



## MIDDLEBURG BEAUTIFICATION GARDEN PARTY

PAGE 18



## LOCAL BAKERS WIN AT GOLD CUP

PAGE 4

## RATES RISE

DAN MORROW

Real Estate Rate Increase

The Middleburg Town Council approved increases in the real-estate tax rate and the town's water rates during its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, May 13.

At the sparsely attended Thursday session, recently retired Town Administrator Jerry Schiro presented the case for both increases, noting that both were required for the Town to cover its budgeted expenses for the year ahead.

No one spoke during the public hearings to discuss both proposals, held immediately before Council's vote.

Council's decisions, in both cases, were unanimous.

Council increased the real-estate tax rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, from \$0.15 per \$100 in assessed value, to \$0.19 per \$100, an increase of nearly 27%.

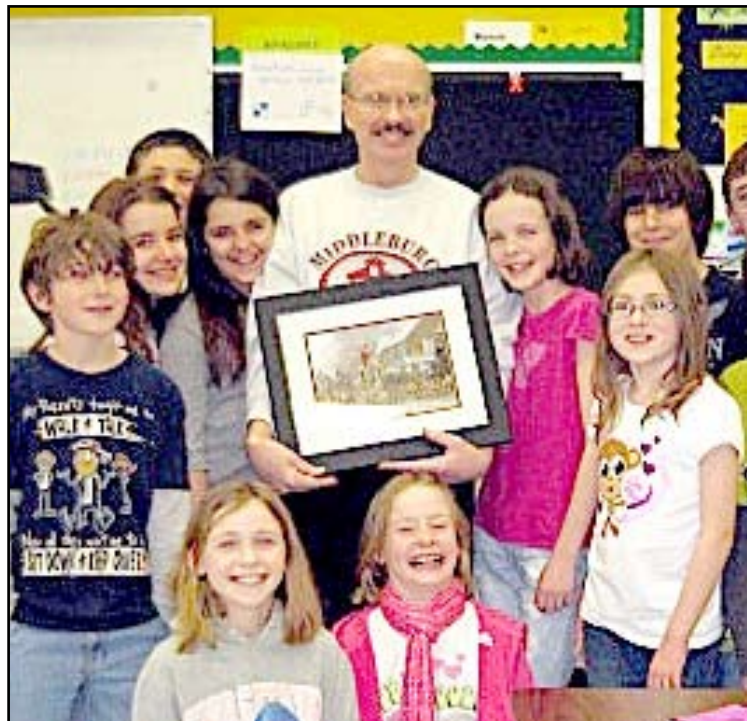
By carefully managing expenses, Schiro reminded Council the town had managed to survive a fourteen percent decline in assessed property values last year without increasing taxes.

Another seven percent decrease in assessed values accompanied by significant declines in other sources of projected state funding and other revenues made the increase necessary.

On the brighter side, Schiro noted that the "equalized" tax rate,

Continued Page 8

## MIDDLEBURG ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL GARY WILKERS RETIRES WITH PRAISE



Praise was plentiful at Principal Gary Wilkers' retirement party but regret and sadness were also much in evidence as students, teachers and staff wished the much-loved educator the very best.

"What I remember most was his generous and supportive demeanor. When Principal Wilkers was with children, there was no one more important to him in the entire world," emphasized Teri Domanski, who worked closely with Wilkers.

"Although he never let the stu-

dents get away with anything they shouldn't, and although his expectations for the students was very, very high, the fact that he loved them so much shone through every situation. He worked well with parents and he was admired and loved by the students."

At his retirement party during the May 2nd retirement party to honor him, Middleburg Elementary students presented

Continued Page 9



Dr. Gregory Schenk, Medical Director, Robotic Surgery

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# NEWS OF NOTE

## PAM DICKSON & BREEZY'S TREASURE CHESTS BRING JOY TO THOSE WHO DESPERATELY NEED IT

Hundreds of ill children enjoy a moment of happiness and delight when a special gift from Pam Dickson and her spectacular German Shepherd is presented. Now, after forty years of helping children and others who are sad and lonely, Pam intends to begin an initiative to ensure that Breezy's Treasure Chests are installed in hospitals across the country.

"From the moment I began taking my dogs to hospitals to cheer up children, over forty years ago, one of my greatest pleasures has been helping them have a better day. Now, with the help of my friends and clients, I see clearly how much it means to a child who is desperately ill, or an adult who is ill and terribly lonely, to receive a book or toy from well wishers they may never meet," Dickson explained. "I love to do this, and it is incredibly important."

Sadly, German Shepherds do not live forty years, so many dogs have partnered with Pam to do this work. Today, her partner is Breezy, a two-year-old who had open heart surgery when he was only four months old and, therefore, according to Pam, can really understand how much it means to be remembered.

Today, there are two of Breezy's Treasure Chests, one at Inova Loudoun Hospital in Lansdowne, Virginia, and one at Childrens National Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Pam and her friends and

clients keep them well stocked with toys and books and stuffed animals.

"Without my clients and friends and angels like The Fun Shop in Middleburg, Breezy would have no Treasure Chests. Everyone I know or who has heard of our program wants to help, and does help. I cannot express how grateful we all are to them."

Pam began therapy with her shepherd Rocky. Then, when Rocky died, Treasure was her helper, then Treasurer, Jr and now, Breezy. If one is fortunate enough to be one of Pam Dickson's dogs, you have to sign on to help others. But the reward of living at Pam's Fursman Kennels in Middleburg, Virginia, is reward aplenty!

According to Lynn L. Hardesty, LICSW and manager of the Patient and Family Support Program in Hematology-Oncology at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., Pam has "taken good care of us and our patients for many years."

"One little girl, diagnosed with cancer, who had had a very bad day, stopped her tears and gave a big smile when twin baby dolls with lovely accessories were offered to her, the nurse wrote."

As always, Pam and Breezy had made the perfect present possible.

"Thanks to you, Pam, and to your supporters, we have many such



moments every week," Nurse Hardesty continued.

Now, Pam and Breezy are determined that their Treasure Chests will be in hospitals across the nation. And, they need your help.

If you have, or can obtain, books, toys, stuffed animals, games or other amusements, please let Pam Dickson know. She will ensure that they are sorted, and made ready for their new owners, and she Breezy will make certain they are placed in as many Treasure Chests as they can install. Every toy or gift includes a card with a photo of Breezy on the front and the message, "You have friends in Middleburg who are think-

ing of you," inside.

Every philanthropist who donates toys and games to Pam and Breezy's initiative also receives a personal thank you note from them.

"Children and adults who are struggling with devastating illness yearn for support and contact with the outside world. Although this is a very little thing in comparison with their illness, it is immensely important and a very big boost to receive a gift when one is terribly low," Pam concluded.

If you can help by making donations, please do so. You may telephone Pam for instructions by calling 540 687 6990.

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## MERSEY ROAD



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## BEECH HILL



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NEWS OF NOTE

LOCAL BAKERS WIN AT GOLD CUP

As soon as the Virginia Gold Cup announced that Chef Duff Goldman, the Food Network's Ace of Cakes, would judge a 'Cake Walk' contest at the organization's anniversary celebration, Lisa Patterson and Megan Hubbard of Middleburg's Mello Out, were planning what they would bake to enter. When Chef Duff announced that they had won, resounding applause and great meritment greeted their coup.

"Wow," exclaimed the Chef as he judged the entries.... It's a steaming bucket of horse \_\_\_\_\_!"

That was exactly what Megan and Lisa had hoped to convey with their creation, a shiny, red bucket sitting on a bowl of dry ice that was filled with pieces of cake that had been frosted all around with rich butter cream icing and then rolled in roasted, round almonds.

"All the cakes were beautiful and some were stunning," the chef said. "But this idea takes the cake and definitely takes the prize!"

The entire contest was filmed and will be included in Chef Duff's "Ace of Cake" series next season.



VIRGINIA HUNT COUNTRY NOVELIST JAN NEUHARTH SADDLES ANOTHER THRILLING RIDE WITH "THE KILL"

Life will imitate fiction in Virginia's hunt country on Memorial Day weekend when award-winning author Jan Neuharth signs copies of her new Hunt Country Suspense Novel, The Kill, at a host of events in some of the very places she writes about.

"The Virginia hunt country is the perfect place to kick off my book tour," Neuharth said. "My plots and characters—both human and equine—are inspired by this idyllic community which I am privileged to call home."

