



FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE PHOTOS PAGE 30

FINANCIAL PROBE CONTINUES MAYOR PROMISES FULL REPORT

DANIEL MORROW

Following this month's regular Town Council Meeting on September 14, Mayor Betsy Davis confirmed that she, the council and town staff were still sorting through a tangle of misfiled, misplaced, ambiguous or missing minutes, contracts and financial records discovered in the wake of Council's unanimous decision to dismiss Town Administrator Mike Casey on July 23.

Asked on September 14, some six weeks after Casey's dismissal, when a full report would be forthcoming, Davis noted that Acting Town Administrator Claudia Dornin and town staff were making progress.

Both Mayor Davis and Council Member Bundles Murdock promised they'd do their best to have full report ready "before the end of the year."

In August, Mayor Davis, supported by Council Members Darlene Kirk and Murdock, promised a full report on what procedures had not been followed, why, and what steps would be taken to ensure more effective Council oversight of both town finances and those entrusted with their management.

At the same August meeting, Town Attorney, Liz Whiting, assured the public that "... those discussions that should take place in public, will ... even when different things may reflect on the performance of individual officers and employees."

In the meantime, the Council has decided to remove "Council Response to Public Comments" from its regular monthly meeting agenda. No reasons were given for elimination of agenda item that was designed to allow Council to "... discuss how they would like to respond to public comment at regular meetings."

\$96,000 Requested

Documentation for \$26,000 Incomplete

According to Acting Town Administrator, Claudia Dornin, her staff and the Council "... are instituting controls to ensure the financial policies of the town are adhered to."

The completion of the Town's regular annual audit will provide additional information on operations through end of June 2006, she noted, and, "Council will use that information to make adjustments, if any

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ELEGANT GARDEN ENHANCES SPORTING LIBRARY GROUNDS

LOUISA WOODVILLE

As soon as landscape designer George Bridge saw the sprawling, empty field that lies on the north side of the National Sporting Library, he was inspired. "Big, beautiful boxwoods can do interesting things," he said, "like a boxwood room." And a boxwood room is precisely what Bridge created during the months of July and August. He transformed what was a grassy field into an English pleasure garden that, with its classical symmetry, is Italianate in spirit: a 1,000-square foot parterre, bordered by 10-foot high American boxwoods, their tops "banged" like a horse's tail. Nestled low against these 55-year-old boxwoods are blue Nikko Blue hydrangea bushes, pink rose bushes, and foot-high fledgling boxwoods, positioned in horizontal rows at right angles to each other. The shrubs punctuate an 800 square-foot area, shaping the garden's floor into a large, square cross. A 40-year-old 25-foot high Trident Maple, surrounded by green cover, sits at the center, anchoring the design. Topiary planters punctuate each corner.

Bridge, 46, is known for creating gardens that appear to have been in place for hundreds of years. He accomplishes this sleight of hand by uprooting already-established shrubs, trees, and boxwoods, transplanting them to new environs and placing them so as to create horizons, vistas, and intimate spaces.

"I have all sorts of shrubs, boxwoods, and espalier at my Acorn Farm," said Bridge, referring to his 25-acre nursery in Montgomery County's Laytonsville and his 200-acre boxwood nursery outside Lynchburg, Va. The true skill, he said, is in transplanting the trees, bushes and plants, so they "take"

Continued Page 7

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POWER CORRIDOR THROUGH LOUDOUN PAGE 4

NEW MEDICAL AUTOMATION CONFERENCE PAGE 4

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BEAR MOUNTAIN DRIVE, MARSHALL, VA

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Babette Scully 540-687-3323



FAIRFIELD, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Special location with 4+ acres just east of Middleburg. 1st floor master bedroom with en-suite bath, living room, dining room with access to screened porch overlooking the pool. Two additional bedrooms, bath and half bath, den, family room, eat-in kitchen and library. Attached 2-car garage. \$1,300,000.

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SILCOTT SPRINGS FARM, PURCELLVILLE, VA

Circa 1790 restored stone house, barn and guest house on 60 acres. The farm is beautifully sited overlooking a pond and rolling lawn. The buildings have been fully renovated and offer a wonderful finished product with modern day conveniences in a setting that is serene and very special. The farm offers ample pasture for horses. \$2,500,000.

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LAND, MIDDLEBURG AREA, VA

Finest land in the Northern Virginia. 240 acres in conservation easement with streams and creeks traversing. Privacy, mountain views, hills, great hunting. Premier location. \$25,000 per acre.

Babette Scully 540-687-3323



HYLTON HEAD FARM, RIXEYVILLE, VA

89+ rolling acres. 7000+ s.f. French Country Manor home. 6 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, energy efficient, maintenance free. Many distinctive features and upgrades, full finished basement with media room, new barn. Long frontage on Indian Run. \$2,175,000.

Jud and Page Glascock 540-592-3238



THREE NOTCH FARM, WARRENTON, VA

Spectacular 196 acre parcel with over one mile on the Rappahannock River. Mostly mature woods with open fields near the river. Several excellent building sites. A terrific wildlife or hunting preserve. V.O.F. easement prohibits subdivision. Great privacy and protection. \$2,352,000.

Carole Miller 703-705-9110



STONEGATE MOOR, LEESBURG, VA

Graceful 1935 stone residence, lovingly restored. 4,700 sf, 6 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 fireplaces, living room, den, family room, dining room, breakfast room, gourmet kitchen. 20 acres, pool, tennis court, carriage house w/apartment, guest house. Superb views! \$2,250,000.

Rick Lowe 703-509-3962
Anita Sisney 703-973-1987



ALDIE ROAD, ALDIE, VA

Well-built 4 bedroom, 3 bath log home with Vermont slate in foyer. Central vacuum, 18 x 20 family room with huge stone fireplace, walk-out basement with bedroom, bath and fireplace. Privately situated at the end of country lane yet minutes from Gilbert's Corner. 7.79 acres are open and wooded and in the village of Aldie. \$895,000.

Isobel Ziluca 540-454-2041



RODELL HOUSE, NORTH FORK, VA

Privacy and solitude on 10.2 acres. Approximately 5 acres cleared surrounded by woods with small stream and views to the north. Well maintained 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath ramblar with 3 fireplaces, spacious great room and finished lower level. Two car garage, deck with gazebo, machine shed and storage shed. \$625,500.

Carol Fochtman 540-272-4334

MIDDLEBURG ENVIRONS

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Eccentric
P.O. Box 1768
Middleburg, VA 20118
540-687-3200
fax 540-687-8035
www.middleburgeccentric.com
news@mbecc.com

On the Cover
Caroline Brooke Costin is escorted to her wedding to Nathan Drake Kline by her grandfather, Howard Allen, in a horse-drawn carriage. The ceremony took place in Middleburg September 16th.
Photo by Jay Hubbard

Editor In Chief
Dee Dee Hubbard ~ editor@mbecc.com
Chief Production Editor
Jay Hubbard
Publisher
Dan Morrow

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NEWS OF NOTE

MIDDLEBURG HORSE TRIALS SEPTEMBER 30 AND OCTOBER 1

Glenwood Park in Middleburg, VA. Will be the site of the 15th edition of the Middleburg Horse Trials on September 30 & October 1, 2006. Some 245 horses are entered at the Intermediate, Preliminary, and Novice levels. Olympians, international riders, and children alike will be competing their experienced horses as well as their young horses.

The dressage and show jumping phases will be run on Saturday, September 30, starting at 7:40 AM, and ending at 5:30 PM. The cross-country phase will follow on Sunday with the Preliminary divisions at 8:30 AM, the Intermediate at 11:00 AM, and the Novice from 1:30 PM until 5:30 PM. Additionally novice level horses will be jumping in their stadium phase.

The public is invited to come watch all the phases and to enjoy a

day in the country at one of the nation's most picturesque equestrian facilities. Glenwood Park, home to three steeplechase meets as well. Admission is free.

The Middleburg Horse Trials benefits the Middleburg Orange County Pony Club, The Glenwood Park Trust, and the Loudoun Hospital Foundation. Sponsorship by Pohanka Chevrolet of Chantilly, Nutrena Feeds and Tri-Country Feeds of Marshall, and Country Chevrolet of Warrenton help enhance the teaching programs of the pony club as well as offering prize money to the first three placings of each division.

Glenwood Park is located one mile north of the traffic light in Middleburg, Virginia on the Foxcroft Road, Route 626. For further information please call 540/687-5449.

OCH TEAM EVENT PLANNED SUNDAY OCTOBER 29



The annual Orange County Hunt Cross Country Team Event will be held Sunday, October 29 at Old Whitewood Farm near The Plains, with the popular Junior Hunter Championship. The OCH Team Chase features teams of three to four horses or ponies galloping over a rolling course of walls, coops, rails and hay bales in two main divisions: Limit Hunters and Genuine Hunters. Team prizes are awarded for ideal time, best turned out, best hunt team and best family/farm team. A Genuine Hunter championship also is awarded. Call 540-253-5356 for prize lists. Entries close Tuesday Oct. 24.

CEDRIC THE ENTERTAINER SIGHTED IN MIDDLEBURG

Middleburg's Market Salamander was the lunch venue of choice recently for Cedric the Entertainer, the actor, producer and writer known for his comedy and for his roles in 'Barbershop' with Ice Cube, 'Be Cool' with John Travolta and 'Intolerable Cruelty' with George Clooney.

GEORGE WAGNER WHITE III SEPTEMBER 30 AND OCTOBER 1, 2006



Born August 22nd and weighing in at 9 Pounds, 1.2 oz
His proud parents are Chip and Lisa White of Middleburg

RACE DAY FUN FOR FAMILIES MORVEN PARK'S 27TH RUNNING OF THE STEEPLCHASE

There will be an amazing variety of activities for children at beautiful and historic Morven Park in Leesburg, Virginia, when the traditional Running of the Steeplechase takes place Saturday, October 14th at the internationally renowned course.

"You'll not only see the regular race goers and athletic horses, you'll see many families who enjoy the races and The Family Fair," said Will O'Keefe, Executive Director of Morven Park.

"It's clear that the Family Fun area enhances the day for families, but it doesn't take them away from this fine and fun sport that is steeped in Virginia tradition."

The lovely 1200-acre historic property is within easy driving distance for families from Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia and Maryland. The race entrance located on Route 15 North, just outside of down-

town Leesburg.

At the Fun Fair this year, there will be pony rides, the popular Leesburg Petting Zoo's 'Zoo to You,' a duck pond, an 'Animal Ambassadors' exhibit with colorful macaw birds plus other animals, a moon bounce and more.



Back by popular demand, is the 'Family Course Walk' where patrons can join amateur jockey and Middleburg resident Greg Ryan as he leads an exciting 'sneak preview' of what it's like to be a jockey and how horse and rider collaborate for the big Steeplechase win, which takes place at noon starting in front of the large Steward's Stand.

"We are thrilled to once again have Gregg at the Steeplechase. He immediately committed to leading this walk, and we think his enthusiasm with the kids will certainly turn them into our

Continued Page 4

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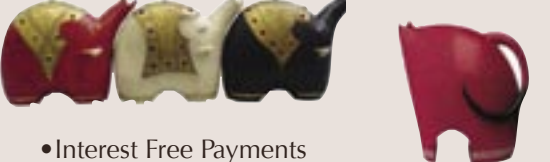
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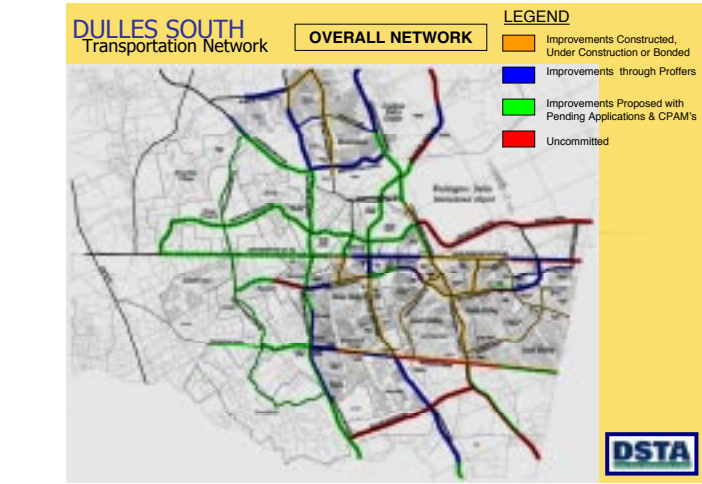
NEWS OF NOTE

NEW “POWER CORRIDOR” THROUGH LOUDOUN?
FRIENDS AND FOES UNITE IN OPPOSITION : THREATENED USE OF IMMINENT DOMAIN

Dominion Virginia and Allegheny Power plan to build a 500-kilovolt transmission line, linking Winchester to Aldie, complete with steel towers nearly 160 feet tall and a wide right-of-way up to 200 feet wide. But the line doesn't end at Aldie. In March, PJM Interconnection, and Allegheny Power asked the Department of Energy for an early decision on a “National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor” designation for the route.

Using national security and the need for redundant routing of power to the Capital and other major cities in times of crisis, the designation would allow the Federal Government to condemn property for the right of way, no matter what objections might be raised by property owners, or state, county, and local governments.

