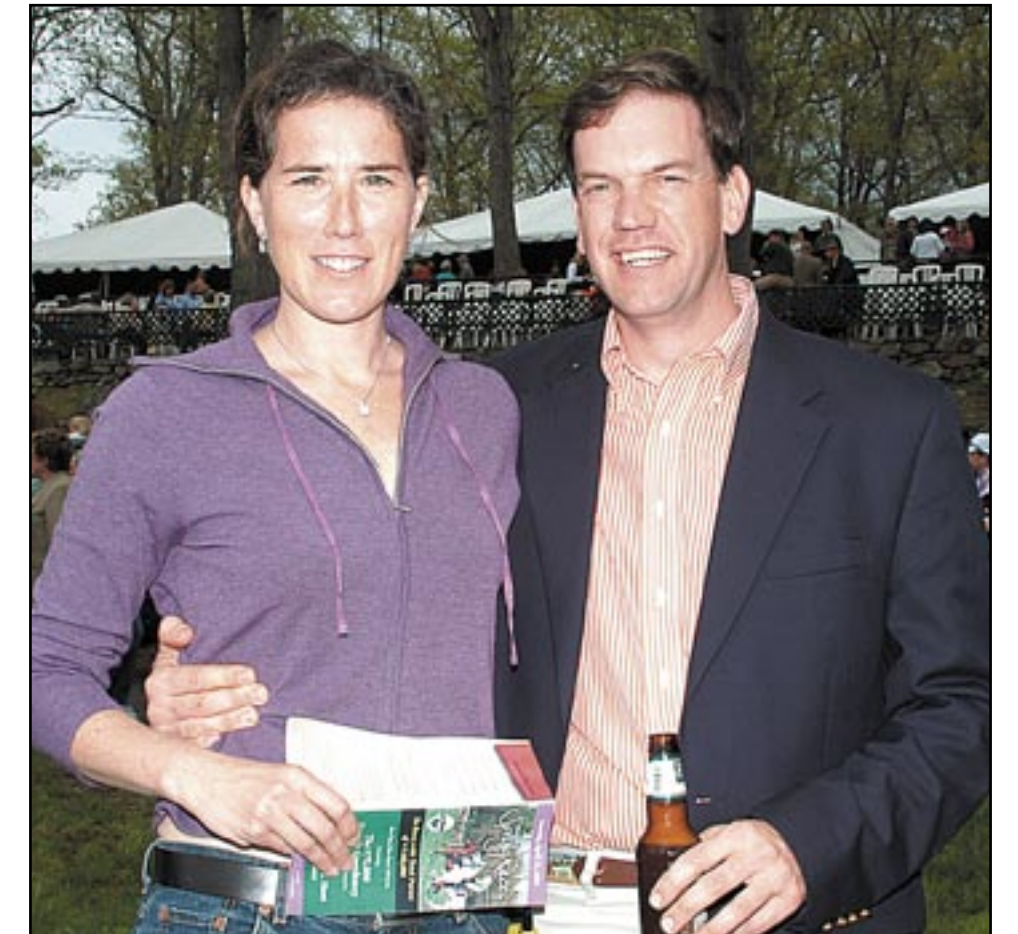
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FACES & PLACES

HILL SCHOOL 8TH GRADE PRESENTS 'CHILDREN OF EDEN'

HILL SCHOOL PLAY HOUSE ~ APRIL 24, 2005
PHOTOS BY JIM POSTON



AS YOU SEE IT SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

PHOTO BY CHIP WHITE - TITLE: PAMELA, MAX & HERCULES

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FACES & PLACES

OATLANDS SPRING GALA
‘MEET ME IN THE GARDEN’

