

MIDDLEBURG SWEEPS LCVA AWARDS

MIDDLEBURG HUNT POINT TO POINT

PAGE 18

TOWN COUNCIL RECOGNIZES LCVA AWARD WINNERS

DAN MORROW

At the April 9 regular meeting of the Middleburg Town Council, Vice Mayor Darlene Kirk presided as Council recognized five winners of Loudoun County "Meeting and Tourism Awards" presented annually by the Visitors Association. Individuals honored were: Market Salamander Pastry Chef Jason Reaves, Market Salamander Executive Sous Chef, Vaughn Skaggs and Pink Box Visitor Center docent Mary Kay Garwood. Chrysalis Vineyards 8th Annual Norton Wine & Bluegrass Festival, and the Upperville Colt & Horse Show swept the "Events of the Year" awards.

Public Input Sought for Revised Zoning Legislation

Capping months of discussion, Town Council and the Town's Planning and Zoning Department are now seeking direct citizen input on how to define and maintain the "look and feel" of an expanded Middleburg, in a series of workshops entitled "A Vision for Middleburg's Future."

The first in a planned series of "Community Workshops" will focus on the future of the critical Ridgeview Subdivision, located along the northern edge of Town, adjacent to the property in the process of development by the Salamander organization.

Open to the public, the meetings are designed to allow any and all members of the community to raise issues and discuss potential solutions to problems associated with the Town's growth and development,

including traffic flow, building restrictions, environmental protection, and other planning considerations.

Workshops are currently scheduled for Monday, April 27, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM at Middleburg Town Hall; for Wednesday, April 29, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Middleburg Community Center; and for Saturday, May 2, from 10:00 AM until noon, at Levis Hill House.

Other sections of town will be explored in later sessions.

Murder Suspects Arrested "Criminal Enterprise" Exposed

Four suspects, described by Loudoun County Sheriff Steve Simpson as members of a larger "criminal enterprise" are being held without bond in Loudoun County Jail, arrested in connection with a series of crimes touching the lives of Loudoun County residents from Middleburg to Lansdowne.

At a press conference on Saturday, April 25, Sheriff Steve Simpson announced that Darwin G. Bowman of Annandale and an unnamed juvenile defendant had been charged with the March 22 murder of William Bennett and the brutal assault on his wife Cynthia, on Riverside Drive in the Potomac Station neighborhood, near Lansdowne.

Authorities also reported that Anthony R. Roberts of Middleburg and another, as yet unnamed, 18-year-old from Sterling, were persons of interest in the case.

At press both were in custody, charged with other crimes, though neither had been charged directly with involvement in the

Bennett case.

Roberts was arrested at the scene of an April 15 robbery at Loudoun Guns in Leesburg and already faces multiple charges, including burglary, destruction of property, grand larceny with intent to sell, concealing stolen firearms and obstruction of justice.

Prior to his arrest Middleburg police had also been investigating Roberts as a suspect in a series of ten burglaries in downtown Middleburg, three of them on the night before the Bennett murder.

The Loudoun County Commonwealth's Attorney's office announced plans to try the unnamed seventeen-year-old old murder suspect as an adult.

According to Sheriff Simpson, investigations will continue until all participants in the recent crime spree are apprehended.

He expressed special thanks to the Police departments of Middleburg, Leesburg and Fairfax, to the Virginia State Crime Lab, officers of the Northern Virginia Immigration and Customs Enforcement Task Force, the United States Secret Service, CIA and FBI.

Bennett had been, for many years, an employee of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Construction Complaints

Former Town Council member Helen Hyre appeared before Council on April 9 to request that Salamander Development install a buffer of trees or other large greenery to screen

Continued Page 8



DALAI LAMA'S NEPHEW WALKS 900 MILES FOR TIBET

PAGE 3



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NEWS OF NOTE

DALAI LAMA'S NEPHEW WALKS 900 MILES FOR TIBET

BELLE BRADLEY

Driving on route 50, west of Upperville, in a pouring rain, I noticed a solitary figure in a bright orange slicker walking on the side of the road. I thought, "how peculiar." It was a lonely stretch of road, far from any amenities.

As I approached, I realized the pedestrian was carrying a placard displaying the words, "Walk for Tibet." I asked if he needed a lift. He politely declined, briefly explained his mission and gave me a web address. I visited the website: WalkForTibet2009.com and learned that he was Jigme Norbu, the Dalai Lama's nephew, and he was walking 900 miles from Indiana to New York to raise awareness of Tibetans' struggle for independence from China.

Later that afternoon, June Hughes alerted Adina Proffitt, the manager of Market Salamander, that Jigme was approaching Middleburg. Adina sprung into action and after brewing a pot of their finest "tea forte," went out to Route 50 and invited Norbu in for a complimentary lunch.

The next morning I joined him and a band of Tibetan friends for a portion of the walk to Washington. It

was a brisk morning and people shared thermoses of hot tea. Several walkers carried Tibetan flags which fluttered wildly in the breeze, made all the more poignant by the knowledge that had we been in Tibet, we risked being shot on sight.

Jigme Norbu left Indianapolis on March 10 marking the 50th anniversary of the Tibetan uprising in Lhasa against Chinese rule. Averaging 22 miles a day, he completed the 900 mile walk to New York in 40 days. Although his feet were ravaged from walking such distances, he never missed a day.

He traveled lonely stretches of rural highway and congested city streets regardless of the weather, assisted by Wangchuk Dorjee, a former member of the Tibetan Parliament-in-exile in Dharamsala. Along the route, passers-by spontaneously offered him moral support as well as food, water, money and over night accommodations.

Upon arrival in NY, he led a rally at the Chinese Consulate. He dedicated the walk to the memory of his father, the Dalai Lama's brother, Thubten J. Norbu, who spent his life fighting for Tibet's independence as well as the memory of all Tibetans who have died in protest of Chinese suppression.



"When I walked, I thought of my people, how they're suffering, what they've been through," said Norbu.

Robert Barnett, director of the Modern Tibetan Studies Program at Columbia, has written,

"China is seen as suffocating Tibetan culture... Random people

would approach me in Lhasa alleyways, sometimes weeping, whispering and begging me to tell the world that the Chinese were denying them freedom..."

This is why Jigme Norbu walked 900 miles.

GALA TO BENEFIT LOCAL & GLOBAL NATURE CONSERVATION

When old friends, new friends, and leading organizations work together to

create support for environmental stewardship, exciting things happen like The Gala at Locust Hill Farm, planned for June 6th.



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The event will benefit the WILD Foundation, the Piedmont Environmental Council and EARTH University. Three organizations working tirelessly to preserve our lands and environment, around the Piedmont, around the globe.

This year's EARTH week continued to send the message that "conservation is a global issue." The WILD Foundation, dedicated since 1974 to wilderness conservation, understands very well that global nature conservation succeeds through excellent local environmental stewardship, and the committed leadership of strong local organizations and the people who support them. The PEC safeguards our landscapes, communities, and heritage around the Piedmont. EARTH University provides scholarships to students, empowering them to become environmental leaders.

Mrs. Magalen O. Bryant and Mr. and Mrs. William M. Backer are Honorary Co-Chairs for the

event. The evening will honor the memory of Eve Fout for her lifelong contributions to the land she so loved. A substantial tree will be planted at Glenwood Park in Eve's memory. Master of ceremonies for the gala will be Steve Lamb of Adara.

Thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Jacqueline Mars who wants, "...her friends to have a good time at this event remembering Eve and protecting our land and environment," black-tie attired dinner guests will dance the night away to the Sid Miller Band. The band recently played at Tina Fey's wedding and has performed with Gladys Knight, Alicia Keys, The Temptations to name just a few. They also played at the R&B Foundation awards VIP party honoring such greats as Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, Patti LaBelle and Berry Gordy.

For reservations and information, please contact Sandi Young at 540-364-6062.

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NEWS OF NOTE

BOWA BUILDERS LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE CLIENTS TO ‘GO GREEN’

BOWA Builders, a full-service residential construction firm specializing in upscale additions, renovations and custom homes, is launching a first-of-its-kind green rebate program, called the BOWA Environmental Incentive Program. This innovative program rewards clients who elect BOWA-recommended, environmentally conscious upgrades for their 2009 construction projects by rebating fees on up to \$100,000 in related costs.

“At BOWA Builders, we put our money where our mouth is when it comes to protecting the environment,” said Larry Weinberg, chief executive officer of BOWA Builders. “By eliminating some of

the costs associated with upgrades that go above and beyond our already-high building standards, the BOWA Environmental Incentive Program encourages clients to achieve their design and construction goals with lower-impact homes. It is our way of helping to move the needle.”

The BOWA Environmental Incentive Program builds on the company’s long-standing commitment to its clients, community and environment. As a well-established component of the company’s culture, BOWA’s environmental stewardship philosophy focuses on: educating homeowners and peers on the benefits of green construction, providing incentives to encourage client participation,

and continuing to green the company’s internal operations. BOWA is proud to make an impact not only in environmentally friendly building practices, but also through its alliances with local environmental groups, aggressive recycling program, hybrid company vehicles, and purchased carbon dioxide credits.

“BOWA Builders is dedicated to producing the highest quality renovations for our clients, which for more than a decade, has meant using what are now regarded as environmentally conscious materials and practices,” said Doug Horgan, vice president of best practices and one of the Washington, D.C. area’s foremost green-building special-

ists. “We’re pleased to be able to draw on this experience, and specifically our expertise in retrofitting existing homes, to help educate homeowners and industry professionals on the benefits of green building and remodeling.”

The new BOWA Environmental Incentive Program builds on the environment-related tax credits and rebates already available from local, state and federal governments to encourage lower-impact homes. For more information, visit <http://www.bowa.com/environmentalincentive>.

For more information, visit www.bowa.com or call (703) 734-9050.



PHOTO BY BOB NAROD

DR. LARRY HEATH BRINGS WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE TO GAINESVILLE

In an age of ever-increasing health care specialization, Dr. Larry Heath of Fauquier Health Internal Medicine at Lake Manassas is a renaissance man. Rather than focusing on a narrow specialty, his objective is to get a broader sense of each of his patients.

This holistic approach is a result of long experience and diverse training in internal medicine, emergency room care, urgent care and infectious diseases.

“I like to see a spread of different types of cases and people,” he explained.

How is he able to diagnose and treat such a variety of people and problems?

