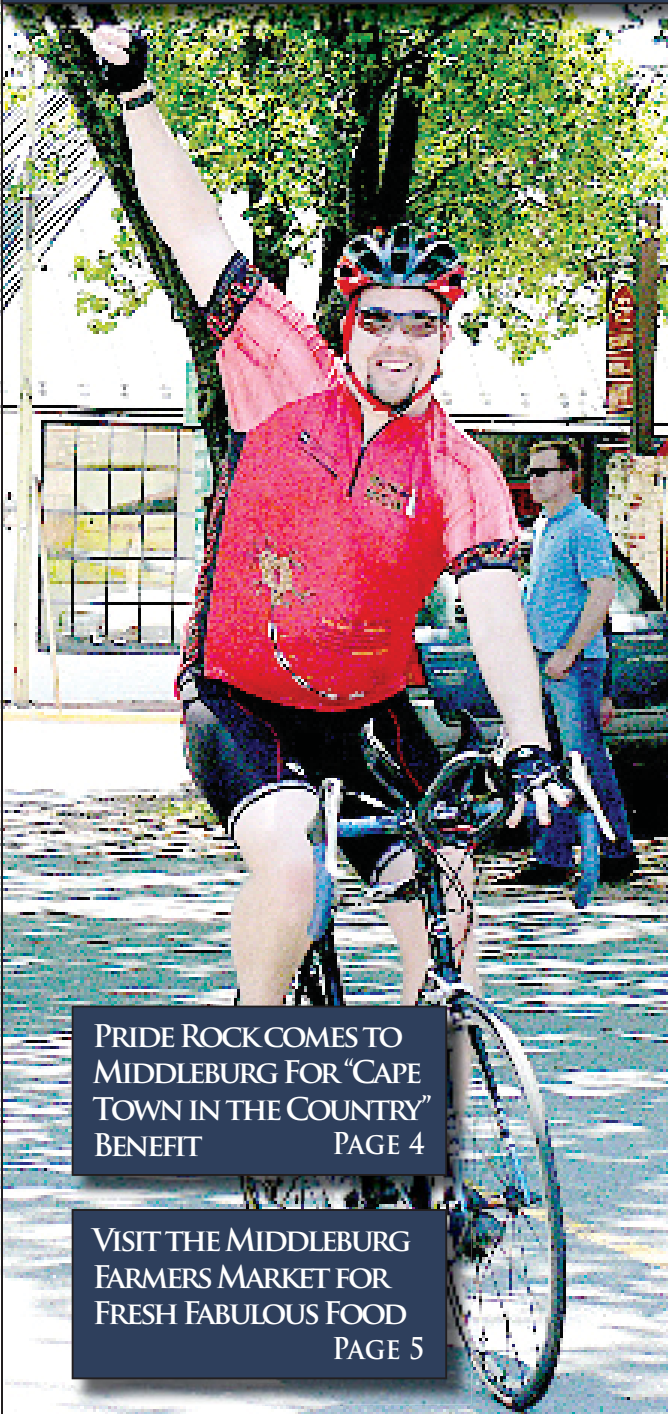




BUDGETS AND BACKLASH!

UPPERVILLE HORSE KICK OFF PARTY

PAGE 31



PRIDE ROCK COMES TO
MIDDLEBURG FOR "CAPE
TOWN IN THE COUNTRY"
BENEFIT PAGE 4

VISIT THE MIDDLEBURG
FARMERS MARKET FOR
FRESH FABULOUS FOOD
PAGE 5

TAX HIKES, BELT TIGHTENING, HIGH DUDGEON, DETERMINATION

DANIEL MORROW

Vigorous and vocal reaction to a proposed 66% increase in the Town's real estate tax and to suggestions the Town end its \$30,000 per year subsidy of the "Pink Box" information center marked the May 10 session of the Middleburg Town Council.

The Council's "regular" Thursday meeting was but one of a series of full-Council "work" sessions over the past month, with some discussions open to the public, some, especially those related to discussions with Salamander, closed.

The meetings focused on two inextricably related issues: tough budget decisions for the coming fiscal year and moving forward on the most recent version of the Salamander Inn development plan.

Once open, the new, 168-room, Salamander Inn and Spa is expected to drive roughly \$100,000 per month to the town's coffers according to Council Member Trowbridge Littleton. In addition, Salamander's construction of a new, \$5 million waste water treatment plant spares the town cost of either keeping the old system in repair or, inevitably, replacing it. Slowly, that process continues to move forward, with a firm majority of the voting members of Council in support.

All budget options are, however, on the table including: a raise for town employees that amounts to an inflation-adjusted pay cut, cutting or eliminating the town's marketing and economic development budgets, and transferring the administration of the Town's water and sewer system to the County.

In the midst of these discussions, problems with the Virginia Department of Transportation raised yet another old ghost: financial oversight. This time it took the form of a \$50,000 check written to Emmanuel Episcopal church on October 21, 2005. Apparently authorized by former Town Administrator Mike Casey, and signed by former Mayor Tim Dimos, to date, no formal documentation of Council review or approval of the expenditure has been forthcoming from either Church or Town.

Real Estate Taxes: Up 66%

At the public hearing on the town's "Proposed Real Estate Tax Increase on May 10, "Town Administrator Jerry Schiro justified a 66% increase by citing long-discussed, documented, and irrefutable needs.

With the Salamander properties annexed, but undeveloped, Schiro chose to recommend a tax rate in which no new assessments due to new construction or improvements would be included.

As of January 1, 2007, he noted, the total assessed value of real property in the Town was roughly 5.4% higher than last year.

To generate the same amount of revenue as last year, a tax rate of nine cents per \$100 of assessed value would be sufficient.

In order to balance a 1% increase in the Town's budget, however, Schiro and the Town Council proposed adoption of a rate of fifteen cents per \$100 of assessed value.

It was the first CHANGE in the Town's real estate tax rate in a quarter century according to a resident who remembered it, and the first INCREASE in even longer.

"I hate to be always in the negative," Jerry Wine responded, "but we just raised water and sewer rates . . ." Noting that the increase would place "a significant burden on a number of people in town" he said, "We need to do some belt tightening somewhere else."

Wendy Duling concurred. "It can come out to be quite a bit of money," she said. "...people who may feel they have to relocate to some place less expensive because taxes are prohibitive."

A public hearing on the final draft of Schiro's first formal budget for Middleburg was scheduled to coincide with the full-council work session on May 24, with adoption possible seven days later, either at the June 11 work session, or the June 14 regular meeting of Council.

Pink Box, Red Faces

Schiro also reported that, following Council discussions on April 26, he and Claudia Dornin, Middleburg's Economic Development Director, were "exploring the feasibility" of "relocating" the public information activities currently carried out by volunteers in the "Pink Box," the town's quaintly named official "information center."

Town Attorney Liz Whiting was, he said, investigating the possibility of breaking the Town's lease of the property from the National Sporting Library. Breaking the lease appeared to be possible, according to Schiro, if the library were notified on or before

Continued Page 6

MIDDLEBURG WELCOMES 25TH ANNIVERSARY BIKE TOUR

Middleburg welcomed the over 500 riders in the 25th Annual MS Bike tour Saturday as they rode to raise funds for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Members of the Middleburg Professional Association staffed a welcome table at the MS Bike Ride Rest Stop at Middleburg Elementary School. Jo Ann Hazard, MBPA president, Ken Reid, vice president of MBPA and Economic Development Co-ordinator Claudia Dornin welcomed the riders to Middleburg personally, and were pleased when many riders commented favorably on the "...beautiful village."

President Hazard organized a raffle for the riders that included a one-night stay at The Middleburg Country Inn, dinner for two at The Hidden Horse Tavern and a Book on Biking from Books & Crannies. Punkin Lee provided a much-welcomed tent to provide shade for the welcome committee and the riders.

The riders arrived between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on their way back to Purcellville, and 127 folks

signed up for the MBPA raffle.

Robin Swift of the National MS Foundation said this was the only outreach of this kind from any of the towns along the route.

Among the riders, many had never visited Middleburg before. The majority originated in the Washington Metropolitan Area, but some were from Northern Virginia, Pennsylvania and Colorado.

"For first timers, there seemed to be surprise that 'this cool little town' existed so close to DC/Arlington," said Dornin. "Folks consistently remarked on how beautiful the area was and how much they appreciated that we took the time to be there to welcome them."

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703.266.2480

Daniel O'Duffy

703.314.6117



ROUND HILL

Lovely 4BR home in Old Town Round Hill. Bright rooms with 9' ceilings, wood floors, inviting front porch and fenced 1/2 acre yard. Fireplace in living room, fully finished lower level, 2 car garage. \$509,000

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Situated on a quiet cul-de-sac. Bright lighting, tiled kitchen, main floor master suite, and generously proportioned rooms. Comfortable interior and manicured, tree-lined curb. \$205,000

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Cover Photo
by Dee Dee Hubbard

Editor in Chief
Tina Colwell

Design & Production Director
by Hubbard

Publisher
Dee Dee Hubbard

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Middleburg Eccentric is published weekly on the 2nd Thursday of each month, except in December, when it is published on the 1st Thursday.

Middleburg Eccentric is published by the Middleburg Eccentric, Inc., 1000 N. Main Street, Middleburg, VA 20117.

We are pleased to be the first and only of its kind in the Middleburg area, providing a unique and important service to the community.

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NEWS OF NOTE

DUDLEY BUNN LEAVES A CHRISTMAS LEGACY

Middleburg gained two citizens of the highest order when Dudley Bunn joined as an Army Lieutenant Colonel to Middleburg. Virginia was the Bunn's did, the most memorable may be the annual Christmas in Middleburg Parade.