OATLANDS PLANTATION ~ MARCH 19, 2005
PHOTOS BY JIM POSTON



KATE & CHET FANNON



JANE & BILL MIMS



DAN CARTE, MICHAELA QUINLAND

At present Oatlands is a repository for thousands of books on gardening, horticulture, plant identification and more. But given the space limitations at Oatlands, most of the books are inaccessible to the public. To solve this problem, the Oatlands Board of Directors has decided to include the construction of a library in its plans to restore the garden dependencies. Generous grants from the Chichester-duPont Foundation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation have provided the initial funding to commence the project. Proceeds from the Spring Gala will provide additional support to complete this important project.-----David Y. Boyce, Executive Director



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‘TWILIGHT IN THE GARDEN’

PENMORA ~ MAY 13, 2005
PHOTOS BY DEE DEE HUBBARD

A garden party and tour of Penmora was the focal point of Middleburg Beautification and Preservation’s 2005 “Twilight in the Garden” tour Friday, May 13th. The lucky date helped the group raise \$15,000 this year for their many community beautification projects.

Dr. and Mrs. Michael Petite hosted the tour at their beautiful estate on the cool May evening. Guests enthused over the incredible specimen trees, the view from the house down to the Chapel and pond and the charming potting shed in which many animals were enjoying tea.



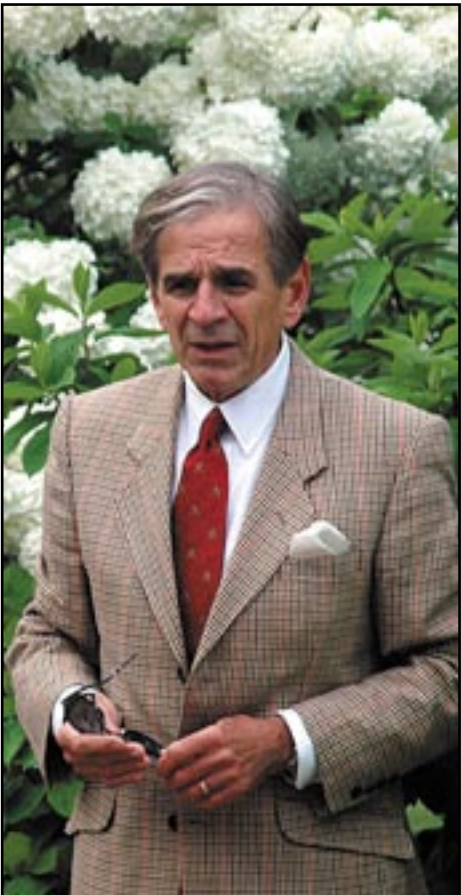
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BOB DOBSON AND STEPHANIE KNAPP



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MEAD STONE, VICKY MOON, BOB RUSSO

Middleburg writer Vicky Moon made the grand tour in New York City with her latest book, “The Private Passion of Jackie Kennedy Onassis: Portrait of A Rider” a loving history of the late first lady’s life as an accomplished equestrienne. While in New York, Moon made several television appearances and did many radio interviews. The trip concluded at Merritt Books in Millbrook, New York (another well known horsey enclave) where Moon met up with Mead Stone and Bob Russo- both long time familiar faces in Middleburg.

Then it was back to Middleburg to for a very special party co-hosted by The Goodstone Inn and The Fun Shop. Four local photographers, who contributed to the book which celebrates the late First Lady’s life-long love affair with horses, were on hand

to also sign the elegant coffee table tome. They were Howard Allen, Douglas Lees, Malcolm Matheson III and Raymond Utz.

Then it was on to the big city of Washington, D. C. There was lots of talk about Camelot and the Kennedy years in the White House at the home of Nancy and Fred Dutton, who hosted a party to in honor of Moon and the book, which is under the imprint of Judith Regan at Harper Collins. Fred Dutton was a special advisor to John F. Kennedy and his wife, Nancy, also worked in the West Wing during the administration. He helped get the necessary passports and paper work done when Jackie received a gift horse from the president of Pakistan way back when.

