



MIDDLEBURG HUMANE FOUNDATION GALA

PAGE 18



THE BLACKBURN MURDER

PAGE 4

NATIONAL SPORTING MUSEUM SNEAK PREVIEW

Fortunate Hunt Country patrons and supporters forgot the steamy July evening weather when they were recently invited for cocktails and a sneak preview of the National Sporting Library's new Museum.

The completely renovated and expanded Vine Hill evoked an extraordinary array of positive comment and compliment as guests ascended the limestone steps to enter the new wing. Crossing the airy opening gallery, they went up the sweeping spiral staircase to beautifully lit and appointed exhibit rooms on the second floor.

Designers and architects have created pristine new wing galleries, welcoming and elegant, that integrate seamlessly with the renovated

wing where every historic fireplace mantle and wide-plank floor has been impeccably restored. Attention to detail has been visibly and pleasantly the watchword throughout.

"We are so proud of it," Board Chairman Manley Johnson said. "The National Sporting Library Board's decision to expand into the fine art field was made to help keep the history and legacy of America's great country life alive and well. We are immensely pleased to create this museum for our community."

In fact, the mission of the National Sporting Library and Museum, is to 'preserve and to share the art, literature and culture of horse and field sports.' Located on the Library's Middleburg,

Continued Page 5

HISTORIC FURR FARM SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

BILLIE VAN PAY

One of the most historic farms in Loudoun County, the Furr-Leith Farm on Snickersville Turnpike, sold last year after having been owned by the Furr-Leith family for seven generations. Chet and Laura Lea Moore of Aldie, Va., are the new owners, and they have involved a number of the community organizations in preparation for a major public event in 2013 that will highlight the grand old farm's history.

The Sesquicentennial Civil War Celebrations in Northern Virginia have brought the national news media and tourists in monumental numbers to the area recently, and most of the area's organizations and agencies focused on education, history and preservation are participating in and promoting those events.

The national tourism program for the National Heritage Area and National Scenic Byways, which stretches one hundred and eighty miles from Gettysburg to Charlottesville, has designated the countryside along the route as the "Journey through Hallowed Ground." There are more Civil War battle sites concentrated in this area than anywhere else in the nation. As the 150 year anniversaries occur from battle site to battle site along the route, history is being retold in nineteenth century terms to people of the twenty-first century, a tremendous and difficult undertaking.



The Moore family plans to have the Furr Farm become a location for part of that celebration.

The Furr Farm battle site, registered with the Department of Historic Resources, is the site of one of the major cavalry battles of the Civil War; the battle is known as having been the Prelude to Gettysburg.

During the June 17, 1863, Battle of Aldie, Confederate sharpshooters from the Second and Third Virginia dismounted along the Snickersville Turnpike behind the stone wall on the Furr Farm and waited for the Union cavalry which came around the blind curve into a hail of fire. As a consequence, the First Massachusetts suffered great casualties, the severest experienced by

Continued Page 6



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NEWS OF NOTE

LEGENDARY BRUCE SUNDLUN DIES PEACEFULLY

Bruce Sundlun, the fiery Rhode Island governor, World War II hero and the owner who gave Middleburg's Salamander Farm its name, has died at 91. Governor Chafee ordered that Rhode Island flags be lowered to half-staff. Sundlun was hospitalized recently for an undisclosed illness.

A highly competitive and successful businessman, Sundlun led a complex personal and combative professional life.

According to the Providence Journal, Sundlun, a Democrat, served two terms as governor, from 1991 to 1995, during one of Rhode Island's deepest recessions and the worst banking collapse in the state's history.

He was both praised and vilified for his handling of the crisis — just as admiration for all his accomplishments was always colored by reaction to his formidable ego, his personal style and his succession of romances that led to five marriages and four divorces.

"What lessons would I have for people?" Sundlun said in a Journal interview in January 2010, on the eve of his 90th birthday. "Play it straight. Who, what, where, when, how. Those

are the facts of life."

Asked if he had any regrets, Sundlun said: "Not really, that I can think of. I don't have any enemies that I know of. And it wouldn't trouble me if I did."

Born on Jan. 19, 1920, Bruce George Sundlun was the first child of Jan Zelda (Colitz) and Walter Irving Sundlun, whose parents came to the United States from Lithuania. The Sundluns lived on the East Side of Providence. "I think I was the first Jewish kid to ever go to the Gordon School," Sundlun said in a 2006 Journal profile.

Sundlun started in kindergarten and made lifelong friends at Gordon — but also experienced anti-Semitism.

He remembered competing in a foot race at the end of third grade. "I won hands down," Sundlun said. "It was the first time I ever realized I had any athletic ability or could run fast. And the two guys who came in second threw me down on the ground, and called me a dirty Jew."

Gifted with a sharp, analytical mind that would later suit him to the practice of law, Sundlun attended Providence's Classical High School, leaving

after junior year for private Tabor Academy in Marion, Mass. He entered Williams College in September 1938, and when Hitler invaded Poland a year later, Sundlun, a sophomore, suspected that America eventually would be drawn into the conflict.

Enlisting in the U.S. Army Air Corps after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, Sundlun trained as a B-17 bomber pilot. He was on his 13th bombing run over Germany on Dec. 1, 1943, when his Flying Fortress, Damn Yankee, was shot down, killing four of its nine-man crew.

Parachuting into Nazi-occupied Belgium, Sundlun evaded capture and connected with the Belgian Underground, eventually joining the Maquis, a branch of the French Resistance that was waging guerrilla war against the Germans near the Swiss border. He was a Jew on the run in a land occupied by Nazis.

"We would play it cool until sometime during the night, then we'd go in and attack [German Army] transport, find their fuel trucks, and shoot 'em up and try and set 'em on fire," Sundlun recalled in the 2006 profile. "The Ger-

mans would fight back and there'd be some gunfire, but we'd do more damage to them than they'd do to us 'cause we knew every rock and tree."

Five months after being shot down, Sundlun escaped to safety. The U.S. would later honor him with the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and an Air Medal with oak leaf cluster. France would bestow the Chevalier of the Légion d'honneur.

Sundlun was a millionaire, with several homes, in Rhode Island, Jamaica and the Washington area — and he was increasingly active in national and Democratic politics, including with President John F. Kennedy, who named Sundlun co-chairman of his 1961 inaugural committee.

He is survived by his wife, Soozie Sundlun; three sons: Tracey Sundlun of San Diego, Stuart Sundlun of Virginia, and Peter and Karen Sundlun of New York City; a daughter: Kara Sundlun House and her husband, Dennis House; two stepchildren: Heather and Ray Conover of Jamestown and Max Dittelman of Tequesta, Fla., four grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

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NEWS OF NOTE

THE BLACKBURN MURDER

DANIEL MORROW

In early 1854, Mary Anderson, arguably one of the most beautiful women in Virginia, refused to go out with a young Washington College law student, Charles Burks Christian. Humiliated and made the object of public scorn, Christian confronted, stabbed and killed her cousin, VMI First Classman Thomas Blackburn, in Lexington Virginia. This is the story of that murder, the trials that followed, and the impact of those events on the men and women of Virginia and Maryland who would all too soon face the larger trials of the American Civil War.

Part One: Out of the Darkness

James Woods Massie had heard the sounds before -- the slash and snap of a heavy switch or cowhide lashing and the echoes of hard blows striking home. It sounded, he said, like nothing more than someone thrashing a slave. Nothing unusual, it would seem, for a Sunday afternoon in Lexington.

Massie said nothing about it to his three friends stepping carefully in the dark along Nelson Street, on their way to late Sunday services at Lexington's main Presbyterian Church.

No one raised an alarm. It was dark; it was wet; it was Sunday, and whatever was going on in the shadows it was, no doubt, none of their business.

By the time Massie's little group had covered another five or ten paces two men came tumbling out of the darkness behind, locked in each others arms, struggling in what one described as a "deadly silence."

Perhaps recalling recent rumors of slave unrest (and the mobilization of troops in Lexington) only a few years

earlier, Massie handed his hymnal to one of the group, a young law student named Benton Taylor, and turned to face whatever might be out there in the dark.

As a precaution he ordered Taylor to lead the two ladies of their company to the relative light and safety of Main Street.

In the darkness the fighters had gone down, stumbling and falling into the ruts of the barely thawed mud of the heavily traveled street.

Hopelessly near-sighted, Massie could barely see the shadowy antagonists, now rolling on the ground, their faces completely hidden, their bodies only dimly visible in the glow from the church windows behind him.

Inside that brightly lit sanctuary the Reverend Dr. George Junkin, President of Washington College, was just beginning evening services.

His congregation numbered a hundred or more. Among them were the usual assortment of VMI Cadets, Washington College students, and bright young men from Judge John White Brockenbrough's Law School, many of whom, by their own admission, attended services less for religious inspiration than to see or be seen by the young women in the congregation.

Dr. Junkin's family was also there: his wife, his three daughters, and his new son-in-law, a West Point graduate, Mexican war hero, and now a struggling instructor at the Institute, Major Thomas Jonathan Jackson, later better known as "Stonewall."

For the Junkin and Jackson families the recent holiday season had already been exceptional.

"Ellie" Junkin, Major Jackson's new wife, was pregnant with their first child, though it is unlikely that either she or her husband were yet aware of

her condition.

Ellie's younger sister, 18-year-old Julia, had walked to church that night on the arm of VMI Cadet, First Classman Thomas Blackburn, tall, blond, and by all accounts one of the most handsome, most popular, and most well-connected young men in the Valley.

He was also something of a bad boy.

He had only recently returned to VMI following a court-martial for a notorious prank played on none other than the famously humorless Major Jackson.

Worse, were his ties of "former kinship" to another woman in the congregation, Sally Campbell Preston McDowell, the daughter of the first Governor of Virginia from west of the Blue Ridge, James McDowell.

Blackburn's uncle, former Maryland Governor Frank Thomas, had met her when he was a congressman and she was a student at a DC finishing school.

Though she was less than half his age he had courted her and married her in her father's house in Lexington.

Within a year, however, Frank Thomas drove divorce legislation through the Maryland legislature and published a widely circulated pamphlet on the process, charging that his teen bride had committed incest with her cousin soon after their marriage and worse, in heavily Catholic Maryland, had aborted the resulting pregnancy.

Tom Blackburn, the eldest son of Frank Thomas's sister, would be dead before his erstwhile Aunt Sally heard benediction.

(to be continued)



THE FIRST MAJOR BATTLE OF THE CIVIL WAR

CHILDS BURDEN

One hundred fifty years ago last December 20, South Carolina seceded from The United States. Before the year ended, Major Anderson moved his federal garrison from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter in the middle of Charleston Harbor thus setting the stage for a heated confrontation that would lead to the secession of six more states: Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas.

On March 4, 1861 Lincoln was sworn in as the 16th President of the United States. Negotiations over the status of Fort Sumter broke down completely in early April and the Confederate States of America began bombarding the fort. Major Anderson surrendered the fort within 32 hours but the act of beligerence against a federal fort was tantamount to a declaration of war. Lincoln called for 75,000 troops to put down "the rebellion" and soon thereafter four more states left the Union. Virginia would be among them.

Nearly everyone thought the war would be brief, lasting a few months at most. Northerners and Southerners flocked to their colors to stand up for their beliefs. By June, thousands had joined the ranks and thousands more were coming in each week. Both sides now looked to their experienced military men to lead these green soldiers into battle. The two officers who were chosen were Irvin

McDowell and Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard.

Irvin McDowell was career army. He was admired and respected by both the General in Chief, Winfield Scott, and the Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon P. Chase. Born in Ohio, McDowell was 42 years old and had been schooled in France before matriculating at West Point. Beauregard was one of his classmates. He graduated in 1838 and was ordered to the artillery service. Later he would be picked to teach tactics at West Point. He served admirably in the war with Mexico and advanced in rank to captain. Afterwards, he was appointed a position in the Adjutant's General's office, essentially a desk job in military administration. By 1856 he had risen to major. After Fort Sumter, McDowell was advanced to brigadier general and given command of the then named Army of Northeastern Virginia. He had never commanded soldiers in action and resisted taking the field with his army in dire need of additional training. Nevertheless, Lincoln wanted a quick end to the rebellion because many of the men had come into the army as 90 day volunteers. Their enlistment terms would soon expire. Lincoln ordered him to proceed to Manassas Junction to take that vital rail connection and then to follow up that victory by taking Richmond. On July 16th, McDowell moved his army out of Washington and headed for Fairfax and Centreville. On July 21st, he crossed Bull Run to con-

front the Confederate forces arrayed behind that slow moving stream.