Known to all as the nicest, most concerned and caring people, they always had a kind word and a helping hand, according to Middleburg Bank Vice President Reggie Dawson. His first owned Scotland House, and then opened "Through the Years" while they lived in Middleburg. A few years ago, when the Bunn's moved to Atlanta, he as Dudley said, "...it on the porch."

They died several years ago. Reggie remained. "Now, with Dudley's recent passing, we look back and realize just how much they both did to help our community."

The origin of the Christmas parade took place during coffee at the Red Fox Inn when Dudley and Cindy heard the mayor say that Middleburg needed a parade. It only took an instant for both the Bunn's to begin making plans to address the need.

(Tyler Gore of Royston Funeral Home, and Patty Arwine, who had a

business where the Home Store is now, were also there, and Dudley enlisted them to help get the parade started," Reggie said.

"At first it was just the Kappa Temple Beggars from Arlington Park and a few citizens groups who thoroughly enjoyed the festive walk through town to begin the holiday season. We all went to Dudley and Cindy's house for ribbon tying parties a few days before the parade, they made chili and we all sat around eating, tying and having fun as we prepared for a very long day during the actual event."

No one may have realized just how long that day was going to be in the 21st century.

In the beginning, Dudley wanted to be sure everything was well organized and, to that end, he made maps of where all the holiday signs were to be hung, and supervised their installation with great care.

"He was everywhere," said Dawson. "Dudley just loved the Christmas Parade, and no matter how much work it took, he was determined it would be better each successive year."

As Dudley's dream came true and the parade began to assume larger and larger proportions, the Middleburg Business Association got involved. Each president of the organization had the responsibility to help with the parade.

"I remember when I was vice president of the business association," McKelvey Cosin, who was president then, gave me an envelope and said, "...here's what you need to do the parade..." Reggie continued. "Tens of thousands of scraps of paper with a jumble of handwritten phone numbers. I decided then and there that we had to organize the parade."

When Dee Dee Hubbard was elected president of the business association, she and Caroline Cosin and were able to organize the parade each year with the help of dozens of wonderful community citizens who love the event just as much as Dudley did."

Today, the community walk through town has become a signature event for Middleburg. Always organized on the first Saturday in December, the festivities now begin with the Hunt Riding through the village in the morning, and the actual parade lining up for 3 p.m. start.

October, November and December are all "parade" months," Reggie said. "It's a job that begins every year just as the previous year's parade ends."

In the past six years the crowds have become so enormous that, without the kindness of Salamander to

let us use their fields for parking, we couldn't accommodate all the people who come to view. We need to have to run shuttle buses to the Catholic Church and back to take care of people."

The parade now includes as many as sixty different units. All sorts of animals parade, dogs, cats, alpacas, llamas, ox carts, carriages and others.

The Gorgi Corps that now marches every year, began with a just few local corps owners. Last Christmas, Almost 80 corps of all kinds and from all over the world marched in a wiggly, snaking single file in the parade wound from the Sportsman's Library to its conclusion.

"One year we decided to add a Grand Marshall to the parade, and the idea was to invite a famous person to be so honored," Dawson explained. "Now, we all realized that the Christmas in Middleburg Parade had a life of its own and we should honor outstanding local citizens."

The best Grand Marshals ever were Dudley and Cindy Bunn. They came from Atlanta for the parade, and I could tell by watching him that Dudley was exceptionally touched and pleased. They will both be seriously missed."

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

GO GREEN MIDDLEBURG

REBECCA FOSTON

The question of the day:
Paper or Plastic?

Plastic
• Made from a byproduct of oil refining, polystyrene. The bags are manufactured using electricity.

Between 500 million and 1 trillion plastic bags are made worldwide each year.

Some say plastic will never break down and disappear. Others say it will break down after 100 years in a landfill, 450 years in the ocean.

Positive: They take up less space in landfills.

Potential: They can easily be recycled by remelting, which sterilizes the plastic and then reforming. This process can be repeated many times.

Problem: Only 13 % of plastic bags are recycled, the rest go to landfills, waterways, storm drains, etc.

According to an article in the BBC dated May 8, 2002, in South Africa plastic bags have been dubbed "The National Flower" because so

many hang from fences and get caught in bushes. Also, Ireland has imposed a 15 cent tax on each new plastic bag to curb the litter problem. Within a couple of months shoppers have switched to re-using bags. One of the biggest grocery chains, Superquinn,

states that the number of new bags it distributes has dropped by 97.5%.

According to the Sierra Club, when 1 ton of plastic bags is reused or recycled, the energy equivalent of 11 barrels of oil are saved.

Recycled paper creates less air pollution and less water pollution than virgin paper, however, both involve using chemicals that eventually get into our waterways. Recycled paper is more environmental.

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Paper
• Made from trees, considered to be renewable. Making paper involves logging and destroying habitat for plants and animals. In addition to the trees ability to absorb greenhouse gases. In 1999, 14 million trees were cut to produce the 10 billion paper grocery bags used by Americans that year alone.

It takes 3 tons of wood to produce 1 ton of wood pulp from which paper bags are made. Pulp is washed and bleached using thousands of gallons of clean water.

It takes more than four times as much energy to manufacture a paper bag as it does to manufacture a plastic bag, which means more greenhouse gases are produced.

Paper can breakdown in landfills if water, light and oxygen can get to it, which is not the case in most of our landfills.

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GO GREEN
Middleburg
is friendly than virgin paper, but at this time it is also more expensive to buy.

According to the Sierra Club, "When 1 ton of paper bags is reused or recycled, 3 cubic meters of landfill space is saved and 13-17 trees are spared." In 1997 955,000 tons of paper bags were used in the U.S.

Solution
• BYOC (Bring Your Own Bag)
• Recycle
• In Middleburg, reuse or deposit plastic bags in the bin in front of Safeway. Please do not put them in the bin at Mickey Gordon's recycling center.

Reuse paper and take to Mickey Gordon's recycling center.

If you have found a better solution, please let us know. Middleburg Go Green P.O. Box 701 Middleburg, VA 20118

Bar Owners at Safeway (Safeway and Safeway)
Safeway (Safeway and Safeway)
Friday - Saturday 11:30 - 7:30 & 7:30 - 10:00
From in front of Safeway to a Redwood Grocery Delivery
Home deliveries Appointments
540.687.3018

NEWS OF NOTE

PRIDE ROCK COMES TO MIDDLEBURG FOR "CAPE TOWN IN THE COUNTRY" BENEFIT

Love everywhere will run with approval when Lebo M and the Broadway cast of *The Lion King* sing for the guests at Sandi Young and Jay Fener's June 23rd "Cape Town in the Country" benefit to create post-apartheid opportunities for underprivileged South African students and create more economic advancement in the country. Lebo M, the Grammy and Tony Award winning arranger, lyricist, singer and performer, will perform under a canopy before blacked attire dinner guests at beautiful Coachman Farm on Zella Road in the Plains. Prior to the main event, recording artist Mphahlele, whose latest release includes the melodic female voice often heard on Yanni sound tracks, will perform for VIP guests. Combining a love for Africa, her philanthropic mission and renowned

imagination and creativity, Sandi Young, chairman of the event, will dedicate the proceeds to benefit the United States South African Wine Foundation, a sister organization of the South African Wine Foundation (NGO) that provides an education for young South Africans who are trained only as wine makers, thereby leading to lives of abundance and lack of poverty. The spectacular evening promises guests scrumptious delicacies, fine wine music, dancers, history and culture in one of the areas most exquisite Hunt Country settings. "When Judy Chambers and Gavin Pienaar, a South African businessman and philanthropic force, I immediately knew this would be a tremendously challenging but immensely worthwhile endeavor," Young explained. "This will certainly be my grandest fundraising adventure to date!"



RITZ CARLTON'S UK TEAM TAKES TROPHY AT FIRST AMERICA'S CUP OF POLO

Exciting chukkers, dazzling entertainment, magnificent ponies, memorable rock and roll, crackling fireworks and daring displays of high flying F-18 Navy jets provided a feast for the senses at Mervyn Park's First America's Cup. The charity event took place on a pristine, newly constructed polo field at the historic estate and attracted a crowd of over 4,000 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Jamestown. The U.S. Polo Team, sponsored by Carter and led by America's Cup Founder and Chairman Tareq Salahi, took three chukkers from the UK Team captained by Julian Hipwood. But, at the end of the fast-paced match, the Ritz Carlton sponsored UK team led the day seven chukkers to three. In addition to winning the Carter trophy and engraved individual silver trays, each member of the Ritz Carlton UK Team took home Carter stainless steel Roadster watches. The true winner of the day was



The Ritz Carlton UK Team took home Carter stainless steel Roadster watches.

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ALDIE RURITAN LAUDED FOR SERVICE

The Aldie Ruritan Club was recently lauded for completing 55 years of community service. Mr. Merle Parlow, an original member of the club chartered in 1952.

Under the guidance of new officers Bud Harrack, President, John Ellis - Vice President, Norm Levin Secretary, and returning Treasurer, Wynne Saffler, the club has set an energetic agenda of community service, growing membership, and fund raising.

Once again Aldie Ruritan will present the Allen Gulick Scholarship to an outstanding student of Agriculture from Loudoun County High School. In addition, a new \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving student from Freedom High School.

This summer the folks in Aldie and the surrounding area will be treated to a concert series courtesy of Aldie Ruritan. Plans call for 3 concerts on Sunday afternoons at the pavilion behind the Methodist Church. Local artist Andrew McNight will perform, as well as Amy Sullivan and the Whiskey Darlin's.

