



NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY MUSEUM 2012 BENEFIT POLO MATCH

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TEDDY MULLIGAN'S HORSE, LIVERPOOL GLOVES, RIDDEN BY WILLIE MCCARTHY FROM THE BLUE RIDGE RACES AT WOODLEY FARM ON 9-22-2012. NEITHER HORSE NOR RIDER WERE INJURED

MIDDLEBURG HONORS SAM HUFF

DANIEL MORROW

At its regular monthly meeting on September 13, 2012, Middleburg Town Council unanimously approved a resolution honoring football legend, broadcaster, horseman, sage, and entrepreneur Sam Huff as an "Ambassador for the Town of Middleburg."

A native of the coal mining town of Edna Gas, WV, Huff became an all-state high-school football player. As a college player he helped take West Virginia University to the 1954 Sugar Bowl and to a combined four-year 31-7 won/loss record. In 1955 he was named an All-American.

Drafted in the 3rd round of the NFL draft he played for the New York Giants from 1956-1963. Wildly popular, he was the first NFL player to make the cover of Time magazine. When the Giants traded him to the Redskins in 1964, the story was front page news in the New York Times.

He played for the Redskins from 1964 to 1968, retired because of a serious ankle injury, and then returned to the game for one more year at the request of then Redskins head coach Vince Lombardi.

He is a member of both the college and NFL football halls of fame.

After retiring from the game Huff began a long and successful career as a radio commentator, first with the Giants, and then with the Redskins.

He is credited with making the West Virginia Breeders' Classic one of the premier events on the racing calendar.

In 1986 he began breeding thoroughbreds of his own at his "Sporting Life Farm" near Middleburg.

Since 2005 he has operated Middleburg Broadcasting from studios in his home on the east end of town.

Praised for his ongoing devotion to the town, his support of our local schools and non-profit organizations, and his never-failing promotion of all that makes Middleburg his home of choice, Huff's "ambassadorship" resolution passed unanimously.

Water and Sewer Rates Rise

Despite expressions of concern by Middleburg citizens,



BETSY DAVIS AND SAM HUFF

including former Town Council Member Eura Lewis, Council approved rate increases designed to boost revenues from the Town's water and sewer operations by some 6%.

The increases will be reviewed in early 2013.

The town has hired an outside consultant, the Municipal & Financial Services Group, to help develop rates for a new, every-other-month billing system which should help with collections of money due.

Another factor affecting rates will be the impact of water and sewer use after the much anticipated opening of the Salamander Inn and Spa.

Snakes

Council member Bundles Murdock expressed concern at reports that the exterminator hired to rid the Town's Health Center Building of nesting snakes had been seen releasing them close to town.

Police Chief A.J. Panebianco, whose headquarters are located in the Health Center assured council that the snakes in question were not poisonous, that they had been treated humanely, and had been released in a place that was both appropriate, and far enough away from town to prevent their return.

Grass

Council also adopted a new ordinance that would allow the town to remove debris and cut grass and weeds on private property and charge the owner for the

Continued Page 24



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MARCY CANTATORE **540-533-7453** **\$459,000**



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SAM REES **703-408-4261** **\$325,000**

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P.O. Box 1768
Middleburg, VA 20118
540-687-3200
fax 866-705-7643
www.mbecc.com
news@mbecc.com

Cover Photo by
Liz Caller

Editor In Chief
Dee Dee Hubbard – editor@mbecc.com

Design & Production Director
Jay Hubbard

Publisher
Dan Morrow

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NEWS OF NOTE

HUGH-VILLE- A STATE OF HEART

BILL COUZENS

Hugh-ville may sound as if it's a place that left off the pages of a Dr. Seuss story. It did not.

For Hugh-ville is not a place but rather a state of heart.

In my rural Virginia community we had a little boy by the name of Hugh Wiley who fought a courageous battle against lymphoma. Hugh died last year.

Hugh was a first grader at Hill School in Middleburg, Virginia where he was known for his insightful wisdom, good-natured sense of humor, his love of friends and of the playground.

Hugh started playing polo at age 4; he was an accomplished and avid fisherman, golfer, skier, swimmer, bird hunter and poker player who shared his love of these sports with his father Carter, big brother, James Langhorne and friends.

Hugh enjoyed precious, quiet moments reading with his mother Erica; and, yet, he relished leading fellow 6-year olds through imaginary battles, before facing a real battle of his own.

I never saw a boy with such energy. And maybe a better word for Hugh was charismatic he equally had a compelling charm... he was magical and special.

Not just a sweet boy but rather more of force.

At his funeral, friend and Less Cancer board member Stormy Stokes Hood had said Hugh had smelt like sunshine and dirt when talking about Hugh. And he did.

Hugh was a breath of outdoors, he was the wind, the sun and yes dirt all wrapped up in one. He was as big as nature in his very young and brief life.

I knew Hugh.

I know Hugh's family and I love them.

When Hugh died I did not quite

know how to process or even understand how his heroic parents could negotiate the situation, the pain the agony and loss of such magnitude. Adults openly wept in the grocery store, post office and on the streets of our town. It was the kind of grief that socked you in the gut and knocked your breath away.

The loss of Hugh, was the community's loss, a loss that was far reaching however manifested itself in a very positive way.

Soon after Hugh's death donations soon started trickling to Hill School, Middleburg Virginia.

Carter this last spring had said "When we asked that donations be given to the Hill School in lieu of flowers, we had no idea about where to put those funds to work. It slowly came to us that putting them to work in the playground would be fitting and appropriate: the playground was where Hugh was happiest — it was where he could be a little boy. We hope that this playground will do the same for all children in our community."

"We continue to be moved by support in all forms: people have been — and continue to be — very generous with financial and professional service contributions...from individuals, corporations, and communities near and far."

Well, now the time is here and the playground is complete.

I fondly refer to the new Hill School playground as Hugh-ville, not because of the state of the art playground, but rather of the state of heart of the community and the many lives Hugh touched. The love that is so evident upon a visit to this special playground.

This summer was a record breaker for heat—the only time a breeze blew was when tornado winds would come through with a storm. Yet anytime I stopped by the playground I would see



ERICA WILEY, TREAVOR LORD, CARTER WILEY

School playground with the intention of walking in my bare feet on the turf. However, when I got there I ran into Head Master Treavor Lord, and others were on the playground as well including 5th grade teacher John Daum and his family testing out the new swing sets.

In disbelief we all kind of looked around as if we were all dropped in the middle of a magical playground... and we were.

After dark, I went back to the playground when I was sure all were gone. I kicked off my shoes and was mindful to listen to my heart as I made my first step on the turf. Holding my breath as my foot made contact with the new field it instantly felt like happiness.

Relief.

It felt like sheer joy.

It felt like Hugh-ville.

No, cancer can't break love and it sure can't touch Hugh-ville.

If you would like to support this project, please click here and note that the gift is for Hugh's playground fund or contact Treavor Lord at The Hill School.

If giving at this time is not convenient for you, the Wileys ask that you make a point of spending time on a playground with a child you love in honor of Hugh—or better yet simply come spend time on the Hill School playground.

PROPERTIES IN HUNT COUNTRY

FOALSFIELD



Elegant custom stone and stucco home on 12+ acres in The Plains. Exquisite details, reclaimed heart pine floors, high ceilings, beautiful moulding, 4 marble and stone fireplaces. Large screened porch opening to covered stone terrace. 4 bedrooms, 4 full and 2 half baths with master bedroom on main level. Lovely grounds with perennial gardens, pool, pond, stone walk, board fencing and 2 car garage. **\$2,250,000**

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NEWS OF NOTE

THE NEW AGRARIANS

HER FATHER'S FARM LOOMS LARGE IN DIELE FLEISCHMANN'S MEMORY AT OVER THE GRASS FARM

Milking cows by the time she was four, Dielle Fleischmann grew up learning to love farming. Her father ran his farm to take care of the land, and she believes in and works hard to maintain that legacy.

"At first, after I purchased Over the Grass Farm in 1979, I simply wanted to raise crops and animals for my family and our guests. But soon, when friends who had dined with us and taken a few things home, began hopefully to ask if they could possibly have meat and fresh vegetables on a more regular basis. This was the beginning of the OTGF business."

Her son, Charles, helped her turn Over the Grass Farm into a working farm.

"It was sort of a Potemkin Village and not in the best condition when we began. Without Charles, who's now a hay broker and Whipper In to multiple hunts in South East Pennsylvania, we would have never accomplished all that we have done."

