

# MIDDLEBURG TO SUPERVISORS: NO!

## HUNT BREAKFAST AT HUNTLANDS

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## SLOBBERKNOCKERS OH MY!

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## TOWN COUNCIL OPPOSES SCHOOL CLOSINGS

DAN MORROW

Middleburg's Town Council dispatched Lisa Patterson to the January 15 meeting of the Loudoun County School Board, armed with a unanimously supported resolution opposing any budget-reduction measures that would close Middleburg Elementary (or any other community school) in Loudoun County.

Council also requested that Patterson deliver, along with its resolution, a message recognizing the dedication and hard work of the County School Board, and Council's recognition that, ultimately, the fate of small elementary schools in Middleburg, Aldie, Lincoln and Hillsboro lies in the budgetary hands of the Board of Supervisors.

### Deja Vu All Over Again

Middleburg resident Martha Cotter, former PTO President, and the mother of no less than four Middleburg Elementary alums, thanked Council personally for its past support, including a strongly worded resolution in May, 2008. Cotter also noted pointedly what County budgeters describe as an effort to ensure an "equi-

table distribution of resources" is really nothing more than an elegant way to describe "knocking down schools."

Council Member Patterson noted that she had spent a significant amount of time reviewing more than 300 pages of county budget recommendations, and had found little or nothing to justify closing Middleburg Elementary.

Particularly annoying to Council was the observation that the County's 2009 School Fund projected a \$21.5 million surplus as of June 30, 2009, well above the \$2.2 million the County speculated might be "saved" by closing four small Loudoun schools. The fund balance may be, and should be used, according to Council, to help all four local communities weather hard times.

Middleburg Elementary will soon celebrate a century of service. The debt incurred when it was built has long been retired.

The Town of Middleburg also supplies free water and sewer service to the school, Council Member Mark Snyder noted. He requested that Town Attorney, Elizabeth Whiting, look into whether or not such services could be denied if the County chose to close the school.

All parties involved in the process agree that good schools provide both a magnet for

Continued Page 8

## LOCALS RESPOND TO PRESIDENT OBAMA'S CALL FOR SERVICE

The commitment to service President Barack Obama called for on Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday was amply evident at the first Middleburg Citizens for Action Volunteer Fair at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church Monday when over one hundred citizens signed up to help local initiatives.

Volunteers from almost forty organizations were available to explain the missions of their groups and to encourage commitments from visitors who had time to help them keep the good work going.

Organized by Middleburg City Council Member Kathy Jo Shea, the event, in her words and very obviously to a spectator, was a "spectacular success."

Whether you'd like to volunteer with Mary's Family to help families who have children with special needs; or with Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy to help monitor and protect birds, streams and amphibians; or with the Goose Creek Association to help protect water, wetlands and wildlife, they were there with so many other organizations who are anxious to welcome new volunteers.

A special Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Mary Kay Garwood by Franklin Payne who noted that she had also been named Citizen of the Year in 2008 by the American Legion Post.

"She never stops volunteering and helping wherever she thinks help is needed," he said.

Organizations participating in the first Middleburg Citizens for Action volunteer fair that would welcome your assistance include:

7 Loaves Services, American Legion Post #295, Boy Scouts, CAAB, Canine Companions, Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Fund, Virginia German Shepherd Rescue, Go Green, Golden Dreams, Goose Creek Association, Blue Ridge Hospice, Joy Club, Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, MARE Center, Mary's Family and Meadowkirk.

Also recruiting new volunteers were Middleburg Business & Professional Association,



Loudoun Animal Protection Society, Middleburg Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Middleburg Emmanuel Mississippi Mission, Middleburg FISH, Middleburg Library Advisory Board, Mosby Heritage, Piedmont Conservation Foundation, Piedmont Environmental Defense, Rainbow Riding Program, Shiloh Baptist Church, The Pink Box Information Center, the Town of Middleburg, Upperville Horse and Colt Show, Virginia League of Conservation Voters, Volunteer Loudoun, Voters for Loudoun's Future, Windy Hill Foundation and the Windy Hill After School Study Program.

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# NEWS OF NOTE

## ROBERT DOWNING

Robert (Bobby) Morgan Downing passed away in his home in Middleburg, Virginia on Wednesday, December 17, 2008, following a courageous battle with cancer. Robert was born in Norfolk, Virginia, Oc-

tober 31, 1951. In 1969 Robert graduated with Lake Taylor High School's first graduating class and attended Old Dominion College from 1973 to 1975. His mother and father Joyce Morgan and John Daniel Downing, preceded Robert in

death.

In 1977 Robert moved to Middleburg, Virginia working as a carpenter specializing in Historical restorations. He was owner of Robert Downing, LLC; he was a master carpenter and a Class-A Contractor.

Robert was full of wisdom and humor, and possessed a unique kindness. He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, January 17, 2009 at the Middleburg United Methodist Church.

## PRESERVING A CULTURE: A CONVERSATION WITH MANLEY AND MARY JOHNSON

Canada geese waddle across the neatly manicured lawns of Holman Hall, interrupted every so often by others taking off and landing in waves. My knock brings enthusiastic barking from within, and moments later Manley Johnson happily welcomes me. We walk through elegant hallways before we settle in front of a warm fire at the back of the house. A wall of floor to ceiling windows draws our eyes to the rolling Virginia countryside.

A smiling Mary Johnson joins us and we settle back to talk about what brought the Johnson's to Upperville and how they want to make a difference.

"We both grew up in Troy, Alabama, a college town of about 15,000," Manley says.

"We were high school sweethearts," Mary adds as they exchange a smile.

Later, in Tallahassee, Florida, Mary taught art at the local high school while Manley finished his PhD. They moved to McLean, Virginia, in 1977 when Manley became a professor of economics at George Mason University.

"I'd always wanted to live in Virginia, since I was a kid. Some of my forebears were Byrd family members," Manley explains. "But, it took us a few years to be able to move out here. The commute to Washington would have been too long, and our kids, Marshall and Merritt, wanted to stay close to friends."

"We came out to the Piedmont on weekends," adds Mary. "The beauty of the land and the sporting culture kept drawing us to the area."

Manley's career demanded long hours in increasingly demanding jobs. President Reagan appointed him, at 32, Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy at Treasury where he served for five years. Next, he was appointed Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve for another five years. Upon leaving the Fed, he returned to George Mason to take the Koch Chair in International Economics. At the same time, he began consulting.

In 1990, he joined forces with David Smick, a former Capitol Hill staff director and author of a current financial best seller, The World is Curved, to form economic consulting firm Johnson Smick International (JSI). Over the last 18 years the firm has successfully expanded into investing as well, and publishes a policy magazine called The International Economy. JSI also founded the G7 Council, a foundation that has staged conferences for heads of state and senior level policy makers all over the world.

Mary "was there for the children, and I did my best to keep our lives organized," she says with a knowing grin. "When we began building this house in 1997.... that took up three years of my life. We lived in the stable when we came out on the weekends to check on the progress."

"It was a labor of love to get it built," says Manley. "We are so glad we came to Upperville. There's a real sense of community here. We lived all those years in McLean and never really felt the same sense of community. Don't get me wrong, it was wonderful! Just not like out here. We love the people, the land and the culture

here. So, naturally we want to help preserve it."

Two years ago, the Johnsons put their property, all 150 acres of it, in a conservation easement with the Virginia Outdoor Foundation.

"We have something really special in the Piedmont, and it needs to be protected. Residents have a wonderful opportunity to help with that. There is a spirit of working together. Some large tracts have been bought by groups of property owners banding together to protect scenic landscapes from development. A lot has to do with those who love to fox hunt, but plenty of people who don't hunt support keeping the land open and this culture alive."

"I rode occasionally as a boy and in college, but I only started riding seriously five years ago. There is nothing more exhilarating than riding with the hunt. I jumped out of airplanes in the Special Forces, but charging across a field on horseback, watching the hounds in pursuit, is one of the most exhilarating experiences of all."

I suggest he is very brave to start a sport like fox hunting this late in life.

"Brave or stupid," Mary posits with a laugh. Manley is still recovering from a broken clavicle he sustained going over a jump last month.

Now serving as Chairman of the National Sporting Library, Manley says, "The Library was founded by George Ohrstrom, Sr. and Alexander MacKay-Smith in 1954. Then George Ohrstrom Jr. significantly spurred the expansion until his death in 2005. The collection started in the basement of

The Chronicle of the Horse, then moved to the newly constructed carriage house library facility in 1999. As paintings, sculptures and artifacts were donated, quarters became too small. Now, plans for a new, larger sporting art museum are almost complete. We've raised the construction funds and have started the bidding process for a contractor. Fundraising for the operations side is continuing. Ultimately, the Board envisions visiting exhibitions from all over the world, with academic symposia supported by research from the library."

Manley is also President of the Upperville Colt and Horse Show (UCHS). "Since 1853 UCHS has been run on the same ground. For 155 years landowners such as Bob Smith and Shelby Bonnie have freely leased their land to run the Show. Tommy Lee Jones manages it, staging the event with the help of show secretary Ginny McCarty and a troop of volunteers. The Board meets all year just to plan this one-week event. People come to compete from all over the world. This year we had over 1,650 entries. It is very important economically to the surrounding towns. And for the last two years, the National Show Hunters Association voted us the Horse Show of the Year."

So what's next?

Another smile and a shared glance between the two.

"We're committed to preserving the Piedmont's land, history and sporting traditions for future generations," says Manley.

Nodding, Mary adds, "We'll just keep working at it."

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NEWS OF NOTE

CALL FOR 2008 TOURISM AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Loudoun Convention & Visitors Association (LCVA) announced today that it is accepting nominations for the 2008 LCVA Annual Tourism Awards.

The LCVA Tourism Awards Program showcases the work, service, creativity, and contributions of individuals and organizations as it relates to tourism promotion in Loudoun County. All award entries must be for individuals, organizations, or programs, and recognize accomplishments for activities or events that occurred or were completed during 2008.

"Tourism in Loudoun County is an important sector of the business community including large and small businesses, not-for-profits,

- and significant volunteer efforts; the LCVA Tourism Awards Program allows us to honor people and organizations who have contributed to its growth and success," said LCVA President and CEO, Cheryl Kilday .
- Nominations for the following award categories will be reviewed by the LCVA Tourism Awards Committee in February 2009:
- Employee of the Year
  - Volunteer of the Year
  - Tourism Event of the Year with attendance over 3000
  - Tourism Event of the Year with attendance up to 3000
  - Tourism Promotion/Campaign of the Year

Humanitarian Award

Judy Patterson Tourism Award

For the first time this year the Tourism Event of the Year will be divided up into two categories: events with under 3,000 people in attendance and events with over 3,000 people in attendance. Events that took place in Loudoun range in size from large annual fairs and festivals to smaller first time events such as meetings or sports tournaments, and those nominated for Tourism Event of the Year are normally all placed into one category for the tourism awards nomination process.

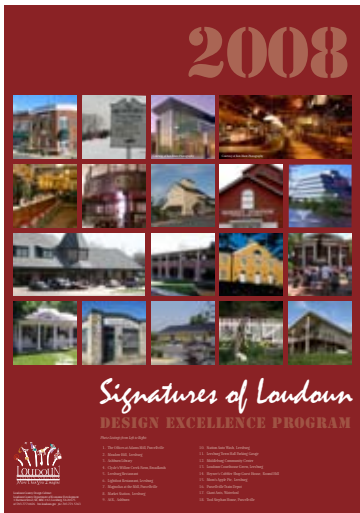
"The new sub-categories will enable the smaller events to be com-

petitive in an appropriate field," said Kilday.

The 2008 LCVA Tourism Awards will be presented at the LCVA's Annual Meeting and Tourism Awards Luncheon on March 31, 2009.

Entry forms and judging criteria may be accessed online at [www.VisitLoudoun.org/lcva/industryrecognition](http://www.VisitLoudoun.org/lcva/industryrecognition). Entries must be received at the LCVA Office at 222 Catoclin Circle, SE, Leesburg, VA 20175 by Tuesday, February 10, 2009.

For further information or questions, please contact Greg Harp , LCVA Director of Program Operations at 703-771-2170 ext. 14, or by email at [harp@VisitLoudoun.org](mailto:harp@VisitLoudoun.org).



CHRIS KINGERY HONORED AS UNSUNG HERO

Chris Kingery of the Loudoun County Office of Transportation Services recently received the "Unsung Hero" award from the Chesapeake Chapter of the Association for Commuter Transportation for her outstanding customer service skills. The Chesapeake Chapter includes Maryland, Virginia, Washington D.C. and West Virginia.

Kingery was nominated for maintaining a high level of customer service despite the rapidly growing ridership of LC Transit, the county's commuter bus program.

As a commuter services specialist, Chris responds to dozens of calls a day about the bus system, its routes, schedules, and lost-and-found as well as general commuting questions. She is credited with being a key player in the transit system's ridership growth as well as increasing public awareness of commuting options available to people who live and work in Loudoun County.

In nominating her for the award, her colleagues described her as the "face behind the voice of 1-877-GO-LCBUS for over five years, who brings a positive, eager-to-help attitude to work each and every day."

LC Transit oversees 35 commuter coaches that travel from Loudoun County into the metropolitan Washington area each week-day, carrying about 2,000 passengers. The service has grown from 3 buses and 45,000 annual passenger trips in 1995 to 35 buses with over 777,000 annual passenger trips in 2008.

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HORSES, WINDMILLS & SKATERS LECTURE AT SPORTING LIBRARY

Dr. Arthur K. Wheelock, Jr., Curator of Northern Baroque Painting at the National Gallery of Art, will speak on Horses, Windmills and Skaters at 2 p.m., Sunday, February 21st at the National Sporting Library. During his reflections on the "Images of Pleasure and Purpose in the Dutch Republic," Wheelock will explore ways in which the Dutch found both delight and warnings about human behavior in the games and sports they so

enjoyed.

Wheelock's lecture celebrates the donation by Mrs. Henry Weldon of a 17th-century Dutch oil painting on panel, Horse in a Landscape, by Abraham van Calraet (1642-1722). In his lecture, Wheelock will place this delightful painting in the context of 17th-century Dutch art and culture. Both Calraet and his teacher, Aelbert Cuyp (1620-1691), were noted for their luminous paintings of landscapes populated with horses and other livestock. Painted circa

1690, Horse in a Landscape is the oldest work in the National Sporting Library's permanent art collection.

Since 1975, Wheelock has served as Curator of Northern Baroque Art at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and is a Professor of Art History at the University of Maryland in College Park, Md. Author of numerous books on Dutch painting, he has also organized several major exhibitions, including Gods, Saints, & Heroes: Dutch Painting in the Age

of Rembrandt (1980); Johannes Vermeer (1995); and Aelbert Cuyp (2001).

Please call Judy Sheehan at 540-687-6542 x 10 to reserve a seat and leave a contact number where you may be reached. Admission is free.

The National Sporting Library is free and open to the public Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 1 to 4 p.m. The Museum of Sporting Art at Vine Hill next door is open by appointment during the Library's normal hours of operation.