“That’s what makes internal medicine so exciting and challenging. You handle so many different issues. You really need a breadth of experience. As an internist, I like to deliver a high percentage of services myself, without referring out to specialists any more than necessary.

“Outpatient care is all about problem-solving,” said Dr. Heath. “If you listen, your patients will always tell you what the problem is. Even if what they say sounds confused, there are clues there.”

When asked about doctors not having enough time to listen and talk to patients, he shrugged and offered an upbeat smile, “They’re right. There isn’t enough time. But you do it anyway. Empathy is the greatest word in the English language. You use your own experience to understand where they’re coming from.”

Dr. Heath is pleased to be working in Gainesville. “People in this community are great. They listen, they engage, they want the help.”

Dr. Heath is not just a well-rounded physician, he’s a well-rounded citizen who believes that just as he has a responsibility to the whole person, he believes he has a responsibility to the whole community.

Dr. Heath earned his bach-

elor’s degree in biological sciences at Stanford University and his doctor of medicine degree at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine. Prior to his arrival in Gainesville, he was director of Emergency Services in Stockton, CA where he also ran a consultative practice in infectious diseases and taught clinical medicine. He has also served as a volunteer with Care-Medico in Kabul Afghanistan.

Dr. Heath has worked at the Fauquier Free Clinic on a regular basis since he moved to Virginia last year.

“I saw about a dozen patients just this morning. There are a lot of sick people who can’t afford health care. It’s sort of like a mini-war zone in the health care system.”

For an appointment with Dr. Heath, please telephone 703 743 7300

ELBERT ADAMS CONSTRUCTION

Delbert Adams Construction Group opened the doors at 2 West Washington Street in Middleburg several months ago. The company is thrilled to be part of the history and tradition that dates back to the Revolutionary War times. In fact, there’s plenty of history in the building where the offices reside as it was once a lively local tavern.

Delbert Adams Construction Group specializes in custom construction, additions, renovations and historic preservation projects. Delbert Adams has strong relationship and team building skills that work in tandem with his more than 20 years of building and renovating homes and offices throughout the East Coast. The company’s reputation is built upon a platform of quality, competency and integrity. Taylor Classen joined Adams at Delbert Adams Construction Group to lead and

manage the team of construction professionals. That team is comprised of seasoned project managers, site supervisors and carpenters of the highest quality. Classen brings many years of construction experience and solid management to the team. Charlie Taylor is the General Manager leading the team in the Middleburg office and is poised to serve the client base. His vast construction expertise and his familiarity with the area allow him to be most helpful to the client base.

While Delbert Adams Construction Group is a relatively new company, the team is comprised of construction professionals with years of experience in all facets of construction. The guiding force and founding principles of Delbert Adams Construction Group is best described by Albert Einstein, “Try not to become a man of success, but rather a man of value”.

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NEWS OF NOTE

“JACK THE RIPPER” BRINGS TREE EXPERTISE BACK TO MIDDLEBURG

When Jack Goehring, III, began trimming trees, he was in high school in Connecticut. He was so good at it that his family and friends began calling him “Jack the Ripper.”

Flash forward to today, and Jack is still trimming trees, much preferring to work in the natural environment than as a lawyer, for which he trained at the University of Virginia and George Washington University.

“The name just stuck,” he explained when discussing why he recently decided to focus part of his McLean headquartered arborist business called “Jack the Ripper” Tree experts, Inc., on the Middleburg area. “That name has been very good for marketing,” he said smiling. The full-service company provides a wide range of arborist services and welcomes opportunities to review and bid on projects of all sizes.

Goehring came to Middleburg in 1965, and returned to the area in 1969 after he completed his service in Vietnam with the U.S. Army. He trained at Ft. Bragg graduating from the JFK Center for Special Warfare and was assigned to a twenty-man, fully armed propaganda team that was in the field every day in the Mekong Delta.

“It was very good to get back to this beautiful area.”

“I love Middleburg,” he says. “The beauty and history here are extraordinary, and I am a very enthusiastic Civil War buff from the Yankee perspective. I can’t help wondering how individuals interacted with their neighbors in a border area if their sympathies lay with opposing sides of the conflict. It must have been awful.”

“Jack the Ripper Tree Experts” is a small company allowing Jack to be in close and consistent touch with his customers whether the job is simply removing a dead tree or stump or the revitalization of a multi-acre property. The company prides itself on long customer relationships that allow them to

maintain the trees under their care.

For many customers, Jack watches their property carefully, year in and year out. “In this way, I can let them know when things need to be done. It saves a lot of time and money to practice this kind of preventative maintenance.”

Commenting on Middleburg’s trees, in addition to his conviction that they are a major factor in the beauty of the village, Jack said he agreed with the recent removal of the elm tree in front of the Methodist church.

“It is always sad to lose a beautiful tree, but everything has a life cycle, and it was terribly dangerous to leave it standing.”

Asked what he would most like to do in Middleburg, he immediately said he would be thrilled to work with the Beautification Committee. He would also like to help the Committee improve the west entrance to Middleburg by clearing the median strip of brush and planting shrubs and wild flowers.

“That entrance to Middleburg should be as beautiful as the village,” he emphasized. “I’d love to help with that.”

Jack has been married to Mary Kirk Goehring, whom he describes as a brilliant and beautiful Mississippi Delta girl, for thirty five years. Their three boys, Jody, Kirk and Lee, have all worked in the business.

“Jody and Kirk are out of college now, and Lee will go to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Carolina Scholar this fall. All three of them working outdoors in a highly responsible and accountable job has been good for them. Whether they love it as much as I do remains to be seen,” he says chuckling.

To contact “Jack the Ripper Tree Experts” call (703) 734-6180 office, or cell (703) 727-8941. Goehring will be operating from the family property on the Middleburg battlefield at the intersection of Rt. 50 and Zulla Road.

MIDDLEBURG SWEEPS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ongoing construction near her property in Middleburg. The unsightly “mess” associated with construction of the Inn, and especially that at the site of the Town’s new wastewater treatment facility, she claimed, was both unpleasant and not conducive to the sale of real estate.

Liz Thomas supported Hyre’s complaints, noting that, in her opinion, the construction sites were “appalling” and the town’s buffering ordinance “superficial.” She asked that the town amend its ordinances, and insist that a landscape architect be consulted and large-scale planting begin “immediately.” She also contended that the construction was having “a tremendous impact on the value of our houses and the value of our lives”

Council Member Bundles Murdock, herself a realtor, pointed out that Salamander development had already agreed to a significant program of planting of mature trees and shrubs, and that the development company didn’t actually own a significant part of the property on which Hyre and Thomas requested plantings.

Town Planner Beniamino, contending that the town’s screening ordinances were far from “superficial,” noted that the Town’s Streetscape Committee included a number of well-credentialed professionals, including landscape architects, and that they

had developed a “fine plan” to protect both the aesthetic and financial value of Middleburg’s neighborhoods.

Town Administrator Jerry Schiro noted that planting while heavy construction work still going on was probably not wise, that construction work on the waste water treatment plant was moving along on schedule, and that planting would, in any case, begin as soon as the work was completed.

Salamander, Schiro noted, could be ASKED to do more, or plant early, but, in no case did the town have the right to DEMAND that they do so.

Salamander’s Prem Devadas, on hand to celebrate the Council’s recognition of tourism awards presented to two outstanding employees of Salamander Market, promised to look into the matter, and do whatever he could do to begin planting wherever he could legally do so, and as soon as it could be done with any hope of success.

Buy Local

Council unanimously adopted a resolution to support a “buy local” campaign, proposed by Genie Ford of Middleburg’s Books & Crannies. Ford will work with the town’s Economic Development Coordinator, Cindy Pearson, to develop a formal



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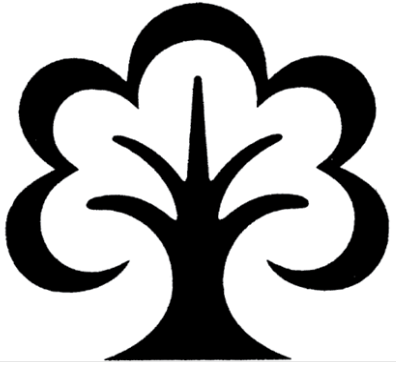
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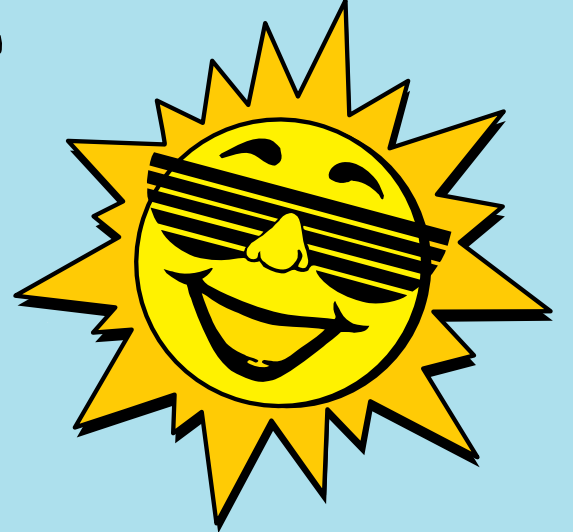
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EDITOR'S DESK

COMMUNITY WATCH

Middleburg is the quintessential small town.

There are only around 600 of us, and we count ourselves lucky to live here.

Our incomes, much to everyone's surprise, are actually lower than the average for our well-to-do county.

We tend, on average, to be a little older than most of our neighbors.

We have more than our share of poor people and fewer than our share of kids.

Happily, for most of our history we've also had less than our fair share of crime, thanks in part to an intense sense of community, and what we believe is

more than our fair share of decent honest townspeople.

Until recently many of us didn't lock our doors.

Even after our recent and happily rare string of burglaries, our police officers had to remind no less than eight of our business owners that locking up for the night actually meant ... locking up.

Recent events in Middleburg, and Lansdowne, and Leesburg, and Sterling, and even in the countryside around us, however, have reminded us that even a great small town can have its share of bad people ... and that even a few, can hurt.

Happily, over time, it's

always harder for the bad guys to prevail here. We may fight like cats and dogs, or husbands and wives, or friends and neighbors at times, but we know each other.

We take care of each other.

We're not afraid to ask for help, or help those in need.

And we're proud of it.