The guest list included JFK friend/syndicated columnists Hugh Sidey, Jules Whitcover and Mark Shields, former Iowa Sen. John Culver, ABC’s Ann Compton, Amba-

sador Smith Bagley along with Fox News Washington Bureau chief Kim Hume. Of course there was Tandy and Wyatt Dickerson (he was recalling the days when he owned Merrywood, the former home of the Auchincloss family), Lady Bird Johnson’s social secretary Bess Abell, a horse lover was on hand, Democratic pollster/consultant Peter Hart, Jane Podesta of People Magazine and her husband Don Postesta of The Washington Post, Jean Lewis who worked for JFK when he was a senator, Melody Miller a member of the media during JFK and now a staff member with Teddy Kennedy, journalist Jim Dickinson and a healthy dose of horsey types from nearby Potomac including plastic surgeon Csaba Magassy and his wife, Junior Magassy.



VICKY MOON WITH PHOTOGRAPHERS DOUGLAS LEES, RAYMOND UTZ, HOWARD ALLEN AND MALCOLM MATHESON III.



SENATOR JOHN CULVER, VICKY MOON, LEN SHAPIRO



MELODY MILLER, ANN COMPTON



FRED DUTTON, JULES WHITCOVER

A DOG’S DAY

MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER ~ MAY 14, 2005
PHOTOS BY DEE DEE HUBBARD

So many beautiful, fluffy, scruffy and Waggy individuals in one place would be difficult to find unless you went to the Fourth Annual Middleburg Dog Day on Saturday, May

14th. Man’s, woman’s and children’s best friends paraded and performed their hearts outs as they competed for prizes in many categories at the Middleburg Community Center.



CAROLINE ELGIN & SAJEN



COURTNEY SCHLOSSER WITH KIRBY & DUFFY



NICK FORRISTALL & MUSKET



BRENDEN FOSTER & FIDGET

ARBOR DAY

MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER ~ MAY 7, 2005
PHOTOS BY JAY HUBBARD

The Arbor Day Foundation honored Middleburg for the fourth year by naming the Virginia Hunt Country village for its commitment to its community forest.

Middleburg celebrated this recognition

at the 2005 Middleburg Arbor Day Celebration Saturday, May 7th at the Middleburg Community Center. Mayor Dimos was on hand to read the Arbor Day Proclamation and dedicate the 2005 Arbor Day Tree donated by The Care of Trees.



MIKE CASEY - TOWN ADMINISTRATOR



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Middleburg Humane Foundation



MARMY- A super special young lady! Marmy has a big bubbly personality that goes along with her big bubbly body! She is a Sharpei/ Great Dane cross, about 11 months old. Marmy has started obedience classes and is doing beautifully! Marmy needs a lot of room to play and run, she would make a fun family friend.



LEONE- A lovely 14 year old Chestnut TB mare. Leone is a great babysitter with excellent ground manners. She has never been ridden but loves people and to be bathed & sprayed with the hose! She is an easy keeper too. Leone has a few friends like Starsky who need lawn ornament/ babysitter homes as well.



DANCY is a gorgeous 3 year old purebred Rottweiler. She is excellent with children but needs to be the only 4-legged friend in the household. Dancy is currently in obedience classes and is very attentive and smart. She is a terrific dog!



OLIVIA Miss Olivia is full of life. She was chained to an abandoned house and very thirsty and hungry when we found her. She has been with us for several months now and is doing beautifully. She loves all other dogs and people. Olivia will bring lots of entertainment and joy into your home!

MHF
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KITTIES! Schedule an appointment to come to our shelter to meet and greet a wonderful group of kittens and young adult cats. Everyone is AIDS/Leukemia negative and has started their vaccines and dewormings. The spay/neuters are included in our adoption program. Ask about our “Buddy program” to help keep friends together.