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# NEWS OF NOTE

## SALAMANDER RESORT & SPA JOINS ASSOCIATED LUXURY HOTELS INTERNATIONAL RESORT OPENING IN SPRING 2010



Salamander Resort & Spa, slated to open in spring 2010 in the scenic foothills of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, has joined Associated Luxury Hotels International (ALHI) as its newest member. ALHI will provide national sales services for the luxurious resort to corporations, associations, independent planners, and incentive specialists wishing to conduct meetings, incentive programs, conventions, and exhibitions at the new resort.

"Salamander Resort & Spa will be an extremely elegant new option for groups," said David Gabri, president and CEO of Associated Luxury Hotels. "This is a special resort with excellent meeting space that is in a truly unique meeting venue close to Washington, DC, featuring an incredible setting, fabulous new spa, and truly first-class facilities."

Salamander Resort & Spa becomes ALHI's fourth member in Virginia, joining such prestigious members as The Homestead in Hot Springs, Lansdowne Resort, and The Resort Collection of Colonial Williamsburg.

Set on 340 acres in the foothills of the picturesque

Blue Ridge Mountains amid Virginia's famed horse country and lush vineyards, the luxurious Salamander Resort & Spa will feature 168 elegant and large guestrooms, a 23,000-square-foot spa, and a full-service equestrian center. Located in Middleburg, Virginia, just 30 minutes from Washington's Dulles International Airport, the resort will boast 13 meeting rooms with a total of 12,000 square feet of meeting space. Unique and picturesque indoor and outdoor function space will include the 200-year-old Stallion Barn, the Grand Lawn, the Terrace Lawn at the Pond, an Herb Garden, a private Wine Room, a state-of-the-art Cooking Studio, and a Hospitality Suite. Groups will have the opportunity to visit more than 22 nearby vineyards, and enjoy miles of hiking and biking trails.

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For more information about Associated Luxury Hotels, or to inquire about a potential meeting at any of the ALHI member properties, contact your nearest Associated Luxury Hotels National Sales Office, call the "ALHI Luxury Group Desk" toll-free at 866-303-ALHI (2544), and visit [www.alhi.com](http://www.alhi.com).

## JEFFREY H. CULVER NAMED EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Middleburg Bank, a wholly owned subsidiary of Middleburg Financial Corporation (Nasdaq: MBRG), announced that Jeffrey H. Culver has been promoted to Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

In his new role, Mr. Culver will have management responsibility for the company's Operations, IT, HR and Risk Management departments and will coordinate all activities for Middleburg Mortgage/Southern Trust Mortgage and Middleburg Investment Group. Additionally, he will continue to lead the organization's Strategic

Planning.

Since joining Middleburg Bank in 2002, Mr. Culver had led the company's Credit Administration team and Strategic Planning. In August of 2008, he was given additional management responsibility for the Operations and IT departments. He also has served as a director of Southern Trust Mortgage Company since 2007. Before joining Middleburg Bank, Mr. Culver served as a Commercial Lender at Potomac Valley Bank and he also held retail management position at Peninsula Bank. In addition to his banking experience, Mr. Culver founded

and managed a successful software company.

"Jeff has made significant contributions to the organization since the day he arrived" said Gary R. Shook, Middleburg Bank's President and CEO. "He has tackled every assignment with enthusiasm, determination and focus on the company's well-being. The management team, along with the Board of Directors, has come to trust Jeff's insights and recommendations and believe that he will provide strong operational leadership for the company."

COMMERCIAL:  
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Two small commercial office suites for lease in building located on the main street in Middleburg. Offices are situated at the back of the building on the second floor above the Magic Wardrobe Children's Clothing Shop. Each suite includes two large windows, a storage closet and refinished hardwood floors. Separate His and Hers bathrooms are located just down the hall. Entrance to stairwell is right off the main street. No parking provided. Landlord has own lease. Security deposit and credit check required.

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One small commercial office space (Unit #3) is available in building located on the main street in Middleburg. (Right across from the Post Office). The suite is situated at the back of the building on the second floor above the Country Way Florist.

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(Unit #4 with two rooms, one on the second floor one on the third floor, will be coming available in April 2009 for \$485 per month. It is across the hall from Unit #3).

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NEWS OF NOTE

MIDDLEBURG TO SUPERVISORS: NO!  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

new businesses and the foundation for good employees, good jobs, and good customers. On January 15, 2009, Governor Tim Kaine announced that Middleburg Elementary, Aldie Elementary and Lincoln Elementary had earned Governor's Awards for Excellence.

New Rules!

New rules for Council meeting procedure occupied the greater part of Council's regular monthly meeting on January 8. Since late November, Council has been drafting a new set of "Rules of Procedure" based loosely on those currently in force in Lynchburg, Virginia. Lynchburg, with a population well over 70,000, has a City Council the same size as Middleburg's, and also, like Middleburg, appoints a professional City Manager, City Attorney, and Town Clerk.

Who Sits Where?

On Thursday new rule specifying just where new Council members should sit, produced lengthy debate, before an entranced audience of professional staff members, one former council member, and the press. In Lynchburg, as in Middleburg, the Mayor and Council sit at a long table facing the public during formal meetings. Lynchburg, however, insists that members of Council be seated according to seniority. The Lynchburg council member who's served longest sits to the Mayor's right. The member with the second longest tenure sits to the Mayor's left. The others alternate, right and left, according to seniority. In Middleburg, Council members traditionally sit in the same place, forever. Without objection, Middleburg's newly elected council members simply take seats at the table vacated by departing members, and keep those seats until they, themselves, retire. After lengthy debate, including consideration of a proposal to have the town's Vice Mayor sit to the Mayor's right, Council Member Trowbridge Littleton suggested that Council simply leave the seating arrangements alone, and move on. Council concurred.

Limits on Public Participation

Rules governing how the general public would interact with Council at formal meetings engendered considerably less, though often considerably more serious discussion. According to one draft rule, "Every petition, communication or address to the Council shall be in respectful language and is encouraged to be in writing." Neither the rule's grammar nor the definition of "respectful" was addressed at all. Another draft rule insisted that "Remarks . . . be addressed directly to the Council and not to

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Michele Stevens, Managing Broker for the Long & Foster Middleburg Sales Office, is pleased to welcome four agents to the office. Kim Fortunato joins Long & Foster after serving as the Sales & Marketing Director for Creighton Farms & the Ritz-Carlton Golf Club for nearly 3 years. In 2007, Kim generated nearly \$20 million in homesite sales and \$12 million in residential construction. Amy Ann Adams was

born in Kentucky horse country and has called Virginia home for the past 11 years. She has a background in home staging to include interior design and landscaping, and prior to joining Long & Foster she specialized in new home sales for a local builder. Holly Weinstein-Bacal was born and raised in Coconut Grove, FL and has lived in Virginia on and off for the last 25 years. She has a degree in Communications and served as a communications consultant, speech-

writer and commercial attaché for the UK in Puerto Rico.

Deb Axford, an Accredited Buyer's Agent, comes to Long & Foster from ReMax Roots. With a background in Interior Design, Art History, and Historic Preservation, Deb started a business in the early 1980s renovating properties for resale. Today, she uses those skills as a home stager, and historic homes remain her passion.

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# EDITOR'S DESK

## SAVE OUR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

Who would have thought that, at this point in the history of Jefferson's Virginia and the historic village of Middleburg, citizens and their duly elected representatives would find themselves compelled to petition, write angry letters and pass unanimous resolutions in a desperate effort to prevent County officials from closing highly regarded public libraries and award-winning elementary schools.

In general, the prospect of such closures is distressing. In the case of Middleburg, it is both insulting and absurd.

This village of some 600 souls, supported by its business community and a host of friends and neighbors, has built and paid for its local library and its public elementary school many times over.

Our citizens and businesspeople demon-

strably and consistently contribute far more revenue to the county coffers than we receive in goods and services.

And in the absence of effective County action, we act on our own. We create model solutions to provide affordable subsidized housing. We maintain our own police force. We work out partnerships with local developers to provide new state-of-the-art water and sewer treatment facilities. And we are, and remain, unflagging in our financial and volunteer support for a host of other public services, serving not only Middleburg, but all our neighbors. We are a magnet for travel and tourism revenue.

We give a lot and ask very little of the County.

Now we're asking.  
Don't close our library.

## THE BETTER ANGELS OF OUR NATURE

We go to press on the eve of the inauguration of Barack Obama, elected in November, the 44th President of these United States of America.

He takes office under the most difficult of conditions.

We wish him well, and firmly believe that our wishes are shared by our fellow Virginians, our fellow Americans, and our fellow citizens of the world, to a degree unprecedented in our memory.

At the Sunday, "We Are One," concert on the mall, both words and music called on us to work together.

I quote two:

First, William Faulkner, on his faith that we will not only endure, but prevail, and the role of those who would tell the stories of humankind at its best.

"He must teach himself that the basest of

all things is to be afraid: and, teaching himself that, forget it forever, leaving no room in his workshop for anything but the old verities and truths of the heart, the universal truths lacking which any story is ephemeral and doomed—love and honor and pity and pride and compassion and sacrifice."

And last, Abraham Lincoln, on honor, dishonor, responsibility, and the fiery trials faced by his country on the eve of civil war.

"We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Letters to the Editor 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

### An Open Letter on Saving the Libraries from the Chairman of the Loudoun County Library Board of Trustees

**To the Editor:**

The articles and opinions expressed recently about cuts to the library budget have only served to reinforce my already strong support of ALL of our county library branches, activities, collections, and the superb staff that makes them run in such admirable fashion.

The flood of concern expressed to me has only served to highlight the looming crisis for libraries in Loudoun County. The County is facing a reduced income flow, largely because of the devaluation of housing in Loudoun County. Your property is worth less, so it is taxed less. That results in less funds for the Supervisors to allot to County functions and programs. Even if the tax rate for the county remained unchanged, it would result in millions of dollars in diminished revenue for the coming year. Our County faces budget cuts. While everything is affected, let me tell you about the impact on your library and the entire Loudoun County Library system.

### AWARD WINNING EFFICIENCY

Your Loudoun County Public Library system provides, in my opinion, the most bang for the buck of any County Department. I have served on the Loudoun County Library Board of Trustees for five years, having served as Chairman for the past two years. I know for a fact that there is no "fat" to be trimmed in Library programs and activities. Your libraries are superbly managed, tightly controlled and extreme-

ly efficient. They are four times more frequently used than the national average, based on the circulation of our collection. The Loudoun County Public Library System (LCPL) has been named one of the top 10 libraries in the entire United States according to the Hennen American Public Library Rankings. The County Survey rated customer satisfaction with the LCPL at an astounding 95%, and 72% of Loudoun County residents have used the Library in the last two years, the highest of any department in the County. 55,000 pre-school children participate in the story-times presented at the branches throughout the county. The Early Literacy Programs, which prepare children to read long before they enter school, has an attendance of more than 10,000 children this past year.

In times of financial downturn and difficulties for communities, libraries are a refuge for all of us. Libraries are more than the books they hold. Libraries are a source of Internet access for job searches when people can't afford the Internet because they have lost their jobs. Libraries offer a plethora of free entertainment, from live programs, to DVDs, author lectures, book discussions and research help. Our libraries are expanding online services, from online access to study and research resources to renewing items online. Circulation has increased over 15% this past year alone, to over 4,369,000 items. The library is in the forefront of utilizing cost saving practices and technology such as self checkout stations to save money. The result is one of the leanest, most well run and cost efficient systems in the County.

And here is the most stunning achievement of all. The LCPL exists on less than ONE PERCENT of the County budget.

### IMPACT OF THE CUTS

There is no cut that does not do irreparable damage to this model of service to the Loudoun County citizenry. When there is nothing extra to cut, the core functions must be gutted. EVERY library in the system is affected, not just your local branch.

At a ZERO Percent growth in local tax funding, the LCPL will still be cut by 7.5%; we will have to fire a total of over nine staff members and reduce services and the collection. This cut will result in the elimination of the After Hours Teen Center and the elimination of the Outreach Services to the elderly and shut ins unable to get to the library. All branches will be closed on Sundays and a Reference Librarian staff member position will be abolished. Four circulation staff will be fired, and the collection development acquisitions will be cut by 45%. That means a reduction of 32,250 items purchased, and waits for up to four months for popular items. It will mean longer lines, less accessibility to all materials, and backlogs of materials waiting to be checked and shelved. A zero percent growth in the county tax rate implies everything remains the same. Don't be fooled. It won't be the same.

It gets worse. In addition to the above cuts, at a 5% reduction in local tax funding, your libraries will be forced to cut hours drastically and fire 29 more staff. Hours of operation will be reduced on Mondays through Thursdays to eight hours per day instead of

11. Historic trends show that library usage increases during times of economic stress. There will be far fewer staff to assist the public, shelves returned materials and pull or check out requested items. 29+ full time employees will be terminated, from automated services, management, circulation staff, collection development and acquisitions, community partnership projects (matching funds), adult services and youth services. Summer Reading and Early Literacy programs will be severely impacted or eliminated all together.

At a mere 10% reduction in local tax funding, the impact on your libraries is devastating. In addition to the cuts briefly summarized above (the details are much worse), this level of funding would further reduce library hours by forcing the closure of all branches on Fridays. Our new books and materials purchases would be reduced by 23%. Draconian cuts will be made to staff, further reducing the frequency and number of all the valued programs and activities. The Summer Reading Program, Teen Reading Buddies, all collections – literally every aspect of the library you know and love will be gutted. 53+ librarians and staff will be eliminated, and libraries as we know them now will be a distant memory.

### YOU MUST STAND UP

The Loudoun County Library Board of Trustees, by law, administers the allocation of the money the Board of Supervisors chooses to give to the LCPL to run their activities. Once those budget decisions have been made by the Supervisors, there is nothing more we as Trustees can do. We will

have to make the hard decisions based on the funds we are given to work with. I do not want to close libraries. I do not want to fire librarians. I do not want to stop purchasing new books and turn our overused collections on the shelves into an outdated used book collection. I don't want our libraries to have their doors closed during the hours when you and your neighbors need access to the libraries most.

If you, as I do, find the prospect of cuts to the LCPL impossible to accept, you must stand up and be counted. NOW is the time. You can do so by voicing your objections to the cuts which would so devastate the magnificent but fragile library system that now serves you. Understand that the County as a whole faces severe financial difficulties, and express your willingness to support your libraries even if it costs a penny more in your taxes. Are your libraries worth a penny more?

You can do so by also attending the public budget hearings where public input is desired and encouraged. Don't just attend; speak up. Make an appointment for a time to speak. The public hearings will be:

In the Supervisors Boardroom, February 25 at 6PM, February 26 at 3:30 and 6 PM

In the School Administration Building in Broad Run, February 28 from 10 AM to 12 PM and from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Here are the addresses of your County Supervisors. I suggest you write to each of them, as well as to Kirby M. Bowers, the County Administrator, who is drafting the budget for the Supervisor's approval:

Kirby M. Bowers

## REBUILDING THE GOP FROM BEYOND THE BELTWAY

KEN RIETZ

This week a new President was inaugurated. Next week the Republican Party will select new leadership and begin a rebuilding process.

The liberal media have declared the GOP dead. They claim it is now only a regional or Southern Party at best. The same happened in 1964 after the Goldwater defeat and yet again in 1976 after President Ford was defeated. In both cases the Republican Party rose from the ashes to win back the Presidency just four years later.