As long as we don't forget that, we are, and will continue to be a better, happier, and safer village ... and a great place to live ... and do business ... and raise kids ... and their grandparents.

20 YEARS OF INSPIRATION AND CREATIVITY

TOM NEEL

Twenty years ago in Leesburg, I set off on the journey of making my paintings available for sale to the public. I did not think about the economy, even in the shadow of the "Black Monday" crash of 1987 and I did not think about the next twenty years of my life. What I did think about was inspiration and creativity, because without those two things nothing else would matter. Yes, I also thought about acceptance, but even more so, I thought about doing something I love.

1989 was a good year to begin. Linda, my wife to be, owned Leesburg Gallery of Art. Many may not remember, but this was Leesburg's first art gallery, which was first located in a small house on the corner of Loudoun & Church streets and then finally on King street next to China King. In those days many or even most galleries were known for selling limited edition prints by national publishers, not original paintings of the Piedmont region of Virginia. I won't say I was alone back then in doing so, but far more so than today's world of painters seemingly coming from everywhere and painting the region. In any event, 1989 was a stellar year, but as the economy would have it, 1990 would not be.

Not only did the economy tank that year and not just for a few months, Leesburg's planned construction of its parking garage was about to begin. Many will also not remember downtown Leesburg with only a parking lot where the garage sits today and busi-

ness owners were treated to the instant evaporation of the majority of downtown parking spaces and heavy construction traffic at what certainly felt like the worst possible time, when it was really needed. Looking back, it may just have been the perfect time, as few were shopping anyway. As a note, only about 15% of all the other commercial shopping and services around Leesburg today even existed back then so downtown's importance was much more significant.

The Gulf War would follow and times were certainly tough, but recalling my thoughts of inspiration and creativity, a few years would pass and a little thing called the "dot-com" era would land smack dab at our region's door step. Supercharged with inspiration and creativity, it was new, it was fresh and money was flying like confetti in Times Square on New Year's day. It was a time of such abundance, that we all must have looked like a two year old finishing off his or her chocolate birthday cake, with sweet icing all over our faces and each little digit of our cocoa compacted hands, oozing in the currency of the rich delight. Topping it off, our brightly colored party hats, slightly tilted on our cute little noggins. If only we were mature enough to have made a wish before we blew out those two candles.

Prince told us to party like it was 1999 and we did, but the thought of the millennium scared everyone with a computer to death, that fear was not to be justified, it was the wrong fear. The global meltdown would not come from

our PCs, but rather the business of PCs now known as the dot-com bubble, "party over" and if that were not enough, 2001 would also bring us 9/11. National tragedy. Surprisingly quick, Wall Street would dust itself off in a patriotic fashion and get back to work. Patriotism maybe what is missing today. Still, work was slow. Oddly though, 43 days later Apple would introduce us to the iPod. If ever there was a lesson in inspiration and creativity at an all time low, with 150 million of them now sold, it appears this would be it. Odder still, with the world understandably not embracing air travel, I thought the possibility of national tragedy and economic bust might claim a decade of artistic hard work. Instead, would be travelers wanted to stay home and my business as an artist shut up. People found the true meaning of art and embraced it.

Whatever your opinion of the last eight years to present, for me both personally and as an artist, they were years of incredible growth and happiness. Yes, there were ups and downs, but during this time my wife Linda and I traveled, yet I truly fell in love with the beauty of where we live. I learned to not just paint the area, but to paint what truly moves me about a place I call home. I learned things about myself I have lived years to learn. I went from writing poetry to writing stories. I fell in love with the guitar in a way I had never allowed myself to, just to have fun with it and after nearly four decades of motorcycling, found new ways to enjoy them.

A few years ago I en-

tered my 50s and today I kid around by saying, when I was 20, I would see someone 50 and say they look old and now I see someone 75 and I say, boy they look good for their age! Each decade of my life though, has brought along some new dimension to add to the previous ten and my 50s have been no different, as it took my 50s to understand this. Each day is important and not to focus on despair, but to experience the journey.

Each of my ten years of life has had its own recession, world turmoil, tragedy, loss of loved ones and endless bad news which is now all the more amplified by endless amounts of exploding media, but as I write this on the tail end of a bitter winter, Linda hollers, "Hey, the daffodils are in bloom out back and the crocus are up out front" and just last night she said "I can hear the peepers!" Signs of spring - rebirth!

Soon we will be outside and away from the bombardment of doom and gloom and the economy's hangover will start to subside. Time has a way about it and if the last 20 years as both an artist and a person has taught me anything, its that you can't live by life's downs, you must live inspired and creatively by life's ups. That's not me looking through rose colored glasses either, it's just knowing that despite the gloom, there will still be babies born, 16th birthdays, weddings and wedding anniversaries, meeting new friends, hobbies, accomplishments, great personal growth and 20 more years of creativity and inspiration. Make sure you don't miss it!

OBAMA'S FIRST 100 DAYS

FROM BEYOND THE BELTWAY

KEN RIETZ

It has become a tradition to asses a new President's First 100 days in office.

With Obama there have been a number of firsts and numerous broken promises.

Obama became the first President to fire a CEO of a Fortune 500 company when he sacked the head of General Motors.

He was the first President to break U.S. protocol and BOW before another head of state, the king of Saudi Arabia.

He is also the first American President to call his own country "arrogant"

while on foreign soil.

Obama is the first President to use a teleprompter at a press conference.

He is the first President to propose TRIPLING the national debt.

During the campaign Obama promised to keep lobbyists out of his administration and set new standards for appointments. He has appointed lobbyists as well as TAX CHEATS to some of the highest positions in his government.

He promised to revue spending LINE by LINE, create transparency and use his veto pen on earmarks. The first budget bill

he signed had eight thousand earmarks. His stimulus package had no congressional hearings, no congressional debate and was not made available to the public until 20 hours before the vote in congress.

During the campaign Obama praised school voucher programs and pointed to the DC program as a model. Now, under pressure from the teacher's union, he is letting his Education Secretary kill the DC school voucher program.

He promised to cut taxes on the middle class. Yet his renewable energy plan calls for a "light switch tax" that

will cost the average family of 4 an additional \$3,000.00 per year.

Obama promised to pursue Al Qaeda and the war on terror. Now his administration has banned the use of the words "war on terror". Instead it now is "overseas contingency operations". THAT WILL SCARE THE HELL OUT OF THOSE TERRORISTS.

He promised to look forward and leave the past behind. Now he has left the door open to prosecute former Bush administration officials for authorizing interrogation techniques that prevented terrorist attacks

on the US after 9/11.

Obama said he would "put aside childish things" and become bi-partisan in his efforts. A recent national survey shows his actions to be the most polarizing of recent presidents. Yes, even more than Bush.

One promise he has kept is to tax the rich. However, his effort to reduce the deductions wealthy Americans can take on charitable contributions may just break his pledge to "spread the wealth." Charitable contributions are expected to drop by more than five billion.

Ken Rietz; lives in Delaplane VA.

HYPOCRISY

TOM PRATT

Matthew Alexander (a pseudonym, as he fears for his family after writing this book) has written a book titled "How to Break a Terrorist". He is a former interrogator with the intelligence service in Iraq and Afghanistan. In the book he recounts how gaining the trust of the suspect results in far more reliable information than by torture, a fact apparently lost on Cheney, Rumsfeld, Rice and Bush, to name just a few in the last administration.

It takes far more time and intelligence to conduct interrogations using trust rather than torture.

Imagine relying on information gained by waterboarding the same person anywhere from 83 to 183 times, would you not think that by, say the fiftieth or sixtieth time, you would have the person saying anything. Perhaps that was the intention, forget the truth just tell me something I can use to connect Saddam Hussein

to Al Qaeda so I can invade Iraq.

I am so pleased that President Obama has decided to leave the decision on whether or not to prosecute those involved in the illegal torturing of inmates should be up to the Justice Department and not the Executive.

These revelations unearthed by the recently released CIA memos show how politicized the Justice Department was under Bush and Cheney. And now for Cheney and his (dwindling) supporters to accuse President Obama and democrats who favor investigating the authors of the torture tactics, as conducting a political witch hunt is extremely hypocritical.

It is also criminal to have a few low level members of the military who carried out some of the acts of torture incarcerated when those who orchestrated it to not even be investigated.

There are so many recorded declarations from Bush, Cheney, Rice and Rumsfeld decrying the Abu

Ghrab and Guantanamo torture scandals as aberrant behavior by a few "bad apples" and categorically denying that the United States tortures that prosecution should be a cinch. It is amazing to think that that bunch thought they could get away with so much lying, did they really think we were that stupid? These acts of torture also have been a powerful recruiting tool for Al Qaeda and other groups. How easy to rile up already volatile young people by showing them that America is no better than the repressive regimes America points it's finger at. For us now to admit to it and prosecute those responsible from the top down will go a long way in restoring our credibility and our honor in the world.

As a closing thought that may sound a bit egotistical. (will have to take that chance). It is refreshing and wonderful to realize that I am no longer smarter than the president of the United States.

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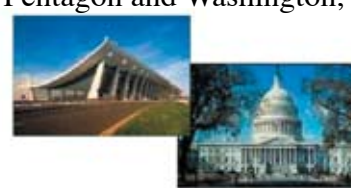
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PASTIMES

GOOD-FOR-YOU GRAINS

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF

ALYSON BROWETT

In my practice as a personal trainer and nutritional counselor, I've found myself more and more being asked to educate kids - and their parents - about eating well. It seems that many of us, in our daily rat race routines, have distanced ourselves so much from "real food" (you know, the stuff that doesn't come in boxes or bags or wrapped in plastic) that we've forgotten what it is, what it looks like, what it tastes like, and, particularly, how to cook it.

With the emergence of spring showers and sun, blooming flowers and trees, it is time that we make an effort to turn over a new leaf in our lives this season and begin getting back to nature and what we are meant to consume. Over the next five months, I will bring you information and recipes from the major food groups: grains, vegetables, fruits, dairy, and meat and beans. First up: grains.

The federal government's MyPyramid.gov, which is a wonderful resource on dietary needs, breaks grains into two different categories: whole grains and refined grains. The majority of your grain servings should come from whole grains - unprocessed, whole kernel forms of grain that contain more dietary fiber and natural vitamins and minerals than refined grains. Refined grains have been milled, a process that removes much of the fiber, vitamins and minerals (in other words, the good stuff). Some of these processed grains have been "enriched," meaning that some of the vitamins and minerals have been added back in, but nothing is as good as the real thing.