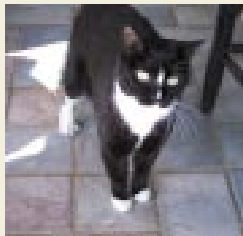


LORI AND HER BABIES - Lori is the most gorgeous, the most loving mom cat in the world. She is extremely gentle and affectionate. She has 3 little babies that were born



around the first week of April. Lori and her babies will need good homes soon. **BEN & JERRY** - These little brothers are the cutest little kids in the world! (much cuter in person I must add.) Two 10-week old Beagle pups who have started their vaccines & deworming. Ben & Jerry are very cuddly, incredibly fun and outgoing. Wonderful family friends.

BAY BOO - Bay Boo was left on our doorstep in a box. She is a cat lovers dream! She wants to be petted when SHEwants to be petted. She lounges and purrs when SHE wants to lounge & purr. Full of personality, Bay Boo would be really happy as an indoor outdoor kitty. This kitty could be the love of your life.



EMMETT- Emmett was found wandering outside of Marshall. He was captured by animal control and brought to our shelter. Emmet is incredibly social for an emu! He will follow you and so far has been very gentle and easy to work around. Male

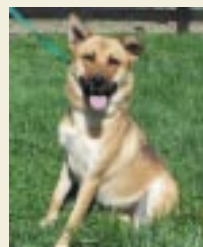
emus are similar to Roosters in that they do best as a single male with female friends. Emmett is a great guy and is still looking for a good home.



SCOTTIE - Scottie is a super cool 1 _year old Pit Bull mix. He is great with older children, cats & all other dogs. Scottie was raised in an apartment. He is very well mannered and quiet indoors. Scottie is currently in obedience class. He is a big strong young man that our junior volunteers call Mr. Wiggle Butt!



DINGO - Poor Dingo. He is a cattle dog cross that was raised with small children. Unfortunately, he didn't have a job of his own so he continued to herd the kids into the closet and occasionally eat their toys!!! Dingo is a gentle dog. He is housebroken and well mannered but he really needs an interactive home with lots of fun things to do!



KITA - Kita was found in a construction site with a sign around her neck asking to give her a new home. She is a Shepherd mix, excellent with all other dogs, very intelligent and affectionate. Kita is about 1 year old & is currently in obedience classes. She prefers women & would be an excellent watchdog.



ALBERT’S CORNER

A MONTHLY COLUMN FOR PEOPLE WHO SHARE THEIR HOMES WITH FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS.



As a columnist, I often dispense advice. I consider myself to be exactly

like Oprah (except I'm not human or female or on television or loved by millions). Anyway, like Oprah, I once had a slight issue with my weight. Just as Oprah has inspired many people to lighten up, I've decided to use my considerable influence as a celebrity spokesdog to do the same for canines.

I'm happy to report that my battle of the bulge was brief and is now completely under control, but that's only because my people closely monitor what and when I eat. Left to my own accord, I would be a blimp with toenails. A lot of dogs are in the same boat. Unfortunately, people sometimes discount the severe repercussions of canine obesity.

Dogs that are overweight cannot enjoy life the way that fit dogs do. Extra pounds can place significant strain on joints, causing life-long pain and discomfort. Additionally, obesity can compromise heart function. In severe cases, a dog's legs may not even be able to fully support his body. And that's just the beginning.

If you think your best friend has a weight problem, it's your responsibility to help. The first thing you should do is consult a vet who can determine if your dog needs to lose weight and, if so, how much weight loss is necessary. Armed with that knowledge, you can start your dog on the road to a healthier existence right away.

The most obvious tactic is to cut back on the amount of food you give your pet. Be strong! We food-obsessed canines have perfected the sad-eyed starving dog routine. As for what food to feed, I'm not convinced you have to move to a prescription diet. Before going that route, I simply recommend feeding less food or a lighter version of the same food your dog is currently eating.

