



EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN AT THE WATERFORD SCHOOL

PAGE 5



CONSERVATION
WITH A PURPOSE,
CAPITALISM WITH
A HEART

PAGE 19

SHOCKS AND AFTERSHOCKS

DANIEL MORROW

In the past thirty days, Middleburg's new Police Chief announced that he was retiring after half a year's service. Town Council voted to replace veteran Town Attorney Liz Whiting after more than 20 years of service, and a host of new rules and regulations governing the day-to-day behavior of both the Middleburg Police Department and town staff were adopted.

Those events, individually and in combination, set off a torrent of speculation, rumor and innuendo that, at press time, continues to swirl around the streets of Middleburg, in print and in the blogosphere.

Chief Klugh Re-Retires

On January 26 Middleburg's new Police Chief, Bill Klugh, announced to a closed session of Town Council that he was retiring, again, effective May 1, 2012. He had retired from the Fairfax City Police Force, after 27 years of service, just last year.

Klugh's announcement appar-

ently came as a surprise to both Council and Staff. Town Administrator Martha Semmes, told the Loudoun Times that she had "officially received word" on the 26th. Just prior the announcement, Klugh had granted an interview to the Middleburg Eccentric, and publicly briefed Council on draft revisions to his department's rules, regulations and standing orders, without so much as a hint of his plans.

Afterward, Klugh expressed regret at leaving his new post, saying that he had seriously miscalculated the financial provisions of his retirement package. Upon review, he said, remaining on salary in Middleburg was clearly both impractical and fiscally irresponsible.

To date both Town Council and Staff have praised the Chief, his work to date and expressed genuine regret at his early departure.

"Bill has done a great job and will be missed," Vice Mayor Kirk told the Eccentric, "and if I were in his shoes, I'd have done the same thing."

The Town has already begun advertising for a successor. The job pays up to \$75,000, depending on qualifications and

Continued Page 8

FOXCROFT GOES ABOVE & BEYOND TO RAISE \$10,000 FOR CHERRY BLOSSOM



Last fall, the Foxcroft School community set a goal of raising \$5,000 for the Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Foundation. Then, the dedicated students went out and raised double their goal!

Recently, senior student leaders Maeve Couzens (Middleburg, VA), Charlotte Wright (Alexandria, VA), and Alex Carr (Wellington, FL) presented an oversized check for \$10,000 to CBBC Board representatives at an all-school meeting. The funds were raised mostly through the School's Think Pink Basketball Tournament in January, participation in Nanette's Walk last fall, and the generosity of an anonymous donor who supports the girls' efforts.

"This is an incredible achievement that you have accomplished," said James P. Atkins, chairman and founder of the Foundation, which supports early detection, treatment, and awareness of this insidious disease in the local area as well as research to find a cure.

"And it is so important to the women of Loudoun and Fauquier counties – and to you and the women in your families. You all need to know your genetic history and be aware of the importance of taking care of your health."

Giving back is an integral part of a Foxcroft education. "From whom much is given, much is expected," said the School's founder Charlotte

Noland and its current Head of School Mary Louise Leipheimer.

Foxcroft School is the number one single contributor to the CBBCF, Atkins added. As a result, fellow board member Lori K. McGuinness announced that the school contingent will have the honor of leading Nanette's Walk next September. Foxcroft has had the largest group at the 5K walk since its inception in 2007. Last year the 60+ students, faculty, and administrators who walked raised \$3,750 -- more than 10 percent of the total raised by the walk.

In January, 12 basketball high school and middle school teams participated in the third annual Think Pink Basketball Tournament, organized by Foxcroft Athletic Director Michelle Woodruff and the student-run Athletic Association. T-shirt sales, team entry fees, cash donations of all sizes, and a lot of volunteer work raised some \$5,000. The tournament referees volunteered their time, and one of them, Don Woodruff, solicited sponsors for the cause in the weeks before the event.

The balance of Foxcroft's donation came from sales of pink shoelace, hair/horse braids, and the unnamed donor.



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PETER PEJACEVICH 540-270-3835 \$5,900,000



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PETER PEJACEVICH 540-270-3835 \$3,975,000



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WENDY ANDREWS 703-408-0719 1,450,000



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SCOTT BUZZELLI 540-454-1399 \$1,395,000



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SCOTT BUZZELLI 540-454-1399 \$1,249,000



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MARCY CANTATORE 540-533-7453 \$825,000



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SCOTT BUZZELLI 540-454-1399 \$624,000



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MARCY CANTATORE 540-533-7453 \$825,000

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NEWS OF NOTE

FIONA'S TOP SECRET DAY



FIONA EVANS-WELLS

I am Fiona. I am eight years old. This is my story about the Pentagon.

I went to the Pentagon on Wednesday, February 8, 2012. I had to go in the early morning about 6:00 a.m. to my Mum's office in Crystal City. Later in the morning we took the Metro to the Pentagon.

When we arrived at the Pentagon I had to go to the police to see if I had to get a badge. Good news! I am under the age of fifteen! I got in with Mum's badge. We saw a school that was having a tour. The tour guide, a Marine, told the tour that the Pentagon has three hundred, eighty-five bathrooms, six-hun-

dered, eighty-five drinking fountains.

I met with Mr. Harris, who is a colleague of my mother's at 11:00 a.m. He took us first to the press room. The press room has a lot of cameras and lights. The podium where the Secretary of Defense stands goes up and down. The lights make the room look like day light! There is a big screen used for special visitors to ask questions on a teleconference. The Secretary of Defense gives briefings and points to the person from the press who wants to ask a question. After we went to the headquarters of the Secretary of Defense. There were all the portraits of the Secretary of Defences lined down the corridor.

We went to the secret purple water fountain. It was a special wa-

ter fountain. It was very old! The airmen drank from it for good luck. Mr. Harris told me about the sad history when in the time of segregation there were separate water fountains and bathrooms for whites and African Americans.

After a fine lunch in the Pentagon dining room, we met Mr. Candido. He is the building manager for the Pentagon. We went to the underground passage ways. I had to wear a hard hat and a vest. My hard hat was too big. It kept wobbling!

We saw where all the heating and cooling pipes were installed underneath the building. We did not see any rats even though Mr. Candido said he had seen them sometimes.

When the Pentagon was attacked on 9/11, Mr. Candido stayed for three entire days, digging through the rubble to find people and carry them out from the building. He was very brave. Mr. Candido got a medal because he saved many lives that day.

Then we went to the Pentagon's Integrated Emergency Operations Center (IEOC). The IEOC is where we can see everything that is

happening on the outside and inside the Pentagon. The room was dark. Lots of big screens showing things I cannot tell you about! We met Ms. Choy who operated one of the screens. She showed me how things worked.

After the IEOC we went to the 911 chapel, where Mummy knew a Navy person who had died that day. We got a paper banner and used a pencil to imprint his name off the wall of the 911 victims.

Mr. Harris then escorted us to the Navy Reflection room and on the top of the memorial it said, "LEST WE NOT FORGET". This was a very touching moment. All the names that were on the stone, had died that day.

Last stop on our tour with was to the Hall of Heroes. I stood where the military heroes receive their medals of honor, and Mr. Harris presented me with an award that is not sold in shops. It was the 911 commemorative medal, that said "United in Memory September 11, 2001."

That was My Top Secret Day! I hope one day you will visit the Pentagon.

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Cricket Bedford (540) 229-3201

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Excellent opportunity to build your dream home on a rare 3.69 acre parcel! Just off Foxcroft Road, down a quiet dead-end lane, this property is only minutes to town & surrounded by large farms. County approved 5-bedroom septic field. House site located on top of a hill. Parcel also contains existing 1970's farm house which is tenant occupied. Property is offered "as is" **\$275,000**
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NEWS OF NOTE

PATRONS OF FOX'S DEN TAVERN ENJOY PROPRIETOR'S AMERICAN LEGACY

For restaurateurs, the decision about venue selection when choosing to open a business can be an extraordinarily involved process almost bordering on a science. However, in the case of Charlie Carroll who opened Middleburg's newest addition to the fine dining scene, The Fox's Den Tavern, the choice of Middleburg for his labor of love was easy; it felt instantly like home.

Although a native of County Waterford, Ireland, Mr. Carroll is a direct descendant of both Benjamin Franklin and Charles Carroll, both Founding Fathers of our nation and Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Perhaps more has been written and is known about Franklin,

the son of a staunch loyalist, who was personally responsible for authoring content in the actual document itself. (Thomas Jefferson was chosen as the main author in the elite group of the six primary contributors, among them John Adams and Franklin, principally due to his status as a Virginian.)

Franklin, at age 70, was the oldest Signer and so invested in the undertaking of forming a free nation, as were all the brave men who stood up for freedom, that he is quoted as saying "we must all hang together or assuredly we shall all hang separately."

Less however is known about Charles Carroll of Carrollton, MD, an American Federalist and the only Catholic to be among this elite group.

Mr. Carroll was a wealthy landowner born in Annapolis, Maryland on September 19, 1737. He was a descendant of the O' Cearbhaill Lords of Eile in King's County Ireland, now County Offaly. The Lords of Eile were among the most powerful clans in Ireland and their genealogy and involvement in Irish royalty can be traced back well over two thousand years.

Carroll eventually settled near Mt. Airy, Maryland at Carrollton Manor. Because his father was also called Charles Carroll, he distinguished himself as Charles Carroll of Carrollton. (Hence his signature on the Declaration, Charles Carroll of Carrollton.) Due to his Roman Catholic faith, he was barred from entering politics, practicing law, or voting.

Carroll was, however, undeterred and through the business of agriculture became one of the wealthiest men in the Colonies. It is believed that the First Amendment to the Constitution was written to honor him for his financial contributions during the Revolutionary War, which stood out so blatantly in contrast to a previously denied lifetime of fundamental civil rights.

Present day Carroll County, Maryland represents part of the land owned by Mr. Carroll. He served as a delegate to the Continental Congress and represented Maryland as a State Senator from 1777-1800. When the first U.S. Senate was created he was asked to represent Maryland, thus becoming the Free State's very first United States Senator.

Carroll served the U.S. Senate from 1789-1792 until Congress passed a law preventing representation of both State and U.S. Senators at the same time. He resigned from the U.S. Senate and chose to return to his beloved Maryland. Although a landowner of vast properties and planter dependent on slaves, he called publicly for the abolition of slavery nearly half a century prior to the Civil War.

He did this with the full knowledge that, by doing so, his business interests could suffer, yet again our Founding Fathers were not average men; they were of the highest moral character and intellect. His statement on the subject was, "Why keep alive the question of slavery? It is admitted by all to be a great evil."

Carroll was the last surviving signatory of the Declaration, living until the age of 95 who died in Baltimore on November 14, 1832. His quiet strength of character and devotion to freedom for all was widely recognized.

Charlie Carroll has done much to preserve his family's history, and many of the Carroll family belongings can be seen on display at The Fox's Den.