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CHERRY BLOSSOM BAKE SALE

Bessie of the Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Fund League, Middleburg residents, Thelma Swann and Pat Owens, raised \$775 Saturday, May 14 for breast cancer research and prevention from a Bake Sale in front of the Safeway. "We conducted the sale in memory of my sister-in-law, Brenda Yankley, who died of breast cancer at age 42," Thelma said, "and for our dear friend, Mary Jo Jackson, who is combat-

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NEWS OF NOTE

QUALITY SERVICES AT DULLES URGENT CARE

Only ten miles from Middleburg, at Dulles Urgent Care in Stone Ridge, Virginia, patients and families enjoy a relaxing, tranquil atmosphere where pleasant medical assistants and doctors create a setting that really feels like home. Serving citizens of Chantilly, South Riding, Arco, Stone Ridge, Aldie, Middleburg and surrounding communities, Dulles Urgent Care was established in 2005. President Mel Chatham's team is determined to provide patients and customers with a gracious, welcoming environment and impeccable efficient service.

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Dulles Urgent Care Center is open seven days a week and is pleased to provide services without an appointment. It is an ideal option for those unable to conveniently or quickly obtain medical support or for their primary service provider, or for individuals wishing to avoid the long wait and expensive cost of an emergency room visit.

For more information, telephone 703.542.7921.

VISIT THE MIDDLEBURG FARMERS MARKET FOR FRESH, FABULOUS FOOD

The spring weather has finally arrived in Loudoun County! Spring brings chirping birds, the smell of fresh cut grass and the opportunity to buy the freshest local food available. The Middleburg Farmers Market opened for the season on Saturday, May 5, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Local residents will have the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of fresh products from local farmers, including fruits and vegetables, fresh breads and baked goods and meat products, just to name a few.

"Last year's Middleburg market was not only a success, but a way of life for many local residents," said Middleburg Market Manager Sally Bohan. "We are again excited to work with the Town of Middleburg, the supportive community members and welcome new vendors to pro-

duce another successful market in Middleburg."

During the month of May, customers will find the following fruits and vegetables: salad greens, "cra-cra's", basil, asparagus, rhubarb, spinach, onions, radishes, strawberries, turnips, kale, arugula, and spring onions.

The Middleburg Market is one of seven markets sponsored by the Loudoun Valley Horse-Green Markets Association. These are home-grown, producer only markets, meaning the people who sell you the food are the people who grow it. This system guarantees customers will find quality produce that is both fresh and local. The producers stand behind their products 100 percent, and are happy to share information with you about how their products are raised.

"By buying fruits, vegetables,

TAX HIKES, BELT TIGHTENING FROM PAGE 1

Up to \$30,000 per year could be saved by moving the town's "information center" to either the Town Offices or the Town-owned "Health Center" building that currently houses, among other things, Police Headquarters.

The notion of "closing" the "Pink Box" drew immediate fire, offers of financial support from fans of the center, and unpleasant public exchanges on the floor of Town Hall.

Auntie Berger, part of the 12-member "Pink Box Advisory Committee" read a prepared statement on behalf of the volunteers, the "doctors" of the "Pink Box." Noting that the "hospitality, warmth and sense of history could not be duplicated in another location," Berger said a group of more than twenty individuals and families had pledged enough money to cover the rent paid by the Town for the Pink Box for a full year.

Berger also announced that the Middleburg Garden Club had pledged \$2,500 towards maintaining the "Pink Box" gardens. "This is," she said, "... a perfect example of the caring spirit which makes this town so unique."

Rhonda Swift, owner of "The Shaggy Ram" on Main Street, agreed, and suggested that "anyone who has a business here should be 'in' more than willing to kick in \$100 or more per month to keep the center in the 'Pink Box'."

Unpleasantly, Kathy Rhoads, who serves on the Town Planning Commission and as Treasurer of the Middleburg Garden Club, suggested that "Pink Box" volunteers might consider setting up a private foundation to serve the Town the expense of maintaining the property, and consider treating it as an historic site, rather than a working "visitor center."

She ran into trouble, however, when she noted, "The true cost of running the 'Pink Box' is not \$4,800 a year."

She was met with catcalls from the floor when she stated that \$4,800 was "just the rent" and that the "true cost to the town ... was closer to \$20 or \$30 thousand a year."

Betty Davis, for perhaps the first time in her tenure as Mayor, was compelled to call for order.

Shocked, Rhoads spoke directly to the "Pink Box" supporters who had interrupted her.

"I have been treated abusively every month, every week," she said, noting that she'd "been coming to your meetings for eleven years."

Conceding that the fate of the "Pink Box" was an emotional issue for some, she urged that in spite of it "... we deal with realities and the facts."

Citing rumors she'd heard, among them a tale of the center's imminent "relocation" to some out-of-the-way "basement," Rhoads closed her diatribe. "I do not wish to hear the misstatements that I hear on the street," she said. "I want to hear it from the horse's mouth in horse country."

Confirming, from personal experience, persistent rumors that even volunteers and town officials were sometimes asked to sign the "Pink Box" register of "visitors," Rhoads noted that, as a "visitor center," the "Pink Box" was in a terrible location, hard to find, and poorly identified.

"Putting your visitors center in an area where we have no shops," she concluded, was non-productive,

or even counterproductive. People don't come down these streets ... and if you make capital improvements to this facility ... that benefits not only the town, but the Sporting Library and the Trustees there."

As for the \$2,500 Middleburg Garden Club donation, Rhoads told the council that, "When the Board voted on its donation to the 'Pink Box,' none of us understood the terms of this lease [with the Sporting Library] and what happened to capital improvements."

According to Rhoads the Garden Club was now "holding that donation in abeyance until such time as there is a resolution, by the Town Council, of this whole issue."

Rhoads concluded by thanking the Council for its hard work in difficult times.

\$50 K to Emmanuel Church?

Perhaps the most unfortunate event of the month's series of meetings and work sessions was the discovery ... or rediscovery ... of

what appears to be an unauthorized \$50,000 payment from the Town to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, and a Church request for even more.

At best, the situation can be described as an unfortunate example of good intentions gone awry. At the very least it serves, in the words of Town Council member Mark Snyder, as yet another example "of a litany of unmitigated expenditures" incurred during the administration of former Mayor Tim Dimos and former Town Manager, Mike Casey. Documentation is sketchy.

Parking Lots and Storm Waters

All parties agree that the problem began in June 2005, with a genuine effort to do the right thing for both the Town, and Emmanuel Church, in the fall of the preceding year, 2004. Emmanuel Church began a renovation project and new construction in its Parish House project at 105 Washington Street.

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"NEW MOUNTAIN ROAD", Aldie. Lovely 7.37 acre approved building parcel, with a long driveway and 4 bedroom per site. Variety of hardwoods, Laurel, and Dogwood compliment the peaceful setting. Very private and tranquil, yet convenient location for commuters. Just minutes from Route 50, and the quaint village of Aldie. \$479,000. Contact Cathy Bernache

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NEWS OF NOTE

TAX HIKES, BELT TIGHTENING

FROM PAGE 6

quinted that the church construct a new "Storm Water Management System" designed to carry water from the Parish house site and its parking spaces, across East Federal Street, and into a stream that flows through the graveyard across from the church.

According to a letter from Jim Davis, Chairman of the Church Building Committee, construction of the system was expected to cost roughly \$200,000.

In the summer of 2005, Middleburg was required to build a similar system, designed to carry storm water away from its new Liberty Street Parking lot, built directly

across the street from Emmanuel Church. Estimated cost: \$150,000.

Documents at Town Hall indicate that instead of constructing a new system for the Federal Street lot, former Town Manager Mike Casey and others decided to connect the Federal Street Parking Lot system to that serving Emmanuel Church.

According to Casey and other sources, connecting the Federal Street Lot to the Church system BEFORE it crossed Federal Street promised to save both money and unnecessary destruction and restoration of private property.

According to a September, 2006,

letter describing the combined-system plan, the new approach allowed Middleburg to avoid having to build its own crossing of Federal Street,

securing an easement to use private property near the cemetery for underground pipe, cutting down a number of old trees on the private property, installing a second pipe, parallel to the Emmanuel Church pipe, to carry water from East Federal Street to the stream; preparing a suitable outlet into the stream itself; and then restoring the landscaping of the private property right of way.

The plan, however, required that significant improvements be made to

the Emmanuel Church system to handle the extra water from the Federal Street Parking lot.

These improvements were made, and, according to a September, 2006 letter from Emmanuel's Jim Davis to Middleburg Town Planner, David Beniamin, "In return for the use of the Emmanuel System, the Town of Middleburg agreed to pay Emmanuel Church \$50,000." A check was issued on October 21, 2005.

Extra Costs
According to Emmanuel Church, however, the \$50,000 check did not fully cover the costs the Town had agreed to pay.

Breaking through hard rock on East Federal Street required heavy equipment and another \$23,201, and Loudoun County Inspectors required an additional \$14,750 of work.

Claiming that the Town would have encountered the same problems had it built its own, independent system, Emmanuel Church asked to be reimbursed for the extra expense.

According to a Jim Davis letter, former Town Administrator Mike Casey then "... offered to pay Emmanuel Church a final payment of \$25,000 if the Town of Middleburg work plan a contribution toward the additional costs incurred the construction of the storm water management system."

Davis, in the same letter, asserts that he, on behalf of the Church, accepted Casey's offer, but that "this payment has not been made by the Town."

Who Really Owes What to Whom?

In late April, 2007, Jerry Schiro, Middleburg's new Town Administrator, reported that the Virginia Department of Transportation was having "some issues with the work" on both the Federal Street Parking Lot system, and that done for the Church. These new "issues", including storm water grates and sidewalks not meeting VDOT specifications, set off a firestorm in Council.

During the April 27, 2007, work session of the Council, Vice Mayor Darlene Kirk asserted that she remembered an earlier discussion of the matter, including cost issues, and that "Council's opinion was to go back to the Church and say that it [Emmanuel's request for an extra \$25,000] was not an agreed upon amount."