The fundamentals are even stronger now. All of the exit polls in November showed that the majority of voters were conservative or moderate. A largely unreported statistic about the 2008 election is very revealing. The population of the counties won by Democrats was 127 million, while those won by the Republicans was 143 million.

The special elections since November have gone toward the GOP. It will, however, take more than "Mighty Mend It" to save the GOP. It will take bold leadership able to: "Stop looking at our country as RED or BLUE and people as BLACK, BROWN or WHITE. Realize that the best politics is good policy. Understand that our country needs answers to our problems now more than ever."

Political pollster, consultant and former Gallop executive Lance Tarrance calls 2008 an "odd election rather than a realignment." He points out that it was "a referendum on an unpopular President in the middle of a financial meltdown."

To rebuild, the GOP should re-adopt President Reagan's "BIG TENT" philosophy. The party needs to be one of INCLUSION not EXCLUSION. It also needs to recognize, as Tarrance says, "our country's problems are bigger than partisan politics." As we seek

solutions, "we need to find a new way to speak to the growing numbers of non-partisan voters."

As President Obama begins his historic journey, he will have a prolonged honeymoon with the media. That is not the case with Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi. Positive ratings for Congress are in the single digits. The liberal leadership in Congress will try to push Obama to the left as he struggles to meet expectations.

In the first Reagan mid-term election (1982), the popular President lost 26 Republican House Seats. If the Republican leadership learns from the past, stays focused on the future, recruits good candidates and speaks to the growing non-partisan vote about the real problems our country faces, we will bounce back strong in the 2010 Congressional elections.

Ken Rietz lives in Delaplane VA.

## HONOR AND COURAGE THE LEFT FLANK

DANIEL MORROW

As if two hot wars and the onset of a second great depression weren't problems enough, the new President and his Attorney General must also, immediately, if not sooner, face the issue of torture.

President Obama has already sworn to henceforth ban the use of torture and punish its use by Americans.

It's both illegal and ineffective. Sadly, the question facing the President and Attorney General Eric Holder, will all to soon be what to do about the approval and admitted use of torture by the Bush administration.

The law is clear.

"No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment," according to just one of the treaties to which we are signatory.

We've charged and convicted of war crimes both Japanese and American soldiers who waterboarded prisoners.

Now, both former President Bush, and his Vice President, have publicly admitted, even bragged about, their role in approving the use of torture by US forces under their command, as well as knowingly dispatching captives to be tortured by third parties.

Neither the facts of torture, nor the International Criminal Courts, nor the men and women here and abroad with the duty and

authority to seek out and punish those who break the law will disappear.

Nor, given the evidence and confessions at hand, will U.S. law allow the President and the Department of Justice to ignore our use of torture.

Were Bush and Cheney men of honor, they'd simply admit what they did was illegal, offer up their reasons for breaking the law, and submit themselves to judgment and justice.

Better men, with more to lose, have done more.

And given the state of the nation, such expressions of moral courage (or contrition) might very well produce, if not merit, presidential expressions of compassion, or even pardon.

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# EDITOR'S DESK

## HYPOCRISY

TOM PRATT

This month I asked friends and readers to write in with their examples of Hypocrisy. Some responses follow, including some who wished to remain anonymous.

My example of hypocrisy this month is:

The RNC (Republican National Committee) recently has proposed a resolution accusing President Bush of embracing Socialism. This to me is not only hypocritical but laughable. Most Republicans have stood by for the last 8 years and given tacit approval to a host of illegal activities committed by the Bush Administration and President Bush himself, such as denying torture and then condoning it, bending intelligence to justify the illegal and immoral invasion of Iraq, using signing statements to ignore resolutions passed by Congress, denying Habeus Corpus to detainees. The list is, of course, much longer, but those will have to suffice. And now to admonish him for something that is clearly not illegal, that of approving bailouts, is ludicrous. Not that I agree with

the way the vast sums of money have been used in the bailouts, but something was necessary to save the entire financial system. And as most know who read this column I favor a form of democratic socialism that is practiced in most industrialized and socially conscious countries of the world. I can only think that by proposing this admonishment they are pandering to their members and distancing themselves from Bush, but what a hypocritical admonishment they chose when the list of illegal acts is so extensive.

Now, for some readers' observations of Hypocrisy:

*Eve Pope writes:*

*"People who profess to be Christians and follow Jesus can believe that war and killing can create peace! And that pro-life supporters can be for the death penalty. The message of Jesus is that of love not hate."*

*Anonymous writes:*

*Violence justified in the name of religion, perpetrators, Christians, Muslims and Jews.*

*Sportsmanship trophies given out with a straight face by people who know there is doping*

*to people who are doping*

*And the use of the term "development" to apply to the paving over of prime agricultural land and waiving environmental regulations. Perpetrators, our government, both local, state and federal.*

*Andrea Martens writes:*

*George Bush saying "we do not torture" and then admitting the opposite.*

*The way the religious right rallied around Sarah Palin and her unwed pregnant daughter. She asks if they would have reacted the same way had it been one of Obama's daughters. She goes on to point out accusations of Obama running "deplorable negative ads" and then looking at ads attacking Obama. And finally that Rick Warren's assertions that he did not compare homosexuality to incest and pedophilia and then watching taped interviews on practically all the networks revealing him doing just that.*

*Anonymous states, "Clean is to coal as safe is to Plutonium"*

*Another reader mentioned Sarah Palin's daughter's pregnancy accepted as a blessing.*

*And the last deals with the*

assault on Gaza. He points out that a majority of the commentators when writing about the conflict fail to address the many reasons behind it from the Palestinian side.

The example he gives is as follows:

President elect Obama made a statement that if someone were sending rockets that might kill one of his daughters he would take action to stop it, which is fair enough. The problem is that he does not pose the opposite question as to what he would do if he was unable to get to work or his daughters unable to get to school or his family was being starved and could not get vital medicines, or if a governing body would not allow him to go from Chicago to Washington DC for his inauguration.

And those are just a few comments from concerned and I think patriotic Americans who believe that by exposing and challenging inequities we will be better for it.

**A few closing words.**

I just heard George Bush list as one of the "disappointments" of his presidency the fact that there were no weapons of mass

destruction found. Is that not the most incredible and frankly sick statement one has ever heard from a world leader. To think that finding WMD in the hands of a dangerous and destructive man such as Saddam Hussein would have pleased him to justify this horrible war that has killed and displaced hundreds of thousands of innocent people, no regrets for that from him.

And finally to hear Cheney say he can't understand the fuss over Gitmo as he says it is well run and clean, I then wonder why 25% of the detainees are being force fed with tubes up their noses to keep them from starving themselves to death rather than endure more years of detention without being charged with a crime.

We, as a people, must insist that the Obama administration and especially Eric Holder and the Justice Department investigate all the crimes of the Bush administration so this country and the world will never again have to suffer from leaders such as they.

Happy New Year all.

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# PASTIMES

## FEW INGREDIENTS, ENDLESS OPTIONS

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF  
ALYSON BROWETT

Recently, at one of my neighborhood’s famous potluck parties, I was speaking to one of my neighbors who said, “Alyson, I always read your article, but if the recipes have more than five ingredients, I skip right over them!” Hmmmm...I thought. She can’t be the only one out there who is looking for simple and healthy meals prepared quickly and with little need to search out that exotic ingredient in the “International” aisle at the grocery store.

So, while the holidays are behind us, and we might not feel as strapped for time, the truth is that we never feel as though we have enough. The kids are back in school and hungry when dinner time rolls around, and without a Hollywood writers’ strike this year, a lot of our favorite TV shows have started again (I’ll admit it, I’m a sucker for the FOX lineup), so who has a ton of time to spend in the kitchen?!

While I’ve been known to spend better parts of my days in the kitchen, oftentimes I don’t feel like cooking at all. These are the times that I turn to some of our simple household staples: “Mexican” night with flank steak, chicken or meat from the night before, a can of refried beans, salsa, sour cream and tortillas; “chef’s” salad, using anything on hand, from a can of tuna to leftover rice; or “scrounge” night, when we scour the fridge and pantry for whatever we feel like eating.

However, one of my favorites that I return to continually is a yogurt sauce. Not only does the yogurt provide important probiotics that help in the digestive and disease-fighting processes, but I usually always have the ingredients on hand. Fortunately, Greek-style yogurt brands, such as Fage and Cho-

bani, have become more readily available in local stores over the past year. And the other ingredients you need to complete the sauce include a few pantry staples.

In creating the recipes to go along with the yogurt sauce, I kept the “five ingredients” rule in mind (although I did not count salt and oil for cooking). All of these entrees can be served quickly on a weeknight or dressed up for more formal dinner parties. I also tried to keep the portions small, for those who are trying to cook for only one or two people. So check the number it serves before trying to feed your own tribe.

### Yogurt Sauce *Created by Alyson Browett*

This sauce is so versatile, you can use it on just about any meat, as a salad dressing, a dip or a sauce for roasted veggies. This is enough sauce for any one of the following entrée recipes (but remember to double this if you double the recipe).

*6 oz. Greek-style or plain yogurt*

*¼ cup sour cream*

*1 clove garlic, crushed*

*2 tablespoons dill, mint, parsley, cilantro or combination, chopped*

*Juice from half a lemon*

*½ teaspoon kosher salt*

Mix all ingredients in a small bowl. Best if made several hours ahead of time. Allow to sit at room temperature for 15 minutes before serving.

### Lamb Kofta *Created by Alyson Browett*

The yogurt sauce is a per-

fect accompaniment to lamb, a classic Mediterranean combination. Here, the lamb is made into “kofta,” or meatballs. The lamb and yogurt sauce is perfect served with pita bread and a green salad with thinly sliced cucumber, onion and tomato.

*1 ¼ pound ground lamb or meat from lamb shoulder chop, cubed*

*1 tablespoon ground cumin*

*1 tablespoon dried oregano*

*1 tablespoon coriander seeds*

*1 egg*

*1 teaspoon kosher salt*

*Yogurt sauce (recipe above)*

*(6 wooden skewers, soaked in water for 30 minutes, optional)*

Preheat the broiler to high. Place all ingredients in a food processor and whizz until ground lamb or cubed lamb has formed a smooth paste and the spices are combined in the mixture. Remove from the blender and divide into six even balls. Roll each ball in your hands and form into a tube, like a cigar. If using, thread the skewers through the meat lengthwise. Place the meat on a broiler pan on the top rack of the oven and broil on all four “sides” until browned, about 2-4 minutes per side. The skewers will char slightly (do not use them if they have not been soaked!). Serve immediately. Serves 3-4.

### Chicken Thighs in Yogurt Jacket *Created by Alyson Browett*

Not only an adaptable sauce, the yogurt can be used as a marinade as well. I use bone-

less, skinless chicken thighs because they have more dark meat – and therefore more fat – that holds up better to the high heat of a grill pan or outdoor grill (not that I’m braving the environs any time soon!). You can certainly use breasts; just be sure to cook them to 165° and no more, or you’ll get dry, cardboard chicken. Pair the chicken with some whole wheat couscous or quinoa and a salad of artichoke hearts, hearts of palm, red onion and broiled cherry tomatoes with an olive oil/lemon juice dressing.

*2-4 boneless, skinless chicken thighs (depending on size)*

*1 teaspoon olive or grape-seed oil*

*Yogurt sauce (recipe above)*

Marinate the chicken in the yogurt sauce for up to 6 hours in the fridge. If you are short on time, simply let the chicken marinate for 20 minutes at room temperature (you should allow the chicken to come to room temperature even if it’s been marinating in the fridge a while). Preheat a grill pan or gas grill to medium-high. Oil the pan or grill and add the chicken. Let the chicken cook on one side for approximately 7 minutes. Flip the chicken and cook for another 7 minutes. Flip the chicken again (making cross-hatched grill marks) for 3 minutes on each side. Serves 2.

### Greek-Style Turkey Patties *Created by Alyson Browett*

Another (unnamed) neighbor recently told me that she had had a “turkey meatloaf disaster!” I hope this gives you, unnamed neighbor, and the rest of you some ideas for turkey patties. They do not have to be eaten on buns – think of them as personal-sized Mediterranean meat loaves. Keep in mind that turkey is a great blank canvas. Try your own ingredients!

*¼ pound ground turkey*

*¼ cup feta cheese, crumbled*

*2 tablespoons green onions, finely chopped*

*1 tablespoon dried oregano*

*1 teaspoon dried thyme leaves*

*1 teaspoon kosher salt*

*1 teaspoon olive or grape-seed oil*

*Yogurt sauce (recipe above)*

Combine the ground turkey, feta cheese, green onion, oregano, thyme and salt and mix thoroughly with your hands. Separate the turkey into 4-5 balls and form ½” thick patties. Preheat a grill pan over medium-high



heat. Drizzle the oil over one side of the patties. Place the patties oiled side down into the grill pan and cook, uncovered, for about 15 minutes, flipping at least once. The patties are finished when they reach an internal temperature of 165°. Remove from the heat and allow to rest for 5-10 minutes. Serve with whole wheat buns, yogurt sauce and sliced tomato, cucumber, onion and arugula. Serves 2-4.

### Pan-Seared Salmon Tortellini with Warm Yogurt Sauce *Created by Alyson Browett*

This is a wonderfully healthy dish that is good any time of the year. The quality of the ingredients makes or breaks this meal, so be sure that you seek out the best salmon possible. To make this a complete meal, serve with steamed broccoli, peas or wilted spinach.

*4-6 oz. boneless portions wild-caught Pacific salmon, skin on or off*

*18 oz. fresh tortellini (Safe-way Select brand won in a recent San Francisco Chronicle taste test!)*

*Salt and pepper, to taste*

*1-1½ teaspoons olive oil*

*Yogurt sauce (recipe above)*

Let the salmon sit at room temperature for about 10 minutes. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. In a small pot, slowly heat the yogurt sauce over low heat, stirring constantly. Preheat a sauté pan on medium high. If using skin-on salmon, drizzle the flesh side of the filets with some olive oil, and salt and pepper. Place the filets flesh side down in the sauté pan and sear that side for 3-5 minutes, depending on thickness. While searing, drizzle the filets with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. When the light pink color starts creeping up the sides, flip the filets and sear for another 3-5 minutes. During the last two minutes of cooking, drop the tortellini into the boiling water, following the package directions for cooking time. Drain the pasta and portion onto plates. Place a salmon filet over the pasta and top with the warm yogurt sauce. Serve immediately. Serves 4.