If you must eat white bread, white rice and products containing white flour, be sure that the label says "unbleached" and "enriched." In other products traditionally made with white flour, such as pretzels, crackers, pita and pasta, look for ingredients such as "whole grain" or "whole wheat." And, as always, stay

away from products containing high fructose corn syrup and partially hydrogenated oils. These ingredients are true signs of processed foods that our bodies were not designed to ingest or digest.

I try to obtain most of my grains from organic whole grain cereals during breakfast, whole grain bread for lunch, and cooked whole grains during dinner. I've included some of my favorite, not-so-run-of-the-mill grains in the recipes below. Seek them out in the organic section at the local grocery or at a local natural foods store. You'll be glad you did, I promise!

Asian Wheatberry Salad

Wheatberries are whole wheat kernels, minus the hull; an excellent addition to salads, soups, and breads; and an amazing source of dietary fiber. When cooked, they have a slightly nutty flavor and a little bit of a crunchy/chewy texture. They are not typically used in Asian cooking, but they work well in this salad, to which you could add grilled chicken, salmon or stir-fried shrimp, mussels or other fish. The dressing is delicious on regular salads or as a marinade for meats.

- 1 cup rinsed wheatberries
- 3 1/2 cups water, chicken, fish or vegetable stock
- 1 tablespoon miso paste (if using water)
- 1 1/2 cups shelled edamame (found in frozen vegetable section)
- 1/2 cup julienned red pepper
- 1 carrot, julienned
- 1 medium head Napa cabbage, shredded
- 1/2 cup chopped cilantro
- 1 bunch green onions, chopped
- 1 cup Asian ginger dressing (recipe follows)

Bring the wheatberries, water or stock and miso paste (if using) to a boil in

a medium saucepan. Reduce heat to low and cover, cooking for about an hour or until all of the water is absorbed. Thaw the edamame under warm water or bring to a brief simmer in a saucepan with a little water. Drain. Allow wheatberries and edamame to cool. Mix in all the vegetables and the dressing. Allow to marinate for approximately 15 minutes. Serves 4-6.

Asian Ginger Dressing

- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger
- 1/2 cup olive or vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup sesame oil
- 1/4 cup rice vinegar (I use brown rice vinegar)
- 1/4 cup lite soy sauce or tamari
- 3 tablespoons honey

Mix all ingredients in a blender and blend, or whisk together. Blending will provide a "creamier" texture.

Vegetable Tahini Couscous

This recipe marries some of my favorite flavors, using pan-seared or grilled veggies; tahini, or sesame seed, paste; and couscous, which is a very small type of semolina wheat pasta. Here in the United States, we are accustomed to the quick-cooking type of couscous, as opposed to the type found in North Africa, which takes longer to cook and is usually steamed in a pot called a couscoussière.

- 1 cup couscous, preferably whole wheat
- 1 1/2 cups water or stock
- 1 small zucchini, sliced in half lengthwise and into half moons
- 1 small yellow squash, sliced in half lengthwise and into half moons
- 1/2 medium red onion, cut into eighths
- 1 cup green beans, trimmed and cut

- in half
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 small shallot, diced small
- 3 tablespoons tahini paste
- 3 tablespoons water
- Juice of half a lemon

Combine the couscous and water in a saucepan and bring to a boil over high heat. Place the lid on the pan and remove from the heat. Allow to steam until all the water is absorbed. Meanwhile, heat half of the oil in a sauté pan over high heat. Sauté half of the zucchini and squash, browning each side. Use the other half of the oil, if necessary, and sauté the other half of the squashes. In the last batch, sauté the green beans and onion. Whisk together the tahini, water and lemon, and add the garlic and shallot. In a large bowl, fluff the couscous, add the sautéed vegetables, and pour the tahini dressing over. Stir to combine. Serve warm, at room temperature or cold. Serves 4-6.

Quinoa "Oatmeal"

This is one of my favorite breakfasts, usually using leftover quinoa (pronounced kin-wa), couscous, brown rice, or any other cereal you may have on hand. The flavors are great for a cool morning, or even as an unconventional dessert, sort of like a bread pudding. I've included the basic recipe for quinoa, which is actually a seed, not a grain, and has a nutty flavor. Search out different varieties, such as gold, pink, red or black. Quinoa is prized for its nutritional value, having high iron and protein contents, as well as dietary fiber, phosphorus and magnesium. Don't feel compelled to follow this recipe exactly - get creative with your additions!

- 1 cup quinoa, rinsed and drained
- 2 cups water
- 1/2 cup dried fruits, such as raisins, dates, apricots, cranberries, candied



- ginger, etc., cut into small pieces
- 1/2 cup toasted nuts, such as slivered almonds, pecans, walnuts, pine nuts, etc.
- 1/2 cup heavy cream, half and half, milk or non-dairy equivalent
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg

Place quinoa and water in a saucepan and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce the heat, cover and simmer until all of the liquid is absorbed, about 15 minutes. Remove the lid and fluff the quinoa with a spoon or fork. Stir in the dried fruit, nuts, dairy, and spices. Stir until slightly thickened (the starches from the quinoa, the dairy and the sugars from the fruit will help accomplish this). Serve immediately. Serves 4.

Just a reminder:

All of our local farmers' markets will be open in the next couple of weeks, and it's our responsibility as community members to frequent those markets, visit our local farms and eat food from this region, one of the most bountiful in the country. Check out LocalHarvest.com to find a farm near you, and take a field trip. Pick some strawberries, take off your shoes and dig your toes through the soil, pet a dairy cow or taste some wine. Reconnect to the wonder that is our earth and rediscover what it means to eat "real food." Above all, enjoy!

Alyson Browett, MPH, CPT
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THE FALL OF FIELD TRIALS

THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE

In 2002 I wrote an article about the field trials of annuals. These field trials were conducted by seed companies, arboretums, and horticultural schools. The power of these field trials came from the results. Winners and losers were chosen based on weather conditions. Few trial locations received additional irrigations, so if it was a hot and droughty year, all the better. These trials were conducted all over the country with the closest tests conducted in Georgia and South Carolina. Yearly results were posted on the internet and anyone could log on and see how a particular plant had done in a specific year or years. It was a boon for folks like myself, trying to figure out what annuals I should sell at my nursery, given the enormous amount of choices.

Things have changed in 2009. Field trials are far and few between, apparently other options were formulated for that expansive real estate. Park Seed in Greenville, South Carolina still conducts

theirs. On June 27th the public is invited to "Flower Day" where tours are given of the nine acre trial gardens. This is not the field trials of old. Nine acres are transformed into a lush landscape of color, watered and pampered, more a show of annuals at their best than a test of grit and fortitude. Comparisons are still made by Park Seed, which also owns Wayside Gardens, but these are for in-house use only.

In visiting former locations where field trials were held, one finds gardens in their place. I suppose that we are more interested in seeing plants mixed up and together. If indeed you are interested in how plants look, why not put them all together? So woody shrubs exist with perennials and pockets of annuals are thrown in here and there. Tags are placed, giving common and botanical names so that the curious can jot down what they like. County parks, arboretums and public gardens subscribe to this way of thinking. The true search for tough plants now comes from seasonal observation and sharing knowledge. And this brings me to my point, the modern day blog.



Since blogging began in 1999, it has undergone huge transformations. Now it's easy for anyone to begin a blog, either on their own website or through a secondary web page. I personally have a few bookmarked or emailed directly to my inbox. Who doesn't?! There are a great many gardening blogs. GardenWeb offers distinct garden style forums (as they call them), as well as state by state blogs. The chatter is constant. People find each other based on interests and hard to find items are found. My favorite is called "Garden Rant" and Allan Armitage is a contributing blogger and former field trial founder of the University of Georgia's trials (still ongoing). He initiates discussions which yield a wealth of information. Everything from how to pronounce clematis to your five favorite annuals or perennials. As blogs go "Garden Rant" is a remarkable place and better yet, you don't have to sign in and become a member. Anyone can join in or simply lurk. Is this the new way to learn? Absolutely!



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University of Florida Study Shows Brazilian Berry Destroys Cancer Cells in Lab Animals. A Brazilian berry popular in health food contains antioxidants that destroyed cultured human cancer cells in a recent University of Florida study, one of the first to investigate the fruit's purported benefits.

Published in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, the study showed extracts from açai berries triggered a self-destruct response in up to 86% of leukemia cells tested, said Stephen Talcott, an assistant professor with UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Services.

Reports from National Departments of Health 98% of Americans are malnourished, simply because fruit is not part of their every day diet.

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Vogue Magazine positions Açai as "the next big workout cocktail."

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PASTIMES

C-A-P-S, CAPS, CAPS, CAPS!!

7TH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

Washington, D.C., has always considered itself a football town, a town where the Redskins were king and all the other teams were, well, *the other teams*.

The injury-ravaged and defense-averse Wizards and the grow-a-ballclub-with-magic-beans Nationals have pretty much allowed that Burgundy and Gold superiority the opportunity to sit, complacent, on its laurels, getting fatter and more self-satisfied by the day.

The other team in town, though, *the other team* in town is very much doing something to shift the dominant sports paradigm in the

most powerful city in the world....

Oh.. Who?

The Caps!
You didn't think I was talking about D.C. United, did you? Silly foot-sport...

(Just because the rest of the world has grasped the concept of universal healthcare, don't expect "socialized medicine" to do much more than run its head into the wall over and over and over and over again here in the colonies. Same with soccer. Remember David Beckham? Yeah, didn't think so....)

Where were we? Oh, right. The Caps.

Regardless of whether the Caps have vanquished the Rangers by the time this makes it into your

hot little hands, they have proven to be something no other major sports team in the local market has over the last 24 months: entertaining.

They generate buzz, they generate interest, they generate enthusiasm. From their Alfred E. Neuman-looking, madly over-talented captain, to their Lamborghini-driving Norris Trophy finalist defenseman, to their out of nowhere rookie goalie, the one suddenly making Rangers' counterpart Henrik Lundqvist look like Swiss cheese, they make people smile, they make people cheer, they make people dance.

The Burgundy and Blegh make people sneer.

The Caps have become something of a national story this

year, in as much as a hockey team can be a national story south of Hockey Night in Canada. Washington, D.C., currently has arguably *the best* player in his sport right here in town. And he likes being here!