Council minutes record Mark Snyder asserting that "unless anyone could find meeting minutes or anything else that showed that Mr. Casey was authorized to enter into that agreement, there was no agreement."

Snyder further noted that "he did not believe Council ever authorized that agreement."

Town Attorney, Liz Whiting concurred, stating "she did not think anyone knew that agreement existed."

Mike Casey told the Eccentric, "While I don't recall the dates when the matter was discussed with Council, I do know that it was discussed as a cost saving measure, which made a lot of sense to everyone involved."

After Casey was fired by the Town Council, Emmanuel Church pressed Acting Town Administrator Claudia Dornan for payment of the Town's fair share of the "extra costs" of the system.

Dornan, aggressively enforcing the Town's legal requirement that all invoices totaling more than \$10,000 be approved by Council before payment, apparently asked to see the Church's contract.

Town documents indicate that Emmanuel Church's representative replied that there was nothing written, and indeed, nothing to document how the value of sharing the waste water easement was set at \$50,000, other than Mike Casey's signature on the church invoice for that amount, directing former Town Treasurer, Betty Wolford, to pay the bill.

To date, former Mayor Tim Dimos, who signed the check, has not replied to inquiries from the Eccentric.

Snyder absolves the Church of any responsibility in the matter, noting that "from their point of view they thought they were dealing in good faith with an authorized representative of the town."

To date, both authorization of the original \$50,000 payment and Emmanuel Church's request for extra payments remain, legally, unresolved.

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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

MIDDLEBURG BANK PROMOTES KATE CHAPPELL TO CFO AND RODNEY WHITE TO CAO

Middleburg Bank announced that Kate Chappell has been appointed Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Bank and Middleburg Financial Company and Rodney White has been promoted to Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer. Additionally, Jeff Culver takes on the leadership of the Bank's strategic planning functions as Senior Vice President - Credit Administration and Strategic Planning.

Chappell will guide the financial aspects of the company from a strategic point of view and ultimately certify the company's financials for the SEC as required. As CAO, Mr. White has overall responsibility for the accounting functions of the company including the certification of procedures and controls over these activities. Mr. Culver now assumes leadership responsibility for the Bank's strategic plan in addition to heading the Bank's Credit Administration activities.

Chappell has been a key player in the financial operations of Middleburg Bank and Middleburg Financial Corporation for a number of years and we expect that in their new roles, they will both continue to make significant contributions to the growth of the organization," said Joe Boling, Chairman and CEO. "Jeff has been instrumental in developing our strategic plan and the metrics we use to track our accomplishments and I am excited that he will be leading our strategic planning capability," added Mr. Boling.

CINDY POLK NAMED TOP PRODUCER FOR APRIL 2007

Michele Stevens, Branch Manager for the Long and Foster/Middleburg Sales Office, is proud to announce that Cindy Polk has been named Top Producer for April 2007 with nearly \$1.4 million in sales.

Cindy Polk is a long time resident of Middleburg, having attended Hill School, Foxcroft School and The University of Virginia. Cindy specializes in horse properties and country homes. Her high ethical standards and hard work have made Cindy a top producing Realtor with the majority of her business based on repeat clients and referrals.



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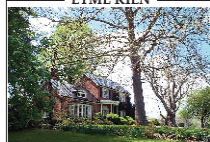
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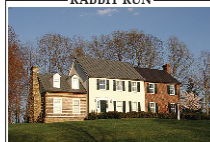
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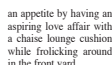
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GOING TO THE DOGS

FROM BEHIND THE STOVE

I'm not a Vet and I don't play one on TV, but I have been making my own dog food for some time. I'd be lying if I told you that the recent wave of tainted pet food circulating our country didn't bother me. Whether it is intentional or accidental, I never would have imagined such a thing would occur.

My wife and I have two wonderful Golden Retrievers, (Berkeley, 13 and Mystery, 10) whose breed, in general, has a history of hip and joint problems in their "golden years" and a 150 pound Bernese Mountain dog (Harley, 5). Who is basically a large rug we always have to maneuver around and he's happiest when he's eating, sleeping or sitting on your feet. He works up



And me the proud Pappa...
Usually I use these recipes as a mixer. They soften up the food for our older dogs and provides them with a good amount of supplemental nutrition. Every day I give them their dry food along with a small amount of one of the following recipes that I mix in with it. They seem to love it. No one turns their nose up and they're healthy as horses (so to speak).
And besides, I like cooking for dogs... they tip better and complain less.

2 cups thickened yeast
1 cup lactobacilli bacteria

1/4 cup Kaffir Lime	
1/4 cup Coconut	
2 1/2 cups Coconut, ground	

Barley's flour. I add one cup of this to their dry mix or, on occasion, I serve this by itself.

4 cups	Boil the beans overnight and drain until you can pour the milk off a bean. In a large bowl add all ingredients and place into a large boiling dish. Cook for about 30 minutes. Add 1/2 cup to your milk.
Plain Beans (canned or cook)	
3 cups Cheddar cheese	
1 cup Cornmeal	

4 lg Eggs	-
2 cups	
Cheddar cheese, grated	

Maggie, our very good friend, Lisa & Billie Collett, 12 year old Jack Russell has beautiful eyes and a heart of gold. She is Magsley's girlfriend. We met her 8 years ago just after she had been black in a Christian meeting about a fox patch she was born in less with the 10 hours. Magsley would lead her on the hill and down the mountain in Magsley's house she'd go. Every morning Magsley would go to through our friends doghouse and with them all a "good morning". Her heart up with Maggie and if they would together slip back to our house where we were at the ready to give her morning kisses.

Very early, Maggie passed away this week. She was sick for the past two months. She will be greatly missed and always remembered. She was a ball of energy and a bright light. Because this is Mary's favorite recipe, I served this in honor of her. *—Michael, Kansas*

1 cup Buttery
 1/2 cup Cheddar, shredded
 1/2 cup Swiss, shredded
 1 cup Colby Jack, shredded
 1/4 cup Healthy Fat powder
 (recipe above)
 1 cup Carrots, diced
 1 cup Green Beans, diced
 2 cups Water

Bring the two cups of water to a boil and add the butter, then cover heat and simmer until the grains are soft (30 minutes). Stir in the remaining ingredients (except meat) to cook and serve in __cup portions.
 Add turkey breast

A regulation with that sense in power will be both the cause and effect of

4 cups cornmeal
4 large eggs
4 cups Carrots, sliced
4 cups Green beans, sliced
4 lbs. Olive oil

On one rare occasion that I run out of commercial dog food, I always have time on the train to get my dog home.

1 lb. Ground beef
6 large Eggs
6 cups Brown rice
1/4 cup Healthy Fat powder
(recipe above)
4 lbs Chicken

Downfalls or Disasters?
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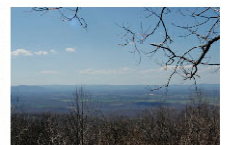


INDIAN RUN, RIXEYVILLE, VA

54-acre estate which has been owned by the same family for more than 100 years. 6 bedroom, 5.5 bath main house with swimming pool, charming 3 bedroom, 3 bath stone guest house and 3 bedroom ranch house. The property is contiguous to the Outlands Plantation estate and is protected by the National Trust's ownership of the property as well as an easement in favor of the Virginia Outdoors Foundation on Outlands Hamlet. \$3,900,000.

50 acres of beautiful rolling land with views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Well known horse farm located in the Orange County Hunt territory. The property offers a lovely stone two-story house with 4 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 full and 1 half bath, a manager's house, stone garage, pond and 4 stall stable. A very special offering in a wonderful location \$3,400,000.

Fabulous colonial with over 9,000 square feet of living space with many distinct features and upgrades. Five bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 3 fireplaces, finished basement with media room, rec room and second master bedroom. A custom built home on a lovely 25 acre lot with rolling terrain, large mature trees, garage and workshop. More acreage available. \$1,490,800.



PANORAMIC VIEWS IN LINDEN, VA

Delicious views abound from this brick Colonial home on 1.2 private acres graced by over 40 flowering dogwood. Approximately 4,800 sq. ft. with first floor bedroom and bath and 3 second level bedrooms and 2 baths. Lower level in-law or au pair suite with bath. Only 1.6 miles north of I-66. Across from Nike Mountain Vineyard. Ideal for commuting. \$1,100,000.

Encyclopaedia remounted on a 1970 vintage featuring the highest quality materials and top of the line appliances. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with first floor master suite, sunroom, patio and 2 car garage. 1.66 private, landscaped, board fenced acre with mature trees and shrubs. 2 miles east of Middleburg, surrounded by large farms. Outbuilding can be 3rd house.

64+ acres of land in Lincoln. Mostly wooded parcel offering sweeping picturesque views of the Shenandoah River, Valley and vast mountain ranges. Property across the road from G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Refuge. Very private and protected setting, yet convenient to I-66. Great for nature lovers, hikers, and hunters. Small rustic cabin on property. Low real estate taxes.