*Do you have a favorite meal or household staple you would like to share? Have questions about an ingredient or how to make your soufflé stand at attention? Email Alyson at eat-right@getfit@gmail.com.*

Alyson Browett, MPH, CPT  
Edible Complex, LLC  
540.764.0711

## THE GARDENERS ESCAPE

THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE

I always enjoy putting an assortment of colorful plants in containers for the summer months and my mind had departed this dreary month of January to a more colorful time. I’m visualizing my pots for the warmer months with some interesting plant partnerships that include colorful tropical plants and brightly flowered annuals. The word tropical usually puts one in a mental space alongside orchids, bougainvillea and hibiscus and admittedly its a wonderful space to occupy in January. Add colorful coleus foliage in bright acid yellows with dark purple sword-like leaves of New

Zealand flax and I suddenly feel warmer. Trail some of the fancy new petunias down the sides with verbena blossoms poking out in slightly lighter shades and my pot has just increased a size. The pot will come from Malaysia or Vietnam with a rich glaze that will appear to pour down the sides in a teal that turns turquoise blue. There should be a few bromeliads alongside the orchids which will be exchanged frequently for freshly budded varieties and their flowers will send out the most sumptuous fragrance, stronger at night to lure large moths for pollination. My hibiscus will have flowers that open to at least eight inches and have a pearlescent quality

with soft pink and lavender deep in the throat. Infrequently, (but frequently enough) a soft green tree frog will rest in a prominent hibiscus flower and I have to point him out to company and hope that he doesn’t eat the moths that visit at night to pollinate the orchids. The bougainvilleas will be bright pink and support a rare red flowering passion vine that only blooms in June when the summer days are at their longest. The passion vine will delicately wrap around the spiny branches of the bougainvillea which will flower so much that you have to sweep around the bottom of the pot at least twice a week, before company visits. Sometimes the

evening breezes are so strong that the flowers are blown away by morning and they look picture perfect at the feet of the pink flamingos that travel through the green lawn that is surrounded by a garden filled with palm trees and tree ferns. I will admire all of this as my water fountain provides the perfect resonance of water falling into a marble fountain where the tropical waterlilies bloom everyday in rich tones of lavender and blue. Wow, that was fun!



## RENEWABLE ENERGY IN VIRGINIA

BUILDING GREEN

DALE SCHULZ

President Bush signed into law on October 3, 2008 the \$700 billion Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 which bailed out Wall Street, but also extended and greatly enhanced tax credits and financing for renewable energy and energy efficiency. It is generally agreed that the biggest winner in the tax bill was solar energy, which gained an 8-year extension of the 30% tax credit for residential and commercial solar installations, and the elimination of the \$2,000 tax credit for residential solar electric installations. The tax credit for residential solar is now uncapped. The same 30% tax credit also applies to wind power, but the tax credit was capped at \$4,000 for typical residential wind turbines. Below are some frequently asked questions (FAQs) about renewable energy in Virginia.

**Question #1. We are considering installing solar electric panels to reduce our dependence on electricity generated from coal-fired electric plants in our area, are there alternatives to having the solar panels mounted on our home’s roof?**

**Answer.** Solar PV modules do not have to be installed on your roof. Your roof may not be the best location to capture the sun’s energy or you simply would prefer not to have solar panels on your roof, in which

case a solar array can be installed on a ground-mounted pole. Solar panels can also be mounted on the roof of your garage, barn, run-in shed, and other outbuildings.

**Question #2. If we can’t use the full tax credit in year we install the solar panels, can the tax credit be carried forward?**

**Answer #2.** The Federal law allows for unused tax credits to be carried over to the next tax year. For example, should you install a \$50,000 solar electric system at your home with an associated \$15,000 tax credit (30%), you need not use the full \$15,000 tax credit in the first year.

**Question #3. Do you recommend wind turbines for our area?**

**Answer #3.** Unless you live on a Blue Ridge Mountain ridge, we typically do not recommend wind turbines for residential use. Not with standing that the Federal tax credit is capped at \$4,000 for wind power and it uncapped for solar electric, our area generally lacks the required consistent wind conditions that exist in other parts of the country, for example, coastal areas and the wind corridor that stretches from West Texas to the Dakotas where wind power does make sense.

*About the author. Dale Schulz is the owner of Schulz Homes Corp., www.schulzhomes.com/solar, lo-*

*cated in Middleburg, Virginia since 1987. Schulz Homes is a builder of hybrid custom homes and retrofits existing homes with renewable energy systems, such as solar electric pan-*

*els. This column appears monthly in Middleburg Eccentric, and your questions are warmly welcomed. You can send your questions for next month’s column to schulzh@verizon.net.*





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PASTIMES

SLOBBERKNOCKERS, DONNYBROOKS AND CARDINALS, OH MY!

7TH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

Henry Large, no man ever more aptly named, loved a good slobberknocker. Were slobberknockers the kinds of things for which a person might purchase tickets, tokens or other means of entry, I firmly believe Mr. Large, *Coach* Large, would be among those lucky souls at the front of the queue, waiting for a full-season pass. My wife, almost ready to give birth to our first baby, a boy, is different. She has tried, good-naturedly and patiently, to understand my fascination with football for years now. She's even taken to watching a game with me on occasion, though she'd insist she's

not really watching at all but instead just reading or poking around online or, when she feels a little panicked because she *was* watching the game and wants to quickly change the subject, enjoying spending time with me. Ha! She's a product of the local environment, so feels a strange, inexplicable attachment to the hometown team, the Burgundy and Gold, Mr. Snyder's team, though she knows full well a badly trained troupe of circus chimps could run the team better than current management. She's even picked up some of the players' names over the last couple years, so adroitly sprinkling them into conversation that my double takes

give me temporary whiplash. She was devastated when Vinny dealt away her favorite player; she was back on her feet mere days later after discovering that one of our neighbors had named their new dog Laveranues. But I'd be hard-pressed to tell you that she really enjoys watching a game, or even *sees* games the same way I do. Don't believe me? I can fully admit that I don't see games the same way John Madden does, or Howie Long, or even Shannon Sharpe. (I don't *think* I see what Shannon Sharpe sees but, since I can't understand the words coming out of his mouth half the time, who knows *what* he's seeing!) Of the two games on this weekend, Mags seemed to actually enjoy watching one. The other,

literally, drove her from the room. Yes, her "shows" were on later that night, and she knew those "shows" weren't getting shown in glorious hi-def at the expense of the AFC Championship game, no way, no how. I'll find another TV, some low-def, cathode-ray dinosaur somewhere in the house for just about anything if I'm asked: I'm pretty sure I've taken in most if not all World Series games over the last few years on one of those antiques. But football? During the playoffs? The conference championships? No. So together we watched the Eagles and the Cardinals. Games that leave me slack-jawed and dumbfounded are the ones that seem to go over best with the wife. Which may well explain

her peculiar interest with this entire postseason. The Titans and Giants both, so formidable looking and playing so well, playing so right, on both sides of the ball just weeks ago, bit the dust. And the Cardinals still haven't lost. I repeat: the Cardinals still haven't lost. The Cardinals(the *Cardinals*?!!!!?) are going to the Super Bowl. Just weeks ago I was advocating their demotion to the CFL. And now the Cardinals, and their two-gloves-wearing, onetime-grocery-bagging, former-Super-Bowl-MVP-winning quarterback, are the one team left standing to represent the NFC come February 1st. The score was 21-6, Cardinals, almost in the blink of an eye. It was 24-6 by the half, and the looks on the faces of the talking heads in the studio perfectly reflected the flabbergastery playing out across the country. "But you said the Eagles were going to win," said my best friend for life. "I said I *thought* they were going to win," I ground out before stomping out to the deck to check on the grill. Ribs were on the menu, after all. And then, like an answer to unuttered prayers, the Eagles came back. They stormed back. They marched back. They clawed, and spit, and fought, and dragged themselves back, and oh my God, they were winning and this Arizona blight was about to be exorcised and I was just so happy because I hadn't gotten on that infernal Cardinals' bandwagon and I was going to be right!! Light shone down from above and I bathed in it and rejoiced in my rightness. And then the Cardinals scored, one last time, for good, and added the two-point conversion just to drive it all home and they took the lead and they won and I wanted to hit myself in the head with my trusty tack-hammer. But then, out crawled the slobberknocker, and my heart started to beat again, and for the next four hours I could only watch in awe as the Ravens and the Steelers absolutely went at each other. Willis McGahee was the scariest victim of the controlled chaos that unfolded. (As of Monday morning, the day after game, the AP was reporting McGahee had significant neck pain but was moving his arms and legs.) But that chaos, that madness, was evident the entire game. I don't know that two teams have so outwardly disliked each other in my lifetime. Certainly not so violently, and definitely not so obviously. Raiders - Steelers? Maybe. Redskins - Cowboys? Not so much. For reasons I don't fully understand, the Steelers and the Ravens play each other, every time, like they're trying to rid themselves of something that hurts, something that might take away from them that which they covet most, something that has assaulted what they consider their honor, their character, that which makes them who and what they are, and to lose would prove more painful than anything they are willing to even consider. There is animus there, real, honest, deep-seated hostility the likes of which is difficult to conceive. The Ravens, a team whose psyche dear Dr. Freud would have enjoyed plumbing immensely, have always wanted to be the biggest bully on the block. It's somehow the cornerstone that was laid at the franchise's founding in Baltimore, and it's served them well enough through the years. Much has been made of Ray Lewis, Ed Reed, Terrell Suggs, et al. Their posturing, their flexing, their dancing,

Continued Page 23

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Dakota  
Middleburg, Virginia

87 private acres of rolling fields. This fieldstone and stucco house exhibits quality from the past featuring a reclaimed-timber barn transformed into an intimate family room overlooking two expansive ponds. Well-designed home includes an incomparable custom kitchen, antique beams, lovely first floor master suite and 4 bedrooms. Additional finished space below includes the media room, bar, exercise facility and generous storage. 3-car garage, in-law suite, 3-stall barn and generator. \$5,850,000.



Longfield  
Middleburg, Virginia

96 acres of gently rolling open land with mountain views. Large stone house with slate and metal roof, 4 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 3 fireplaces, hardwood floors, and rear flagstone terraces. Recent improvements include heated pool and cabana. 5-car garage. \$3,900,000.



Firethorn Lane  
The Plains, Virginia

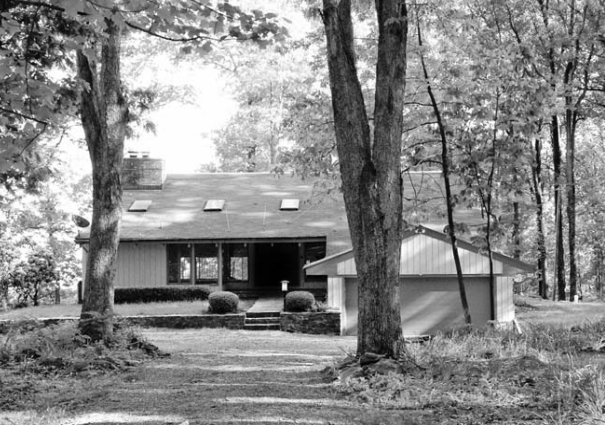
Very special 2 acre property in the sought-after location between Middleburg and The Plains. The main house has been expanded and completely renovated including the new master suite and two other generous bedrooms, a large gourmet kitchen, lovely dining room, wrap-around porch, a charming guest house, gardens and stonework. Great western views from the elevated site. \$1,295,000.

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Hesperides  
Warrenton, Virginia

Very private property located within minutes of Warrenton on 179 acres. This 100 year old residence features 3 full bedroom suites, 3 full baths, 2 half baths, 8 working fireplaces, a gourmet kitchen and an entertainment area on 2nd floor. Three refurbished cottages, historic log cabin, 4 barns and 10 acres of fenced paddocks and a 5-car garage. Property would make a great vineyard. Excellent condition with phenomenal mountain views. \$3,950,000.



Wildwood  
Bluemont, Virginia

Built in 1966, frame construction home with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, family room, den, breakfast room, dining room, large deck and gold fish pond. Large storage building could be used as a barn and shed. Situated on 117.64 acres with spectacular southern views. Property has been placed in easement. Two divisions possible. \$2,200,000.



Old Oaks  
Leesburg, Virginia

Classic Virginia home on 8.75 acres, minutes from Leesburg and Greenway. Home circa 1880 has been completely restored and shows beautifully. Great woodwork and detail. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2-car garage, lovely formal boxwood gardens and guest house. Beautiful setting. \$1,950,000.

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Lanark Farm  
Delaplane, Virginia

Stunning, 6,300 square foot, 4 bedroom, Craftsman style home just built with exceptional detail and solid construction overlooking 10 immaculate acres. Gourmet kitchen with Thermador and Viking appliances, Sirari Rosewood floors throughout the main and upper levels, and custom millwork. Huge finished basement, workout room, home office, lots of storage, views from every window. Property is bound by a bold creek and large mature trees. \$895,000.



Lincoln Road  
Purcellville, Virginia

Beautiful farm on 55.24 acres recorded in 5 parcels. Gently rolling land with lovely views in protected area near Lincoln. Contemporary home with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. 3 fireplaces and 2-car garage. European style stable with 6 stalls, tack room, office, wash stall and apartment. Very private. \$1,985,000.



Maidstone Ordinary  
Rectortown, Virginia

Circa 1790. Much remains the same in this stone and log home as when it originally served as a local tavern. Today this ultra-charming 3 bedroom home offers a unique opportunity to live in a quaint village while surrounded by 2+ acres, a large spring-fed pond and mature gardens. Gorgeous floors, chestnut paneling and large stone fireplaces. \$975,000.

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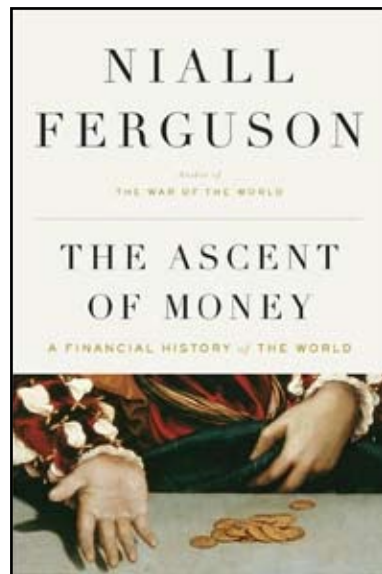
## PASTIMES

# GOOD READS FOR A COLD WINTER'S NIGHT

GENIE FORD

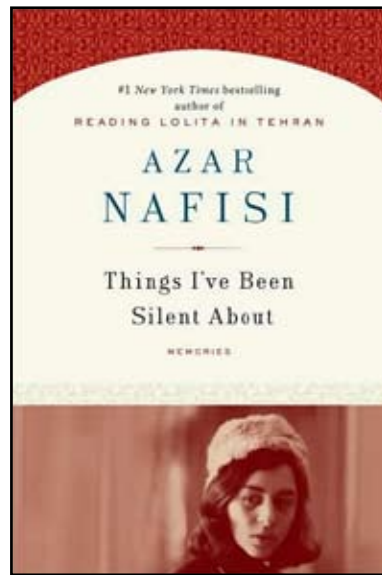
As I write this, the outdoor thermometer says it's about 1 degree outside! Much too cold to do anything except stay inside and, since we can't hibernate like bears, the next best thing is to be next to the fire, under a blanket, with a good book for a companion. Here are a few new releases that will surely take your mind off the cold.

The Ascent of Money: A Financial History of the World (Penguin) by Niall Ferguson



goes a long way toward helping us understand the financial mess we are in. This is compelling reading for our time. The author follows the money to tell the human story behind the evolution of finance, from its origins in ancient Mesopotamia to the latest upheavals on what he calls Planet Finance.