Bundles Murdock gave the Middleburg Town Council an early warning about the power companies plans in August. Noting the impact of such rights-of-way on the environment and public health, not to mention historic sites, viewsheds, and property values, she urged action. On September 14 the Council unanimously authorized the drafting of a formal resolution for distribution to the Department of Energy and all other important stakeholders, urging, at the very least, that an environmental impact study and public hearings precede any Federal, state, or county action on the matter. The same day, at a Piedmont Environmental Council briefing at the Hill School, Council Member Mark Snyder urged development of a well-reasoned counter-plan to meet the power companies' national security and redundancy arguments. The Council hopes to pass the resolution at



a special meeting on September 27. Member of both pro-growth and slow-growth factions on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors have joined forces against the “corridor.” Developers see the giant towers and humming lines as “sales killers.” Homeowners, already worried about real estate values, see them as “asset killers.” Politicians see them as “vote killers.” Senator John Warner demanded a clearer definition of needs, the development of alternative approaches to meeting them, and a comprehensive environmental impact study before moving forward. Stronger language was used by both Judy Feder and Frank Wolf. Wolf’s letter to the Secretary of Energy was unequivocal. “Millions of federal, state, local and private dollars have gone into protecting the sanctity of the history of this region. An electric transmission corridor with a transmis-

sion line of the magnitude proposed would permanently desecrate the integrity of this landscape. We must not destroy this land.” Yet to be heard from on the issue is junior Senator George Allen, who serves on the powerful Senate Committee on Energy and Resources. Supporters of former Navy Secretary Jim Webb, Allen’s opponent in the upcoming election, have noted Allen’s close ties to Dominion Power (Allen’s wife and Richmond Democrat Benjamin Lambert served together on Dominion’s Board of Directors). Allen has also been a strong supporter of the Bush administration’s current energy policy, which Pennsylvania Republican Rick Santorum bragged recently, could help an Allegheny Energy proposal “... to build a \$1.4 billion, 330-mile transmission line from West Virginia to Maryland to bring a more reliable energy stream to the East Coast”

MEDICAL AUTOMATION
CONFERENCE AT LANSDOWNE
LOUDOUN IS SETTING FOR MAJOR
INTERNATIONAL MEETING AND TRADE SHOW

Medical Automation, a conference focused on technologies that improve the efficiency and safety of health care delivery, will be held at the Lansdowne Resort on Thursday, November 2nd, and Friday, November 3rd. Featuring an international audience of health care providers and technology developers as well as a trade exhibition, Medical Automation promises to attract a new breed of professionals to Loudoun County. The inaugural sponsor, the Loudoun County Board of Supervi-

sors, provided the financial foundation that attracted the conference from Helsinki, Finland to Virginia. The Inova Health System provided a Founding Sponsorship. Given these incentives, the conference Chairs, UVA’s Dr. Robin Felder and Terry Sharrer, founder of the Loudoun Science and Technology Cabinet, have made a 5 year commitment to host the conference in Loudoun County. For complete information visit their web site, <http://medicalautomation.org

RACE DAY FUN FOR FAMILIES
FROM PAGE 3

Steeplechase’s lifetime fans, maybe even future supporters, owners or jockeys.” The 27th Running of the Morven Park Steeplechase takes place at the International Equestrian Center at Morven Park and includes at least seven races over jumps and on the flat. Gates open at 11 a.m. The first race (post-time) is 1:30 p.m. Food and drink vendors will provide sustenance and refreshment for families who didn’t pack a picnic. Morven Park’s grounds keepers are gearing up for the races by consistently watering the course to ensure the safety of both horse and rider. Spectator viewing is superb at Morven Park, whether patrons are right at the rail or on the lawn with a

blanket, they can see the races. “We realize that a large part of race day excitement is to come with friends or family and enjoy a wonderful day outdoors, But when folks want to watch the horses, it’s nice to be able to turn around and actually see the race,” O’Keefe emphasized. Race patrons may enjoy the day as sponsors of party or corporate tent packages or as one of many of levels including railside spots which allow race goers to tailgate. Advance general admission tickets are \$30.00 per car. Race Day General Admission tickets are \$10.00 per person. For more details, reserve your spot or receive directions, call Morven Park (703) 777-2414, or visit www.morvenpark.org.

VDOT SURVEY EXCLUDES
PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS
BY-RIGHT DEVELOPMENT PLACE BURDEN ON TAXPAYERS

The recently released VDOT report, “Traffic Impact Analysis of Adding 28,000 Households in Southern Loudoun County, is seriously flawed and incomplete according to the Dulles South Transportation Alliance. A review of the VDOT study conducted by Wells & Associates, LLC, a nationally recognized traffic engineering and transportation planning firm based in McLean, Virginia, concludes that the methodology used by VDOT is flawed and the study contains numerous inaccuracies in its conclusions. Large portions of road improvements and expansions (see map for detail), that are part of the DSTA’s proffered road network were not included in the VDOT report . DSTA

proposes to construct 210 lane-miles of regional roads, including improvements to Route 50, Relocated Route 659 and the Tri-County Parkway. According to Wells and Associates, these improvements would more than satisfy local traffic impact concerns and would significantly address regional needs. In addition to omitting major road segment improvements, the VDOT report fails to evaluate and compare the traffic impact on the Dulles South area under currently zoned by-right development. Understanding that in this scenario there is no funding for the improvement of any key roads included in the VDOT study, it is clear that responsibility for road improvements will fall on the general public through new taxes and bond issues.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES GALA
“A CELTIC CHRISTMAS” BENEFIT FOR THE
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BARN, INC.

Festival of Trees “A Celtic Christmas” Gala with Celtic entertainment, dinner, auction, dancing, and the presentation of the Agnes Colgan “Celebration of Life” award to benefit the Transitional Housing BARN, Inc.: 6:30PM at Foxchase Manor in Manassas, Virginia; Tickets \$85pp, \$160 couple; Anyone who is interested in becoming a sponsor, making a donation, or attending the Festival, please contact Jennifer L. Wilkinson at 703-369-1325 ext. 11 or developmgr@barninc.org. Senator Charles Colgan will attend the 8th Annual Festival of Trees Gala “A Celtic Christmas” on Saturday, November 18, 2006 to benefit the Transitional Housing BARN, Inc. The Senator’s late wife, Agnes Colgan, played a central role in fostering BARN’s growth and in recognition of her dedication and stewardship, the Agnes Colgan “Celebration of Life” award was established. The gala will include fine dining, both live and silent auctions of beautifully decorated trees as well as wide variety exciting items, dancing, and the presentation of the Agnes Colgan “Celebration of Life” award. The Gala will be held from 6:30PM – 12:00AM at Foxchase Manor in Virginia. Transitional Housing BARN, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides homeless women and children temporary housing, supportive services, and programs such as counseling, life skills, case management, financial management, child development, etc. The program ends homelessness for these families and provides them a path to self-sufficiency. As residents complete the program, BARN provides them up to six months of follow-up services and continues to track them for a year to ensure success. When families are given this opportunity, the results are amazing! Since starting the program in 1997, BARN has remained at capacity and 96% of the families that have completed the program have sustained both permanent housing and financial independence. The BARN program is partially supported by HUD, Commonwealth of Virginia, The ExxonMobil Foundation, Fannie Mae Foundation, Freddie Mac Foundation, Robert Trent Jones Foundation, The Zeiders Charity Support Foundation, UniCare Health Plan and other private donors. Even with these generous donors, BARN is not fully funded. BARN needs additional support to fund and expand its’ program. For every family accepted, fourteen (14) families must be turned away. BARN wants to stop having to turn those families away. Our website is http://www.barninc.org

ANTIQUE APPRAISAL DAY
MOSBY HERITAGE, SLOANS & KENYON PARTICIPATE

Mosby Heritage Area Association in partnership with Sloans and Kenyon Auctioneers and Appraisers will be holding their second annual Appraisal Day at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church Parish House in Middleburg on Saturday, October 28, 2006 from 11:00AM to 4:00PM. A team of expert appraisers will be on hand to help you solve the mystery of that interesting item you inherited or couldn’t leave the flea market without. Specialists in paintings, decorative arts, silver, books, porcelain, jewelry, Civil War Relics, Americana, etc will be on hand to answer your questions. There was a wide variety of treasures appraised last year including a silk 12 starred hand woven American flag valued at \$50,000, a quartz like stone that turned out to be a diamond in the rough, value \$15,000, a col-

lection of autographed baseballs and a campaign chest from the CSA that had been thoughtfully handed down through generations. All in all over 180 items were appraised and everyone involved found the day to be a very learning experience. Need to pare down? Clear out the attic? Empty that closet? Sloans and Kenyon will not only advise you of the value of your treasure but may be able to include it in one of their future auction sales. The proceeds from the \$25 per item appraisal fee will go toward The MHAA educational programs that endeavor to raise the awareness of the cultural, historic and scenic resources of our area. With growing awareness we hope to pass along the commitment and resolve to preserve this unrivaled but threatened heritage area. For more information call 540-687-6681 or 703-327-0065



MORVEN PARK RACES

ONE DAY two Ways

THE 27TH RUNNING OF THE MORVEN PARK STEEPLECHASE



Fans Watch For the Winner!



Kids Petting Zoo



Jockeys' Before Race Time!

Families and Businesses alike-don't miss the popular Morven Park Steeplechase!

Saturday, October 14th - Route 15 North, Leesburg
Gates open 11 AM - Post Time (first race) 1:30 PM
www.morvenpark.org

FAMILY FUN FAIR ~ 11:30 ON

- 'Zoo to You' Petting Zoo
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NEWS OF NOTE

FINANCIAL PROBE CONTINUES

FROM PAGE 1

are required.”

One of the key problems facing the Davis Council appears to be a lack of basic procedures for document signing, filing and record retrieval.

In a September 11 memorandum, for example, Dornin requested review and approval of invoices totaling nearly \$96,000.

“For reasons that are unclear to me,” she noted, “proposals and contract amendments on file” supporting invoices totaling nearly \$26,000 “... were not signed by a town representative.”

She also noted that, despite the missing or incomplete paperwork, the work for which payment was requested could be “verified as completed” and “consistent” with the unsigned proposals and amendments on file in the Town offices.

Faced with a dilemma, Dornin requested and received council approval to pay Whitman Requardt and Associates and Vollmer Associates on the basis of “previously approved payments” which, from her perspective, implied that approval “was assumed or obtained verbally” from Mike Casey.

The town owed WRA \$2, 238 for work related to the Town’s existing wastewater utilities and planning for the new Salamander Inn treatment system. The Vollmer invoice, for consulting and work on a number of engineering projects, totaled \$17,119.25.

Missing documentation compelled Dornin to ask Hydro-Tech to search their own files for a copy of a signed proposal to justify payment their invoice for \$6,380 for installing a much-needed sprinkler system.

Missing, Unclear, Ambiguous

Dornin and her staff not only faced missing signatures and documentation. Other records were difficult, if not impossible, to interpret or existed in multiples, each different from the other.

For some Council meetings, the town minute books do not contain signed copies of the final version of revised minutes. Hand annotated copies were consulted. In other cases old tapes were reviewed, in order to make sure minutes accurately reflect proceedings.

Some members of the Council,

and other observers, blame these problems on high turnover in positions on the town staff during Casey’s tenure as Town Administrator.

In March, 2006, for example, Council found itself compelled to appoint Casey himself to no less than three temporary positions: Town Planner, Zoning Administrator, and Town Clerk because of high staff turnover.

The Hyre Example

Even after Casey’s dismissal, however, ambiguity remained a problem.

On September 14, for example, the council unanimously approved minutes of their August 10 session.

The record stated clearly that, “Council member [Darlene] Kirk stated that Council member [Helen] Hyre will be with the Council until the end of the year. She said that she found that her schedule will allow her to continue on the Council until that time.”

Asked directly if the minutes she had just voted to approve indicated that she would be leaving the council “...at the end of the year,” Hyre made herself perfectly clear. Her on-again-off-again “resignation” is definitely “off,” she said, and there is no set date for her resignation, if, indeed, she decides to resign at all.

Procedures and Precedents: The \$1,000 “Trigger” What’s the Process?

What is supposed to happen to ensure effective control and oversight of payments to vendors from town funds?

Interviews with current and former staff yield widely varying interpretations of Council policy, and equally differing points of view about just where the oversight buck stops, if, indeed, it stops at all.

According to a February, 2002, unanimously adopted procurement policy, “Any expenditure request made by a departmental supervisor or staff member for use of town funds of \$1,000 or more, that has NOT been identified as within the approved town budget NOR is of an emergency nature, must be presented to the council for their approval before purchase.”

All sources contacted by the Eccentric agree that, with rare excep-

tion “standard” financial procedure now requires that the Town Treasurer submit incoming invoices first to the town staff member who incurred the expense. That staff member must verify and provide first approval for payment.

Once that happens, the Treasurer makes a list of checks needed and flags those requiring further approval.

The Treasurer then passes the check-request list to the Town Administrator, who reviews it, and, then and there, approves all listed payments within his or her authority.

The Town Administrator next informs the Mayor of any un-approved items on the list, namely, those covered by the “\$1,000 trigger” noted above, or those not included in a budget line item or as part of a previously approved contract. (Paychecks, for example, do not require re-approval each month by Council.)

At the same time, the Town Administrator gives the Mayor any checks already signed by the Treasurer for the Mayor’s final review.

If certain that a check bearing the Treasurer’s signature is appropriately drawn, then and only then, the Mayor appends his or her own, required, “second signature.”

Only checks bearing two authorized signatures may be cashed, and, by all accounts, the Mayor is the last person to sign with rare exceptions when the Mayor is not available.

After signing checks that have been appropriately drawn, the Mayor, working closely with the Town Administrator and Treasurer, then seeks council review of any remaining invoices.