P. G. T. Beauregard was 43 years old and also career army. Born to Creole parents on a sugar plantation near New Orleans, Beauregard's first language was French. He was accepted into West Point and graduated in 1838 second in his class. He joined the artillery but was soon transferred to the engineers -- the most prestigious service in the army. He served with distinction in the war with Mexico under General Winfield Scott. He was wounded twice there and rose in rank to major.

As an engineer, he was posted to spots along the Mississippi River to handle flood control. In 1861 he was appointed to head West Point, a post he held less than one week before resigning his commission and joining the Confederacy. He was given command of the Charleston defenses in March. There he led the forces that would initiate the war with the bombardment and surrender of Fort Sumter. Ironically, Major Anderson, the federal officer in charge at Fort Sumter, had been Beauregard's artillery instructor at West Point.

By early summer of 1861, Beauregard was ordered to take command of the Confederate forces in Northern Virginia, an army he would name The Army of the Potomac. There he engineered a defensive line along Bull Run that would guard the important rail connection at Manassas Junction. Other than the static

defenses at Charleston Harbor, Beauregard had never before commanded men in battle.

The story of these two class mates who met as enemies on the plains of Manassas is an important part of our national history. The battle they fought took

place 150 years ago this July 21st. It is a great time to refresh our memory on this history. Visit the battlefield and take in the film and electronic map presentation. There is no better place for a walk and no better place for quiet reflection.

A PATRIOTIC GESTURE

On July 4, 2011, two young men from the Shenandoah Valley Young Marines replaced the well-worn American flag on the premises of the Middleburg Exxon, owned by Billy Journell. The on-duty attendant, Kim, eagerly agreed to allow YM LCpl Thaddeus Edwards of Middleburg and SSgt Alex Loria of Arlington to remove the tattered flag and replace it with a crisp, brand new one in honor of our Nation's 235th birthday. The former flag will receive a ceremonious retirement at the Young Marine's annual summer camping trip, to be held in Philadelphia in August. It seems appropriate that it should be removed from service on July 4th and retired in the place where the American flag originated.

For more information on the unit, visit the website at www.svym07.com.



NATIONAL SPORTING MUSEUM SNEAK PREVIEW

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Virginia campus, the Museum will house a rapidly expanding permanent collection of fine paintings, sculpture and objets d'art.

Scheduled to open in the Autumn of 2011, visitors will be welcomed through the doors of the historic brick structure to view exhibitions in a delightfully inviting setting very reflective of the setting for which these works were originally commissioned.

According to NSLM Executive Director Rick Sioutamyer, the renovation and expansion of Vine Hill, the Federal Manor House that will be home to the Museum, is primarily finished although there are punch list items to be completed and tweaks to the lighting that are very much the purview of Curator F. Turner Reuter, Jr.

"Turner is doing a fabulous job," Rick emphasized. "His dedication and enthusiasm are unparalleled and focused."

Without question, everyone on the NSLM team, the board, the directors, the administrators and staff, deserve immense credit for envisioning, funding, planning and bringing into existence a truly exceptional new American institution.

Proof of the quality and caliber of their vision and commitment extends beyond the beautiful building to the opening exhibition, "Afield in America, 400 Years of Animal & Sporting Art, 1585-1985" that will debut October 11th, 2011.

Curator Reuter designed the opening exhibit to raise awareness of the importance of animal and sporting art as a reflection of American history and cultural life. To include over one hundred works of fine art, the exhibition evolves naturally from his highly regarded book, 'Animal and Sporting Artists in America,' which was published by the NSLM and is now being reprinted.

"I am very excited to be at the printers again this summer with the NSLM's newest publication, our opening exhibit catalogue, under production. I believe that animal and sporting art are inseparable," Reuter emphasized.

"The term 'afield,' is an adverb that is very useful in this exhibition for both its primary and its secondary definitions: 'The primary definition... In, or

to the field...' is very apt. And the secondary definition... Away from home or to or at a distance... is equally appropriate. Early in our country's history, animal and sporting artists were active practitioners of the field sports. They were afield to paint as often as they were to hunt, fish, ride and shoot. They were often working away from home and, frequently, were travelers or immigrants to this country, seeking both opportunity and inspiration in a new land.

"American born or otherwise, many were adventurers or explorers working afield, far beyond the confines of the academy or studio. Our inaugural exhibit will create a context in which visitors can learn about and begin to ap-

preciate the work of these individuals."

Organized by theme, the exhibit will include these categories: Artist Naturalists & Explorers; Budding National Style; Equine; Hunting with Hounds; Livestock; Angling; Sporting Portraits; Pets; Trompe l'Oeil and Still Life; Shooting; the West; and Wildlife.

According to Reuter, the 150 paintings and sculpture shown within these categories will help illustrate how American animal and sporting artists have developed a unique national style reflective of our people, the rich variety of our wildlife and the breadth of our national landscape.

"It is my hope that the exhibition will convince visitors not only of

the value of these works as an expression of American life and culture, but, ultimately, that they are a reflection of ourselves," Reuter explained.

Paintings and sculpture have been drawn from the NSLM's permanent collection as well as from private collections, museums and other institutions throughout the United States. The exhibit will include iconic American artists including Albert Bierstadt, Alfred Jacob Miller and Frederic Remington as well as those by recognized masters of the animal and sporting art genre, including John James Audubon, Edward Troye, Arthur F. Tait and William T. Ranney.

The works of other fine Ameri-

can sporting artists, which have long been esteemed by enthusiasts of the genre, but, until recently, were often overlooked by art historians are also an important focus of the exhibition. Included in this group are William Herbert Dunton, Herbert Haseltine, Thomas Hewes Hinckley, Anna Hyatt Huntington, Alexander Pope, Ogden Pleissner, Percival Rosseau and John Martin Tracy.

For further information about the new National Sporting Museum and its exhibition, "Afield in America," please contact the Curatorial Department, 540 687 6542, extension 14, or visit www.nsl.org.

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A VISIT LOUDOUN DESTINATION RESTAURANT

NEWS OF NOTE

FAUQUIER MOVES TO BAN HEAVYWEIGHT TRUCK TRAFFIC

HUNTER BAYLISS

The Fauquier County Board of Supervisors has voted unanimously to recommend a proposal to ban “heavyweight through traffic of

commercial trucks” on local roads to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) at the supervisors meeting on July 14.

The next step will be a hearing before the CTB, which will take steps to put the proposal into law.

The proposal, which would ban tractor trailers on Halfway Road (Route 626), Zulla Road (Route 709), Rectortown Road (Route 710) and Atoka Road (Route 713), arose from a petition last fall to ban through truck traffic on small two-

lane roads, many of which are in residential and private farm areas.

Michael Motion, a major force behind the proposal, has been pressuring the county for well over a year about the bothersome truck traffic. As the public hearing approached, Mr. Motion sent out an e-mail call to arms to those affected in the neighborhood. “This is it: the battle lines are being drawn,” he wrote, calling on concerned citizens to muster support and attend the proposal’s public hearing. Mr. Motion was keen to remind everyone that “now is the time for action.”

For many members of the community, the ban will be a welcome relief. Mrs. Kit Hemion, a Rectortown resident, said: “though I’m not as affected by the trucks as my neighbors, for the people who live on Maidstone Road, this will make their lives a lot easier and quieter.” Other supporters of the ban, such as Julie Martin Matheson, were clear that “[through trucks] should not be allowed on these precious and dangerous smaller cross roads.”

The Fauquier County Board of Supervisors recently approached

the Middleburg Town Council to gain support for the proposal. The Town Council will hold a public meeting some time in the near future to address the issue of through truck traffic on Halfway Road (Route 626), which lies in both jurisdictions.

Though most of the community welcomes the ban, their reasoning behind it ban is mixed. Some residents place the blame on trucks that use the short cuts to bypass Route 81, Route 66, and other routes with truck weight scales, avoiding fees that the state uses to upkeep roads. Others place the blame on the route 17 truck ban. Ms. Matheson said, “the problems of these cut through routes only started when (Route) 17 became restricted by the residents in Paris.”

Whatever the cause, people living on the affected roads are eagerly awaiting enactment, which would not necessarily end all truck traffic. As one resident pointed out, “Such a ban wouldn’t impair local trucks and deliveries such as hay and feed for the cattle and horses, but will be the first step toward reducing the heavyweight traffic on our roads.”

LEARN HOW TO PUT STYLE IN YOUR GARDEN

GRACIE BAYLISS

Award-winning garden designer and author Jon Carloftis [cq] will lecture on “Putting Style in the Garden” at the Middleburg Community Center on Tuesday, September 13. The open-to-the-public event, sponsored by The Piedmont Garden Club, will begin at 11:00 am and will be followed by a catered box luncheon.

Mr. Carloftis, a Kentucky native, has been gardening for more than 23 years. He began his gardening career in 1986 when he became the owner of a popular home and garden store, the Rockcastle River Trading Company, on his family’s property in Livingston, Ky. Mr. Carloftis is the sole designer of the gardens that have been featured in BMW Magazine, Country Home, Garden & Gun, Outdoor Rooms, and Southern Living.

In 1988, Mr. Carloftis moved to New York City to start his new business, Fine Gardens. His first clients were noted art collectors Barbara and Eugene Schwartz. As word of his talent spread, so did the demand for his services. He became an expert in rooftop and small space gardening.

According to Mr. Carloftis, “Whether you have a rooftop or balcony in the city, a small backyard in the suburbs, or 100 acres in the country, it’s that small space right outside the back door that everyone uses most.”

Some of Mr. Carloftis’s recognizable clients are the actors, Mike Myers, Julianne Moore, and Edward Norton; producer Jerry Bruckheimer; and his wife Linda Bruckheimer; di-

rector, producer, and actor, M. Night Shyamalan; and the famed Lauder family (of Estee Lauder). He has made multiple appearances on the Style Channel, The Home and Garden Channel (HGTV), ABC’s Good Morning, America, and Martha Stewart.

In 2010, Mr. Carloftis was selected to design and install the Alltech Experience and the Kentucky Experience gardens at the World Equestrian Games in Lexington, the Games’ first appearance in the United States. In addition, he has designed gardens for the UK Arboretum.

Mr. Carloftis, and his clients, have been honored with a number of gardening awards. He was the recipient of a landscaping design award from the Museum of the City of New York City, his client, Nancy Barron, received Lexington, Kentucky’s DLC 2007 Landscape and Streetscape award, and his commercial client, The Lofts at Main & Rose, received Lexington’s DLC 2008 Landscape and Streetscape Award.

Mr. Carloftis is also the author of three books. His most recent is the Beautiful Gardens of Kentucky, where he shows a portrait of twenty-one private and public outdoor spaces. He describes these gardens, some his own designs, as being “as distinguished as they are seductive.”

To attend the luncheon and lecture by Jon Carloftis, please send \$65 to Piedmont Garden Club, P.O. Box 33, The Plains, VA 20198. The deadline for reservations is Sept. 6. For more information, contact Margaret Littleton at (540) 687 – 6246 or by email to: piedmontgardenclub@gmail.com.

ART SHOW FEATURING TOM NEEL

The Art Institute of Washington – Northern Virginia hosts a solo show featuring renowned local landscape artist, Tom Neel. The show will run from July 21 through August 28 with a portion of the proceeds going to The Education Foundation benefiting student education.

The fundraising event provides an opportunity to purchase some of Mr. Neel’s art work known for preserving the Piedmont region of Virginia through his landscape paintings. For well over 20 years the self-taught artist has created paintings, becoming one of the area’s most commissioned and best known landscape painters. His work can be found in private and corporate

collections extensively here, nationally from coast to coast and in many parts of Europe. It is rare for a collector to have just one of his paintings and nearly half of the paintings Neel creates are done as a special order - commissioned work of art.

Mr. Neel is a firm believer in giving back and is very generous with his donations. A portion of the proceeds of this fundraising event will benefit The Education Foundation which is a non-profit tax-exempt foundation. The Foundation provides scholarships to students who attend Education Management Corporation owned schools. The Art Institute is America’s Leader in Creative Education, providing an important source for design,

media arts, fashion and culinary arts professionals.

