



WARRENTON PONY SHOW

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BELLISSIMO FAMILY ACQUIRES THE CHRONICLE OF THE HORSE

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A SAFER PENDLETON STREET

DANIEL MORROW

At its July regular meeting, Town Council approved changes to the number and distribution of parking spaces on Pendleton Street.

Council acted, it said, in response to "concerns raised by town residents regarding vehicular conflicts in the narrow portion of N. Pendleton between the Safeway entrance and the Upper Crust Bakery."

Despite strenuous objections from the Stine family, owners of the Upper Crust, Council directed "that the two short-term stopping spaces along the bakery frontage be relocated to safer places within the same block."

According to Council, "One new short-term parking space will be created just south of the old stopping area" in front of the bakery, "where the Town Police and the Town's traffic engineer have found a space can be safely located."

Two new "short-term spaces will be created on the east side of N. Pendleton Street by removing two of the existing metered spaces adjacent to the Safeway."

According to Police Chief A. J. Panebianco, the Middleburg Police Department will gradually "phase in the enforcement of no parking along the bakery frontage" and do its best to "assist the community in adapting to the new parking plan."

During Council's late June work session Town Administrator Martha Semmes reported that "she had kept the Stines apprised of the situation," had "let them know the Town was doing tests" to determine how best to improve the safety of the intersection, and had provided the family "with copies of the staff reports." Despite those efforts, she reported, the family was still concerned about the impact of changes on their business.

After lengthy discussion and analysis of current traffic patterns on Pendleton Street, Council remains convinced, according to a press release, that its new plan offers "a fair solution to an existing traffic and pedestrian safety issue that will increase safety for all while respecting a long-standing business."

Officer Mark Putnam

Middleburg Police Chief A. J. Panebianco administered his department's Honor Oath to the newest member of the Middleburg Police force, Officer Mark Putnam, at Town Council's regular monthly meeting on July 11. Putnam's wife and son both participated in the ceremonies instituted by Panebianco as an outward and visible sign of each officer's commitment to the highest ethical standards of law enforcement.

Putnam had been officially sworn in by the Clerk of the Loudoun County Circuit Court on July 2, 2013. He found himself in serious action only a day later.

On his first full day on the job, Putnam and Officer Heather Fadely responded



to an emergency call to a house in the 600 block of West Washington Street. There they found the seriously wounded victim of a gunshot wound. Both officers performed their duties admirably, according to Chief Panebianco, as the victim was helicoptered out and the County Sheriff's Department began its forensic investigation. The shooting victim later died of her wounds.

Less than twenty-four hours later Lieutenant Mike Prince and Chief Panebianco responded to the same address to find the victim's husband dead of what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

At press time the County Sheriff's investigation of the double tragedy was still in progress.

Library Grand Re-opening

Dennis Cotter, President of the Friends of the Middleburg Public Library reported to Council that the new library, double the size of the old, and built with funds raised privately by the Friends and their supporters, would hold its "Grand Opening Ceremony" in September, on the Saturday after Labor Day.

The library will be closed for roughly three weeks before the Grand Opening while staff and friends essentially move the old library into the new addition, completely refurbish the old building, and then re-arrange.

Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of the library staff, its friends, supporters and patron, those three weeks will mark the only time the library has closed during the entire construction process.

Marvin Simms Honored

Middleburg has honored Marvin Simms Maintenance supervisor for his ten years of service with the Town at a luncheon held at Town Hall. Mayor Betsy Davis presented Simms with both an official certificate of recognition from the Town of Middleburg and a check.

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JOY THOMPSON \$1,050,000
540.729.3428
L08120096



JOHN S MOSBY HWY LAND - Clarke County Land - 90 acres with 3 DUR's convenient to John Mosby Highway just outside of Millwood, Virginia. Beautiful land in view of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Great agricultural or residential potential.
PETER PEJACSEVICH \$990,000 • CL8028260
540.270.3835
ANNE MCINTOSH
703.509.4499



6326 JOHN S MOSBY HWY - Maplestone is a wondrous blend of old country warmth and modern industrial architectural details. A traditional stone and stucco manor, surrounded by authentic stone walls, and gardens featuring expansive patios, walkways and stone work, this house lacks no attention to creative detail or high end finish. A must see!
PETER PEJACSEVICH \$750,000 • FQ8034727
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540.454.1399



PHILOMONT AREA - 3+ acres with Beautiful Country VIEWS!!! 4-6 Bedrooms, 2.5baths. Unique floor plan provides room for everyone. Detached 2 story building would make great home office or studio. Covered front Porch. Deck. 2 car garage. Centrally located between Middleburg and Purcellville.
MARCY CANTATORE \$537,000
540.533.87453
L08134301



19419 ERENEZER CHURCH RD, ROUND HILL - Perfect horse property in Piedmont Hunt Territory located down a scenic country road. Charming French Country home with 3 bedrooms and 3.5 baths, 25 a/c, gated entrance, circ. driveway, quality horse facilities, and generator. Surrounded by large farms in easement. Endless ride-out, mtn. views.
\$1,570,000 • L08110099



MOSBY'S WAY, UPPERVILLE, VA - Not just a home, this property has potential for many agricultural uses and home based businesses, with high visibility. Antiques, B&B, small vineyard, organic gardening. Animal friendly, with horse paddock with run-in shed. C. 1820, 7.5 acres. Must see!!
\$835,000 • FQ8110815



351 WINDWOOD LN, PARIS, VA 20130 - Quality built log home in great private wooded setting. Beautiful oak hardwood floors in living, dining and kitchen areas. Second kitchen, bedroom and den/office in fully finished basement. Serene serpentine driveway through mature hardwoods leading to tranquil home site, 9 foot ceilings with natural blond pine solid wood beams on main level. Master bedroom with en-suite whirlpool bath.
ROCKY WESTFALL \$537,000
540.219.2633
CL8090484
\$574,500



LAND ON BEAR'S DEN RD, MARSHALL, VA - This raw land sits in a great location between Orlean and Warrenton in Old Dominion Hunt Territory, approximately .6 miles off Leeds Manor on Bears Den Road. Land has 2 tax ID's, 6934-96-4675-000 (56.39 acres +/-) and 6934-86-6296-000 (1 +/- acres). Development potential.
\$850,000 • FQ8113916



LEEDS MANOR RD, MARSHALL, VA!! Old Dominion Hunt Territory. Don't wait to walk this property to see the value, potential, and views!! 29+ acres off scenic by-way between Orleans and Warrenton. Wooded, rolling w/ stream and springs. Great estate/horse property.
\$350,000 • FQ7762381

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NEWS OF NOTE

GREENHILL WINERY & VINEYARDS ESTABLISHED ON SWEDENBERG ESTATE

David Greenhill, the Yale educated entrepreneur, had been hoping to purchase a Virginia vineyard for many years, and as soon as he walked the Swedenberg property in Middleburg, he knew he had found the perfect place.

All he needed was a knowledgeable, confident and committed winemaker and estate manager, whom he found in Sébastien Marquet and Isabelle Truchon.

Today, everything is 'full steam ahead' at what is now Greenhill Winery & Vineyards under the expert direction of the Burgundy Style Consulting duo, Marquet and his wife, Truchon, wine consultants whose business is highly regarded across the country. Both Isabelle and Sébastien have committed their experience, expertise and enthusiasm to help Greenhill create the most delicious and authentic Virginia wines on the market.