Today, OTGF operates on more than 400 rolling acres with pasture for cattle, sheep and horses on more than half of it. As committed to preserving diversity of wildlife as she is to creating plant, animal and microbial diversity, the farm has five ponds and several fenced streams to encourage native plant growth which protect it from grazing stock.

Asked if OTGF products are certified organic, Dielle laughs as

she responds, "...Our standards are, in some ways, more stringent than those of those of certified organic."

Talking in the busy farm office with the elegant woman who is regarded by many as a living treasure in The Piedmont area, it is clear that she lives a life of stewardship of the land.

Farming was a self-sufficient endeavor on Dielle's father's farm.

"We had beef and dairy cattle, hogs, chickens, vegetables, fruit and a complete staff of carpenters, electricians, farm staff, a manager, stone workers, mechanics and so many more," she remembered. "That was my model for Over the Grass Farm."

Currently, there are six Jersey cows for the OTGF cow sharing program that allows shareholders to enjoy raw milk year round. In fact, when one arrive at the farm store, the first thing one notices behind the big glass refrigerators doors are the sparkling jars of milk with each owner's name on them.

"Our dairy is run through a cow-share program in which our customers buy a share in a cow and receive milk weekly. This is the only legal arrangement to offer truly fresh, unprocessed milk in Virginia."

"After I visited New Zealand, I was very impressed with their way of farming. The best way to learn more about this was to invest in a farm there. This resulted in bringing some New Zealand Coopworth sheep to Over the Grass Farm."

"All our pastures are set up in a

New Zealand style rotational grazing system in which animals are moved regularly through a series of small paddocks throughout the grazing season.

"We were very lucky to employ a wonderful woman and friend, Hope Yankey, who helped us get our herd started here. Although she now lives in West Virginia, she comes back to supervise the sheep several times a year."

After the 250 OTGF sheep are shorn, the raw wool is sold. When the lambs are 18 months old, those not kept for breeding become the delicious lamb chops, roasts, ground lamb, sausage and other products so in demand by customers.

"In addition to all our wonderful beef and lamb, we have fruitful gardens which produce vegetables and greens year round."

"Our orchards produce superb, apples, figs, plums, raspberries, currants, gooseberries."

Phillip Ramsey of Stonleigh Farms tends to our thirty-seven hives. Our bees make truly delicious honey from wild flowers."

"Our staff are all wonderful," Dielle says smiling, "but I have a phobia about pigweed and no one can ever get rid of all of it. I'm sure the men become frustrated with me when I find some, pull it out and leave it in the way!"

Why are OTGF products so prized by highly discriminating shoppers in The Piedmont?

Perhaps, because when Di-

elle's father died very young of cancer, she began to reflect on what could have been the cause.

"His death made me wonder what could have caused the cancer, and I began to focus on the chemicals that had become so prevalent in our food. Today, OTGF vegetables are of high quality and the cows and sheep are always grass fed. Our standards are very high and we constantly strive to meet them."

If the definition of a working farm means a self-sufficient enterprise, Dielle's Over the Grass Farm is a model 21st Century agrarian enterprise. Although it is growing and evolving to meet increasing demand, her standards remain impressively high, and her more than contented customers are proof of that.

"I could not do anything without the help of Lacy Warner our farm manager," she emphasizes. "In addition to making sure our customers are well cared for and the many agricultural processes are running smoothly, Lacy also takes care of our horses and gives riding lessons."

Lacy gives riding lessons to children and adults who want to fox-hunt, which she describes as a truly excellent way for anyone to learn to ride confidently cross country or in the ring.

"I grew up riding before I could walk," Dielle adds.

"But at Over the Grass Farm, Lacy is in charge of the horses. That includes boarding, training, horses for sale or lease, lessons, rehab and

rescue."

"We have about 20 children every week for riding lessons," Lacy explains, "and we have a few Nokota horses that are absolutely wonderful."

Nokota horses are believed to descend from Sitting Bull's herd, a breed that Dielle's son Charles and his wife, Blair, have established the Nokota Horse Conservancy to protect. The Nokota Horse Conservancy maintains a large herd of Nokotas in Linton, North Dakota.

"When they arrive from North Dakota," according to Lacy, "where I choose them based on conformation, they are completely feral."

"They are very sure footed and, although it takes us a year or two to take them from wild and feral to fox hunters, in the end, they are exceptional hunters."

Over the Grass Farm is definitely a living example of the best of new agrarianism.

"When I reflect on all we're doing, I must admit I am a bit surprised," Dielle says. "Several years ago, we brought in a horse logger to care for our forest, and I wondered if we should have him full time. The more we can do ourselves, the better our life and the products our customers love."

To inquire about our products and services or to order Over the Grass Farm products, please visit the website www.overthegrassfarm.net.

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NEWS OF NOTE

GOODSTONE INN & RESTAURANT ANNOUNCES OPENING OF THE BAR AT GOODSTONE

Goodstone Inn & Restaurant in Middleburg, Virginia has announced that they will open The Bar at Goodstone on Thursday, October 11. Located in the country inn's Carriage House, the new full-service bar with a bar area that features hunt-country decor with solid cherry wood, plush leather seating, cocktail tables and exquisite horse

carvings set in the cabinetry. The Bar at Goodstone's menu includes fine wines, beer on tap, martinis, wine cocktails and specialty drinks. A Goodstone Mojito will feature farm mint grown in the estate's gardens — bringing the award-winning restaurant's renowned farm-to-table emphasis to the new bar menu. A seasonal, light-fare menu will also be available for

guests at the bar. "We are delighted to announce the opening of The Bar at Goodstone," said Goodstone owner and General Manager Mark Betts. "We're excited to expand our offerings of wine and specialty drinks and we look forward to hosting our Hunt Country Happy Hours in this new, inviting setting." The five-star Goodstone Inn & Restaurant is a roman-



tic country inn and French restaurant in the heart of Virginia's wine and hunt country. The luxury country inn offers eighteen elegantly decorated guest rooms and suites in six individual residences restored in English and French Country decor.

Drawing inspiration from its location on 265 acres of rolling hills and farmland in Middleburg, The Restaurant at Goodstone provides its guests with an unparalleled fine dining experience.

For more information, please telephone Goodstone Inn & Restaurant at (540) 687-3333.

ENGAGEMENT



Linda and Kim Hart are very pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Sarah Montana Hart to Lieutenant Danny Clerget of Elgin, Oregon. Sarah is currently serving as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Montana. Danny is serving as a Blackhawk helicopter pilot in the Montana National Guard. The couple lives in Helena, Montana. Danny "popped the question" with a silver plate on the back of a new saddle for Sarah's reining horse, Lexus.

KEITH & PAM FOSTER OPEN THE OUTPOST MIDDLEBURG'S FASCINATING NEW SHOP

Twelve years ago, Pam and Keith Foster came to Middleburg and they loved it. At the time, they were living in St. Louis where Keith had based his golf course design business. They contacted Cricket Bedford and asked her to look for a property for them. After viewing many properties that weren't quite right, they decided to pur-

chase a farm in Kentucky instead and held events in their restored tobacco barn to offer exceptional furniture and decorative pieces reflective of the English Country House and Out of Africa styles they love.

They returned to Middleburg to celebrate last Thanksgiving at The Goodstone, and decided to try one more time to find a home here. The last prop-

erty they saw turned out to be the perfect fit. Cricket organized the purchase and then found a wonderful site for their new retail venture, "The Outpost," on the shady side of Madison Street.

The charming young couple has created an elegant, individualistic atmosphere at The Outpost that is sure to capture the imagination and fascination of shoppers near and far. From beautiful

bench-made leather club chairs that would be comfortably at home at Windsor Castle to authentic antique British campaign furniture, African wildlife photography, art and sporting antiques, this is a perfect shop for discriminating customers.

"I've always wanted to purchase and offer cool things in an exceptional environment," Keith explains, and so many interesting and delightful people have visited the shop during our first week of being open.

"Everything we offer is hand-chosen by either Pam or me. We want to offer things that you won't see anywhere else—things that have a history and a story behind them."

"We carry only what we love and what we would have in our home" added Pam, whose taste and attention to detail is apparent wall to wall.

Customers, clients and friends will also enjoy the exceptional hospitality at The Outpost. In a private room that is as welcoming and comfortable as a library in a fine home, you will find the perfect place to relax and have a drink while your better half is being measured for his blazer by Mark at Highlife Clothiers or while she is deciding on the perfect bracelet with Tom Hayes.

"Shopping can be tiring for

individuals who await someone else's purchasing decision. We want to make sure they have a great place to relax while those decisions are being made."