Things I've Been Silent About (Random House) is a new memoir by Azar Nafisi (Reading Lolita in Tehran). This is her personal story of growing up in Iran during the



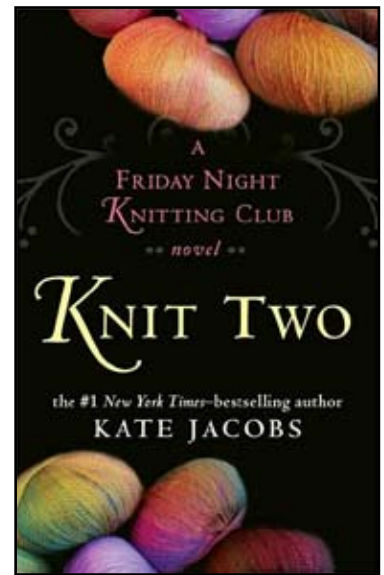
revolution and how this gifted writer found real freedom outside the boundaries of both the constraints of family and the wider political oppression in

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the land where she was born.

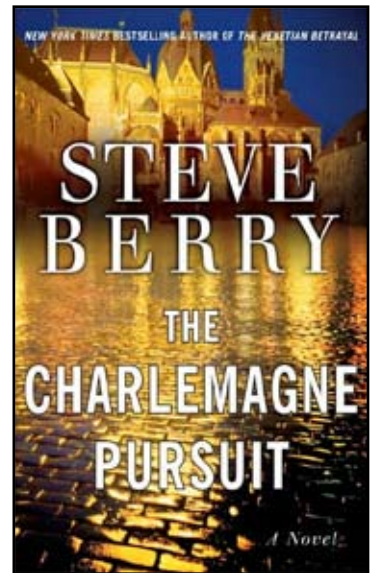
Malcolm Gladwell, one of the more interesting thinkers in our society, brings us The Outliers: The Story of Success (Little, Brown), in which he takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers"—the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? His answer is that we pay too much attention to what successful people are like, and too little attention to where they are from: that is, their culture, their family, their generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing. It's all quite fascinating.

Want a little escape from the daunting realities of today? Can't get enough of Stephanie



Plum? Try Plum Spooky (St. Martin's), the latest installment by Janet Evanovich. Stephanie

is the all-American girl stuck in an uncomfortable job, succeeding on luck and tenacity. Usually she gets her man. This time she gets a monkey. This is vintage Evanovich, delicious, a little naughty but with a dash of the supernatural thrown in, as well as a sexy mystery man



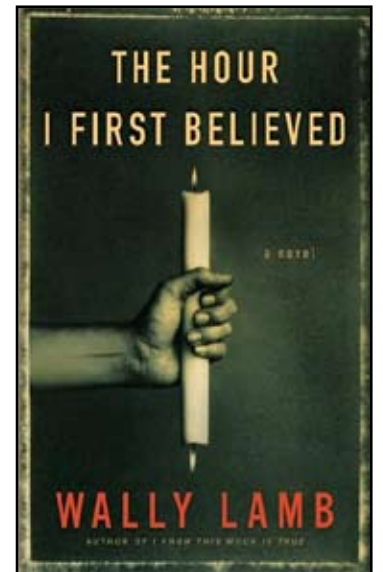
who smells like Christmas.

Knit Two (Penguin) is the sequel to The Friday Night Knitting Club. Kate Jacobs takes us back to the club and the yarn shop of Georgia Walker and her daughter, Dakota. As the club's projects—an afghan, baby booties, a wedding coat—are pieced together, so is their understanding of the patterns underlying the stresses and joys of being mother, wife, daughter, and friend.

The Charlemagne Pursuit (Random House) is number four in Steve Berry's Cotton Malone series. This time our hero wants

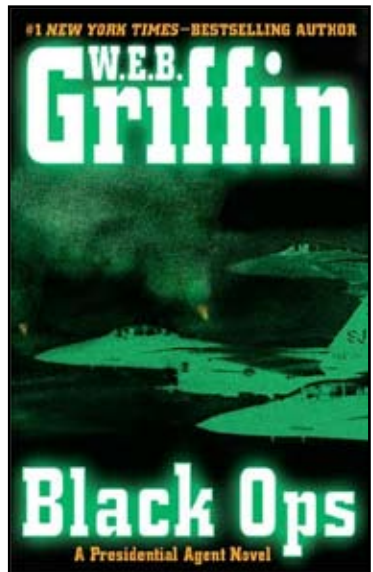
to find out the truth about his father's death in a submarine accident in the North Atlantic. The plot involves Nazis, Charlemagne's tomb, an ancient German cathedral, a remote French citadel and, of course, the forbidding and dangerous ice of the Antarctica.

The Hour I First Believed (HarperCollins) is already a bestseller and it's only been released a short time.



Wally Lamb (This Much I Know Is True, She's Come Undone) writes epic novels of relationships and redemption. In his new book, the author travels well beyond his earlier work and embodies in his fiction myth, psychology, family history stretching back many generations, and the questions of faith that lie at the heart of everyday life. The result is an extraordinary tour de force, at once a meditation on the human condition and an

unflinching yet compassionate evocation of character.



You'll find more excitement in W.E.G. Griffin's new thriller, Black Ops (Penguin), number five in his Presidential Agent series. Lt. Col. Charley Castillo, a member of the Office of Organizational Analysis, is given a special task—track down the terrorists who murdered an American diplomat in Buenos Aires, Argentina. When Castillo's inquiries lead him to a pair of defecting Russian spies, they offer information about an Iranian-run bioweapons factory hidden in the Congo.

These are only a few of the great new books—perfect for a cold winter's night—that have arrived at Books & Crannies. Stop by today and see for yourself.

Genie Ford is co-owner of Books & Crannies in Middleburg

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# A Hospital in Broadlands Fails the Zoning Test.



Section 3 of the health care facilities policies of the County's Comprehensive Plan says clearly that Loudoun County government **SHALL** consider "impact on existing, stable residential neighborhoods" in making land use decisions.

The proposal to wedge a hospital into an existing residential neighborhood is a zoning plan modification, not a simple special exception, and Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) cannot mitigate these adverse and dangerous impacts:

- 24 hour, 7-day-a-week. 365-day-a-year operations
- Speeding ambulances carrying patients with medical emergencies
- Frantic friends and family racing through residential streets to be with sick or injured loved ones
- 18-wheelers delivering a constant stream of food and supplies
- Daily truck traffic hauling away hazardous, infectious and unhealthy medical waste

Hospital traffic is clearly more dangerous to residential families than general office traffic.

In a 2006 opinion, Judge Thomas Horne found that the state health commissioner **"is not concerned with the impact such a facility will have on the overall development of the community"** when a Certificate of Public Need (COPN) is issued.

The judge also found that a COPN **"does not mandate where health care facilities are to be located within Loudoun County"** and that it is the responsibility of local governments to achieve "the orderly use of land through zoning ordinances."

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, not Richmond, has the sole responsibility and the legal obligation to protect the safety of Broadlands families.

Uphold Neighborhood Zoning Laws.  
Reject a Hospital in Broadlands.



Concerned  
Citizens of  
Broadlands

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PASTIMES

TALKIN’ TRASH, 2008

2008 FOXCROFT ROAD PIG PEN AWARDS

WILLIAM H. MCCORMICK VMD

The 2008 was the seventh consecutive year of a volunteer action to control trash on the Foxcroft Road. The author conducts this survey as a single observer. However, there are others who also pick up trash on the Foxcroft Road, i.e. Foxcroft

students themselves. Therefore, if anything the numbers here noted are understated. In six out of the last eight years the absolute numbers had risen. However this year the total numbers are down dramatically, 899 individual pieces of trash down 21% from 2007. To aid those first time readers and as a reminder to

past readers of this column, the course of trash collection is a 4.6 mile route of dirt and hard road that includes portions of the Polecat Hill Rd. (Rt. 696), the Foxcroft Rd. (Rt. 626), the Snake Hill Rd. (Rt. 744), and the Millville Rd. (Rt. 743). The numbers will be stated with respect to 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008. Though the absolute numbers are down the relative percentages of the various groups show a predictable consistency.

| Summary of Repetitive Trash |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |  |  |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|--|--|
|                             | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | Total |  |  |
| Tobacco                     | 54   | 73   | 42   | 61   | 100  | 92   | 63   | 485   |  |  |
| Food Products               | 35   | 75   | 91   | 39   | 64   | 69   | 66   | 439   |  |  |
| Fast Food                   | 115  | 104  | 124  | 113  | 127  | 146  | 103  | 832   |  |  |
| Beverage Containers         | 509  | 698  | 697  | 765  | 776  | 727  | 472  | 4644  |  |  |
| Generic Cups                | 0    | 0    | 78   | 86   | 80   | 88   | 40   | 372   |  |  |
| Total                       | 713  | 950  | 1032 | 1064 | 1147 | 1122 | 744  |       |  |  |

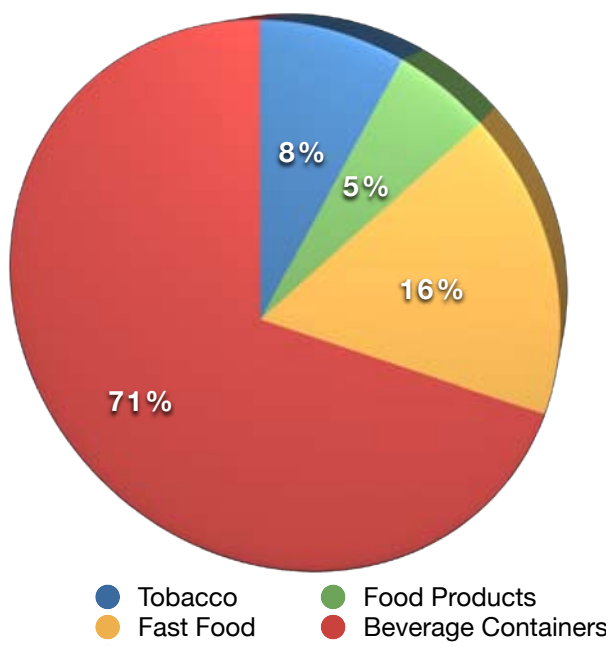
| Tobacco    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
|            | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |  |
| Marlboro   | 26   | 34   | 22   | 33   | 64   | 47   | 43   |  |
| Parliament | 1    | 2    | 0    | 5    | 1    | 2    | 5    |  |
| Camel      | 2    | 9    | 6    | 7    | 5    | 6    | 3    |  |
| Red Man    | 3    | 8    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 4    | 2    |  |
| Newport    | 0    | 5    | 3    | 4    | 13   | 15   | 4    |  |
| Winston    | 3    | 3    | 2    | 6    | 2    | 4    | 0    |  |
| Salem      | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 5    | 1    | 1    |  |

| Water             |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
|                   | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |  |
| Deer Park         | 0    | 4    | 2    | 27   | 19   | 26   | 11   |  |
| Aquafina(Pepsico) | 9    | 11   | 9    | 3    | 10   | 11   | 5    |  |
| Dannan            | 0    | 1    | 1    | 7    | 8    | 4    | 0    |  |
| Desani(Coca Cola) | 8    | 2    | 4    | 11   | 10   | 17   | 6    |  |
| Kirkland          | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 7    | 4    |  |
| Nestle's          | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 9    | 2    |  |
| Refreche          | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 7    | 1    |  |
| Others            | 5    | 6    | 14   | 16   | 12   | 14   | 10   |  |

| Soft Drinks       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
|                   | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |  |
| Pepsi/Mtn Dew     | 68   | 108  | 96   | 92   | 112  | 90   | 70   |  |
| Coca Cola/ Sprite | 66   | 73   | 87   | 87   | 80   | 98   | 81   |  |
| 7UP/ Dr. Pepper   | 9    | 20   | 13   | 20   | 12   | 10   | 10   |  |
| Starbuck's        | 0    | 16   | 6    | 6    | 1    | 11   | 0    |  |
| Select (Safeway)  | 11   | 9    | 17   | 22   | 12   | 6    | 6    |  |
| Red Bull          | 3    | 2    | 11   | 26   | 19   | 20   | 19   |  |
| Other             | 48   | 41   | 40   | 30   | 70   | 73   | 51   |  |

| Fast Food      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
|                | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |  |
| McDonald's     | 56   | 31   | 64   | 38   | 48   | 62   | 51   |  |
| 7-Eleven       | 35   | 35   | 34   | 39   | 29   | 32   | 23   |  |
| Taco Bell      | 5    | 9    | 2    | 2    | 0    | 1    | 1    |  |
| Sheetz         | 3    | 6    | 4    | 4    | 8    | 4    | 4    |  |
| Wendy's        | 4    | 5    | 4    | 0    | 4    | 2    | 5    |  |
| Burger King    | 9    | 4    | 4    | 2    | 8    | 5    | 2    |  |
| Einstein Bros. | 0    | 3    | 1    | 8    | 4    | 2    | 0    |  |
| KFC            | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 6    | 0    |  |
| Others         | 3    | 12   | 12   | 23   | 23   | 23   | 13   |  |

% of Total Years Trash by Type



allowing the American consumer unfettered access to all tobacco products for at least the last thirty years.

In the New Age- Soft Drink category, Coca-Cola has held superiority over Pepsico (81 vs. 70). Considering that Coke produces 40% of the world’s beverage containers, it is interesting to note that Coke’s presence on the road is only 61% of Anheuser-Busch’s production.

In the Beer, Wine and Booze category Anheuser-Busch is the hands down winner, while accounting for 15% of all Foxcroft road trash. This year Anheuser-Busch was taken over by the Belgian company InBev.

The price was ~ \$53 billion. One wonders if the old policy of socializing the obvious waste products of this industry will be continued by the new owner. Why change, because nothing succeeds like success. Miller/Coor’s has moved up to 7% of overall trash (61 individual pieces) and Heineken third in the

beer group.

Bottled water comes in PET (Polyethylene terephthalate) bottles. The usual leader in this category is Deer Park with Kirkland second, Dasani (Coke) third and Aquafina (Pepsico) fourth. In the New Age category, Red Bull (19) represented 31% of the group.

It is interesting to speculate concerning the 21% drop in trash production this year. Well, it was 2008 after all. The S & P Index fell by 38%. The Kentucky TB sales were off from 24% for yearlings to 50% for broodmares. The Shanghai stock market was off 62%. If anything these market figures should drive one to drink more rather than less. With high gas prices were people driving less? Foxcroft School also picks up the Foxcroft Road upon occasion. How about the down turn in construction? That gets my vote.

Please note that seven corporations account for 51% of all the trash. The lucky seven are: MacDonald’s, 7-11 (Southland Corp), Coca-Cola, Pepsico, Marlboro, Anheuser-Busch (InBev), and Miller/Coor’s. These companies have some qualities in common. They are all well managed and profitable. This is all the more remarkable in that they all produce ingestible products that have no nutritional value. There is no one on this earth who cannot easily live without any of the products of the “Slovenly Seven.” Now does the reader suppose that our current market situation in some way reflect the airball economy of these corporations? Are the corporate entities such as Enron, Washington Mutual, Lehman Bros. just the phantom antecedents for the “Slovenly Seven?”

| Beer / Wine / Booze  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
|                      | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |  |
| Budweiser            | 62   | 86   | 78   | 78   | 119  | 68   | 36   |  |
| Bud Lite             | 32   | 84   | 33   | 58   | 41   | 52   | 40   |  |
| Busch                | 18   | 16   | 29   | 33   | 32   | 24   | 17   |  |
| Natural Ice          | 54   | 71   | 50   | 67   | 77   | 29   | 6    |  |
| Natural Dry          | 13   | 8    | 17   | 2    | 0    | 0    | 0    |  |
| Natural Light        | 0    | 0    | 5    | 2    | 12   | 14   | 2    |  |
| Michelob             | 5    | 7    | 19   | 8    | 7    | 12   | 10   |  |
| Corona/Medelo        | 20   | 23   | 20   | 23   | 26   | 10   | 17   |  |
| Miller/Mlwake's Best | 25   | 30   | 37   | 39   | 21   | 38   | 28   |  |
| Coor's               | 26   | 18   | 22   | 5    | 32   | 43   | 33   |  |
| Pabst Blue Ribbon    | 1    | 3    | 6    | 19   | 5    | 1    | 1    |  |
| Steel Reserve        | 0    | 3    | 4    | 16   | 2    | 1    | 2    |  |
| Heineken             | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 14   | 13   |  |
| Foster's             | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 5    | 2    |  |
| Yeungling            | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 6    |  |
| Others               | 27   | 35   | 62   | 65   | 41   | 38   | 19   |  |



The Middleburg Business and Professional Association

Would like to thank the community for supporting our members in 2008.