Sébastien, who hails from a Burgundian family of winemakers has been making wine since he began on his grandfather's estate when he was four years old.

"By my 12th year, I had made a personal decision to become a winemaker. At the age of 13, I was sent to the Lycée Viticole et Oenologie de Beaune in Burgundy.

"It was within the walls of this boarding school that I successfully obtained my knowledge and diplomas. It was during this time of study and hands-on experience that

my love and appreciation for the earth, and its gifts were established."

From 1989 to 1992, he created wines from prestigious villages in Burgundy such as Pommard, Volnay, Beaune, Meursault and Monthelie.

"This Pinot Noir and Chardonnay experience brought me a rich and complete understanding of these fabulous grape varieties."

For the next three years, he managed and produced wine in the Languedoc-Roussillon region in Southern France where he expanded his Burgundy techniques to the Bordeaux and Cote du Rhones varieties where different weather conditions required broader knowledge.

By blending his knowledge base, learning various techniques and honing his instinctual savoir faire, Sébastien won many awards during this period.

Feeling adventuresome, he launched the first Caribbean vineyard in 1996. In order to launch the first Caribbean wine and table grapes after learning to deal with the technical and scientific challenges of such humid weather conditions.

In 2003, Sébastien's friend, Canadian Professor Dr. D'Arcy Doman, opened a door for him to an important California experience.

"Through D'Arcy I became employed in many wineries in Sonoma and Napa Valley. The dynamic industry revolving around the wine world in California opened my eyes to the exceptional possibilities

that was available to the industry there."

He also learned that a highly diversified palette existed in different parts of the world, and he began to tailor his wines accordingly.

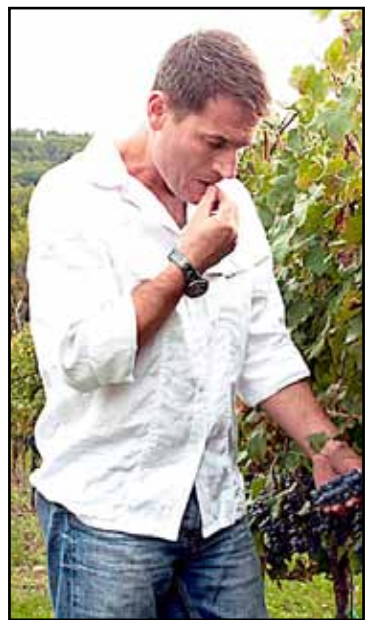
Now, after six harvests as general manager/winemaker of Doukénie Winery in Loudoun County, Sébastien looks forward to continue putting his global knowledge to work at Greenhill Winery & Vineyards.

"It takes a deep understanding of the challenges presented in the East Coast to create world class wine in Virginia. I believe I have proven that I can produce world class wine anywhere, and I intend to produce vintages at Greenhill that are of consistent high quality, vintage after vintage."

Sébastien intends to launch Greenhill with Sparkling Blanc de Blanc from Chardonnay grapes, a Red Bordeaux blend made of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc grapes, a Vidal Blanc and a Syrah.

David Greenhill was charmed by Virginia wine country while driving through the Northern Virginia countryside a decade ago. When Swedenberg came to market, he knew he had found the location and property that would help him build his dream.

Isabelle Truchon, grew up in Montreal, but has lived in the United States for 25 years. She and Sébastien met in Sonoma California,



where they both lived and worked.

We want our guests to have an authentic Virginia Wine Country experience," she explained. "And we plan to plant vines all the way to Route 50. We need more vines, and we want passers by to see immediately what is happening here."

With a soft opening scheduled for early August, and their grand opening scheduled for August 31, there is a lot to do to bring the property up to the level planned, and the renovations are 'all systems go' everywhere one looks.

The public Tasting Room is under total renovation with the signs of an elegant, European environment already much in evidence.

Every inch of the Revolutionary War manor house is being re-modeled with plans to establish a Greenhill Wine Club for 1,000 or so lucky members. In addition to silver leaf gilded walls, and a mas-

Continued Page 7

PROPERTIES IN HUNT COUNTRY

11 S. MADISON STREET



Commercial C2 Zoning in Middleburg, VA. Central Business District. Prime location. Detached, three level, mixed use. Retail with large display windows on main level, vacant. 3 one bedroom apartments on upper level, fully leased. English basement-lower level leased as workshop. Approx. 8000 Sq. Ft. Stone building, with 4 parking spaces.
\$1,275,000
Rebecca Poston (540) 771-7520

MOUNTAIN VISTA FARM



Outstanding horse facility: Includes 3 bedroom modular home with separate walk out level apartment; fabulous 8 stall center aisle stable with 16X12 stalls & "club room/studio apt"; dressage arena, automatic watering system; covered round pen (60' diameter); second barn with 5 stalls, inside wash stalls/tack room/sand area; 8 paddocks; run-in sheds. Tenant house & 3 car garage on 25 acres!
\$1,275,000
Susie Ashcom (540) 229-3201

SHEN. RIVER FARM



Turn-key horse farm. Dressage, show jumping & cross country can be taught here on 18 acres and only minutes from the I-81 & I-66 merger. Currently leasing additional 15 acres for grazing for \$1/year. Dressage arena, 220x100, Riding arena, 100x250 and indoor 50x76. Brick Colonial completely updated & modernized) sits majestically on a knoll in a curve of the Shenandoah River.
\$850,000
Susie Ashcom (540) 229-3201

MIDDLEBURG LAND



Rare opportunity to own 7.0455 acres, recorded in 2 parcels, on Western edge of historic village of Middleburg. Partially within Middleburg Town Limits & partially within Loudoun County affording flexibility of zoning & uses. The Western most parcel has approved 4 bedroom drained field. Must walk with Agent to truly appreciate value and beauty of this land.
\$795,000
Cricket Bedford (540) 229-3201

PARKER STREET



Ca. 1919 re-modeled & renovated cottage in Upperville. This 3 BR, 2.5 BA home features separate Dining Room, Family Room, Living Room with fireplace. Spacious Master Bedroom Suite on main level with huge walk-in closet & Luxury Bath. Private setting on 1.32 acres with sweeping lawns, mature plantings & bordered by a small stream. Patio off the back. 1-car. Garage. Walking distance to PO, restaurants, churches & shops.
\$685,000
Cricket Bedford (540) 229-3201

100 W MARSHALL STREET



Middleburg **Commercial** • Ideally located at the guest entrance of Salamander Resort and Spa opening in August 2013 • 2 parcels, totaling 12,800 square feet with town approval for C-1 zoning (Offices or Retail) • Ample space for expansion of existing dwelling or build new with room for onsite parking • Situated in the center of town for high visibility • Excellent investment opportunity.
\$649,000
Cathy Bernache (540) 424-7066

WILDWOOD LANE



Immaculate 4 BR, 4 BA home on 2+ acs, just West of Middleburg. Fully renovated by prof. designer. Updates include roof, 2 Master Suites, Luxury Mstr Bath+3 renovated BAs, walk-in closet, 2 fireplaces, Formal LR & DR, Chef's Kitchen w/ granite, stainless appliances, island, ceramic & hardwood floors throughout, sun-porch, office, spacious rear deck, private fenced back yard, gardens, shed & garage.
\$576,000
Cricket Bedford (540) 229-3201

FOX HILL FARM



Contemporary home in excellent condition on almost 10 acres in Augusta County, minutes from downtown Staunton. Equine facilities include five stall barn, tractor and hay bay, 3 paddocks, 2 run-ins, ring with jumps. Dressage Ring. Great Room has cathedral ceiling, loft; 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, nicely finished basement. Hardy Plank exterior, large deck facing western mountain.
\$515,000
Susie Ashcom (540) 229-3201

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NEWS OF NOTE

INSPIRED BY THE PIEDMONT COUNTRYSIDE

NEEL CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF FINE ART

LINDA ROBERTS

“I allowed art the time to come forward in my life,” said landscape artist Tom Neel, who is celebrating a quarter of a century as an artist in the Piedmont by mounting a show of his newest work, a book signing, and short documentary film about his art on Sept. 28 in Middleburg.