Keith's golf design office is located in the back of the building and he is booked for several years in advance at top level private clubs where renovating the course must exceed the expectations of its members.

"Each year I am fortunate to work at three distinguished clubs, and my goal at each one is to carefully execute the restoration work in a seamless fashion."

The shop is a dream come true for both Pam and Keith because it allows them to travel together on buying trips for at least a month each year.

"The shop is so important to us," Keith continues. "I'm traveling extensively for four months each year with my golf projects, but then Pam and I can work together here and it is a lot of fun for us both."

Soon, they leave for their next trip, which will include Africa, Turkey and England and the treasures they find will then make their way to The Outpost.

Please visit The Outpost at 6 South Madison Street, or, if you prefer, telephone 540 687 4094 for an appointment.

CREIGHTON FARMS INVITATIONAL HOSTED BY JACK NICKLAUS A HOLE IN ONE



LARRY BROWN, MARK MOSELY, JACK NICKLAUS

Dr. Tony Aram, Bob Reeve, George Van Tassel and Larry Brown won the inaugural Creighton Farms Invitational Golf Tournament Hosted by Jack Nicklaus last week at Creighton Farms in Aldie.

The tournament itself highlighted a larger, two-day event complete with an intimate dinner and live auction hosted by Mr. Nicklaus himself as well as opportunities to meet and speak with arguably the greatest golfer of all time live and in-person.

Mr. Nicklaus even joined in actual play on the second day, golfing with two lucky groups for nine holes.

While rumors went unconfirmed, the author assumes winter rules were enjoyed by all.

Second place was taken by Ron Masci, Joe Yasharoff and Jeff Thoreson, while third place went to Mike Hartman, Dave Tacchetti, Jim Reed and Lincoln Lawrence.

Closest to the pin honors were awarded to Jeff Thoreson; longest drive to Dave Tacchetti.

Both Mr. Nicklaus and Southworth Development CEO, David Southworth, were thrilled to report the event raised over \$275,000.00 for the Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation.

"It's always been a pleasure to do business with Jack Nicklaus," said David Southworth. "I'm lucky to have had the opportunity to spend time with him over the years, and I can say that he is a truly extraordinary person. His commitment to the cause of children's healthcare is unmatched."

The Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation will now partner with two local children's hospitals, Children's National Medical Center and Inova Children's Hospital, to distribute the

funds raised to specific projects. Children's National Medical Center in Washington, DC, has been serving the nation's children

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NEWS OF NOTE

WASHINGTON FINE PROPERTIES EXPANDS TO LINK HUNT COUNTRY TRADITIONS WITH CAPITAL REGION POWER

Washington Fine Properties, the powerhouse brokerage firm known for its luxury market dominance in the Capital Region, announced Friday that their brokerages in Middleburg and Washington, Virginia, previously known as Armfield, Miller & Ripley Fine Properties, will now be operated as Washington Fine Properties.

The firm's President, Thomas B. Anderson, said "this change allows us to offer our clients in Middleburg and the Virginia countryside maximum exposure for their farms and properties through the direct connection to Washington Fine Properties". The firm's success in the sale of luxury properties in the Capital Region is unparalleled and has earned them National recog-

nition by Real Trends/Wall Street Journal's Annual Report for achieving the Highest Average Sale and the Highest Average Production per Agent in America for the past three years.

Anderson, who has worked with the well known Middleburg firm Armfield, Miller & Ripley's founding partners Gloria Armfield, Carole Miller, and Ruth Ripley for over 25 years, is honored to be head of the firm.

The Virginia countryside has long been a destination of choice for Washingtonians interested in country living. Renowned for its prominence in the equestrian world with its several races and hunts, horse farms, and abundant open countryside, the area draws worldwide interest.

With this expanded market, Anderson said, "Washington Fine Properties will continue to offer the finest range of services

for wonderful properties in all price ranges, capitalizing like no other firm can on the synergies between these two important markets."

NSLM POLO WEEKEND OFFERS RARE GLIMPSE INTO HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF A FAST-PACED GAME

Not everyone in attendance at the National Sporting Library and Museum's recent Polo Weekend events intend to play the fast-paced field game, but there were so many fascinating aspects of the beautiful early autumn series that all who participated came away with a much greater understanding of and appreciation for polo.

With century-old origins in the Middle and Far East, enthusiasm for the game was kept alive by various global cavalry units and tea planters until it began to gain popularity as "hockey on ponies" in India in the late 1800's. The movement of British military from country to country introduced the game to many parts of the world including the United

States and rules had been written and codified as the world entered the 20th century.

Polo Clubs like Westchester and Hurlingham were established in the U.S. by 1886 and tournament play was much in evidence.

Although art depicting polo depended almost entirely on private commissions, Museum visitors will thoroughly enjoy the "Chukkers" exhibition now on display.

Clearly, the sport of polo, as captured in these beautiful paintings and sculptures, played an important part in the preservation of land in America.

The excitement of polo is clearly present in the exhibit and gives a hint as to why the game is growing in popularity.

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NEWS OF NOTE

6TH ANNUAL CHERRY BLOSSOM NANETTE’S WALK, FUN RUN, AND POOCH PRANCE

BETH GLENN

A Survivor’s Story

Cancer is scary, but it is a kind of out-of-body scary. My body went through a lot but my mind always saw it from afar and as if it was happening to someone else who happened to look like me – until I lost my hair, and then it didn’t even look like me.

Your friends and family are concerned for you.

Your dog comforts you. I had dogs growing up but chose a career that kept me traveling. I had a cat that scolded me for being gone so much but looked after herself with a little help from the pet sitter while I was gone.

Finally after being dog-less for 20 years I took a job in France. Dogs were everywhere you looked. The French have a favorite saying that literally translated means dogs are true; mankind is false.

I kept running into fascinating apricot poodles. I

had a dream that I had an apricot poodle. One morning while running errands I passed a pet shop and an apricot poodle puppy climbed over the backs of all the other puppies and threw itself repeatedly against the window as if to say “choose me, choose me.”

With the dream and all what could I do? I walked home with a puppy under one arm and a bag of food twice as big as he was under the other.

Michel, Mikey when we moved back to the states, never left my side no matter what I was doing. He was known in Hewlett Packard offices in every country, except the ones that had quarantine or served dogs for dinner.

When I made the switch from Hunter Jumper to Eventing he went with me to my first training session and sat patiently by the ring. I hadn’t seen him for a while and asked my trainer if she knew where he was and she said she had never seen anything like it, he had been fol-

lowing the horse’s footsteps for 10 minutes, trotting when she trotted and taking all the fences she did.

When I was told I had breast cancer it was like entering into a new world. There were only two times that I teared up. The first was after my careful research and deciding which treatments I might do and which I definitely wouldn’t do, and hearing from my Doctor that, because I was stage three, I had to do them all.

The second was when my hair started falling out and I went to have my head shaved. As each lock fell so did a tear. I told the hairdresser I had a cold. I was strong for the Doctor. I was strong for my family. I was strong for my friends. Only with my dog could I be tired, hurt, scared, bald me.

Mikey was 16 years old by then but still refused to leave my side. After triage I would come home and sleep for hours and there was that warm furry little face next to mine like a living, breathing teddy bear, sleeping while I

slept and getting up when I did.

Early on in my chemotherapy I went outside with him and he had a seizure of some sort. Panicked I called my family and said you pray for this dog right now; I can’t lose him now.

God heard and Mikey stayed by my side for two more years completing eight more months of treatments and cheering me on as I got back on my feet again. Over those two years he had lost his hearing and sight but still followed me everywhere. One day he stopped eating and I held him and looked in his eyes and knew it was time for me to be the strong one.

As I held him on my lap in the Vets office I felt his little body relax entirely and his head went down on my shoulder. It was then that I realized how hard this little guy had worked to comfort me and cheer me on in my own struggle, overcoming his own age and failing body to do so. It was the hardest thing I ever did and once I

almost picked him up and ran out the door with him but I knew in my heart of hearts that if I had done that it would have been for me and not for him.

Today I have two poodles, four Jack Russell Terriers, and a Hunt Terrier. None of them could ever be Mikey but each is special in its own spectacular way and they will all mark the start of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by joining hundreds of other survivors, family, and friends in the sixth annual Cherry Blossom Nanette’s Walk, Fun Run and Pooch Prance for Breast Cancer.

I will have them dressed in pink, ready to win the Pink Pooch contest, as they did three years ago when Barbara Sharp designed pink outfits for them.