Neuharth will autograph copies of The Kill on Saturday, May 29th at the Hunt Country Stable Tour, Trinity Episcopal Church, Upperville, VA at 9:30 a.m., and at Books & Cranies in Middleburg, VA at 1:00 p.m.; on Sunday, May 30th at the Virginia Foxhound Show at Morven Park, Leesburg, VA in the Horse Country Saddlery tent at 1:00 p.m. See schedule: <http://www.huntcountryrusspense.com/Events.html>

Set in the historic foxhunting community of Middleburg, Virginia, The Kill begins when globe-trotting photojournalist Abigale Portmann gets word in war-torn Afghanistan that her beloved uncle, the 70-year-old Master of the Middleburg Foxhounds, has been brutally murdered. Abigale returns to the rocky relationships of her past in the close-knit Virginia equestrian community—a place she has deliberately avoided for seventeen years. As the gripping plot unfolds, friends

become suspects and family ties are tested. Events for Abigale—and the hunt club—spin out of control as this riveting tale races to a terrifying finish.

Neuharth's Hunt Country Suspense Novels have been highly acclaimed by horse lovers and mystery readers alike. Her debut novel, The Hunt, was hailed as a "page-turning murder mystery" by The Washington Post and was a Benjamin Franklin Award Finalist. Film rights were optioned by Oberon Entertainment Properties. The Chase, the second novel in Neuharth's series, won an IPPY Gold Medal for best regional fiction and was a notable winner of the Eric Hoffer Award. The Chronicle of the Horse saluted The Chase as "a highly entertaining book that will keep you reading and guessing well into the night," and Covertside, The Magazine of Mounted Foxhunting, declared it "a page turner, a thriller with plenty of romance—and, oh yeah, horses. It's chick lit with hooves."

Neuharth, an attorney and avid equestrian, resides in Middleburg, Virginia with her husband Joseph Keusch, who is a former Joint Master of the Fairfax Hunt, and their two children.

For more information or a review copy of The Kill contact Jan Neuharth at (540) 687-3345 [orpapercasefarms@aol.com](mailto:orpapercasefarms@aol.com) or visit <http://www.huntcountryrusspense.com>

MATILDA REUTER NAMED TOP TOURISM EMPLOYEE



Visit Loudoun (Loudoun Convention and Visitors Association) held its 14th Annual Meeting and 2009 Tourism Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, March 24th, 2010 at the Belmont Country Club in Ashburn. Matilda Reuter, of The Red Fox Inn was honored as Winner in the Tourism Employee of the Year Frontline Category.

MOSBY SQUARE HOA ANNUAL PICNIC



BACK ROW: SAM HUFF, JOHN DOUGHERTY, CINDY THOMPSON, GEOFF HALLE (FAR RIGHT). MIDDLE ROW: KATIE TURNER, SYLVIA MCELVEY, LORI DALY, KEVIN DALY, BILLIE VANPUYS, SANDY DOUGHERTY, DEBRA MARTIN HOLDING MAEGANN THOMPSON, COURTNEY DALY, ANNE COCHRAN. FRONT ROW: KAMERON TURNER, MAURA THOMPSON, RUSSELL MOORE, PRESTON MOORE, JULIA HAMILTON, LILY HAMILTON. FRONT: HAYS TURNER, WINLEY TURNER

MIDDLEBURG HUMANE GALA TO BE BEST EVER

URSULA LANDSRATH

It's that time of year again when local, animal loving benefactors, pull out all the stops to benefit the animals at the Middleburg Humane Foundation.

Months ago the hustle and bustle started with one goal in mind: raise funds for the rescued, abused and abandoned animals.

There were meetings and the delegation of responsibilities to some of the most kind hearted and generous people one could ever meet. From the classroom to the choral choir, finding a great cause to support was a great success.

Previous MHF Galas have provided a great old time without guests having to give any thought to the months of preparation required to coordinate this annual event. In the past this glamorous occasion took place at Rose Marie Bogley's historic Peace and Plenty at Bollingbrook Plantation. Now, after 15 years of hosting the gala, she will finally be able to enjoy the festivities as an honored guest.

This year, the black tie event, will take place at Mrs. George L. (Jacqueline) Ohrstrom's beautiful estate in The Plains. The music will be provided by the 'Mary Redmond Band' and catering by the award winning 'Festive Foods'.

The much anticipated, traditional feature will be the Silent Auction which promises to be the best ever in the 16 years in which this fund raising event has taken place.

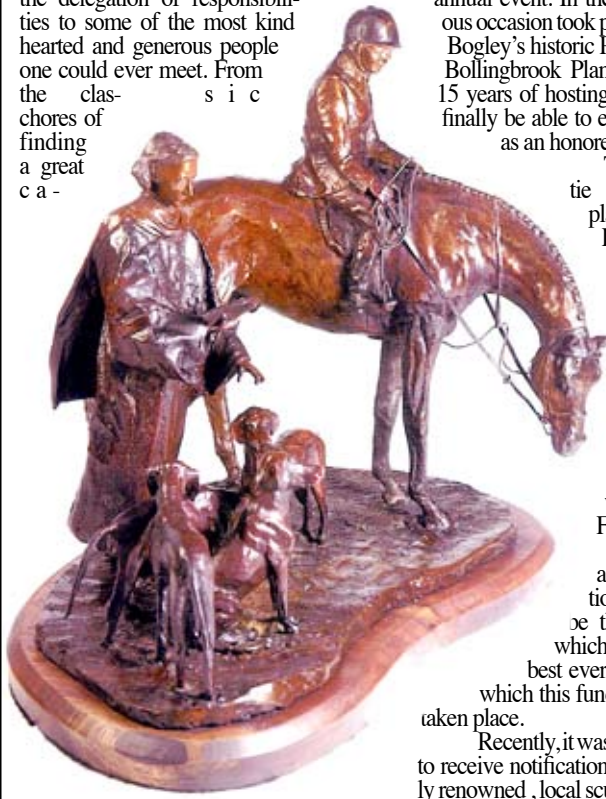
Recently, it was my great privilege to receive notification that internationally renowned, local sculptor, Jean Claggett

had decided to donate a beautiful bronze, "The Blessing of the Hounds," valued at \$4,000 to the silent auction. The sculpture depicts a woman in flowing robes, modeled after local philanthropist Dr. Betsee Parker, blessing a group of hounds while a horse and rider, modeled after Edie Smart, stand by. The lovingly executed bronze captures every detail including the intricate harness. (see photo).

Other items of interest in this year's Silent Auction will be a pair of hand crafted earrings by Elizabeth Locke, an Hermes Platter, an Ultra-light flight, paintings, engravings and, to my delight, one of Dennis Kyte's well-loved, collectable GUND bears with the accompanying first edition, leather bound book "The Last Elegant Bear." I admit to having a whimsical side, so the bears and rabbits by Kyte will send me quickly to the Silent Auction. One of the highlights of the evening will be a Champagne Raffle. The prize, donated by Nick and Kate Vanoff, is a romantic get-away to a Chateau in the south of France which includes a day of golf, a day of tennis and a day of touring the wineries of the region.

With all the related event activities going on, the real goal is never out of sight: provide a truly memorable evening for the community that will help raise the funds needed to ensure excellent care for the poor, abandoned and neglected creatures rescued by and housed at the Middleburg Humane Foundation. Because the organization receives no government funding, the proceeds from the annual gala are essential to provide a safe environment and good care.

For reservations to and information about the June 19th black tie event, please contact Laura Honahan at 540 222 9978 or [candlelaura@gmail.com](mailto:candlelaura@gmail.com)



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# NEWS OF NOTE

## INTERNATIONAL AUCTION COMING TO MIDDLEBURG

Middleburg's Community Center will be the site of an international antiques, art and fine furniture auction on Saturday, November 13.

The event is a joint venture between Full Cry Auctions of Middleburg and Ken Farmer Auctions. Farmer is a national recognized antiques appraiser and one of the stars of the hit television series on PBS, "Antiques Roadshow."

"I'm excited and honored to join with Ken in this auction that will be broadcast around the world on the internet," said Curtis A. Prins, president of Full Cry.

Farmer and Prins will begin appraising consignments for the sale in early June. Persons who are interested

in consigning items for the sale should contact Prins at Full Cry Auctions, 540 687-5022 or e-mail Prins at [curtis@full-cryauctions.com](mailto:curtis@full-cryauctions.com).

"We are looking for quality items from all periods and Ken will be able to research background on the consignments to help achieve the highest possible auction price," said Prins. "With the economy starting to pick up," he added, "auction prices, especially for antiques, have rebounded nicely and we feel the November sale should reflect those increased prices."

Farmer will only be the hunt country for only a short period of time, so potential consigners should contact Full Cry as soon as possible to get an appraisal appointment.

## RATES RISE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the rate necessary to generate the same real-estate tax revenue as last year, was in fact only \$0.16 per \$100, due to the strength of the Town's real estate values compared to most of Virginia, despite the current recession.

Council member Mark Snyder suggested that Council at least explore the possibility of raising the tax rate to only \$0.18 or \$0.185 per \$100.

Schiro noted that each penny increase on the real estate tax rate generated only around \$23,000. That's around \$58 from each of the town's approximately 400 taxpayers.