The celebration of Neel’s artful life, “The Land Beneath My Feet,” will be held in The Hill School’s Sheila C. Johnson’s Performing Arts Center. Open to the public from 6 to 8:30 p.m., Neel’s solo-artist show represents his personal tribute to the Piedmont countryside that enveloped him 25 years ago.

With a flair for the creative early in life, Neel embraced photography, writing, music, and art, mingling that with a passion for cars and motorcycles. In his early 30’s, Neel turned his attention to his creative talents as an artist, crafting this avenue as his full-time profession. In reflection, Neel attributes the business skills he learned early on in management positions to his success as an artist. With the keen insight of experience and trial and error, Neel states matter-of-factly that survival as a professional artist is dependent on a sense for how

business operates.

Active in the community, Neel is a board member of the Loudoun Education Foundation and the lead judge for an annual student art competition in Loudoun County. He has reviewed thousands of pieces of student artwork and learned a great deal about these young artists while encouraging their emerging talent. He is eager to talk with students and their parents, and often shares a bit of his own wisdom that includes, “My advice is to stop worrying about art classes and start worrying about business classes.”

Neel’s overriding passion for the Piedmont landscape that surrounds his home near Marshall is reflected in much of his artwork, in which he uses oil as his medium. He notes that about 40 percent of his work is commissioned pieces, which in addition to landscapes has also featured subjects such as aircraft, including the F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter jet, and scenic golf courses. Neel’s corporate clients include Sheila Johnson for whom he is creating a mural at Salamander Resort; Creighton Farms, where he is artist-in-residence; Lockheed Martin; The Inn at Little Washington; and Winchester Medical Center, among others.

Along with his wife,

Linda, a talented textile artist, the Neels opened their own gallery, Live An Artful Life Gallery®, in The Plains almost five years ago. With Neel’s business savvy at work, the couple took a calculated risk in a troubled economy. Their successful gallery features a diverse array of artwork, including paintings and American-made crafts such as glassware, pottery, woodwork, jewelry, and recycled art. Live An Artful Life Gallery® hosts special exhibits and theme shows, such as a recent show and sale of miniature works by local artists, and draws savvy clients to the tiny village of The Plains.

“Painters are record keepers,” said Neel, who added that he is privileged that his landscapes inspired by the land he loves are now mounted in private collections across quite a few countries. “People come here to visit and fall in love with our countryside’s beauty. I’m honored when they choose my paintings as a way to take a little piece of the Piedmont home with them,” he said.

To learn more about Tom Neel’s artwork attend “The Land Beneath My Feet” on Saturday, Sept. 28 at The Hill School, Middleburg, or visit www.thomasneel.com and www.liveanartfullife.com.



BROWNING HERBERT TO BE TREASURER OF SEVEN LOAVES

Seven Loaves Services, Inc. the Middleburg-based food pantry, recently announced that Browning Herbert has been elected to the Board of Seven Loaves and appointed its Treasurer, effective July 1. Herbert succeeds

D. Michael Riley who has served as Seven Loaves’ Treasurer virtually since its inception in 1994.

Herbert is Vice President and Commercial Relationship Manager at Middleburg Bank, based in the Middleburg Branch. He has worked at the bank in that capacity since 2012, and previously worked at Main Street Bank in Fairfax, and at Middleburg Bank in other capacities, since his graduation from Elon University.

“We are so pleased to have Browning join us,” said Melanie C. Maloney, President of Seven Loaves. “He brings enthusiasm and passion for our mission, as well as new insights into our work,” she added.

“It is bittersweet too,” Maloney said, “because we also acknowledge the departure of Mike Riley, who has served us so wonderfully for nearly 20 years. He has been a pillar of the pantry, and is responsible for the great distance we have travelled since our earliest days. Our volunteers will miss him,” she added.

“I am extremely excited to be working with an organization that gives as much to the community as Seven Loaves does,” said Herbert. “I am fortunate to be inheriting the treasurer position from someone who has put so much time into the organization, and has set me up for a very successful transition,” he added. “I look forward to working with the great volunteers of Seven Loaves and giving back to the community in which I work,” he concluded.

Seven Loaves is located in the rear basement of the Middleburg United Methodist Church, and is open to provide nutritious food, personal supplies and other assistance to those in need on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to Noon. Additional information is available on their website, www.sevenloavesmiddleburg.org or by calling (540) 687-3489.

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NEWS OF NOTE

WEEKEND WITH THE WARRIORS BENEFIT

The Tschetter Lucas Foundation (TLF), founded by Ladies' Professional Golf Association (LPGA) player Kris Tschetter and golf coach Kirk Lucas, will be hosting a Weekend with the Warriors benefit at the couple's private golf facility in Warrenton this September 8 and 9.

The TLF supports a variety of charitable causes, from anti-bullying programs to organizations that serve wounded war veterans. The majority of the funds for this particu-

lar event will benefit the Salute Military Golf Association (SMGA), a nonprofit corporation that provides rehabilitative golf experiences for post-9/11 wounded war veterans.

"When we learned about SMGA and the powerful benefits of golf for wounded soldiers, we wanted to be involved," said Tschetter. "Our foundation will host a unique event to raise money and to honor these deserving wounded heroes."

Tschetter and Lucas will host the fundraiser on their 75-

acre golf training facility, located in rural Warrenton. The event will feature golf school and tournaments with celebrities, soldiers, and corporate sponsors, cookouts, games, and live music featuring artists such as Amy Grant and Steve Azar.

Individuals and corporate sponsors can go to Tschetter-LucasFoundation.org to review the schedule of events and purchase tickets and/or sponsorship packages.

MIDDLEBURG'S DELTA FARM SALE FINAL

PROPERTY TO REMAIN HOME TO MEADOWKIRK

Meadowkirk, Inc., the organization established in 2008 by the more than 100 churches that make up the National Capital Presbytery (NCP) to operate a Middleburg inn and retreat facility, announced today that it has entered into a long-term lease agreement with the new Delta Farm land owner allowing it to continue its retreat, conference and camping ministry in Loudoun County.

Specifics of the sale were not disclosed, but NCP representative and Senior Pastor of Fairfax Presbyterian Church

Henry G. Brinton, says that the relationship between the non-for-profit Meadowkirk and the new landlord are positive.

"NCP, its member churches and all who know and appreciate this special place look forward to a very bright future for Meadowkirk," Brinton explained. "We believe that the greater Washington, D.C. area will be greatly blessed by the beauty and respite offered at this 'one-of-a-kind' destination," he added.

Paul MacMahon of Sheridan-MacMahon both listed and sold the 358-acre property, located at 38012 Delta Farm

Lane. Located five miles from the village of Middleburg, Delta Farm is steeped in history and is home to circa 1905 manor house, a hotel-type Inn, large meeting spaces, a state-of-the-art swimming pool, cottages, open air pavilions, an Observatory and much more.