The fundraiser for local women will start behind the Middleburg Bank in Middleburg. Registration opens at 11:00 with the ribbon cutting at 1 pm. Please go to www.cherryblossombreastcancerfoundation.org to register.

LOCKSLEY AND AUTUMN’S PUPPY RAISING ADVENTURE

Autumn House

13 year old Autumn House of Warrenton, is a volunteer Puppy Raiser for Canine Companions for Independence. The non-profit organization provides Assistance Dogs for children and adults with disabilities...all at no cost to the individual. This incredible work would not be possible without volunteers like Autumn, who will return Locksley to CCI in another year. The dog will undergo six more months of intensive training before he begins his life of service to someone whose life will be changed immeasurably. For more information on becoming a Puppy Raiser, contact cci.org

My family and I were first introduced to Canine Companions for Independence through a newspaper article in the Middleburg Eccentric. It advertised an upcoming meeting that explained the organization and what it was about. We were interested, and decided to attend the meeting and learn about CCI. After hearing about the process and what you had to do, we knew we had to raise a puppy! The only problem: How could we possibly raise a puppy for 18 months and then give it back? After we’d had a chance to think about how raising a puppy would change a person’s life, we knew we had to do it!

When we first talked to Katrina, the puppy raiser coordinator for CCI, she told us all about Locksley and what we would expect as puppy raisers. We couldn’t help but immediately go out and buy all the supplies we needed. We were so excited! Before we knew it we were on our way to New York to pick up Locksley.

To tell you the truth, nothing could have prepared us for the

crazy times with Locksley. If you have never owned a lab puppy, then only the experience can explain how energetic, funny, and playful they can be. They are non-stop. Then when they get tired, they just crash somewhere. They can be very overwhelming at times, but then as they get older, you begin to realize your work is paying off. Locksley has become my best friend and I enjoy every day I have with him.

With Locksley being only five months old, he hasn’t yet experienced any major public outings. However, I am preparing him for what is coming up and I know that he will do just fine. I am very proud of him and all the things he’s learned. Some commands he can pick up in a day, though with others it seems like it takes forever for him to learn. It is hard to imagine a day without Locksley by my side, but I know that about a year from now I will have to turn him in and he will become a new companion for someone who needs him more than I do. This experience has taught me to not give up and if you work at something hard enough it can change someone’s life for the better.

About Canine Companions for Independence: Canine Companions for Independence is the largest non-profit provider of trained assistance dogs with five regional training centers across the country. Established in 1975, Canine Companions provides highly trained assistance dogs to children and adults with disabilities and is recognized worldwide for the excellence of its dogs, and quality and longevity of the matches it makes between dogs and people. There is no charge for the dog, its training and on-going follow-up services. For more information, visit cci.org or call 1-800-572-BARK.

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Interested in giving back to the community and making a dramatic difference in someone’s life? Canine Companions for Independence, a national non-profit organization that trains assistance dogs for people with disabilities is looking for volunteer puppy raisers to shape young, curious pups into enthusiastic and responsive adult dogs, ready to meet the challenges of becoming assistance dogs.

JOIN US Wednesday, October 17th, to learn about Canine Companions for Independence Puppy Raising Program and how you can become involved. Meet local puppy raisers & observe training class. Location: American Legion Building, 111 The Plains Road, Middleburg, VA 20118



For more information visit cci.org or call 1-800-572-BARK(2275)

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NEWS OF NOTE

ANIMAL RESCUE FUND CALLS FOR 2012 GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Animal Rescue Fund (ARF) invites Virginia-based animal 501-c3 rescue organizations to submit their 2012 grant requests. Please go to the ARF website www.arfrescueva.org, to complete and submit the application form.

Last year 13 Virginia-based organizations were awarded grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$8,000 according to their requested need. The 2011 grants included The Middleburg Humane Foundation for pharmaceuticals and vaccines; The

Blue Ridge Wildlife Center for food and medical supplies; The Fauquier SPCA, Inc. for an oxygen generator; The Equine Rescue League Foundation for vet and medical expenses; and Cause Fur Paws to sterilize and vaccinate feral cats.

"Last year's ARF grants totaled over \$70,000. Our goal this year is to be able to provide \$100K to deserving charities. Our Board Members are dedicated, focused and hard-working," said Vice-President, Ursula Landsrath. "We feel confident that we will reach this goal."

"We are all good friends and volunteers who share the same objective which, of course, is to help animals. We realize that these organizations are often overwhelmed having to raise funds as well as care for animals. We do only one thing. We raise money to help them do their job."

"The response has been overwhelming. This was a niche that needed to be filled."

"As the economy is creating hardship for so many families, they are often forced to surrender their beloved pets to shelters. These shelters are so

overwhelmed that without help, these beloved pets would be euthanized. This year's first fundraising event "Dog Fest" was such a smash hit that it will become an annual event.

"In October, our annual STAG event, "Animal Night" will take place at the wonderful and historic St. Bride's Farm in Upperville.

"Our annual Estate Sale that takes place at Buchanan Hall in Upperville will once again take place in November, the weekend before Thanksgiving".

ARF President Jennifer

Richards added, "ARF is an all-volunteer organization without staff or facilities. Our mission is to raise money. We have, therefore, carefully chosen these three annual events to help us reach our goal. In May, Dog Fest is a seasonal, fun event for families with or without children and dogs that takes place on a 150 acre farm in Delaplane. Animal Night is a men's dinner, by invitation only, and our annual Estate Sale has become a not-to-be missed occasion for one and all before the holidays."

"Last year our Estate Sale included items from one dollar to a \$22,000 full length mink coat which sold for just \$800. This year's treasures will include a lady's Rolex watch, as well as Louis Vuitton luggage and a hand bag."

"We are very aware that we depend on the generosity of our families, friends, neighbors and kind-hearted contributors. That's why we take every opportunity to say thank you for helping us care for those without a voice."

To learn more about ARF or to download a Grant Application Form, please visit www.arfrescueva.org.



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WINE TASTINGS with LOCAL WINERIES (fee additional)

Sample Loudoun County wines at the Schooley Mill Barn area.

FAIR ADMISSION
\$15 per person per day in advance \$17 at the gate.
Children 12 and under free.
Please don't bring pets.

WINE TASTINGS with LOCAL WINERIES (fee additional)

Sample Loudoun County wines at the Schooley Mill Barn area.

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NEWS OF NOTE

SCARECROW DAYS IN THE PLAINS

The Plains Second Annual Village Scarecrow Days Festival will take place throughout the village from October 13 through October 27, 2012.

Many town residences and businesses will feature their own creative spin on a scarecrow and be eligible for prizes in four categories; the Funniest, the Scariest, the Most Creative and the People's Choice. In order to be judged, the scarecrows must be visible from the street and be in place by October 13.

A new feature this year will be "Scarecrow Workshops" on Oct. 6th and 7th hosted by ZigZag

Gallery and Youngblood Art Studio. A 'Children's Art Show' will be on display from Oct. 17th through 27th at Youngblood Studio.

On October 20th Forlano's Market will host a 'Make Your Own Jack-o-Lantern' event, in conjunction with their Octoberfest celebration, and Cochran Lodge will sponsor a Blood Drive and tour of the Lodge.

Scare Crow events will culminate on October 27th with a Costume Party at Dutch Henry's Farmacy and an awards ceremony with live music in the Corner Park at Fauquier Ave and Rt 55 that will

begin at 4:00 PM.

Judging for the first three categories mentioned above will be done by two very creative people, Tom Switzer and Kim Tapper of 'A Place To Be' in Middleburg.

The fourth category, the People's Choice, will be awarded from votes by the public. Ballots will be available at Crest Hill Antiques & Tea Room, Live An Artful Life® Gallery, Peyton's Place and ZigZag Gallery on Main Street, starting October 13. The public is encouraged to tour the village and vote for their favorite.

For additional information please call 540-253-9797 or visit www.ThePlainsVirginia.com.

BATTLE OF ANTIETAM

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE HISTORIAN DENNIS FRYE WILL SPEAK AND LEAD FIELD TRIP ON THE 1862 MARYLAND CAMPAIGN.



SHARPSBURG, MARYLAND, SEPTEMBER 1862. GENERAL JAMES LONGSTREET HOLDS THE HORSES OF HIS STAFF WHILE THEY REPLACE THE WOUNDED BATTERY AND WORK THE CANNONS OF MILLER'S BATTERY OF THE WASHINGTON ARTILLERY FIRING ON THE FEDERALS ADVANCING TOWARDS THE SUNKEN ROAD. IMAGE COURTESY OF GALLON HISTORICAL ART WWW.GALLON.COM

On Friday, October 19, at 6:30pm at the Hill School in Middleburg, National Park Service Historian Dennis Frye author of September Surprise, will examine the Confederate invasion of Maryland in 1862, and public reaction to what, at the time was seen one of the most shocking events in American history.