### Increase in Water/Wastewater Rates

On Thursday, Council also approved a six percent increase in the town's water use rates and availability fees.

Schiro positioned the increases as part of an on-going three-year effort by the town to stabilize its utility rates and expenses.

With only 400 utility customers, Schiro noted, Middleburg must meet the same water-safety criteria as much larger municipalities, including day to day operating costs, repairs and capital improvements.

The addition of the Salamander Inn and Spa, and its related activities to the Town's customer base in 2012, he continued, should, at the very least, stabilize water rates, and perhaps permit the Town to consider lowering them.

### Election Results

In the May 4, 2010, Town elections, Mayor Betsey Davis, Vice Mayor Darlene Kirk and Council member Mark Snyder all ran unopposed, and all were re-elected to the Middleburg Town Council. Write-in votes gave David B. Stewart and Kevin Hazard the two remaining open seats.

Official returns credited Mayor Davis with 112 votes out of 123 cast.

Mark Snyder received 96 votes and Darlene Kirk, 89.

Write-in candidate David B. Stewart was officially credited with 92 votes and Kevin Hazard with 91.

After a slow start, with not enough declared candidates to fill all the empty seats, a vigorous citizens campaign not only produced two strong write-in contenders, but two winners, one of which may well have received more votes than anyone else in the race.

Turnout, in fact was up nearly a third, with 123, or 26% of the town's 472 registered voters turning out in 2010, compared to only 20% two years ago.

Council Member Bundles Murdock, Council Member Trowbridge Littleton, and former Council member Eura Lewis are credited with driving much of the late enthusiasm for the Council race.

Just days before the elections Murdock reported that she, with the help of her mother and friends, drafted, wrote, copied, folded, sealed, inserted, stamped and helped hand-cancel letters to most, if not all the registered voters in Middleburg.

Indeed, last minute candidate David B. Stewart may well have received more votes anyone else in the race. Misspellings of "Stewart" on write-in ballots may well have cost him at least a dozen votes or more.

Newly elected Council Member Kevin Hazard, is the proprietor of the Middleburg County Inn, co-owner of the Hidden Horse Restaurant, and has long served on the Town's zoning commission.

The Reverend David B. Stewart, ordained a Baptist minister in 2008, is a native of Middleburg, who came home after well over a decade of service as a Deacon in churches in West Virginia and other parts of northern Virginia.

Mayor Betsy Davis received Council's congratulations and a new full-time job. A motion by Vice Mayor Kirk, and approved unanimously and retroactively appointed her Acting Town Administrator, as of May 1, 2010.

### Sidewalk Displays

During the Council's May 10 work session, Town Planner and Zoning Administrator David Beniamino was asked to draft a letter to the town's business owners, outlining recent complaints received about outdoor displays of merchandise on Middleburg sidewalks.



MIDDLEBURG CANDIDATES ON ELECTION DAY. LEFT TO RIGHT KEVIN HAZARD, DAVID B. STEWART, BETSEY DAVIS, DARLENE KIRK AND MARK SNYDER

Beniamino noted that the Town's sidewalks were technically not owned by the town, and suggested thanking everyone for their voluntary compliance with the Town's rules banning such displays.

By May 13, Beniamino told Council he had received letters from Ben Wegdam of Lou Lou's and one from long Howard Armfield, of AH&T Insurance, who included copies of Leesburg's ordinance on the matter, which specifically allows such displays.

He explained that the difference between Middleburg and Leesburg was that Leesburg owned its streets and sidewalks. Middleburg's are owned by the Virginia Department of Transportation.

VDOT's regulations, in fact,

prohibit Towns like Middleburg from enacting ordinances to allow signage and other "structures" in the state's right-of-ways.

According to Beniamino, VDOT's Howard Massie advised him that "sidewalk sales" can be permitted in special situations, but noted that the Town would have to get a special permit for an "event" in order to do so... or secure a permit for everyone who wanted to display their wares for sale on the sidewalk.

After lengthy discussion of the legal implications of planters, benches, trees, sandwich boards, and building corners that technically lie within the state right-of-way, Mayor Davis suggested this item be placed on the upcoming work session agenda for further discussion.

## PRAISE FOR PRINCIPAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mr. Wilkers with a picture of The Middleburg Hunt, one of he very favorite things.

"They will be very sad for a while," Teri explained.

"He's been a truly exceptional principal."

Wilkens came to Middleburg Elementary in the 1998-'99 school year from Cool Spring Elementary where he was assistant principal. He completed 29 years of service in Middleburg where he had his first assignment as principal.

Principal Wilkers first secretary at Middleburg Elementary was Betty Jo Martin, and when she moved to another position, her sister Tracie Dillon moved into the assignment and worked with him until he retired.

"He was all about the kids, he had enormous respect for them and he enjoyed a truly exceptional rapport with them," Tracie said. "He was

a phenomenal teacher and administrator."

Principal Wilkers dedication will be remembered by many students in many ways, but one notable endeavor he was devoted to was his "Junior Great Books" program in which students were invited to meet in his office to discuss a reading assignment.

"The children would sit on the floor with him, and he would always provide a treat to enjoy while they discussed the book they were reading. The children loved it, and each one improved significantly because of his special care and attention."

"This school was so much of his life. He wanted every child to do better, and he spent every second of his day and every bit of his energy helping make that happen," Tracie concluded.

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EDITOR’S DESK

LIMITED TERM LIMITS

Were it not for the last minute efforts of some of the Town’s most public-spirited individuals, one write-in vote may well have elected someone to a full term as a voting member of the Middleburg Town Council.

It has happened before. It should never happen again.

We believe that part of the problem lies in the size of the Town itself.

It’s not that we’re so small we don’t have enough good people to run.

We think, in part, it’s simple small town courtesy and respect.

Everyone in Middleburg knows everyone else.

Most, indeed, we’d argue, nearly all Town Council Members work hard and do a good job, for no pay and little thanks.

We’re much too polite to ask someone who’s done that to give up his or her seat. It’s ungrateful. And, around here, just impolite.

There’s much to be said, of course for continuity and institutional memory.

There’s also much to be said with engaging more people,

from different backgrounds, and especially more young people, in government.

Why not do both?

We suggest that Town Council adopt “limited” term limits.

Each council member, under this new system, would serve no more than four consecutive years in office.

After that, they would be required to take a two-year hiatus.

If they’re REALLY interested in public service and reelection, during that hiatus they should serve on one or more of the Town’s vital committees or advisory boards, bringing their institutional memory to those tasks, and mentoring others.

After two years OFF Council, they could run again.

We believe such “limited” term limits would give beleaguered Council members (and the Mayor) a well-earned break, bring more people into the system, improve the breadth of talent on Council, and avoid last minute candidates.

This time we got lucky.

Let’s not take such chances ever again.

LETTERS

**Dear Editor**

Recently “Visit Loudoun” (formerly LCVA) convened a series of group discussions to generate ideas to enhance local tourism. Our beautiful area in western Loudoun came up often in those discussions.

This landscape - called one of the best-preserved 19th century rural landscapes in America - is a treasure in a County that has few treasures. It not only attracts visitors for itself, but it significantly enhances the attractiveness of embedded sites like wineries, inns, hotels, shops and restaurants. And, this special

place is important to the overall attractiveness of all of Loudoun as a place to live and a location for businesses. It offers a good place for business leaders to find the kind of living and home sites they desire - which can be a critical factor in relocations of businesses into our County. And, it provides wonderful recreation opportunities for all residents and visitors.

But while lip service is often given to the beauty, authenticity and significance of our landscape, historic sites and open space - it is more often breached in the execution of government policy.

Our elected officials need to appreciate these valuable County assets, and not allow them to be dissipated and diminished in the rush for quick profits and what may falsely appear to be easy boosts to tax revenues.

Please contact members of the Loudoun Board of Supervisors and let them know what a treasure we have and not to allow undesired and unneeded roads construction and widening and inappropriate development to creep into this unique place and ruin it forever.

Regards,  
Mitch Diamond  
Unison, Va

IN DEFENSE OF ARIZONA

FROM BEYOND THE BELTWAY

KEN RIETZ

In 2007, President George W. Bush proposed comprehensive immigration reform including strengthening our border security and creating a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants.

After controversy from both the political left and right, Harry Reid removed the proposal from consideration in the Senate. This action killed all efforts at comprehensive immigration reform.

It is ironic that Reid is now making it a campaign issue by criticizing the new Arizona law.

Arizona had NO CHOICE. The state has almost 500,000 illegal immigrants. It has become the kidnapping capitol of the U.S. and drug wars have broken out along its border with Mexico.

The legislator who authored this law has said illegal immigrants are costing Arizona \$3 BILLION a year to “educate, medicate and incarcerate.”