Mayor Fenty gave him the key to the city last year after he was named league MVP. The first thing No. 8 did? Rescind the city's speed limits. How can you not love this guy?!

The Caps, quietly, confidently and calmly built a team out of the ashes of Ted Leonsis' millions, learning from their ill-fated dalliances in Ming-vase-level free agency, avoiding the temptation to blindly throw money around, fighting the urge to change course

every off-season, sidestepping the pitfall of alienating stars and role-players alike.... Oh, yeah, and their tickets are affordable and the building in which they perform is actually accessible!!

Any of this sounding familiar?

Or more like some fairytale dreamland, someplace through the looking glass where up is down and down is up?

Happy players? Consistent goals? A plan that lasts longer than a call to Miss Cleo?

You're right, it's Bizarro World.

Maybe the Caps should do things the Redskins Way, instead. You know, choosing a plan and sticking to it for, I don't know, seven seconds.

Try to chart the growth and success of this Snyder and Cerrato led train-wreck and it looks more and more like a clown-car driven by drunk, angry, shiv-wielding midgets.

In the last two months, the Redskins have puckered up for two hot-stud young quarterbacks, neither of whom has any kind of track record of, you know, *winning* in the NFL, and basically told the one guy whose grinning and bearing it has become almost Sisyphean in its tragedy to just suck it up and deal. And even worse, Jason Campbell *has* sucked it up and dealt! He's been the most mature person in the room, the one least wracked with adult-onset-ADD (Oooo, kitty!!!), the only one who has shown he knows what it's like to interact with other human beings with grace and integrity.

I guess Jim Zorn can't be blindly dumped into the cesspool of disingenuous deceit displayed by Msrs. Snyder and Cerrato. He hasn't been around long enough to have caught the worst of the cooties that each of these guys seems to have. But he ought to be careful.

Here's hoping Jason Campbell spends the next ten months (that's right, *ten* months, like through the Super Bowl) making the braintrust at Redskins Park increasingly uncomfortable and nervous. Let's all hope that Jason rewrites the Redskins' record-books, completely obliterating any hold any past Redskins' great might have on any one of them. Let us all hope that he does all this and more with his head held high, his shoulders square and his ego continually in check. Let us hope he continues to show how an athlete can indeed be a role model on *and* off the field, not just for how fast he can run and how far he can throw but for how he treats those around him, how he carries himself with decorum and dignity.

And let us all hope, very, very hard, that when the Dynamic Doltz, the Brothers Bumble, Danny and Vinny, come to their senses and ask *Please, please, Jason, oh please, what do you want, what can we do, what riches can we shower you with, what baubles can we dangle before you to make you stay?* that Jason will once, just this one time, reach deep into the toxic waste dump of his id and tell those two bozos to shove it, to kiss off, to take a hike, to not let the door hit 'em on their way out.

And on his way out of town, Lombardi trophy under one arm for good measure, maybe, just maybe, he can swing by the Verizon Center and take in a Caps game.

For old time's sake.

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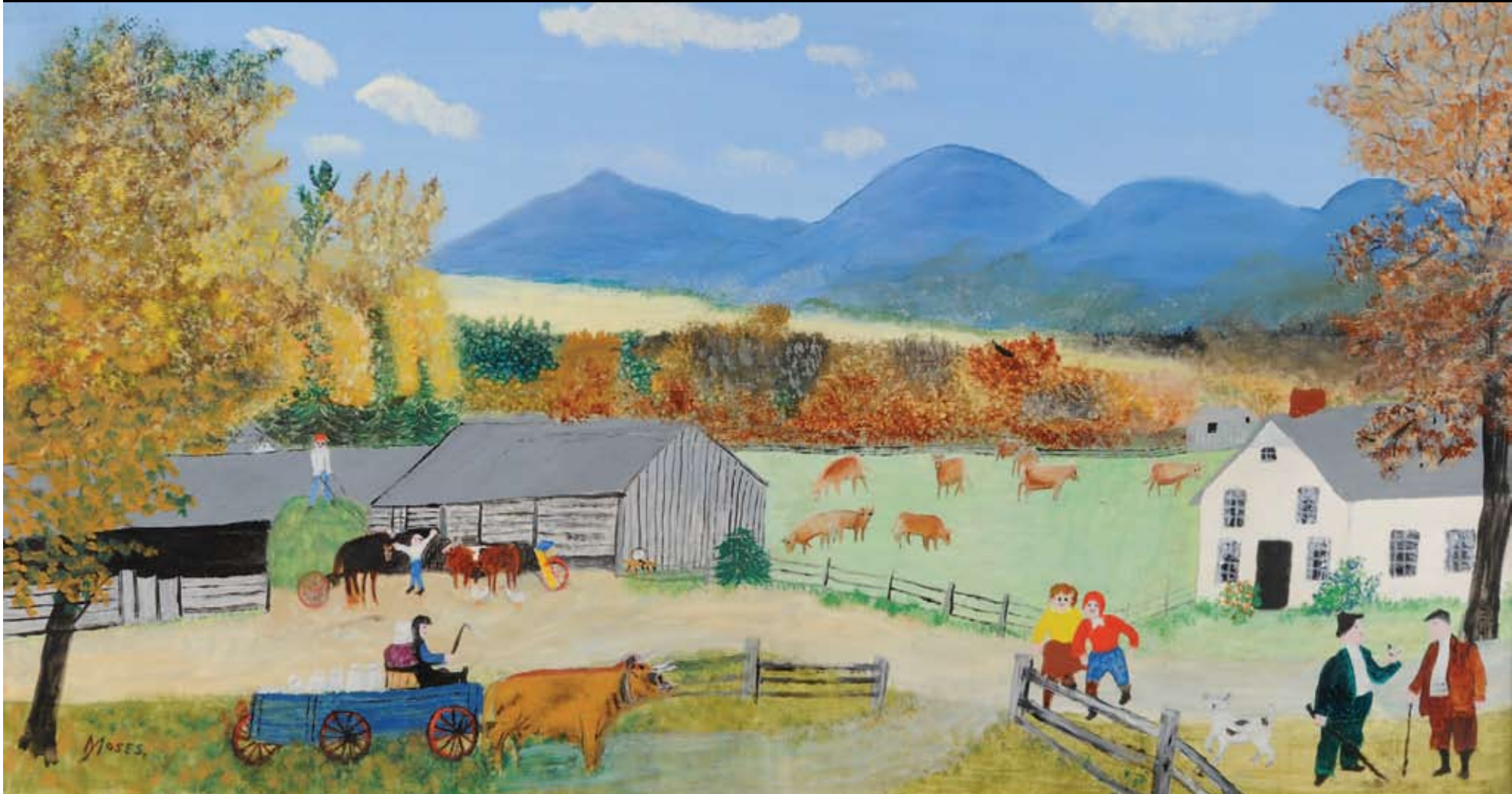
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Answer: It cost more to install, but significantly less to operate a geothermal heat pump. Generally, a geothermal heat pump system will initially cost 200% more than a conventional heat pump system, but these heat pumps are 25-50% more efficient than conventional heating and cooling systems. Don't forget geothermal heat pumps now qualify for an uncapped, 30% Federal Tax Credit which helps offset the added initial outlay.

About the Author: Dale Schulz is the President of Schulz Homes, www.schulzhomes.com, and he has been building custom homes in our area since 1987. He also is the president and founder of Virginia Renewable Energy which retrofits existing homes with renewable energy systems, such as solar electric panels and wind turbines. You can contact him as well as send your questions for future columns to dale@schulzhomes.com. Schulz Homes phone # is 540.687.3367.



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THINGS TO DO

TOM NEEL ART SHOW AT NEW GALLERY



ON THE EVENING OF SATURDAY MAY 2ND, TOM NEEL, CONSIDERED ONE OF THE PIEDMONT'S PREMIERE LANDSCAPE ARTISTS, WILL CELEBRATE HIS ONE MAN SHOW "TWILIGHT ART NIGHT". JUST AS EXCITING, IS THE EVENT'S LOCATION. TOM AND HIS WIFE LINDA NEEL, ARE OPENING A NEW GALLERY AND BUSINESS CALLED "LIVE AN ARTFUL LIFE" AT 6474 MAIN STREET, THE PLAINS, VA., RIGHT NEXT TO THE RAIL STOP RESTAURANT.

WHILE SHOWCASING TOM'S WORK, WHICH HAS BEEN COLLECTED THROUGHOUT THE U.S. AND ABROAD, LINDA, AN AWARD WINNING, WEARABLE TEXTILE ARTIST AND DESIGNER, WILL BE FEATURED AS WELL. THE GALLERY WILL ALSO SPECIALIZE IN WORKS BY AMERICAN FINE CRAFT AND JEWELRY ARTISANS, UNIQUE GIFTS AND THE ARTFUL LIFESTYLE.

LIVE AN ARTFUL LIFE IS IN MANY WAYS A CONTINUATION OF THE NEEL'S BACKGROUND. MANY MAY REMEMBER LINDA "SCHENK AT THE TIME", FOUNDED LEESBURG'S FIRST ART GALLERY IN THE EARLY 80S, LEESBURG GALLERY OF ART, AND BOTH DIRECTED GWS GALLERIES FOR THE FINE ART PUBLISHER, THE GREENWICH WORKSHOP. BOTH ALSO SERVED ON THE PUBLISHING MANAGEMENT TEAM AND TRAVELED THROUGHOUT THE NATIONAL ART SCENE REPRESENTING THE COMPANY AND ITS BASE OF TOP RENOWNED ARTISTS.

LIVE AN ARTFUL LIFE WILL OPEN "ABOUT" A WEEK BEFORE MR. NEEL'S SHOW. "TWILIGHT ART NIGHT" ARTIST RECEPTION IS SATURDAY, MAY 2ND FROM 4 TO 8PM AND SUNDAY, MAY 3RD FROM NOON TO 5PM. FOR MORE DETAILS CALL THE NEEL'S STUDIO AT 540-364-4401 OR ONLINE AT WWW.THOMASNEEL.COM

CELTIC SPRING

... A CELEBRATION OF CELTIC CHRISTIANITY

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS HOSTING A CELEBRATION ON MAY 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD THAT WILL FOCUS ON THE CELTIC SPIRITUAL TRADITION THAT IS DISTINCT FROM THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION EXISTING THROUGHOUT MOST OF WORLD. THE EVENT WILL BE LEAD BY BISHOP MARTIN TOWNSEND AND HIS WIFE BARBARA.