In Question: Policy, Procedure, and Practicality

Opinions vary about how the procedures outlined above were supposed to work, who was ultimately responsible for their enforcement, and what, if anything, should be the consequences of failure to follow them.

Neither Mayor Davis nor Acting Town Administrator Dornin will to express an opinion or issue a statement until they have completed their formal review.

Sources familiar with the workings of the town staff and council under former Mayor Tim Dimos, contend

that the policy adopted in 2002 was directed more at the Town’s department heads than at the Town Administrator.

According to these sources, the “\$1,000 trigger” for invoices identified as unbudgeted or questionable begs the question, “Identified by whom?” The Town Treasurer, The Town Administrator? The Mayor? Sources close to Dimos argue that the Treasurer and Town Administrator are in the best position to “identify” problems.

These sources also note that the Town budget speaks only to categories of expenditures, not to individual invoices and expense items.

According to new “streamlined” financial management policies adopted by Council in January, they insist, budget control is maintained at the activity level, not at the individual invoice level.

The \$1,000 “trigger,” moreover, is not mentioned at all in these new policies. Whether or not the January 2006 rules were meant to complement or supplant the older policies continues to be debated.

Davis and Dornin clearly appear to believe the \$1,000 “trigger” is still in effect, and have, they say, done their best to enforce it.

Sources close to the Dimos Council argue that successful oversight must really begin when services are ordered, not at the point at which invoices begin to arrive. At that point, they say, the question for “first approvers” is simply, “Did we get what we ordered.”

If, despite those controls, an invoice slipped through the oversight process and drove an account over budget, it should show up in the Treasurer’s very next monthly report, at which Council could take whatever corrective or disciplinary steps it believes are required.

Given the current interpretation of the \$1,000 “trigger,” Council must ask itself whether a \$1,000 per year, part-time Mayor can actually be expected to remember what’s been approved, and what hasn’t, when presented with a stack of checks to sign, all of which have been already approved by the Town Administrator and Town Treasurer.

What’s the Damage?

Debate also continues about the

real impact of recent events on the town and its citizens.

No one, at this point, has suggested that anyone involved in the affair has profited personally, either directly or indirectly, from whatever procedural problems and oversights finally emerge in the Mayor’s report.

Embarrassment, concern about the quality of oversight in other, as yet unknown areas; and the cost of borrowing money to cover the town’s cash requirements are the most often mentioned consequences, along with whatever role these matters played, if any, in the Sunday Night Surprise firing of Mike Casey.

Council has already found it necessary to authorize its Acting Town Manager Dornin to seek \$500,000 in short-term financing from Middleburg Bank. A \$300,000 “immediate” draw was authorized, with any successive tapping of the credit line requiring two signatures: the Mayor’s and that of either the Acting Town Administrator or Town Treasurer.

This month Dornin was also authorized to work with Mitchell & Company, PC, to complete arrangements to perform the annual audit of “town financial, governmental and business activities” for fiscal year 2006. Mitchell’s fees will not exceed \$14,150.

Salamander

During discussions at a Special Session of Council on August 30, Salamander’s Prem Devadas outlined plans for the development of the Salamander properties, noting that his organization would be filing the necessary legal requests for a “special exemption” for the resort to accommodate its final plan in “mid to late September.”

Council member Mark Snyder expressed concern that Salamander’s most current plan comprised a 120-room resort, 49 houses, ranging in size from 4,000 to 6,000 square feet, and “... what looks like 5 acres of commercial development, additional housing, and redistributing the housing in areas currently zoned R1 and R2.

Snyder asked Devadas is he was “prepared for the Council to come back to him” and “offer to do some horse trading” in exchange for what he saw as “millions of dollars of new development” not covered in the Town’s current “Memorandum of Understanding” with Salamander.

Devadas reportedly pressed for getting such points on the table immediately, given the timetable for beginning construction on the Salamander property.

Snyder replied that, clearly, no resolution of matters of that scope could be reached on the spot at the August 30 meeting.

According to minutes of the meeting, Devadas replied pointedly, noting that if Schneider’s goal was to exchange a grant of expanded commercial development for a reduction in the number of homes built on the site, “it was important to get it on the table tonight, because it may end this discussion real quickly.” Salamander “would not consider a reduction of the 49 home sites,” he said, “in exchange for this development,” adding that current zoning was “not in anybody’s interest.”

When asked by Mayor Davis if Salamander would “be available for public workshops” to discuss his plans, Devadas replied that “... he would be available for anything that would help Council to get back to him in 45 days. ...”

At the September 14 Council session, Snyder remained adamant that Salamander was “not asking for trade-offs” but for “additional development opportunities.”

“They’re asking us for a lot, and they’re not offering anything,” Snyder noted, and proposed that his 3-member Land Use Committee address the political implications of the Salamander proposals before referring them to

the larger Planning Commission. “I am not willing to seriously consider a development application that says, ‘Give me more ... and by the way, I’m not willing to give you anything.’” Snyder expressed concern that putting the issue in the hands of the Planning Commission before addressing his inherently political “horse trading” issues, would “... give it all away.”

Bundles Murdock, who serves on the Land Use Committee, argued that the matter was too important for just three people to consider alone, suggesting that the entire council meet in special session on the matter before referring it to the Planning Commission. “We need everybody to really weigh in,” she said.

After lengthy debate, the Council agreed to meet in special session to consider the Salamander proposals on Wednesday, September 27, at 6:00 PM

New Waste Water Treatment Plant

Claudia Dornin announced on September 14 that both Mayor Davis and representatives of Salamander Development had signed an agreement to begin construction of the Town’s new Water Treatment Facility.

In late July, Salamander had suggested that Middleburg could “save costs by considering lowered, but still acceptable, treatment levels.” They also suggested consideration of a treatment technology other than the “Membrane Bioreactor System” (MBR) initially proposed by the Town, and currently being installed by the Loudoun County Sanitation Authority to serve Broad Run.

The newly signed agreement maintains the higher, MBR, standards.

Reportedly some 13% more expensive to construct, and some 12% more costly to operate than some alternative approaches, the MBR system remained the town’s choice, not only because of “superior effluent quality from the outset of operations, but because the system would position the Town to “respond to more stringent effluent guidelines should they be required in the future.”

Consultant Hired to Help With Update of Comprehensive Town Plan

The Council approved hiring Herd Panning & Design to provide support to the Town’s Planning Commission to complete its five-year review and update of the Middleburg Comprehensive Plan. With the help of Milton Herd the Planning Commission expects to complete a working draft by the end of 2006, and present an updated Comprehensive Plan for Council approval during the first quarter of 2007. An initial cap of \$15,000 was put on the contract.

Trucks

After meeting with Jennifer Guinan of the Virginia Coalition for Safe Roads the Council unanimously adopted a resolution stating its continued opposition to increasing the size of trucks allowed on Virginia roads. The Council had passed a similar resolution in August, 2001.

CPAM Resolution

The Council unanimously passed a resolution on August 17 opposing proposed changes to the Loudoun County Revised General Plan that would allow the “potential construction of tens of thousands of new residential units and commercial businesses ... primarily along the Route 50 corridor.” The proposed changes would, according to Council, “... threaten the financial health and economic well-being of the Town of Middleburg, diminish the visual and spatial transition between Eastern and Western Loudoun, and erode the unique and distinct character of Western Loudoun.”

STUNNING LIBRARY GARDEN

FROM PAGE 1

to their new environs. “You’d never know they’ve been moved—that’s our skill,” he said. In addition to donating 24 boxwoods, 50 hydrangea, 80 rose bushes, the Trident Maple, and assorted shrubbery and ground cover, Bridge also donated a month’s worth of labor from a four-person team, which worked hard to implement the design to Bridge’s exacting specifications.

The early stages involved huge cranes and forklifts that positioned the boxwoods shipped from Bridge’s Lynchburg farm; an existing Japanese maple tree with a 15,000-pound root ball already on the property was

moved about fifteen feet east. The centerpiece Trident Maple, which sports a 92-inch diameter root ball, was carefully transplanted.

One of Bridge’s secrets is to treat the unearthed and transplanted shrubbery with an organic fish emulsion that makes the plants resilient to the trauma. He also hand-digs to uproot established plants – including big trees – before forklifting them to a new location.

Bridge said he also sought to visually integrate the 1804 brick Vine Hill building adjacent to the Library by means of his landscape design. He accomplished this by creating a walk-



way that runs on the east side of a line of boxwoods, with a brick path that makes a right-angled turn leading to Vine Hill’s western most entrance.

The result is stunning. “I wanted to do something public,” said Bridge, “and the Library is a great place to do this.”

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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

THOMAS & TALBOT REAL ESTATE'S ANNUAL REWARDS DINNER

Thomas & Talbot Real Estate's annual rewards dinner was held at The French Hound restaurant 8/29/06 to celebrate the 2005 award recipients presented by GPAAR which included John Coles, The #1 Sales Agent for the past four years, Mary Ann McGowan, the #3 Sales Agent and Top Five Producer for the

past six years, Donna M. Baker, Life Member Award and Production Award "Platinum", Cricket Bedford, Mary Owen Chatfield-Taylor, and Barrington Hall, all Production Awards "Platinum" honorees, Catherine Bernache & Alex Sharp (Our man in Rappahannock Co.) Production Awards "Gold" honorees and Rein T. duPont, Production Award "Silver".

THE COTTAGE GALLERY

Carolyn Casey brings more than twenty-five years of custom framing experience to the Middleburg community. A certified picture framer, she has served art communities in San Francisco, Oregon, Colorado and Chicago. She is adding The Cottage Gallery in Middleburg to one she owns in Winnetka, Illinois, a North Shore community in the Chicago area. While living on the West Slope of Colorado, she worked with an interior design firm serving customers in the "high country", including Vail, Aspen and Telluride. One of her favorite projects provided framing for the art which went into the restoration of the historic Telluride Hotel.

The Cottage Gallery, at 12 E. Washington in Middleburg, offers Folk art, with a "country" flavor and custom framing for a broad range of art. She has worked with Chicago's leading conser-

vation group and framed pieces for customers and galleries with tastes across the spectrum of the art world.

Custom framing at The Cottage Gallery is done with acid free conservation materials. Carolyn carries a complete line of conservation matting, mounting materials and glass. The art work she frames is treated with utmost care. The large collection of frames includes styles from contemporary to antique and from heavily gilded to barn wood. Included in the varied inventory of frames is a line of hand carved and custom designed frames to please even the most discriminating customer.

The Cottage Gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10:30 AM until 5:00 PM, Sunday from Noon until 5:00 PM and by appointment. Callers may contact The Cottage Gallery at 540-687-8388.

AH&T INSURANCE SPONSORS NACD CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER

On September 1st Armfield, Harrison & Thomas, (AH&T) became one of three major sponsors of the National Association of Corporate Directors' (NACD) Capital Area Chapter. As a sponsor, AH&T will share its expertise on governance matters, assist in recruiting panelists for educational programming, and provide financial support.

NACD is the premier national educational, publishing and consulting organization in board leadership and the only membership association for boards, directors, director-candidates and board advisors. NACD promotes high

professional standards for board and director conduct, practice, and performance; creates forums for peer interaction; enhances director effectiveness; asserts the policy interests of directors; conducts research; and educates boards and directors concerning traditional and cutting-edge issues. The NACD Capital Area Chapter currently serves a membership of over 350 professionals. The membership consists of outside directors, corporate executives, service providers, and organizational leaders interested in issues related to corporate governance.

David L. Schaefer, AH&T Principal and Director of its Man-

agement Liability Practice, will be a key liaison and advisor to the NACD area chapter. "We are honored to have this opportunity to support the NACD Capital Area Chapter in such a significant way. Their dedication to high quality education on corporate governance matters matches a portion of our own mission. As a chapter sponsor, we will enthusiastically assist them in program planning and other member services to elevate awareness in the value of better corporate governance for Capital region boardrooms. We look forward to working with their committees and Board as active partners," said Mr. Schaefer.

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broidered shirts and accessories in silver, onyx marble, llama and alpaca wool. Our showroom is furnished with fine paintings, engravings and art from FB Art Gallery and Antiques, from The Plains, the company that now proudly opens Pampa's Corner at 6482 B Main St. The Plains, Va 20198

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THE EDITOR’S DESK

TOGETHER WE STAND AGAINST TOWERING POWER LINES

Without question, citizens of Northern Virginia do not agree on everything, but we don’t feel we’re going too far out on a limb to say that there is almost universal agreement about Allegheny and Dominion Virginia Power’s plan to erect a 240-mile, 500kv transmission line from Southern Pennsylvania to the Loudoun substation near Arcola.

Whether we live in Middleburg, Aldie, Stone Ridge or any other town or village in Fauquier, Loudoun or Clarke counties, the answer is “no!”

We work diligently to protect our historic and environmentally sensitive areas, and no towers of electric power are going to blight this beautiful landscape without a fight of impressive proportions. Perhaps the most impressive aspect of this fight, the aspect that will shake the politicians to their core, will be the fact that, however much we disagree on other points, on this one, we stand together.

Dominion representatives say the new line is needed to provide power for Northern Virginia, but, when pressed, company officials admitted that Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Maryland and New York City would be the recipients.

Should we, as taxpayers, pay to construct this monstrosity? Absolutely not.

As Congressman Frank Wolf says, this is one of the most protected landscapes in America, and it must stay that way. Although Senator Allen’s wife sits on the Dominion board of directors, we recommend he step up to the plate and side with us and against this outrage. If it causes him heartburn at home, so be it.