“We are honored and delighted to have Tom Neel’s work in our gallery – our students are looking forward to this show. We are very touched by his generosity toward the foundation which funds scholarships for many of our students,” says Gregg Crowe, president of The Art Institute of Washington – Northern Virginia.

The Art Institute of Washington – Northern Virginia is located at The Corporate Office Park at Dulles Town Center, 21000 Atlantic Blvd., Suite 100, Dulles Va. For additional information and hours please call 571-449-4400.

HISTORIC FURR FARM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

any Union regiment on a single day in the entire Civil War.

Years after the war, a monument was erected in 1891 on grounds donated by Dallas Furr, a veteran of Mosby’s Rangers. Today, the battle site, the monument, the stonewall, and the old Furr house are still there in full view along Snickersville Turnpike.

On July 20, several community leaders met with the Moores at the Rector House in Atoka to form a committee, and the group has begun planning the event for June of 2013. The committee includes Henry Plaster and Tom Christ from Snickersville Turnpike Association; Childs Burden, Rich Gillespie and Judy

Reynolds from Mosby Heritage Area Association; Lester Schumacher, consultant on cavalry reenactments; Steve Hines and Stephen Nichols from Aldie Heritage Association.

These organizations have been very successful managers of large events and educational programs. The plans for the Furr Farm event include a rededication of the roadside monument, a reenactment of the cavalry battle, and interpretive and interactive activities that will help the participants experience the 1863 history.

The Moores are confident in the committee’s leadership and look forward to helping present a very historical occasion to the

community.

The Mosby Heritage Area Association, under the leadership of Childs Burden, who is well known as an outstanding historian, has ongoing programs that are unequaled in scholarship and educational resourcefulness.

Everyone involved in this project hopes the entire communities of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville will help promote and support, not only the Furr Farm event in 2013, but all the other events and activities related to the Sesquicentennial Celebrations. MHAA’s “Preservation through Education” programs, the Snickersville Turnpike Association and the Aldie Heritage Association.



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NEWS OF NOTE

PROJECT COMMON BOND UNITES TEENS WHOSE LIVES HAVE BEEN TOUCHED BY TERRORISM

PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION FORUM AT FOXCROFT

Seventy-seven teens from around the world who have lost a family member to an act of terrorism will form an international alliance called Project Common Bond at Middleburg's Foxcroft School from July 23rd through July 30th.

Created under the auspices of Tuesday's Children, the premiere non-profit organization serving the needs of the 9/11 community. The eight-day program, now in its fourth year, is changing the lives of young people around the globe through a curriculum that teaches peace-building, mediation and conflict resolution skills.

Tuesday's Children created Project Common Bond in 2007 in response to a request from 9/11 teens who wanted an opportunity to "give back" through a larger, global initiative. The 2011 Project Common Bond participants will include young adults between the ages of 15 to 20 years old from the United States, Israel, Palestine, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Russia, Spain, Argentina and Sri Lanka.

According to Terry Sears, Executive Director of Tuesday's Children, the goal of Project Common Bond is simple and achievable: to impact the lives of young people who have suffered a loss as a result of an act of terrorism – and in doing so, give them opportunities for healing and personal growth, as well as leadership skills so they can help others.

During the eight-day forum, the young adults will participate in therapeutic group work, community-building activities, conflict resolution projects and team events designed to foster trust, healing, cooperation and communication. They will also visit Washington, DC, tour the historical

Holocaust Museum and the Institute of Peace.

Ms. Sears explained that, "For these teenagers, the sudden, violent, and public nature of their loss becomes an overwhelming and defining characteristic of their lives. These kids feel different than most of their friends. Often, they are isolated and alone. Their experience is not something that's easily shared with others."

"At Common Bond, they feel safe. They are suddenly shoulder-to-shoulder with other teens who understand exactly what they have been through. Common Bond provides them with the opportunity to take their personal tragedy and – with professional guidance from health experts and professionals in conflict resolution – turn their tragedy into strength," Sears added.

This year marks 19-year old Julie Griffin's fourth year at Common Bond. Julie, whose father was killed on September 11th, said, "I wouldn't miss Project Common Bond (PCB) for the world. I love all the people involved in PCB and the way I feel there. For me, PCB is almost like therapy. Talking to other people who have lost someone through terrorism – just as I have – helps me to grow and be a stronger person."

Ms. Griffin also noted that she has built enduring friendships through Common Bond. "Because of the last three years of camp, I have been to Spain to visit friends from PCB and this summer my best friend from Northern Ireland, Davina, is staying with me in America for a month. I hope to expand my friendships with the people I have already met through PCB and make even more friends along the way."

The curriculum was designed by Harvard University Law School's

Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program and incorporates a second Harvard-designed program, the Dignity Model by Donna Hicks of the Weatherhead Center of International Affairs.

The symposium is being delivered by a team of professionals, coordinated by Curriculum Director and family therapist Monica Meehan McNamara, which includes Stephan Sonnenberg, a recent Lecturer on Law and a Clinical Instructor in the Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program.

Kathy Murphy, Director of Project Common Bond and Tuesday's Children's teen programs, said, "At Project Common Bond, we are helping to build the next generation of teachers, doctors, business people, lawyers, engineers, scientists, mothers and fathers. Each of our Project Common Bond kids – no matter where they live – will have a better understanding of how to get by in a very imperfect world and the tools to do it with."

Ms. Murphy noted that Tuesday's Children ensures that Project Common Bond is year-round experience for the participants. Following the week-long forum, Tuesday's Children organizes web-based symposia, blogs, chats and events that keeps the teens actively engaged in the program.

Ms. Murphy also thanked the Foxcroft School for its generosity in providing a Project Common Bond scholarship to an international participant, and for opening up their beautiful facilities for this special program.

Project Common Bond is designed and directed by Tuesday's Children with the active engagement of its international partners.



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Pride of The Plains LLC is a family-owned business producing the finest pasture-raised, grain-finished natural Angus beef. Located in the Hunger Run valley near The Plains, Virginia, the farm provides custom cut beef to chefs and families in Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C.

More than eight upscale restaurants, three local retailers and numerous families in our community and as far away as New York and Chicago enjoy Pride of the Plains beef.

All the beef is raised without the use of hormones or steroids and fed the finest grains, silage and grasses we can procure. More than 75% of our feed is raised and produced on our own farm or contiguous farms with the balance of grains purchased from local producers in the northern Virginia and Maryland Mennonite areas.

Ian, a retired management consultant, and Nina, an interior designer, decided to create a plan to utilize their farm in their retirement to create a product worth of the farm's history and heritage.

Aberdeen Angus beef is the preeminent British beef breed, hailing from the north of Scotland and originally imported to America circa 1873.

The Abernethy's maintain a

cow/calf-breeding herd of purebred registered Angus from which they develop animals to enter their feeding program each year.

Initially, they consulted three Ph.D. Beef Nutritionists with a combined experience of 35 years at Virginia Tech to explore feed options and regimens, developmental issues and optimal targets for a program that would consistently meet their finished product objectives.

They then examined the requirements of a custom abattoir to process the beef, realizing that for their targeted customer base, they would need not only a USDA inspected plant, but a butcher with precise cutting skills and the flexibility to respond to highly customized fabrication requests from chefs whose menus evolve with seasons.

After numerous interviews and site visits, the Abernethy's entered a service partnership with Dehaven's Butcher in Winchester, Virginia. At that time, Dehaven's was state inspected only. In a joint effort Dehaven's and Pride of The Plains LLC took the responsibility, over three months, to develop the plans, procedures and submissions to successfully obtain USDA certification for this plant.

As they began working with a number of our professional chefs, it was clear that the knowledge base of beef fabrication, and cutting skills had been eroded somewhat over the last 30 years. Many culinary schools had virtually eliminated curriculum that taught these skills.

However, with the increasing



desire of restaurants and their customers to consume locally produced, non-commercial products—the "Buy Fresh, Buy Local" movement—many chefs expressed interest in acquiring these skills.

In response, Pride of the Plains strongly encourages chefs and sous-chefs to spend time on the cutting room floor to learn more about the various beef cuts and options for utilizing beef both efficiently and creatively in their menu designs.

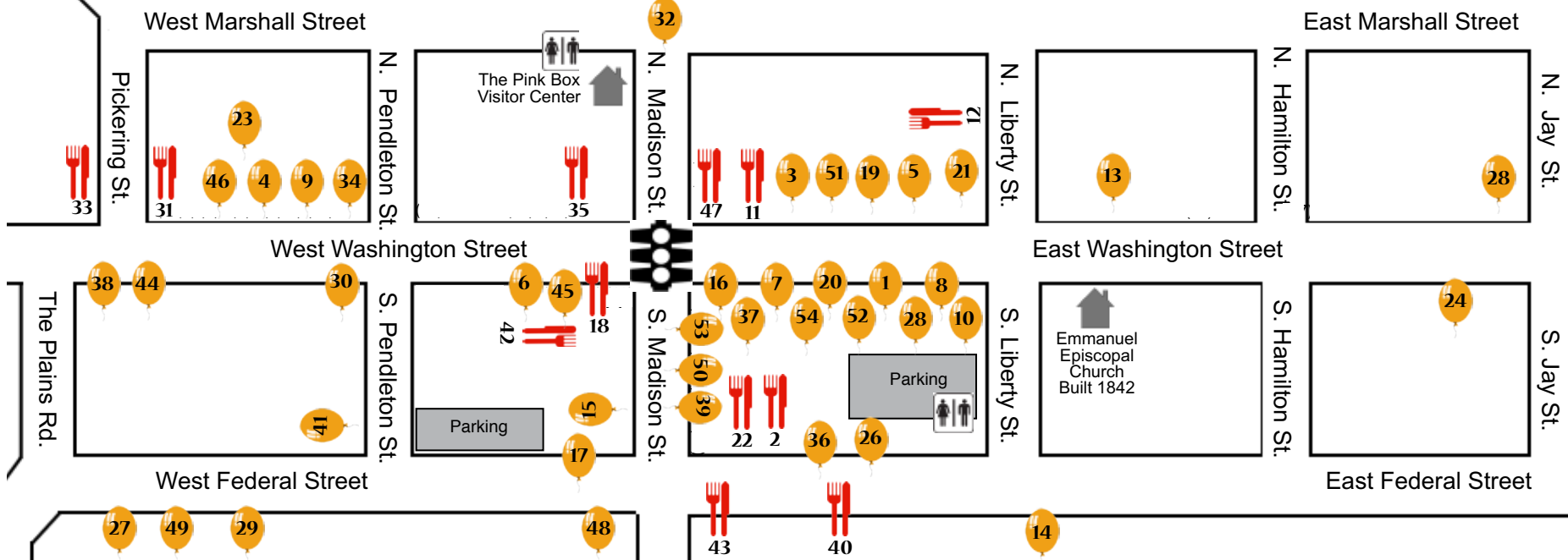
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| 3) Barrel Oak Tasting Room & Gallery | 16.) Home Farm Store | 30.) Union First Market Bank | 44.) The Fun Shop |
| 4) Betsy's | 17.) Journeymen | 31.) Red Horse Tavern | 45.) the Hair Loft |
| 5) Boxwood Tasting Room | 18.) Juliens | 32.) Saddlery Liquidators | 46.) The Magic Wardrobe |
| 6) Byrne Gallery | 19.) Les Jardin De Bagatelle | 33.) Salamander Market | 47.) The Red Fox |
| 7) Christmas Sleigh | 20.) Lou Lou | 34.) Salamander Touch | 48.) The Tack Box |
| 8) Country Classics | 21.) Lou Lou II | 35.) Scruffy's | 49.) The White Elephant |
| 9) Country Way | 22.) Mello Out | 36.) Second Chapter Books | 50.) The Wine Cellar |
| 10) Crème de la Crème | 23.) Men's Grooming Room | 37.) Shaggy Ram | 51.) Timmie Jane |
| 11) Cuppa Giddy Up | 24.) Middleburg Country Inn | 38.) Southern States | 52.) Tully Rector/Beyond the Pale |
| 12) Danks Deli | 25.) Middleburg Exxon | 39.) SVEA | 53.) Waller Framing |
| 13) Duchessa | 26.) Middleburg Floral Gallery | 40.) Teddy's Pizza | 54.) Wylie Wagg |
| | 27.) Middleburg Tack Exchange | 41.) The Corner Garden | |

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NEWS OF NOTE

THE HEAT IS ON

DANIEL MORROW

In July Middleburg hired a new Police Chief, installed its first Police Department cellular “duty-phone”, did its best to deliver Police documents required by the Commonwealth, and suddenly discovered that every career professional serving with the town’s volunteer fire-rescue staff had “left” the local fire station.