On Saturday, October 20 Frye will then lead a field trip, following the Army of Northern Virginia's "Roads to Antietam" from Harrison Hall in Leesburg, to the Potomac crossing at White's Ford, northwest across Maryland to the battlegrounds on South Mountain, to Harpers Ferry, and then onto the battlefield itself.

The field trip will begin at 8:30 a.m. on the 20th, at the Loudoun County courthouse

parking lot at the dead end of North Church Street in historic downtown Leesburg.

After a short stop at Harrison Hall (now Glenfiddich House) guests will mount buses for the battlefield.

The bus is expected to be back in Leesburg around 3:30 pm.

Tickets for the talk and wine/cheese reception at Hill School are \$45 for MHAA members and \$55 for non-members.

Tickets for the field trip are \$65 for MHAA members and \$75 for non-members.

A combination ticket, covering both events, is \$90 for MHAA members, \$110 for non-members.

Reservations are required. Please call (540) 687-6681 or visit the Mosby Heritage Areas Association website at www.mosbyheritagearea.org

MIDDLEBURG'S SOUTHERN STATES CELEBRATES THEIR RE-OPENING



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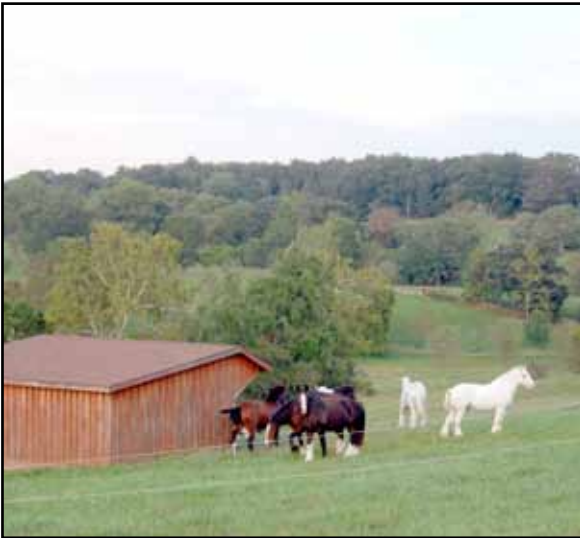
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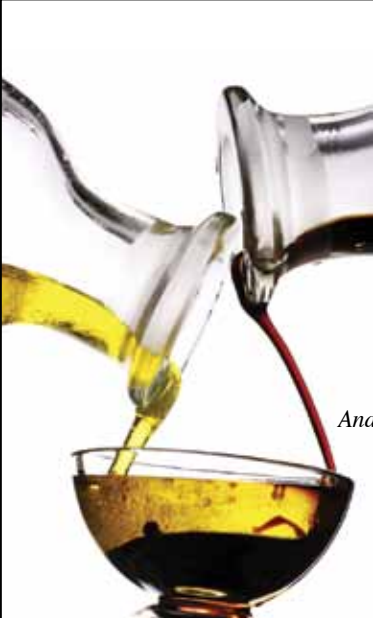
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PASTIMES

2, 4, 6, 8, NFL INFURIATES

7TH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

What team has the number one scoring offense in the NFL this season? Redskins.

What team has the number one rushing offense, based on total yards gained, this season? Redskins.

What team has the number two rushing offense in the entire NFL, based on rushing yards per game, this season? Redskins.

Now take a deep breath.

What team has the fourth worst scoring defense in the NFL this season? Redskins.

They're giving up nearly 34 points a game.

What NFC team has the second worst defense, based on total yards given up per game, this season? Redskins.

They're giving up nearly 430 yards per game.

What NFC team has the second worst passing defense, based on yards given up per game, this season? Redskins.

They're giving up 337 passing yards per game.

These are startling numbers, in and of themselves. But they're even more galling if you push them out a bit.

At this rate, the Redskins' defense looks to give up nearly 7000 yards to their opponents this season, with nearly 5400 of those yards coming through the air.

Wait, precision here is important...

At this rate, the Redskins' defense looks to give up 6,880 yards to their opponents this season, with 5,392 of those yards coming through the air.

Why is precision important? Because when you look at the records for all-time defensive futility, the Redskins are on pace to rewrite the record book.

You don't have to look very far back to find the team that allowed the most passing yards in a season; that mark was set just last year, 2011, at 4,796 passing yards allowed, by the Green Bay Packers, a team many considered Super Bowl contenders.

Total yards allowed in a season, however, necessitates a slightly longer walk back in time, and the accompaniment of a Mayflower moving truck or three; this dubious honor belongs to Baltimore Colts, circa 1981, with 6,793 total yards allowed.

What's the silver lining? Well, there are worse teams than the Redskins defensively this year.

The Buccaneers are giving up 18 more yards a game through the air; they could shatter the record for worst defensive secondary ever by nearly 300 more yards than the Redskins.

So that's good.

And the Titans and Saints are both on pace to absolutely obliterate the all-time total yards allowed record. The Titans could finish the season giving up just over 7,400 yards this season, or 600 more than the '81 Colts, but the Saints could really set the bar by allowing nearly 7,637 yards this year.

So that's all even better.

The stench of ineptitude emanating from Nashville and Louisiana could well mask the putrescence permeating the Piedmont.

Phew.

Another number for you.

4.

That's the over/under I'm giving on games remaining before heralded, franchise-saving QB Robert Griffin III gets broken into tiny pieces and carted off the field if the Shanahans continue to use him in option-heavy offenses that rely on his holding onto the ball until the last possible second to have any chance of success.

Griffin will never complain, because he's a good soldier and he's confident, both of which are admirable attributes in any person, but especially in a professional athlete who plays on a team.

But confidence and an upbeat attitude never saved anyone from 260



WHEEL BUG

THE PLANT LADY



KAREN REXRODE

The wheel bug is one of the more interesting insects that gardeners encounter. You can't avoid bugs, the good, the bad, pretty much at your fingertips as you work. Of course we love the beneficial ones, they take out the bugs that eat our plants, we like to think there is a balance. The wheel bug is one of those beneficial bugs that looks really different. Imagine a cogged wheel with a base plate attached to your back.

From the genus Reduvius, which comes from Latin reduva, meaning hangnail or remnant. Within that genus we have about 7,000 species, the wheel bug being only one, better known as Arilus cristatus, referring to the crest or cogged wheel on its back. No particular explanation for the wheel, some think it scares other insects, ok - I can see that. The nymphs emerge from a flat disk of eggs, 40 to 180 arrive, bright red abdomens send a clear message - do not eat. Despite that, the nymphs cannibalize each other, which doesn't stop there because later on the mating females usually eat their mate, just like praying mantises do. I understand that only 30% of the nymphs make it to the end of the season and their natural life.

Five molts occur between late April and fall. As later molts occur, the wheel bug will find an isolated spot, usually on the underside of a leaf, and shed her exoskeleton, leaving a bright orange, soft bodied, very defenceless bug. Within a few hours she will harden and turn gray again.

As beneficial insects, they feed on aphids (as nymphs), Japanese beetles and tent caterpillars as adults. Yes, I mention two we love to see eaten, they will actually eat any insect they can catch. As they stalk their prey, they move slowly, looking a lot like a mechanical dinosaur. Once they have grasped their catch with front legs, a tube (which usually stays tucked under their head) probes until it can find a place to insert, which is usually where the wings meet the head. Enzymes are injected that liquefy their insides, which are then slopped up, leaving only a hollow shell behind. If you watch this happen from beginning to end with a Japanese beetle, it will take about half an hour, something I can say I have watched several times as I cheer the wheel bug on.

As often as I have encountered them, never have I been stung or bitten. As you might imagine, they give quite a nasty bite. I have noticed that they have above average eye sight because they see me from some distance and move to the underside of stem or leaf. If they are startled, orange scent glands come out with an odor similar to that of the stink bug.

Some people call them assassin bugs, which is an entirely different bug that doesn't have the characteristic wheel. It also has a different diet, it drinks blood, fortunately (for us) they live in South America.