The rich history of Virginia drew Charlie to Middleburg, and as a history buff he was particularly thrilled to inherit the space at 7 West Washington Street from the previous tenants who had operated the Hidden Horse Tavern. The building itself is one of the oldest in the Town, dating back to the immediate post Revolutionary War era, and it has been rumored that Colonel John S. Mosby hid horses in the basement, which after a loving restoration has now become The Fox's Den. After a quick review in the summer of 2010, Charlie tasked himself with the challenge of opening the new restaurant a mere two months after committing to the project.

The entire team of wait staff, management, prep cooks, and even the executive chef took over painting, staining, interior design, hanging paintings, logo artwork, kitchen renovation, etc. A seemingly impossible task for most, luckily Mr. Carroll and members of his team had come to Middleburg with years of experience in the hospitality and restaurant industry.

The plan for the menu was simple; American "comfort" food, done exquisitely well and prepared with the freshest ingredients available. Service was to be emphasized, as was the idea of an adjacent Pub Area for friendly gatherings.

The Fox's Den has quickly developed a reputation for excellence in the Virginia Piedmont, not only for the quality of the food, but for the friendliness of the staff, the devoted clientele, and the constant dedication to excellence based on customer feedback.

RAIN, SLEET, DISEASE & GLOOM LECTURE SCHEDULED

Rain, Sleet, Disease and Gloom: D. H. Hill & the Confederate Withdrawal from Northern Virginia" is the topic of the next lecture in the Conversations lecture series, co-sponsored by Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and Mosby Heritage Area Association. Scheduled for 7 p.m. March 7th, the program will take place at Mt. Zion Historic Park at 40309 John Mosby Highway in Aldie.

Douglas Batson, a Defense Department geographer and historian, will examine the evacuation of Loudoun and Fauquier Counties by Confederate forces on March 7, 1862. Batson's first-person presentation will reflect the voice of the commander in charge of the evacuation, General D.H. Hill. This program will be given on the 150th anniversary of the Confederate evacuation.

General Hill, Commander of the Potomac District, led a dispirited, muddy, 12-day retreat down the Old Carolina Road - modern day Rt. 15. The Confederate Army's evacuation from Northern Virginia cast a depressing pall on the entire region.

Guest speaker Douglas Batson holds a Master of Education from Boston University and Bachelor's degrees in history and geography. Retired from the U.S. Army Reserve, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal during Operation DESERT STORM. His Living History website is at www.dhhill.org.

Admission to the program is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students.

For more information, please telephone Mt. Zion Historic Park at 703-327-9777 or Mosby Heritage Area Association at 540-687-6681.

SAYLOR TO CHAIR THE LOUDOUN LAURELS

SETTING CITIZENSHIP STANDARD
FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Dr. Kathleen "Kit" Saylor, CEO of REHAU North America, Inc., will serve as the new Chair of the four-year-old non-profit Loudoun Laurels. A founding member of the program, she succeeds former Inova Loudoun Hospital CEO, Randy Kelley, as Chair.

Dr. Saylor has lived in Loudoun County since 1994 when she joined the global German polymer company that is one of the largest employers in Loudoun County. She was born and raised in Choteau, Montana, and took her Ph.D. in Communication and Organizational Development from the University of Maryland.

"Among the many Loudoun County business, academic and not-for-profit organizations I have been pleased to serve, The Loudoun Laurels is definitely one of my favorites," explained Saylor. "I believe that by giving credit where credit is due, we recognize and honor individuals who make incalculable contributions to our community, and we highlight examples of stewardship and citizenship that can serve as models for many others."

"By contributing their life stories to The Loudoun Laurels Archive at The Thomas Balch Library, we ensure that future generations will understand how diligently, although quietly, our Laureates work to protect and promulgate the traditions that make Loudoun such an exceptional place to live."

The Thomas Balch Archive includes videotaped oral histories of G. Kimball Hart, Childs E. Burden and Gene Scheel, honored in 2008; Paul Ziluca and Karen H. Russell, honored in 2009; Lang & Judy Washburn, and Delegate Joe May, honored in 2010; and James P. Roberts and Robert E. Sevilla, honored in 2011.

Established in 2008 by Inova Loudoun Hospital under the direction of CEO Randall Kelley to elevate outstanding individuals and organizations whose service to Loudoun County deserves recognition and emulation, The Loudoun Laurels seeks to help establish and preserve a powerful sense of community that enriches the life of every citizen of greater Loudoun.

Widely regarded as a stunningly beautiful county lying at the Northern extremity of the Virginia Piedmont and in close proximity to the Nation's capital, Loudoun, in the words of one historian, "forms the apex of one of the most picturesquely diversified regions on the American continent."

The program's simple yet valuable goal is to re-ignite a special sense of community among all citizens of Greater Loudoun and introduce community leaders, whatever their age or occupation, to each other, their peers and the larger public.

"As The Loudoun Laurels program evolves, we hope to engage and inspire the citizens of Greater Loudoun," said Dr. Saylor. "We believe in leadership by example, and we want to be certain the true leaders who contribute so much to our lives



are known and remembered."

Dr. Saylor also serves the President of Montana State University's "Leadership in the 21st Century" panel. She has received the Washington Business Journal's "Women Who Mean Business" award and is a member of Loudoun County's CEO Cabinet. Her many community commitments include George Washington University's Virginia Science & Technology Campus Advisory Board; Vice Chairman and Acting Secretary/Treasurer of the Center for the Arts, and Loudoun County 'Good Scout' Steering Committee.

"With the help of Joe Boling of Middleburg Bank, Daniel Morrow, our executive director, the Laureates we have honored, our Founders' Committee and my leadership committee, I hope to ensure that, through The Loudoun Laurels, we will set standards of citizenship for many generations to come."

"It takes an extraordinary level of commitment, stewardship and dedication to ensure that the traditions and history of this exceptional place remain alive and vibrant as we move successfully into the 21st Century."

To learn more about The Loudoun Laurels, please visit www.loudounlaurels.org.

EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN AT THE WATERFORD SCHOOL

A MODEL OF GRASSROOTS PRESERVATION

When, in January of 2007 a raging fire engulfed Waterford's Old School, the cultural heart of the community, all the gallant fire fighters could do was decide what should be saved and what should be left to burn. The fire was too fierce to save it all in time, and saving even the main building was a challenge.

"We were determined to rebuild this iconic building to serve a new century of citizens," emphasized Kathleen Hughes, director of development programs for The Waterford Foundation. "We listened to the greater Waterford community and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, which holds the easement, who wanted the new building to complement but not overshadow the old. The new building had to have the same remarkable acoustics and intimacy as the original auditorium, yet provide a bigger, more versatile performance space. I think people will agree we've achieved all that in the new Waterford Old School."

Nevertheless, the historic Greek Revival classroom portion of the building was saved, and now, thanks to the dedication and determination of The Waterford Foundation and Village leaders, a splendidly restored and redesigned Old Waterford School complex that includes a totally rebuilt auditorium and performance space, is ready to open.

The newly designed auditorium and performance space are so sensitively planned that they will certainly serve as a symbol of the 21st century community spirit that continues to make Waterford, Virginia such an exceptionally special place.

The Old School was constructed in 1910 and the auditorium and a connector building were added in 1928. Declared as surplus to the



County, the Old School was placed at auction on the Courthouse steps in 1965. In a valiant effort to retain this piece of Loudoun history, private citizens, on behalf of The Waterford Foundation, prevailed at the auction and purchased the property for \$18,000.

The Waterford Old School is not only a compelling architectural artifact, but prior to the fire over the past four decades the Foundation had invested nearly a half million dollars and countless volunteer hours to keep the building in continuous service to the community as a center for a diverse array of functions.

In addition to the annual Waterford Homes Tour & Crafts Exhibit that brings over 150 carefully selected artisans and 20,000 to 30,000 visitors to the Village, the Old School provides a home for the popular and standing-room-only Waterford Concert Series that for seventeen years has brought fine classical musicians to western Loudoun County.

The new Old School facility will continue to be available to the community for citizen association meetings, public forums, concerts, public lectures and private rentals.

Many generous individual donations, sale of a permanently eased building, insurance proceeds, tax credit sales, and grants from the

Graham, Cabell and Morgan Foundations, as well as \$150,000 from the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors for a sprinkler system, have made the return of the Waterford Old School possible.

This April, the annual Waterford Concert Series will come home to the new Waterford Old School. Subscriptions are now on sale for the 18th season that includes five Sunday afternoon concerts of the best classical music in the historic Village.

The Afiara String Quartet begins the series on April 29th with the Monumental Brass Quartet following with a concert on May 13th.

The Next Generation Levine School of Music Competition Winners will play June 3rd, with Maryland Opera Studio appearing October 23rd. The final concert by American University's Chamber Singers will conclude the 2012 season on November 18th.

Annual subscriptions for five unforgettable performances are \$100 for adults and \$50 for students, with children 12 years of age and under admitted at no cost.

To make your reservations for the 2012 Waterford Concert Series, or for more information about cultural events in Waterford, Virginia, please visit www.waterfordfoundation.org.

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NEWS OF NOTE

WHERE YOU SEE IT CHANGES WHAT YOU SEE

MARK DEWEY



I've seen plays produced at a dozen theaters within thirty miles of Middleburg, including five productions in the last three weeks, and the other night, as I was leaving the least likely of those locations, it occurred to me that venue shapes live theater absolutely. If you moved any of those productions from its home theater to another, you'd have to redesign it for the different venue—not just for the different stage—and that would change the play. Though the long-delayed emergence of that insight from the clutter of my mind suggests that I am slow to see the obvious, I offer here a brief description of three local venues that play a big role in the success of their companies.

The Winchester Little Theater produces its shows in a building that has clearly been converted from another purpose. The narrow brick structure dates from 1895, when the Cumberland Railroad built it to receive and

distribute lumber, coal, and apples. The repurposed effect works two ways: it sets every production within a historical context that extends beyond theatrical concerns, and it reminds patrons that some people cared enough about a local theater company to turn a freight station into the company's home. The theater's thrust stage is not really a stage at all, just a floor with seats on three sides. Most of the space in the room is given to the performers, while the audience squeezes in. In other words, it's performer-centered theater.

Conversely, the building that houses The Wayside Theater was designed for audiences. It was constructed in 1946 to house the Middle-town Movie Theater, and though it has recently been renovated, it still looks much like an old-time, small-town movie house. There's a box office, a balcony, a drinking fountain, and red carpet of the sort that predates multiplexes. Most of the space is given to long rows of plush seats, with two aisles that slope decidedly so that the proscenium stage is several feet higher than the floor at the front row. The theater's technical capacities are substantial, and there seems to be a lot of space backstage, where one imag-

ines semi-magical transformations underway. It is a venue that distinctly separates performance from audience.