New Chief

After a lengthy search and interviews with at least three top candidates, the Middleburg Town Council hired former Fairfax City Deputy Police Chief William Klugh as town’s new Chief of Police.

A political science graduate of James Madison University and a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s National Academy, “Bill” Klugh was well known in Fairfax and beyond for his pioneering work in the real-world application of the principles of “community policing”.

Klugh will be sworn in and begin work officially on August 1.

On August 11 Council will host a public reception for the new Chief in Town Hall, just prior to the regular monthly meeting of Town Council.

As the result of a recent reorganization of the Police Department’s chain of command, Klugh will report directly to Town Administrator Martha Semmes, and will work with Semmes, the Town Attorney, and Town Council to draft a new set of performance guidelines and general orders for the department.

New Duty Phone

As of July 21 citizens of Middleburg can reach the Middleburg Police officer currently on duty in the town directly by phone.

The new “duty phone” is a cell phone, carried by whichever officer is officially “on duty to address the needs of the business community.”

Long sought by acting Police Chief Mike Prince, the number for the new phone is: 540-216-9787.

The new phone should not be used to replace 911 emergency calls, Acting Chief Prince noted.

All emergency calls still need to be made to 911, though, says Prince, one should feel free to follow up with a call to the duty phone if desired.

New Requests for Documents

Acting Police Chief Mike Prince and Town Clerk Rhonda North reported that they have, to the best of their knowledge, completed delivery of Police records requested by the Loudoun County Commonwealth’s Attorney.

All correspondence between former Chief Steve Webber and the Town Council, Town Staff, the Virginia State Police, Jack Goehring, the press, and any others, bearing on the investigation and arrest, of the Editor-in-Chief of the Middleburg Eccentric on November 30, 2010, had been subpoenaed by defense attorney Edward MacMahon. Much, if not all, the same evidence was required to be delivered to the Com-

monwealth’s Attorney as part of the state’s discovery process.

Fire and Rescue

According to reports in Leesburg Today, the entire complement of “career fire-rescue personnel . . . left the Middleburg Fire Station – and their work alongside the members of the Middleburg Volunteer Fire Department” on the night of July 13.

As late as Monday, July 25, the news still came as surprise to many in the Town.

MVFD Treasurer Paul Draisey, father of Chief Brad Draisey, confirmed reports that the County had pulled its full-time paid career staff from the station around 10:20 or 11:00 PM on the 13th, after what Leesburg Today described as “a boil-over of simmering tensions between volunteer and career fire-rescue personnel” Both personnel and at least one truck were redeployed to nearby Aldie and Philomont.

According to Draisey, the County and MVFD immediately informed Middleburg Mayor Betsy Davis about the situation.

Asked about the situation on July 23, Middleburg Mayor Betsy Davis told the Eccentric, “This is an internal matter that they [are addressing] and there has never been any loss of service to the town.”

Asked whether or not the departure of the department’s entire complement of staff did not constitute a “loss of service,” the Mayor reiterated, “This is an internal matter with the MVFD and Loudoun County and I have been kept well informed and am comfortable with

the plan. . . . I am not going to elaborate, nor is it my position to do so. The town is being covered and although it might not be the perfect situation, it is working for the short term.”

Operational and personal tensions between volunteer and career fire and rescue staff fighters is not unusual, according to Draisey. Who, for example, holds the higher rank, a career or professional Lieutenant? Who decides when, where and what equipment is to be positioned?

In Middleburg those tensions have been exacerbated by on-again, off-again construction of an expansion of the fire house, leaving as many as a dozen fire and rescue people to sleep and work around each other in a temporary double-wide trailer.

Nor are tensions new to the Middleburg force.

In October of last year an “investigation” of the Middleburg staff had been set in motion by the Chairman of Loudoun County’s Fire & Rescue Commission, who contacted the Middleburg department about “allegations” of misconduct.

At that time three firefighters were placed on administrative leave, while the Fire & Rescue Commission, the Loudoun County Fire & Rescue Department and the Loudoun County Sheriff’s Department conducted formal inquiries.

During the course of that investigation, five members of the department resigned: two who were already on administrative leave and three others who, according to Draisey, “resigned due to loyalty to the Fire Chief.”

No criminal charges were pursued then and none are in the works currently, Draisey said, and “At no time had the residents of Middleburg been at risk”

Other News

Council also took steps to change its formal relationship with the independent Christmas in Middleburg organization, denied a permit to erect a temporary cupcake and juice booth in front of Noble House at 2 West Washington Street, and heard welcome reports of significant progress in the ongoing pursuit of tens of thousands of gallons of water deemed “missing” from either the town’s pipes or its accounting systems.

Christmas in Middleburg

Preliminary discussion were held at the Middleburg Community Center in July between a Town Council liaison committee, chaired by Council Member Kathy Jo Shea and officers and volunteers of the independent not-for profit corporation that funds and runs the event.

Designed to improve cooperation between the Town and Christmas in Middleburg, task one for the new committee appears to be resolution of an ongoing disagreement about whether or not there should be one or two “parades” on the day of the event.

The Middleburg Business Association is in the midst of polling to determine whether business owners prefer a morning “parade” of horses and hounds, followed by a second parade with floats, bands, marchers, and Santa later in the day . . . or a single parade, led by the horses and hounds.

Proponents and defenders of both points of view appear to be intransigent.

Those favoring two parades contend that the combination of a morning and afternoon event keeps shoppers in town longer.

Those favoring a single parade disagree about the effect on business, and further cite safety factors, Virginia DOT permit requirements, and the time and physical demands two parades impose on volunteers as reasons for continuing to have a single large event.

Juice and Cupcakes

In July Council denied a temporary zoning permit sought by Autumn McCullough on behalf of Charles Carroll, to erect “a temporary structure”, eight feet wide and six feet deep in front of the Noble House at 2 West Washington Street, for the purpose of selling cupcakes and seasonal juices.

Described as “similar” to the temporary structure erected to sell German sausage and hot drinks during the Christmas season, the stand, according to Town Zoning Administrator David Beniamino, would have met all the legal requirements necessary for such a permit.

Beniamino also noted that Carroll could have applied for a six-month permit under the Town’s “itinerant vendor” ordinance, but had agreed, instead, to apply for a fifteen-day “temporary sales permit” which could be extended twice, for a total of 45 days.

Noting the wording of the town’s ordinance, which states that the Council “may” approve such permits, Council decided that it was not “required” to approve Carroll’s.

Though a minority of Council voiced objections to the fairness of the decision, a large majority voted no, citing concerns about unwarranted competition with existing

merchants, the number of empty storefronts on main street, safety concerns, and a general lack of enthusiasm for temporary structures of any kind on the main street.

Hot Water

Record summer heat in and around Middleburg added to the pressure on the Town Council and Staff to find and fix the problems contributing to what is now being identified as tens of thousands of gallons of “unaccounted-for water” in (or out) of the Middleburg system.

At the regular July meeting of the Middleburg Town Council on Bastille Day, July 14, Town Administrator Martha Semmes reported that she was pursuing facts, fixes and funding in three critical areas: leaks; billing errors; and inaccurate meters.

Leaks

A major leak in what was described as “an old two-inch galvanized metal line” in the Ridgeview area was discovered during an inspection by the Virginia Regional Water Authority. With two of three bids in hand, repair is currently expected to cost the town from

\$20,000 to \$40,000. The Town may be able to cover all or part of those costs, as well as repairs to other at-risk 2-inch galvanized piping, Semmes noted, with grant funding from the Virginia Department of Health.

Billing

Part of the “unaccounted-for water” may well be due to accounting problems and not really be “missing” at all. Both Town Treasurer Debbie Wheeler and Economic Development Manager Cindy Pearson are being trained to run new software recently purchased to upgrade the Town’s billing system. According to Semmes, the new software itself may “flush out and correct” errors that may have been embedded in the old system. Current records indicate that much more water was purified and pumped than were billed and paid for by customers.

Meters

Semmes is also working with Ken Jaquay of Water Management and a meter company to see which, if any of the town’s meters need to be repaired or replaced

FAUQUIER HEALTH WELCOMES NEW DOCTORS



Ana Born, M.D.

Fauquier Health is pleased to announce the addition of a new family medicine physician. Ana Born, M.D., has joined Drs. Diane King and Kevin Tate at Fauquier Health Family Practice at Bealeton (formerly Fauquier Medical Associates).

As a family practice physician, Dr. Born is passionate about a variety of medical specialty areas, including women’s health and pediatrics. “Kids are wonderful,” Dr. Born says. “Being able to treat them always brings a smile to my face. And women have a unique niche of their own, so I enjoy being able to help them with their particular needs as well.”

Dr. Born also has a passion for working with patients from varying cultures. Her desire to work with immigrants stems from her early upbringing and educational pursuits. Born and raised for a time in Puerto Rico, Dr. Born is fluent in Spanish.

She’s also looking forward to partnering with local families. “I love kids and I love adults. In order to treat both effectively, I prefer to do it within the context of their lives, environments and families. That’s the reason I chose family medicine. By treating the whole family, I can do a better job of treating the disease process, which makes families healthier.”

Fauquier Health Family Practice at Bealeton is located at 6200 Station Drive in Bealeton. The physicians may be reached at 540-439-8100.



Lida Tabatabaiean, M.D.

Fauquier Health recently welcomed an endocrinologist to its family of healthcare providers. Lida Tabatabaiean, M.D., is operating Fauquier Health Endocrinology, providing care to those with diabetes, metabolic syndrome, obesity, lipid disorders, osteoporosis, pituitary disease, adrenal disease, thyroid cancer, bone and mineral diseases and hypogonadism.

Being able to provide ongoing care was one of the main reasons Dr. Tabatabaiean chose endocrinology as her specialty field. “Endocrinology is something I’ve been drawn to since my early days in medical school,” she says. “I like the science behind it; I also like that it requires a lot of patient interaction.”

Dr. Tabatabaiean’s holistic approach to care will also fit nicely with Fauquier Health’s patient-centered Planetree model of care. “I try to see patients as a whole,” she explains. “I always apply the most up-to-date research to manage treatment, but the most appropriate plan for one individual may not work for another. That’s why I need to understand a patient’s comprehensive health condition.”

Diabetes is one of the most common diseases that affects the endocrine system, and Dr. Tabatabaiean says a holistic approach works really well to treat the disease. “Diabetes is a complicated, multi-factor disease. Many social, economical, cultural, environmental and genetic factors contribute to the disease, and these factors cannot be overlooked.”

Dr. Tabatabaiean may be reached at 540-316-5940.

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ANOTHER VOLUNTEER VICTORY

Hats off once more to the members of the Middleburg Library Advisory Board for what can only be described as a triumph of good taste, good will, and iron determination to make a good idea not only work, but work well.

The Middleburg branch of the Loudoun County Public Library is the system's smallest. Originally designed to be twice its current size, the building is almost literally bursting at the seams, serving not only as a traditional public library, but as a library in the 21st century sense of the word: library, social center, teaching resource, temporary office, and ongoing steward of an ever-expanding, ever-more accessible, ever more complex intellectual trust.

Given the demands of the more heavily populated eastern parts of the County and what appeared to be a never-ending, ongoing, recession-driven budget crunch, it had long been clear that the only way to expand the library was to raise the funds to do so privately.

A special subcommittee of the Advisory Board, including Denis Cotter, Jeff Baldwin, Marc Leepson, and Mike Morency set out

to do just that.

Patiently (and sometimes appropriately impatiently) working with and through the Town of Middleburg, the Middleburg Community Center, the County Library Board of Trustees, the County Library Professional Staff, the County financial, legal, and construction staff, and the Board of Supervisors (not to mention all the appropriate sub-committees and boards associated with the aforementioned) . . . the committee drafted, revised, and gained full approval of all the stakeholders involved for an extraordinary formal agreement that will allow the Advisory Board to raise the money, design, and build the long-sought addition to the Middleburg Library.