THE TOWNSENDS HAVE LED RETREATS AND GUIDED PILGRIMS THROUGH IRELAND AND SCOTLAND, VISITING CHRISTIAN AND PRE-CHRISTIAN HOLY SITES. MANY PEOPLE HAVE FOUND THAT IN THE NEWLY REVIVED SPIRITUALITY OF THE CELTIC CHURCHES THERE ARE RESOURCES FOR THE DEEPENING OF PERSONAL FAITH.

USING STORIES, POETRY, LECTURE, LITURGY, PRAYER AND SONG, BARBARA AND MARTIN FOCUS ON GOD'S IMMANENCE. MARTIN SPEAKS OF THE "THIN PLACES" WHERE THE MEMBRANE BETWEEN THE REALM OF GOD AND THE WORLD OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE IS PERMEABLE, WHERE GOD CAN MOVE TO US AND WE TO GOD WITH EASE.

MUSIC, STORIES AND THE CELTIC WAY OF TELLING TRUTH ARE THE MAJOR THEMES OF BARBARA TOWNSEND'S PRESENTATIONS. AN AUTHOR AND SPINNER OF TALES, A RETREAT LEADER AND VETERAN PILGRIM TO CELTIC LANDS, SHE GUIDES WORKSHOPS AND PRAYER WALKS THAT INVITE AWARENESS OF GOD'S IMMANENCE. HER EXPERIENCE AS A SHEEP BREEDER, SPINNER, AND WEAVER HAS DEEPEENED HER FAITH, LEADING HER TO DISCERN GOD IN CREATIVE ENDEAVORS AND IN ALL THINGS OF THE EARTH. HER PIED PIPER SPIRIT ENGAGES PEOPLE IN REFLECTION AND CELEBRATION.

AT THE END OF A RECENT WEEKEND RETREAT, ONE PARTICIPANT REPORTED, "I FEEL AS IF I HAVE BEEN GIVEN A NEW LANGUAGE WITH WHICH TO SPEAK OF MY FAITH IN GOD AND MY LOVE OF CREATION." ECUMENICAL GROUPS HAVE DISCOVERED THAT THE CELTIC SPIRIT PROVIDES A RICH COMMON GROUND FOR WORSHIP AND EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION. THE EMMANUEL CELEBRATION WILL CONCLUDE ON SUNDAY, MAY 3RD, WHEN BISHOP TOWNSEND WILL BE THE PREACHER AT BOTH SERVICES. DURING THE FORUM HOUR, BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M., HE WILL GIVE A SLIDE PRESENTATION OF THE HIGH CROSSES OF IRELAND. PLEASE CALL THE EMMANUEL CHURCH OFFICE AT 540-687-6297 TO REGISTER OR TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

TO ENTER YOUR EVENTS ON THE MIDDLEBURG CALENDAR OF EVENTS GO TO

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CLICK ON "SUBMIT EVENT"

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GLENWOOD PARK, MIDDLEBURG, VA - 4/18/2009

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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.



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 conservation easement. Two divisions possible. \$1,900,000. Also available with house and 90 acres \$1,650,000.



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. \$1,195,000.



Melrose Farm Lane
Middleburg, Virginia

Huge Price Reduction - 10+ acres and an 1800's converted bank barn just minutes from Middleburg. The original stone foundation and exposed rough hewn beams remain while the upper level still shows the antique post and beam construction. There is a stone spring-house, 2 small spring-fed ponds and an established orchard. There are also fine mature hardwoods toward Goose Creek. Great location. \$635,000.



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. \$1,800,000.



The Moffett House
The Plains, Virginia

Circa 1900 stucco Cape Cod sits on 3 beautiful protected acres with mountain view. Over 3,500 square feet of charming living space. All upgraded in 2002. Move in condition. 2 minutes to Route 66 and 10 minutes to Haymarket. Landscaping is in full bloom. This property is a must see. \$950,000.



Soliel Cottage
Halfway, Virginia

Rare opportunity to find a well priced home in desirable Halfway, between Middleburg and The Plains. This 3 bedroom brick home would make a perfect hunt box. 1 acre fenced yard is great for dogs and holds extensive cutting gardens. Lower level has a full bath, kitchen and separate entrance. Great Buy! \$415,000.



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PARENTS & PROGENY

FOXCROFT, NOTRE DAME TAKE TOPPRIZES AT FERRELL MCCLEAN MATH/SCIENCE COMPETITION



ABOUT 60 FOXCROFT GIRLS PARTICIPATED IN THE MATH/SCIENCE COMPETITION.

If the Ferrell McClean Math/Science Competition, held April 4 at Foxcroft School, was supposed to give girls a chance to experience the challenge and satisfaction of an academic competition, the day was an absolute success.

If it was meant to fuel friendly competition among three local independent schools – Foxcroft, Highland School and Notre Dame Academy – it was an absolute success.

If it was to show any remaining doubters out there who still think girls “don’t get math and science,” it was an absolute success.

Mostly, though it was just fun. Anyone wandering the halls of Foxcroft’s Schoolhouse Saturday when more than 100 girls competed in a variety of fun and offbeat math, science and engineering challenges on could see that.

“This was the first all-girls academic competition I’ve competed in and it was the best,” said Veronica Occhiogrosso of Notre Dame Academy. “It was lots of fun and the challenges were interesting but it was more laid back.”

“It wasn’t nerdy,” added team-

mate Tess Ferguson.

The competition, which was a Foxcroft –only event in its debut last year, went interscholastic and nearly doubled participation with 22 teams, made up of girls ranging from grades 8 through 12. Competing in teams of three to five girls each, they took on six different challenges. Groups were given 30 minutes for each of the activities, which ranged from “Murder She Wrote,” where the girls solved murder situations by logical deduction, and “A Bridge Too Far,” which involved building the strongest 40 cm bridge possible with popsicle sticks and rubber bands, to “Separation Anxiety,” a simple Chemistry exercise and “Quick Sand,” which took serious logic, math and scientific knowledge.

After all the teams had completed every challenge and everyone had dinner, the top three teams faced off in a “Final Jeopardy” round in FoxHound Auditorium. Those teams were Notre Dame’s Team Cranium, composed of Lizz Snow, Iris Son, Kelsey Shevock and Emily Young, and Foxcroft teams Vertex (Ellie Hellman, Amy Ho, Jialin Li and Erica Zhou) and

Alpha (Julia Christakos, Lauren Finkbner, Aalex Hendrickson, Olivia Means and Caroline Tur-nage). They were all quick on their feet -- and with the buzzers answering questions in such categories as Chemistry, Geometry and Astronomy . some were easy and some required a flawless computation along with knowledge of key equations.

Cranium won Jeopardy, thereby taking the overall team title. But Foxcroft took the school championship -- and the biggest trophy -- based on point total by tree teams from each school. Foxcroft finished with 66 points to Notre Dame’s 48 and Highland’s 31.

Cranium also won two of the six individual event titles, as did the Foxcroft Isotope Team of Lida Xu, Charlotte Zhang and Isabel Zheng. Highland’s Integral Team and foxcroft’s Beta Team each won one event. Two terrific gift baskets went to Effie Kilmer of Foxcroft and Notre Dame’s Son for a combination of brains and luck. They solved problems offered during the breaks in the team competition, earning a chance to be in the raffle for the baskets -- and were

drawn.

After all the festivities were over, students and faculty moved to Currier Library, where

Sandra Song, associate director of Georgia Tech’s Women in Engineering Program, spoke about opportunities for women in engineering and the program at Tech, which graduates more female engineers than any other

university in the nation.

Math Department Chair Susan Erba and all of Foxcroft’s Math and Science teachers worked hard to organize the day. Their colleagues from Highland and Notre Dame were impressed -- and have already signed up to bring teams next year!



NOTRE DAME’S CRANIUM TEAM WON THE INDIVIDUAL TEAM TITLE AND TWO EVENTS.



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MACMAHON COMMITS TO WASHINGTON COLLEGE



Loudoun Valley’s point guard, Drew MacMahon, has committed to play basketball next year at Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland.

MacMahon, a 6-foot senior, was selected All-Cedar Run District was Loudoun Valley’s team captain and MVP, won the Triple A All Academic Award and led the Northwest Region in assists.

Here is what Valley Coach Chad Dawson Had to say about MacMahon’s commitment:

“Although he was selected to the All-Cedar Run District Team, we as coaches felt like Drew was our Team Viking MVP because he was so adept at getting others involved with our offense. He led us in an extremely competitive Cedar Run district the past two seasons. Drew has the ability to control the cage with his passing

(averaging over 6 assist a game) and he plays sound fundamental defense. When we were really successful, Drew was delivering great assists – during our 12 wins in 14 or 15 games in the middle of the season he was averaging over 9 assists per game. Often he would guard the other team’s best offensive player. I expect that Drew would be able to help Washington College immediately with his basketball attributes and he performs well in the classroom. I look forward to following him there. He will certainly be missed as the point guard position is generally the hardest position to play. We wish him the best.”

Washington College plays in the Centennial Conference which includes some of the best D-III schools the Country, such as Gettysburg, Franklin and Marshall, Ursinus, and Dickinson.



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PETILLANT AU PRINTEMPS
MAY 13, 2009

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UPCOMING CULINARY EVENTS
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June 10, 2009



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- finalists will be invited back to interview

Contact: Mrs. C. Struder 540.687.5581 ext. 3008 . cstruder@notredameva.org

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PARENTS & PROGENY

FOXCROFT SCHOOL RAISES NEARLY \$10,000



A little drizzle here and there didn't dampen spirits one iota Friday, April 3, when virtually the entire Foxcroft community participated in the School's annual Junior Class Walk-A-Thon. Through April 7, nearly \$10,000 had been raised for this year's beneficiary, the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

The group, about 180 strong counting students, faculty, parents and friends, walked, ran or biked the five-mile trek while the sun played peek-a-boo and a scattering of raindrops fell intermittently. Students picked up litter along Foxcroft Road as they went, as they do several times a year as responsible participants in the Virginia DOT's Adopt-A-Highway program.