Without help from the Obama Administration, which has stopped building the fence along

the border and has reduced the Federal budget for border security, Arizona HAD TO act.

Polls show that 70% of Arizona residents, including over half the legal Mexican population, support the new law. Polls also show that nationwide over 60% of U.S. voters support the new law. 84% believe visitors to our country should carry identifying documents.

The left has been quick to criticize the law. Maybe too quick. Attorney General Holder has now admitted he did not even read the law before criticizing it. Neither did the Secretary of Homeland Security before her comments.

Al Sharpton says this law will “open the door to racial profiling.” This, despite the fact that such action is specifically prohibited under the new law.

The most ridiculous criticism came from President Obama who said police might harass a family on the way to have ice cream. He also seems completely unaware of the wording of the law which specifically says ONLY

chosen or learned.

He has his fingerprints on almost all the anti gay efforts to demean and dehumanize gay and lesbian people in this country.

Rekers has also served as an “expert witness” in a court case cited by lobby groups that

work to deny equality to Gay people as cited by ‘Truth Wins Out’ founder Wayne Besen.

That is the background on Rekers, now the interesting bit.

Mr. Rekers was recently photographed in the Miami airport returning from a European trip

with a ‘rent boy’ whom he hired off the ‘Rent Boy’ website to help him with his luggage!

When confronted, the hypocrite said “if you talk with my travel assistant he will tell you that I spent a great deal of time sharing information on the desirability of abandoning homosexual intercourse and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with him in great detail!”

When the “travel assistant” Lucien was interviewed he denied he was hired to carry luggage but rather to administer to Reker’s needs in the form of sexual massage

and said that Reker was going against homosexuality while being a homosexual himself. He also said he was never counseled as a “lost soul.”

If Reker wanted an assistant to carry his luggage a more appropriate site would have been ‘Angie’s List,’ not ‘Rent-boy.com.’

Perhaps Mr. Reker should do some reparative therapy on himself if he feels so strongly that homosexuality is wrong.

BARRY AND RAND

BLUE NOTES

DANIEL MORROW

Randal (“Rand”) Paul, the self-proclaimed Tea Bag Libertarian, would, apparently defend the rights of the folks who owned the Woolworth lunch counter to refuse service to black people and anyone else whose choice of parents they found offensive . . . for all time.

It’s a matter of principle for Rand.

But it’s a point of view now so strange and outdated, I questioned whether or not even Barry Goldwater, ever REALLY believed such nonsense himself.

Well . . . apparently he did.

Or . . . like Richard Nixon, and Rand Paul . . . was willing to wink and say he did . . . to enough really bad people . . . to get himself elected.

Like Paul, Barry spoke out, right there in his ironically named

philosophical pocket piece, Conscience of a Conservative.

Young Goldwater, bright, shiny, craggy-brave and respectable, told us HE didn’t believe in segregated schools or lunch counters or voting booths . . . BUT . . . if most of the good folks of states of the old Confederacy did, that was just ducky with him.

And the segregationists he was courting “misunderstood” what he

their (to use the term loosely) . . . intellectual heirs.

The GOP doesn’t REALLY believe in segregation, of course . . . it just makes noises like someone who does.

Most Republicans don’t hate black, or brown, or gay people, or think people who still speak only Spanish are subhuman, or believe that government is forever and always “the enemy.”

They just manage to consistently attract, tolerate, and empower a disproportionate number of people who do . . . while telling themselves that they don’t . . . and whining about those who notice.

Good Conservatives need to find their Conscience. Barry did.

RELIVING A BETTER AMERICA

PURPLE

BRUCE SMART

It has been a discouraging spring. Congress continues to bicker across a widening gulf of partisanship, while deficits and climate remain unaddressed. The NRA insists the Second Amendment permits carrying loaded guns into bars and airports. Purple, an environmentalist with past connections to the oil industry, deplores the tragic spill in the Gulf. The Middle East, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan remain dangerous. Mexican drug violence persists. Financial institutions resist needed regulation. The Supreme Court decides, 5-4, that businesses are “persons” entitled to flood political campaigns with corporate money.

To escape, we accepted a daughter’s invitation to watch a grandson row in the Eastern Association of Rowing Colleges (EARC) Sprints at Worcester, MA. We ran the Dulles obstacle course, heading for Boston but losing a can of shaving cream to the airport’s anti-terrorist forces. A lovely family dinner followed, with a granddaughter and her beau, discussing their budding careers in teaching and law, thereby glimpsing America’s promise in its young people’s dreams.

The regatta next day was equally encouraging. Passing through the mall-infested outskirts of Worcester, MA, we found a lovely, sunlit park on Lake Quinsigamond’s shore near the finish line, lined with college hospitality tents, a gaggle of parents, and several docks for launching

eight-oared racing shells (boats) for 125 crews (over 1,000 oarsmen and a few lady coxswains) representing 18 Universities in 39 races run at 12 minute intervals.

Competitive rowing requires strength, endurance, and the ability to transfer that strength through a long sweep (oar) to propel the shell through the water. Synchronization of eight sweeps depends on the coxswain, who steers the boat and controls the cadence through the stern-most oarsman, the “stroke.” Unlike most sports, there are no individual stars in rowing, only star crews. Nor is there a professional’s pot of gold awaiting the gifted athlete at graduation. The appeal of rowing lies in hard training to develop one’s own

physique and skills, and the teamwork to meld them into a winning crew. And, once the boat is launched, there is no coach to make mid-race corrections. Each boat of nine youngsters is on its own.

“Our” boat was seeded fifth among 18 freshman heavyweight entries, the six finalists to be chosen through preliminary heats. It reached the finals by winning its morning heat, and later, after leading with 150 yards to go, lost the final to perennial powerhouse Harvard by less than one half second. Tears at the close loss disappeared as grandson hugged friends on the Harvard crew, on the way to picking up his silver medal. Later, rowers joined our group without excuses, only commendation for boatmates and the winners.

One concern was for a crew member whose seat assignment was shifted by the coach to improve the boat’s performance. It was important to build up his morale after that minor demotion, and avoid any personal rift among teammates. There was also a shared determination to get that half second back at the Nationals three weeks hence. After their snack it was back to the bus for college, with exams on Monday. We remained to watch the lightweight finals, where another of “our” crews finally beat Harvard and Yale for that championship. Our celebration was joyous, small, inclusive, and without a sign of alcoholic beverages anywhere. We were teen-agers again, innocently enjoying a 1940’s spring. Order had been restored to our world.

Heading home, we ruminated on the examples of amateur sportsmanship we had seen, so different from the adult tirades, spectacles and spitefulness dominating our daily news. What if all Americans could, through young people like those rowers, recover their determination to work hard, to sacrifice, to support both their teammates and their fellow citizens in need, and to seek team success rather than individual glory? What if we could enjoy competition, and after it love our rivals, win or lose? We saw that happen at Lake Quinsigamond. Purple hopes someday to see it once again spread across America.

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# PASTIMES

## BURN ON, BIG RIVER, BURN ON

7TH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

Dan Gilbert has a problem, and it is a problem of near Titanic proportions. July 1st, 2010, a date circled on his calendar for the past seven years, is fast approaching.

Dan Gilbert, you see, owns the Cleveland Cavaliers. And July 1st marks the start of the NBA's most-talked-about free agency period, ever.

This is the big one, the free agency period that will see LeBron James bolt for the flash and cash of greener pastures, either in the NBA or elsewhere, or sign a lucrative deal that will keep him, for better or for worse, a Cavalier for life.

And anything other than LeBron's staying a Cavalier will be seen, can only be seen, as the death-knell of Cavalier's basketball in Cleveland for the foreseeable future.

Gilbert knows this, James knows this, and you can be sure that Danny Ferry, the G.M. responsible for the current dysfunctional state of the Cavs' roster, knows this. If LeBron leaves, the Cavs instantaneously become a punch-line, a non-factor.

In other words, what they used to be.

When Ferry was a player.

Ferry has put together a supporting roster of cast-offs and duds, has-beens and never-weres, wrapped them around James with duct tape and baling wire and hoped his sheer will and talent would carry the *USS Motley Crew* to the promised land. Heck, he even gave the Cavs a whacky, in-over-his-head skipper with a tendency to literally bite off his words during news conferences.

But the fat lady has sung and we all know it's over for this bunch. The head coach, Mike Brown, was canned early Monday morning. Ferry, the aforementioned

architect of this latest travesty by the lake, has got to feel the sword of Damocles hanging above him. And Gilbert knows he's gotta make something happen.

Forget those silly Coach K to Cleveland rumors. And Callipari bolting Kentucky? He's a cold-blooded mercenary, but I don't see that either.

But sniffing around for a new coach? That *is* the ticket.

And the only coach that matters, the only coach with 10 championships on his coaching resumé, the only coach to have mentored both LeBron's hero and his foil just happens to become a free agent at the end of this season as well.