The project is far from complete. More money must be raised, permits and approvals granted, designers and contractors hired, and the work done on time, on target and on budget.

The entire community, and all those outside Middleburg served by the our little gem of library, should stand behind the Advisory Board, support its work, and contribute the funds needed to finish a job so far so well done.

FIDDLING WHILE EARTH BURNS

PURPLE

BRUCE SMART

Those who have been paying any attention to Washington these days know that the 2012 election is now the principal concern of Congress and our two major parties, Republicans and Democrats. Sure, they may claim the battle is/was about raising the Debt Limit, an absolute necessity so the nation doesn't default on its bills, but it is really about making the other Party look bad, about ego, power, and the future of the Obama Administration. No one is paying much attention to developing thoughtful answers to the basic problems that face our nation (listed in last month's column) and perhaps our civilization. The most important of these, long term, and the one receiving essentially no serious attention, is the matter of carbon emissions, which cause global warming, leading to climate disruption,

and eventually to water and food shortages, mass migrations, violence, and social upheaval.

In a way you can't blame Congress; we voters are not pushing them on the issue, and we have many excuses, such as:

"It isn't really happening."

"The scientists are divided."

"It's a plot of the Left." "We can't afford to do anything about it." And the most irresponsible of all:

"It won't happen until after I'm gone."

The facts are clear and stark. The Earth is habitable because ultraviolet light from the sun penetrates the atmosphere and warms the earth's surface. That warmed surface radiates heat back into space in the form of infrared rays; otherwise the Earth would heat up far beyond a habitable temperature. But the escap-

ing infrared rays are impeded by so-called greenhouse gasses (GHGs) in the atmosphere, the most influential being carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane. The more of those in the atmosphere, the hotter the Earth's surface must become to force out enough heat to bring about balance.

There are also other conditions affecting global temperature and climate - varying solar activity, and cyclical changes in the shape of the Earth's orbit, but these have less impact, and cannot explain what we are seeing - melting glaciers and arctic sea ice, rising sea levels, and bleaching of coral reefs.

The concentration of CO2 in the atmosphere has risen steadily from a pre-industrial level of 280 parts per million (ppm) to 385 ppm today. The causes include deforestation, but mostly the burning of fossil

fuels - coal, oil and natural gas. Recent years have been the hottest on record, and temperatures are headed higher, even if emissions are stabilized, because the oceans warm slowly, delaying the final effect of today's GHG concentration for decades.

This trend is accelerated by global population growth from 2 billion in the 1920s to 7 billion today, their impact greatly multiplied by the industrialization of China, India and Southeast Asia. For example, in 1930s the world burned about 4 million barrels of oil per day. Today's figure is about 80 million barrels. Another example: China now burns almost half of the coal the world consumes today, China's use up 77% in just seven years. On a per capita basis, however, the US remains the largest emitter of CO2.

Clearly we are on a runaway train headed for

disaster within a generation. The US is the leading cause of creating the problem, and is doing precious little about it. Understanding the threat is not new. Some 22 years ago Purple had an office next to Dr. Robert Repetto, a PhD economist at the World Resources Institute. Bob was writing a paper on Climate Change. His solution: put a tax on carbon emissions, and use the proceeds to reduce the Social Security tax, a tax on employment. His reasoning: "Tax the 'bads' (CO2 emissions), and lower the tax on the 'goods' (employment)."

To some, Bob's concerns seemed unconventional - after all, he played shortstop lefthanded on our softball team.

Seriously, think about asking the next candidate who wants your money what s/he would do about climate. Or do they all plan to keep fiddling?

described as a militarized assault on a civilian community, not an eviction. Because no previous notice was given to the community, local human rights activists and community leaders discussed the legality of the action with the police.

The eviction is illegal not only because of the violence with which it was carried out but also because, although judicial orders (basically just a complaint) had been issued, no judge was present, and there had not been any investigation by the Public Ministry into the conditions that ensured legitimate land rights to the families who had lived on and farmed the land for 11 years.

According to agrarian reform legislation in Honduras, land that has lain fallow can be purchased from the title holder

for the use of small farmers, so Rigores community members moved onto the land with the verbal consent of the title holder who hoped to be paid for the land by the Agrarian Reform Institute. The farmers had petitioned for years asking that the agrarian reform program be applied to this land, but recently it was targeted by African palm oil producers as an attractive investment property. They expanded in the area with contracts to sell palm oil to diesel bio-fuel companies, thus the reason for the violent and illegal eviction of the farmers. Palm oil company security forces that appear to act as para-militaries are blamed for dozens of killings in the region over the past two years, eight in Tocoa over the past month.

Extremely violent evic-

HEDGEHOGS AND THE DEBT

BLUE NOTES

DANIEL MORROW

Over the weekend an old friend and I were discussing an economist who, he said, truly believes that refusing to raise the country's debt limit was not only a risk worth taking, but not a real risk at all.

And, given that expert opinions on the matter differ, he asked, how could one fault men and women who stand by their principles, vote their convictions, and refuse to betray the trust of those who sent them to places like Washington to govern on their behalf?

One should honor, he said, their steadfast convictions, their loyalty to their principles, and their respect for both their mentors and those who elected them.

Admirable traits, I conceded,

with the caveat, that dogged loyalty and intellectual consistency, in my experience, have always been less reliable measures of a man's convictions than a look at their real-world effects on others.

False perceptions all too often trump reality, especially when what is (or was) "real" only becomes evident after damage is done.

One doesn't roll the dice, I argued, when the downside risk of being wrong is outrageously high.

Perhaps a failure to raise the debt ceiling will, indeed, have no real effect on the fundamentals of our economy.

Whatever those realities may be, I would argue that a wrong guess about them will have a profound and negative effect on our national and international credit rating . . . with what, in the

opinion of a significant number of equally bright and equally well-meaning economists, will be disastrous effect.

Those who may not be sure, but are never in doubt, love to cite the ancient epigram, "The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one big thing."

Playing the hedgehog, whether religious, political, social or intellectual, is not only prickly, but disproportionately dangerous.

Though sometime one gets lucky, as a general rule, I prefer foxes, and their eternally optimistic view that it is better to know many things and do one's best to choose among them than to know only one thing and have no real choices at all.

LETTER

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Peter O. Hitchen and I own Tilton Enterprises, a small excavating company in Marshall. I support Michael Webert for Delegate in the redrawn 18th District. I trust and support him as a friend, business associate and local leader. Michael Webert is the best candidate because he has deep roots in the 18th District, and as a farmer, small businessman, fisherman and hunter, like most of the district, he shares our interests.

Representing us in the House of Delegates will require hard work and Michael is no stranger to that. As general manager of Locust Hill Farms, a 3,500 acre beef cattle and hay operation, he goes to work before dawn seven days a week. He was nominated Conservation Farmer of the Year in Fauquier County last year, is the Vice President

of the Virginia Forage and Grasslands Council, Assistant Director of the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation Board and a board member of the Fauquier County Farm Bureau Board.

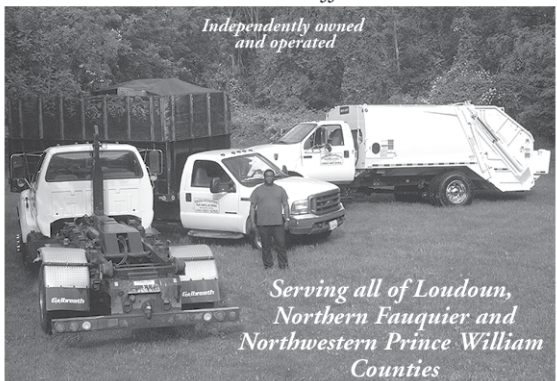
He is a true Virginia gentleman, an avid supporter of fox hunting and steeplechase racing and a great steward of the land. Knowing the meticulous way he operates Locust Hill Farms I have complete faith that Michael will serve the best interests of the entire 18th District in a fiscally responsible, transparent, and common sense manner. Michael is a champion of the traditions and values of our District and I urge everyone to join me in voting for Michael Webert on Tuesday, August 23, 2011.

Sincerely,

Peter O. Hitchen
Upperville, VA

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PASTIMES

THE ARTIST’S PERSPECTIVE

TOM NEEL

Artists draw inspiration from wherever they can and certainly much of this has to do with the direction of their creative passion. I have a passion for landscape painting and as inspiration, I also have a passion for motorcycling. You might be saying now, “I’m missing the connection”, well please read along.

I have always believed that it took more than just practice to grow at my craft. As they say, practice doesn’t make perfect, perfect practice does. But I also feel there is creative practice and then there is inspirational practice too.

The difference between creativity and being inspired to create, can be thought of like this: any creative exercise can be like building a house, whereas being inspired to create, is like having the passion to designing a home. Inspiration is where ideas flourish. With landscape painting, creating could be as simple as an interpretation of what one sees or it could much deeper, as an interpretation of what one feels or one’s place on earth. I prefer the latter of the

two. As one requires creativity only and the other requires belief. One requires some level skill only, the other - vision.

Think about this, what makes the pyramids so amazing is that they appear to be bigger than man’s capabilities at that time. This is why one needs to look deeper into the belief and vision behind it all and not just at the presumed skill set. Inspiration is the depth of creativity and it’s also the ultimate motivator. Think about their inspiration.

Getting back to my two wheeled inspiration. With riding in the Piedmont, you are in a constant state of a changing landscape as it moves around you and because of the focus needed to ride, your eyes are always scanning. As important, unlike a car a motorcycle allows a full range of vision from road to sky, without obstruction, which in many respects can feel like flying. Thus, for me riding adds another dimension of viewing a landscape, one that is dynamic and ever changing. This gives a unique perspective for everything around you and a very three dimensional understanding of it. Inspiring, to say the least.

I have been riding now for a span of more than 40 years and I ride every month of the year. Most often beginning “quietly” at dawn, watching the light of the rising sun move across the land, experiencing both the light acting upon it and my placement within it. Yesterday I took a carefree 250 mile ride that covered at least 50 different roads, a few new, others now like old friends. I covered the Blue Ridge from so many different angles, past creeks and rivers, general stores, small towns and magnificent vistas, that my mind was in a constant state of composing, formatting, absorbing color, watching light, and creating paintings “virtually” through the constant inspiration.

I believe this type of inspiration, “simply observing”, is healthy for artistic growth. Imagine if as a photographer, you got so wrapped up in the creative photographic process, that you only looked at things through the viewfinder. It can easily happen, as looking through the viewfinder can be like being in a world of its own. There’s something to be said for balancing observation both inside and outside the box.



When visiting a property I might be commissioned to paint. I spend a fair amount of time just enjoying it. I think this gives me some of the owner’s perspective, but I also feel strongly that it is part of my roll as an artist. Riding though the countryside has most interestingly taught me to look at any land in front of me from many more angles than how it so conveniently appears in front of me. This makes me look deeper for the assets of my representation. As it often happens, I am enthusiastically sharing new ways for owners to see the place they call home.

A recent example of this was with a customer shared his thoughts for a commission I would be painting. He walked with me as I was on the move, always asking questions and looking beyond my position. I asked how long they had lived in the house, we talked about the builder, we spoke about the cows he owned and finally I

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PINK BOX CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The pretty pale pink building that welcomes and assists visitors to Middleburg has a long and storied history. Recently, when friends and supporters gathered to thank the docents for their many hours of volunteer time and to celebrate the service they provide for the community, Darlene Kirk explained the history of the charming building.

An interesting and accurate reflection of the evolution of the Village of Middleburg, the Pink Box history includes many prominent families and community members today.

“This small early 19th century Federal style brick building has had many names and served many uses,” explained Kirk. “For years, it was the law office of Levin Powell’s grandson Humphrey. It later became known as the “Bishop’s Cottage after gunsmith John Bishop who owned it after the Civil War,” she continued.

“In the 20th century, it served as the office of The Middleburg Chronicle a weekly newspaper of the sports horse world that has been published in Middleburg since 1937 and is now know as

The Chronicle of the Horse. Next it was a dress shop call The Pink Box, owned by Silvie Hulbert – Bundles Murdoch’s Grandmother. The boxes that were used were pink with green Ribbon!”

“Eventually the office was Wilson Horse Transportation Company run by Chub Lee, Pun-kin Lee’s uncle.