An important element of Foxcroft's community service

program, the Walk-a-thon is organized each year by the Junior Class, which chooses a beneficiary, solicits sponsors and conducts the walk, with help from faculty advisors. In recent years, the event has raised thousands of dollars to build a school in Malawi, support a pediatric AIDS unit in Ghana and benefit the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation.

This year's Junior Class chose the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation as its charity because one classmate's father and a Foxcroft housemother's husband both have been diagnosed with the debilitating disease. MS affects the muscles and brain function, causing everyday tasks such as walking, breathing and eating to become monumental tasks. The Multiple Sclerosis Foundation is concerned with

the physical, emotional and social impact on people diagnosed with MS and their families and provides programs, information and assistance to these people.

"To whom much is given, much is expected in return." These words define the Foxcroft outlook on community service. On Friday, Foxcroft girls more than lived up to their responsibility, both to their local community and to those who suffer from MS. The Junior Class invites you to help by making a donation before May 1. Checks, made out to the Foxcroft School Walk-A-Thon, should be sent to:

Junior Class Walk-A-Thon 2009
Foxcroft School
P.O. Box 5555
Middleburg, VA 20118

CAMRYNN GENDA OF BERRYVILLE, VIRGINIA WINS \$10,000 AXA ACHIEVEMENT COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

AXA Advisors, LLC, a leading provider of financial services for consumers and businesses, has announced that Camrynn Genda, a high school senior attending Clarke County High School in Berryville, is the Virginia winner of the 2009 AXA Achievement Scholarship in association with U.S. News & World Report. Under the AXA Achievement Scholarship program, Genda is one of 52 students – one from each state, plus Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico – that have been awarded scholarships of \$10,000. The announcement was made by Mark Swartz CFPO, ChFC, CLU, Executive Vice President of AXA Advisors' Northern division.

All scholarship recipients known as AXA Achievers will be highlighted on the U.S. News & World Report website, www.usnews.com, through May 28, 2009, and

featured in the magazine's May 2009 Career/Education Guide issue. The scholarship program is administered by Scholarship Management Services, a program of Scholarship America, one of the nation's largest nonprofit private sector and educational support organizations. All of the scholarship recipients are graduating high school seniors who demonstrated ambition and drive, determination to set and reach goals and the ability to succeed in college.

Genda founded a volunteer organization called Music on Wheels to provide the gift of song and music to the elderly. She recruited singers and musicians from grades K-12 and coordinated visits to various nursing homes in her community. She is a member of the Clarke County HS swim team, 4H Naturalist Club and the Young Ambassadors Music Team.

LUNGE LINE

EQUINE SPORTS MEDICINE SEMINAR ATTRACTS VETERINARIANS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Virginia's Premier Equine Sports Medicine Clinic Gathered Top International Veterinary Talent to Teach Advances in Sport Horse Medicine. Sport horse veterinarian, Dr. Kent Allen of Virginia Equine Imaging (VEI) was host to the International Society of Equine Locomotor Pathology (ISELP) this weekend. ISELP's goal is to provide contemporary knowledge and techniques in the continually evolving field of equine locomotor analysis which will better prepare the equine clinician to understand and manage lameness conditions in the equine athlete. Over 100 Equine Veterinarians from 8 countries around the world gladly accepted Dr. Allen's invitation to learn about the innovative new practices presented in this 3-day workshop. The primary presenter, Dr. Jean-Marie Denoix from the CIRALE Center in France, is renowned for his expertise in equine anatomy and imaging techniques. Presentations made by Dr. Denoix are completed by practical sessions on live horses allowing attendees to assimilate technical data directly useful in their every day practice. Such a session was organized at Virginia Equine Imaging this past weekend. "Many thanks to Dr. Kent Allen for the perfect organization of this module and, in general, for the administrative leadership of ISELP."

For more information about Dr. Kent Allen or Virginia Equine Imaging, visit www.vaequine.com.

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PRISCILLA BLACKBURN EARNS VETERINARY HOSPITAL MANAGERS ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATION

Priscilla Blackburn, who is the assistant administrator for patient care at Virginia Tech's Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center, recently earned the designation of Certified Veterinary Practice Manager (CVPM) by successfully passing the certification exam offered by the Veterinary Hospital Managers Association (VHMA) last February. This designation is VHMA's highest professional distinction.

VHMA's certification program measures the knowledge and experience necessary to successfully manage the ever-changing business environment of today's veterinary practices. Those who earn the certification are required to maintain a commitment to further improve their professional knowledge and skills through continuing education.

"Ms. Blackburn is to be commended for this accomplishment," said Dr. Nathaniel A. White II, Jean Ellen Shehan

Professor of Veterinary Medicine, and equine medical center director. "Since joining us, she has been a tremendous asset to the center. This achievement is not only something she can be very proud of, but it offers added value and benefit to the [equine medical center], its patients and its clients," he added.

VHMA, created in 1981, is an international professional association, structured to support individuals in veterinary practice management. The organization's guiding principles include the pursuit of excellence in practice management, helping to open channels of communication, and fostering networking activities among practices. Over 1,400 hospital managers, veterinarians, technicians and consultants belong to the VHMA.

More information is available about the CVPM program on their website, <http://www.vhma.org>



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LUNGE LINE

RUTLEDGE FARM'S "RESEARCHER"

HOME TOWN HERO

JOY M. SMITH

Herman and Monica Greenberg, owners of Rutledge Farm, have been supporters of the Virginia Tech Foundation's M.A.R.E. Center in Middleburg for many years. When they bought Researcher at the Center's 2005 yearling sale, they were continuing their support of the Center by buying their horses there.

Through four years of training and racing, their new Two Smart, Virginia bred gelding out of the Apalachee mare Wild Magnolia, is proving to be a fine investment for his owners. As one writer observed when telling of the Greenberg's years of support for the Center and racing, "good things happen to good people."

Saturday, April 18, at Charles Town Race Track, Researcher won the inaugural race of the Charles Town Classics which opened West Virginia racing's new 2009

four-event series. With that win, he earned more than \$360,000. He had preceded the Classic win by setting a track record for 1 1/8 miles in his previous start on March 28. Leading up to those wins, Researcher had won ten of his 17 career starts. All told he has amassed lifetime earnings of \$676,809.

Robert Powell, Rutledge Farm Manager for more than 40 years, shared with us the excitement of all concerned at Researcher's biggest win of his career. Powell said, "the Greenbergs, Trainer Jeff Runco and Jockey Kendrick Carmouche praised the ease and command of the track Researcher displayed in his run." Runco and Carmouche emphasized the importance of the win. "This is a big deal, it's as big a deal as winning the grade III in New York...he came into this race perfectly...that's what we were hoping for...he knew what to do."

Researcher is based at Charles Town with trainer Runco. Rac-

ing fans there know the horse and the rider well and the win had the crowd on their feet and cheering as Researcher made the third turn and raced to the finish line. The win also, with purse earnings of \$364,850, propelled the Greenberg's Rutledge Farm to the top of the list of leading North American owners by purse earnings.

Rutledge Farm is one of the most distinctive horse farms in the Middleburg area. Located just east of the village its pastoral landscapes and rustic color-coordinated houses, barns and farm service buildings seem to blend and flow with the lawns, paddocks, and four-board fenced pastures. Quiet beauty and symmetry spread out in every direction.

While we toured the farm with Mr. Powell, he took us to the pasture where Researcher's dam Wild Magnolia was turned out with the other mares. The morning was sunny and cool and a more tranquil, relaxing environment for



RESEARCHER'S DAM WILD MAGNOLIA OUT TO PASTURE AT RUTLEDGE FARM

retirement just can't be imagined.

We understand Researcher hasn't spent much time at Rutledge Farm since he began his winning career and we're sure retirement from racing is the last subject on anyone's mind right

now. But, hey, when the cheers have gone quiet and the finish lines are all behind him...back home at Rutledge Farm looks like the most rewarding place of all for our Hometown Hero.



RESEARCHER RACING FOR HIS WIN AT AQUEDUCT IN DECEMBER 2008



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MARE CENTER HOSTS CONFORMATION CLINIC

The Fauquier County Trailblazers Horse Club attended an equine conformation clinic hosted by the MARE Center in February.

Approximately 18 people attended the clinic where Shea Porr, superintendent of the MARE Center talked about the importance of correct conformation and how to determine whether various flaws in structure could be "forgiven" for a horse involved in a specific athletic event or for a particular purpose. Equine conformation refers to the alignment of a horse's bone structure, the patterns of musculature, and its body proportions in relation to each other.

Porr discussed how "form to function" refers to much more than just a "pretty" horse. She explained how form to function is the basis for judging conformation. A horse with proper conformation will be a stronger athlete and will tend to remain sound longer than one with poor conformation. However, there is no "perfect" horse, and some flaws can be overlooked for some athletic events. For example, a horse with poor form for a Grand Prix show jumper might still be used as an under saddle horse or trail horse. Porr talked about the external parts of the horse and showed how the skeleton of the horse affected what a person sees from the outside. She described five things that make a horse look good – balance, structure, muscle, quality, and character.

The Trailblazers listened intently as Porr explained how correctly balanced horses are more easily able to shift their weight and perform athletic maneuvers. She discussed how structure is the manner in which the bones of the skeleton fit together to produce angles and alignments. One participant asked what was meant by "shoulder angle" and how the angle actually affects movement. Porr explained that a more sloping shoulder allows for a longer stride. She talked about of understanding how the angles of the shoulder will determine the movement of the arm bone. A 45 degree angle is considered the ideal for basic shoulder structure, but not very many horses actually have that degree of shoulder angle. In general, the more slope to the shoulder, or the more "laid back" the should is, the longer and smoother the stride will be.

In discussing the conformation of the head, Porr went on to

explain that important features include the distance between the eyes and both the length and width of the muzzle, forming a triangle between the eyes and muzzle, and flat or dished forehead. Some participants asked about how head conformation affected the horse's performance. Porr explained that wider set eyes allow for a greater visual field, that larger nostrils allows for sufficient air intake during exercise, and the placement of the jaw allows the bit to rest in the correct spot.

Porr talked about evaluating muscles of the horse's chest, forearm, shoulder, loin and hip, stifle, and gaskin and how this was another important component of equine conformation. Both the quantity (amount) and quality (appearance) of the muscle is important, and she explained how to see the difference between a fit, muscled horse and one that was fat.