On a different hand altogether, Run Rabbit Run Theater has made its home in a building designed for farming equipment. It's an aluminum structure at Grandale Farm Restaurant near Hillsboro which has also been repurposed—as a dining room, not as a theater. The performers get a table in the dining room, or the space a table would occupy, and they perform in the midst of the audience, while the audience drinks wine and nibbles cheese-cake after dinner. It's the inverse of performer-centered theater—no light or sound equipment, no backstage—just the actors and the script competing with exotic cuisine for our attention. It's like a theater gym where cognoscenti watch young talent working out, good young talent, the kind that makes the future of theater in this area look quite bright.

Mark Dewey is the editor of *The Shenandoah Press*, a new, non-profit news source based in Berryville. *The Middleburg Eccentric* and the *Shenandoah Press* have created a news alliance to better serve our readers. Please visit www.Shenandoah-Press.org.

SANDERS FAMILY SINGS AGAIN AT WAYSIDE THEATER

MARK DEWEY

The Sanders family is late.

They been on hiatus from the gospel music circuit on account of Uncle Stanley being in the penitentiary, but now he's out and they're back on the road, a-singing and a-witnessing all over Carolina. They were due at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church a half hour ago, but they pulled over to look at all the cucumbers growing in the fields around the pickle plant, and when everybody moved to the same side of the bus, it rolled into the ditch. Flopped right over like a dizzy mule. Oldest sister June, she clambered out and run ahead to tell Pastor Oglethorpe that the others was a-coming just as soon as they could get the bus back on its wheels. June's the one who can't sing. Her job is to help the deaf folks understand the hymns by moving her hands and her arms in ways that show the meaning of the words. She calls it signing. Feller might feel sorry for her if he didn't know why she was wiggling that way.

That's a summary, in mountain English, of the dramatic arc of Wayside Theater's current production, "Smoke on the Mountain." In the uninflected English of conventional journalism, the summary would be shorter: nothing really happens.

Why, then, does everybody love it?

Perhaps because the members of the Sanders family are Appalachian stereotypes who remind some folks around here of the old days. The play hearkens back to 1938, when right and wrong may have been easier to distinguish, on the large scale if not on the small one. And in an era like ours, when new discoveries about the human brain and the nature of the universe are constantly changing our ideas about who we are and where we came from, nostalgia for the simple past is a powerful tool, which would explain why mountain people loved that play, even though nothing happens.

But I was born in Minnesota. Different food, different churches, different

ferent vowel sounds.

Why did I love it?

I suppose it's possible to feel nostalgia for the idealized versions of a past life that doesn't resemble your own, and it's true that my wife was born and raised in Mars Hill, North Carolina, a town so picturesquely and archetypically Appalachian that even its name suggests another world from mine. But I don't like picturesque nostalgia in theater because its intention is dishonest: the only way to reconcile the world we live in with the lure of picturesque nostalgia is to use a paradigm that absolves you from paying attention.

Perhaps I liked the music, twenty-six old gospel hymns in five-part harmony, with fiddle, banjo, mandolin, bass, and guitar. The capella numbers sounded good, but I've heard those hymns performed by Ralph Stanley, Ricky Skaggs, and Mother Maybelle Carter. I've heard Emmy Lou Harris sing "Angel Band" in a voice so fraught with longing that it makes you want to give your soul to Jesus, just so she'll feel better. If you want music, go hear Emmy Lou.

Tens of thousands of New Yorkers, most of them not given to use the Bible as a roadmap for everything from courtship to the subway system, kept the play onstage at the Lamb Theater for 475 consecutive nights when it premiered in 1990, far longer than anyone involved in the play thought it would run. A theater in Branson, Missouri has been running the show for thirteen years. Authors Connie Ray and Alan Bailey have written two sequels. It's the most successful franchise in musical theater.

Why?

Perhaps because we recognize our mamas and our aunts on that stage, and we cherish them for reducing the world they raised us in to simple terms; but we also recognize that we can't stay in the world they simplified: they left too much out.

The actors who play Stanley and Vera in Wayside's production are

especially skillful at suggesting that the world of hymns and aunts isn't purely sunshine. Jody Lee plays Stanley with a sullen reserve that makes you wonder what happened to him. He may be glad he's out of the big house, but he isn't pleased to be back on the gospel circuit with his brother Burl. The story he tells about a brutal man he knew in prison suggests that the witnessing tradition may be a way of reconciling what doesn't make sense, like Stanley's mysterious darkness, with the vision that explains the world in Bible verses.

Pam Pendleton plays Vera, the family matriarch, with an edge of contempt for the simplicity of that vision, because it's supposed to contain her. She is the smartest person on the stage, and the strongest, but her culture makes her pretend that she isn't. Her mind is so much bigger than the Reverend Oglethorpe's that she can quote the Bible to undermine whatever he says, and when he tries to counter-argue, she names the chapter and verse before he finishes speaking. When the reverend quotes Jesus as saying, "For we have piped unto you and ye have not danced," to prove that dancing's sinful, Vera quietly crumbles the rock of his world. She knows that Jesus is condemning the members of his generation for not dancing in that context, but she doesn't force the Reverend to admit his blunder; she just smiles and crosses her arms in a moment of victory he doesn't fully understand.

That pose and that moment epitomize the power of this play: it indulges our nostalgia for the simple world of certainties, even as it shows us why we have to leave that world behind.

"Just a few more lonely days and then," the hymn assures us, "I'll fly away!"

Maybe so: who knows? But for the moment we're caught in transition—American culture is caught in transition—from what we were to what we're going to be. This play lets us relish parts of our heritage that we've outgrown, inexorably, whether we wanted to or not. And we love it for that.

"Smoke on the Mountain" continues at The Wayside Theater until March 10.

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NEWS OF NOTE

SHOCKS AND AFTERSHOCKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
experience.

Plowman Succeeds Whiting

The Town Attorney in Middleburg serves at the pleasure of the Town Council as an independent contractor. This year, for the first time in more than twenty years, the town sought bids prior to the renewal of that contract.

Two people applied. On January 26, at the same work session at which Chief Klugh resigned, Town Council interviewed the applicants: attorneys Elizabeth Whiting and Angela Plowman.

Following those interviews Council decided to postpone its hiring decision until February, in part to give Vice Mayor Darlene Kirk and Council Member Kathy Jo Shea a chance to participate.

On February 9, after another closed session, Council approved a motion by Mark Snyder to "... appoint Angela Plowman as the Town Administrator contingent upon the Town Administrator negotiating a legal services agreement that was acceptable to the Council." Town Administrator Semmes was also instructed "... to explore a transitional and supporting legal services agreement with Liz Whiting on a consulting basis."

According to Martha Semmes the decision to bid out the Town Attorney's contract for the first time in two decades reflected a new administrative commitment to "regularize" Middleburg's contracting process and require a bids on all Town contracts of financial significance.

Asked what, if anything, she could say about the hiring decision, Semmes replied, "The Council was

just ready for a change," noting that "... we all are incredibly appreciative of Liz's long service to the Town."

Semmes hopes to have an agreement with Plowman ready for submission to Council at their February 23 meeting.

Whiting, while admitting to her surprise at the Council's decision, had nothing but praise for her successor's reputation and record. (See "Angela Plowman to Serve as Town Attorney," page 9.)

Plowman will succeed one of Loudoun County's most distinguished attorneys. In 2002 the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia recognized Elizabeth Whiting with their highest honor, the Edward James Finnegan Distinguished Service Award. She currently serves on the distinguished Boyd Graves Conference, the Virginia Institute of Government Advisory Committee and has been a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation since 2006, where she now serves on the Fellows Committee.

In addition to serving as Town Attorney for Middleburg, Lovettsville, and Hillsboro, Whiting has long done highly specialized contract work for Fairfax County and the Town of Leesburg's Board of Zoning Appeals.

She is President of the Loudoun Museum.

Blowback in the Blogosphere

Chief Klugh's sudden retirement and Town Council's subsequent decision to hire Ms. Plowman did not meet with universal understanding or approval, particularly in the blogosphere.

There, for example, on February 16, a contributor to the well-read blog "Too Conservative: A Northern Virginia Republican Viewpoint" attempted to link the Plowman appointment to: Ms. Plowman's relationship to Commonwealth's Attorney Jim Plowman (they are married); to Middleburg Mayor Betsy Davis's alleged relationships with the Commonwealth's Attorney's "political handlers;" to the ill-fated campaign of Mayor Davis's husband, Mark, for County Sheriff; to newly elected Blue Ridge District Supervisor Janet Clarke; and to opponents of newly elected Sheriff Mike Chapman in general.

"I'll be fascinated to see who gets the nod [for the post of Middleburg Chief of Police] next," the blog's "Loudoun Insider" quipped at one point, "and how Mrs. Plowman may advise the council there."

Speculating that "... we'll see someone intent on lining up a challenge to Mike Chapman settling in as Middleburg Police Chief," the "Insider" continued, "I can see the headline now - 'Middleburg Police Chief to Challenge Sheriff Chapman, Backed By Janet Clarke and Jim Plowman'."

A torrent of commentary, for and against, followed. By press time the word count was approaching 4,000.

Mayor Davis told the Eccentric she was "shocked and appalled" anyone would ask her to comment on "such garbage."

After characterizing the blog's assertions as "over the top lies and assumptions," the Mayor concluded, "How sad that these type of blogs are written."

Angela Plowman described remarks published "... disappointing to say the least."

She characterized the allegations as "entirely false" and evidence of the author's "intent to discredit my reputation as a private citizen and attorney."

"I am not my husband," she wrote. "The author apparently believes that there is some underlying deal. I can assure you that there has been no such thing by me or my husband with the Town of Middleburg or any other private sector clients for whom I have provided legal counsel and representation."

New Rules

On January 26, Middleburg Police Chief Bill Klugh also briefed Council for the first time on a long-awaited draft of his new rules, regulations and standing orders for the Middleburg PD. His presentation followed a preliminary interview with the Eccentric conducted while Council met in closed session with candidates for Town Attorney, and just before he officially announced his re-retirement.

Klugh had drafted those changes, in part, in response to negative reaction to police conduct during the highly publicized November 30, 2010 arrest of the co-founder and editor of the Middleburg Eccentric. Klugh had been hired as the successor to Chief Steven L. Webber, who had announced his own retirement just over three months after those events.

On the 26th, Klugh told Council he had based his revisions on "national standards" while doing his best

to make sure they complied with the Virginia state and local law and court decisions.

Rules must be written, he said, "broadly enough to cover a wide variety of situations, while still being clear enough so the officers would know what was expected of them."

Notably absent from the draft was any language remotely resembling guidelines currently in effect in Warrenton and Woodstock and pointedly brought to both Council and the Chief's attention by Town Administrator Martha Semmes on April 28 of last year, shortly after Chief Webber had announced his retirement.

"When it becomes necessary to take a person into custody, a police officer shall do so in as easy and quiet a manner as possible, using only sufficient force to secure the prisoner. ..."