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Oh my aching feet! Have you ever said that? Maybe you are training for a marathon or a triathlon. Or maybe you just cram them into shoes that don't allow a lot of movement for the toes. Sometimes we don't realize we should be wearing a bigger size. I remember when I was a child, my mom would take me to the local shoe store in town and they would measure my foot. Sometimes one foot would be bigger than the other, so we would buy the bigger pair. Once adults it seems we rarely have our feet measured. Certain things can affect the size of our feet, one being pregnancy. Even so most of us still wear our regular size. Just like the rest of our bodies our feet need attention. Not just a pedicure, that helps, but a fitness regime.

The foot and ankle contain 26 bones, 33 joints and more than 100 muscles, tendons and ligaments. Not to forget a network of blood vessels, nerves, skin and soft tissue that work together to provide mobility and a foundation for the body. They are meant to work together but also independently of each other. In other words, we should be able to fan our toes from little to big and then big to little. Our big toe should be able to move up and down independently of the other toes. Years of wearing tight shoes can make our toes almost

pound linebackers who run 4.5 40's and make their livings by crushing other human beings.

Let's stick with numbers.

0.

That's how many weeks are left before the hot mess known as replacement officials start affecting the outcome of real NFL games. The Packers got jobbed on Monday night this week, no matter what the league says in its prepared statement (which I have read, and which is a classic CYA memo.)

What that will actually mean is anybody's guess. I think the commissioner and the owners honestly believe they can get through this disaster without giving the referees what they want. (Which, not surprisingly, centers on benefits and pensions.) Their stance on Monday's mess out west is a perfect example.

Until and unless a player suffers a catastrophic injury or is even killed, I think the league will hold its breath and pray for sunny skies.

And that's a shame.

But a terrifyingly real possibility.

Last but not least...

A friend of mine who's a lot smarter than me suggested the best way to sort out the NFL's current replacement referee riddle would be to apply the pro-business, anti-regulation mindset of this year's presidential challenger to the gridiron and let the free market work its magic.

Or, in other words, just get rid of the referees all together and let the players and the coaches police themselves.

Hey, I hear Gregg Williams is still looking for work....

Alex can be reached at
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PASTIMES

HABOOBS

WATERWORLD

RICHARD A. ENGBERG

Good grief, Herman, has the water guy gone completely around the bend this time? Do you think he's one bubble off level? Not long ago he talked about something called a derecho that turned out to be climate related, but now, haboobs? What're they? Has he totally lost it, or is he just a dirty old man?

I guess the jury is still out on both parts of the last question, but the word "haboobs," believe it or not, is a real word, a word that's actually used by climate scientists (see, there's climate again.) Haboobs and the singular form haboob are words derived from an Arabic word habb (meaning "blasting

wind") to describe a wind-driven sandstorm carried on an atmospheric gravity current and forced down and forward by the leading edge of an intense thunderstorm.

Haboobs were first described and named in the Sahara desert but commonly occur in arid places such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the plains of India. But this summer you may have heard of or seen pictures of the haboob that struck Phoenix, AZ.

Let's talk a little about haboobs and how and why they occur. In the Sahara, they regularly result from the northward movement of a weather front called the inter-tropical front bringing moisture into the desert from the equatorial Atlantic Ocean. Incidentally, this is the same area from which the

hurricanes that regularly threaten North America are spawned, but we'll talk more about hurricanes another time. This weather front creates the conditions necessary for a haboob.

The haboob occurs when a downdraft from the front reaches the ground and lifts dry sand into the air, creating the wall of sand that precedes the rainstorm.

The haboob that hit Phoenix likely happened in a similar fashion. No doubt a moisture laden front, moving north was the culprit that caused the haboob. Not only did Phoenix get hit by the sand, but the sandstorm was followed by an intense monsoon-like rain.

Haboobs are not complete strangers to the southwestern United States, and have occurred in the past in Arizona, New Mexico, and west Texas, all arid or semiarid locations. What is interesting is that in recent years they are occurring more frequently and with greater intensity. Just ask residents of Phoenix about trying to clean up the mud that the recent haboob left on vehicles, yards, roofs, sidewalks, etc.

No, what this indicates is further evidence that climate change is occurring. The derecho in our area, the haboob in Phoenix, hurricane Isaac and other hurricanes, the Midwestern drought, the waterspout in New York, even the earthquake in Virginia last year, all are indications, at least to this writer, that we are in the midst of some dramatic climatic shifts.

Where will it end? In 50 or 100 years, will we see palm trees in Vermont? Will Virginia be a tropical paradise similar to Key West? Will there be seawater in the streets of lower Manhattan? I don't know, I'm not able to prognosticate, but I'm concerned, if not for myself, for my children and grandchildren. What about you?

A few more water related songs: "Wind on the Water" by

Crosby and Nash; "Tears in Heaven" by Eric Clapton; and "Tears of a Clown" by Smokey Robinson.

MIDDLEBURG THANKS SAM HUFF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

service. If a property owner allows debris to accumulate, and grass and weeds to grow to more than ten inches high, the town may issue a warning, calling on the owner to address the problem. If that warning is ignored, the Town may both levy a fine and charge the property owner for the cost of addressing the problems.

Audit

Town Treasurer Debbie Wheeler has stepped up her preparations for the

regular annual audit of the town's books, set to begin in September. Wheeler has also been busy with software training classes, focusing on the Town's existing software for utility billing and a new package, soon to be introduced to streamline real estate tax billing and collection.

Investments

Town Administrator Martha Semmes reported that she is working with the Town's outside financial advisors from Davenport and Hunton & Williams, as well as officials of Middleburg Bank to come up with a plan to refinance the Town's debt at a lower interest rate. Also on the agenda: a plan to optimize return on both cash and longer term investments belonging to the town and held in the town's bank and investment accounts.

Parking Meters

Council asked Police Chief A.J. Panebianco to have his officers begin systematically marking non-functional parking meters for repair.

Responding to a query about reduced cash flow from parking fines, Panebianco noted that a significant number of the town's meters were, in fact, broken.

When visitors and other parkers complained that they had put money into the meters and had been ticketed anyhow, officers quite often discovered that the meters in question were, indeed, malfunctioning.

Repair of the meters is both difficult to arrange and expensive.

On the other hand, Council told Panebianco, the village is counting on the revenue budgeted for collection from parking fines.



THE ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE

TOM NEEL

It is my belief that all artists at one time or another, ask themselves this question: Is it done yet? Often it's the beginning artist, but I guess there's really no immunity for the experienced artist either. For some, this frustrating dilemma sizzles brain cells. More likely frustrating them than entertaining them, in route to a completed work of art.

If you were asked to count from one to ten, it would be naturally easy to know when you were done. But art is not this way, especially narrative art, which is telling a story which has not yet been told. "Once upon a time" is a great place to begin, but there's much to say before you can be satisfied with "The End" and many artists wrestle with this to their detriment.

To be caught in the never ending spiral of questioning the completion of your artwork is not a good thing. Well, I should rephrase that statement. If you are learning from it and having fun, I guess it is a good thing. But my guess is most learn more about feeding a bad habit. It's one thing to add a few finishing touches after a day or two of not looking at a piece. It's another thing altogether, in my opinion, to constantly question your spontaneous results. As if to say, Once upon a time, there were two kids, they became friends and had a great summer - The End.... one had red hair - The End.... one was given a dog - The End.... and so it goes.

The over noodling of one never ending work of art is almost always better spent on a new work of art. I knew an artist once who was moving to a new state. While packing those belongings that would make this journey to a new beginning, an uncompleted painting was mentioned. "I've never been able to finish it, but I hope to one day." I said, why? Why would you want to burden a new chapter in your life with something endlessly uncompleted from your past? As if someone turned on a light, I was then asked,



what should be done with it? I said, throw it away!

Life is a journey and a creative life certainly is too. If you were hiking and came to a creek you wanted to cross, you would look for stepping stones to make you way across. Step by step you would find your path, maybe even getting a foot wet and sometimes you even fall in. But you would never get to the other side, look back for hours at what extra or different steps you could have taken. You'd keep moving on with your hike, reflect along the way and use that experience at your next creek crossing. That to me is one key to knowing you're done. When you stop working, you're done. If you keep thinking about it and questioning it, I still say the painting is done. Even if you don't think it actually is and even if you are unsatisfied with your results.