We look forward to doing business with you in 2009.

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- The McGhee Foundation - Farmer’s Delight
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## PASTIMES

### GO GREEN

Town-visits to encourage recycling: On Saturday, Jan. 3rd, six of us canvassed most of the town with the intention of visiting the remainder of the homes within the next few weeks. Those of us who visited homes were: Genie Ford, Kathy Fisher, Mike Morency, Kathy Jo Shea, Jillann Brunnett and Rebecca Poston. Thank you to everyone who helped, the comments were very positive in addition to adding new members to Go Green. Thank you also to Cindy Pearson for compiling the information that was given to the residents.

Katie Turner and her family had assembled recycling information and had distributed it to the Town residents in reusable Safeway bags within the past six months. Thank you for getting us going. With the combination of these two efforts, it is expected that recycling will increase.

Recycling Receptacles: The first order for the Steel Recycling Receptacles for the main streets of Town will be placed within the next week. At this time American Water Resources Association, Middleburg Bank, Middleburg Beautification and The Inns of Middleburg have each agreed to purchase at least one recycling can for the Town; thank you to each of those groups. The cost of each receptacle is \$1372.00; we have a goal of purchasing 14 receptacles for the Town. If you would like to donate a receptacle or contribute to the purchase of one, checks may be made payable to Middleburg Beautification. Please contact either: Jil Brunnett, Cindy Pearson or Rebecca Poston.

Street Lights: The Town Council has asked that Go Green give input into new lighting for the Town. The goal is to reduce light pollution and reduce kilowatts. If you would like to work on this project or have any information that we could use please contact either Jillann or Rebecca. Thank

You.

Reusable Bags: Manuel Simpson and Nichole Stephenson have volunteered to research and design reusable bags for the Town of Middleburg. If you are interested in helping on this project you can contact either Manuel at Crème de la Crème 687-4796 or Nichole at Timmie Jane's 687-3211.

P.S. Ladies, if you are going to an Inaugural Event, check out the dresses at Timmie Jane (a new vintage clothing shop at 14 S. Madison St.)

Middleburg Area Citizens in Action: There is a new group in town, which is part of a nationwide effort, encouraging citizens to take action at the local, state and national level. The new group is called Middleburg Area Citizens in Action. The first event planned is to celebrate the Martin Luther King, Jr.-Day of Service on Monday, January 19th at Emmanuel Episcopal Church from 3:00-6:30 p.m. The goal is to bring together all volunteer groups within the Middleburg area to share what they are doing and encourage more volunteer support. All groups are being encouraged to have a representative. Tables will be provided to showcase activities. Please support this event and invite your friends.

*Crimes Against Nature* by Angus Yates. Go Green Middleburg will be hosting the showing of this film at the Middleburg Community Center on Friday, February 20th at 7:00p.m. (Doors will open at 6:30p.m.) Please bring your friends. This movie is based on the book by the same name, written by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. There will be discussion following this showing and Mr. Yates will be present to answer questions. This film is eye opening, to say the least, and hopefully will encourage many of us to get involved in saving our planet.

*The next Go Green Meeting is Wednesday, January 21st, 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.*

## PARENTS & PROGENY

### INAUGURATION PERFORMERS SING AT FOXCROFT

SAN FRANCISCO GIRLS CHORUS PERFORM CONCERT ON JANUARY 18TH

Middleburg got a taste of the upcoming Inaugural festivities without the hassle of fighting the crowds in Washington D.C. The San Francisco Girls Chorus performed on Sunday, January 18, at the Engelhard Activities Building on the School's Middleburg, VA, campus.

SFGC is among a very select group invited to perform at the swearing-in ceremonies on January 20. The 43-voice ensemble of 11- to 18-year-old girls, which will sing with the San Francisco Boys Chorus, will also share the West Front of the Capitol with such illustrious performers as Aretha Franklin, Itzhak Perlman, YoYo Ma, Gabriela Montero, Anthony McGill and conductor John Williams.

The Foxcroft concert is a “thank you” to the School community for helping to make SFGC's trip east possible by hosting the 50+ singers and adults for the six days that they are in the area. “With accommodations and transportation at such a premium due to the huge crowds expected, we might not have been able to make this trip without Foxcroft's generosity,” says SFGC Executive Director Melanie Smith. “We are extremely grateful to the School.”

How did the San Francisco Girls Chorus, the 56th Presidential Inauguration and Foxcroft come together? As Foxcroft Head of School Mary Louise Leipheimer says, “Small world stories can lead to big world events.”

When the invitation to

perform at the Inauguration came to the Chorus from the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in late November, SFGC artistic director Susan McMane happened to be entertaining her brother and sister-in-law, who were visiting from Virginia. And they just happened to be Fred McMane and Cathrine Wolf, coach and communications director, respectively, at Foxcroft.

Wolf and McMane shared the exciting news – and the challenge of arranging transportation, accommodations and food for 50+ individuals during the week of this historic Inauguration with colleagues at Foxcroft and . . . the girls' school reached out to help the girls' chorus.

Foxcroft Head of School Mary Louise Leipheimer and the Foxcroft community responded generously, with faculty and local parents offering their homes and students and residential faculty opening their dormitories to the visitors. “We are happy to be of service – ‘giving back’ one of the School's core values,” says Leipheimer. “And we are delighted to play a little part in the historic events taking place on January 20.”

The most immediate reward for the Foxcroft hosts and their neighbors will be the musical treat of hearing SFGC sing on Sunday. The public is invited to attend the concert but seating is limited. Please call 540.687.4513 so that we may plan appropriately.

Founded in 1978, the SFGC is an internationally-



known program of choral music education and performance. More than 300 girls, ages 5-18, from 160 schools in 44 Bay Area cities participate. The organization is comprised of four programs: “Chorissima,” the concert, recording, and touring ensemble, an Alumnae Chorus, the four-level Chorus School training program, and a Preparatory Chorus for 5-7 year olds.

Chorissima -- the group that will perform at Foxcroft and the Inauguration -- presents an annual concert series in the Bay Area, tours nationally and internationally, and appears with renowned artistic partners, such as the San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Symphony. Chorissima has taken ten international tours, the most

recent of which was in July 2007 when the ensemble represented the United States in the prestigious World Vision Children's Choir Festival in Seoul, Korea, and in the Gateway to Music Festival at the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing.

McMane, SFGC artistic director and conductor of Chorissima and the Alumnae Choir, has a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from the Conservatory of Music, University of Missouri-Kansas City, and holds degrees in Vocal Performance from Tulane University and from Washington University in St. Louis.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies for

President-elect Barack Obama chose the SFGC and SFBC – both of which have won Grammy Awards, because of their talent, embodiment of the American spirit and promise for the future.

“These two organizations provide musical training to hundreds of boys and girls every year and have delighted audiences around the world,” Feinstein said. “As a San Franciscan, I am particularly proud that these talented young people will have the opportunity to lend their voices to this historic event.”

McMane and her counterpart at the Boys Chorus, Ian Robertson, called the invitation “the highest honor we could imagine.”

## SLOBBERKNOCKERS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

their grimacing. All of it, every bit of it, designed to instill fear in the hearts of their opponents and swell their own egos.

And the Steelers, more than any other team, love to climb in the cage with them, take their best shot, chew it up, spit it out, and then punch them square in the mouth just like they did on Sunday. Joe “Falco” Flacco saw his wonderful rookie adventure dashed upon the rocks of Heinz Field, splintered by the relentless, cold-blooded pressure applied by the Steelers' defense. A little Samoan named Troy Polamalu reminded everyone Ed Reed isn't the only game-changing guy lurking in the secondary. Hines Ward left it on all on the field, like he always does, before leaving with a knee injury. And Ben Roethlisberger gave us what he so often does: enough to win and not so much to cost his team the victory.

But best of all, they bettered the

Ravens at their own game, without all the screaming, without all the hooting, without all the hollering. They didn't preen, they didn't pose, they didn't primp and they didn't flex for all the cameras. They simply rolled up their sleeves and went to work, imposing their will on the birds from Charm City physically, mentally, and every which way in between.

If Mr. Large was watching, and I'd be stunned if he missed it, he enjoyed himself a helluva slobberknocker.

Oh, and I'm still not getting on that stupid bandwagon. The Cardinals have shown me they're good enough to win out, and have the heart to do it.

I just don't think they're quite ready for the bully that's waiting for them down in Tampa.

You can always reach Alex Cudaback at [cuda24@yahoo.com](mailto:cuda24@yahoo.com)

## Get the Biz Buzz!

The Middleburg Business and Professional Association wishes you a Happy New Year and invites you to our February Mixer

Tuesday, February 10  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Hosted by  
Old Meadow Construction  
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for children and adults



Please RSVP to 540.687.6082 or  
email to: [info@mbpainc.org](mailto:info@mbpainc.org)  
by Tuesday, February 3

## PARENTS & PROGENY

### FOXCROFT LAUNCHES SUMMER SCIENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

MIDDLEBURG HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH UVA TO OFFER GIRLS THE CHANCE TO DO GROUND-BREAKING LAB WORK IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Foxcroft School is proud to announce the Foxcroft Summer Science Research Institute, a six-week, inquiry-based research program in molecular biology for high school girls making its debut next summer. Under the direction of Foxcroft Science Department Chair Julie Ervin, this unique program will give high school girls experience conducting ground-breaking, university-level research projects. Ervin is working with University of Virginia biology research scientist Dr. Anthony Spano to coordinate the projects.

The Institute will be held in the science laboratories on Foxcroft's Middleburg campus and will run from June 29 until August 7, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The cost is \$750 and includes lunch in the School's Dining Hall. In addition, participants will travel to the University of Virginia in Charlottesville at program's end to meet with Dr. Spano to discuss their findings, and to tour university-level laboratory facilities. To obtain a brochure, call 540.687.4510 or email jervin@foxcroft.org.

"This is an exciting program that will foster an understanding of today's science and increase independent scientific thought," says Ervin. "It will also empower students to think critically and problem-solve, and allow them to take responsibility for how molecular biology is used in their world."

During the first week of the program, students will learn basic molecular techniques such as polymerase chain reaction (PCR), subcloning, culturing, bacterial transformation, DNA sequencing, DNA gel electrophoresis, protein gels, and Western blots. Then, Dr. Spano will visit Foxcroft to give a detailed overview of the project



topics the students will be working on and why they are of interest to the scientific community. Projects will be assigned to teams of student based on their interests and will be the focus of the students' work for the remaining five weeks of the program.

During this time, mornings will be spent brainstorming and determining a set of experiments to perform in order to answer questions pertaining to the team's research projects. The students will discuss their proposed experiments with Dr. Spano and Ms. Ervin on a daily basis. Each team will spend the afternoon carrying out the experiments that have been approved. By the end of six weeks, each student will have made progress in inquiry-based learning, trouble-shooting, data analysis, and in learning molecular biology laboratory techniques while using top-of-the-line equipment.

Each student will write a scientific paper explaining her project, the experiments performed, why they were performed, the

results obtained from the experiments, and what the results imply. These scientific papers will be reviewed, shared with Dr. Spano and submitted to contests such as the Siemens Westinghouse and Intel competitions during the fall of 2009. Student will earn one full credit in science from Foxcroft upon successful completion of the Institute.

Ms. Ervin, who has headed Foxcroft's Science Department since 2007, earned her B.S. in Biology at Mary Washington University and her M.S. at the University of Virginia, where she studied the light-independent biosynthesis of chlorophyll in *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*. Dr. Spano holds a Ph.D. in Biology from Brandeis University and has spent most of his career working as a research scientist at UVA. His special research interests include photosynthesis, photovoltaic devices, visur and self-assembly.

### FOXCROFT TO HOLD GIRLS LACROSSE CLINIC

OPEN TO 1ST THROUGH 8TH GRADERS; NO CHARGE

Foxcroft School will offer two lacrosse clinics for girls on Sunday, January 31 at the School's Middleburg, VA, campus. The first session, for girls in first through fifth grades, will be held from 1 pm to 3 pm. A second session, for 5th through 8th graders, will run from 3pm to 5pm. Both are free of charge.

Ruth Marshall, head coach of Foxcroft's outstanding varsity lacrosse team, and several of her players will conduct the sessions, which will be held in Engelhard Activities Building or Fox-Hound Field, depending upon the weather. Marshall, who also teaches at Foxcroft, played lacrosse at Guilford College and has coached youth, middle school and high school girls and boys for more than 20 years.



The Foxcroft clinic is free but, for insurance purposes, all participants must be members of U.S. Lacrosse. A valid membership number and expiration date should be provided at registration. For questions about U.S. Lacrosse membership or the clinic, please call Marshall at 540.454.0981. To register, call Whitney Hansen at 540-687-4343.

# FOXCROFT

## Girls' Lacrosse Clinic



Saturday, January 31, 2008

1:00-3:00 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Grades

3:00-5:00 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grades

Engelhard Gymnasium or Fox-Hound Field

Foxcroft School

Middleburg, Virginia

Bring goggles, stick, mouth guard, water bottle, sneakers and cleats

Campus Tours available

1:30, 2:30, 3:30

To Register: Call Whitney Hansen

540-687-4343

Questions: Call Ruth Marshall

540-454-0981

This is a FREE clinic.

For insurance purposes, you **must** be a member of US Lacrosse to participate. Please provide valid US Lacrosse# and expiration date for registration

### 10 FOXCROFT STUDENTS EARN AP SCHOLAR HONORS

Three current students and seven recent graduates of Foxcroft School have earned AP Scholar designation from the College Board for exceptional achievement on the Advanced Placement Program (AP) Exams taken last May. This is the fifth year in a row that Foxcroft has seen the number of students so honored reach double digits – an impressive record considering it's small size (fewer than 190 students total!).

Gabriella DiCarlo, a senior from Miami, FL, led a group of five students who earned AP Scholar with Honor status. These students achieved an average of 3.25 on all the AP exams they took and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of the tests. She was joined by Class of 2008 members Michael Babus, a Middleburg, VA, resident now attending the University of Virginia; Yifan "Molly" Hu (Shanghai, China; Tulane University); Seline Paulino (Washington, DC; Scripps College) and Catherine York (Upperville, VA; College of William & Mary).