Dedicated to sanctuary, fellowship, retreat and stewardship of God's creation, the non-denominational Meadowkirk was threatened by the land sale. However, due to the advantageous lease resulting from the sale, Meadowkirk can remain at Delta Farms for years to come.

LOCAL RESIDENT HONORED BY THE CREW OF THE US NAVY'S MOST HIGHLY DECORATED WARSHIP

Local area resident Dr. Anthony Wells was uniquely honored in May 2013 by the crew of the US Navy's most decorated warship, the USS LIBERTY, the spy ship that was attacked on June 8, 1967 during the Arab-Israeli War. Liberty's commanding officer was awarded the Medal of Honor, and her crew received two Navy Crosses, several Silver Stars and 205 Purple hearts. Of her crew 34 were killed and 171 wounded. Tony Wells was made an Honorary Crewman at a special ceremony in Savannah, Georgia at the annual gathering of the USS Liberty Veterans Association and the US Navy Cryptologic Veterans Association. His Plaque reads: "The Membership of the USS Liberty Veterans Association (LVA) hereby grants Doctor Anthony Wells all rights and privileges as honorary crewman for unselfish and exemplary actions in the pursuit of exposing the true story of the June 8, 1967 Israeli deliberate attack on the USS LIBERTY. Presented by: The LVA board of directors on May 26, 2013"

In the mid 1970s Dr. Wells was appointed the lead intelligence operations specialist to examine various Soviet Union activities relating to the 1967 June War at an all source highly classified level.

This and subsequent work, including unclassified reports that were released by the US government, led to him being invited to join the Board of Directors of the USS Liberty Alliance, a distinguished body that was chaired by the late Admiral Thomas Moorer, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Chief of Naval Operations, Marine Corps General Ray Davis, who won the Medal of Honor at the Chosin Reservoir in Korea, Ambassador James Akins, former US Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Rear Admiral Merlin Staring, former Judge Advocate General of the US Navy (he investigated the attack originally at the direction of Admiral John McCain, Commander-in-Chief US Navy Europe in 1967, and father of Senator John McCain), Rear Admiral Clarence Hill, former commanding officer of the carrier USS INDEPENDENCE, and several other distinguished luminaries. Wells' membership of this Board over several decades, and his services to the Liberty's cause via several extensive pieces of research and intelligence activities led to his unique recognition by the USS Liberty crew.

Several surviving members of the crew attended the presentation, including retired Commander David Lewis, the senior Navy cryptologist on board Liberty at the time of the attack, leading the joint US Navy-National Security Agency team, and who was severely injured during the attack, working in one of the special spaces when an Israeli torpedo exploded in his space, killing all there, except him. In an interview Wells said that he was overwhelmed to have been honored in this way. He mentioned that with Thomas Schaaf, a retired distinguished US Naval Aviator and Liberty Alliance Board member, he had led the development of a unique USS Liberty Document Center that contains hitherto unpublished records, including declassified documents such as CIA Report from Tel Aviv. The Document Center will be shortly placed on the worldwide web for the use by scholars, analysts, historians and Middle East specialists. He also said that in the Middle East the past is always prologue – the current situation in Syria and increasing Russian involvement, is reminiscent of the events of 1967. He mentioned that local resident Marilyn Bigalow's brother was killed on board USS LIBERTY, and that a recent book by James Scott, whose father survived the attack, entitled: The Attack on the Liberty – The Untold Story of Israel's Deadly Assault on a US Spy Ship, is well worth the read. He concluded with a knowing smile that his Tomato Drive-In on The Plains Road is open – please come and pick, weigh and pay – at \$2 a pound they are wonderful. A far cry, he added, from the intense action, courage, and endurance of the events of June 8, 1967.

DESIGNER SHOWHOUSE EVENT BENEFITS BLUE RIDGE HOSPICE

LINDA ROBERTS

Long Green, the historic homestead of the Headley family just northwest of Winchester, has experienced many transformations in its 250-plus year history, but perhaps none quite like the massive facelift occurring at the property this summer. This venerable stone-and-brick home is being readied for a public unveiling in September as the focus of the Winchester Showhouse & Gardens 2013, a unique designer showhouse project benefiting this area's Blue Ridge Hospice and The Little Garden Club of Winchester. Tickets are available at The Fun Shop in Middleburg.

The former owner of Long Green, Glynnell Headley, was well known and liked in the community. She enjoyed her many friends and relished entertaining at Long Green. Most of all Glynnell was passionate about her home, where she and her husband, Boyd, raised their family after purchasing Long Green in the 1950s. To honor her memory and to give back to Blue Ridge Hospice, which cared for her, the Headley family enthusiastically agreed to host a designer showhouse from September 7 – 29 at Long Green. The event will provide opportunity for the creative talents of area interior designers,

such as Nancy West of Noble West Design of Middleburg, and professional landscapers to transform the property.

"We are thrilled that the Headley family has made Long Green available for our benefit event," said event co-chairs, Mary Ann Kaplan and Colleen Zoller. Kaplan, a Board Member of Blue Ridge Hospice and member of The Little Garden Club of Winchester, co-chaired a similar project in Harrisburg, PA.

Professional landscapers and 17 talented interior designers are transforming Long Green's exterior and interior with fresh paint, wall coverings, lighting fixtures, and furniture, which will also be for sale during the Showhouse event. At the same time, professional landscapers are studying the grounds with its natural rock formations and unusual plantings to create beautiful spaces.

"There has been a great response to our call for designers. The interest in transforming Long Green's rooms into spaces reflecting their own creativity and talents is high due to the unique nature of this home," said Zoller. She added that designers submitted project boards for the rooms of their choosing to the Showhouse's design committee while landscapers provided ideas to transform the grounds in keeping

with existing features such as plantings and rock formations. Interest in the project came from designers across Northern Virginia and in the Shenandoah Valley. The designers are now working at Long Green, painting, papering, and adding furniture and accessories to create a new look within its historic walls. Their skilled touches will serve to enhance the original flooring, windows, fireplaces, and doorways, none of which will undergo any substantial changes.

The talented work of local artists, unique gifts and accessories, and plants will be for sale at the Showhouse boutique and a café will serve refreshments. In keeping with the Showhouse Committee's goal to raise as much as possible to benefit the not-for-profit Blue Ridge Hospice and the area beautification projects of The Little Garden Club of Winchester, a series of events during September will be open to the public.

Visiting the Showhouse

The Winchester Showhouse & Gardens 2013 opens September 7 and runs daily through September 29 at historic Long Green just northwest of Winchester on Route 522. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Saturday (until 8 p.m. on Thursday), and noon-



5 p.m. on Sunday. Volunteer docents will provide tours of the house, and boutique shopping for unique and specialty items, including original artwork, will be available. A café will be open during tour hours. Sponsorship opportunities include numerous benefits for area businesses and individuals. Tickets are \$18 per person in advance (available at

The Fun Shop in Middleburg) and \$20 beginning September 1. Group tours are available with tickets at \$15 per person. Tickets may also be purchased at Long Green during the event. Complete details on the Showhouse event and its designers are available by visiting www.winchester-showhouse.com or calling 540-313-9268.

GREENHILL WINERY & VINEYARDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

sive conference room, and a wine tasting sink bar, every detail is being considered closely to meet the needs of what will certainly be a distinguished membership experience.

"The only commitment for membership is that each member purchase a specified amount of wine annually, at a discounted rate," according to Isabelle, "and we offer exclusive benefits and our Clubhouse amenities will be of the highest caliber."