According to Porr, quality or refinement of the horse is something to evaluate. This takes into consideration the attitude and presentation of the horse as well as the overall physical appearance of the animal. For example, a mare should look feminine while a stallion masculine, and the horse should possess traits that mark its breed. Their bone structure should be sufficient with the joints appearing coarse or heavy, and the horse should appear alert and attentive and move with grace and style.

After the discussion, Porr led the group outside to where several Virginia Tech Foundation Arabian geldings were waiting to be used for hands-on conformation demonstrations. After giving the participants a chance to evaluate the geldings, Porr pointed out what good and poor conformation looked like. She also mentioned that poor conformation in one horse would not necessarily remove a horse from consideration for purchase, and that conformation alone does not mean the horse will not perform well.

Virginia Tech's Middleburg Agricultural Research and Extension Center's mission is to advance the health and well-being of the horse through graduate education for equine professionals, nutritional and pasture management research, and community educational programs. Located in Middleburg, Va., the center is one of 13 Agricultural Research and Extension Centers located across the state that help serve the commonwealth's agricultural needs.

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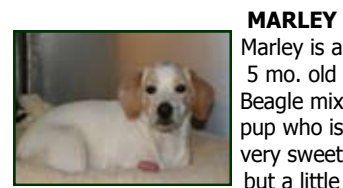
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shy. He will grow to be medium sized dog. A fun family friend!

LOUISE PUPS! Boy do we have some terrific little puppies – Louise is an Amstaff Terrier and ? Dad. These little kidlets were born at the shelter on 12/29 so LOTS of love & socialization. They will grow to be medium sized.



LOUISE THE MOM DOG!
Louise was rescued on Christmas Eve. She was pregnant and starving. Fortunately she is a lovely gal– she is good with kids & other dogs but does need a very structured home. We adore this dog and her puppies too!

Middleburg Humane Foundation



SUMMER
Summer lived chained to a blue barrel. She is incredible sweet and loving and a beautiful little girl! She is only about 35 pounds and very gentle & loving!

HARLEY
Harley is a lovely 8 month old purebred Dobie who was rescued from a neglectful owner. He is adorable and very sweet. Harley is a bit shy with other dogs but really wants to make new friends!



CATFISH
Catfish is an 8 yr. old Catahoulia dog who is a Katrina survivor from New Orleans. He was rescued in 2003, found a great home but his dad married & Catfish was returned. He is house-trained & good with children.



PeeWee & Bingo were found near death due to starvation– they are young Lab mixes & are doing great!



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ABNER
Abner is a 6-8 month old Coonhound/ Foxhound mix with a huge fun personality! Abner is every-ones best friend and loves to play ball. He was born with a front leg deformity but gets around great!



ALBERT'S CORNER

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

I'm putting on my reporter's hat today to tell you about a possibly important development in the world of pet travel. A new airline called Pet Airways has announced that it will begin flying on July 14. Initially, the company will serve five cities: Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, New York and Washington (BWI). For Northern Virginia dogs and cats, this could be a very exciting opportunity!

Pet Airways will be the first airline devoted exclusively to transporting pets, and the only one that allows pets of all

sizes to travel in the main cabin rather than the cargo hold. Owners cannot fly with their pets, but that is a small price to pay for the knowledge that one's pet is going to be in a safe and climate-controlled environment for the duration of a flight.

Pet Airways, which was started by a Florida couple, promises to provide excellent care to their "pawengers". Thanks to the constant presence of Pet Attendants, animals will never be alone. Initially, the airline will serve dogs and cats, but the compa-

ny hopes to cater to additional pets and expand to 25 continental cities within the next few years.

To outfit the planes for pets, Pet Airways reconfigured Beechcraft 1900 turboprops to include kennels by removing seats and overhead bins. Each plane holds 50 individual pet carriers that the airline provides.

Owners can drop off their pets up to 72 hours before the time of the flight. They can also leave them overnight at the destination city. (The airline's PAWS Lodges make this

possible.) Introductory fares will be \$149 each way.

With the needs of pet owners in mind, the airline provides the ability to track flights online and offers membership in the MyPAWS Club for discounts with Pet Airways partners.

I'm hoping that this idea will really take off. It's certainly a challenge to start a new airline during a recession, but this one just might have "pawtential". When the company opened up its online reservation system last week, the response was so over-

whelming that it crashed the servers.

One thing is certain, it's high time for an alternative to putting pets in the cargo hold. Traveling that way can be dangerous, especially when so many planes are delayed on runways in scorching heat.

To learn more about Pet Airways, go to <http://www.petairways.com>.

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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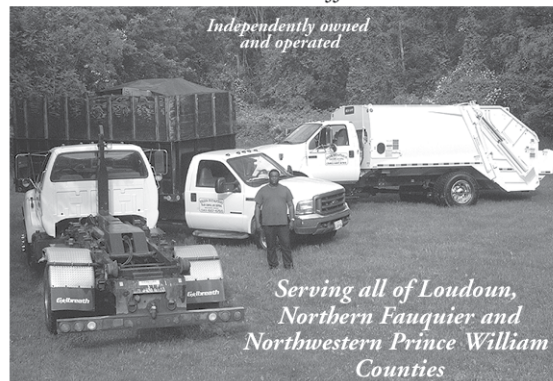
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INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

GRASSLANDS, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Superb country estate of 510 acres. Grasslands represents the epitome of fox hunting, with its land, location, and natural beauty of the rolling pastures with grand panoramic views of the Blue Ridge Mtns. Handsome brick manor house, 5 additional dwellings, 3 horse barns (total of 35 stalls), numerous farm dependencies, large pond, and frontage on Cromwell's Run. The quality of the land is unsurpassed and the location is unmatched. \$17,500,000.

Ruth Ripley 540-687-2222
Carole Miller 540-687-2233
Gloria Armfield 540-687-2223



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

WINDCREST POND, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Captivating property. Private valley of 46 acres. Historic house of log, stone and frame. Four bedrooms and 4.5 baths. Exposed logs, cathedral ceilings, full house generator, 2 ponds, log pond house, sports court, barn. Best location, Orange County Hunt. \$2,900,000.

Ruth Ripley 540-687-2222



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

LIME KILN ROAD, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Magnificent stone and brick custom built colonial on 5 wooded acres just outside of Middleburg. Easy access to Dulles. Lovely private setting surrounded by mature forest and large farms and estates. Fine materials used throughout home with slate patios and walks, 11 zone heating and cooling, 7.5 baths, and 5 fireplaces. \$1,699,900.

Rick Lowe 703-509-3962



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

GRAFTON, MARSHALL, VA

Elegant, restored, historic, c. 1818, Federal style house on 25 open scenic acres. 6 bedroom, 4 bath home with 4 fireplaces, 10-12 ft ceilings, spacious rooms, and hardwood floors. Well appointed 3 bedroom, 2 bath guest house. Several farm buildings. Private setting yet convenient location. \$1,245,000.

Kathryn Harrell 703-216-1118
Linda Norris 540-270-7560



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

DOGWOODS, MARSHALL, VA

Uniquely beautiful in its design, location and ambiance, Dogwoods is a custom built French country home with privacy and lovely views. The main house is complimented by an especially attractive guest house, a lap pool and spa, wonderful flower and herb gardens and an outdoor dining pergola covered with lavender wisteria, creating a serene environment reminiscent of the small villages in the south of France. \$1,300,000.

Linda Norris 540-270-7560



ORCHARDS AT ROUND HILL, ROUND HILL, VA

Lovely, fresh light-filled 7,000 square foot brick colonial on 3.1 acres framed by stately hardwoods and mature apple trees. 4 bedrooms, open floor plan, large deck and porch. Full finished basement with bar/kitchen opens onto terrace. Wonderful views! Enclave of fine houses. \$900,000.

Ruth Ripley 540-687-2222
Carole Miller 540-687-2233



ADA ROAD, MARSHALL, VA

In the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains this adorable country house is sited for privacy, views and comfort. The main house has 3 bedrooms (2 on first level) each with full bath, a spacious sunroom/family room/ kitchen, living room and separate dining room. A flagstone terrace extends across the back. A separate garage has a lovely guest suite attached with 1 bedroom, bath, kitchen/living room and private patio. Fabulous Views everywhere! \$799,000.

Ruth Ripley 540-687-2222



HORSE HAVEN, HUME, VA

A complete small horse farm on 11+ acres in the Old Dominion Hunt. The 3 bedroom, renovated farm house has exposed logs in the living room, master bedroom and the kitchen, a large sun room and an in-ground pool with deck on the south side of the house. Horse facilities include a new four stall bank barn with tack room, wash rack, hay storage, two small paddocks, one large field, and good fencing. \$625,000.

Carole Miller 540-687-2233



2 PIEDMONT DRIVE, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Immaculate end unit townhouse located in the destination historic Village of Middleburg. Open floor plan includes living room with fireplace, dining room, country kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, hardwood floors, ornate moldings. Walkways, stone walls, iron gate, and large private patio surrounded by beautiful gardens. Walk to town. \$649,900.

Patricia Burns 540-454-6723
Clyde Lamond 703-501-8065



7 CHINN LANE, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Quality 2/3 bedroom, 2 full baths and 1 half bath house in town. Many details - wood floors, 2 fireplaces, bay windows, french doors, sunroom, mudroom. Large living room and dining room plus separate artist-designed studio with bath set in lush, mature landscaping, fenced back garden. A Gem! \$899,000.

Mary South Hutchison 540-687-6885



BLOSSOM HILL, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Lovely comfortable contemporary residence in a terrific Middleburg location with great privacy. It is on just under 2 acres and has a charming living room/ dining room "L" with a fireplace, bookshelves and built in cupboards and drawers. There are 4 bedrooms and an artist's studio with excellent north light. The back yard is fenced and the grounds have mature planting and trees. Blossom Hill offers good cheer, comfort and convenience. \$595,000.

Carole Miller 540-687-2233



3085 RECTORTOWN ROAD, RECTORTOWN, VA

Charming 3 bedroom cottage .90 of an acre located in the highly sought after historic village of Rectortown. The house features many recent updates such as soapstone counters and stainless appliances. The main floor leads to a new large flagstone porch offering a lovely setting for entertaining or just relaxing. The back of the house also offers a fenced yard with walk in storage shed. Perfect country retreat. \$590,000.

Jim Thompson 540-687-3216
Carol Fochtman 540-272-4334

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