Seniors Chelsea Dickson (West Grove, PA) and Yun-Jin Jang (Seoul, South Korea) and three members of the Class of 2008 were named AP Scholars, for receiving grades of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams. The recent graduates were: Rachel Tolbert (Tuckahoe, NY, and Accra, Ghana, Johns Hopkins University), Sharon Tseng (Taipei, Taiwan; University of Southern California) and Yu Zhang (Shanghai, China; Illinois Institute of Technology).

The College Board's AP Program offers students the opportunity to take college-level courses while still in high school, and to receive college credit and/or advanced placement for successful performance on the exams given each year in May. About 18 percent of the more than 1.3 million high school students in 16,000 secondary schools worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar.



MICHAEL BABUS



SELINE PAULINO



GABRIELLA DICARLO



RACHEL TOLBERT



CHELSEA DICKSON



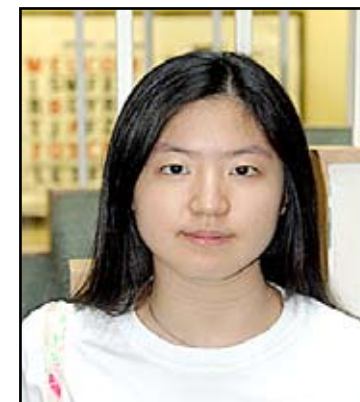
SHARON TSENG



MOLLY HU



CATHERINE YORK



YUN-JIN JANG



YU ZHANG

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# LUNGE LINE

## YOUR HORSE'S HEALTH: UNDERSTANDING EQUINE HERPESVIRUS

MARTIN O. FURR,  
DVM, PH.D., DIPLOMATE ACVIM

Recent equine herpesvirus (EHV) outbreaks around the country have led to great interest in the disease and equally great anxiety among veterinarians and horse owners. In the last five years, EHV has appeared at a variety of race tracks, show grounds, and veterinary hospitals. Such incidents of a tremendous concern as a result of the impact on individual horses, but also due to the need to close facilities in order to prevent the spread of infection. The financial costs to the equine industry caused by infectious disease outbreaks can be huge, affecting both individual horse owners as well as equine-related businesses.

Equine herpesvirus is a common virus that occurs in equine populations worldwide. It has been estimated that up to 70% of adult horses may have the virus in their system, yet not show clinical illness. While there are several strains, the two most

common are EHV-1, which causes abortions, respiratory disease and nervous system disease, and EHV-4 which primarily causes respiratory disease. The most common signs of infection with either form are fever, depression and loss of appetite. Cough and nasal discharge are frequently seen as well.

In horses affected with EHV-1, these initial signs may be followed by nervous system disease which is characterized by stumbling and lack of a coordinated gait in the rear limbs. Urine dribbling and an inability to defecate can also be seen. In more severe cases, the horse may be unable to stand. The severity of the nervous system disease is quite variable, and depends upon the animal's general health and immune status, and perhaps factors related to the virus itself. Most patients recover with supportive care, but fatalities do occur. Late term abortions are sometimes seen with equine herpesvirus infection, or foals that are born weak may die within a few days of birth.

EHV is highly contagious and can be readily transmitted from one horse to another. The most common methods of transmission are by aerosol or direct contact. Indirect transmission can occur when the virus contaminates hands, feed and water buckets, etc., which then pass the virus to other horses by contact. Aborted fetuses and associated placental membranes are also significant sources of infection. This rapid transmission requires that once an affected animal has been identified, nearby animals and properties must be quarantined to prevent spread to other horses and farms.

In patients suspected of infection with EHV, there are a number of diagnostic tests that can be performed to confirm or rule-out the infection. Culture of the virus, detection of virus DNA, or testing for an antibody response to the virus have all been employed. The most common method of diagnostic testing and screening at this time is the PCR test, which detects the presence of the DNA of the

virus. This test is rapid, and requires only a nasal swab or blood sample. In managing a disease outbreak, it can also be used to determine when horses are no longer shedding the virus, and are safe to return to normal housing and activity. The typical infected horse will usually not shed the virus for longer than 14 days after the fever subsides. Routine cleaning with soap and hot water is typically adequate to kill EHV which lives for only a few days in most environments.

There are methods of minimizing a horse's risk of infection with EHV. Vaccination is commonly employed, and is highly effective against the respiratory and abortion forms of the disease. It is important to recognize, however, that viruses can mutate or change their form, and there is no effective vaccine at this time for controlling the neurologic form of the virus. Control of the neurologic form is therefore dependent upon proactive infection control measures on the farm.

The most effective method of on-farm infection control is to limit horse movement onto the farm, and to minimize co-mingling of new arrivals until a two to three week isolation period has been completed. The isolation facility need not be elaborate but should serve to keep the new arrival physically separate (by 20 feet at least) from other horses on the farm. New arrivals should be attended to after the other horses, and the caretakers should be sure to wash and change clothes after touching the isolated animals. These horses should also have separate feed buckets and water tanks that are cleaned with soap and water daily.

All horses coming to a property should be recently vaccinated against the common equine infectious diseases (including EHV). Requiring a current veterinary health certificate ensures that the horse has been examined prior to transport. In addition to isolation of new arrivals, rectal temperatures should be taken twice per day — fevers should prompt an examination by a veterinarian.

These simple procedures have value in limiting infection from many viruses and bacteria, not just EHV. It must be recognized that they are not foolproof, however. If a horse becomes ill and EHV is suspected, prompt attention from a veterinarian



is absolutely necessary. Delaying examination or testing out of fear of the results will only maximize the risks while prompt and forthright action will likely minimize the potential damage caused by the disease.

At the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center, we follow stringent biosafety procedures in order to protect the health of our patients. By practicing similar biosafety practices on the farm, owners can minimize the likelihood that infectious diseases like EHV will affect their horses.

To schedule an internal medicine appointment or consultation at the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center, call (703) 771-6800.

Dr. Furr is the Professor and Adelaide C. Riggs Chair in Equine Medicine at Virginia Tech's Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center. He can be reached at mfurr@vt.edu. To view his online profile, visit [www.equinemedicalcenter.net](http://www.equinemedicalcenter.net). Virginia Tech's Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center is a premier full-service equine hospital located in Leesburg, Va., that offers advanced specialty care, 24-hour emergency treatment and diagnostic services for all ages and breeds of horses. One of three campuses that comprise the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, the center and its team of equine specialists are committed to providing exceptional treatment to patients, superior service to clients and cutting-edge research to the equine industry.

## EQUINE EXTENSION VALUED AT THE MARE CENTER

The Middleburg Agricultural Research and Extension (MARE) Center is one of thirteen agricultural and research centers (ARECs) throughout Virginia. Perhaps the most overlooked word in this title is "Extension". Extension at the MARE Center is an integral part of the center because it provides research based educational resources to the people of the commonwealth.

Shea Porr, prior to being named superintendent for the MARE Center, was equine Extension agent with Virginia Cooperative Extension Northern District Office works at the MARE center and offers special insight to the tie between Extension and the center. The MARE Center specializes in equine research, pasture associated nutrition, Extension programs, and educating graduate students in these areas. Porr is instrumental in taking that information and designing programs for the general public in a format that allows them to use the information on their farms and in their jobs.

During the past year, Porr has developed basic and advanced programs in horse handling training for emergency responders. These programs provide participants with lectures and demonstrations on equine behavior and handling by using hands-on practices such as catching the horse, leading and releasing the horse in a stall as well as an open field. This Extension program uses horses owned by the Virginia Tech Foundation, Inc. and kept at the MARE center which certainly links Extension to the center.

Extension at the MARE center also has provided exceptional programs on pasture management and equine health. Taking proper care of a horse or horse

is a task faced by all horse owners. Through Extension owners can learn best practices for grooming, nutrition, vaccinating, grazing habits and pasture and manure management. The benefit of equine Extension programs is that although some may be developed and held at the MARE center, they are very "mobile" in that the Extension agent takes this information across the state and presents it to horse owners through educational seminars and programs.

Extension services held at the MARE center are often the result of a collaborative effort. A prime example of this is the 4th Annual Equine Educational Seminar which was held on October 17, 2008 at the center. The seminar, entitled "Keeping Horses Happy, Healthy, and Whole: Advances in Equine Health Care Management", was lead by faculty and staff from the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center, the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, veterinary specialists in Virginia and representatives of Virginia Tech and Virginia Cooperative Extension. During this informative program, the audience heard lectures on topics such as current trends and research in equine health care, including hoof and dental care, diseases and parasites, alternative therapies and biosecurity.

The MARE Center is not the only Agricultural Research and Extension Center which benefits from various Extension programs across the state. Covering four broad educational areas of: 1) agriculture and natural resources; 2) 4-H youth development; 3) family and community sciences; and 4) food, nutrition and health, Extension agents can be found in most of the thirteen AREC's. Once research is developed in

a specific area such as pasture associated laminitis studies in equines, it must be disseminated throughout the state and beyond. Research professors, Extension agents and mass communication are a few important avenues taken to get this vital information out to the public. Vast information is provided by and because of Extension programs every day and leads to more productive lives, families, communities, and farms and forests while

enhancing and preserving the quality of the commonwealth's natural resources.

To find out more about the programs and institutions listed in this article, please visit the following links. Also, to find out about the good work of Extension at the MARE Center, contact Shea Porr by email at [cporr@vt.edu](mailto:cporr@vt.edu) or by phone at 540/687-3521 ext 27.

Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center <http://www.vetmed.vt.edu/emc>

Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine <http://www.vetmed.vt.edu/emc>  
Virginia Tech [www.vt.edu](http://www.vt.edu)  
Virginia Cooperative Extension [www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

For more information on the MARE center's research and Extension programs, please visit [www.vaes.vt.edu/middleburg](http://www.vaes.vt.edu/middleburg) or e-mail [MAREC@vt.edu](mailto:MAREC@vt.edu).



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# FACES & PLACES

## FORMAL HUNT BREAKFAST AT HUNTLANDS

HUNT LAND FARM, MIDDLEBURG, VA, DECEMBER 6, 2008

PHOTOS BY JANET HITCHEN



PENNY AND JOHN DENEGRE WITH BETSEE PARKER



CHERI KERSHNER AND ASHLEY WHITNER



EDWARD SCHLICHTER AND ANNE SITTMANN



MARY KAY GARWOOD AND GRANDSON DAVID STERLING



BETSEE PARKER AND PASCINI COXSEY



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PHOTOS BY DEE DEE HUBBARD



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To Do

Mosby Heritage Area  
Saturday Morning Field Trips

THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOCIATION IS OFFERING A SERIES OF “SATURDAY MORNING SPECIALS”—A CUP OF COFFEE, A DOUGHNUT, AND A CHANCE TO GO EXPLORING HISTORY IN THE STORY-RICH FIVE-COUNTY MOSBY HERITAGE AREA. THE TRIPS, TO BE OFFERED ONE FOR EACH SEASON, WILL BEGIN AT THE OFFICES OF THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOCIATION IN THE HISTORIC 1801 RECTOR HOUSE AT ATOKA, FOUR MILES WEST OF MIDDLEBURG.

FOLLOWING INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING REMARKS, PARTICIPANTS WILL CARAVAN TO SITES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DAY’S TOPIC. DIRECTIONS AND HANDOUTS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EACH TRIP. TRIPS WILL BE LED AND INTERPRETED BY THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA’S DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, RICH GILLESPIE.

COMING “SATURDAY MORNING SPECIAL” TRIPS WILL INCLUDE:

FEBRUARY 21--“SURROUNDED BY SOLDIERS”—THIS TRIP WILL EXAMINE THE ATOKA AND GOOSE CREEK BATTLEFIELDS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE SIGNIFICANT PRE-GETTYSBURG CAVALRY BATTLES OF JUNE 1863 AT ALDIE, MIDDLEBURG, AND UPPERVILLE. WE’LL VISIT THE GRAVE OF JOHN EDMONDSON, THE FORGOTTEN SOLDIER OF RECTOR’S CROSSROADS, THE RIDGE HELD BY STUART’S HORSE ARTILLERY, AND OF COURSE, THE REMARKABLY INTACT BATTLEFIELD AT GOOSE CREEK BRIDGE. WE’LL END WITH THE BACKYARD OF THE RECTOR HOUSE WHERE STUART CAMPED. TRIP WILL BE OF GENERAL AND HUMAN INTEREST RATHER THAN FROM THAT OF JUST THE CIVIL WAR BUFF.

APRIL 25--“EQUINE SPORT IN THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA: AN INTRODUCTION...”—THIS TRIP WILL USE SEVERAL LOCAL FARMS TO GIVE PARTICIPANTS A SIMPLE INTRODUCTION TO POINT-TO-POINTS, STEEPLE- CHASING, AND FOXHUNTING—THE SPORTS, THE MOUNTS, THE EQUIPMENT, AND THE SOCIAL CULTURE INVOLVED. WE WILL WALK A PART OF ONE OF THE HANDSOME TRAILS USED BY ONE OF THE LOCAL HUNTS.

JUNE 20--“A VICTORIAN VACATIONLAND”—ALTHOUGH WE KNOW THAT IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY, THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA BECAME THE “COUNTRY GETAWAY” FOR THE INDUSTRIAL/FINANCIAL ELITE, WE OFTEN FORGET THAT ON A REGIONAL BASIS, IT WAS ALSO A PLACE FOR HEAT-RAVAGED CITY PEOPLE OF GREATER WASHINGTON TO ESCAPE FOR A TASTE OF THAT BUCOLIC RURAL PAST FOR A WEEK OR A DAY. SERVED BY RAIL, PAEONIAN SPRINGS, HAMILTON, PURCELL-VILLE, ROUND HILL, BLUEMONT, AND SNICKERS’ GAP WERE ALL ESCAPES FOR PEOPLE OF THE LATE VICTORIAN AND EDWARDIAN ERAS. DUE TO THE PRESERVATION EFFORTS OF LOCAL PEOPLE, THAT STORY CAN STILL BE SEEN IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT THEY’VE SAVED. WE WILL VISIT SEVERAL HOMES/HOTELS IN THESE VILLAGES, AND HIKE TO THE MOST POPULAR VICTORIAN SITE OF ALL—BEAR’S DEN OVERLOOK ON THE BLUE RIDGE.

OCTOBER 24—TRIP LOCATION AND TOPIC TO BE ANNOUNCED.

FIELD TRIP SPECIFICS: TRIPS BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE RECTOR HOUSE AT ATOKA ACROSS FROM THE ATOKA STORE, 1461 ATOKA ROAD, MARSHALL VA 20115. THEY WILL END AT APPROXIMATELY 1:00 P.M. SOME WALKING IS INVOLVED. THE COST FOR PARTICIPANTS WILL BE \$15.00 PER TRIP FOR ADULTS, AND \$5.00 FOR STUDENTS. RESERVATIONS FOR TRIPS WOULD BE APPRECIATED, AND MAY BE MADE BY E-MAILING THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOCIATION AT INFO@MOSBYHERITAGEAREA.ORG OR CALLING (540) 687-6681.

THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOCIATION IS A MEMBERSHIP DRIVEN 501 (C) 3. ORGANIZATION FOCUSING ON EDUCATION AND PRESERVATION. THE MISSION OF THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOCIATION IS TO EDUCATE, AND ADVOCATE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY HISTORIC, CULTURAL AND SCENIC RESOURCES IN THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA PIEDMONT. THE MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOCIATION: PRESERVATION THROUGH EDUCATION.