Phil Jackson, who's 10 rings as a coach could become 11 in the next few weeks, is in the final days of his current contract with the Los Angeles Lakers and rumors have swirled for months that, while the Lakers want Phil back, they want him to take a pay-cut from his

current \$12-million-a-year salary.

If Kobe and the Lakers win this year, Jackson will have guided them to 5 championships. He steered Jordan and the Bulls to 6.

I'm betting he could get LeBron and the Cavs to at least 4.

That'd give Phil 15 as a coach, a nice number, and easily lock in his reputation as the greatest of all time *for all time*. It would also give him the distinction of coaching four of the most dominant NBA talents of the last 25 years, and four of the greatest individual players of all time.

Phil Jackson can make something of the dead weight Ferry saddled LeBron with; there's nobody else that can. Period.

So let LeBron know you're serious, let him know you're bringing in the only thing close to a guarantee in the NBA today, and then open the checkbook.

Give Phil a raise, whatever it takes, to get him to come to Cleveland. Say five years, \$20-million per.

And give LeBron whatever he wants.

Then sit back, and watch the hardware pile up.

Or don't, and watch the Cavs slide back into the mire of destitution and despair that they lived in for too long.

*Burn on, big river, burn on....*

Don't look now but the Nats are tied for third in the most competitive division in baseball; only five games separate the cellar from the penthouse in the National League East. The way the Nats have played so far this year, and with off-season acquisition Jason Marquis set to come off the DL in the second half of the season and Stephen Strasburg ripping through the minors, Washington might be interested in becoming a baseball town this fall.

Of course, the fall usually



## PEONY ENVY

THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE

A remarkable year for many things, my roses and peonies have out done themselves. I have very few roses but many varieties of peonies. I always feel that a few more peonies will be fine until summer comes and they take up more space than I want them too. Despite all of that, I will be ordering more peonies this year for fall delivery. Genie Cate and her peony business in Etlan, Virginia called Blue Rag Gardens will be my source. This is only one of her specialties. I know that my collection includes some of the very best peonies (some from Genie). Most are early flowering which works best for our southern climate. All, with the exception one, are hybrids. The single species I own is Peony obovata var alba and it lives in a fairly shady place. The foliage is less divided and the flowers are gorgeous bowls of cream. An especially slow grower, every year that passes leaves me with a slightly larger plant.

There are about 30 species of peonies. Some will argue that a couple may be natural hybrids. Most are from Asia, with southern Europe and western North America (only 2) home to the rest. They can be divided by type. The largest division falls between herbaceous and tree. The herbaceous peony dies to the ground in winter, while tree peonies keep their woody stems. There are now hybrids between the two that die to the ground but remain shorter and bushier. The benefit of this marriage is flower color with the introduction of yellow flowering forms derived from tree peonies. Heat tolerance has also increased, with these hybrids, as tree peonies can be grown as far south as Georgia, although they are fond of cooler temperatures and down right frigid winters.

In herbaceous peonies the divisions are between double, semi-double, and single flowering forms. I have many single or semi-doubles in my collection. I seem to have a fondness for them. They are less prone to falling over and never seem to get stuck in bud stage after a hot day. This is a common problem and especially so with late flowering types as we have warm days that stop them in bud development.

To pick just one would be torture. Thankfully I have enough space to grow many. If I did need to recommend a few I would include Peony 'Coral Charm' and 'Red Charm'. The previous is like a flamboyant pink flamingo, the latter, the richest red that will cause the gardener to gasp in delight once it opens. Peony 'Scarlet O'Hara' is a tall single that is a deep plum rose color. As with all good things, she is also very slow to establish. It has taken 4 years for my clumps to regain

the size they were at the plant farm. Peony 'Petite Renee' is a tight, short clump with single, deep pink flowers. She always stands up perfectly and is fine for the front of the border. I would not be without Peony 'Prairie FruFru', 'Do Tell' and 'Bowl of Beauty'. There is also 'Krinkled White', a splendid tall single, late flowering white that waves in the wind. If fragrance is what you want then it's Peony 'Moonstone', a very double white. The only clump I had was accidentally sold as a 'Red Charm'. When you dig the roots, there's no way to tell it's the wrong one. The customer later complained that her 'Red Charm' was white and I begged for her to return it. Once she knew how special it was, she kept it.

These are all very special peonies that can't be found in your big box stores or even your local nurseries. Although I encourage all to call and see if you may be in luck with a local source to help out businesses in your community. Usually they are only from specialized mail order sources. When I had my nursery I had over 300 clumps of peonies. I selected these very special few to keep and put in my home garden. While the peonies are still in flower I will visit Genie at Blue Rag. Hopefully she will have Peony 'Moonstone'. After that I will be excited to see them in person and add a few more to my collection. This is something I have wanted to do since December and before all of those big snow storms. May is finally here and it's time to frolic in the peonies!



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No Rain Date: BBQ & Face Painting in Main Building in event of rain

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No Rain Date

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## MEET THE AUTHOR BOOK SIGNINGS

Jan Neuharth, Middleburg author of *The Hunt* and *The Chase*, will be signing first editions of her latest novel, *The Kill* at:

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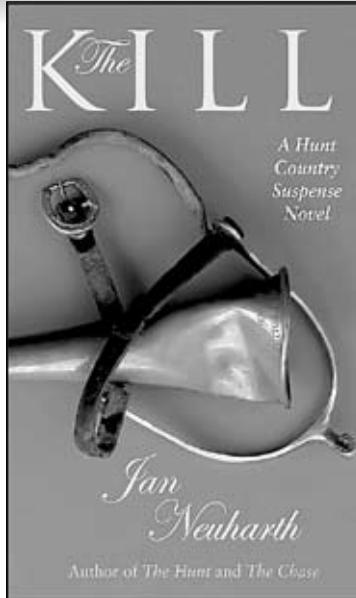
**Books & Crannies, Middleburg, VA, Saturday, May 29th, 1:00 p.m.**

**Virginia Foxhound Show at Morven Park, Horse Country Saddlery Tent, Leesburg, VA, Sunday, May 30th, 1:00 p.m.**

**Fran Romeo & Co., Edinburg, VA, Sunday, June 6th, 2:00 p.m.**

**Upperville Horse Show, Concierge Tent, Upperville, VA, Wednesday, June 9th.**

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# PASTIMES

## COSMETIC DENTISTRY

DR. ROBERT A. GALLEGOS

What is cosmetic dentistry and how can it improve my smile?

Cosmetic dentistry encompasses a variety of procedures to improve your smile from subtle changes to major renewals. There are many techniques and options to treat teeth that are discolored, malpositioned, chipped, misshaped or missing. Commons reasons to elect cosmetic dentistry are to: reshape teeth, close spaces, renew worn teeth, or alter the length or position of teeth. Common procedures include: teeth whitening, bonding, caps or crowns, onlays and inlays, veneers and reshaping, orthodontics and gingival contouring.

What is tooth whitening?

Tooth whitening is a com-

mon and popular chemical process used to lighten teeth. Some people get their teeth whitened to make stains disappear, while others just want a brighter smile. Discoloration, which occurs in the enamel, can be caused by medication, coffee, tea, dark colored foods, and cigarettes. It can also be due to your genetic make up or simply from aging. Teeth whitening can be performed in the dental office or at home.

What is bonding?

Bonding is the use of tooth-colored materials to fill in gaps or change the color and or shape of teeth. Bonding lasts several years and often requires only a single office visit. Bonding is more susceptible to staining or chipping than some other forms of restoration. When teeth are chipped or decayed, bonded composite resins may be the material of choice.

Bonding also is used to fill cavities, to close spaces between teeth or to cover the entire outside surface of a discolored or misshaped tooth (resin veneer).

What are caps (crowns), onlays and inlays?

Caps, also known as crowns, cover the tooth. This procedure is meant for the restoration of severely broken down, misshaped or malpositioned teeth and can be used for front or back teeth. Onlays are partial crowns covering only the part of the tooth that needs to be restored, preserving healthy tooth structure. Inlays are smaller than onlays and are used when a filling would not be adequate but an onlay is not yet indicated. Onlays and inlays are for back teeth. Today caps, onlays and inlays can be made in a variety of tooth matching materials depending on the individual

patient's need for esthetics and strength. This matching has led to the diminishing use of metals in restorations today.

What are veneers?

Veneers are thin layers of material, bonded resin or bonded porcelain, applied to an underlying discolored, misshaped and/or malpositioned tooth to achieve a better appearance and/or function. Porcelain is stronger, often more esthetic and longer lasting than bonded resin, however in some cases, bonded resin can be very esthetic, done more conservatively (preserving tooth structure), involve fewer visits and is usually less costly than porcelain.

What is reshaping?