“The building then became the Middleburg Visitor’s Center reclaiming its earlier name as suitably descriptive of its exterior appearance and its history!

In 1985 Mayor Loyal McMillian of Middleburg and a group of citizens who had a vision of exploring the history of Middleburg, formed the Historic Review Committee, and that initiative led to the establishment of The Pink Box Visitor Center. The Mayor became a volunteer, Fritz Hutchison, a council member joined, also Jim Burton, who is our County Supervisor,” Kirk concluded.

“We are indeed a dedicated group of volunteers who appreciate the natural beauty and interesting history of Middleburg,” added Mary Greenwood.”

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ART SCHOOL

7TH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

They say art imitates life, that cultural tastes and trends serve as a looking glass for what’s really going on in a given society at a given time.

Certain people, Oscar Wilde included, like to say that life imitates art. Those people are perverse.

But enough of the peccadilloes of mid-19th-century Irish literary titans. . . .

Art does imitate life, and professional sports today is as much a part of the cultural landscape as any gallery opening or theatre premier. So to see the owners and players in two of the largest grossing sports enterprises essentially seeing who can hold their breath the longest is, while absurd, hardly surprising.

The case of the NFL lockout (and never forget it was a lockout and not a strike), resolved by the time you read this, is the silliest of all. At a time when the national unemployment rate hovers stubbornly above 9%, at a time when people are gladly earning less so they can be sure they earn anything at all,

the lack of empathy and commonsense displayed by the NFL’s owners is beyond comprehension.

A “league” that generates over \$9 billion a year, a cabal with only 32 paying members, should at least be able to sign off an agreement they don’t have to preemptively blow up years before its expiration. But that’s exactly what the NFL owners did in this case and it’s exactly why all the hand-wringing and teeth-gnashing that’s taken place over the past four months has gone on. The owners were apparently so unhappy with the piece of the pie they saw themselves giving to the players every year that they simply had to throw the whole thing in the trash and start all over.

Never you mind that it was the biggest pie the American sporting public had ever seen. Did I mention nine billion dollars? Never you mind that, really, for the players anyway, it was more like an \$8 billion pie because the owners got to magically skim a billion off the top before the accountants got to get involved. So of the real pie, the nine billion dollar pie, the players were only entitled to \$4.8 billion. The owners were saving themselves a little more than half-a-billion dollars, but

guess what?

They wanted more.

So, like pigs too long at a trough, the owners got greedier and greedier, until finally it was too much. They blew up their league and tried to take their ball home.

Except now, unlike in 1987, the owners realized that consumers (you and me) and resellers (TV) probably wouldn’t stand for paying full freight for replacement players. And as actual revenue-generating dates started popping up on the calendar (Did you know that one week of PRE-season NFL football generates around \$250 million for the league? Have you ever seen an NFL pre-season game? They should pay you to watch that dreck!) the owners started getting more and more nervous.

Maybe they had overplayed their hands.

Maybe you really can’t make silk purses out of tin ears.

Maybe the players weren’t going to blink first after all.

As my two-year-old likes to say, oops.

So the situation resolved itself, clumsily, as always, like the first time you

kissed your first crush and you knew you hadn’t gotten it quite right. The players (boohoo...) were hurt by the fumbling gotcha! play pulled off by the owners (what, me worry?) and everybody danced around and acted put upon and “disrespected” and “hoodwinked.”

All love of a good hoodwinking aside, it was petty playground behavior, a lot of finger pointing and tattle-taling by a bunch of grown men making very grown up money. They had to wait until the 11th hour, or at least 11th hour as far as revenue-generation is concerned, and really, is there really any other 11th hour that matters, but they got it done.

It would have been too incredibly stupid not to.

Nobody, not one single person on the face of the planet, could have been sympathetic to a group of adults that committed such spectacularly selfish, misguided, fallacious, deluded, ill-advised, unexplainable, mass professional suicide.

(Meanwhile, on Capitol Hill...) The NBA lockout is less misguided, if only marginally so, but the parties involved seem so far apart that a speedy (yes, the NFL’s 4-monther counts

as “speedy”) resolution looks more and more unlikely. The NBA simply wants to make sure that, like all other businesses in a capitalist society, every one of its members is profitable.

Sounds like a traditional capitalist model, right? No? Oh.... Well. That’s what the owners there want.

And they want to do it by rolling player salaries back by 50% or so. Including the salaries of those players who’ve already signed contracts.

Those contracts, by the way, that were signed off on by the owners too, but they all get very touchy when anyone points out they might have spent themselves into this hole.

But I’m sure they’ll pass those cost savings on to you, the paying basketball consumer....

I’m sure we’ll have plenty of chances to talk more about the NBA’s suicide watch over the coming months.

Right now, I know just what I need.

Now where is that trusty tack hammer...? Alex can be reached at cuda24@yahoo.com



A TROPICAL FOR SUMMER

THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE



garden needs depth and one of the best ways to achieve that is with dark foliage plants. The darker leaves give great dimension, receding visually, they create shadows where there may not be any. For summer I find the large leafed colocasia a must. I have grown them in pots filled with water as well as in the garden, planted in soil. Tropical plants with large leaves, the foliage rotates horizontally with the slightest breeze, sometimes startling the gardener as they appear to be someone waving.

Our summer months are very hot, a perfect place for tropical plants. Growth rate is shocking, especially from July to September, and more so if you water often. Think tropical rain pattern. Every year I plant a black leafed garden, the colocasia hold prime spots. Members of the family araceae, they are ar-oids, sharing relatives such as caladium, philodendron and alocasia. Both aloc-

asia and colocasia are commonly known as taro or elephant’s ear (often referred to as elephant ears). Of the black leafed aroids, only colocasia offers such a wide variety. This comes as a big surprise when there are only 6 species, verses more than 70 in alocasia. The blackness of their leaves is truly amazing with leaf surfaces that can be glossy (like black patent leather) or matte. Every year we see new hybrids and I plant as many as my black garden will allow. My current favorites are C. ‘Hilo Bay’ and c. illustris, the latter a species with black, matte finish leaves and green viens. Colocasia ‘Hilo Bay’ is a giant and some of my leaves are 24” long and 18” wide. Each leaf is super glossy and handsome.

For all of their pros, there are some cons. Namely the issue of winter storage. In fall, once temperatures drop to 40 degrees, you will have to either dig the plant up and bring it inside or dig it up and prepare to store the tuber or root. With my limited indoor space, I store the tubers. Once you dig up the plant,



until May to replant. You want a warm soil. Every tuber will sprout and grow, and love the heat. Those beautiful black leaves of summer.

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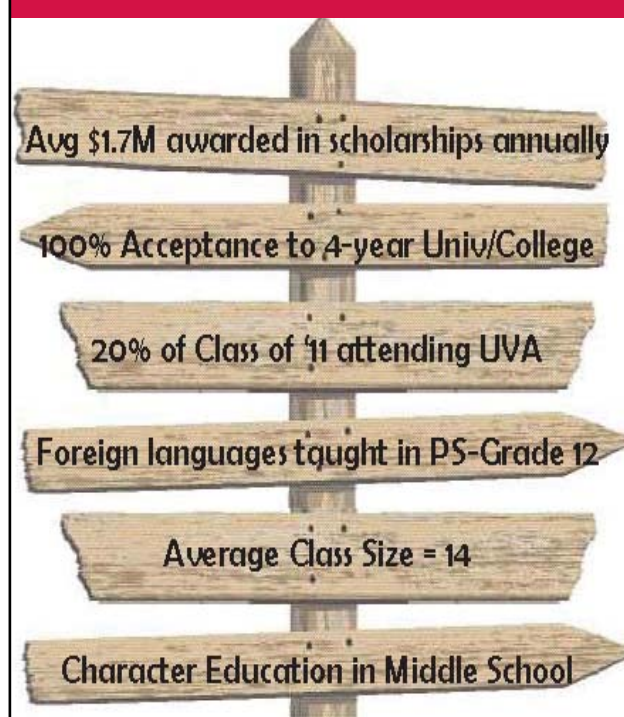


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Patrickswell Middleburg, Virginia

Estate consisting of 264 acres in Orange County Hunt with mountain views in every direction. Manicured farm with mostly open and gently rolling acreage. Main house was built of stone construction with four bedrooms, four full baths, two half baths, an in-law suite and four fireplaces. Improvements include pool, tennis court, 20 stall center aisle stable, office, tack, 2 wash stalls with 1/16 mile indoor track, and 2 bedroom guest house. \$10,500,000.

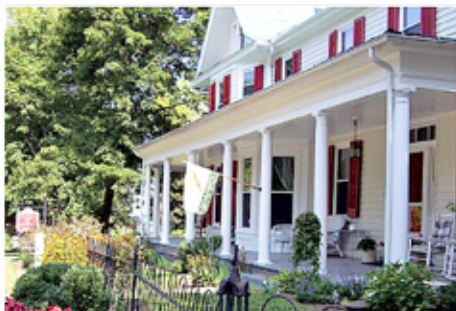
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Hidden Brook Farm Unison, Virginia

25 acre horse property. Home was completely renovated from top to bottom in 2003. Bright open floor plan with 1st floor bedroom, pine floors, well proportioned rooms, 2 fireplaces and pool. Entire property is fully fenced, 16 stall stable with apartment, feed room, tack room and 2 bay garage. Lighted stone dust arena and great ride out. Manageable property for the amateur or professional. \$1,750,000.

Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930



J. Patrick House Philomont, Virginia

This spacious historic residence has charm and warmth. Equipped with old wood floors, crown molding and pressed tin roof in the parlor. Separate 2 bedroom, 1 bath carriage house for tenant or overflow guests. 2.5 bay garage. New energy efficient windows, furnace and fridge recently added. Convenient location in quaint Philomont on 1.58 acres. Lovely gardens. \$685,000.

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Pohick Farm Delaplane, Virginia

464 acres surround this unparalleled pastoral hill-top setting with private postcard valley views of Cobbler Mountains. This one of a kind property recorded in 4 lots is just 2 miles from Route 66. The custom built 4 bedroom main residence was built in 1992 on the original homestead and has a pool, pool house and rental dependency. Working farm buildings and rustic cottage are separate from the main house. There are 3 creeks & one 1 acre pond which makes the property ideal for horses, cattle, hay or vineyard. \$6,850,000.

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Keepsake Farm The Plains, Virginia

Classic farm house with 8 acres in Orange County Hunt. Charming log and clapboard well-maintained residence surrounded by pristine protected land. Spacious master bedroom with elegant en suite bath. Beautiful family room/den with exposed beams. Kitchen equipped with updated stainless appliances. Two stall barn with water and electric and run-in shed. Great ride-out. \$1,295,000.

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Moreland Road Delaplane, Virginia

Custom built log home, built in 2005, 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 1 fireplace, vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, exposed logs and beam interior, attached 2 car garage with office above. Elevated lot with mountain views. 8.24 acres, room for horses, private but easy access to Rt. 66. \$663,000.

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Mistral Upperville, Virginia

French country home on 28 acres. Well-designed for gracious entertaining and first floor living. Large formal living room opens to a covered porch, terrace and gardens overlooking the spring fed pond. Kitchen includes a wood burning fireplace and den leading to the indoor heated pool. First floor master suite includes in-home office while 3 additional bedrooms are offered on the second floor. The tree lined driveway, mature gardens and stunning views to the southwest create a lovely setting. \$2,390,000.

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Windridge Hamilton, Virginia

Georgous top-of-the-line 5 bedroom, 5 bath home on 16.6 acres near Canby Road in Loudoun West Hunt. Open floor plan. First floor master. Front and back porches (one screened) capture views. Also used as income producing vacation rental. \$885,000.

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Potts Mill Road Middleburg, Virginia

Brick county home on one level with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, and 1 fireplace on 3.17 acres, east of town. Property includes carriage shed for tools and run-in shed that could be converted to barn. Lovely mature landscaping. Property shows well. \$645,000.

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Harborvale Middleburg, Virginia

51 acres in Orange County Hunt located just minutes from town surrounded by large farms off the highly sought-after Zulla Road. Interior renovations have begun. Attractive stone cottage, 3 car garage, stable and tenant house are all in need of renovation but will make a fine estate. Currently in two parcels. \$2,250,000.