Asked by the Eccentric why he had not included such a passage, Klugh replied that he was not inclined to adopt language containing "superlatives" which, in his view, were unenforceable in practical terms.

When reminded of the Warrenton and Woodstock regulations, he noted that such language, in his view, put an officer at risk of being accused of using unnecessary force whenever he or she made an arrest. The phrase, "as easy and quiet a manner as possible," he observed can't be quantified and is thus, essentially unenforceable.

The Chief did not equivocate, however, about whether or not police officers should give the press, or anyone else outside the appropriate chains of command, advance knowledge of the time, date, and place of a pending arrest.

In both his interview with the Eccentric he deemed such behavior absolutely inappropriate. In his presentation to Council he reiterated that on his watch "there would be no media notification of an impending arrest" noting that there were "a number of reasons not to do so." Such notification, he said, was now, in his view, "specifically prohibited" by the Department's General Orders, and that his officers "were trained in this order."

When asked by Council Member Cathy Jo Shea, whether or not the Virginia State Code "distinguished between violent and non-violent prisoners with regard to the use of handcuffs," the Chief observed that there was nothing at all in the State Code about the use of handcuffs.

When Shea pointed out that the Department's General Orders mandated their use in all "custody arrests," Klugh conceded that that was so, noting that their use was essentially required by the County Jail. The Adult Detention Center, for example, would not accept prisoners without handcuffs, he told Shea, "unless there was an extenuating circumstance, such as a medical condition."

Shea then observed that the new policies stated that, "if an officer saw any misconduct on the part of a fellow officer toward a prisoner, he/she should notify the Chief of Police."

"What would occur," she asked if it was the Chief who was acting inappropriately.

Klugh, blushed, and smiled, and noted good-naturedly that such a thing had never occurred to him.

The Chief, Town Administrator and Council immediately agreed to add a notation that in cases of misconduct by the Chief, an officer would be required to report it to the Town Administrator.

Who is in Command?

Though Council and the Town Administrator generally praised the Chief for the thoroughness and quality of his work, debate arose about role of Town Council in the approval of the Police Department's Rules, Regulations and General Orders.

Chief Klugh suggested "that with everything the Council had to read, it would be a burden to also read the General Orders that he put out." Noting that he had "never worked for an agency in which the Council approved the General Orders of the Police Department" the Chief observed that "anyone could review the orders as they were a public document." In his view, however, it would be "... burdensome to have a meeting every time he changed the General Orders."

Chief Klugh then recommended that Council amend its Employee Handbook to reflect those views and "trust the employees to do their jobs of putting the proper policies in place."

Council member Bundles Murdock, the Council's "Public Safety" chair, agreed and noted that she believed "the Council was not qualified to make comments on most of the orders."

Council member Mark Snyder concurred, noting that, in his view, the Council was not qualified to review or substantively critique them." Snyder argued that he would favor approving the Chief's draft revisions as they stood, "with the understanding that the General Orders would be available for review."

Council member Kathy Jo Shea pointedly disagreed with Snyder and Murdock, noting that in the course of one evening's cursory review, Council had not only caught a number of small but important errors, but a significant omission, namely

what an officer should do if the Chief of Police was guilty of misconduct.

It is "the responsibility of the Council," she insisted, "to know and understand the Police Department's General Orders," and if a major change those orders was required or suggested, to approve or reject them.

Minor changes, she agreed, need not come to Council for review. She was not, she noted, concerned about the color of shoes or the length of ties worn by an officer. What to do if and when the Chief misbehaves, however, was another matter entirely.

Council then agreed to amend the Town's Employee Handbook "so that minor changes to the Police Department's General Orders no longer required their approval. Major changes, however, should be subject to Council review and approval."

At that point Town Attorney Whiting noted that all the changes, additions, and corrections to both the Police Department rules and the town's Employee Handbook, considered so far had been reviewed in isolation, out of context with what came before and after them in the larger documents of which they were a part.

Noting that Council had just gone through least two amendments trying to undo relatively simple internal contradictions, Whiting suggested a review of all the changes in context.

Vice Mayor Kirk agreed, but noted that a job of that magnitude could not be done in one meeting, much less of the night of February 9.

In the end Council approved a motion to tentatively approve the submitted changes in both the Town's Employee Handbook, and Police Department standing orders, rules and regulations, pending further review.

Summing up the work of the evening, Vice Mayor Kirk told the Eccentric, "I think Bill did an outstanding job pulling the new rules and regs together and that the way he wrote them is perfect for our town. Bill has given us the framework and now it's up to the Council to make sure our police treat all our citizens' fairly and equally and without embarrassment and humiliation, no matter what the charge."

ANGELA PLOWMAN TO SERVE AS MIDDLEBURG TOWN ATTORNEY

The Town of Middleburg has appointed Angela Plowman to serve as Town Attorney. She will replace Liz Whiting, Middleburg's former Town Attorney.

Plowman brings both experience and expertise to her new position. She represents and provides legal counsel to the governing bodies, planning commissions and staffs for the towns of Purcellville, Hamilton and Round Hill regarding land use, zoning, taxation, contracts and compli-

ance with state and federal regulations.

She also drafts deeds, easements, resolutions, local ordinances, affordable dwelling unit covenants, contracts and other legal agreements. In addition, she represents and provides legal advice to private land owners and businesses regarding contracts and leases and conformance with local subdivision and zoning ordinances and other governmental regulations.

In her career, Plowman has

served as assistant county attorney for Loudoun county; associate attorney at Rees, Broome & Diaz in Vienna, Virginia and staff counsel for the Sheet Metal Worker's National Pension Fund.

She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. She is a board member with Loudoun Habitat Humanity, is a Loudoun Youth volleyball coach and chairperson of the South Riding Proprietary Strategic Planning Committee.

TOM NEEL'S ARTWORK CHOSEN FOR PERMANENT COLLECTION OF WINCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER



The opening of Winchester Medical Center's new campus expansion, was celebrated Friday, January 20th with a ribbon cutting ceremony and tours. Artist Tom Neel of Marshall, VA., was selected by Winchester Medical Center as a featured artist and honored by his 36" X 48" oil painting titled "Wildflowers", being placed at the front entrance of the new 400,000 square foot North Tower.

Neel's work also extends down the main corridor of this state of the art Women's Delivery Center and Critical Care Unit. Five new giclee reproductions on canvas were created especially for this project in very limited editions of 10, the largest of which is 30" X 60". All five are available through Live An Artful Life Gallery, located at 6474 Main Street, The Plains, VA.

PAMELA MICKLEY ALBERS, AIA, JOINS ACG ARCHITECTS

ACG Architects has welcomed Pamela Mickley Albers as senior architect and Director of the Middleburg office. A leading professional who grew up in and has lived in Middleburg, she

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NEWS OF NOTE

BEAUTIFUL WORLD OF TENSION IN NEW SPORTING MUSEUM SHOW



An elegant crowd strolled into the opening of the Bruno Liljefors show at Middleburg's National Sporting Museum on a warm, Spring-like February evening, and was quickly captivated by the stunningly beautiful wildlife paintings by the pioneering artist.

In marked contrast to its landmark, 'Afield in America' opening exhibit, this second show occupies the large entrance gallery where the beautiful paintings of wild creatures in their natural habitats transports visitors to the woodlands and skies so loved by the noted turn-of-the-century Swedish painter.

Prior to Liljefors, who lived from 1860 to 1939, wildlife was

seldom painted in its natural habitat. An avid sportsman and conservationist, his determination to capture his subjects accurately in their natural settings set standards for 20th century wildlife and wilderness art. His grand, sweeping, innovative scenes of the dance of predator and prey are captivating, frightening and accurately reflective of the natural order of things.

Influenced greatly by the Impressionists, Liljefors captures patterns of sunlight and water beautifully, and his ability to recreate the atmosphere of woodlands in his work is remarkable. Hawks, hares, eagles and foxes live in a beautiful world of tension in Liljefors' canvases.

Liljefors' reputation as the most influential wildlife painter of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century will only be underscored and substantiated by the National Sporting Museum show that is open until March 15th.

Fortunately for National Sporting Museum visitors, every gallery now offers charming encounters with important American sporting art.

Whether you are fascinated with the many fascinating details of an equine life, the varied personalities of hunting hounds, or the work of Sir Alfred Munnings, you will thoroughly enjoy a leisurely morning or afternoon browse in the stunning exhibit spaces.

The Museum's permanent collection is already impressive thanks to many friends and patrons including Eleanor Langley Fletcher, Mr. and Mrs. George Öhrstrom, Jr., Mrs. Jacqueline Mars, Dr. Betsee Parker and Mrs. Felicia Warburg Rogan, among many others.

Museum Hours are Wednesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Library Hours are Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Please visit the National Sporting Library & Museum at 102 The Plains Road, Middleburg, Virginia 20118-1335 or visit the website at: www.nsl.org.

PCF ASSETS GO OVER \$1 MILLION MARK

The Piedmont Community Foundation reached another significant milestone recently, surpassing the \$1 million mark in assets under management at year-end for the first time since its founding in 1999.

That also coincides with the PCF reaching another impressive benchmark in 2011, when it went over the \$1 million mark in donations to a wide variety of projects in Loudoun and Fauquier counties. Since 1999, the PCF has awarded a 179 grants totaling just over \$1.1 million.

One of the PCF's largest donors remains the 100 Women Strong based in Loudoun County. Their advised grants, totaling \$270,000 from 2009 to 2011, are one of the reasons the PCF is now in the nationally ranked list of the most active grant-makers in the country.

"Working with PCF allowed 100 Women Strong to get off the ground quickly and work on our mission," said Karen Schaufeld, president and founder of an organization that focuses its charity

giving to children and families in Loudoun County. "We are secure in the knowledge that a reputable community based organization is helping with administration and ensuring our compliance with the IRS."

The PCF's mission remains the same: to facilitate and act as a catalyst, conduit and steward for charitable giving. It seeks to build and manage a collection of distinct charitable funds in partnership and established by local individuals, families, corporations and non-profit organizations.

It measures its success in the ability to grow an unrestricted permanent endowment to meet the needs of the community, now and in the future; administer a strategic grant-making program to effectively impact positive long-term changes in the community, and to bring the community together to support important issues and harness collaborative resources to improve the local quality of life.