One or more teeth may have minor irregularities, i.e. a rotation or height difference with its neighbor. In these situations minor adjustments made within the hard enamel outer portion of the tooth can often be a nice conservative treatment avoiding orthodontics, veneers or caps.

Orthodontics?

We all know about orthodontics, right? The metal braces that are worn for 2 years. Not anymore! Today clear removable trays can be used for many orthodontic procedures. This is an easier and more acceptable way for adults to do orthodontics almost invisibly.

What is gingival contouring?

Sometimes minor irregularities in gum positions can make for a less pleasing smile. Gingival contouring is done using a laser, electrosurgery or traditional surgery. Laser is the newest and best alternative since the discomfort,



tissue healing and results are most predictable. Often laser contouring can be done with no anesthesia or just a topical gel anesthetic.

Are there any downsides to cosmetic dentistry?

Some cosmetic dentistry is purely elective but much of cosmetic dentistry today is restoring broken down teeth with the latest tooth matching materials that are strong and look great. It is important to have an open discussion with your dentist about your preferences and limitations so your dentist can describe the benefits of the available treatment choices and cost differentials. This will help you make an informed choice which will enhance the health of your mouth and beauty of your smile.

Dr. Robert A. Gallegos is a Fellow of the American Dental Implant Association and the American Academy of General Dentistry, he is on the faculty of the Scottsdale Center for Dentistry, he is a mentor at the Pankey Institute for Advanced Dental Education and a general member or Fellow of several dental organizations including the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine and the American Dental Association. Dr. Gallegos practices dentistry in Middleburg, VA. You can learn more about his practice at [www.MiddleburgSmiles.com](http://www.MiddleburgSmiles.com) and request a copy of this article at [info@middleburgsmiles.com](mailto:info@middleburgsmiles.com).

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ROCK HILL IN LOUDOUN COUNTY. CIRCA 1797, WAS RECENTLY RESTORED AND FINANCED USING THE REHABILITATION TAX CREDIT.

JANE COVINGTON

In the Middleburg area, we are lucky enough to be surrounded by historic homes and historic districts. Many of these homes require a substantial investment into renovation and may be eligible for the rehabilitation tax credit.

Financial Aspects of Rehabilitation Tax Credit

The rehabilitation tax credits are reductions in income tax liability for home owners or investors who rehabilitate historic buildings. The credit is available for certified historic structures, which are about to undergo a

substantial renovation. Private homes are eligible for the state credit, which is 25% of qualified construction costs. Commercial structures are eligible for the state and federal credit, which is an additional 20% for the qualified construction costs. Combined, an owner can realize 45% of qualified construction costs as a tax credit.

Qualified construction costs include all capital expenses associated with the rehabilitation. Essentially, this means all hard cost as well as some soft costs including architectural and engineering fees, construction period interest and taxes, and general contracting fees. Acquisition costs, cost attributed to additions or expansions, or landscaping costs are not eligible construction expenses.

What Buildings Qualify for the Tax Credit?

"Certified" historic structures qualify for the rehabilitation tax credit. A certified structure is one that is listed on the Virginia or National Register or is certified as a contributing structure in an historic district. The villages of Middleburg, Upperville, Delaplane and Aldie Mill are historic districts and many of the villages' older structures are contributing resources to these districts. In addition, there are many surrounding rural historic districts including, the Goose Creek Rural Historic District, and proposed Unison Battlefield Historic and Little River Historic Districts.

What Work Qualifies for the Credit?

The rehabilitation work for the entire project must meet the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation, which are ten standards that guide property owners in restoration. The Standards embody common sense; preserve historic character, retain distinctive features and don't create a false sense of history.

How do I Claim the Credit?

In order to claim the credit, the property owner must make a "substantial investment." Under the state program, for an owner-occupied home, the owner must invest 25% of the home's assessed value into the restoration. For income producing properties, the owner must invest 100% of the structure's adjusted basis. This investment must be met within the first 24 months. For long term renovations, construction can be phased over five years and the credit may be claimed at the end of each phase. The state credit may be claimed immediately at tax time. Owners who claim the federal credit must take the credit in equal amounts over a five year period.

Jane Covington is an expert in the historic rehabilitation tax credit. Jane Covington Restoration LLC is LEED certified with the US Green Building Council and is a Class A General Contracting firm. For more information, call Jane at 434-960-4678 or refer to [www.janecovingtonrestoration.com](http://www.janecovingtonrestoration.com).



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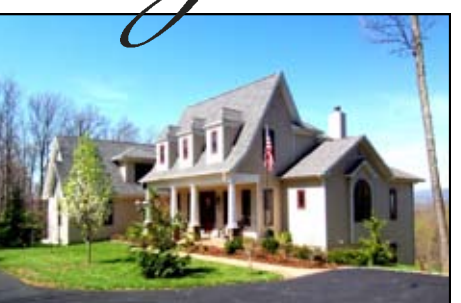
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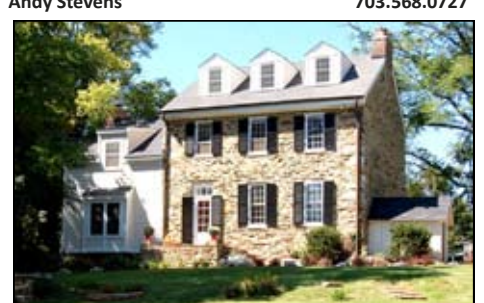
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BUTTONWOOD - MAY 21, 2010  
PHOTOS BY DEE DEE HUBBARD



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PHOTOS BY KATIE TURNER



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# LUNGE LINE

## HIDDEN HOLLOW RIDERS REWARDED AT LEXINGTON HORSE SHOWS

Hidden Hollow's riders scored tricolors and blue ribbons in abundance during the Lexington Spring Premiere and Encore horse shows, held April 28-May 9, in Lexington, Va.

Hidden Hollow owner and trainer Ginny Edwards said their most successful

competitor during the first week's competition is also one of their youngest—Charlotte Scharfenberg, a sixth-grader at The Hill School in Middleburg, Va.

Scharfenberg, 12, The Plains, Va., rode Ann Thompson's Lemieux to the children's hunter, 14 and under, championship with three

blue ribbons, was the grand children's hunter champion, then added the prestigious WIHS/NAL Children's Hunter Classic victory as icing on the cake. In recognition of her achievements, the judges also named her the best child rider on a horse.

"I was thrilled with the job she did. She's an unbe-

lievably talented and hard-working young lady," said Edwards. "This was her second show since last fall. She spent the winter working and training at home, here in Virginia, with Hidden Hollow's Assistant Trainer Amanda Penick. Her results really show that hard work does pay off."

Samantha Gumbin, 15,

The Plains, Va., also showed her winter of practice paid off with top ribbons in the large junior, 15 and under, division and added a blue in the THIS/National Children's Medal aboard The Golden Compass.

"Samantha keeps her horses at home and ships over to Hidden Hollow for lessons and training," said Edwards. "She's very methodical about doing her homework and following the program we give her. She's taken The Golden Compass, who's very talented but a little bit difficult, and has brought the best out of him."

Hidden Hollow's equitation riders also scored impressive victories during the Spring Encore when Gumbin and Beverly Catlett, 15, Bluemont, Va., made their respective debuts in the 3'6" classes.

"They both rode great, were focused and confident," said Edwards. "They really rose to the occasion. It was the first time they had experienced these more challenging classes, and they both performed beautifully."

Gumbin won the ASPCA Maclay class while Catlett placed second, and the two riders swapped placings in the WIHS Equitation Classic Jumper Phase with Catlett taking the blue ribbon over Gumbin. Gumbin also scored her second consecutive THIS/National Children's Medal top call. And both riders are well on their way to qualifying to compete in the prestigious fall equitation finals.

"Bev has a new horse whom she leases who was a jumper. She's done a great job teaching him about the equitation and taking her time with him. She's really studied the equitation this year, is understanding the concepts and doing a great job," said Edwards.

Other Hidden Hollow riders who excelled in Lexington included: Donna Gumbin, who guided Miss Fehrman to the low children's/adult jumper championship during week 1, Emily duPont, Wilmington, Del., who rode Coeur De Lis to blues in the children's hunter, 15-17, division, and Hidden Hollow professional rider Erin O'Neill who guided Ann Thompson's Ante Up to consistent ribbons in the second year green division.

Hidden Hollow specializes in developing horses and riders for the show ring, from short stirrup to the grand prix jumper ranks. Amenities include a state-of-the-art outdoor ring, a lighted indoor arena and miles of trails winding through the beautiful Virginia hunt country.

For information about Hidden Hollow and available boarding and training opportunities, contact Ginny Edwards (301) 980-4305 or Amanda Penick (540) 270-0906 or see [www.hidden-hollow.com](http://www.hidden-hollow.com).