A tour of the clubhouse renovations underscored her statement as the three private Tasting Rooms, dining room, gardens and lakeside patios are taking shape. The views are majestic, the accommodations elegant and serene and the ambience could easily be at the Hotel de la Poste in Beaune.

Soon, David Greenhill will take up residence at Greenhill Winery & Vineyards. Until then, he will supervise the renovations from his Alexandria and Florida residences.

For more information about Greenhill Winery & Vineyards, please telephone 540 687 6968.

For Sébastien's thoughts about the grapes that work best in Virginia, please visit: <http://www.sebastienmarquet.com/> http://www.sebastienmarquet.com/Blog/Entries/2010/6/2_What_grape_work_well_in_Virginia.html.



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NEWS OF NOTE

BELLISSIMO FAMILY ACQUIRES THE CHRONICLE OF THE HORSE

From Business Wire: Mark Bellissimo of Wellington, Fla., today announced the purchase of The Chronicle of the Horse and related media properties in a transaction that closed on July 12, 2013. The Chronicle of the Horse is one of the industry's most respected magazines and was founded in 1937.

"I'm so proud to be part of the long tradition of the Chronicle which is a leader in its industry," said Bellissimo. "I am committed to keeping the organization's core mission of being the most trusted resource for equestrian sport by offering independent journalism and the highest editorial integrity."

The acquisition also includes www.chronofhorse.com, which is the top ranked equestrian

news site and community in the world not focused on racing. In 2012, the website attracted more than 2.95 million unique visitors and presented over 70 million page views. In 2013, unique visits to the site are up over 52 percent from the same period last year. The purchase also includes the Chronicle's massive vintage black and white photo library that has followed most major equestrian sporting events since the late 1930s as well as the digital publication, The Chronicle Connection, winner of a 2012 Eddies award for editorial excellence.

Bellissimo, whose Wellington Equestrian Partners LLC owns and operates the world's largest and longest running equestrian event, the Winter Equestrian Festival (Fla.), as well

as the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, purchased the world-renowned magazine independently and plans to continue the editorial excellence associated with the 76-year-old publication. The company, which had been owned for the last 61 years by the Ohrstrom family of The Plains, Va., will continue to feature up-to-the-minute news and need-to-know stories across the various equestrian disciplines.

Over the next few months the Chronicle will be introducing new products and services that will strengthen the information flow within the industry including an enhanced website and state-of-the-art mobile applications.

Bellissimo added, "Together the magazine and the website are by far the strongest information

distribution channels in the industry to communicate all things equestrian as well as the energy, thrill, and passion for horse sports."

While the Chronicle will continue to be the news hub and community for the industry, Bellissimo also believes it can be instrumental in developing improved spectator interest in horse sports, developing the personalities of the athletes, highlighting the lifestyle, showcasing products and services, promoting training and education, enhancing animal welfare, and developing a network for philanthropy.

He is looking forward to enhancing the Chronicle's position within the sport horse industry and navigating the unique opportunities of this business with his family, alongside the current

staff, who will remain based at the historic roots of the institution in Virginia.

"Mark brings a fresh vision and business acumen, along with knowledge of our sports and a respect for the tradition and integrity of these products," said executive editor Beth Rasin. "I firmly believe that this new partnership will ensure the future of this esteemed publication and resources and will benefit not just the Chronicle but horse sports as well."

For Beth's commentary on the sale, please read here: "New Owner, New Future, Same Product."

The Chronicle of the Horse is the number one globally ranked non-racing equestrian website in the world.

ROARING '20s DINNER AND SPEAKEASY AT OATLANDS

On Saturday, August 31 Oatlands will host a celebration worthy of Gatsby himself! Held in conjunction with the Epicure Virginia Wine and Food Festival, this unique event will feature a rare chance to enjoy an exclusive dinner on the back lawn

of Oatlands, or a 1920s inspired cocktail party with live music on the mansion lawn.

This unforgettable evening will feature signature cocktails by Catocin Creek Distillery, wine from Willowcroft Farm Vineyards, live jazz from Doc Scantlin's Palmettos, period

dance instruction, a vintage car display, mansion tours, an Epicure etched keepsake glass and much more! Event attendees are encouraged to wear 1920s inspired attire.

Speakeasy tickets are \$85 and dinner tickets, which include admission to the Speakeasy are

\$300 per person and \$1,000 per table of ten. Please call 703-777-3174 ext. 113 for additional information or visit www.oatlands.org/roaring20s/ to purchase tickets.

Dinner begins 6 p.m. and the speakeasy begins at 7:30 p.m., August 31st at Oatlands Historic House and Gardens,

20850 Oatlands Plantation Lane, Leesburg, Virginia 20175.

Oatlands is a 360-acre self-supporting National Trust Historic Site located six miles south of Leesburg on US Route 15. For additional information call 703-777-3174 or visit the web at <http://www.oatlands.org/roaring20s/>

MT. ZION HISTORIC PARK OPEN FOR TOURS

The 1851 Mt. Zion Baptist Church, sitting alongside Rt. 50 east of Gilbert's Corner, will open its doors to the public for guided tours on Sunday, July 28 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Site manager Tracy J. Gillespie, staff member of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, believes the church's intriguing history as a hospital

and temporary prison during the Civil War will be of interest to all, especially during the current sesquicentennial commemorations of the war.

"Many cars pass by Mt. Zion every day," says Gillespie, "and most drivers glance at the old brick church and wonder about its history. Now is their chance to find out just what went on here."

Used as a place of wor-

ship by members of the Old School Baptists from 1851 until 1980, Mt. Zion Church and its adjoining cemetery not only witnessed fighting during the Civil War, but also served in the aftermath of battle as a hospital for the wounded and a final resting place for some who fought in the war.

"It's especially fitting to focus on the Civil War heritage of the site now, 150 years after the

war", stated Gillespie. "More than ever, we need to bring alive the stories of the men who fought in the war, the women whose lives were impacted by it, and the enslaved African Americans, whose futures were forever changed. This one site contributes greatly to all of those stories."

Visitors to Mt. Zion during Sunday openings will hear of local resident Eliza Davis, who

tended to wounded soldiers in her front yard nearby, and of African Americans buried in the cemetery.

Volunteers will be on hand to lead personalized tours of the church and cemetery, and one living history participant will portray a Union army doctor. A highlight during the tours is a look at preserved signatures written on the walls of the church by wounded soldiers hospitalized there in 1863.

Mt. Zion is included on the Northern Virginia Civil War Graffiti Trail.

Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. Mt. Zion Historic Park is located at 40309 John Mosby Highway Aldie, VA 20105. For more information about this event please visit http://www.nvrpa.org/park/mt_zion.



Tuesday August 6, 2013

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NEWS OF NOTE

A SAFER PENDLETON STREET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Farmer's Market Thriving

Hannah Scheps, Assistant Marketing Manager for the Middleburg Farmers Market, appeared before Council on June 27 to report that "all was well at the market, with lots of people attending."

Ken Matich, of the Farmers Market Committee, agreed, noting that while the market had fewer vendors, "they were enjoying the same level of shoppers."

The Middleburg Community Farmer's Market 2013 "season" began the first Saturday in May and is scheduled to run through the last Saturday in October. The market operates on Saturdays between 8:00 a.m. and 12 noon in the parking lot off Stonewall Avenue behind the Middleburg Community Center, 300 West Washington Street.