MORNINGSTAR FARM, ALDIE, VA

Stately renovated 1775 stone residence on 1.67 acres with manicured lawns, majestic trees and pool. The house offers four levels of elegant yet comfortable living, 5/6 bedrooms, full, 2 half baths, 5 fireplaces and screened porch. Spacious rooms with 9 ft. ceilings, detailed millwork, arched doorways and windows. Random width hardwood floors. \$1,199,900

One year old, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath Cape Cod in excellent condition. 10.97 acres, half wooded and half cleared. Home sited high on a hill with spectacular views of Old Rag Mountain. Open flowing floor plan with master bedroom on main level, attached 2 car garage and detached 2 car garage used as workshop/storage building. Only 10 min south of the

Private setting surrounded by large farms just minutes from Dulles/Greerway. Quaint 70 year old Cape Cod with many updates. Spacious, 4BR/2BA including main floor master. Stucco with standing seam metal roof, plaster walls, hardwood floors throughout and high ceilings. Nearly 4 acres entirely board fenced, barn/stable with loft, wide center aisle, 3 stalls,

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PASTIMES

PLANTING WALKWAYS

THE PLANT LADY

KARIN REYNOLDS

Gardens of any size usually have a walkway or two. Realistically one needs to get in between plants to tend them and many of our walkways act as service roads, allowing us to get close to our living plants to prune and weed. I am always curious about garden pathways as I have seen them function as a charming lure, begging for further exploration and drawing a guest or gardener further into the garden.

On occasion these begin as slate patios and extend into walkways that lead beyond the house. Other times they are little more than informal mulched paths that criss cross the garden. The planting of these walkways can be interesting as there are many approaches beyond the do nothing and leave wood chips or pavers bare. I personally enjoy the wilder, half-planted look as well as the many options for fragrant, stepable plantings. Depending on the available sunlight, there are wonderful choices for the both the sunny walkway, as well as the shady one.

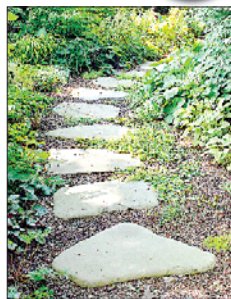
In working with slate pavers and bluestone dust, cracks between the pavers should be two inches or more to establish low ground-hugging plants. In sunny locations the favored plant is creeping thyme, particularly the lowest growing varieties. I particularly like *Thymus serpyllum* 'Albus' as I have found it to be the most evergreen of all. Many of the low growing lemon thymes are also popular for their pungent lemony scent, best achieved when bruised or stepped on. Other low growing herbs to consider are creeping marjoram and corsican mint. Rarely does corsican mint winter over for us, but the minty fragrance is worth a yearly planting. Annual sweet alyssum seed can be spread in between pavers to provide summer and fall color as well as fragrance. With

any luck the seed will return in following years, a delightful surprise when it does. Add a few of the lowest creeping sedums, they will provide color in winter and flowers in summer. Favorites are *Sedum spumiger*, *S. emarginatum*, and *S. floriferum*. When grown in sun with very lean conditions, the foliage remains small and the plants compact.

Moving into shade there are even more options as plant selections are tremendous. For in between pavers consider *Lysimachia nummularia* 'Aurea' or gold-creeping penny for its yellow to chartreuse foliage. As well as growing flat, it will brighten shady nooks. *Minuartia* or Irish moss will also like hold. Available as pale green in *Minuartia verna* 'Aurea', the pale-ness functions as small rays of light, like penetrating shafts of sun reaching into the shade. The smallest ophiopogon, *Ophiopogon japonicus* 'Nanus' barely reaches two inches in height. The foliage is dark green, almost black. A great foil for paler partners. Extremely slow growing, one of the best displays of established ophiopogon as a groundcover exists at the National Arboretum in the Japanese garden that edges the Bonsai Pavilion. A petable plant, the urge to reach down and stroke the leaves is irresistible.

Numerous other low growing shade perennials exist. Mazus lays flat on the ground, producing flowers of either white or lavender. From the Himalayas, best growth is evident in spring and fall, during the cooler seasons. *Ajuga* can be found with numerous leaf patterns and loves a spot along a path in the shady garden. Dotted with the most miniature of gold leaved hostas, the effect is magical. Sprinkle *Sedum pulchellum* about, a shade loving, native sedum that seeds in most places, and all manner of walkways will be enhanced.

As one may conclude, the process of planting a walkway simply means thinking small. Recreate a



space filled with the tiniest of plants, laid out in the smallest of landscapes and reach beyond the static one plant, one groundcover mentality. Expand further by curbing your lowest plantings with receding violas and succulent hens and chicks as it all steps up to more standard sized perennials. Keep in mind your sense of scale and it all becomes quite fun and adventurous.



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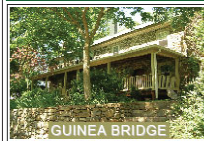
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SHANNON HILL FARM
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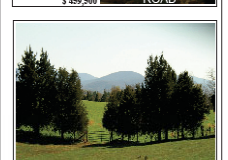
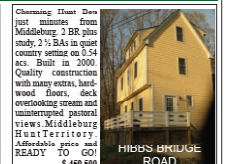
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PASTIMES

THE INEVITABILITY OF BEING BARRY
SEVENTH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

What happens when Barry Bonds finally makes number 766?

What happens when he misuses one of his fence and terrible swings, a beautiful coupling of turned hardwood and applied physics, and sends about 5 ounces of cork, rubber, wood and cowhide hurtling towards tomorrow?

What happens when the incomprehensible pull of gravity reassures itself and pulls that ball back to Earth, demands that it return to its rightful place amongst the rest of us?

What happens when the unavoidable scum has torn itself apart and one person stands, anonymously temporarily humbled, rising up with history, quite literally, in the palm of his or her hand?

What happens when everyone starts to breathe again, when their eyes retrace the parabolic flight of the ball, looking to find the new home run king, to look upon him, to see if there's even a smile in place of the more familiar glower?

What happens when people find their voices, remember how to speak, to yell, to cheer, to boo?

Since the start of the season, since Bonds rushed out of the gate, depositing taters in McCovey Cove like it

was 2001 all over again, the question has changed from "can he?" to "when will he?" Bonds' swing is officially dished in. Pitchers and managers fear him again, nibbling around the strikezone like they don't really want to be there. So the record is there for the taking, for his taking.

But then what? Aaron won't be there. He's already confirmed that if there is one place on the planet he can absolutely guarantee you he WON'T be when his record is taken, it's the ballpark in which Bonds is doing the taking. It's like the opposite of most people's summer plans, an itinerary based entirely on places NOT to go.

The commissioner, the master tactician, the guy who introduced ties to the All-Star game, hasn't made his plans yet. He's camped out happily on the fence, where he'll remain, giddy with indecision, until the last possible moment, at which point he'll tell any one who cares to listen that he knows all along what he was going to do, that of course he couldn't miss it, that he just didn't want to interrupt himself into the story and cause a distraction.

Willie Mays, Bonds' pothead, will be there, letting everyone within earshot know how proud he is, how happy he is, how good and right the moment feels.

Willie Brown, the ex-Mayor of San Francisco, will be there. The original Dick Willie has secured himself a couple guaranteed seats for all the Giants games once Barry gets within sneezing distance of the record and through the actual record breaker.

There will be fireworks and there will be celebrations. Teeth will be gnashed, fists will be shaken towards the heavens, garments shall be rent asunder.

And then the tents will come down, the barkers will call it a night, the lions and tigers and bears will all get back on the train, and the whole freakin' circus will disappear into the night. Poof... Gone, forever and done.

And Bonds will have the record. And he'll have it, and he'll have it, and he'll have it. And every day he has it he'll be forced to think about it while the rest of us forget and move onto other insignificances. But Barry won't ever be able to forget. He'll have the record. I'll be all his. Forever. And ever. And he'll have to live with himself.

And that's the way it should be.

cudaback@yahoo.com

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DUFFY LANE NEW LISTING Middleburg. Income producing property w/ 6 rental homes on 12+ ac. 2 mi. from town of Forest Hill. Some main house w/ BR, BA, hardwood flrs, porch, FP. Renovated stucco BR, BA cottage & BR, BA studio. BR, BA shingled cottage. Storage shed & garage. All new system & landscaping. \$1,650,000	BED & BREAKFAST The Plains. Elegant six room inn on 4.20 acres located in the quaint village of The Plains. Profitable, turn-key operation. Price includes the business, property, improvements and furnishings. Includes 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath home may also be purchased. \$1,550,000	26 CHINN LANE Middleburg. Lovely 3 bedroom, 3 bath brick Colonial in sought after hamlet right in town. Fenced yard, small creek, heated pool and gardens. Master bedroom suite on 1st floor. Plantation shutters and hardwood floors throughout. Attached 2 car garage. \$1,100,000
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PASTIMES

THE END OF HARRY POTTER?

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GENIE FORD

Can it really be true? Are we coming to the end of Harry Potter? It would appear so; therefore, all you fans and families (which includes us) out there, we're not taking the release of the seventh and final book lying down! We're going to do our best to transform dear old Middleburg into Diagon Alley (where all good wizards go to get their school supplies) and even the venerable Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. That's the least we can do as we welcome the final installment of this classic series, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows promises to be the most fulfilling book yet, in which all our questions will be answered.

You can pre-order your copy (and get a 20 percent discount) by calling us at 540-687-4677, or stop by our new location at 19 E. Washington Street.

Our tribute to the final Harry Potter adventure, beginning Friday, July 20, at 7 p.m., will include a costume parade and a special screening of one of the Harry Potter movies. We also have plans to keep parents happy while the excitement builds towards midnight, when the books actually go on sale. The Couch Stop, The French House and other local restaurants are joining with us to feature special Potter Plate Pleasers for parents while our party is going on.

In the buildup to the big event, Scholastic Books, publisher of the Potter series, is releasing seven ques-

tions for voting and discussion by Potter fans. The first question, released April 17, asked: "Who will live, who will die?" The choices were: Harry Potter, Lord Voldemort, Snape, Ginny, Ron, Hermione, Neville, Hagrid, Draco Malfoy, or perhaps, someone else? The second question, released on May 7, asked: "Is Snape good or evil?" Your choices: Good and still a spy for the Order of the Phoenix; Good but in too deep with Voldemort; Evil but has always been a spy for Voldemort; or Evil but only because Voldemort is back.