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:

An Open Letter to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

By now you are aware that the developer of the proposed Braddock South project has conceded that this effort (like most of the others in the Dulles

South CPAM) is a bad idea. While the developer paints a picture that the PEC and other forces are the bad guys, the reality is that this company has made a realistic business decision. They realize that the Loudoun real estate market is rapidly declining due to the ever increasing tax burden and rapidly decreasing quality

of life associated with the irresponsible zoning decisions of the current (but clearly not the future) Board of Supervisors. This developer is not prepared to invest millions of stockholder dollars in an area that is oversaturated with homes, has rapidly declining traffic/quality of life, in a housing market that is “settling” hard. These

facts are something Loudoun residents, especially those in the Dulles South area, have been telling their hard-headed representatives for quite sometime. Supervisors such as Mr. Snow and Tulloch must be blind, deaf, stupid or corrupt not to see this for themselves.

Did you know that Kirkpatrick Farms was approved 9 years ago and that they have only sold 385 homes in that development? (Source: Loudoun Times Mirror 8/23/06/) In comparison, Stone Ridge has built 1,171 of the 3,265 approved.) There are still about 1,000 homes left to be sold in South Riding/South Riding Station too. Dulles South needs more development about as much as New Orleans needs another hurricane.

I fully expect that the next shoe to fall is for developers, especially the golden boy of the moment Greenvest, LLC, to suddenly unilaterally modify the proffers they have been so quick to advertise. One merely needs to look at what CENTEX did in Warrenton to predict the future. Like locusts they will move onto the next fertile field of rubes to munch on.

Imagine a future where instead of “the manna from the heaven of developers”, our BOS will need to suddenly act like adults and responsibly budget expenses against expected revenues. Based on their recent behavior, I have little confidence in this board to suddenly wake up and do the right thing.

Tom Conway
Aldie, Virginia

To the Editor:

I’m personally getting pretty tired of the pro development group labeling anyone who doesn’t subscribe to their point of view as being elitist and anti-growth. We all accept the fact that growth is inevitable. But, it should be controlled and managed to allow resources to keep pace with the growth; this is common sense. At some point in time Loudoun will be “built out”. That is also inevitable. The citizens of Loudoun should be the ones that determine how and when that happens, not some developer whose only stake in Loudoun County is to make as much profit as possible and then move on. What we refuse to accept as inevitable are unconstrained, irresponsible, growth policies and that we have an obligation to provide housing to anyone who someday may

want to live in Loudoun County. Let’s be honest. The majority of the citizens are against run away growth. The only ones who are pushing it are the developers and a few land owners looking to make large profits. Does anyone seriously believe that allowing 33,000+ homes into the transition area, with the hundreds of thousands of additional automobile trips associated with these homes, not to mention the additional strain on our resources and the resulting increases in our taxes, will improve our quality of life? The proof is that I doubt that any of the executives of the development companies that are proposing this growth will live in these communities. My guess is that they live in uncongested areas away from the “maddening crowds”. Please don’t tell us that they will provide more “affordable” housing unless you consider \$300,000+ townhouses as “affordable” housing. Don’t try to placate us with the millions of dollars that will be spent on “road improvements”. Have any of the so called “road improvements” the various developers have proffered so far help alleviate traffic congestion? It’s only gotten worse. Most of the road improvements are to grand entrances to the development and improvements solely to get into and out of the development. A perfect example of this is Rt. 50 in front of South Riding; six lanes there and four lanes either side of South Riding. Additionally, has anyone considered the effects on the traffic situation in Fairfax County that the additional hundreds of thousands of car trips coming from the west will cause? The latest action of the pro unconstrained, irresponsible growth group is to call into question the VDOT traffic study for Loudoun County. They are trying to obfuscate the issue by clouding it with nuances and innuendos. You don’t need a study to know that tens of thousands of new homes will generate hundreds of thousands of additional car trips that will not improve our quality of life, even with extra turning lanes into their developments. In the end fellow citizens we have no one to blame but ourselves; we put those pro development BOS lackeys in power. So it’s up to us to take them out. Get involved and show them we won’t go quietly into the night; we will be heard and they better listen or they will “go home” with good willance.

Want to live in Loudoun County. Let’s be honest. The majority of the citizens are against run away growth. The only ones who are pushing it are the developers and a few land owners looking to make large profits. Does anyone seriously believe that allowing 33,000+ homes into the transition area, with the hundreds of thousands of additional automobile trips associated with these homes, not to mention the additional strain on our resources and the resulting increases in our taxes, will improve our quality of life? The proof is that I doubt that any of the executives of the development companies that are proposing this growth will live in these communities. My guess is that they live in uncongested areas away from the “maddening crowds”. Please don’t tell us that they will provide more “affordable” housing unless you consider \$300,000+ townhouses as “affordable” housing. Don’t try to placate us with the millions of dollars that will be spent on “road improvements”. Have any of the so called “road improvements” the various developers have proffered so far help alleviate traffic congestion? It’s only gotten worse. Most of the road improvements are to grand entrances to the development and improvements solely to get into and out of the development. A perfect example of this is Rt. 50 in front of South Riding; six lanes there and four lanes either side of South Riding. Additionally, has anyone considered the effects on the traffic situation in Fairfax County that the additional hundreds of thousands of car trips coming from the west will cause? The latest action of the pro unconstrained, irresponsible growth group is to call into question the VDOT traffic study for Loudoun County. They are trying to obfuscate the issue by clouding it with nuances and innuendos. You don’t need a study to know that tens of thousands of new homes will generate hundreds of thousands of additional car trips that will not improve our quality of life, even with extra turning lanes into their developments. In the end fellow citizens we have no one to blame but ourselves; we put those pro development BOS lackeys in power. So it’s up to us to take them out. Get involved and show them we won’t go quietly into the night; we will be heard and they better listen or they will “go home” with good willance.

This comprehensive plan will soon come before the full Board of Supervisors for consideration. We ask of them to please help make the Dulles South area a progressive and vibrant area by approving the Dulles South CPAM’s.

We respectfully request acknowledgement of receipt of this submission.

Jeremy C. Rosenberg
Middleburg, Virginia

To the Editor:

Kudos to the Loudoun County Planning Commission for getting it right at its August 28, 2006 meeting.

It was very apparent that the tough and arduous task at setting the stage for the future of the Dulles South area was not an easy one. Many hours of work by the Commission and involved citizens of the area came to fruition on Monday night when the Commission voted and approved the two Dulles South CPAM’s that were under consideration.

Even Delegate Marshall’s humorous attempt to intimidate the Commission into making an erroneous decision did not persuade the Commission from utilizing common sense. After carefully considering the majority opinion voiced by the many residents who understand the desperate need for the growth and amenities in the Dulles South area, the Commission elected to approve the Comprehensive Plan Amendment and pass this well thought out plan on to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors.

Now it is time for the Board of Supervisors to continue in this endeavor and conduct the business of the people for the Dulles South area. Residents in the Dulles South area have been left out of the County’s main stream for too long, and it is now time for those of us who reside here to share in the same quality of life that our fellow Loudoun County residents enjoy.

The development community is willing to assist with this vision. They are willing to build the modern roads, schools, libraries, public safety facilities and the other much needed amenities in the area, but the County of Loudoun has to work with them as well. They need the increased density that the Upper Broad Run, Upper Foley and Arcola CPAM’s will bring to make this a viable option.

This comprehensive plan will soon come before the full Board of Supervisors for consideration. We ask of them to please help make the Dulles South area a progressive and vibrant area by approving the Dulles South CPAM’s.

We respectfully request acknowledgement of receipt of this submission.

Ron and JoAnne Brown
Aldie, Virginia

To the Editor:

The people of Loudoun County supported the Clem-Burton plan 15 to 1 as a reasonable compromise for our Western Zoning. The Board majority promised to honor the will of the people and support this compromise. They lied.

The Clem-Burton Plan would have allowed a 40% increase in the number of houses permitted in Western Loudoun under previous zoning. This new “compromise”, unveiled by the Board Majority at the 11th hour, not only allows an 80% increase above previous zoning, but it also ELIMINATES THE REQUIREMENT THAT DEVELOPERS PAY CASH PROFFERS to the County in exchange for building those additional homes. Yes, you read it correctly. Once again, this Board majority has let the developers off the hook- scot-free- leaving us, the taxpayers, to foot the bill for impacts on area roads, schools, etc. THIS IS A PUBLIC OUTRAGE. Can someone PLEASE ask Mr. Tulloch, Mr. Snow, Mr. Staton, Mr. Delgaudio, and Mr. Clem, how THIS is in the best interest of Loudoun County citizens? How is this in the best interest of anyone, except the developers who contributed over \$400,000 to their campaigns?

Whether it’s adding 18,000 more houses in Western Loudoun, 33,000 more houses in Dulles South, 5,000 more houses surrounding South Leesburg (Crosstrails/Ridge-water Park), or 1,935 more houses on Rt. 7 (Loudoun One/World Trade Center), this 5 person Board majority is NOT LISTENING. The facts are being ignored, the voice of the people is being ignored, and decisions are being made that serve only self-interests, NOT the greater good.

It is time for ALL of us to stand up and take notice. It is time to take back Loudoun County, and take back OUR Government- a Government that is supposed to be BY the people, and FOR the people. In November 2007, MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD. I plan to cast my vote in support of those who will represent us, AND GET RID OF those who clearly don’t.

See you at the polls!

Ann Jansen
Leesburg, Virginia

To the Editor:

It would seem that the spin meisters have invaded South Riding.

First, there is a forum so we can hear “from the horse’s mouth” about how great a ton of new development is going to be for our community. I won’t get into what parts of a horse’s body this brings to mind.

Second, Lisa Freeman, a member of the South Riding Board of Directors, extols the virtues of tons of new development in our monthly HOA magazine, paid for by hard-earned money from me and my neighbors, in an incredibly slanted piece. Meanwhile, anyone in our greater community who has questioned this massive development has been prevented from even distributing flyers at our neighborhood events, warned off by threatening email. It seems that South Riding has become a place where only the limited liability development corporations -- who stand to make a lot of money on our backs -- have the right to be heard. Don’t we live in the United States of America where freedom of speech for all citizens is one of our basic, proudest rights?

Third and most disturbing, Stephanie Smith, our HOA president stands up at a public hearing and announces that as an advocate for the 15,000 residents of South Riding, all this new development is what we really want. Excuse me? Who gave you the right to speak for me? I didn’t realize that by buying a house in South Riding and paying my mandatory HOA fees, I was giving you cart blanche to speak for me. Stop it. Don’t ever speak for me again.

The spin meisters want us to sit quietly and let them put words in our mouths. I don’t think so. I’ll be at the next public hearing on October 10 at the County Government Center in Leesburg, so they don’t get a chance.

Supervisor Steve Snow, our elected representative who just loves all this development, you’ll be hearing it straight from me. Read my lips, quit putting my property investment -- otherwise known as my family’s home! -- at serious risk by jamming our roads and driving up our taxes.

Kathy Worek
South Riding

RANT & RAVES RED VS BLUE

MARK TATE - (R)

Congressman Wolf has represented Virginia’s 10th District since 1981. Congressman Wolf was born in 1939 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he attended public schools. He received his B.A. degree from Penn State University in 1961 and his law degree from Georgetown University in 1965. Prior to his election to Congress, he was employed on a congressional staff, at the Department of the Interior, and as an attorney. He lives in Vienna with his wife, Carolyn. They are the parents of five grown children.

Congressman Wolf is the chairman of the Science-State-Justice-Commerce Appropriations subcommittee. This subcommittee has jurisdiction over the Commerce Department, the State Department, and the Justice Department, including the FBI, DEA and U.S. Marshals Service.

From 1995-2000, Congressman Wolf was the chairman of the Transportation Appropriations subcommittee.

He remains a senior member of that subcommittee in addition to serving on the Homeland Security Appropriations subcommittee. He also is the co-chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and serves on the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission.

Congressman Wolf has worked tirelessly to improve our region’s transportation system since being elected. He worked to obtain full funding for the 103-mile Metrorail system and is leading the way in bringing mass transit to Tysons Corner and out the Dulles corridor to Loudoun County. He fought to reduce car pool restrictions on I-66 inside the Beltway and pushed to widen I-66 outside the Beltway. He is now pushing to add an extra lane on westbound I-66 inside the Beltway. To improve safety on the George Washington Parkway, he pushed to add an additional lane from Spout Run to the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge. He pushed the District of Columbia for

the rush hour reversible lane on the Roosevelt Bridge. He is a vocal advocate for telecommuting in both the private sector and the federal government. Congressman Wolf is committed to working to ease congestion on our highways so you can spend less time sitting in traffic and more time with your friends or family.

Congressman Wolf has also been instrumental in helping to protect our historic battlefields and helped preserve the areas open spaces with protected sites such as Ovoka Farm.

And Congressman Wolf has taken up our cause to help fight Dominion Power’s efforts to force huge electric Transmission lines through our countryside. Dominion Power has proposed plans to use the power of eminent domain to condemn large swaths of land to build power lines to sell power to the markets out of the state. Congressman Wolf has begun to help lead to fight to stop this project that would ruin the historic battlefields and pristine open spaces

and devalue homes across the country.

Congressman Wolf has worked hard to bring real transportation solutions to Northern Virginia, he has worked hard to protect the counties historic heritage and beautiful open spaces. Congressman Wolf also brings tremendous influence, and respect to the district that benefits us all through rod improvement and better educational opportunities to the district. He is being challenged by a candidate that knows little about the district and its needs. Almost all of his opponents support comes from contributions from out of the state.