PHOTO BY JOHN DUPONT

CHARLOTTE SCHARFENBERG AND ANN THOMPSON'S LEMIEUX EARNED THE GRAND CHILDREN'S AND CHILDREN'S, 14 AND UNDER, CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE LEXINGTON SPRING PREMIERE HORSE SHOW. SCHARFENBERG WAS ALSO NAMED THE BEST CHILD RIDER ON A HORSE.

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## FLEUR-DE-LIS MONTESSORI SCHOOL



Fleur-de-lis Montessori School children present Carol O'Malley, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, a gift and donation.

## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST SCHOOL VICTORIOUS!



**I**n a three round Battle of the Books competition among twelve teams from Prince William County, City of Manassas, Front Royal, Culpeper County, Fauquier County and Rappahannock County, St. John emerged as the Grand Champion.

On April 30th St. John the Evangelist School Battle of the Books teammates Kathryn Mullin, Anthony Del Rosso, Maddie Dargis, Candace Gearhart, Elizabeth Liebel, Caroline Liebel and Tess Bennett were overjoyed when they learned they had beaten their closest rival by 80 points. Since last August the team had read 19 books numerous times and practiced once a week with their coach, Mrs. Anderson.

The four hour evening event took place at Highland School in Warrenton, VA. Round One consisted of a multiple choice test, in which Anthony Del Rosso of St. John School ranked the highest individual score. Round Two involved five room changes as teams battled one on one answering one hundred "In what book..." questions. Round Three involved all of the teams answering "In what two books..." questions and identifying quotes.

Mrs. Anderson, librarian at St. John, was thrilled for the team. She said when it was all over, "I guided them, but they did the hard work. One student, Anthony Del Rosso, read the books over four times each. I'm very proud of them all."

The four hour eve-

## ANNUAL MIDDLEBURG AREA TREX CONTEST



First Place Loudoun County Parks and Recreation Pre-School at The Middleburg Community Center



Second Place Banneker Elementary Student Body

**C**ongratulations to the five Middleburg area schools that participated in the annual Middleburg Area Schools Trex Recycling Contest. They all have made an enormous difference!

The First Place Winner was The Loudoun County Parks and Recreation Pre-School at The Middleburg Community Center! They turned in 162 pounds of plastic materials to be recycled and have only 10 students! That is 16.2 pounds per student. The LCP&R Pre-School received a Trex bench made of recycled materials as their award. The Second Place Winner was Banneker Elementary School. They turned in a whopping 1553 pounds of plastic material to be recycled! They have 186 students which is 8.35 pounds per student. Because of their outstanding efforts and enthusi-

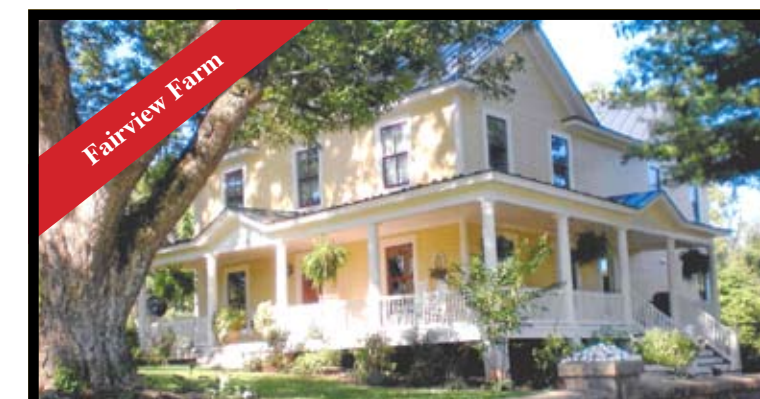
asm over the past two years they also received a Trex bench. Every school did an extraordinary job of recycling this year.

Piedmont Child Care Center turned in 334.2 lbs with 5 students for an average of 6.68 lbs per student!

Montessori School of Middleburg turned in 138 lbs with 23 students for an average of 6.1 lbs per student!

Middleburg Elementary turned in 377 lbs with 82 students for an average of 4.6 lbs per student!

This little, fun and easy contest of ours recycled a total of 2564.2 lbs of plastic materials-all of which can be used by Trex to make building materials! If you are interested in signing your school up to participate, please contact Katie Turner at 687-5516.



This beautiful 1911 farm house on 10 plus acres including bank barn is perfect for entertaining with a 16 foot bar and plenty of room for horses. The home is professionally renovated with complete attention to every detail from the gourmet kitchen and the spa bath to the iron gate.



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# FRIENDS FOR LIFE

## Middleburg Humane Foundation

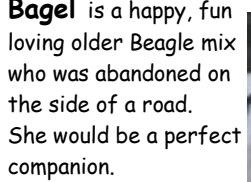


**Frankie** is a 4 yr. old Jack Russell. He is very nice and has lots of energy. He would do best in a very active home as an only animal.

**Adam** is an 8 yr. old lab mix who spent most of his life on a chain. He loves people, is very smart, and will give lots of kisses, but is not good around cats.



**Philip** is a 4 yr. old kitty who would do great as an indoor/outdoor kitty or a barn cat. He is nice and likes some attention, but is a little shy.



**Bagel** is a happy, fun loving older Beagle mix who was abandoned on the side of a road. She would be a perfect companion.



**Sargento** is a 3 yr. old kitty who was found tangled in some bushes by a string that had been tied tightly around his waist. He is very sweet, has a great personality, and gets along great with other cats.



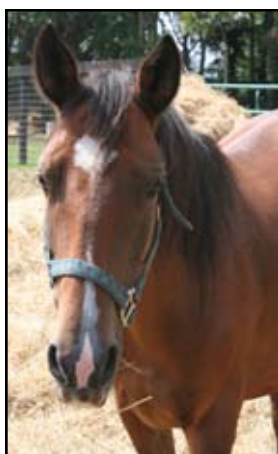
**Lilah** is a charming 4 yr. old Beagle Pit bull mix. She is very sweet, loves people, & has a great personality.

**Mable** is a super sweet 2 yr. old Lab mix. She is in obedience training and is learning commands very quickly. Mable would make a great family dog.



**Josh** is an 1 yr. old Pit Bull has been going through obedience training and is very smart. He loves to go on walks and enjoys attention. We have worked with him around other dogs and he is doing very well.

**Teddy** is a 7 mo. old Chow who loves people and other dogs. He has started Obedience Training and is looking for a family to adopt him that will continue with his classes.



**Sally** is a 6 yr old branded bay Mustang mare with excellent ground manners. She has Parelli training & has tons of potential.



**Foxy** is a 4 yr old, 14 h chestnut TBx mare. She is very attractive, has excellent ground manners and a quiet/lovely temperament.



**Chance** is an 8 yr old, 15 h bay grade mare. She is sound, quite attractive, has good ground manners, and is people oriented.

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### Middleburg Humane Foundation

P.O. Box 1238 ~ Middleburg, VA ~ 20118

[mhfdtn@earthlink.net](mailto:mhfdtn@earthlink.net) ~ (540) 364-3272

For more information on animals available for adoption, upcoming fundraisers, recent rescues, and how you can help, please visit us on the web:

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

### Adoption Days

Please join us for our adoption events in Middleburg the third Saturday of each month. We will have dogs available for adoption at both Wylie Wagg & next to Scruffy's Ice Cream Parlor. (weather permitting)

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## ALBERT'S CORNER

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

Click. Click. Click. It's the sound of too-long doggie nails on uncarpeted floors. And it's a sound many people hear constantly. Noise, however, is the least of the issues when it comes to the length of our nails. Regular nail grooming is a must for our well-being.

Lots of people, however, are nervous about trimming our nails. For that reason, I thought I would share the basics with my readers.

First, our nails are very different than yours. We have a hard outer covering and a soft inner portion called the quick. The quick has nerve endings and veins. If you accidentally hit it, it is very painful for us and it bleeds!

Dogs either have light nails or dark nails. With light nails, it's a little easier to differentiate between the safe outer cover and the vulnerable quick. With dark nails, however, it can be virtually impossible.

Some people decide that it's just easier to hand the task over to a professional groomer. Frankly, that's often the best bet. Yet, it can be costly and difficult to clear your schedule on a regular basis for nail trims. So, some people take the plunge themselves.

If you decide that you're up to the challenge, you will need good nail clippers. Invest in high-quality clippers that will work for years to come. You can choose a "guillotine" style for most dogs, but larger dogs require a traditional cutter. There are also electric dremels that can be very effective at smoothing and shortening our nails. Finally, make sure you have styptic powder to help stave off bleeding should you hit the quick.

Be wary of gimmicks when buying tools. For instance, there are guillotine clippers that supposedly light up when they sense the quick. I can tell you firsthand that they do not work, and the results can be ugly. Likewise, there are inexpensive dremels you can buy

at any drug store, but I wouldn't. If you want a good dremel, buy one that is closer to professional quality.