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nual calendar is filled with monthly contributions to those in need. With the coming of spring and the launch of our new website, in March, www.duchessaofmiddleburg.com. Duchessa invites you to become our friend on face book. With each new friend made during March 2012, Duchessa will donate \$5 to The Washington DC National Rehabilitation Hospital's Therapeutic Garden and \$5 to The Team Forrest Music Therapy fund "Our thanks" for the loving care now being provided to the children of our two dear friends, Pam Rimes and Rae Stone. 540-687-8898

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Middleburg Community Center
Board of Directors invite you to **SAVE THE DATE...**

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 Easter Egg Roll Saturday, March 31, 2012 10am - 12 noon Ages 2 -10 Weather Make Up: Sunday, April 1, 2012
 "Think Outside of the Box" Art Auction Friday, April 13, 2012 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. featuring 37 local artists

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"There was vomit on the bed, and Tyen was turning blue."
That's how Vickie Tackett described the scene when she
went in to check on her napping son. She immediately called
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When they arrived, a medical team was standing by to
take action. The entire staff was focused on Tyen. Except for
one nurse, who realized Vickie needed a little help as well. "She came up and
gave me a hug," Vickie recalls. "It meant the world to me."
Images revealed that a bolt from Tyen's bed was lodged in his airway.
And, with steady hands, a doctor used a pair of forceps to pull the object out.
"You could hear everyone in the room cheering," Vickie remembers
with a smile.
Today, the loud sounds you hear coming from the Tackett house are
that of a young boy playing cars, reading books and, well, just being a kid.
To learn more about Tyen's story, visit FHstories.org.

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EDITOR'S DESK

ANONYMOUS

Anonymity is one of the true glories of a free press. Without it we would have few, if any, whistle blowers or any of the other "informed" sources which all too often lie at the very heart of what a free press is designed to do: be the voice of the voiceless, the eyes and ears of those who seek the truth; and to paraphrase Ben Bradlee, the first rough draft of history. Unfortunately anonymity, like the press itself, can also be misused. Over the past weeks we have seen all too many examples: racists posting on the Loudoun Times web site; unsubstantiated rumor and innuendo posted under the guise of political "analysis" and "insight." As is the case for any reputable newspaper, the Eccentric's reporters have obligations to their sources. In some cases that means an ethical obligation to go to jail rather than betray their anonymity. In such cases, happily rare, we choose to put ourselves at risk, for the sake of a larger principle. Our names, however, always appear on what we print. We do our best to tell the truth and to do no gratuitous harm. But when we fail, and no doubt there are time when we do, our readers know who we are, where to find us, and that we are committed to not only to telling the truth as best we can, but to correcting error if and whenever we fail to live up to our own standards. We put our names on our work That we can do so is one of the glories of living in this country and under the protection of the First Amendment.

MIDDLEBURG LIBRARY

Congratulations are due, once more, to Dennis Cotter and all the friends of the Middleburg Public Library. At the February regular meeting of Town Council the Friends, working with Town Council and Town Staff, met what

MAY ELECTIONS

All four members of the Middleburg Town Council whose terms end in June, 2012 . . . Betsy Davis, Trowbridge Littleton, Bundles Murdock, and Kathy Jo Shea. . . have told the Eccentric they will again

HYPOCRISY

TOM PRATT

Once again we are getting it all wrong and making a bad situation worse in a country that is the poorest in the Arab world. According to award winning Jeremy Seahill in a recent article in The Nation magazine, U.S. counter terrorism operations in Yemen have ignited an Islamist uprising and are having the exact opposite effect and are not countering terrorism but fueling it. The United States has given over 300 million dollars to Yemen over the last 5 years and practically none of that money has gone to improve the lives of Yemeni citizens. Over half of Yemen's 12 million children are chronically malnourished, according to UNICEF and unemployment is at 35%. The bulk of that money has gone to Ali Abdullah Saleh, dictator of Yemen, ostensibly to fight al Queda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). Our obsession with AQAP who has at most 300 to 700 members has justified that spending and meanwhile other groups such as Ansar al-Sharia and AQAP are gaining popularity by filling in the void left by the government and are building roads, distributing food and running security patrols thereby making life better for many Yemenis. We also in the name of destroying AQAP are killing

innocents in drone strikes. In December of 2009 a Bedouin village was destroyed by U.S. forces and those killed were not members of AQAP but just poor nomads. The Yemeni government first took responsibility for the attack but later had to recant when word got out about the U.S. involvement. Saleh is a master at manipulating the Obama administration and Bush before claiming this partnership of Yemen and the United States is vital to the war on terror in order to keep the money flowing to him. But in reality most of it has been spent to protect his rule and has had little to do with fighting terror exported abroad only domestic "terror" against his brutal regime. When I hear Obama justify the drone attacks in Yemen, Afghanistan, Pakistan and now recently in Sudan, I can't help but think he is making the world a war zone because if a drone is launched from and commanded from a location in the United States that makes the United States a legitimate target especially when the drone kills innocents as has happened so many times. So if in Yemen you see your family or friends killed by U.S. strikes on one hand and al-Queda building roads and distributing food to you on the other: who will you think the enemy and who the friend? Things are bad enough here; they are worse in other places, and we are not immune to ills elsewhere spreading to America. These threats demand a unified national response. Instead, we see presidential candidates broadcasting half-truths and falsehoods

AMERICA THE DIVIDED

PURPLE
BRUCE SMART

Perhaps you share Purple's concern over the tone of the current political primaries, and their assaults on our incumbent President. For those of you who are Christians, consider the Bible, Mark's Gospel, Chapter 3, Verses 24 and 25: "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand." For those of other persuasions, the logic of that bit of scripture may also ring true. America and our world surely have problems: • We have over-spent our income, and face excessive debt, home foreclosures and unemployment. • Rapidly increasing global population, coupled with rising per capita consumption of resources, and resulting pollution of the atmosphere, land, fresh water and oceans, threaten the sustainability of our planet's ecosystems. • Excessive population growth in less developed lands leads to violence, genocide, starvation, and turmoil within and between nations. • Nuclear armament is proliferating. Consider these facts: Our planet has 7 billion inhabitants, 3.5 times what it had 81 years ago, 7 times that of 1800, and 35 times the 200 million at the time of Christ. The forecast is 10.5 billion by 2050. Average annual population increases during those periods were: • 1 AD - 1800: 0.4 million • 1800 - 1930: 7.7 million • 1930 - 2011: 61.7 million • 2011 - 2050: 89.7 million Earth's physical resources are finite, locked in place, with one exception, a daily infusion of sunlight - solar energy. Technology and demand are raising the per capita consumption of these resources and the load on the earth's ecological systems. It doesn't take a degree in mathematics to realize

this trend leads eventually to disaster. Then, life on the planet becomes unsustainable, a moment probably preceded by violent conflict over dwindling supplies of water, land, food, and energy, accompanied by climate disruption. This Apocalypse can only be prevented by prompt collective action, developed not only within a party, but also between parties. "A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand." Stemming the population explosion requires limiting births to a no-growth average of 2.1 children per woman. This level has been reached voluntarily in many developed societies where women are educated and empowered to plan their pregnancies through use of contraceptives. Where they are not, populations explode and misery follows. For those of us concerned with abortion, one should recognize that virtually all abortions are to terminate unwanted and unplanned pregnancies. Therefore, enabling women to plan their families will greatly reduce abortions, as well as stabilize global population. The Bible makes no reference to family planning or contraception. And how can one who is "pro life" (who among us, in a general sense, is not?) object to a process that reduces abortion and stems life-threatening increases in global population. But that seems to be what some presidential candidates are endorsing. What a tragedy it would be if the kingdom that is America were to fall over such an unnecessary division.

THE PLOWMAN APPOINTMENT

BLUE NOTES
DANIEL MORROW

Both Town Administrator Martha Semmes and Middleburg's veteran Town Attorney, Liz Whiting, have publicly and privately commended Angela Plowman for her character, integrity and the quality of her work as an officer of the court. I have never met Ms. Plowman, but have come to know both Semmes and Whiting well in the course of my work at this newspaper. Both are consummate un-elected professional public servants. Neither, to the best of my knowledge has ever tried to mislead me. When asked questions, some of them inevitably inappropriate, both have always, to the best of my knowledge, told me the truth, or, in the best traditions of their professions, told me nothing at all. In my view that makes their support of Ms. Plowman doubly valid and particularly admirable. We join the Town Council, Town Staff, and Liz Whiting in wishing her the very best.

RACISM AND THE FREE PRESS

On the Sunday before President's Day, racist remarks of the most vile sort were slipped onto the Loudoun Times website by a person or persons unknown. They appear to have been prompted by that newspaper's commitment to Black History Month, and were attached to a story in the paper's excellent "Living the Dream" series. Two of the people featured prominently in that series had strong ties to Middleburg. One of them, indeed, is a member of our Town Council. Clearly, whoever posted on the Times Mirror site hoped not only to harm some of our friends and fellow citizens but to incite and encourage the like-minded to do the same. They also did their miserable best to use their access to a free press to undermine and discredit a good newspaper and a county tradition. To the credit of Publisher Peter Arundel, he addressed the issue quickly and effectively and in the best traditions of a free press. Both our papers, I believe, would defend to the proverbial death the rights of even racists to speak their minds. That commitment, however, does not compel us to allow them to use us, nor does it prevent us from branding such "free" speech as contemptible, demeaning, and dangerous.

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Ansel Adams
Oak Tree, Sunrise

The oaks and the pines, and their brethren of the wood, have seen so many seasons come and go, and so many generations pass into silence, that we may well wonder what "the story of the trees" would be to us if they had tongues to tell it, or we ears fine enough to understand.

- Author Unknown.

PASTIMES

LIN IT TO WIN IT

7TH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

“Jeremy Lin is a good player but all the hype is because he’s Asian. Black players do what he does every night and don’t get the same praise.” That’s what Floyd Mayweather thinks.

For those of you unclear on this month’s topic, Jeremy Lin is the basketball sensation sweeping the nation. Well, that’s not entirely correct. Jeremy Lin is the basketball sensation sweeping the planet.

And Floyd Mayweather is a professional boxer.

Who knows everything. About everything. (Except how to get in the ring with Manny Pacquiao, but that’s a story that’ll keep.)

Jeremy Lin burst onto the scene a little over two weeks ago, after getting to play less than 60 minutes combined in the New York Knicks’ first 23 games of this year’s lockout-shortened basketball season; on February 4th, 2012, (a day that will live in Knicks lore forever) Lin went for 25 points, 5 rebounds and 7 assists against the New Jersey Nets.

In the Knicks’ next game, and Lin’s first ever NBA start, Lin went for 28 points and 8 assists against the Utah Jazz.

Then he went for 23 points and 10 assists against the Wizards.

Then he blew up for 38 points and 7 assists against the Lakers.

Then he got 20 points and 8 assists against the Timberwolves.

Then 27 points and 11 assists versus the Raptors.

Then 10 and 13 against the Kings.

A couple of valuable and salient points here....

1) These games were all wins for the Knicks who, before Jeremy Lin came down from Krypton, were the proud owners of an 8-15 record and were in serious danger of not only getting their coach fired but also of winning the decade’s-most-disappointing-NBA-team award.

2) Since Lin’s arrival, Time Warner Cable in New York and the MSG Network, which broadcasts Knicks games, among others, magically worked out a deal to get the network back on the air after a nasty contract dispute saw Time Warner drop MSG over rights fees it considered onerous and which now, by comparison, probably look to be rock bottom.