The decision in the election seems very easy too me. Congressman Wolf has extensive experience, know the district well and delivers what the district needs. Wolf has tremendous respect and credibility from his colleagues and constituents. He deserves to be re-elected and we need congressman Wolf. Please vote to re-elect Congressman Wolf on November 7th.

DR. JUDY FEDER

DAN MORROW - (D)

“If you want to change Washington, change the people you send there.” That is the message at the heart of Judy Feder’s strong and thoughtful campaign to unseat faltering Virginia 10th District Congressman Frank Wolf.

Dr. Feder teaches at one of the world’s great universities and runs its Public Policy Institute. She’s a world-class expert on healthcare. Soldiers, diplomats, policy-makers and the people who really do the work, turn to her for advice and counsel on planning, priorities, and leadership. She can write, and people who count read her publications. She’s married to an intelligence analyst with more than twenty years service in the CIA. She’s lived here for more than 30 years. She has two sons.

Below: highlights from our recent interview

Feder on Leadership

“In politics, leaders are measured by their impact on the real world. Talk is easy. Results are hard. Name the issue, and then ask yourself, “What has Wolf accomplished after nearly 26 years of talk.” Happy with traffic, roads, growth and development? Is FEMA’s approach to Katrina your idea of national security? Gas prices? The war in Iraq? Immigration? War profiteers? On corruption, Wolf talks a good game, but even after 26 years, look around. I don’t know which is worse: no ideas, bad ideas, or, worst of all, good ideas coupled a singular inability to convince anyone else of their value.

Feder on Ethics

“Despite the Abramoff scandals and now, jail sentences for corruption, Frank voted against a measure calling on members of Congress to, at the very least, put their names on their earmarks -- requests

to set aside money for special projects without going through the normal appropriations process. We asked Wolf to make his own list of earmarks public. He declined, apparently fearing he’d be tagged for doing too many favors ... or not enough. ... or doing them for the wrong people ... or for the wrong reasons. It’s time for a change.

Feder on Growth

The federal government, the economic engine for the entire region, has ignored what has become, on Frank’s watch, a transportation and development crisis. Negligence and lack of concern ... has let the downsides of development fall squarely on our communities. We need to encourage smart growth by integrating land use planning and transportation planning, reducing the distance people must commute to work and expanding access to public transportation

Feder on Energy Policy and Gas Prices

Energy Policy begins with having one! We should end billions of dollars in giveaways to oil companies, impose a windfall profits tax and invest the proceeds from profiteering oil companies to bring fuel efficient products and alternative fuels to the marketplace.

Feder on The War in Iraq

“I opposed the war in Iraq from day one. It was clear that President Bush was sending our troops into battle without the resources to do their jobs and without a plan to bring them home safely. We should hold the President accountable for his failed leadership. Exit strategy? Work with the international community instead of alienating it, and put together a broad-based coalition of military and foreign policy experts to stabilize the region and bring our troops home safely.



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THINGS TO DO

MASTERS ART SHOW
Beginning Friday, October 13 and running through Sunday October 15, 2006, Trowbridge-Lewis Galleries will host its Second Annual Masters Painters Show "Works of the Impressionists."
"We want our collectors and friends to have the opportunity to view a special collection of museum quality Impressionist art; and provide a venue where they can purchase these one of a kind works here in Middleburg," says Adrienne Lewis, co-owner of the gallery.
"When we opened the gallery last July, we knew that we wanted to present an annual Masters Art Show. Last October's show featured the works of Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Rembrandt, Katia and H. Claude Pissarro, Marc Chagall and Pablo Picasso to name a few. In addition we were fortunate to have the great-grandsons of Pierre-August Renoir attend our show."
Adrienne continued, "last year's show was a great success but the real hits of the evenings were the oil paintings. This year we decided to focus almost exclusively on oil paintings and have put together a great collection. We'll be showing the works of Edouard Cortes, Marcel Dyf, Eugene Galien-Laloue, Maximilien Luce, George Man-

A SALUTE TO SENATOR JOHN WARNER'S 60 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE
A BENEFIT FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION
Commander John P. Molière announced today that Middleburg American Legion Post 295 will host a "Patriotic Salute to Senator John Warner's 60 Years of Public Service" on Saturday, November 18th at 6:30 p.m. at the Middleburg Community Center (300 West Washington Street, Middleburg). Entertainment will be provided by the United States Marine Band.
The dinner event is a benefit for the Middleburg American Legion Post 295. The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic, mutual help and community service organization. It has a worldwide membership of 2.8 million. "Senator Warner has done a lot for our region and our country over the past 60 years," states Commander Molière. "His naval and marine service during World War II and the Korean War is exemplary," Molière adds, "as is his continued service to this country."
The American Legion in Middleburg, and across the country, has been an integral part of the fabric of America. After WWII, the local Post sponsored a Legion Baseball team, provided scholarships to college students, sponsored an annual Oratorical Contest for high schoolers, and sponsored rising high school seniors to Boys State. The Legion Hall has always been a gathering place for wedding receptions, wedding anniversaries, family reunions and has served as a meeting place for our conservation and preservation groups vital to our area. Somehow with the passing of our WWII vets our service to the community has tailed off, but in the last two years the Legion has made a steady comeback, sponsoring a young lady from Fauquier H.S. in the Oratorical Contest and sponsoring two Notre Dame Academy students to Boys State. We are looking to the community to help us do more. Senator Warner has graciously agreed to help the American Legion to return to the position of prominence it once held.
Tickets are \$250 per couple and are limited to the first 200 persons to register. To purchase tickets, contact John Molière at (540) 364-3688 or e-mail at johnmoliere@aol.com.

"IMAGINE THAT:" SOLO SHOW BY CATHERINE HILLIS AT THE HILL SCHOOL
Paintings by artist Catherine Hillis will be featured at The Hill School's Sheila C. Johnson Performing Arts Center Gallery from October 6 through October 27, 2006. Mrs. Hillis' solo show is titled "Imagine That." Over twenty watercolor and mixed media paintings will be on exhibit and for sale. The show will also introduce short stories, coordinated with some of Ms. Hillis' imaginative paintings, written by student authors from The Hill School's 4th grade. The opening reception will be on Friday, October 6, from 6-8 pm. The Sheila C. Johnson Performing Arts Center Gallery is located at The Hill School at 130 South Madison Street in Middleburg, VA. Both the artist and many of the student authors will be in attendance. Call 540-687-5897 to make an appointment to view this show.
On Saturday, October 14, Mrs. Hillis will present a 2:00 PM workshop and slide show discussing watercolor techniques at the Middleburg Library, titled "The Wonders of Watercolors." For further information about the show at The Hill School, or to make a viewing appointment, call 540-687-5897.

LIFE IN THE COUNTRY DAY
Join the Goose Creek Association for a family event, "Life in the Country Day" on October 1st from 11:30AM to 4:30PM at picturesque Mount Pleasant Farm in Aldie. Numerous farm and conservation groups will offer a variety of child and adult activities to depict and foster an appreciation of a country way of life to protect and enhance the Goose Creek watershed and its rural economy. The day will feature demonstrations as stream monitoring, wetlands plant identification, fly-fishing, canoeing and kayaking, and working retrievers. The ever popular terrier races, MOC Beagles, Middleburg Hunt Foxhounds, sheep herding and related wool industry crafts along with hay rides, oxen or draft horse pulls, face-painting, pumpkin-painting, and scarecrow making should provide fun for youngsters.
"Fields of Athenry Farm" will assemble a virtual petting zoo with their various breeds of Heritage Turkeys, Sebastopol Geese, ducks, Guinea hens, 4-H Sheep, lambs and the farm's imperious guard llama, Stretch!" Dawn O'Connor of Tir Na Gog Farm, will showcase her Miniature Jersey Cattle. In addition to farm animals, honey bees and butterflies along with box turtles and other reptiles from Northern Virginia Reptile Rescue will be on display.
For additional information please call Nancy West at 540.687.3357.

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PASTIMES

SCULPTURE - ART IN 3D THE ART OF ART

TOM NEEL

We see in three dimensions, yet so much of what we strongly think of as art has only two dimensions, tall and wide. I am, of course, referring to paintings and technically, even paintings can have the third dimension of depth. This would be the depth in paint as with thick oils where the brush or pallet knife leaves highs and lows in the paint, texture if you will. Also looking at the overall piece, the frame or canvas stretchers add a dimension of depth as well, but what truly separates three dimensional art from the two dimensional in my opinion, is that its intention is for it to have the ability to be viewed from all sides.

Most three dimensional art is simply known as sculpture and may imply something that has been sculpted, as from clay for example. I believe today sculpture has been generally defined as a three dimensional artistic expression. These artistic expressions are as

varied as any form of art you can find. Subjects of realism, be it wildlife, people, horses, history, pets, transportation, are all explored. There is no shortage of abstract subjects as well, which explore form and structure.

What all of these expressions of art do that paintings can not, is catch light and drop shadows. Think about it, the earliest way we kept time was with a sundial and as you know the way it worked was sunlight on a rod and its moving shadow was cast on to a marked surface that would indicate the time. One of the ways our eye sees dimension is through light and shadow. Painting that light and shadow is what can give a painting its perception of depth, but that light and those shadows, are an illusion and are frozen in time. Whereas with sculpture, it's three dimensions are real and are constantly in play with the changing light around it, thus always changing themselves.

Like paintings which can be in oil, acrylic and so forth, sculpture has an

amazingly wide range of substances to be made from. Marble certainly may be most notable for the old masters and today clay cast into bronze is certainly popular, but then there's welded steel, alloys, iron and other metals. Glass and plastics or limestone, granite and wood. Through history there has been ivory, jade and the list goes on, all with a different look and all with a different feel and feel can be a big part of sculpture. That's right, many collectors like to touch them, they have curves and lines, edges and depending on the materials just listed, can be soothing or interesting to the hand and mind. Textured surfaces can affect the feel, but also are much more effected by light hitting them than smooth or polished substances.

The other interesting thing about sculpture is much of it, because of the materials chosen, can do just fine inside or out, which opens new worlds for collectors. Inside sculpture especially in tandem with two dimensional works of art, can bring continuity to

a room. They can bring interest to otherwise uninteresting spots, soften corners, make light through a window come alive, but then when your space becomes full, you can open the door and move onto to patio and out into the garden. How's that for being flexible?

All the same rules apply when purchasing sculpture and as you know much of that with me means there really art not any rules, it's art. Some helpful guidelines though would be, look for what moves you first. Look

at it from more than one angle or side. Think of the piece in a spacial sense and by all means look at how light effects it. Like paintings, sculpture can be emotional and controversial, but certainly fun and like paintings, you can start small if you wish. Enjoy!

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WEEDS THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE

The daily routine of weeding is constant. It is the one thing that all gardeners have in common. No matter the climate, location or size of your garden, one is never free from the chore of weeding. The process teaches us a lot about the tenacity of weeds as we quickly ascertain their means of procreation. If they don't explode, they catch on your clothing. If they don't fly with the wind, they arm themselves with thorns or poisonous oils. In fact weeds are so good at spreading their seed that famous modern inventions have been designed from studying the whys and wherefores of seed dispersal. Good examples include Velcro, devised from the seed of cockle burr and the stealth bomber which mimics the seeds of an Asian climbing gourd, Alsomitra macrocarpa.

Given the fact that weeds are good at spreading themselves, I always get a chuckle from watching kids blow on dandelion heads and watching the seeds float like little parachutes. When did the dandelion further its spread by brain washing small children?

During fall there always seems to be more weeding than the gardener can keep up with. It helps if you think in terms of what the weed will do once you attack it. Yellow wood sorrel or oxalis is a perfect example with its exploding seed pods. You have to grab as many seed pods as you can, lift them with a firm grip and try not to let the small seeds escape from your clenched fist, the whole time your pulling on the plant to dislodge it. This method is also useful with field penny cress or Thlaspi arvense. This tiny weed is a cool season volunteer which produces tiny seeds on elongated stems. The length of each stem makes it difficult to grab the entire thing and not let any spring-loaded seed get away. Fortunately the root system is almost non-existent and you will be able to pull it up.

When plants spread their seeds by flinging them away from the parent plant it is called active mechanical dispersal. Rain drops are frequent triggers

as the hitting of rain drops on seed pods pop them open and the plant takes advantage of subsequent moisture to aid germination. Temperature can also be a factor. This is how hamamelis or witch hazel spreads its seeds. The pods are made up of two compartments, each filled with one seed. The warmth of late summer pops the seed pod open and flings the seeds far away from the mother plant. Our local impatiens, Impatiens biflora or touch-me-not is the most well known native that spreads its seeds far away from the original plant. The pod pops open with such force that the seeds are ejected immediately.

Prongs or hooks are another strategy for moving seeds far from the parent plant. This method is known as passive mechanical dispersal. Bidsens or two-pronged tick seed is very common in Virginia and readily comes to mind. Its ability to latch onto anything is remarkable as it can actually grab onto your skin. The flowers produced by this aster relative are bright yellow and carpet unmown fields in late summer. That along with lavender asters and little bluestem actually make for an attractive wildflower meadow and all are capable of spreading by attaching to fur or clothing. Another common traveler are members of the bean family or leguminosae family. Flowers are usually yellow, pink or white and extend on upright floral stems. Once the flowers have passed the seed pods are long, bean-like, flat, and individually triangular in shape. Once they attach to your clothing they are difficult to remove because they are covered in fine white hairs that act like glue. A shame that they do this as the plants themselves are really attractive in their flowering stage. In fact a wild flower planting can easily be achieved by simply donning a sweater, running through a field, in early fall, with your arms out stretched. Once your covered in the aforementioned hitchhikers, simply plant your sweater and water it regularly.