If you decide to do the trimming yourself, make sure your dog is very comfortable with pressure around his paws. It's a good idea to handle dogs' and puppies' paws and nails a lot so that they are not overly sensitive when you have to do a nail trim.

When you're ready to clip, hold your dog gently but firmly, making sure to keep the blade away from the lighter colored quick if your dog has light nails. If he or she has black nails, be very conservative and trim a tiny bit at a time. If you see a small round area that is a slightly different color, you're getting close to the quick.

Always talk to your dog in praising, soothing tones throughout the process. When you've finished, reward your dog verbally and with a favorite treat.

The important thing is to trim once or twice a month. Long nails impede your dog's comfort when he or she walks. Severely neglected nails can cause even worse physical issues, like painful splitting or curling under the pad.

If your dog already has very long nails, it will take repeated trims over time to return the nail to a healthy length. The quick grows along with nail, so safe clipping can become exceptionally challenging with very long nails.

Remember, it's perfectly okay to let a professional handle this job. If you're nervous, your dog will be nervous too. If, however, you're confident and willing to put in the time and effort, nail trims could become part of your regular routine instead of something that you and your dog both dread!

*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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## 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. \$4,800,000.

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## Forest Mills Farm

Leesburg, Virginia

Circa 1813 Quaker home, brick, stone and stucco construction. 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 7 fireplaces, high ceilings, beautiful woodwork and original floors on 69.75 acres. Improvements include the stone guest house, log cabin, 3 barns totalling 20 stalls and riding ring. Property is fenced and cross fenced, boxwood gardens. Great setting in a protected area. Prime fox hunting location. \$1,495,000.

Joseph Keusch (540) 454-0591  
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## Pagebrook East

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Gorgeous tract of land, 97.88 acres, in the middle of Blue Ridge Hunt territory. Small cottage converted from an original summer kitchen. Additional building site with approved 4 bedroom perc. Open pasture land, pond, small barn and run-in sheds. Fenced for horses and cattle. Land is in conservation easement. \$1,495,000.

Andrew Motion (540) 454-3466  
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## Sweetwood Manor

Marshall, Virginia

Gorgeous mountain views overlooking 15.5 acres of open land with 1/4 acre spring fed pond and private dock. Unmatched French country design with unique timber frame interior of reclaimed Douglas Fir from the Pacific Northwest and wide plank Teak floors. 5 bedrooms including a full in-law suite make up the 6,700 sf of finished living space with an energy efficient "green" approach. Exceptional house with fine finishes, 11' ceilings and two story stone fireplace. Attached 4 bay garage. \$1,395,000.

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## October Hill

Lincoln, Virginia

Beautiful farm on 30 acres recorded in 3 parcels. Gently rolling acres with lovely views in protected area near Lincoln. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, contemporary home, 3 fireplaces, 2 car garage, very private. European style stable with 6 stalls, tack room, office, wash stall and apartment built in 2000. More land available. \$1,275,000.

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## St. Louis Road

Purcellville, Virginia

Solid brick colonial located between Middleburg and Purcellville. 4 bedroom home with hardwood floors throughout, 2 1/2 baths, open kitchen and family room with wood burning fireplace, bright sunroom, large unfinished basement. Mature plantings surround the pool and gazebo. Gorgeous bank barn with space for an apartment above. \$850,000.

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## Piedmont Drive

Middleburg, Virginia

Elegant 4/5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bath townhome in the village of Middleburg. 4 full levels, approx 4,000 sf of living space including fully finished lower level. Main floor has hardwood floors, large eat-in kitchen, two sided gas fireplace in lovely sunken living room and den/office. Lots of space, private patio, convenient easy living. OLREA. \$599,999.

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## Ashville Road

Marshall, Virginia

Charming country home on 5.30 acres, original portion log cabin circa 1700, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3 fireplaces, hardwood floors throughout, exposed log interior walls, vaulted ceilings in living room and master bedroom. Lovely setting with mountain views, gardens, 200 year old white oak. Improvements include garage/work shop, barn/storage building. Excellent Fauquier County location, perfect for full time or 2nd home. \$595,000.

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## Peddler's Cottage

The Plains, Virginia

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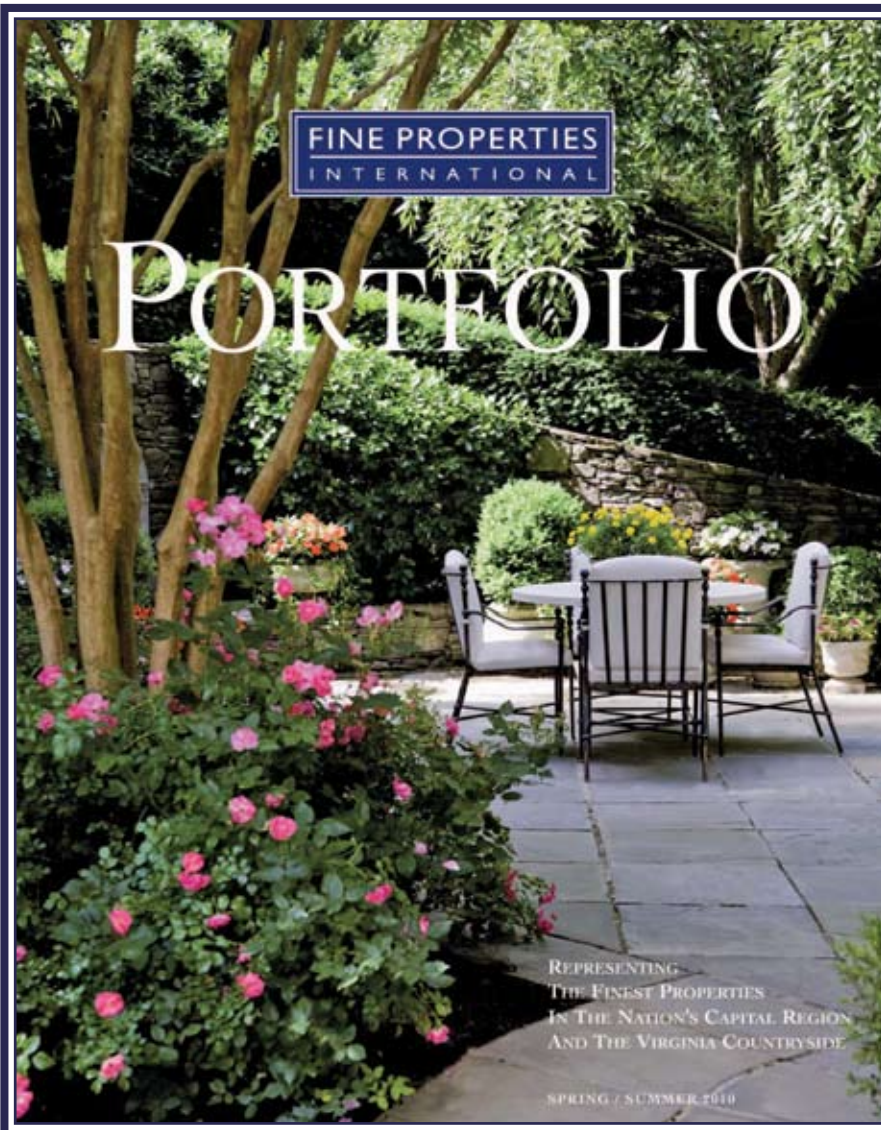
**HIDDEN POND, MARSHALL, VA**

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INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

**SILCOTT SPRINGS FARM, PURCELLVILLE, VA**

Historic stone home, c. 1790, situated on 40 pastoral acres in a story-book setting. Quality renovation blends the charm of an antique home with all the modern conveniences. New stucco addition with first floor master suite, state of the art kitchen and family room, completed with green technology. Pond, stone bank barn, guest house and fencing for horses complete the picture. \$2,500,000.

Kathryn Harrell

540-687-2215

Carol Fochtman

540-272-4334



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

**THE PERCH, MIDDLEBURG, VA**

In the heart of the Orange County hunt just south of Middleburg. Light filled country contemporary in lush surroundings overlooking Little River. 8.9 acres. 2 BR main house, fabulous kitchen. Garage with lovely office/guest quarters above. 2 stall barn with groom's quarters. Fenced paddock with run-in shed. Price reduced. \$1,550,000.

Ruth Ripley

540-687-2222

Lynn Wiley

540-454-1527



**7 CHINN LANE, MIDDLEBURG, VA**

Charming cape offers the best of everything, desirable in-town location in a quiet, tree-lined community. The elegant 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home is filled with quality details such as bay windows, wood floors, lovely woodwork, 2 fireplaces and large sunroom. French doors open to the backyard with mature landscaping and a separate artist studio. \$725,000.

Carol Fochtman

540-272-4334

Clyde Lamond

703-501-8065

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