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Conde Road Marshall, Virginia

Stunning home on 8+ acres near Warrenton. Perfect first floor master overlooking stately pool and plantings. Gourmet kitchen, separate dining room, library, family room. Two private bedroom suites with baths on lower level with large entertainment center, wet bar and sitting room. 4 fireplaces, 3-car garage. Warrenton Hunt. \$797,000.

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Little River Lane The Plains, Virginia

10 acres in excellent Fauquier County location. Property improved by brick garage with apartment (needs to be finished), septic and well installed, all utilities to building. Winding driveway by two ponds leads to house site. Private yet easy access to Middleburg and The Plains. \$599,000.

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VILLAGE GREEN

MAGGIE BRYANT NAMED CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

CHANDLER VAN VOORHIS

Magalen "Maggie" O. Bryant, a resident of Fauquier County for nearly 50 years, was recently awarded the Land Trust of Virginia's Conservationist of the Year award for 2011.

On a hot summer evening, I had the chance to sit down with Maggie on her porch to

talk about conservation and the future. Not one to mince her words, Maggie says "do rather than talk." And do she has done.

Maggie was one of the first residents of Fauquier County to place her land under permanent conservation easement, conserving more than 1,000 acres. But she did not stop there. She placed all 17,000 acres of Tara Wildlife in Vicksburg, MS,

under conservation easement, helped save 68,000 acres in Louisiana and protect 125,000 acres in Paraguay.

In classical Maggie fashion she says, "start or follow." And start she has.

Maggie has been at the forefront of the conservation movement for several decades. She has served as Chairperson of National Fish and Wildlife

Foundation, sat on numerous other conservation boards and received the prestigious Chevron Conservation Award.

Like a great oak tree whose canopy provides perspective, whose trunk is weighted in principle, whose roots tap the fertility of new ideas, Maggie invests in the future by investing in people. She inherently understands what Ralph

Waldo Emerson once wrote, "the creation of a thousand forest is in one acorn." To this end, her greatest legacy may not be her touch on the land but rather that on the human heart. For it is through heart and passion, we achieve great things.

By investing in people, she compounds conservation.

LOCAL CONSERVATIONISTS HONORED

The Land Trust of Virginia honored Doukénie Winery owners George and Nichola Bazaco; Talbot Farm owner Virginia Friend; and longtime conservationist Magalen "Maggie" O. Bryant for their work in helping preserve Virginia's rural landscape.

Dr. George and Nichola Bazaco were presented with the 2011 LTV Landowner of the Year award for their commitment to preserve "one of Northern Loudoun County's most spectacular properties." The award is presented to a Virginia landowner who, by donating a conservation easement to LTV during the previous year, has

made the "most significant contribution to protecting natural, cultural and open space values."

In March 2010, the Bazacos placed their nearly 500-acre Windham farm north of Hillsboro under a Land Trust Conservation Easement, the second-largest easement ever recorded with LTV. Located on the eastern side of Short Hill Mountain, the property is visible for more than a mile and a half along Mountain Road/Rt. 690, a Virginia Scenic Byway.

With 360 acres the property includes 170 acres of prime farmland and 135 woodland acres that stretch to the crest of Short Hill just north of Hillsboro.

The Bazacos decided to place their land under easement to provide permanent protection for its open space, agricultural and environmental resources. The easement also served to protect the northern flank of the Hillsboro and surrounding countryside east of the Blue Ridge from development.

At the time of the easement donation in 2010, George Bazaco said he and his wife had bought the property in the hopes of living and working in northern Loudoun and one day passing the land on to the next generation. Noting he and his wife had "loved this land from the moment we saw it," Bazaco said the couple was particularly

pleased the land would be protected in perpetuity, but also that the family could continue its vineyard operations.

Virginia "Ginny" Friend, received the 2011 LTV Steward of the Year award for her meticulous care of Talbot Farm just south of Waterford. The award is given to a Virginia landowner who employs best management practices in preserving their property and, in complying with the conditions of the easement, exemplifies the concept of an ideal steward of the land.

Friend was one of the first landowners in the state to place her property under easement through the then-fledgling LTV, starting with an initial

25-acre parcel in 2000. Three years later, she placed a second easement, on an additional 215 acres. The farm's open meadowland and stream, visible to the east of Rt. 662 as one approaches Waterford from the south, have been carefully protected by Friend, along with the main house, farm buildings and forested area. Friend, particularly, has sought over the years to return the stream bank areas of her property to good health, working with several environmental groups. She has worked closely with LTV staff members to ensure the riparian areas are adequately protected.

GREEN BUSINESS CHALLENGE ADDS COMPETITORS

More than 50 local businesses and organizations have signed up for the 2011 Loudoun County Green Business Challenge, which is designed to encourage participating businesses to increase operational efficiency and reduce their overall carbon footprint.

The Green Business Challenge is a partnership between the Loudoun County Government and the Loudoun Chamber of Commerce to encourage Loudoun businesses to adopt environmentally sound business practices. Businesses are ranked for their environmental practices through a Green Business Challenge Scorecard.

Actions taken by businesses participating in the 2011 Challenge may include conducting office-wide energy audits, having employees turn off lights and computers when not in use, purchasing recycled paper products, and adopting formal telework policies.

Newest participants in the 2011 Challenge are:

- Blake Landscapes, Inc.
- Brambleton Group L.L.C.
- Catocin Creek Distilling Company, LLC
- Con-Serv Industries
- Dewberry
- Dulles Area Association of REALTORS
- eXp Realty
- GeoConcepts Engineering, Inc.
- Image Matters LLC
- Inova Loudoun Hospital
- J. R. Snider, Ltd.

- Lansdowne Resort
- Metron Aviation, Inc.
- Neustar
- Nova Medical & Urgent Care Center
- Paciulli, Simmons & Associates
- RAM Consulting, RCare Solutions Division
- Rockwell Collins
- Solar Odyssey, Inc.

- Total Equine Veterinary Associates

Dewberry became the 50th business to sign up for the Challenge following the most recent Loudoun Green Business Challenge Summer Coffee Series event.

More information on registration and the rating system

is online at: www.loudoun.gov/greenbusinesschallenge or www.locogreenbiz.org. The deadline to register and submit a scorecard is August 30, 2011. Winners will be announced at the Gala Event on October 27, 2011.

The next Coffee Series event will be held Wednesday, August 24, 2011, from 8:00

a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at Rehau in Leesburg. Local businesses are invited to attend to learn more about the Green Business Challenge and how to fill out the Scorecard.

More information is available online at www.loudoun.gov/greenbusinesschallenge and www.locogreenbiz.org.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

General Manager Locust Hill Farm
Fauquier County Farm Bureau Board Member
Vice President, Virginia Forage and Grasslands Council
Winner John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation Award
Associate Director John Marshall Soil and Water.
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VILLAGE GREEN

LOUDOUN DRINKING WATER – YAY OR YUCK?

WATERWORLD

RICHARD A. ENGBERG

Where does Loudoun Water, the largest drinking water supplier in Loudoun County, obtain its water, how it is treated before being distributed to customers, and how we can be confident we are getting the best product possible?

First, a confession. I do not live in Middleburg. Instead, I live in an area of Loudoun County whose water is supplied by Loudoun Water. In fact, Loudoun Water provides drinking water to more than 186,000 customers primarily east of Route 15 from South Riding to Sterling. You probably know that Middleburg uses groundwater, and is one of

only four incorporated towns in the county not supplied by Loudoun Water, the others being Leesburg, Purcellville, and Lovettsville.

So where does Loudoun Water get its water? Two sources, actually, intakes in the Potomac River and Goose Creek, or, more accurately, Goose Creek Reservoir. However, Loudoun Water's primary function is water distribution. In reality, its drinking water comes from Fairfax County. Loudoun Water purchases fully treated water through fairly complicated contractual agreements from Fairfax Water (about 95 percent), and from the City of Fairfax. These agreements call for Loudoun Water to receive up to 53 million gallons per day of treated,

drinkable water.

So how does Fairfax Water treat the water it furnishes Loudoun Water and why is it treated? Let's answer these questions in reverse order.

Remember that water is the universal solvent. As it moves overland or resides underground it continually is dissolving minerals and other natural material as well as less desirable material resulting from human and animal activity. Naturally occurring inorganic substances can be things like salts and metals, but these substances can also occur as a result of human activity – think salt from streets in winter. Other goodies water may pick up include microorganisms – you've heard of Cryptosporidium, a nasty that can cause

abdominal infections (we may call it something else.) Other substances that may find their way into water include radioactive contaminants, and pesticides or other organic chemicals. Finally, sediment picked up by water can be the cause of turbidity (cloudiness.)

Yuck! We're drinking this stuff? But wait! We're not, we're really not. Fairfax Water uses a five step treatment process that involves chemical coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. So what do these big words actually mean? The first three simply are processes that make contaminants group together and settle out to clarify the water before it is filtered. Finally, after filtration, the water is disinfected with chlo-

rine and ozone

to kill the microorganisms that might have made it through the filtration process. The finished water is tested daily for microorganisms. Yay!

These techniques have been developed over many years and are in use in one form or another by every water system in the U. S. that uses supplies derived from surface water sources. As a career "water guy," I feel confident that every time I draw a glass of water from my kitchen sink, it is as safe as water from any other source including bottled water. Yes, Loudoun Water and Fairfax Water really do it right.



JOBS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

A CREEK RUNS THROUGH US

CHANDLER VAN VOORHIS

We often hear the refrain about jobs versus the environment. We are conditioned to believe one must choose between the two. The reality is, this is not an either-or situation but rather a partnership of jobs and the environment.

A recent study by Heidi Garrett-Peltier and Robert Pollin, University of Massachusetts Political Economy and Research Institute, "How Infrastructure Investments Support the U.S. Economy: Employment, Productivity and Growth" states that restoration generates the 39.7 jobs for every \$1 million invested. This is twice that of crop agriculture, construction/infrastructure and coal mining. By

time one looks at the multipliers, restoration delivers three times the economic impact.

A few years ago Storm Cunningham, author of the book *The Restoration Economy* divided the US economy into three sections --- restoration, conservation/maintenance and new development. What Storm discovered was that the restoration sector was the largest component and soon to be bigger than both conservation/maintenance and new development put together.

Locally, Brad Gable of Bluemont has set up an umbrella mitigation bank called Rock Hedge (www.rockhedge.net). While Brad has incorporated these mitigation practices on his farm, other landowners in the area are invited to join. The act of in-

stalling buffers strips along streams creates tradable and transferrable credits. While stream credits are denominated in linear feet, wetland credits are denominated in acres. Buyers of these credits are usually infrastructure projects like expansion of a runway for Dulles Airport.

Rock Hedge currently has 6 acres of wetlands credits and nearly 11,000 linear feet of stream credits available.

A wetland credit in Northern Virginia area can fetch for up to \$100,000 per acre while stream credits can go for \$600 per linear foot.

Talk about cash for conservation. At the end of the day, these acts of restoration also deliver enhanced water quality and improved ecosystems. The investment by

the landowner to generate the credit generates jobs for soil scientists, equipment operators, engineers, planters and foresters.

Because restoration is capital intensive, a regional firm called Restore Capital (www.restorecapital.com) is helping landowners finance projects by providing debt tied to the buyer purchasing the ecosystem credits.

Restore Capital's mission is to "enhance the economics and environment of our working lands and waters." Working lands comprise of most of the United States. In fact, three-fourths of the nearly 2.3 billion acres in United States are working farms, forests and rangelands.

Bridging the gap between conservation and agriculture, a new breed of landowner is intelligently incorporating both conservation and agriculture on the same tract of

land.

Recognizing it makes sense for the land and the wallet, landowners are tapping into these ecological markets to deliver greater value.

With groups like Rock Hedge and Restore Capital, land and money are touching in new ways, creating jobs and a cleaner environment. In a polarized world, we need examples of balance coupled with the belief we can reinvent ourselves by building equity back into our land and community.

Chandler Van Voorhis is Managing Partner of C21, LLC in Middleburg, a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and serves on the board of the Goose Creek Association.



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\$1,800,000 Terry Atherton 703.861.0538



Paris - Only \$835K for this stunning southerly valley view in conservation easement. Any angle of the home or its huge deck on 22 acres provides views of other properties in conservation easement. Set back from the road, it will provide peace & tranquility for years to come. Bordering are 95 acres for sale in conservation easement for \$860K.