For those new to creating art, just remember that creating more pieces is what will end up making you better, not working on a completed painting forever. For the more experienced artists that continually sees his or her pieces

LiveAnArtfulLife.com Tom



Tom Neel with golf legend Jack Nicklaus, during their print signing of "Hole 6" at Creighton Farms' charity event. With partial proceeds going to the Nicklaus Foundation and supporting local hospitals in the D.C. area., a very limited edition of just 30 prints is available. For more information contact Creighton Farms' Golf Professional - Mike Vidal at 703-957-4807 or Tom Neel 540-364-4401

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EDITOR’S DESK

IN PRAISE OF LIBRARIES
AND THOSE WHO LOVE THEM
SUPPORT OF VOTER REGISTRATION

On September 19 our friends at the Loudoun Times Mirror spoke out against a decision by the office of Loudoun County Administrator Tim Hemstreet to “decline requests to allow voter registration drives at county libraries.”

The LTM pointedly dismissed the reasons cited for the decision: concerns about non-partisanship, anxiety over the collection of “private” information, and worries about objections from the U.S. Department of Justice

“Declining assistance and the use of public property for voter registration,” the editorial concluded, “arguably one of the most important functions of government – the county runs the risk of finding itself made irrelevant and appearing as if it doesn’t want to see voters on Election Day.”

That very night, at the September meeting of the Loudoun County Public Library Board of Trustees, citizens from all across the political spectrum turned out to

protest the county’s decision.

The Library Board rejected a motion to adopt an American Library Association resolution that pointedly compared some current voter suppression tactics to those of the Jim Crow era.

Instead, without opposition, the Board voted (with one abstention) to assert it’s legal right to control the library facilities under its care, and to continue its decades-long support of non-partisan third-party voter registration.

The decision was a credit to the Board, and stands as yet another example of how liberals and conservative, Republicans, Democrats, and Independents, can debate a controversial issue with grace and mutual respect, and work together for the greater good.

Kudos to all those who came out to express their concerns and to the members of the Library Board of Trustees for an excellent and well-considered decision.

THE MIDDLEBURG LIBRARY EXPANSION

Kudos are also due to the Friends of the Middleburg Public Library, now nearing completion of their drive to raise funds to double the size of our local facility.

Ours is a small community and it serves the needs of the people of at least three counties. Our library, already only half the size it should have been would never have been able to justify on strictly statis-

tical grounds a disproportionate allocation of Loudoun County funding.

The “friends” however, stood up and are very, very close to reaching their fund raising goal.

We urge everyone to help them as much as you can.

Reading . . . and libraries . . . are fundamental.

LETTER

RE: MIDDLEBURG LIBRARY

To Your Readers:

children’s area, study room and computer work stations.

While Loudoun County maintains and operates the library, it will not fund any part of the expansion. Consequently, the Advisory Board is raising the funds to design and build the addition. We have raised over \$612,000 towards a goal of \$775,000. The plans are done (designed by Bill Turnure and Tim Clites, two local architects who have pooled their talents for this project and donated much of their time) and all permits have been issued. The Town of Middleburg has generously waived all fees.

Now we need all of you who have not yet donated to step up and help us finish the fundraising portion of the project. We have received 174 gifts from \$5 to \$18,000 (some of which are pledges over three years, perhaps an easier way to give), with many coming from Fauquier County as well as Loudoun and some from Clarke; the community of support is broad. We need an additional \$163,000 - won’t you help us out? I can think of no institution in our community that serves more people than our library, and it does it at no charge to anyone. Now is the time to provide for the present as well as the future of our library. See our ad and poster for contact information, or go to www.middleburglibraryfriends.org.

You may know that already and may very well be one of the many who come in to borrow the various items, read them there or use one of the computers or wi-fi access. The library gets quite crowded at times since there is only one room to provide for these uses as well as for use by reading groups, book signings and children’s programs. To address the crowding and to enable the library to more effectively provide its services, the Middleburg Library Advisory Board has undertaken the task of doubling the size of the library, adding needed spaces such as a meeting room, teen area,

Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

Michael Morency
Middleburg Library Advisory Board

“THOSE PEOPLE”

BLUE NOTES

DANIEL MORROW

Toward the end of the first century the anonymous author of the Gospel of Matthew wrote in either Hebrew, or Greek, or both, a short parable on one’s duties to the less fortunate.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,

“I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?

“When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?

“When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?”

“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’”

By 1894, a bookseller, poet, novelist, and soon to be Nobel Laureate made the same point, though perhaps a bit more cynically.

“The law, in its majes-

tic equality,” wrote Anatole France, “forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread. That is one of the good effects of the Revolution.”

By the late 1950’s, two world wars and a holocaust later, Paul Ryan’s beloved Ayn Rand was preaching “the virtues of selfishness” though her characters in Atlas Shrugged and other works, providing for those who needed it a philosophical justification for both indifference and contempt.

In the presidential campaign of 2012, and indeed, in polite company, such views, of course, are politically incorrect.

One could mutter them only in private, among those who not only agreed with them, and you, but heartily endorsed such emotions, from the protection of gated communities where “those people” were seen only while working if at all.

“My job is not to worry about those people,” Mitt Romney recently told one such group.

“I’ll never convince them that they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives.”

He’s right.
It wasn’t his job.
It isn’t his job.

And it shouldn’t be his job.

America who were trying to rid those countries of opposition groups to the oligarchs.

When asked about the Todd Akin statement about “legitimate rape” he said he would not have used those words but failed to denounce him for the actual content of his words.

His recently released additional tax returns that show he paid around 14% (far below many working folks) but if he had taken all the chari-

table deductions he was entitled to, his percentage would have been around 9%.

When a young man, Romney was in favor of the draft even protesting in support and then when the time came to serve he avoided military service by going to France for his Mormon missionary service and he also received multiple academic deferments.

I almost feel sorry for Romney because I think

SAVING THE PLANET? - TWO VIEWS

PURPLE

BRUCE SMART

With the Conventions over, Purple is studying the Democratic (32 pages) and Republican (54 pages) platforms to understand where each party wants to take the nation. His interests are informed both by his career as an international businessman and as a conservationist - a Board member, officer and/or Senior Fellow of three major national environmental organizations. So Purple turned first to the environmental policies of each party. Here are some highlights.

Democratic Platform extracts: Democrats are committed to protecting our natural resources while creating jobs, preserving habitats and ensuring that future generations can enjoy our nation’s outdoor heritage.... Democrats have made protecting the environment a top priority.

Democrats are committed to Preserving sensitive public lands from oil and gas exploration, like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

We know that global climate change is one of the biggest threats of this generation - an economic, environmental and national security catastrophe in the making. We affirm the science of climate change, commit to significantly reducing the pollution that causes climate change, and know that we have to meet this challenge by driving smart policies that lead to greater growth in clean energy generation and result in a range of economic and social benefits.

We have developed historic fuel efficiency standards that will limit greenhouse gas emissions from our vehicles.....made unprecedented

investments in clean energy, and proposed the first-ever carbon pollution limits for new fossil-fuel-fired power plants.

.... We will continue to support smart, energy efficient manufacturing. Democrats pledge to continue showing international leadership on climate change, working toward an agreement to set emission limits in unison with other emerging powers.

Democrats will continue to work with local communities to conserve our publicly owned lands and dramatically expand investments in conserving and restoring forests, grasslands and wetlands across America. We will ensure that our National Parks are protected while expanding opportunities for Americans to visit and experience these national treasures.

Republican Platform extracts:

Conservation is a conservative value. The Republican Party believes in the moral obligation of the people to be good stewards of the God-given natural beauty and resources of our country. A policy protecting these objectives must balance economic development and property rights in the short run with conservation goals over the long run.

Science allows us to weigh the costs and benefits of a policy this is especially important when the causes and long-range effects of a phenomenon are uncertain. We must restore scientific integrity to our public research institutions and remove political incentives from publicly funded research.

Experience has shown that the worst instances of environmental degradation have occurred under government control. Congress should reconsider whether parts of

the federal government’s enormous land holdings and control of water in the West could be better used for ranching, mining or forestry through private ownership.

The Republican Party supports appointing officials who will properly and correctly apply environmental laws and regulations, always in support of economic development, job creation, and American prosperity and leadership.

We support opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for exploration and production of oil and natural gas.

Since 2009 the EPA has moved forward with expansive regulations that will impose tens of billions of dollars on American business and consumers. We demand an end to the EPA’s participation in “sue and settle” lawsuits, sweetheart litigation brought by environmental groups to expand the agency’s regulatory activities against the wishes of Congress and the public.

We will end the EPA’s war on coal and encourage the increased safe development of the nation’s coal reserves. We oppose any and all cap and trade legislation.

We also call on Congress to take quick action to prohibit the EPA from moving forward with new greenhouse gas regulations that will harm the nation’s economy and threaten millions of jobs over the next quarter century.