The May 15 question is: "Will Hogwarts prosper?" Your choices are: Yes, but Harry, Ron and Hermione won't go back; or Not at all. What do you think?

The final question will be posed on July 7, just 14 days before the release of the book. We think these are pretty interesting, but we would welcome any questions our local fans might think be even more entertaining or challenging. You can send us your ideas at www.booksandcrummies.com. We'll also post the upcoming questions on our website.

We love the Harry Potter books, not just because they are fun and entertaining, but because they sparked a love of reading in a whole generation of young people. The success of the books has led to many other series aimed at young readers, many of which are excellent. For example, we're looking forward to the next installment in the Eragon series, written by talented,

young Christopher Paolini. We have to wonder if books like this would have gotten the attention they deserve were it not for the phenomenon that is Harry Potter.

With more than 300 million copies sold worldwide, author J.K. Rowling has certainly created an incredible and unparalleled publishing sensation, but above all, she has shown children that reading can, as we say at Books & Crummies, "give us somewhere to go when we have to stay where we are."

Another quick note: You can pick up summer reading books for our local schools' lists. We have most of the books already on hand and can quickly order any others that we may not have when you come into the store.



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French country master home, 8 acres, 7000+ sq ft, 5 bds, 5.5 ba, gourmet floor master suite, gourmet kitchen, family great w/laurel stone, perfect for entertaining. Great acreage home. Convenient to Middleburg and Dulles International airport, 1 hr to Wash, D.C. \$4,500,000 Contact Anne Michalak



Elm Spring, Clarke County

Country Estate located in Blue Ridge forest country. Stunning 15 room French style home sits on 93 acres. Terraced lawn to garden and pool. Stone with a clay tiled roof, stone chimneys, 10 R ceilings, glass floor-to-ceiling doors, marble and antique hardwood floors and even to stone. Beautiful landscaping. \$3,950,000 Contact Anne Michalak



Skating Hill, Middleburg, VA

50 acre property is located in Orange County forest territory on the Halfway Road. Newly open with woods and Little River overlooking to the West, very private setting with outstanding mountain views. There is no only stone cottage, great home and here that can be converted and enlarged. In VOF moment. \$3,295,000 Contact Dotter Staehler



English Chase, Marshall, VA

Beautiful home in absolutely perfect condition, with an open and cool floor plan on a lovely private and beautifully landscaped 14 acres, volume from woods. 6th. Gorgeous kitchen, soaring great and home great room/terrace room, lower level pool/patio/terrace room, 2 car garage, wine cellar no such room. \$1,545,000 Contact Chris Malone



Stone Echo, Middleburg

Dutch colonial on 5 acres with 3 stall barn and paddock. Huge gourmet kitchen with dining room, all room appliances and wine cellar. Family room with fireplace, dining room, formal living room. Three large master bedrooms with luxury and master bedrooms. 2 additional bedrooms each with bathroom. \$3,195,000 Contact Dotter Staehler



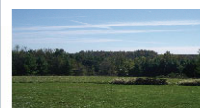
Orlean, Lees Manor Road

154 acres in 3 parcels of approximately 50 acres each, with long land surface and frontage, rolling woods, woods, pastures, water and nearby views. \$975,000 per parcel Contact Chris Malone



Red Door Dear, Upperville, VA

Rare opportunity in village of Upperville. Great location on 70-50 acres from regular restaurant. Restored property, small VC 1 Acre lot with single parking, beautiful views. Currently an antique shop. 2 levels, wood-blot office, the Call home for an apartment. \$124,000 Contact Dotter Staehler



5 Acre Lot, Clarke County

Beautiful 5 acre corner lot in Blue Ridge Dorset subdivisions, off Kennel Road. Blue Ridge Mountain views. Approx 4 bedrooms plus also three full south of Bathrooms. \$2,195,000 Contact Anne Michalak

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48th ANNUAL HUNT COUNTRY STABLE TOUR 2007

Genuine Risk winning the Kentucky Derby

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PARENTS & PROGENY

JOSIE ZILUCA SIGNS WITH LONGWOOD LACROSSE PROGRAM



TOP LEFT: LOUISE ZILUCA TOP RIGHT: PAUL ZILUCA CENTER: JOSIE ZILUCA

Josie Ziluca, a resident of Upperville, the daughter of Isabel Ziluca and granddaughter of Louise and Paul Ziluca, a senior at Loudoun Valley High School, has signed a NCAA National Letter of Intent with Longwood University to play Division I lacrosse next season. Josie was recruited by La Salle University and George Mason University, but chose Longwood University with Coach Gables. She plans on studying Exercise Science with a possible minor in Graphic Design.

EIGHT WAKEFIELD STUDENTS RANK NATIONALLY IN LE GRAND CONCOURS

Congratulations to the eight Wakefield students who met the challenge and achieved high distinction by earning top-ten national rankings in Le Grand Concours, the National French Contest. The contest is sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French, with over 100,000 students competing on the national level, and over 20,000 students competing on the regional level.

In French V, sophomore Iva Ballvora of Leesburg earned a national rank of 4, and a chapter rank of 2. In French III, freshman Ilya Ballvora of Leesburg earned a national rank of 5, and a chapter rank of 3. Junior Erica Dickhoff of Delaplane and Morgan Vandermant of Wakefield both earned a national

MIDDLEBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

Fifth Graders Selected for All-County Chorus

Congratulations to Middleburg Elementary School Fifth Graders Kayla Giuliani and Caroline Greer, who were both chosen to participate in Loudoun County's All-County Chorus. The concert was held at Briar Woods High School on May 5th.

Both girls performed in a concert conducted by Francisco J. Nunez, Founder and Artistic Director of the Young People's Chorus of New York City. The students performed some of his original compositions, as well as songs from other 20th and 21st century composers. The children performed one very moving number written by children in the concentration camp. Terzin. Only a handful of the children

survived the concentration camp, and Nunez dedicated the song to all children living in the Middle East and Africa.

Keep Loudoun Beautiful and Arbor Day Essay and Poster Contest Winners

Many Middleburg Elementary School Students contributed to numerous Earth Day projects, and several students were chosen as winners in local and county-wide competitions. Congratulations to Karyn Loudoun Beautiful Essay Winners, second grader Trevor Saunders, and third grader Sam Coudelle. Congratulations also to the poster contest winners, second grader Katie McGroddy and fifth grader Caroline Greer.

The Arbor Day poster contest winners were presented at the town's Arbor Day celebration. The winners were first grad-

ers Darryl Johnson and Robin Peterson; second graders Tucker Graves, Trevor Saunders, Noah Manula, and Katie McGroddy; third graders Henry Feil, Brendan Martyn, and Ted Gallagher; fourth graders Alexia Simms and Kate Sandberg, and fifth grader Chase Keen.

Middleburg Elementary School Students Lead Service Project

Middleburg Elementary School students are collecting new children's books for the Pediatric Unit at Loudoun Hospital Center. Each pediatric patient will be able to choose a book to enjoy at the hospital and then take home. If you are interested in donating books, please drop them off at Middleburg Elementary School's front office. The service project ends on Wednesday, May 30, 2007.

FIELD HOCKEY LEAGUE CONTINUES TO GROW

In just two short seasons, the local grassroots upstart field hockey league Loudoun Field Hockey Association (LFHA) has recruited over 200 members. Providing a new sports opportunity to girls in Loudoun County, LFHA has created an excitement with parents who grew up playing the sport and want to pass along what they gained from the sport to their daughters. The LFHA adult league has also provided an opportunity for women to pick up the game again. Offering spring and fall seasons has even drawn players from Fairfax County, where the sport is played in high schools.

Registration is currently open for the Fall 2007 youth and adult seasons. On Sunday, May 20th LFHA is hosting an end-of-season tournament where teams from the East, West, and Adult leagues will play games, eat, and celebrate another successful season. It's a



great opportunity for the community to see some great field hockey games, learn more about the league, and enjoy some good food. The event is being held at NVCC Loudoun Campus in Sterling from 5:00-7:00 PM with youth games played from noon to 3:30 and adult

games played 3:30-4:30. Food will be served from 4-7 PM; meal tickets will be sold at the event to raise money for the league. Early this summer, in partnership with DMF Sports Camps, coaches from LFHA are running a three-day field hockey camp at Claude Moore Park, June 20th-22nd. The camp is open to girls aged 8-17 and is for both new and experienced players. Equipment rental is available.

Some other important information about Loudoun Field Hockey Association is as follows:

- The youth league is open to girls aged 8-17 with all levels of experience with a new high school-aged division starting this fall; the adult league is open to players aged 21 & older.

- New and experienced players are welcome; a skills based curriculum is taught throughout the season.

- The league is currently looking for volunteers who have experience in the sport of field hockey to serve as coaches and referees.

- The third season will run from September through early November with two locations in Sterling and Leesburg.

- Practices are held once a week for 1.5 hours during the season and games are played each weekend throughout the season. The adult league plays games only.

- All equipment needed for the season is available through the league.

For further information on LFHA, please contact Program Director Meg Dudek. She can be reached by phone at 703-444-1020 x104 or by email at meg@loudoun-fieldhockey.org. You can also visit www.loudounfieldhockey.org.

FOXCROFT STUDENTS EARNED SCHOLARSHIPS, ACCOLADES

Foxcroft School seniors Jillian Carns and Shannon Walker each received prestigious scholarships recently for outstanding performance in academics, community and leadership areas. Both students have already been honored by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

At a luncheon on Monday (May 14) that featured Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., USN, the DC Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) named Carns as one of 14 scholarship recipients from 12 DC-area high schools.