Additionally, you should:

• **Ensure that there is lots of fresh water available at all times.**

• **Determine all sources of your dog's food. Could he or she be eating anything outside? Stealing from another animal's dish? Cajoling other family members to sneak a snack or two?**

• **Eliminate high-calorie, high-fat treats. There are lots of tummy-saving snacks out there, including basic apples and carrots.**

• **Exercise! Play fetch or go on a walk; it will be good for you and your dog.**

• **Put one person in charge of feeding and stick to a regular meal schedule. Do not free feed.**

• **Keep a record of your dog's weight-loss progress.**

Your dog will have successfully reached his goal when you can feel his ribs and a slight layer of fat over them. The base of the tail should be smoothly contoured or show a little thickening. The abdomen should tuck a little bit, with a well-proportioned waist. If that's all a little confusing, your vet can show you what a fit canine body should look like.

Most importantly, take this issue seriously and get to work immediately helping your dog to live a healthier life. I know I feel better when I'm lean, and your dog will too. Meanwhile, I'm putting together the Not-So-Fat Albert diet plan. It'll sweep the nation. I'll be on Oprah. Just you wait and see.

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

A dream became reality eleven years ago this summer when an abandoned, turn of the century farmhouse in Marshall, Virginia, became the permanent facility for the Middleburg Humane Foundation (MHF) - a farm shelter where animals suffering from abuse or neglect would have a place to regain health and find loving new homes. Through the dedication and hard work of many good people, MHF has rehabilitated and found loving homes for over 4,500 animals. As a private shelter, MHF receives no county, state or federal funding. The eleventh annual benefit is our major fundraiser for the year. We depend on the generous support of friends so that we may continue to bring health and happiness to many more deserving animals.

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Outstanding Woman in Loudoun County— Joy Corriher

The Loudoun County Commission on Women, in association with the Board of Supervisors, has chosen Joy Corriher as one of the Outstanding Women of Loudoun County for 2005. As a recipient of the Women's Health Award, Joy is recognized for her work in promoting education and advancement for nurses in Loudoun County.

Congratulations Joy...and thank you for your commitment, care and service!



Joy Corriher, RN, MSN, MPH, CNA
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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BEST OF THE BEST



Seated Left to Right: Cricket Bedford Whitner, Barrington L. Hall, Mary Ann McGowan, John Coles, Catherine Bernache, Alex Sharp, Mary Owen Chatfield-Taylor Standing Left to Right: Donna M. Baker, Rein duPont

It is with great pleasure that **Thomas and Talbot Real Estate** announces that the **Greater Piedmont Area Association of Realtors** has awarded its 2004 Annual Top Honor Awards to nine (9) of our twelve (12) full time Agents.

* JOHN COLES *

JOHN COLES received the top sales award for the third year, "**Top Producer**", given by the GPAAR. This award is for the **#1 sales agent** out of 632 agent members. He also received the "**Life Member**" award for ten years of \$10 million dollar sales, and the "**Million Dollar Sales Club - Gold**" award from the GPAAR for listings and sales completed in 2004 of over \$55 million dollars.

* MARY ANN MCGOWAN *

MARY ANN MCGOWAN received two of the top five awards, four years in a row, presented by the GPAAR, "**Million Dollar Sales Club - Gold**" as well as "**Top Five Club**" awards for listings and sales over \$25 million dollars, making her the **#2 sales agent** in the GPAAR.

* BARRINGTON HALL *

MILLION DOLLAR SALES CLUB - GOLD
Listings and sales of over \$10 million dollars

* REIN duPONT *

MILLION DOLLAR SALES CLUB - GOLD
Listings and sales of over \$7 million dollars

* CRICKET B. WHITNER *

MILLION DOLLAR SALES CLUB - GOLD
Listings and sales of over \$6 million dollars

* MARY OWEN CHATFIELD-TAYLOR *

MILLION DOLLAR SALES CLUB - GOLD
Listings and sales of over \$6 million dollars

* CATHERINE BERNACHE *

MILLION DOLLAR SALES CLUB - GOLD
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* DONNA BAKER *

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* ALEX SHARP *

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