Middleburg Elementary

Jill Turgeon, Blue Ridge District Representative for the Loudoun County School Board, appeared before Town Council at its June work session to update them on progress toward saving Middleburg Elementary School.

Efforts to determine whether or not to seek charter school status continue.

According to Turgeon a major issue remains the \$2.7 million per year the School Board has been advised it could save by closing five of the county's smallest schools, including Middleburg Elementary.

Turgeon believes the Board could find \$2.7 million in savings elsewhere.

When Councilmember Kevin Hazard asked about the School Board's total budget, Turgeon estimated that it stood at around \$900 million per annum. Hazard observed that closing all five schools would amount to less than one percent of the budget.

Leaky Pipes and High Water Bills

After several months of discussion, on July 11 Town Council adopted a series of key amendments to the Town Code related to "testing of water meters" and "user charges pertaining to high water bills."

The changes are designed "to offer some relief to customers who experience a high water bill due to a leak or extraordinary water usage under certain conditions."

One change provides for free testing of water meters "by the Town's designated agent upon complaint of the consumer." The first test is free, and only one such free test may be requested during a five-year period. Subsequent tests may be ordered, however, for a fee of \$35, refundable if the meter's readings are off by more than 3%.

Another amendment provides strict guideline that allow the Town Treasurer and/or Town Administrator to adjust downward certain water bills deemed to be excessive due to leaks or other, sometimes indeterminate, causes.

Truck for Sale

Council has declared the Town's 2008 Ford F250 XL pick-up truck to be surplus property and has directed Town staff to sell it at public auction as required under Town Code Chapter 5.

Town Administrator Semmes reported that a new vehicle would cost around \$26,500. If the Town could get \$18,000 for the old truck, she noted, the net cost would be only around \$8,500.

Washington "Streetscape"

Thanks to a grant from the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments' TLC Program Middleburg now has "down on paper" a number of initiatives that, as Town

LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER TURNS RELAITY INTO FANTASY

Clarice Russeil was born and raised in the Central Valley of California and graduated from the Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles. Once graduated, Clarice set out to pursue a more creative career and took a job as a traveling Photographer with Olan Mills. Soon she was opening portrait studios for a chain of one-hour photo labs and in 1995, opened her own studio called Portrait Panache in Agoura Hills, CA. After 11 years owning and operating the studio, in 2005, it was time to follow another star and she moved her two children, cat, dog, and horse to Leesburg to get a feel of the East Coast finding the countryside of VA to be the most beautiful place on Earth.

According to Semmes, the "most important reason to have this in one plan is now we can pursue funding for these improvements, both from the public and private sectors."

You need a plan before you can ask for money to do anything."

The Town will begin to submit a grant application for streetscape improvements through the State Transportation Enhancement Program, she noted, in the very next grant cycle.

The Town has also have "started working with a lighting professional to create a detailed streetlight plan that can be appended to this plan and provided to the Piedmont Community Foundation to encourage more contributions to their Dark Sky Initiative Fund."

Funds the Town raised in that way can be either be used "for directly funding new street lights," she noted, "or can help provide the 20% local match required for the State TE Program grants."

Five years ago, Clarice moved from Leesburg to Middleburg and



is now launching her Fantasy Portrait division where the client is able to select the theme, background, props, and 'feel' of the portrait which are all built digitally around their personal session. It's easy, private, completely controlled digitally, and affordable. Fantasy Portraits allow the client to be as outrageous as they want but the viewer thinks it's real.

Clarice asks the question: "What is your fantasy?" Is it hunting an elephant? Sitting on the back of a giraffe reading a book? Riding a tiger in front of the Taj Mahal? Or a special boudoir portrait to drive your partner mad for years to come. Whatever your fantasy, Clarice can create a photo of it exclusively for you!

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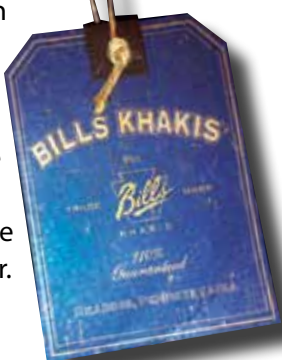
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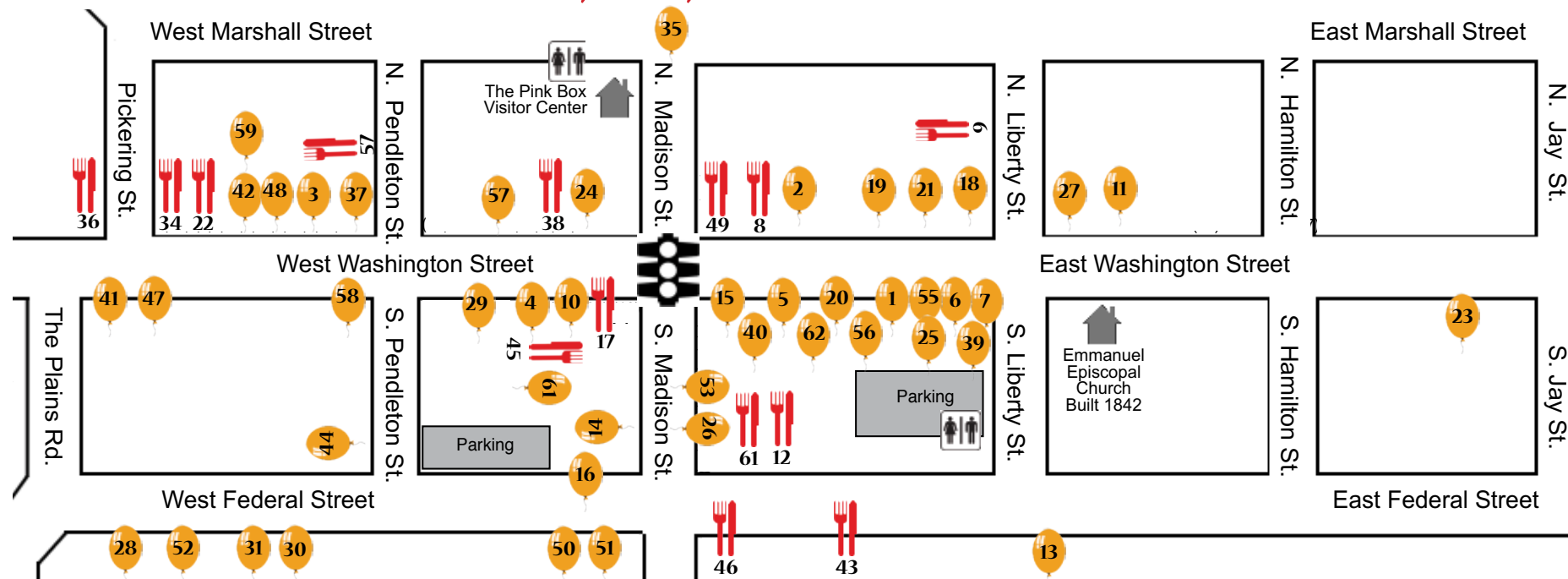
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|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1.) Three Crowns | 16.) Journeymen | 27.) Richard Allen Clothing | 48.) The Grooming Room |
| 2.) Barrel Oak Tasting Room | 17.) Juliens Restaurant | 35.) Saddlery Liquidators | 49.) The Red Fox Inn & Tavern |
| 3.) Betsey | 18.) Magic Wardrobe | 36.) Salamander Market | 50.) The Studio |
| 4.) Byrne Gallery | 19.) Les Jardin De Bagatelle | 37.) Salamander Touch | 51.) The Tack box |
| 5.) Christmas Sleigh | 20.) Lou Lou | 38.) Scruffys | 52.) The White Elephant |
| 6.) Country Classics | 21.) Lou Lou II | 39.) Second Chapter Books | 53.) The Wine Cellar |
| 7.) Crème de la Crème | 22.) Middleburg Common Grounds | 40.) Shaggy Ram | 55.) Touch of Love |
| 8.) Cuppa Giddy Up | 23.) Middleburg Country Inn | 26.) Skandinavia Antiques | 56.) Tully Rector/Beyond the Pale |
| 9.) Middleburg Deli | 24.) Middleburg Humane Thrift Shop | 41.) Southern States | 58.) Union First Market Bank |
| 10.) David Ladd & Co. | 28.) Middleburg Tack Exchange | 42.) STITCH | 57.) Uppercrust |
| 11.) Duchessa | 29.) Middleburg United Methodist Church | 43.) Teddy's Pizza | 59.) Washington Street Collectibles |
| 12.) El Agave | 25.) Olio | 44.) The Corner Garden | 61.) Watermelon Wishes |
| 13.) Four o'clock Fox | 31.) PATINA | 45.) The Fox Den Tavern | 62.) Wylie Wagg |
| 14.) Highcliffe Clothiers | 61.) Popcorn Monkey | 46.) The French Hound | |
| 15.) Home Farm Store | 34.) Red Horse Tavern | 47.) The Fun Shop | |