WHAT'S UP..AND COMING IN THE LAND OF BOOKS EXPLORING BOOKS

GENIE FORD

Autumn is in the air and those of us looking for a way to relax after the frenzy of getting the kids back to school will be delighted with the books coming in September. At the top of our list is 'Dick Francis' new book, Under Orders (pub.date 09/26/06). Mr. Francis will be in Middleburg for an author signing at The Sporting Library on October 5th at 7:00 p.m. Please call Books & Crannies at (540) 687-6677 to pre-order your

copies. The story features the author's most popular and beloved former champion jockey turned super-sleuth, Sid Halley, who, just moments before discovering the third murdered jockey in a single day, is called upon by Lord Enstone to make discreet inquiries into why his horses appear to be on a permanent losing streak. Are races being fixed? Are bookies taking a cut? Halley's quest for answers will draw him even deeper into the darker side of the



Continued Page 28

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Round Hill light-filled 3BR/2.5BA end unit townhome with fenced yard, deck off the family room and side entrance. This well-maintained home is close to school, park and bike trail. Thirty minutes to Dulles airport. Seller offering \$2,500 closing cost assistance. \$350,000

PASTIMES

PORK TENDERLOIN 3 WAY

FROM BEHIND THE STOVE

BRIAN LICHOROWIC

It's my "theory" that what we see most often prepared in the meat section of our grocery store are the things that can be best prepared at home. For some reason, butchers feel we cannot fathom something unique to do with fresh pork tenderloin. It's either saturated in heavily salted coma-inducing-teriyaki-sauce or stuffed with enough breadcrumbs and cheese to choke a small horse.

Boneless lean pork tenderloin, also called pork fillet, requires very little in the way of preparation. The tendons and sinew (the white stuff on the outside) are chewy so they need to be trimmed but most of it is done by the time we pick it up in the butcher's case. It can be fried, roasted, broiled and barbecued. The high quality pork we get here in Virginia is unmatched anywhere in the US, by my standards, so enjoy it.

I offer it here three different ways; 1) Sliced thin medallions (also called "noisettes") 2) Southwestern tunneled stuffed and 3) Grilled whole.

Hit the farmers market up for some of the best accompaniments - pork pairs especially well with fall vegetables.

Pork Tenderloin Medallions with Prosciutto, Sage and Asiago Cheese

- 2 lbs Pork tenderloin, sliced to 1/4-inch thickness (pounded if desired)
- 1 1/2 cups Flour, all-purpose
- 8 tbs Butter
- 2 cups Asiago cheese, grated
- 1/2 lb Prosciutto, thinly sliced
- 2 cups Chicken stock (or broth)
- 4 tbs Fresh sage leaves chopped, plus 16 whole leaves for garnish
- 2 cups Canola oil

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Dust pork lightly in flour, brush off excess. Melt 4 tablespoons of butter in frying pan; add pork and cooking quickly - 1 minute per side. Remove from pan and continue cooking the remaining pork; when done place medallions in a baking sheet. To each medallion add a pinch of the chopped sage then 3 to 4 tablespoons of cheese to the top of each and top with 2 prosciutto slices. Bake in oven for 4 to 5 minutes until cheese is bubbling.

In the same frying pan in which you cooked the pork, over medium heat, add remaining 4 tablespoons of butter and stir in

2 tablespoons of flour. Cook flour and butter mixture for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Add chicken broth and chopped sage and cook until thickened. Serve over pork tenderloins. Garnish with the sage.

Roasted Pork Tenderloin filled with Sun-Dried Cranberry Stuffing and Slather Sauce

There's two ways to stuff a loin. 1) Butterflied - the whole loin is partially cut in half lengthwise, stuffed folded together and tied with kitchen string or 2) Tunnel stuffing which is my preferred method. Insert the tip of a small bladed, long knife into the eye (center) of the loin and work to make a "tunnel" right through. With a small spoon, force the stuffing into the tunnel.

- 1 to 2 lb Pork tenderloin(s), butterflied or tunneled
- 1 1/2 cup Cranberries, sun-dried or just dried
- 2 tbs Pine nuts, toasted
- 2 tsp Ground cinnamon
- Pinch Ground cloves
- 3 tbs Brown sugar
- 1 tbs Chile powder
- 2 tbs Cilantro leaves, chopped
- 1/2 cup Salt and freshly Ground black pepper
- 2 tbs All-purpose flour
- 2 tbs Canola oil

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Bring 2 cups of water to a boil in a medium saucepan. Add the cranberries, remove from the heat and let rest 1 hour; drain, reserving the soaking liquid and place in the bowl of a food processor. Add the pine nuts, cinnamon, cloves, brown sugar, chili powder, and a few tablespoons of the soaking liquid. Pulse until coarsely chopped, remove to a bowl and fold in the cilantro.

Place the tenderloin on a work surface and season on both sides with salt and pepper. Push or spread a good layer of the stuffing down the center and tie if necessary and dredge lightly in the flour.

In a fry pan over medium to high heat, add the oil ("hot pan + cold oil = food don't stick") and brown the tenderloin on all sides. Place in the oven and roast until almost cooked through about 8 to 10 minutes. Remove and let sit 10 minutes. Slice into 1 inch thick pieces.

Pour this slop over it: Slather Sauce:

- 2 tbs Olive oil
- 1 Onion, small, finely chopped
- 1 Carrot, finely diced
- 1 Celery stalk, finely diced
- 2 Garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 6 cups Chicken stock
- 1-cup Apple juice
- 2 tsp Chipotle peppers, finely minced
- 1 tsp Black peppercorns
- 2 tbs Butter
- To taste Salt

Heat oil in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Add the onions, carrot and celery and cook until soft, about 8 to 10 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for 2 minutes. Add the stock, apple juice, chipotles and peppercorns; increase the heat to high and cook the sauce until reduced to 2 cups, about 15 to 20 minutes.

Strain the sauce into a small saucepan and bring to a simmer. Whisk in the butter and season with salt and pepper to taste.

Grilled Pork Tenderloin with Virginia Fall Vegetables

- 1 to 2 lb Pork Tenderloin(s)
- 1 med Red bell pepper, cut into 1" strips (julienne)
- 1 med Yellow bell pepper, cut into 1" strips
- 3 med Zucchini, cut into 1" strips
- 3 sm Onions, cut into 1/8's
- 2 tbs Olive oil
- 2 tsp Fresh rosemary, chopped
- 1 cup White wine
- 1-cup Apple juice
- 1 tbs Red current (or cherry) jelly
- To taste Salt & Pepper

Substitute other vegetables if you prefer but cut to the same size for even cooking. Cut peppers and zucchini into 1-inch strips. Peel onion and cut into eight sections through the root. Preheat oven to 350F. In a skillet, on medium heat, heat olive oil, and brown pork tenderloins on all sides. Remove to a baking dish large enough to hold pork and vegetables. Season with salt, pepper and

Continued Page 28



Take Metrobus or Metrorail to

The 48th Annual

Washington

★ INTERNATIONAL ★

Horse Show

October 24 – 29, 2006

Verizon Center ★ Washington, DC

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday Evening – 7:00 pm

- WIHS Championship Children's & Adult Hunter

Wednesday Evening – 7:00 pm

- WIHS Championship Children's & Adult Jumper

Thursday Evening – 7:00pm

NEW START TIME!

- ★ **\$20,000 Gambler's Choice**
- WIHS Dressage Invitational Grand Prix
- Side Saddle
- Barrel Racing
- Terrier Races
- Barn/Group Night

Friday Evening – 7:00pm

NEW START TIME!

- ★ **\$20,000 Accumulator Class – Open Jumpers**
- ★ **\$25,000 Puissance (horse high-jump)**
- WIHS Dressage Invitational – Freestyle
- Barrel Racing
- Terrier Races
- Polo

★ **International and Olympic Riders compete for top honors!**

Saturday Afternoon Matinee – 1:00-3:30pm

- ★ **\$20,000 Hit & Hurry – Open Jumpers**
- Media Sport Celebrity Challenge
- AHJF Nations Cup Hunter Challenge

Saturday Evening – 7:00pm

- ★ **\$100,000 President's Cup Grand Prix**
- WIHS Equitation Finals
- Terrier Races
- and much, much more!

For more event information visit www.wihs.org

Ticketmaster 202-397-SEAT or www.ticketmaster.com

Fox Chase Farm is honored to host a clinic with

Kathy Kusner

October 21 & 22

The clinic will be divided into three groups each day

For a registration form, please go to: www.foxchasefarm.net

Or call 540-687-5255 for more information



Kathy Kusner was named Horsewoman of the Year by the American Horse Shows Association before she joined the US Equestrian Team at the age of 21. She rode in three Olympic Games (silver medal), Inducted into The Show Jumping Hall of Fame in 1990, Received the Pegasus Medal of Honor from the US Equestrian Federation in 2005 and was inducted into the World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame...and the list goes on!

Fox Chase Farm is located on Route 50 two miles east of the village of Middleburg, Virginia

PASTIMES

MEASURING UP SEVENTH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

Take a couple seconds to breathe a deep sigh of relief. The Danny's latest billion-dollar blunder hasn't bumped to earth quite yet.

All those people who were looking for the nearest exit and preparing to use their seat cushion in the unlikely event of a water landing can tighten their seatbelts with a modicum of confidence for at least a couple more days.

The 'Skins are officially off the schneid.

Not only are the 'Skins off the schneid, but it would appear that their entire offense is off the schneid. Just listen to the talking heads. Watch Joe Bugel and Joe Gibbs whoop it up with George Michael. (Gregg Williams doesn't usually talk, a) because he hates it and b) because he's just too

freakin' scary.)

This was a fabulously, breath-takingly positive step forward for the Burgundy and Gold, no two ways about it. Brunell completed 22 passes in a row to start the game which, by this point, you've already heard is a league record. Not only did he complete 24 of 27 passes on the day, but he did it with crisp efficiency for the first time all season and managed not to look like someone with eight heads was trying to explain the offense to him, also a first for the season.

Clinton Portis was back and while not exactly running with the wild abandon we've all grown used to, he was appreciably better than what we saw in week one and infinitely better than last week when he didn't even dress.

Eight players were the beneficiaries of Mark Brunell's resurrection and newcomer Antwaan Randle El finally got involved in the offense.

So, all should be happy in Redskins-ville for at least, oh, a day...

The reason I'm not entirely ready to drink the Kool-Aid® just yet, dear reader, is quite simply this; the Redskins are still 1-2. And I'm not quite ready to discount the first two losses of the season just yet simply because the 'skins opened a can-o'-whup on the lowly, so-bad-they-drove-Charley-Casserly-into-retirement Houston Texans.

There are a couple of other things I'm concerned about, sure, but the absolute stench of awful wafting up from the team they beat down is the primary thing. The Texans have been in the league for all of four years now, so no, I don't expect them to be world-beaters, but c'mon, beating up on these guys is a little different than beating up on, say, ANY OTHER TEAM IN THE LEAGUE!

Guess which team had the worst

record in the league last year? Texans.

Guess which team has a quarterback whose greatest asset is the ability to survive horrendous amounts of punishment as he did while being sacked a league worst 68 times last year? Texans.

Guess which team has the 4th-worst offense in the league this year? Texans.

Worst defense in the league? Yup, Texans.

So let's not go nuts about the 'Skins big game this weekend. The Jacksonville Jaguars, a team with a winning record and a defense



with a nasty disposition are coming to FedEx next weekend and you can bet they're going to be a better measuring stick than the Texans.