3) Also since Lin’s arrival, the share price of Madison Square Garden, the publicly traded entity, reached historic highs.

4) Jeremy Lin became the first player in NBA league history to go for at least 20 points and 7 assists in each of his first five career starts.

5) In those first five career starts, Lin scored 136 points combined, the most by any player since the NBA and the ABA merged in 1976.

So, in conclusion... Jeremy Lin is, indeed, “a good player.” He may be a great player. We’ll need a larger sample to determine

that. “All the hype” is not solely because he’s Asian. Some of it is, absolutely. But name me one other Asian basketball player currently in the NBA. I’ll wait.... As David Aldridge said on NBA.com, “it would not be covered the same way if a black kid did what Jeremy Lin is doing. But it wasn’t covered the same way when Tiger Woods started doing what Jack Nicklaus did. That’s the whole point.”

Nobody has ever done what Jeremy Lin has done to start his career as an NBA starter.

Doesn’t matter what color. Black. White. Blue. Purple.

Nobody. Ever.

So there, Floyd.

After all those wins, Lin and the Knicks did stumble against the Hornets. (Yeah, I was surprised the Hornets still existed, too. I just sort of assumed they winked out of existence when Chris Paul moved to L.A.)

But they bounced back, with authority and legitimacy against the defending champion Dallas Mavericks on Sunday. Lin chipped in with 28 points and 14 assists. That’s 56 points he contributed directly to. (More, technically, since a couple of those assists were on three-pointers.)

Lin and Knicks, along with prodigal son, Carmelo Anthony, will prove if this was all a flash in the pan or if they’re really as dangerous as New Yorkers everywhere hope they are over the next month or so. Their next eleven games include games on the road against Miami, Boston, Dallas, San Antonio, Milwaukee and Chicago; they get to play New Jersey, Atlanta, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Portland at home. For those of you keeping score at home, that’s 8 teams with winning records, 5 of which are at or near the top of the standings, against only 3 with losing records. Stay tuned.

R.I.P.

Gary Carter passed away this month, after a fight with cancer that struck out of the blue and showed about as much mercy as Carter did against Calvin Schiraldi and Red Sox nation way back in 1986.

He was an almost tragically nice guy in a Mets’ locker room that nobody would’ve ever confused for nice.

When he went into the Hall of Fame, after too long a wait, mind you, they put him in wearing an Expos cap, a nod to the fact that he did, in fact, spend most of his career north of the border. Carter, who loved his career in New York and remains to this day a vital part of team lore, once said he only wished he could’ve gone in with a cap that was half-Expos, half-Mets.

Carter was always my favorite player on my favorite team.

He was a catcher and he wore number 8.

Alex can be reached at cuda24@yahoo.com



WITCH HAZEL

THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE

Witch hazels are large shrubs that flower in fall or winter. Their name is derived from the old English word “wice” which means pliant or bendable, also the root for words wicker and weak. One of the favored sources of wood for dowsing, which is also known as divining or water witching, it’s believed that wice became witch based on this usage. Hazel came from their resemblance to elms, especially Ulmus glabra, the most common elm of the British Isles. Early colonists assumed they were related (based on foliage), which they are not, but the common name stuck. Conclusively, witch hazels lack good or evil powers and are not hazels, but they are excellent shrubs.

There are 6 species, 2 native to North America, 1 specifically to Virginia. The rest are Chinese or Japanese and most winter flowering plants are hybrids, bred to enhance petal color and size of flower. Hamamelis virginiana (our native

species) flowers in November, covering itself with fragrant yellow flowers, hidden somewhat by foliage that has not completely fallen. The winter flowering witch hazels open their flowers from February to March. Yellow, orange or rusty-rose, petals are thin and long, like colorful streamers. As delightful as their flowers are, fall foliage is exceptional, usually the same color range as the flowers (yellow, red or orange). Add their incredible drought tolerance, and you have a winning shrub.

Their use by dowsers is well known. Other popular dowsing woods include willow, peach and apple. The search for water is the most common dowsing technique, but finding buried substances like gems or metals are not uncommon. In 15th century Germany, the first historical reference to dowsing was for metals. In the Vietnam War, Marines used dowsers to search for tunnels and buried weapons.

A dowser will cut a branch in a Y shape, fresh or green. The person holding the branch is detecting the “inter-



play of radiation” or finding the sources aura. The branch (or divining rod) will dip as it finds what the dowser is looking for.

If you’re wondering, can anyone become a dowser? The answers vary from, yes, you can go to school for that, to no-way, you have to be a special individual. There are certainly naysayers, and skeptics, but when something has lasted this long, I’d like to think there’s something to it. What I do know is - when it comes to planting a witch hazel, don’t hesitate.



THE ARTIST’S PERSPECTIVE

TOM NEEL

My wife always says that I’m resourceful. Well I think she is too and we play off each other’s strengths that way. But what’s really behind this resourcefulness is being creative. Creativity is largely about being resourceful and resourcefulness is basically creative problem solving. I think the key though is visual awareness or being visually minded.

Being visually minded helps you see through an unsolved path to a resolution or achieved goal much quicker. I’m not saying it is the only attribute needed in problem solving, but a very important one. It’s a bit like being in a maze, but at the same time visualizing it and its pattern from above. This tends to help you more broadly consider your options, not just a narrow focus of possibilities and then to see a clearer path to a solution. Visualization can help everyone and it can be learned.

Try standing in your bedroom, closing your eyes and imagining your path to outside. One clear path will come very quickly. It’s likely the way you always go. It may or may not be the shortest, but is now a habit. Now let’s add in panic. As you stand there visualizing, what if I told you there was a dangerous obstruction to your normal path? Could you visualize a new path? More importantly - quickly? If you can clearly and quickly see a

new path in your mind, you are being resourceful. If the new path even required stacking and standing on pieces of furniture or other objects to get out, you are being even more resourceful.

Practice it and you will soon find that you can do it all in your mind and hopefully you’ll never need it, but again, that’s what visual awareness gives you - options. Now you may see some of those options riddled with compromise. If you had to jump from a second story window each day to leave your home, that would not be a good compromise. But if your house was on fire, that would be an advantageous compromise and I’d say a very good option.

A d v a n t a g e o u s compromise is part of problem solving too. Again, like creativity and visualization, it is not all, but part of the formula. It’s about the basic trade-offs of moving forward verses standing still. As with the carrot and the stick scenario, the carrot being a solution and the stick being the perplexing stress and outcome of doing nothing.

I suppose for some unwilling to move, that stick may hurt less than actually making a decision and that pain I suppose is alright to endure, as long as others aren’t hurt by it.

Still, this gets back to advantageous compromise, because any prolonged decision is a compromise within one’s self or issues. Most important is that compromise should not

happen simply out of exhaustion. It should happen out of the open-mindedness of finding a solution and achieving results.

An ore can be heavy, but its weight much less so within the achievement of rhythmically moving a boat. Place a hungry shark behind your little boat and you have the stick and place a beautiful beach with palms and a Tiki bar in your sights and you have your carrot. Progress is much better found looking in the direction you want to go and I think life is much more fun that way. It sure always makes that ore feel lighter.

What can be as much fun, is achieving results as a team and realizing that we all have resourceful strengths. Team work is all about trust. The trust is the capabilities and resourcefulness of others and then leadership is the asset management of those two characteristics.

In any event, there are many ways to practice resourcefulness and visualization. If it’s a problem, creative or otherwise, try writing every option you can possibly think of down on paper. Often just seeing options before you makes one option much more clear. With creativity, often doing many small compositional sketches helps you see one as a clear favorite.

Be resourceful and Live An Artful Life, Tom Neel

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THE BLACKBURN MURDER

DANIEL MORROW

This is the story of the 1854 murder of VMI Cadet Tom Blackburn, the trials that followed, and the impact of those events on young men and women who would all too soon face the larger trials of the American Civil War.

Part 8: Expectations

“There was nothing like an appeal to honor. It was a virtue that all craved, even those who lacked it. Fundamentally, honor was itself a debt, a code of behavior, a promise, something inside yourself that you owed to the others who saw it in you.”
-- Tom Clancy, 1994

Tom Blackburn’s family ties were broad, deep, and at the very top of antebellum Virginia’s social pyramid. They defined him and would, arguably, kill him.

Blackburn was born in September, 1834, at “Spring Grove,” near Ripon, Virginia (now West Virginia) just off the main road between Berryville and Charles-town.

In 1747, his great great grandfather, Colonel Richard Blackburn had built “Rippon Lodge,” on the King’s Road just south of Mount Vernon, naming it after the ancestral home of the Blackburns in Yorkshire. The Washingtons were neighbors, and Blackburn and his family would soon be counted among the first friends of the first, first family.

Colonel Blackburn was not only a talented builder (Washington asked him to help with the first Mt. Vernon), he was a successful planter, vestryman, legislator and soldier. During the Revolution he was wounded in action at Germantown while serving as Lt. Colonel of the 2nd Virginia regulars. At Washington’s funeral he led the honor guard, walking “at the head” of the President’s bier, carried by young lieutenants, and followed by honorary pall bearers.

The old Colonel’s son, Tom’s great grandfather and namesake also served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the 2nd Virginia, and, later, as an aide to General Washington.

Tom’s great uncle Major Richard Scott Blackburn, served as an engineer and artillery officer in the Continental Army. He would and his wife Judith Ball would marry both their daughters to nephews of the President: Anna Maria Thomasina (“Polly”) to Bushrod Corbin Washington of “Claymont; Jane Charlotte to John Augustine Washington of “Blakely.” Jane Charlotte Blackburn Washington was living at Mount Vernon while Tom was at VMI, one of the last of the Washington family to live there.

The Blackburns not only married well they were well-to-do and blessed with large families, a happy combination that in the 18th and early 19th centuries almost inevitably yielded ties to most, if not all, the finest families of Virginia.

By 1853 VMI Cadet Tom Blackburn was demonstrably related, by blood or marriage, to no less than 9 of the 11 men who served on the VMI Board of Visi-

tors and to no less than 28 of the 44 members of the VMI class of 854.

From such ties flowed not only privilege and position, but high expectations and unavoidable, if sometimes questionable, standards of behavior. The combination would kill Tom Blackburn.

Uncle Frank

Despite his pedigree, not all Tom Blackburn’s family ties were assets. Most problematic (and impossible to ignore in Lexington) was his mother’s brother, Tom’s notorious Uncle Frank Thomas, the former Governor of Maryland.

Frank had married, divorced and publicly humiliated Tom’s erstwhile Aunt Sally, the daughter of Lexington’s beloved James McDowell, the late Governor of Virginia. Both the Virginia and Maryland state legislatures had been required to debate and approve the divorce decrees, fraught with charges and counter-charges of incest, infidelity, abortion and abuse.

The divorce process had gone on for years, from 1842 until January, 1846. Humiliated, Sally Campbell Preston McDowell had become a virtual recluse in her dead father’s house in Lexington, “Col Alto,” the same house in which, at 20, she had married Frank Thomas.