So, voters, you have a choice. For his part, Purple wishes Teddy Roosevelt was running.

HYPOCRISY

TOM PRATT

David Corn, a friend and the Washington bureau chief of Mother Jones, was interviewed on Democracy Now the other morning and revealed a very telling and important fact about Mitt Romney.

Mother Jones exposed the now very famous recording of the fundraiser at the mansion of a wealthy friend and large donor to Mitt Rom-

ney where Romney dismisses 47% of Americans as basically parasites who would never vote for him so why bother even trying for their vote. I am sure some (although in shrinking numbers) who still support Romney are angry and perplexed about who would shoot the video of the dinner where the remarks were made. Here is what David had to say about the source of the video.

At events such as the one

described those attending and hosting are mostly wealthy privileged people who seem oblivious to the fact that there are a host of working people also attending, who wait tables, clean up, offer security etc. So it is no wonder that one of those might want to expose that side of politics to the electorate.

I think one of the fundamental problems with Romney is that he truly has never experienced real life. He was

brought up in a wealthy family and has always surrounded himself with like minded also wealthy people. I would venture a guess that he has few if any Black, Hispanic , gay or poor friends, so his comments about the 47% would feel natural to him and his audience and also reflect his inability to relate to the real world.

Not a great attribute for the presidency.

When he was at Bain

Capital he wanted to branch out with a bigger venture capital business. Mr. Bain, the founder, told him he would have to find outside funding as he did not want to expose Bain to a financial risk of that sort. So Mr. Romney trundled down to Florida and found a group of very wealthy ex patriots from Latin America who were eager to invest with him. Mr. Romney ignored the fact that many were involved with death squads in Central

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THE BLACKBURN MURDER

DANIEL MORROW

Lexington, January 15, 1854
Christian

It was just beginning to get dark when Christian left his law school friends at the Compton house. J. W. Woolfolk had asked him to stay for supper, but Christian declined, returning instead, one last time, to his room at McDowell's Hotel before he left for church and his long-dreaded confrontation with Cadet Tom Blackburn.

Glancing into McDowell's bar on his way up to his room Christian spotted Cadets Langhorne and Cousins. They were still where he left them about an hour or so earlier, still killing time, still waiting for their dates.

Christian asked them both up to his room, where they talked until the first of the church bells rang for evening services.

Langhorne and Cousins rushed out to collect their ladies.

"About 15 minutes before the second bell rang for church," Christian went to B. D. Chenowith's room. There he was joined by William R. Winn whose Bowie knife he had "borrowed" earlier. The knifed was now tucked safely under his coat.

After telling Chenowith and Winn he was "going over to the church" and "thought he would probably see Blackburn" Christian all but begged them to go with him "in the event of a difficulty."

Both declined, telling Christian they "thought the occasion unsuitable to say anything to Blackburn."

Chenowith later swore that he made himself perfectly clear, telling Christian "positively" that he "would not go with him "to confront Black-

burn on a Sunday, at church."

Winn concurred, telling Christian that, "... it would prejudice him in the eyes of the community to say anything to Blackburn at church."

What's more, Winn warned, Blackburn "might be with a lady" and if that were the case, Christian shouldn't even think of confronting him.

Christian complained that unless he acted immediately he might not be able to see Blackburn for another week, during which time the VMI Cadet would most certainly further tarnish his reputation.

Chenowith pooh-poohed the notion, telling Christian he could see easily find Blackburn on Monday at the Institute.

Christian observed that if he did THAT he would also have 150 cadets on top of him.

On the other hand, If he met Blackburn at church, he might have to face thirty or so, and he'd have his own friends around to protect him.

Whatever the case, none of Christian's friends appeared ready to stand with, around, or anywhere near Charles Burks Christian on this particular Sunday.

Reacting, no doubt, to the distinct chill suddenly permeating Chenowith's room, Christian stood close to the fireplace and, speaking to no one in particular, muttered something about going.

Winn, perhaps feeling guilty, suggested Christian go upstairs and try once more to talk Bill Morris or some of the other law students into going with him.

Whatever decision they reached, Winn said, he would support him, though he still preferred going to

see Blackburn any day but a Sunday.

At that point Christian apparently left the room, apparently without saying another word.

Winn told Chenowith he hoped and believed that, at the very least, he'd talked Christian out of a Sunday confrontation.

Christian, however, had made up his mind.

Rather than trying to convince Morris to help, he turned to his friend and classmate, A. G. Strayer.

According to Strayer, Christian was still trying, explaining his plan to confront Blackburn and demand an "explanation", when the last bells at First Church began to ring.

Christian said no more, jumped up, told Strayer "he must go" and left for church.

Blackburn

For Cadet Thomas Blackburn most of Sunday passed quietly. He rose early and, unusually for him, attended morning services at the Presbyterian Church.

If he had noticed Charles Christian, sitting across from him in the balcony, he apparently didn't mention it to anyone.

After morning services he went straight back to the barracks, apparently without incident.

James White Humes, who described himself as an "extremely intimate" friend of Blackburn, ran into him in the VMI mess hall.

Humes later swore Blackburn did not say a word about Christian and, in his view, had "no thought that Christian might attack him."

He also swore that when Blackburn left for church later that evening



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he was "without question, unarmed."

Cadet John Sharp saw Blackburn about an hour before everyone left for church..

Sharp said he warned Blackburn to "look out for Christian" and note, much to Blackburn's that he had "observed" Christian at church" that very morning.

Christian's notorious mustache, he said, was "clean shaven" and he had caught him "looking daggers" at Blackburn across the sanctuary.

Blackburn reportedly "hooted" at Sharp's warning, telling him that Christian was "a d___d coward and would not fight."

That said, the talk in the mess hall appears to have turned to women, with Blackburn teasing Richard Taylor for trying to alienate the affections of Miss Julia Lewis, Sharp's latest heart-throb.

After everyone had good Blackburn left the mess hall for the barracks, to change clothes before going into Lexington. He was meet-

ing his own Julia that evening, Miss Julia Junkin, at the President Junkin's house on the nearby Washington College campus.

Blackburn changed quickly and found himself with twenty minutes or so to kill before he had to leave for the Junkin House.

He went to the room shared by Cadet Sandy Bruce and G. B. Horner to wait.

Both were still getting dressed and Blackburn talked and joked with the two as if nothing unusual were afoot.

Bruce later swore the "affair" with Christian wasn't even mentioned.

When it was, at last, time to go Blackburn left Bruce and Horner to fend for themselves, and set off for church alone, wearing his cadet overcoat and under it the distinctive blue furlough coat only VMI First Classmen were allowed to wear.

From the barracks he headed straight across the parade ground, past the Moore house, to the Junkin's.

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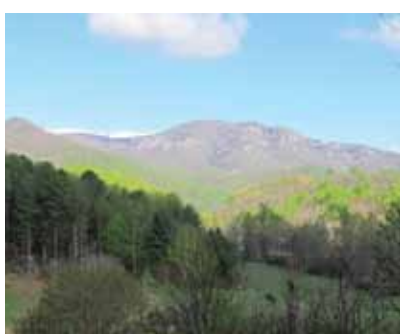


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Views from every window in this well maintained, custom-built home. Over 6,800SF of living space on 39 acres in Blue Ridge. \$1,149,000

Carol Fochtman

540-272-4334

Rick Lowe

703-509-3962



TALLWOODS DELAPLANE, VIRGINIA

Enchanting home/weekend retreat, 3BR, 3.5BA. Architecturally designed, quality constructed, traditional stucco residence filled with natural light throughout. \$995,000

Jud Glascock

540-687-2226



PURCELLVILLE, VIRGINIA

Wonderful combination in this great home. Charm only an older home can offer with the modern upgrades that make life easier. 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. \$699,000

Kevin Keane

540-687-2221



UPPERVILLE, VIRGINIA

54 wooded acres and total of 7 parcels with small cottage in need of restoration on Paris Mt. Frontage on Rt. 50. Lovely views of Crooked Run Valley. \$590,000

Carole Miller

540-729-7896



THE BERRYVILLE MILL, BERRYVILLE, VA

Historic Berryville Mill, built in 1902. Unique iconic building in the middle of town. Incredible architectural features. \$589,000

Kevin Keane

540-687-2221

Carole Miller

540-729-7896



NEW MOUNTAIN, ALDIE, VIRGINIA

Pristine colonial built in 2006 in private setting convenient for commuting and access to shopping and dining. 4BR, 2.5BA, 3,400SF. \$558,000

Kathryn Harrell

540-687-2215

Gloria Armfield

540-687-2223

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