INFORMATION ABOUT MHAA MAY BE OBTAINED BY VISITING THE ORGANIZATION’S WEB SITE AT: WWW.MOSBYHERITAGEAREA.ORG. MHAA’S MAILING ADDRESS IS: P.O. BOX 1497, MIDDLEBURG, VA 20118. WHEN VISITING THE WEB SITE, PLEASE REGISTER TO RECEIVE THE ORGANIZATION’S MONTHLY ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Mystery Lovers Saturday

MISTERY LOVER’S SATURDAY

JANUARY 24—BOOKS & CRANNIES, AN INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE LOCATED IN BEAUTIFUL, HISTORIC MIDDLEBURG, VIRGINIA, WILL WELCOME MYSTERY AUTHORS IN A DAY-LONG EVENT, MYSTERY LOVERS SATURDAY, ON JANUARY 24, 2009. AUTHORS WILL BE AT VENUES THROUGHOUT THE VILLAGE, SIGNING BOOKS, TALKING ABOUT THE MYSTERY GENRE ON PANELS HELD IN CHARMING RESTAURANTS AND INNS AND JOINING IN AT THE MOVEABLE FEAST, A MEAL IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN TOWN THAT WILL GIVE MYSTERY LOVERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AUTHORS PERSONALLY WHILE ENJOYING A DELIGHTFUL MEAL. RESERVATIONS FOR THE MOVEABLE FEAST ARE REQUIRED, SO BOOK EARLY!

AMONG THE AUTHORS TAKING PART IN THE MYSTERY LOVERS SATURDAY ARE AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR DONNA ANDREWS, WHOSE SERIES FEATURES BLACKSMITH MEG LANGSLOW; ELLEN CROSBY, AUTHOR OF VIRGINIA’S WINE COUNTRY MYSTERY SERIES; CON LEHANE WHO WRITES THE BRIAN McNULTY BARTENDER MYSTERIES; DANIEL STASHOWER, AUTHOR OF THE BESTSELLING THE BEAUTIFUL CIGAR GIRL; ELLEN BYERRUM, CREATOR OF THE ARMED AND GLAMOROUS CRIME OF FASHION SERIES(OPTIONED AS LIFETIME MOVIES); REED COLEMAN, WHO CREATED THE COMPELLING MOE PRAEGER SERIES; G.M. MALLIET, WHOSE DEATH OF A COZY WRITER WAS CHOSEN BY KIRKUS REVIEWS AS ONE OF ITS “BEST BOOKS OF 2008;” DAVID MONTGOMERY, AUTHOR OF THE WELL-REVIEWED THRILLER COUNTERSTRIKE; AND JAN NEUHARTH, A MIDDLEBURG RESIDENT WHO HAS WRITTEN TWO EXCITING HUNT COUNTRY MYSTERIES.

AS OUR MYSTERY LOVERS SATURDAY DRAWS NEAR, WE HOPE TO HAVE MORE AUTHORS ON BOARD FOR WHAT IS SURE TO BE AN EXCITING AND ENTERTAINING DAY. THE ENTIRE VILLAGE OF MIDDLEBURG IS JOINING IN, WITH LOCAL INNS OFFERING SPECIAL RATES FOR OVERNIGHT GUESTS. CONTACT THESE INNS DIRECTLY AND TELL THEM YOU ARE VISITING AS PART OF THE MYSTERY LOVERS SATURDAY: THE MIDDLEBURG COUNTRY INN, 540-687-6082; THE RED FOX INN, 540-687-6301; THE GOODSTONE INN, 877-219-4663.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TO DINE AND STAY IN MIDDLEBURG TODAY.PLEASE CALL BOOKS & CRANNIES TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT FOR THE MOVEABLE FEAST, SET TO BEGIN AT 7 PM AT SEVERAL RESTAURANT LOCATIONS ABOUT TOWN. CALL 540-687-6677 TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT!

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LOCATION: MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER. STAY OUT LATE IN A SAFE, SUPERVISED ENVIRONMENT. BRING YOUR FRIENDS FOR A NIGHT OF FUN AND DANCING. D.J. AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED AT 540-687-6375.

FAMILY VALENTINE DANCE (AGES 3 & UP)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH  
\$20.00/FAMILY 7:00-9:00 PM  
LOCATION: MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER. CELEBRATE VALENTINES DAY WITH YOUR FAMILY. ENJOY MUSIC, DANCING, AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS. ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED; PLEASE CALL 540-687-6375.

KRAYONS AND KOFFEE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH-25TH  
\$32.00 9:00-10:00 AM  
LOCATION: KIDS LOVE CRAFTS AND PARENTS LOVE COFFEE, WHAT A GREAT COMBINATION. SOCIALIZATION WITH OTHER PARENTS AND CHILDREN AND CREATE SOME UNIQUE CRAYON CRAFTS. CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

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Middleburg Community Center  
300 W. Washington Street  
Middleburg, VA 20118

February 20, 2009  
6:30 p.m.  
(Film begins at 7:00 p.m.)

A discussion with the film’s producer, Angus Yates, will follow the film.

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# FRIENDS FOR LIFE

## Middleburg Humane Foundation



**Charlie**, is a 14 week old adorable long haired kitten who was found at Dulles Airport in the middle of a runway! He is now safe and warm, having fun and loving life!

**Jinx** is the love of your life kitty. He is quiet and gentle and very laid back. Jinx adores everyone and everything! He has been at our shelter for many months and is oh so lonely and bored. Add some love to your life and adopt Jinx!

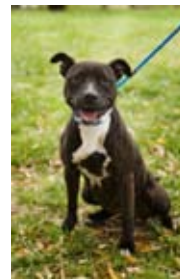


**Bernie** is a very handsome big purebred Foxhound! He is drop dead gorgeous and very affectionate with people and other dogs. He needs a home with a secure fenced yard due to the hound in him - "nose to the ground and GO!" and a home with no kitties.



**Tom Bigbee** is a 1 year old purebred Redbone Coonhound who is super special! He came from a sad situation but has blossomed in the past month. Tom will be a great family friend!

**Princess** is a lovely Pit Bull Terrier that was spoiled rotten in her previous home. She was raised with small children and is impeccably housetrained. Princess is a couch potato who needs a structured home.



**McGraw** is a special guy! McGraw came from a county shelter where his time was up. He is a 9 mo. old Border Collie? Mix with a great big personality. He would do best in a home with no kitties.



**Ross** is a terrific pup. He is an 8 month old Border Collie mix (mom is Gloria!) Ross is great with kids/ cats & other dogs. He walks beautifully on a leash and is truly an awesome all around guy! Ross is a medium sized dog - a wonderful family friend!

**Kittens** We have two healthy, loving young tiger kittens who need loving homes! Please save a life and adopt a kitty soon! Our cats are feline/fiv neg, vaccinated, spayed/neutered as a part of the \$80 adoption donation. Ask about our buddy program!



**Oliver** is a very special farm pig who needs a new home soon! He is about 2 years old, neutered and is very gentle with people and dogs. He's a fun pig!



**Frankie** has grown up here at the shelter. She has been in a cage for months and is really ready to go home! She would do great as an indoor/ outdoor kitty or in a safe barn!



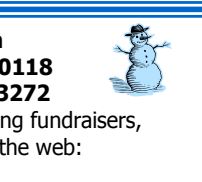
**Brandy** is a 5 month old purebred Redbone coonhound pup who has a heart of gold. She is very sweet and kind natured. Brandy will need fencing...



**BLM Branded Mustangs!**

We have 4 lovely/ young Mustangs available who all have big futures ahead! They need a home with experienced handlers.

**Hartley** is a drop dead gorgeous medium hair kitty who has been here for many months. She really wants to go home to play & catch mice very soon!



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[www.middleburghumane.com](http://www.middleburghumane.com)



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Valentine's Day Wine Tasting

The Aldie Peddler Shoppes  
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12-4pm

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### ALBERT'S CORNER

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

People often ask questions about training, and while I'm no expert, I'm happy to offer my views from the canine perspective. Lately I've been hearing about a lot of people who do all of the right things with all of the wrong results. This has puzzled me because, frankly, dogs are pretty smart and we generally want to please. It left me wondering what could possibly be going wrong. I decided to look into the matter further. What I found is so simple and yet it is one of the most common problems in households with pets.

People everywhere carry out their relationships with their pets with the very best intentions. I'm talking about kind, loving people who train with a gentle hand using positive reinforcement methods. These are people who seek the help of excellent trainers, read the best books and take the time to put their dog on the right track. And yet things just don't work out.

The simple flaw in the plan: lack of consistency.

The failure to be consistent can undermine the very best training techniques. While animals are outstanding at understanding far more than people know, we can't comprehend seemingly random changes in expectations. We're not able to figure out why it's okay to get on the sofa normally, but not when our people have guests. We're mystified by why it is perfectly fine to be rambunctious with the kids but not with the elderly next-door neighbor. We can't know that our slight misbehavior is much more annoying when our people have had a rough day at the office. In short, most of us can learn how to act, but we can't learn to change how we act based on the situation.

To become consistent, people need to get committed to the idea. There should be certain constants with pets that

never, ever change. If the house rule is not to feed your dog from the table, that rule should never be broken. If it happens once, your dog will assume that it can happen again. Likewise, all rules have to remain constant. This means they have to be reinforced by every single member of the family, even young children.

The formula for success is to decide what's important and make a big deal out of it to your dog and your family. If, for instance, you don't want your dog to jump up and greet people, you have to teach everyone to discourage this behavior at all times - even visitors. Pretty soon, your dog will get the hint. If, however, one person enforces the rule while another person allows air-born greetings, there will be trouble in paradise. Give us an inch and you can bet we'll take a mile, not because we're mischievous, but because we're confused.

In reality, the biggest hindrance to consistency is the fact that people love their pets and often give in to them. Because we're so cute, it's easy to reward begging "just this once" or to laugh instead of correct. In reality, though, being big-hearted often makes it harder for the pet in the long run.

Now, I know that being consistent can be really difficult when people live such busy lives. It's hard, if not impossible, to watch everything that happens. Making an effort, however, can really pay off. I should know. I live with a softy and get away with murder. Supposedly, she's working on it. I'm not worried, though; I've got great big puppy-dog eyes. Can I have some of that peanut-butter sandwich mom ... just this once?

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

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# Properties In Hunt Country

## DEERHAVEN



Stunning 16 room brick colonial on **28+ park-like acres** with spectacular views of the Paris Valley in Upperville. Elegant rooms, fine moldings, gorgeous decor, extraordinary detail and superior quality. Towering trees and brilliant gardens surround this fabulous estate. **\$2,295,000**

**Mary Ann McGowan (540)687-5523**

## PLUM GROVE



Just offered is a historic **10 acre** farm circa 1787, beautifully sited in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains •Gracious manor house, recently updated 3 levels, 5 Bedrooms, Guest House, Log Cabin •3 Bay Garage and storage building •Stocked pond and magnificent views. **\$1,695,000**

**Mary Ann McGowan (540)687-5523**

## MIDDLEGROUND FARM



MIDDLEGROUND sits just outside Warrenton •Hay fields, creek, hardwoods on back line and several large fenced horse pastures surround the big, new Manor House •7 Stall Stable, Arena, Run-in and Storage Sheds complete the farm •2 income producing cottages sit out on Lees Mill Road •**50 Acres.\$1,675,000**

**Susie Ashcom (540)729-1478**

## OAK HILL



Round Hill •Charming 4 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath home on **10+ acres** near Middleburg •Sweeping lawn with mountain views, extensive landscaping and picturesque pond •New gourmet Kitchen, hardwood floors, formal Living Room and Dining Room, Library, 2-story Family Room with Fireplace, and new Master Bath •2-Car Garage and separate 2-story Garage/Workshop. **\$1,395,000**

**Cricket Bedford (540)229-3201**

## FURR ROAD



Charming country Cape with log cabin wing on **5+ acres** in Piedmont Hunt •Over 3,200 square feet in the main residence with wood floors, stone Fireplace, spacious sun-filled rooms •Includes Guest Cottage with over 1,500 square feet •Fabulous 3 stall stable, fenced paddocks, excellent ride out! **\$922,500**

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## GREGORMOOR



Unique, secluded 1 Bedroom Log Cabin with large stone Chimney and front Porch overlooking tranquil water and garden views •**41+ wooded acres** in 4 parcels with 4 Bedroom percs •Includes a huge pond and smaller pond with fountain •Perfect weekend retreat now - build later •Near Aldie, Middleburg, and Dulles Int. Airport. •Huge price reduction •Excellent investment opportunity! •No covenants or HOA •In Land Use (Forestry). **\$799,000**

**Cathy Bernache (540)424-7066**

## MIDLAND LAND



**87 rolling acres** with creek •Existing 1800's Farm House made weather tight •Ideal building sites in the back hay field •There are 5 divisions of this property according to Fauquier County •Close commute to Fredericksburg, the VRE or Quantico. **\$790,000**

**Cricket Bedford (540)229-3201**

## COMMERCIAL



17 West Federal Street, Middleburg •Ideally located just one street south of Main Street •Approximately 2,450 square feet •General Commercial Zoning (C-3) allows for the maximum of possible uses •Interior has been demolished and is "Construction Ready" •Public parking lot across street. **\$550,000**

**Cricket Bedford (540)229-3201**

## CINNAMON RIDGE



South Poes Road, in Rappahannock County •2 story house •4 Stall center-aisle stable with tack and feed rooms •A single stall isolation stable •Run-in sheds, board fencing, water and elec. to all fields •Machine shed and a beautiful large Ring which was the scene of shows all last year •All on **10.71 gorgeous acres** •Priced to sell. **\$550,000**

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## CANNON RIDGE



Middleburg •Excellent opportunity to build your dream home on 2 rare **10 acre** parcels with a Middleburg address •Conveniently located off Route 50 just East of Middleburg •Mostly open, rolling land with mature trees, quiet gravel drive and spectacular views of the Bull Run Mountains •Lovely potential building sites each with 4 Bedroom approved perc. **\$515,000 per parcel**

**Cricket Bedford (540)229-3201**

## LAND

**SYCAMORE SPRING** - 141.07 acre working farm in Warren County with bold spring and beautiful views. In VOF conservation. **\$2,000,000**

**CATOCTIN SPRINGS** - Two spectacular wooded estate parcels, in a very private setting. In Conservation Easement, 10 minutes to Leesburg, MARC Train, White's Ferry for commuters, and Ida Lee Park for recreation. Priced to sell. **31 acres - \$399,000 or 59 acres - \$599,000**

**MAJESTIC VIEW** - Parcels are 6-12.6 acres. Each with an approved 4 Bedroom drainfield site with certification letter. **\$399,000 to \$469,000**

## MILLWOOD LAND



Newly platted parcel takes advantage of mountain and pastoral views from a level hilltop in prestigious Millwood, VA •The 7 acre parcel was cleared almost to its edges and seeded in pasture grass. Seller has created a 30 foot Right of Way along her horse pasture to the street and will reference the line. Soil work completed for septic. **\$275,000**

**Susie Ashcom (540)729-1478**

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## THOMAS AND TALBOT REAL ESTATE

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