In 1853, Tom’s Uncle Frank had emerged from a post-divorce, self-imposed, 7-year “exile” to re-enter politics and run, once more, for the Governorship of Maryland.

If the salacious details of the Thomas/McDowell divorces, still smoldered in Lexington, Uncle Franks’s new brand of politics reignited a bonfire.

Thomas campaigned with a newfound passion, damning slavery and all his former Democratic Party friends and affiliations. Even worse for Tom Blackburn, his Uncle was an articulate and talented politician, who missed being re-elected Governor of Maryland by just over a thousand votes.

The shocking irresponsibility (and in some circles, immorality) of Uncle Frank’s anti-slavery rhetoric, coupled with his traitorous defection from the Democratic Party no doubt re-opened many old wounds and caused a few new ones, both for those who remembered, and those who had never heard of some of Tom Blackburn’s more embarrassing family connections.

A Reputation of His Own

After three full years as a VMI Cadet, Tom Blackburn had also contributed several chapters of his own to his family’s reputation in Lexington. Indeed, by late 1853 he was (and would remain) one of the most talked-about Cadets at VMI.

As an underclassman Blackburn had already developed a reputation among the students, faculties, and townspeople of Lexington both as a drinker, and for his readiness to solve problems with his fists, with the help of a “posse” of fellow Cadets if necessary.

After a local “cow drover” had “abused a young Cadet,” Blackburn was said to have joined a group of Cadets (some said as many as thirty) who “pursued” the drover and, as one witness later testified administered . . . that justice which the heartless drover denied to the boy.”

Cadet George Baylor Horner, Blackburn’s roommate in 1851-52, swore that he had seen Blackburn in at least three “difficulties” during their time together at the Institute. One of them, he said, pitting Blackburn against “a man at least a third larger than himself.” In that fight, Horner said, Blackburn “fought fair” and “ . . . did not resort to rocks or weapons of any kind” even though he “got the worst of it.”

In December, 1852, VMI Commandant Francis Henney Smith let the Blackburn family know, officially, that one of Tome’s drinking incidents had “great discredit to the Institute.”

Court Martial

In 1853, Tom’s senior year, at the instigation of Mexican War hero and VMI professor Major Thomas Jonathan (later “Stonewall”) Jackson, Tom Blackburn was court-martialed and dismissed from VMI for participating in one of the most famous pranks in the history of the Institute.

Roughly a year before his death, on another a long dark night in Lexington, Tom Blackburn and John Moncre Robinson of the class of ‘55 tied Cadet James Edward Towson to a chair.

Then they leaned it (and Towson) against the door of the room in the new VMI barracks occupied by Jackson and Lieutenant Thomas Harris, banged “violently” on the door, ran and hid to watch the fun.

Jackson, himself, opened the door. Poor Towson tumbled into the room.

Unfortunately for Blackburn and Robinson, the Major’s sense of humor, such as it was when it came to Cadets, did not extend at all to pranks or hazing.

After seeing to the release of Cadet Towson, Jackson promptly asked a few questions and filed charges against both Blackburn and Robinson, for “abusing” their fellow Cadet and “disrespectful conduct to a superior officer.”¹

Both were tried before a Garrison Court Martial in late January, 1853, with Blackburn confidently pleading “not guilty” to all charges and specifications.

During the hearing Blackburn staged a vigorous if, at times, insulting defense on his own behalf.

Though accused of “disrespectful conduct” by Major Jackson, Blackburn did not hesitate to insult him during cross examination. “Have you ever, by word or action, given me any cause to be disrespectful [to you]?” he asked.

Jackson, an awkward and notoriously untalented teacher, had been the butt of barracks-room jokes since his first arrival on the VMI campus, some three years earlier.

The court transcripts indicated he replied to Blackburn, quietly: “Not that I know of.”

Blackburn’s “summation,” taken down verbatim in the court reporters tight script, filled nearly nine large pages.

Despite those efforts, (or more likely, because of them), on January 24, 1853, the court found Blackburn and Robinson guilty on all counts and dismissed them from VMI.²

Never a man to back down, the well-connected young Blackburn immediately appealed to his family’s friends and relations on the VMI Board of Visitors.

His reinstatement took less than a month. On February 8, 1853, the Board ordered the Court Martial reversed, and both Blackburn and Robinson reinstated.

Blackburn’s classmates demonstrated their views on the affair by promptly electing him to the Board of Managers for the July 4, 1853, graduation-day Military Ball, the last he would attend.³

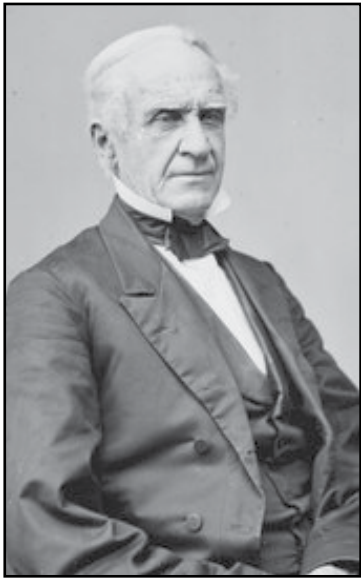
Cadet Robinson never returned. His father, a Sorbonne-trained civil engineer, credited with building the first railroad in Virginia, requested that his son be allowed to resign, citing fears that he would not be able to “redeem his lost time in his studies so as to pass his annual examination. . . .”

In 1889, Robinson was granted an honorary degree from the Institute, having followed in his father’s footsteps, serving as an engineer and staff officer in the Confederate Army and as President of both the Baltimore Steam and Packet Company and the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad.⁴

James Edward Towson, the Cadet Blackburn and Robinson had tied to the chair, would soon be chosen as one of the three-cadet honor guard that took Blackburn’s body home to his family in Ripon. Towson, like the other two, was a friend of Tom Blackburn and, of course, a cousin.

1 - VMI Court Martial Records, January 26, 1853, VMI Archives. The story of the Blackburn prank was clearly embroidered over time. The best-known variant of the tale claims that Blackburn and Robinson (unnamed in the story) “ . . . tied a ‘rat’ named Towson in a chair and after placing him at the proper angle on the stoop in front of Jackson’s door, they knocked on the door and ran. Of course, the tied-up Towson tumbled in.” See William Couper, *One Hundred Years at V. M. I.* (Richmond, Virginia: Garrett and Massie, Incorporated, 1939), III, p. 178. While it makes a better story, Couper’s account does not square with the court-martial testimony found in VMI Order Book, Order Number 13, January 29, 1853, VMI Archives, Lexington, Virginia.

4 - Virginia Military Institute, Register of Former Cadets (Roanoke, Va.: Roanoke Printing Company, 1939), p. 20; William Couper, *One Hundred Years at V. M. I.* (Richmond, Virginia: Garrett and Massie, Incorporated, 1939), III, p. 178.



TOM BLACKBURN’S “UNCLE FRANK” MARYLAND GOV. FRANCIS THOMAS (1799-1876)

The same court martial dismissed Cadet W. W. Page from the Institute for playing cards in the barracks. See also Katharine L. Brown, *Stonewall Jackson: The Christian Soldier* (Lexington, Virginia: Garland Gray Memorial Research Center, Stonewall Jackson House, 1984), p. 7.

2 - VMI Court Martial records, January 24, 1853, pp. 301-317, VMI Archives, Lexington, Virginia. Frank E. Vandiver, the only major biographer of Jackson to mention both Tom Blackburn’s prank in 1853 and his murder in 1854, fails to connect the two incidents. See Frank E. Vandiver, *Mighty Stonewall* (College Station, Texas: Texas A&M University Press, 1957), pp. 79, 103.

3 - Jackson’s unpopularity with his students is, of course, legendary. Blackburn’s name, and that of his senior-year roommate, Charles Edward Lightfoot, appears on the formal invitation to the July 4, 1853, Military Ball, reproduced in William Couper, *One Hundred Years at V. M. I.* (Richmond, Virginia: Garrett and Massie, Incorporated, 1939), I, p. 258. Katharine L. Brown asserts specifically that “This [the Blackburn court-martial] did not increase Jackson’s popularity with the Corps.” in *Stonewall Jackson: The Christian Soldier* (Lexington, Virginia: Garland Gray Memorial Research Center, Stonewall Jackson House, 1984), p. 7.

4 - Virginia Military Institute, Register of Former Cadets (Roanoke, Va.: Roanoke Printing Company, 1939), p. 20; William Couper, *One Hundred Years at V. M. I.* (Richmond, Virginia: Garrett and Massie, Incorporated, 1939), III, p. 178.

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VILLAGE GREEN

CONSERVATION WITH A PURPOSE, CAPITALISM WITH A HEART

A CREEK RUNS THROUGH US

CHANDLER VAN VOORHIS

As the balance of the earth’s resources shrink, amidst higher human consumption and growth in world population, technology alone will not supplant extractive resources quickly enough to replenish the planet. Suddenly, a new perception is taking hold - the frontier of greatest economic opportunity is with those enterprises that do the following:

Put more into the earth than they take out. Reduce carbon emissions whose future costs are steep. Gain shareholder value through sound environmental practice. Exercise entrepreneurial responsibility to meet resource

shortages, and embrace natural capitalism over industrial capitalism

In June of 2011, Norfolk Southern Railway made the largest forestry carbon investment to date in North America. They are planting 6.04 million trees for 1.12 million tons of carbon credits over five years through GreenTrees and C2I of Middleburg, helping to restore America’s Amazon, the Mississippi Alluvial Valley. Unlike other forestry-offset types where an accounting change on the land must take place in order to generate credits, reforestation builds equity back into the land.

According to the US Forest Service, planting a single tree creates the following value over 50 years:

- Generates \$31,250 worth of oxygen
- Provides \$62,000 worth of air pollution control
- Recycles \$37,500 worth of water
- Controls \$31,250 worth of soil erosion

The total value of a single tree is \$162,000 of value. Norfolk Southern will be creating from 6 million trees nearly 1 trillion of value over 50 years. This value creation and ecological impact is a result of the role of carbon as a guarantor of forest permanence, where a tree is worth more up than down.

From a corporate perspective, Norfolk Southern’s investment will result in the following metrics:

- 211 trees per employee (\$34m of value per employee over 50 years)
- 299 trees per track mile (\$48 million of value per track mile over 50 years)

lion of value per track mile over 50 years)

- 1450 trees per locomotive (\$235 million of value per locomotive over 50 years)

Norfolk Southern thinks long term. Their leadership is prompting other large corporations to reach out to GreenTrees about similar investments. “This is a true triple play; a perfect blend of environmental, economic and social benefits,” states Blair Wimbush, Norfolk Southern’s Corporate Sustainability Officer. “It demonstrates Norfolk Southern’s lasting commitment to environmental stewardship. We’re in this for the long run.”