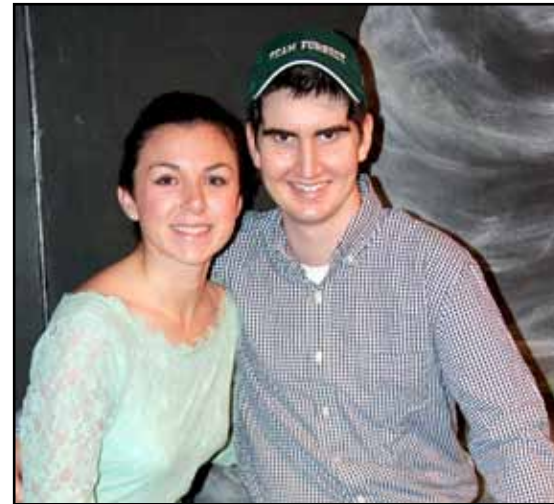
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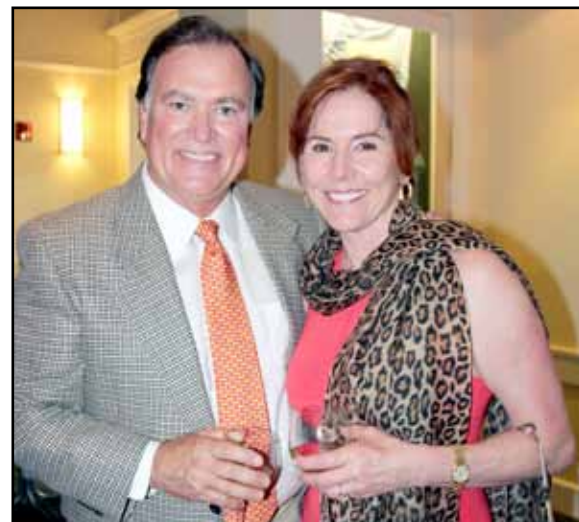
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WARRENTON PONY SHOW

PHOTOS BY TERESA RAMSAY



MCKENZIE CONRAD RIDING JET STREAM



PAM BAKER AND GLENN MOODY



HELEN LOHR RIDING PUMPKIN PATCH



BABARA CHAPPELL WITH NEW PUPPY MUZZET



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DENICE PERRY AND VIRGINIA BONNIE



GLENN MOODY AND ED LANE



NICKEY AND PAM HAYDEN



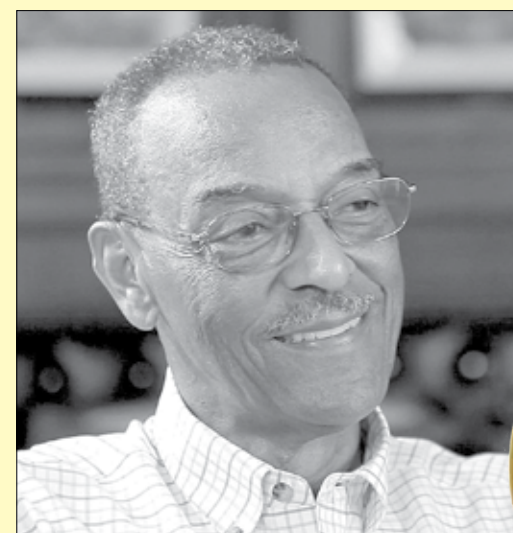
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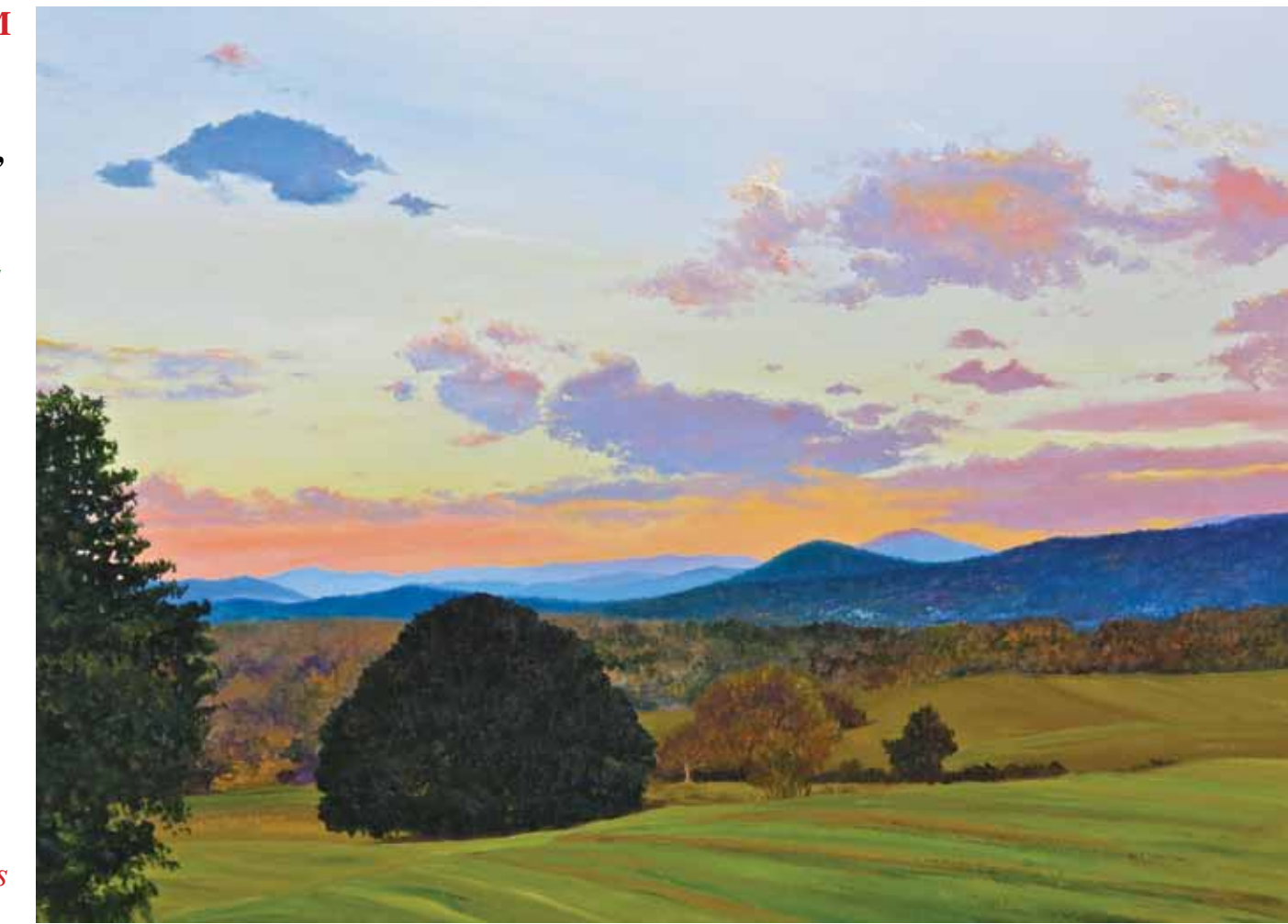
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PASTIMES