If you're the 'skins, I don't think you WANT to be measured against the Texans. Much better to be measured against the likes of the Jags. Just be sure not to be found wanting.

cuda24@yahoo.com

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Books & Crannies' Pizza Party

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To Celebrate

Lemony Snicket's Book 13

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THE END



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topography, the property boasts 26 springs and frontage on Little River. The property is entered by a gracious 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. 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 \$3,900,000**

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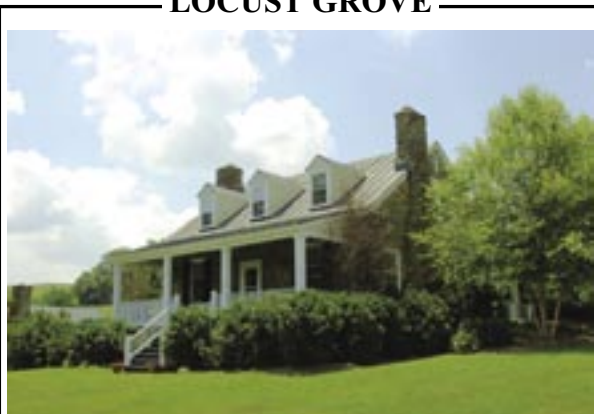
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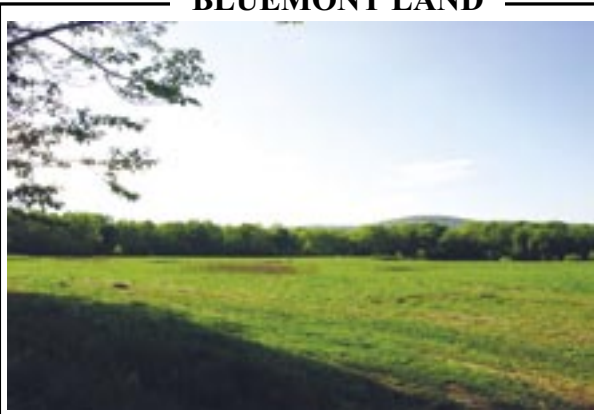
Stunning 5BR, 6+BA Colonial on 18+ acs •South of Waterford •3 levels of spectacular living space w/high ceilings, extraordinary detail & every amenity •Pristine condition mtn. views •New stable ready for horses/studio/storage **\$2,745,000**

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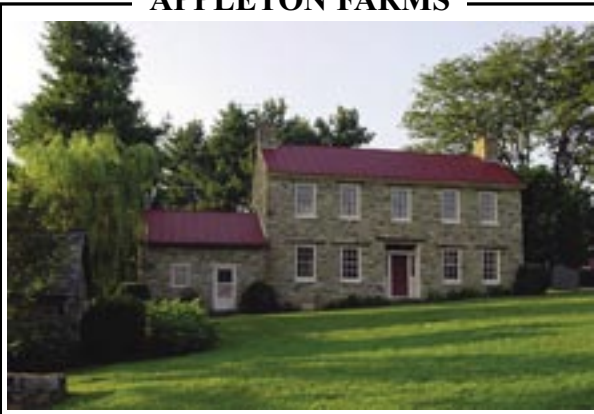
18 Room custom brick colonial •13+ acs. overlooking a spring fed pond & scenic vistas •9000 sf w/high ceilings, home theatre, exercise rm, rec. rm w/FP & wet bar •Gorgeous paneled study •Fabulous Master Ste & gourmet kit. **\$2,300,000**

BLUEMONT LAND



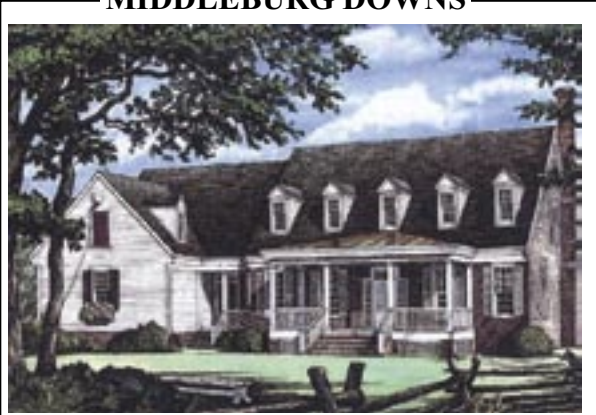
171+ ac. parcel •Ponds, open fields & lush woodlands at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mtns •Land in conservation easement & perpetually protected by adj. prop., also in easements •Ideal for horses •Ant. cabin included in "as is" condition **\$2,225,000**

APPLETON FARMS



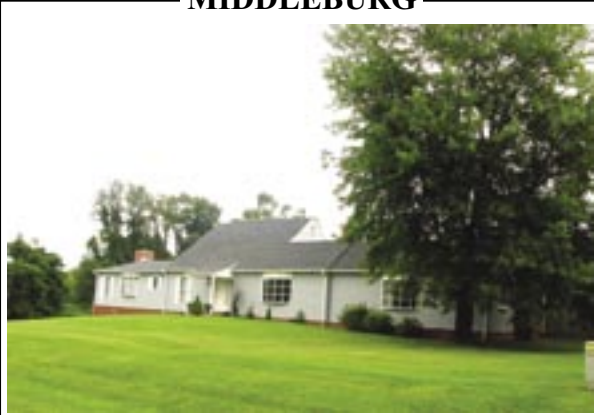
Lovely stone historic home on 12 acres •Just minutes from Middleburg •High ceilings •Wood floors •4 Antique fireplaces •In an idyllic setting overlooking 2 ponds •Soon to be expanded & due for completion in Fall 2006 **\$1,750,000**

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Lovely Cape Cod •Totally updated, remodeled w/top quality craftsmanship •New Kit. & BA •All new appliances •New parquet flrs •New carpeting French drs open to terrace & inground pool •Lower level is ideal in-law/au pair ste. **\$1,149,000**

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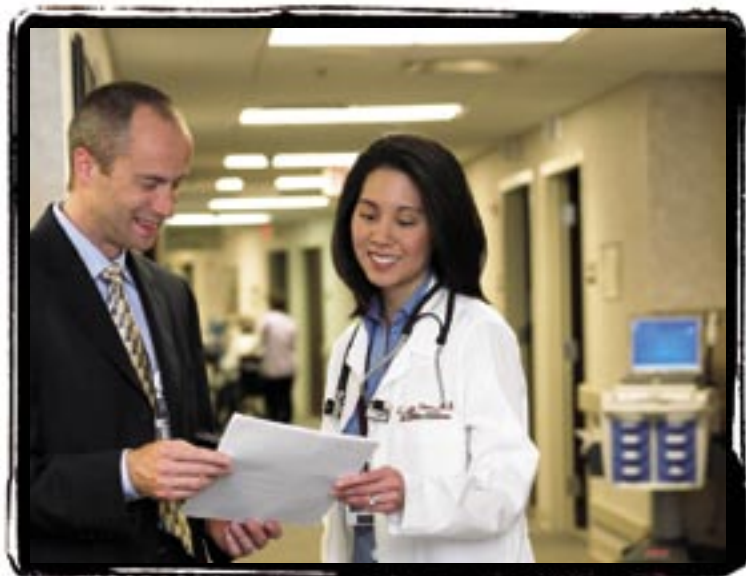
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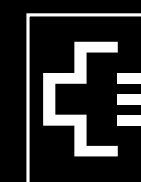
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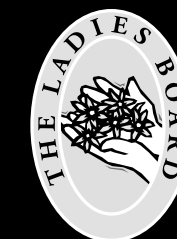
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THE LFC VISTA VENOM U-11 BOYS WON THE CHAMPION TITLE IN THEIR DIVISION AT THE SYA CARDINAL CUP HELD THE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 19 - 20. KNEELING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: TREY BRUNSON, TROY SWEENEY, GABI GOMEZ, LUCAS MARTIN, ROSS GRIZZARD. STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: CHANCE DANGREMOND, ANDREW WALDRIP, DEVON RANKIN, RYAN LESANE, ERIC JENNINGS, JAMES MORENO, MATTHEW GRAHAM, NICK MARES. BACK ROW ARE COACHES RANDY MARTIN AND GREG WALDRIP.



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Notre Dame Academy's Girl's Field Hockey Team finish in third place at the Steward School Field Hockey Invitational Tournament

EXPLORING BOOKS

FROM PAGE 14

racing game.

Adriana Trigiani brings us Return to Big Stone Gap, welcoming readers back to the lush Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia to revel in the long-awaited next chapter in the Bid Stone Gap saga. A new work by bestselling author Mitch Albom, entitled for one more day, is a beautiful, haunting novel about the family we love and the chances we miss. And for Alexander McCall Smith fans, The Right Attitude to Rain is the new installment in his bestselling adventures of Isabel Dalhousie and her no-nonsense housekeeper, Grace.

If non-fiction is your preference, you won't want to miss The Last Explorer, Simon Nasht's riveting and unrelenting true story of Hubert Wilkins, the first truly modern explorer, who, among other exploits, helped to map the Canadian Arctic.

For our younger readers, Book the Thirteenth, the final book in A Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket will be released on Friday the 13th this October. But before the last in the series arrives, The Beatrice Letters will shed light on many of the mysteries surrounding Lemony Snicket and the series.

And at the end of September, a truly special book will arrive, heralding the beginning of the holiday season. Tomie dePaola's Christmas Remembered is a departure from this beloved children's author's usual fare. In this wonderful Christmas memoir, Mr. de Paola shares his love of the season in fifteen vivid memories spanning six decades. Tomie dePaola will be at Books & Crannies on Wednesday, October 25th from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. for an author signing and the store is taking pre-orders now.

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Everyone has it and at some point, most all of us will need more. According to the American Red Cross Blood Services, approximately 95 percent of the population will need blood during their lifetime, but less than 5 percent donate. Foxcroft School Day Students hope to help alleviate the resulting shortage by sponsoring a Community Blood Drive on Monday, October 16, 2006.

Co-heads of the Day Students, senior Steffi Fitter of The Plains and junior Priscilla Chalke of Middleburg will lead the crew of local students present to welcome donors and assist the Red Cross at the drive, which takes place from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Fox Hound Auditorium, located in Foxcroft's schoolhouse. Don't wait on line! Schedule an appointment by calling 540-687-4322 or emailing blamond@foxcroft.org.

FROM BEHIND THE STOVE
FROM PAGE 16

rosemary. Add vegetables to skillet and sauté until slightly brown and crisp-tender, about 5 minutes. Surround pork with vegetables.

Bake uncovered for 25 minutes, or until pork juices are no longer pink. Pour wine and pan juices into skillet, add apple juice and bring to boil. Boil until reduced by half. Stir in red current jelly and simmer another minute. Slice pork into thin slices; pour sauce over pork and garnish with vegetables.

Comments or Catastrophes?
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This is just a partial list of the positive solutions that **Greenvest L.C.** will help to bring to southern **Loudoun County** as part of four distinct communities it proposes to build over the next 20 years.

here are
the facts:

☀ **ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:** Greenvest L.C. will invest more than \$190 million "up front" to widen Route 50; build Relocated Route 659 (the TriCounty Parkway) from Brambleton to the Prince William County line; build an interchange at Route 50 and Relocated Route 659 serving George Mason University and Inova/Loudoun Hospital; widen Route 621 (Evergreen Mills Road) and improve Braddock Road to a four-lane divided roadway. These road improvements will be built up front early in the project, accelerating relief for existing regional traffic congestion and ensuring mitigation of anticipated traffic impacts from new residents.

☀ **GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY:** Greenvest L.C. will donate 123 acres of land to George Mason University to ensure that Loudoun County gets its first complete 4-year University.



☀ **NEW SCHOOLS:** Greenvest L.C. will invest more than \$150 million to build 3 elementary schools, a middle school, and a high school along the Route 50 corridor in Dulles South, handing the County the keys to brand new schools or provide developed and ready sites for the County to build new schools - whichever the County desires.

☀ **WATER AND SEWER IMPROVEMENTS:** Greenvest L.C. will invest more than \$60 million to bring sewer and water to the Dulles South district. This long-promised utility extension will not only serve the communities Greenvest builds, but will provide basic public health services to existing residents by helping to offset increasing problems of failing wells and septic systems in the area, helping to protect the watershed.

☀ **ROUTE 50 HEALTHCARE SUPPORT:** The construction of public utilities and roads by Greenvest L.C. is necessary to support George Mason University and will also support Inova Healthcare's plans to build a new, full-service hospital to bring healthcare closer to home for Route 50 and Dulles South residents.



☀ **COMMUNITY PARKS:** Greenvest L.C. will donate more than 200 acres for public parks, and invest over \$10 million to improve those parks so that they can be used by the public the day the property is turned over to Loudoun County.

☀ **TAXPAYER RELIEF:** Using a proven method of private bond financing (CDA's), residents who purchase homes in Greenvest communities will pay a special assessment to fund improvements, saving the existing taxpayers of Loudoun County millions of dollars.

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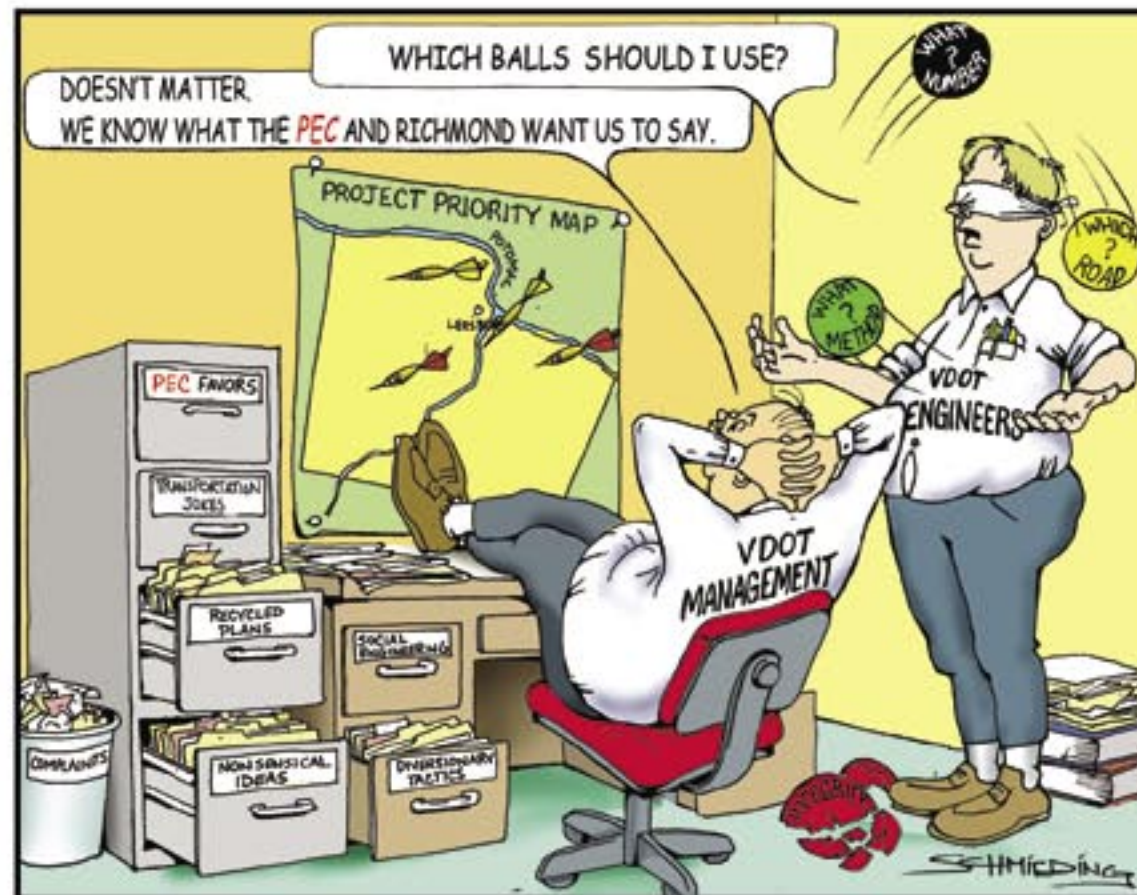
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PEC PLAYING POLITICS WITH LOUDOUN'S FUTURE



The **PEC's** plan for Loudoun's future is to block planned development projects that are currently working their way through the county planning process – and it is willing to resort to any tactics. It is now acknowledged that the "study" originated with the **PEC** and was directed by VDOT administrators in Richmond, along with senior staff in the Governor's office.