Trees and Trains is the story of conservation with a purpose, and capitalism with a heart. At the heart of the intersection are industry and the environment working with each other. Bringing private capital into conservation forces the conservation mind-set to look to

returns --- both economic and environmental. This blended return is a powerful and dynamic proposition, enabling a wider net of available dollars available to create impact.

A sustainable investment is a good thing. But a sustainable investment that is hooked to a sustainable investment process becomes a force for exponential change. These are the fundamental design elements of Natural Capitalism.

Chandler Van Voorhis is Co-Founder and Managing Partner of C2I, LLC in Middleburg and a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America. He can be reached at chandler@c2invest.net



WATER, POLITICAL BOUNDARIES, AND ICPRB

WATERWORLD

RICHARD A. ENGBERG



What kind of a title is that? Has this guy completely lost it? You know, sometimes I have to laugh to keep from crying. We live in Virginia. Virginia has laws, statutes and rules that differ from Maryland. We live in Loudoun County. Loudoun County has laws, statutes and rules that differ from Fairfax County. Our lives are ruled by political boundaries. But then I drive across the Potomac River and I realize water is a natural resource that has no respect for political boundaries. None! And I rejoice.

The Potomac River Watershed encompasses parts of four states and the District of Columbia (District). The Potomac and its tributaries pay no attention as they flow across a county line or state boundary. The only thing that is important to the water is reaching the ocean.

So what is ICPRB and where does it fit in? The acronym stands for the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. It was formed in 1940 to organize and support the efforts of Potomac watershed jurisdictions (Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and the District) in COOPERATIVE efforts to protect and preserve the waters and related natural resources of the watershed. Imagine that! This is an organization that actually works across political boundaries and represents the best interests of the watershed!

What a novel idea! Can these states and the District actually work together on something? Yes! For 71 years they have thanks to ICPRB. This may be the first time some of you have heard of ICPRB because it accomplishes its important work without fanfare, below the radar screen if you will. ICPRB receives its funding from a variety of sources including each of the member jurisdictions.

Let’s look at one example of an ongoing activity of ICPRB of great benefit to Virginia. Much of northern Virginia relies on the Potomac River as its primary source of drinking water. There are two reservoirs in the basin that store water that are used to maintain Potomac River flows. ICPRB coordinates the operations of the reservoirs to ensure availability of adequate water to meet northern Virginia demands even in times of extreme

drought, while also maintaining flows for the ecological health of the river. For other examples of ICPRB activities that benefit northern Virginia please visit the ICPRB website, www.potomacriver.org. So why am I writing about ICPRB? Because its existence is threatened by our state. Virginia occupies the largest area in the Potomac Watershed and over the years probably has benefitted most from the work of ICPRB. Prior to 2011, Virginia’s yearly contribution to support ICPRB was \$151,000. The Virginia State Budget for 2011 was almost \$39 Billion. What percentage of the budget is Virginia’s contribution to ICPRB? Approximately 0.0003 percent, a drop in the proverbial bucket. Yet in 2011, Virginia refused to pony up the 151K. In 2012, Virginia also is refusing to contribute and has even threatened to pull out completely from ICPRB.

This is ridiculous. If Virginia continues, what is to keep other states or the District from deciding ‘If Virginia won’t pay, why should we?’ Cut off too many legs from a stool and what happens? It collapses. If Virginia destroys ICPRB, who speaks for the watershed?

Please check out ICPRB. If you believe as I do that Virginia’s behavior is a travesty, please contact your house member, your state senator, and Governor McDonnell and make your feelings known. I have.

Postscript: The day after the above was written, a provision was removed from a legislative bill that would have ended Virginia’s involvement with ICPRB. Letters of support from many individuals and organizations together with a core of General Assembly members that stressed the importance of regional planning for a shared resource turned the tide. Budget discussions are ongoing but Virginia will remain a member state of ICPRB.

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FRIENDS FOR LIFE



Socks is a small 20lb. 1-2 yr. Dachshund. He came to us from a hoarder situation, so he is a bit shy until he gets to know you but once he warms up he's incredibly sweet! He has tons of energy so he would love to have a canine friend in his new home.

Lexi is an adorable 5yr old Shih-tzu who needs a special home where she can get daily eye meds. She is house trained & is okay with dogs & cats. Lexi will need a quiet home without small children. It takes her a time to trust, but once she does she has a big personality & is very cuddly.



Crinkles is an adorable cat who has a huge personality. He was named Crinkles because his ears are crinkled from years of chronic ear infections. He is now very healthy & needs an outdoor or indoor outdoor home with no dogs. He would be a terrific mouser!

Salvador is a 14 yr. Paint gelding, about 15 hands, has excellent ground manners, is gentle, very sweet & gets along with everybody. He was most likely ridden in the past, but changes in his stifle might limit him to light riding only.



Felix is a 2 yr old absolutely adorable Aussie/Chow mix who is only about 35lbs so the perfect size dog. He loves to be with people, loves to be petted, & has a lot of energy, so he will need an active home with lots of interaction.

Middleburg Humane Foundation A Friend to All Animals

It takes a long time to grow a good friend

Over the past 17 years the Middleburg Humane Foundation (MHF) has been committed to the rescue & rehabilitation of abused neglected & at risk animals. As the founder, I am proud that MHF has grown into a very proactive & successful animal shelter with many outreach programs serving thousands of deserving animals & people. The demand for assistance is constantly growing & we have outgrown our existing small 4-acre farm shelter facility. Thanks to the generosity of Zohar & Lisa Ben-Dov, Middleburg Humane will be moving to a brand new 30-acre facility in the near future! We are currently in the process of moving forward with the planning which will secure a permanent future for needy animals & our shelter for many years to come. Thank you for your continued support of MHF & I hope you will all be a part of this next exciting chapter. Please stay tuned!

On behalf of the animals, I want to thank you with all of my heart & wish you peace & happiness for 2012.

*Hilleary J. Bogley
President & Founder*



A best friend is like a four leaf clover: hard to find & lucky to have. Find your best friend at:
Middleburg Humane Foundation
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Belle & Larry were living in a culvert along I-95 for 5 months & were rescued on Christmas Eve. Belle is a wonderful dog who is very kind, calm, & nice mannered. Larry is a wonderful little dog, but it takes time for him to trust you. They would love to find a home together.



Rey is a very sweet & cuddly boy. He likes to give you kisses & rub on your face. He is a playful boy that LOVES his toys! He would do well in a household with another playful kitty friend.



Oh! Me! Me! Pick Me!
Nicholas is the sweetest most playful kitten ever! He LOVES to play & leaps & flies in the air after his favorite toys. He would do best in a home with another playful kitten.



Chance is a 45# 1 yr. old Beagle X Lab who is full of energy & very happy-go-lucky. He needs a home with lots of exercise & no children under 10. Chance is incredibly intelligent & is a fast learner. He knows many commands & is ready to learn more!



Chester is a tiny pony colt who was taken off his mom way too early. He is 6-9 months. He is very people oriented & loves the attention. He stands for vet & farrier & will follow you around everywhere you walk. He is very easy going & has a huge personality.



ALBERT'S CORNER

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

ALBERT P. CLARK

For the last four years, my family's shop, Wylie Wagg, has hosted dozens of adoption days for the Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue (AGPR). The Great Pyrenees breed is a big, beautiful dog with an equally beautiful personality. I'm proud to say the adoption events have helped at least 40 Great Pyrenees find loving homes. There is a good story behind almost every one of these adoptions, but one of the best involves Zoey, the first dog adopted through an AGPR event at Wylie Wagg.

Zoey was probably born sometime in 2003. Her first four years were really hard. She spent those years chained to a post in a barn stall. Even now, she has a scar on her nose from trying to hide her kibble from the donkey and horse that shared the same stall. An AGPR volunteer worked for nearly a year to get Zoey out of this bad situation. When she finally came into rescue, Zoey's coat was so matted that it had to be shaved off. But under the AGPR's care, Zoey began to come around. By the end of 2007, she was ready for her big debut at an adoption event.

During this first AGPR adoption day, a couple from Maryland was just strolling around Middleburg and happened to come into Wylie

Wagg. They saw Zoey and fell in love with her. They adopted her the next week. The next three years of Zoey's life were very different than the first four. She moved into a house in the Maryland suburbs, took long walks around her neighborhood, went to the beach each summer, and drove with her new family to Atlanta to visit grandchildren. Life was good.

But things fell apart for Zoey last year. Her mom developed severe allergies to pet hair and the family had to make the painful decision to give Zoey back to the AGPR. Because she was now an older dog, the AGPR was worried about how long it would take to find Zoey a new home. But Zoey caught a break.

Right about this time, Marika Clark O'Brien, who manages the Evelyn Alexander Home for Animals (EAHFA), a large horse rescue and sanctuary in Middleburg, had a problem. A fox was attacking the domestic cats and geese on the farm. She had seen flyers about the AGPR, so she called them up.

Zoey came over for an introduction and the rest, as they say, is history. She now has a new home where she lives the life she was bred for as a guardian dog. She watches over nearly 300 acres. After seeing how well Zoey took to her new job, the EAHFA adopted another Great Pyrenees, Bear, a few months ago.

Marika recently wrote:

I wish we could take six more! I just adore Bear, but Zoey is my girl. She's absolutely wonderful. She is the Queen Bee of the farm and she's always got my back. If I go to the barn for night check, she shows up out of nowhere, and if a contractor or a new person is meeting me on site, she's by my side; she's amazing.

Zoey's story has an unusually happy ending for an older dog. She was lucky. Older animals in rescue have an incredibly hard time finding homes. In the AGPR, older dogs usually stay a year or more before being adopted. In county shelters, many senior animals never leave because their time runs out.

For anyone able to adopt, please consider giving an older dog or cat a second chance. Every Zoey deserves a home ... and every home would be lucky to have a Zoey!

A note from Albert: Many thanks to Howard Lewis, who works tirelessly on behalf of the AGPR. He suggested this article and, dare I admit it, wrote almost all of it! Thanks so much Howard!

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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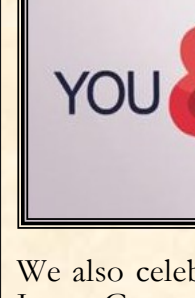
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Completely restored and updated • 4/5 BR, 3 1/2 BA, 3 FP •
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Historic stone home circa 1760 with numerous additions from
1861 on • Old bank barn • Office • Outbuildings • Spring
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Patrickswell
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164 acres in Orange County Hunt • Main house of stone construction
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8 acres in Orange County Hunt • Surrounded by pristine
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RUNNYMEADE FARM, MARSHALL, VA

Queen Anne Victorian, beautifully restored. Living room, library, music room and dining room with full windows and period fixtures. 5 bedroom, 2 baths, on 10 acres just west of Marshall. 2 fireplaces original woodwork and mantels, hardwood floors. Third floor is finished space, country kitchen with Corian counters and custom cherry cabinets. \$569,000.

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