A Chantilly, VA resident who will attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology next fall, Carns was one of two winners in the field of mathematics. She was selected based on her academic achievements, school activities, letters of recommendation, work and civic activities. AFCEA is a non-profit association focused on promoting higher education in the hard sciences, mathematics, computer technology, and engineering. The AFCEA DC Chapter awarded total of \$84,000 in 2007 scholarship effort.

The "Toyota Community Scholar" in April and is also a member of the Cum Laude Society. The "Toyota Community Scholar" were chosen from a pool of more than 8,000 students nationwide

the Cum Laude Society, earned a national Merit Scholarship earlier this month. Walker was one of 100 high school seniors awarded college education and community service by Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. The Parcellville, VA, resident received a grant valued at \$10,000 each over four years of college. Walker, who plans to attend Princeton University, was named a National Achievement Scholar in April and is also a member of the Cum Laude Society. The "Toyota Community Scholar" were chosen from a pool of more than 8,000 students nationwide

ALDIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WILL HOLD AN OPEN HOUSE

Aldie Elementary School will hold an Open House on Sunday, June 10, between 2 and 4 p.m. for Carole Royak who will be retiring at the end of the school year after 30 years of teaching. If you have any questions, please call Sally Henley at 703-771-1734.

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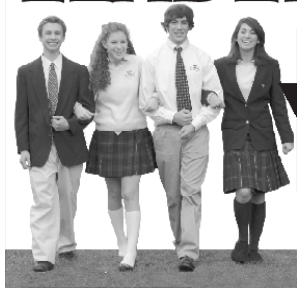
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FACES & PLACES

MIDDLEBURG BEAUTIFICATION GARDEN PARTY

HIGHLAND SPRINGS, MARSHALL VA, MAY 18, 2007
PHOTO BY DEE DEE HUBBARD



JIM HACKMAN AND ELAINE BURDEN



BETTY DAVIS AND EURA LEWIS



HUGHES & SUSAN WEBB



MAURE WALSH, PUNKIN LEE, LISA CALLETT AND PAT REID



UPPERVILLE KICK OFF PARTY

UPPERVILLE SHOW GROUNDS, UPPERVILLE VA, MAY 19, 2007
PHOTO BY DEE DEE HUBBARD



PUNKIN LEE AND CRICKET BEDFORD



MIGUEL DIAZ AND RAY MORALES



CAREY CRANE AND TROIA PLASKETT



VICKI BENDURE & MATT SHEDY



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THINGS TO DO

MAY 26 & 27
OLDEST LIVING DERBY WINNER ON
48TH HUNT COUNTRY STABLE TOUR
GENUINE RISK TURNED THIRTY THIS YEAR

For 1980 Kentucky Derby winner Genuine Risk, life consists of munching hay in fields beneath tall oaks against a backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains. But life for this horse was not always so quiet and uneventful. The chestnut filly was born in 1977 and won the Kentucky Derby as a three-year-old. She was only the second filly in history to win the Derby. That same year she finished second in the Preakness and Belmont Stakes. While the horse had enormous heart and athletic ability for racing, her career as a brood mare was not very successful.

In 1982, she was bred to Triple Crown winner Secretariat. The resulting foal would have made history as the first offspring of two Kentucky Derby winners. Unfortunately, the colt was stillborn. Follow up breeding produced only two living foals: Genuine Reward and Count Our Blessing. Neither colt ever raced.

Genuine Risk was named as the U.S. Champion 3-Year Old Filly in 1980, she was inducted into the National Museum Hall of Fame in 1986 and is listed in the Top 100 Racehorses of the 20th Century in Blood Horse Magazine. She is available to see at this year's 48th Annual Hunt Country Stable Tour at her home, Newstead Farm.

The 48th Annual Hunt Country Stable Tour will take place on Saturday, May 26 and Sunday, May 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Sponsored by Trinity Episcopal Church in Upperville, Virginia, this self-driven tour includes some of the most prestigious stables and equine facilities in Virginia.

The Upperville/Middleburg area is home to many of the country's premier Thoroughbred breeding farms, show hunter barns and country estates. On this remarkable weekend, owners welcome visitors and open the gates of their exquisite grounds, magnificent stables and extensive training facilities. The tour also offers the opportunity to drive down historic, 250-year-old country lanes and view some of the area's abundant wildlife.

In addition to seeing Genuine Risk, tour attendees will be able to see horses and dogs swimming at the Northern Virginia Animal Swim Center, a Civil War history cavalry reenactment, a polo match on Sunday (weather permitting), carriage driving demonstrations, side saddle, jumping demonstrations and plenty of pastures and stables full of horses, foals and ponies will delight all.

A dozen stops on the tour this year include Genuine Risk's home Newstead Farm; Fox View Farm, home of national side saddle champion Sandra Conchar; Larry Lane Farm, home to more than 55 stakes-winning Thoroughbreds; Thoroughbred Farm Trappe Hill; Rokeby, home of 1993 Kentucky Derby winner Sea Hero; Heronwood Farm, home to a successful polo team and a colorful herd of Alpacas; Rock Ridge Farm is the home of traditional carriage driving

and will feature carriage demonstrations. The Middleburg Training Track and Northern Virginia Animal Swim Center & Stables provide demonstrations of their facilities. The Middleburg Agricultural Research & Extension (MARE) Center features mares and foals. A polo match will be held in Upperville at 1 p.m. on Sunday (weather permitting).

A special feature of the Stable Tour is the Country Fair, held on the grounds of Trinity Church in Upperville. The fair features local agricultural products and equine products. Admission to the Stable Tour is \$20/person in advance until May 18, \$25/person after May 18 and on the days of the tour. Children under 12 are free. Advance tickets for groups of 10 or more is \$18/person. Lunch will be available to purchase at Trinity Church catered by The Back Street Café.

Tickets are available the days of the tour at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upperville (about 45 minutes from Washington, D.C.). To get there, take I-46 West to Route 50 West (Exit 57B) toward Winchester. Drive approximately 25 miles to Middleburg and continue on to Upperville. Trinity Episcopal Church will be on your right. For information, phone 540-592-3711 or visit the web site to check times and locations of special demonstrations at www.middieonline.com/stabletour.

HAPPENINGS AT SKY MEADOWS STATE PARK

Saturday, June 2
Birding Basics from 9:00 to 10:30 AM
See and hear these colorful park residents with Ranger John and find out why Sky Meadows is such an ideal place for birds. Wear sturdy shoes and bring binoculars and field guide. (1 mile)

Saturday, June 3
Music on the Porch from 1:00 to 4:00 PM
Join guitar and fiddle duo, Kitchen Gorilla, as they perform North American and European folk tunes on the porch of the log kitchen.

Saturday, June 9
Life on the Farm from 1:00 to 4:00 PM
Watch as history comes to life and find out what the Settle family might have been doing on their farm around 1860. This month, join our volunteers as they demonstrate candle dipping and restore our antique tack.

Sunday, June 10
Piedmont Hike from 1:00 to 3:00 PM
Join Ranger Kurt for this moderate to difficult hike on the Piedmont Overlook Trail. Once you reach the summit, take in the sweeping view of the Crooked Run Valley and learn about the historical and cultural significance of the area. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. (1, 1 mile)

Saturday, June 16
Gene Fishin' from 9:00 to 11:00 AM
Join Ranger John for this introduction to fishing. Learn about local fish species and try your hand at fishing or just relax by our 3-acre pond. Equipment will be provided. For all ages.

Astronomy for Everyone from 8:30 to 11:00 PM
As the sky darkens, find out about U.S. space research from the NASA Jet Propulsion Lab's "Solar System Ambassadors." At dark, take a sky tour with Sean O'Brien of the Smithsonian's Albert Einstein Planetarium, and look for deep sky objects through large telescopes with the Northern Virginia Astronomy Club. If the sky is cloudy, only the NASA/JPL program will be presented, and the park gates will close at 10:00 PM. Bring your children - hour early for a special "Junior Astronomer" activity.

Sunday, June 17
Flutter By, Butterfly from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Celebrate Father's Day by looking for butterflies with Mary Alexander and Steve Malone of the Washington Area Butterfly Club. See the brilliance and variety of Sky Meadows' butterflies. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. (2 miles)

Saturday, June 23
Incredible Critters from 1:00 to 4:00 PM
See live reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods from around the world. Learn about their lives and habits and find out what makes them so special.

Sunday, June 24
Fun and Games from 1:00 to 4:00 PM
How did children have fun in 1860 without video games? Play with some old time toys and find out. All ages welcome.

SECOND SATURDAY'S IN MIDDLEBURG

Make a day of it! Visit Middleburg and spend the afternoon at our fine shops, wonderful local wineries, or just enjoying the beautiful local scenery.

Take advantage of "Art in the Village" - Second Saturday's Middleburg with two art show openings and artist receptions. In-house Lewis Galleries will be hosting Martin Dorel's master figurative painter. See his latest work - 10 new pieces - celebrating his rich Irish heritage through scenes of pastoral Ireland. Martin's son Keith, a photo realistic contemporary painter, as well as a figurative and still life artist, will be showing work from his "Sun" series. This will be father and son's first showing together and their debut in the DC area.

A short walk, down the street will take you to the Byrne Gallery where you can view "Le Belles Fleurs II" and meet Carolyn Witchoke. Whether printmaking or painting, Carolyn experiments with different mediums and techniques choosing the one which is best suited to visual express her artistic concepts. Come see the special series she has created. After meeting the artists and viewing their work, head over to the Hidden Horse Tavern for dinner or a drink and listen to the Vickey Jazz Ensemble. It's jazz n' 1/2 year thing try one of our other

Great restaurants. For more information about "Art in the Village" and other art events that evening please visit www1.igaleries.com. For more information on Middleburg's shops, restaurants, arts and events visit www.middleburg.com

June 2nd and 3rd
The second annual Western Loudoun Artists Studio Tour. The Western Loudoun Artists Studio Tour weekend features opportunities to view the working studios of 53 talented artists while enjoying a picturesque drive through beautiful and historic western Loudoun County, VA. Presented in cooperation with Franklin Park Visual and Performing Arts Center, Round Hill Arts Center and The Friends of Franklin Park Arts Center, with a major sponsorship from the Loudoun Convention and Visitors Association, the tour is free to the public. Enjoy paintings, photography, sculpture, demonstrations, children's activities and so much more!