\$835K +/- \$860K Miguel Avila 571.233.0581



Delaplane - Wine & Hunt Country! A beautiful 10,000sf colonial mansion for you on a cul-de-sac with an attached indoor lap pool, a wrap-around deck and separate offices over the 3 car garage. Only the finest of finishes for the very best! From almost every room are extraordinary views, manicured grounds & beautiful gardens. Call me today.

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\$1,199,000 Kimberly Hurst 703.932.9651



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\$1,299,000 Lilian Jorgenson 703.407.0766



Middleburg - New price! Gracious 4BR/4.5BA colonial on 3+ acres, established neighborhood. Recent kitchen with granite counters, family room w/fieldstone hearth & fireplace, large living room w/FP, sunroom w/vaulted ceiling, rear deck w/pergola overlooking pond & woods. Main level BR & BA, sitting rm, mini kitchen, separate front entrance. LL RR & bath.

\$869,900 Michele Stevens 703.568.0721



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\$825,000 Jackie Hagenston 540.454.1452



Middleburg - PRICE REDUCED! Beautiful setting on east side of M'burg village. Open airy contemporary on 20 open acres with great views and privacy. Main level MBR with deck, large living room, stone FP, all HW floors, open kitchen w/wood stove, bar room w/hot tub and loft overlooking pool and pavilion. Some fencing, bring horses! Easy DC/Fairfax commute.

\$799,000 Belinda Hyde 703.431.4620



Leesburg - Come live at Creighton Farms! Build your new home on this premium corner lot (#96) with front and rear community access. Gently rolling 3.86 acres with large mature trees in a gated community. Jack Nicklaus signature golf course and every amenity imaginable – tennis, pool, club house, fitness center, spa, concierge services, etc. Truly a must see!

\$839,000 Amy Adams 703.851.2051



Middleburg - Lease this wonderful end unit townhouse in a beautifully maintained neighborhood. With a spacious floor plan this home has 3 entrances, a main floor bedroom & bath, HW floors, crown molding and is in excellent condition. Enclosed is a landscaped courtyard and within walking distance to main street is fine dining, art galleries, exclusive shopping.

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FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Middleburg Humane Foundation

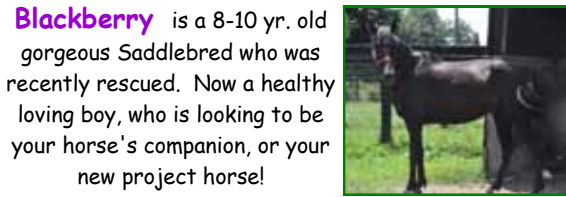
Got Mice?

Feline Mice-Patrol Officers

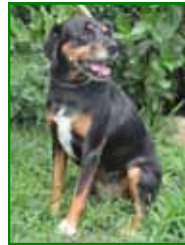
Looking for employment with housing included !



Daisy is a small/ petite 4-5 yr. old Chihuahua/Dachshund mix. She seeks a mom or dad or family with a companion dog who is willing to share treats & playtime.



Blackberry is a 8-10 yr. old gorgeous Saddlebred who was recently rescued. Now a healthy loving boy, who is looking to be your horse's companion, or your new project horse!



Mattie is a 4 yr old Beagle mix who is intelligent & just the right size. Her desire is to be the center of attention so she reserves the right to be selective of her dog friends.

Pebbles & Annie

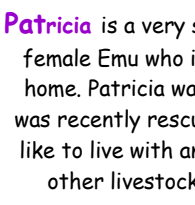
Pebbles an 8 yr old Shetland Pony mare gave birth to Annie on 3/25/11. Annie will be med.-lg. pony when she grows up since her daddy was a horse! They need a very experienced home to continue their daily training.



Luther is a 3-4 month old Lab Corgi mix in search of a stay-at-home or works-from-home parent. For entertainment he likes to play, eat, lick & snuggle.



Elliot a 3 year Lab/Hound mix is seeking an active home with other dog friends He is house trained and is very social with other dogs. as well. Elliot needs a home with lots of exercise & no cats!



Patricia is a very social & healthy female Emu who is in need of a home. Patricia was a stray who was recently rescued. She would like to live with another Emu or other livestock on a farm.



Napoleon A very laid back 4 yr old Beagle is looking for a couch to call his very own. His interests include dogs, cats, food, kids and ear rubs.



Socks A small stocky 1 yr old Dachshund mix seeks a quiet home with another companion dog. His pastimes include playing with his buds, chasing butterflies & snacking!



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ALBERT'S CORNER

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

ALBERT P. CLARK

Life is cyclical. The seasons come and go. The trees are bountiful before the leaves fall. The garden sings with bees and butterflies before the winter brings silence. It's just the way of the world. But sometimes, it's a tough pill to swallow.

June and July marked two passages for me. One is very serious and the other far less so, but both have left me with an attitude that's a little more winter than summer. And both involve the same family in Middleburg – a family that is very important to my people's shop, Wylie Wagg.

The first and most distressing is the sudden passing of a beloved canine friend, Ranger Plescow. Ranger was a dog among dogs – the epitome of grace, beauty and strength. Rumor had it that there might have been a drop or two of wolf in him. If we're talking about legendary "old-soulness" and spirit, he might as well have been all wolf. He was big in body, but his heart was the biggest part of him by far. He filled a room and made everyone in it feel just a little more special to be sharing his space. He could be a clown just as easily as he could be a compassionate protector – and he knew exactly when to call on either talent. To look into his eyes was to know that dogs have depth that people just cannot imagine. Those who knew him know that he will never really be gone because he will be as vivid in memory as he was in life. Ranger, it was an honor to know you.

The other sad news is not of the same ilk as the passing of a friend. It's just that we won't be seeing quite as much of a friend as we would like. Judith Plescow, Ranger's mom, has long been an important fixture at my people's shop. Several years ago, she kindly offered to "fill in" for a couple of months. Well, months turned into years, and we all got very spoiled. Judith brought a special brand of enthusiasm into our midst. Whether she was whole-

heartedly delighted with a new puppy tumbling through the door, or happily ensuring that flowers brightened the storefront, Judith brought a contagious good mood and an uplifting attitude with her every time she worked.

Alas, the time has finally come when Judith really is going to stop filling in. It helps that she has promised to step in if there's an urgent need, visit frequently, and remain a "friend of the Wagg". She may not be on duty, but she'll definitely be close by, and that's comforting. We are so grateful for the innumerable contributions she made to the store's success, but more importantly, we feel privileged to have enjoyed her company on a regular basis.

So the summer has been a bit melancholy in some ways, but it has made me think about something important: appreciating the present. Things are always changing, and today may be one of the best days of our lives. The people, pets and situations that bring us happiness are to be savored, because the one constant is change. Rather than getting too gloomy about this, I'm resolving to remember to enjoy the "now". I'm determined to take note more often when things seem especially perfect. Spending too much time in the past or future is a sure way of squandering amazing moments.

Yes, it's 357 degrees and I can't go outside and I'm hot and thirsty and restless and I'm "hang-dogging" it to the point that it's almost comical ... but I think it's time to snap back to appreciative mode. The truth is that life is full of passages, both heartbreaking and heartwarming. If today is free of heartbreak, it's a gift and one to be relished regardless of poor weather, frustrations or inconveniences. It's a lesson for all of us, two-legged and four.

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

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Music Room of the Peard Building, The Hill School, Middleburg, Virginia
6:00 p.m. -- Wine & Cheese Reception followed by talk and book signing
Tickets: \$60 for MHAA members, \$75 for non-members
Tour, Saturday, July 30
Manassas National Battlefield, Manassas, Virginia
8:00 a.m. -- Arrive at Atoka for coffee and donuts
8:30 a.m. -- Bus leaves for the Manassas National Battlefield
9:15 a.m. -- Begin tour of the battlefield stopping at sites that are significant to the Battle of 1st Manassas (Bull Run), stop at the Visitor Center and a boxed lunch.
3:30 p.m. -- Return to Atoka

John Hennessy, chief historian at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, will speak on the Battle of 1st Manassas (Bull Run) on Friday, July 29 at the Hill School in Middleburg, Virginia, followed on Saturday, July 30 by a guided tour of the actions of the Battle of 1st Manassas (Bull Run) at the Manassas National Battlefield.

About the Speaker: John Hennessy is the author of three books on the American Civil War, including the definitive work on the Battle of 1st Manassas, *An End to Innocence: The First Battle of Manassas*. He started his National Park Service career at Manassas in the 1980s, and has since worked for the New York State Historic Preservation Office, the National Park Service Interpretive Design Center at Harpers Ferry, and at Fredericksburg. He is the principal author of "Holding the High Ground", the document that has helped shape the National Park Service's direction in interpretation as we enter the Sesquicentennial, helping to shepherd in an expanded approach to interpretation that examines the Civil War and its major battles in a broader context--bringing to visitors not just the stories of men in uniform, but also the civilians and slaves who were affected by the Civil War. He is a native of upstate New York, but has been at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania NMP since 1995.

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INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

BALLARD HILL, LEESBURG, VA

Perfect balance between convenience and privacy. The 5 bedroom, 7 bath, Federal style residence highlights the highest quality materials and attention to detail. Wood molded bricks, slate roof, detailed millwork, wood windows, energy saving HVAC and chef's kitchen on 6 acres. \$2,799,000.

Carol Fochtman 540-272-4334
Clyde Lamond 703-501-8065



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

GRACEWOOD, DELAPLANE, VA

Gracewood, 28 acres, Piedmont Hunt. Stunning, brick, Federal 4 bedroom residence with 12" ceilings on first floor. Beautifully landscaped pool and grounds. 7 stall stable with tack, wash and feed rooms. Riding arena, dimensions of regulation dressage ring. All in immaculate condition. \$2,750,000.

Carole Miller 540-687-2233



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

FOX VALLEY FARM, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Very complete, very charming hunt country property. 32 acres in prime Orange County Hunt. Just south of Middleburg in Fauquier County. Main house c. 1845 with 3 bedrooms, one on 1st floor, large living room with huge windows, dining room with stone walls, pool, guest house, separate garage, 7 stall barn, 3 BR cottage, large pond. Excellent location for riding, privacy and peaceful country living. Priced to sell. \$2,500,000.

Ruth Ripley 540-687-2222



WILDCAT MOUNTAIN, WARRENTON, VA

Build your dream home on 140+ spectacular acres with 25 mile views of the mountains and valleys to the North. Property includes a 3 bedroom brick cape cod, spacious rooms with equally fabulous views. Additional acreage and building sites available. Just minutes from The Plains, Middleburg and the conveniences of Warrenton. \$1,700,000.

Jim Thompson 540-687-3216



200 STONEWALL AVENUE, MIDDLEBURG, VA

NEW PRICE! Beautiful, fully renovated, high-end office building with approximately 2,600 SF of exceptional space on 3 levels. Lovely open atrium for reception, conference rooms, private offices, wired for Ethernet & handicap accessible. Beautiful large lot with 5+ private parking spaces with room for expansion. Zoned C-1 can also be enjoyed as a residence. \$765,000.

Carole Miller 540-687-2233
Anita Sisney 540-687-2214



MT. DEFIANCE, MIDDLEBURG, VA

Mt. Defiance, circa 1770, is a classic fieldstone 3-4 bedroom residence on 5+ acres. House features thick stone walls, deeply recessed windows, lovely old pine and stone floors, 5 fireplaces. Original Post House Tavern Room on lowest level. Dependencies are: 2 bedroom guest cottage (formerly blacksmith's residence), 7 stall stable, garage (former blacksmith's shop). Room for horses. \$675,000.

Carole Miller 540-687-2233



PLEASANT MEADOW, PURCELLVILLE, VA

Wonderful opportunity to own 13.67 fenced acres with run-in shed and riding trails ready for your horses. Custom colonial, 5 bedroom, 4 bath home with open floor plan. Gourmet kitchen with granite and cherry. Slate patio and deck. Conveniently located between Middleburg and Purcellville. \$675,000.

Carol Fochtman 540-272-4334



SUNNYSIDE, MARSHALL, VA

Charming brick rambler in terrific location! Just minutes to I-66. Hardwood floors throughout and large basement. This lovely home is on a large lot (.46 acres) filled with beautiful mature trees and large fenced back yard. \$230,000.

Jim Thompson 540-687-3216

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