It is also now acknowledged that in their haste to carry **PEC's** message forward, VDOT didn't include the very data it allegedly evaluated. What did VDOT "study?" VDOT's not even sure.

And now VDOT is going to spend even more tax dollars to do another revised study in an attempt to support the **PEC's** assumptions. Wouldn't their time and the taxpayers' dollars be better spent providing traffic relief?

Under the **PEC** plan, Loudoun taxpayers will be left with the bill for any new roads, improvements and expansions.

In March, the **Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC)** asked the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for a big, big favor. They asked VDOT to do a special study to measure the impact of adding new homes in Loudoun County's Dulles South. Their goal was to show that the road system would be overwhelmed by additional cars that would be generated by those new homes.

There is a better way. Working together, developers and land-owners have pledged more than \$750 million in new roads and traffic relief for the Dulles South area alone. When? As the new homes are approved and built. And, will all the new homes appear overnight as alleged by the **PEC**? No, not even close. Under the plan, they'll be built over the next 20-30 years, based on market demand, and subject to on-going oversight by the Board of Supervisors.

If tying land use to transportation solutions is more than just a political slogan for Governor Kaine, then where is his support? Does he really prefer taxpayers to pay a billion dollars in new taxes over private solutions through proffers?

It's time to put away the scare tactics...it's time to stop politicizing VDOT...and it's time to start providing traffic relief and better roads.

It's time to tell your supervisors that you strongly support \$750 million in traffic relief and transportation using private, rather than taxpayer funding. Contact them at bos@loudoun.gov.

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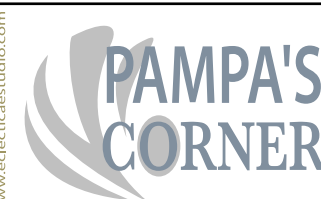
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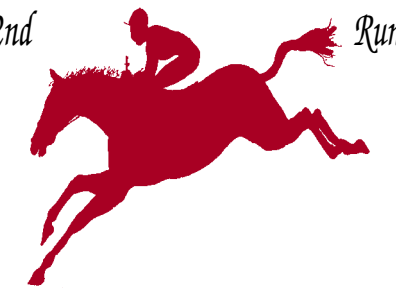
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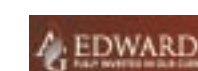
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PUPPIES— Absolutely adorable Cocker Spaniel mix puppies! We have 3 left, boys and girls. Mom is a black Cocker, ? dad. These little kids have grown up here with lots of love and socialization.

ASIA— Born 5/23, Asia is now ready for adoption. Mom is a lovely Rottweiler mix, dad was probably Shepherd and/or Husky. She has grown up with us with tons of socialization and good times with cats, kids and other puppies.



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CHEYENNE—A beauty! Cheyenne is new to us, she was at a county shelter where her time was up so we took her to give her a second chance! Cheyenne is a doll, she is very affectionate and very sweet and would love a family of her own soon!



HOLLY— A very attractive 4 year old, chunky 14.2H QH mix. Holly has nice ground manners and is very well put together. Holly is currently in a 30 day training program to get started under saddle.. Holly has a huge future!



DO BRO—A super funny guy with super cute little short legs! DoBro is new to us so we are still getting to know him. He came from a county shelter where his time was up. DoBro seems to be a great guy— a big personality and he loves to go on walks! learner. He has tons of potential and a big future!



PENNY — This is one special young lady! Little Penny has been with us for several months— healing from multiple injuries from being hit by a car. She is a trooper and now 100% healed and very healthy. She is a tiny little girl, about 7 pounds and has a super funny personality. Penny loves kitties and other dogs.



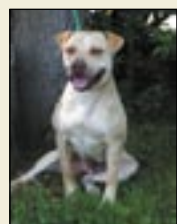
NOODLES— Cuteness overload! This little girl is SO adorable— both mind and body! She is super cuddly and loves other dogs and cats. She is new to us— she was at a county shelter where her time was up. Hard to believe she didn't find a home—she really is an exceptional little dog! Come meet



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I, Albert P. Clark, am making it my personal mission to help end the purchase of puppies from pet stores. Even if you would never buy a puppy from a pet shop, you might know or meet someone who would, so please read on ... this is important!

Here's the scoop: puppies in pet shops usually come from puppy mills. Puppy mills are miserable, horrible, tragic, unthinkable places where there is no regard for the lives of the puppies or their parents. Countless little souls enter this world with barely a chance of being healthy or happy. Their mothers, meanwhile, withstand their own tragic fates, existing only to have yet another litter of puppies.

Large puppy mills usually sell puppies to pet shops. They distribute their dogs all over the country. Therefore, the people buying the puppies never see the horrific conditions into which the puppies were born. They fall in love with the "puppy in the window" at a neighborhood pet shop. Some of these people might know that it's better not to buy a dog from a pet shop, but they do it anyway with good intentions considering the purchase a "rescue" in its own way. The problem is that every time a person buys a dog from most pet shops, the puppy mill industry benefits and prospers. And here's the worst part: many pet shops do not tell the truth about a puppy's background or health status.

I would never use shock value to emphasize a point — it's not my style. So you'll just have to trust me when I tell you that the conditions and practices of puppy mills would make your hair stand on end. Supporting puppy factories by buying dogs from pet shops is a really, really, really bad idea. To avoid temptation, it's best just to stay away from commercial puppy sellers completely.

The good news is that there are wonderful ways to go about getting a new best friend other than heading to a pet store. The best way is to rescue a dog from a shelter, humane foundation or breed rescue group. There are so many wonderful animals waiting for a home. Many of the best dogs I've ever known have been second chance dogs who, I'm convinced, know that their people saved their lives and are consequently grateful, loving and well-behaved.

Another option is to find a reputable breeder. Good breeders will allow people to see where and how the puppy is being raised and will often let potential owners meet one or both parents. These breeders will also have very few litters and usually just one breed. Finally, ethical breeders will be highly selective and interview candidates carefully and at length. Upon bringing a puppy home from a great breeder, a new owner should feel privileged to have been selected for the puppy.

Reputable breeders do not include



so-called "backyard breeders" who are unprofessional and unethical. Some of these backyard breeders are a few steps away from being puppy mills themselves. They are not carefully breeding for good temperament and excellent health. They are breeding to make a profit with minimum effort and expense.

The more people become educated about the atrocities of puppy mills and unethical breeders, the more they will stop supporting them. There are very well-meaning and kind people in Northern Virginia who are being swindled every day. Many are unknowingly taking very sick puppies home and facing thousands of dollars in vet bills. Some will not see their new puppies live through the first year. Many will end up with dogs that have severe behavioral problems as a result of their troubled start in life.

I also want to add that some countries in Europe have lots of puppy mills. So it's important not to be impressed just because a dog comes from Europe. You might be paying for a new best friend who is simply coming from a puppy mill across the pond.

Please help me get the word out — no more pets from pet stores. A little education can go a long way towards stamping out a growing crisis for dogs and dog lovers.

Thank you!

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



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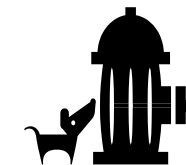
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Longfield
Middleburg, Virginia
Built in 1986, stone house with slate and metal roof, 4 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 3 fireplaces, hardwood and onyx floors, and rear flagstone terrace. 96.73 gently rolling, mostly open acres with mountain views. Improvements include a 5-car garage, inground pool and spa, and cattle barn. \$4,400,000.



Deer Creek
Middleburg, Virginia
Completely updated colonial home situated on 25 extremely private acres. Pine floors, 4 fireplaces, great kitchen, 2-car garage, pool and 2 bedroom guest cottage. Property is bound by Little River, 4-stall barn, large equipment building, with tack room and wash rack, dressage arena and jumper field. 2 miles from Middleburg. \$2,200,000.



Sweetwater
The Plains, Virginia
200+ year old riverfront cottage. Ultra charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath stucco-over-log cabin in sought after location between Middleburg and The Plains. Lovely stone terrace overlooks stunning 1.4 acres of lawn, remains of original stone mill and over 200' of frontage along Little River. Unique opportunity so close to Middleburg with complete privacy in a special setting. \$650,000.

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Four Chimneys
Middleburg, Virginia
Great location, east of Middleburg. Well-built brick home, high ceilings, detailed molding, 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, large kitchen, sunroom, 2-car garage, 7.57 open, level acres. 3-stall barn with tack room, large tractor shed, fenced and cross fenced. GEO Thermal heating and air conditioning, low utility bills. \$1,500,000.



Meadow View
Middleburg, Virginia
Minutes to Middleburg, protected location, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 5 fireplaces, screened rear porch. 3-stall barn with tack room, 10 usable acres, 4 paddocks, new fencing, 200 x 150 riding ring. Lovely gardens, private setting. Property in land use. \$1,300,000.



2970 Rectortown Road
Rectortown, Virginia
Charming 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath house in the quaint village of Rectortown. Renovated 2 years ago, new kitchen, great room and master suite. Stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors, 10 foot ceilings, wrap around porch, nice back yard with patio and arbor, great views. A must see! \$850,000.

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Oakmeade
Upperville, Virginia
Williamsburg colonial, wooded setting, protected area in Piedmont Hunt. 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, large bright kitchen with cherry floors, 300+ bottle wine safe, rear flagstone terrace, lovely gardens, on 10.10 acres. Great home for family. \$1,380,000.



Caldwell Carr House
Upperville, Virginia
Pristine restoration of circa 1750 brick and clapboard village home blending old and new. Original floors, period millwork and hardware, modern kitchen with stone floor and cooking fireplace, and 7 additional fireplaces. Recent expansion includes family room, library and home office. New copper roofs on main house and smoke house. 2 charming cottages, each with bedroom, fireplace, full bath and kitchen, offer \$2,000/month potential rental income. \$895,000.



Carriage Chase Circle
Warrenton, Virginia
All brick 3 bedroom, 3 bath colonial home in quiet neighborhood on a no-thru street. 1st floor master bedroom with large walk in-closet. Full of natural light. High ceilings, freshly painted with hardwood floors and ceramic tile. Large room with bath over garage and the enclosed Florida room make nice additional space. Low maintenance and great privacy close to town and hospital. \$549,000.

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—GLENDALOUGH—



Beautiful 3 BR, 2.5 BA stucco home •Gourmet kitchen, granite counters •Exposed beams, old oak floors, high ceilings •5 stall barn •Equipment shed •Pond •Cabin •Board fencing, stone fencing •Exceptional views •129 acres •VOF easement **\$5,600,000**

—FRIENDSHIP HILL—



Brick manor house on 50 rolling acres w/mtn. views •7BR •6.5 BA •4FP •2 master suites •Huge Family Room •Library •Finished basement •Elevator •Pool w/pool house •Turnkey farm •Great location •Tenant houses •Barns **\$4,300,000**

—BROOK HOLLOW—



63 acres •4 BR •Family room with FP •First floor Master BR •2nd family room on lower level •3 car garage •Views of 5 acre lake & pool •New 7 stall barn •Board fenced paddocks •Great location between Middleburg & Leesburg **\$2,995,000**

—STORNOWAY—



Beautiful 4 BR, 3 BA home on 70 acres •Near Delaplane •Stone •Random-width heart of pine floors •Trompe-l'oeil •4 marble fireplaces •10' ceilings on 1st floor •Vaulted ceilings off kitchen •Many elegant details throughout **\$2,500,000**

—MIDDLEBURG—



3 level custom colonial •10 acre parcel •Minutes to Middleburg •HW floors •High ceilings •3 FP's •Family Room w/vaulted & beamed ceiling •Spacious screened porch •Spectacular gourmet kit. •In-ground pool & spa •4-stall barn •3 paddocks **\$1,950,000**

—BOLINGTON FARM—



c.1740 on National Register •Beautiful renovation of 5 Bedroom, 4 Bath brick & log home on Milltown Creek •8 FPs •Tavern Room •Bank barn •9 Stalls •Fenced •Original Toll House •Great potential for B&B, antique shop, or home based business **\$ 1,270,000**

—UPPERVILLE—



Upperville •Renovated 3BR, 2.5BA Stucco home on 1.32 acres •Lovely yard w/mature landscaping •Small stream •Large MBR suite on main level •Updated kitchen •Family Room •Formal Living and Dining Room •Patio •Attached garage **\$629,000**

—RASPBERRY HILL—



Charming 2 BR 1 BA cottage on .2 acres •Stucco •Living room •Dining Room •Oak flooring •Loft •Stone fireplace •Granite countertops •Laundry/mud-room •Central air conditioning •Covered porch •Perfect location for commuters **\$449,000**

—UNISON—



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