The Western Loudoun Artists Studio Tour will feature the artwork and studios of the county's well known and talented artists: David Norton, Catherine Hillis, Richard Bosch, Sarah Huntington, Tom Boley, Jeff Hall, Shawn Grove, Judith Thompson, Alex Carr, John Raymond, Hope Hanes, Cindy Lovelace, Amy Oliver, Karl Erick, Bryan Mattar, Courtney Fair, Beth Wilson, Linda Brown, Martha Cammack, Jean Clagett, Suzanne Desautels, Martin Fair, Becky Flemming, Rebecca Fox, Beth Goldsmith, Sue Groundwater, Heidi Pommer, Maureen Prichard, Kathie Ratcliffe, Rick Steinberger, Libby Stevens, Earl Tester, Dan Williams. During the tour, artists will be available to discuss their artwork. Demonstrations and hands-on activities for both children and adults will be offered at some studios.

Studio Tour hours are: June 2 - 10am to 5pm; June 3 - Noon to 5pm. Tour maps will be available at sponsoring sites, tourist information outlets, online at www.wlatour.org, or by calling 540-338-7972. Be sure to stop at the Round Hill Arts Center and bid on a piece of artwork from each of the Studio Tour artists in the special Artists Exhibit and Silent Auction, on view from May 11 through June 2. The Silent Auction will be capped by the Studio Tour Gala at the Round Hill Arts Center on Saturday evening June 2nd from 7 to 9pm. The Gala is open to the public and features live music, refreshments, and the opportunity to enter a drawing and win a fabulous prize!

June 24
POLO FOR PIEDMONT
The Second Annual Polo For Piedmont event, is scheduled for Sunday, June 24, 2007 at the beautiful Upperville Polo Field. The Piedmont Child Care Center of Upperville is the deserving beneficiary of this fabulous family day in the country. "Our experience last year was so positive and rewarding for the Child Care Center that we have established this as an annual event celebrating the sport of Polo in Upperville while bringing awareness to the important work of the Child Care Center." Teresa Condon, Chairman of Polo For Piedmont, said. "We are very fortunate to have Middleburg Trust and Thomas & Talbot, our Team Sponsors, back again for 2007."

Gates open at 11 a.m. and the polo match will begin at 1:00 p.m. General admission car passes are \$30 in advance, \$40 at the gate. Reserved Railside Car passes overlooking the Polo Field are \$100 in advance. Car passes admit up to 6 people per car. Children under ten years are free.

For tickets or more information call (540) 592-3908.



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CINDY—Our dear Cynthia- this month is her one year anniversary here at the



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Two weeks ago, I was playing outside with my personal dog at our house when something very unusual happened. Two enormous

I weigh about 15 pounds and am no match for one of the ant monster, much less two of them, but duty called. I took off at the speed of light, running the long distance toward the danger instead of away from it. I barked and barked, signaling that those rascals had picked the wrong do-gooder to step to darken. I was not going down without a fight. As I got closer, I lost a little nerve, but I still stood with a few feet of the huge beast and gave them a piece of my mind. When my person got to me, I was barking furiously but trembling even more furiously. It was the scariest I've ever felt.

Fortunately, the horse was very well-behaved and their riders were very understanding and patient. A person scooped me up, held me, and I was soothed and petted. I was then taken to the visitors and returned to the safety of my stall. She also told me later that she was incredibly proud of me, not because I ran into danger — that was not good. She was proud of me for something she called courage. She said she could not imagine how such a little dog could have been so brave in the face of something that must have been very frightening.

I explained to her that I didn't do anything many other dogs wouldn't have done. Dogs are all about courage. We're all about loyalty, devotion, and love.

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clinations so that we can please our caregivers. But people will just listen, however, we have to let them too.

Two weeks ago, I reminded my person to be courageous. I made her think that the family and home are everything. Some people might dismiss my actions as instinct, but I assure you they were more than that. They were based on my love and an all-consuming desire to protect my family.

My family is the focus on the things we do that are frustrating, but please remember to also focus on the things that make us amazing. Watch carefully because you never know when you just might remind you of what's most important in life.

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

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A photograph showing a horse and rider in mid-jump over a wooden fence. The horse is dark-colored, and the rider is wearing a light-colored shirt and dark pants. The background is a light, possibly grassy field.



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Golden Gate Farm
Hume, Virginia

340 acres in prime Fauquier County location near Hume. Recorded in 6 lots, beautiful rolling acreage, mountain views, lots of trees and some woods. Property is improved by 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage and small barn. \$8,500,000.



Stone Ridge
Culpeper, Virginia

Fantastic views from "Stone Ridge" of Longley. 6 bedrooms, 5 1/2 baths, 3 fireplaces, all brick custom colonial on 17 acres with tennis court, pool, and great potential, mature landscaping, and large rooms. Gallery room added several years ago. 4-car garage. \$1,595,000.



Hibbs Bridge Road
Middleburg, Virginia

Hilltop setting on 12 acres with great views of mountains, close to Middleburg. 12 1/2 cuttings on main level, outstanding kitchen, dramatic family room with vaulted ceiling and stone fireplace, top of the line features throughout. In-law suite on ground level includes large kitchen, living room, bedroom, and access to terrace. \$1,450,000.



Dover Road
Middleburg, Virginia

Intiguing property just 3 years old one mile from town with 4 bedrooms and approximately 5,000 square feet of finished living space. Great open floor plan for entertaining and today's living. Tucked behind a long-established grove of fruit trees is the expansive lawn with rock outcroppings and stone walls. In addition to the 3-car attached garage is the 3-bay workshop with power, water and multiple possibilities. \$995,000.



Meadow View
Middleburg, Virginia

Minutes to Middleburg, protected location, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 5 fireplaces, screened rear porch. 3-bay barn with stall room, 10 usable acres, 4 paddocks, new fencing, 200' x 150' riding ring. Lovely gardens, private setting. \$1,200,000.



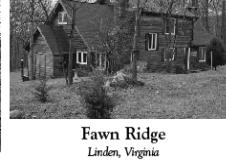
Piedmont Drive
Middleburg, Virginia

This generous farmhouse has significant living space with all 4 levels fully finished. Enhanced by a large rear terrace and side yard for outdoor entertaining and gardening. As an end unit with great light, the house has multiple rooms, custom millwork and has been recently painted throughout. 3rd floor offers great space for in-home office, studio or game room. \$635,000.



Putnams Mill
Orlean, Virginia

Traditional home surrounded by 2 acres of mature landscaping located on a quiet gravel road. A charming and immaculate home with light-filled rooms, front porch, large rear deck, finished basement, garage and gardeners shed. \$670,000.



Fawn Ridge
Linden, Virginia

On the crest of the Blue Ridge at the end of a private road 12.5+/- secluded acres that back up to thousands of acres of national and state parkland. A perfect weekend retreat or year-round dwelling, the property borders the Appalachian Trail and the G.E. Thompson Wildlife Management Area which are contiguous to Sky Meadows State Park. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2 wonderful hearths. Very peaceful. \$449,000.



Carletan's Woods
The Plains, Virginia

Lovely home on 2.2 private acres, easy access to I-66, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths with in-law suite. Two outbuildings, stone patio overlooks English garden with fish pond. Very quiet. \$495,000.

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Standing Left to Right Harrington Hall, Mary Ann McGowan, Linda Norris, Alex Sharp, Rein du Pont, Cathy Bernache, Cricket Bedford, Mary Owen Chatfield-Taylor, John Coles

It is again with great pleasure that Thomas and Talbot Real Estate announces that the Greater Piedmont Area Association of Realtors has awarded its 2006 Annual Top Broker Awards to nine (9) of our twelve (12) full time Agents.

* JOHN COLES *

JOHN COLES received the top sales award for the fifth year, "Top Producer", given by the GPAAR. This award is for the #1 sales agent out of 700 agent members. He also received the Production award "Platinum" for listings and sales completed in 2006 of over \$18 MILLION dollars.

* MARY ANN MCGOWAN *

MARY ANN MCGOWAN received two of the top five awards, seven years in a row, presented by the GPAAR, Production award "Platinum", as well as "Top Five Club" award from the GPAAR for listings and sales completed in 2006 of over \$8 MILLION dollars, making her the #2 sales agent in the GPAAR.

* CRICKET BEDFORD *

CRICKET BEDFORD joins the "Top Five Club" for the first time on the #5 producer. With listings and sales completed in 2006 over \$6 MILLION dollars.

* HARRINGTON HALL *

* MARY OWEN CHATFIELD-TAYLOR *

HARRINGTON HALL and MARY OWEN CHATFIELD-TAYLOR received the GPAAR 2006 Production Award "Platinum" for listings and sales of over \$8 MILLION dollars. HARRINGTON HALL also received the five year production award.

* LINDA NORRIS *

LINDA NORRIS received the GPAAR 2006 Production Award Gold for listings & sales of over \$5 MILLION dollars.

* CATHERINE BERNACHE *

* REIN DUPONT *

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CATHERINE BERNACHE, REIN DUPONT, and ALEX SHARP received the GPAAR 2006 Production Award "Silver" for listings and sales of over \$2 MILLION dollars. Catherine and Rein also received the life member production award.

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