MANGANO & MACKENZIE ENGAGEMENT

Maggie Mangano of Upperville, Virginia is pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter, Christina Marie Mangano to Scott Helfferich Mackenzie, son of Ann and Graham Mackenzie of Vienna, Virginia. Christina is also the daughter of the late Frank J. Mangano.

The couple met at their alma mater, Elon University in Elon, North Carolina, where they were seated next to each other during their 2009 graduation ceremony.

The bride-to-be received a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations, and her fiancé received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science.

Christina manages Sunridge Farm in Upperville, Virginia and Scott is an associate at Winning Strategies Washington, a D.C. based government relations firm.

A late 2014 summer wedding in Upperville is planned for the couple who will reside in the area.



STRUDER MARRIES MAGALHAES



Krista Struder of Hamilton and Stephen Magalhaes of Clifton were married at Saint Stephen's (Middleburg) on June 29, 2013. Before heading to the reception at the Fort Myer Officers' Club in Arlington, they stopped by their former high school for photos.

Both bride and groom graduated from Middleburg Academy (then Notre Dame) in 2003. After years of being "just friends," they started dating in January of 2010.

Krista, who is pursuing her PhD in Education from George Mason Uni-

versity, is the Director of the Academic Strategies Program at Middleburg Academy, which provides added support and instruction to students with mild learning differences.

She also coaches the Coed Varsity Cross Country Team and is faculty mentor to the Student Council. "I get to teach where I went to high school. I loved every moment of the four years I spent here as a student and love it still."

Stephen works for his family's construction company, CMC Concrete Construction, in Manassas. They will make their new home in Aldie.

ROSZELAND SMITH GRADUATE FROM RADFORD

Willing Asbury Roszel and Stephanie Nicole Smith of Middleburg graduated from Radford University at the end of the spring semester.

Roszel, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Roszel of 14 Chinn Lane, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in recreation, parks and tourism. Smith, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Edward Smith, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology. Radford University is a comprehensive, mid-size public university in

Southwest Virginia. Serving a student population of more than 9,500, Radford features a strong service orientation on a beautiful 191-acre American classical campus. The university offers 69 degree programs in 39 disciplines and two certificates at the undergraduate level; 21 master's programs in 16 disciplines and three doctoral programs at the graduate level; seven post-baccalaureate certificates and one post-master's certificate. A Division I member of the NCAA, Radford participates in 19 varsity sports—11 for women and eight for men.

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PASTIMES
GUNS, DRUGS AND MONEY

7TH INNING STRETCH
ALEX CUDABACK

Chris Froome became the second Briton to win the Tour de France in as many years last weekend. Almost immediately, he was quoted as saying, "This is one yellow jersey that will stand the test of time."

It is safe to assume he was referring to the performance enhancing drug scandals that have dogged the cycling world for the last, oh, twenty years and not the projected lifespan of his canary colored t-shirt.

The weekend prior, track and field was rocked, again, by yet more failed drug tests amongst its elite, further whittling the credibility of a sport once considered amongst the royalty of sport.

(Right up there with horse-racing and boxing.)

Tyson Gay, the top American caught up in track's latest debacle, the owner of the best time in the 100 meters this year and possibly the person best positioned to take down Usain Bolt at the world championships later this summer, issued a classy and refreshingly responsible statement in which he said, "I don't have a sabotage story. I don't have any lies. I don't have anything to say to make this seem like it was a mistake."

Oh, hallelujah! A professional athlete who'd gotten caught pushing the bounds of the clearly defined rules of his sport finally, finally showing some personal accountability for what is, really, at the end of the day, no different than a twelve year old who writes the answers to his seventh grade history test on his hand the period before and tries to squirrel his way to a passing grade.

Thank goodness. Tyson Gay was going to tell us the buck stopped with hi....

What? Oh. There's more to Tyson Gay's statement?

Ah... Well then. Please, proceed.

"I basically put my trust in

someone and I was let down."

Nuts.

Meanwhile, over in Major League Baseball, the Biogenesis scandal continues to grind along with MLB taking its sweet time to sort through the documents, records and cooperating witnesses at its disposal. Ryan Braun, a former National league MVP, will reportedly accept a suspension for the rest of this regular- and post-season, should the Brewers advance. Alex Rodriguez, another former league MVP and perhaps the worst Yankee signing in a long history of them, is the biggest remaining name on the list, but by no means the only recognizable one. According to the Chicago Tribune, Johnny Peralta, Nelson Cruz and Bartolo Colon also find themselves in the crosshairs. Perhaps as many as a dozen other players will face disciplinary action when the dust finally settles.

And the NFL, you ask?

Well, the good news (and you can bet Roger Goodell thinks it's good news) is that training camp is just around the corner, with teams preparing themselves for the start of the 2013 season.

Which should, hopefully, draw a little of the attention away from the police blotter of an off-season that we've all been witness to so far this year. Since the calendar flipped from 2012 to 2013, actually, fully 40 players have been arrested for crimes as varied as marijuana possession, DUI (one player, Cody Grimm, of Tampa Bay, was arrested right here in Leesburg), possession of an offensive weapon, criminal mischief, child abuse and, of course, the big winner, attempted murder.

And, to top it all off, just Monday reports leaked that Denver's talented All-Pro linebacker Von Miller will miss the first four games of the regular season for violating the league's drug policy. Miller's response?

"I know I did nothing wrong." Phew.

Not to be outdone, and to re-

mind everyone that it's not just players riding the dopey train to jackwagon town, two front office personnel for the Broncos are each serving suspensions after being arrested and charged with DUI.

Thank goodness Phil Mickelson won The Open Championship this past weekend. If you thought it was bad when Andy Murray won Wimbledon, can you imagine the right and proper "huzzah!" if Lee Westwood had won the British?

Followed only 24 hours later by a royal baby, a boy nonetheless, being born?

Gadzooks.

Back here at home, RGIII has gotten a clean bill of health from Dr. James "Beanie" Andrews which, I suppose, abdicates Andrews of all responsibility for allowing Griffin to risk his life on a bum leg in the first place.

With training camp almost underway, you should take a moment to drive by the new and uber-fancy training and headquarters facilities at Redskins Park in Ashburn. Heck, you should park your car, walk up to the front door and ask for a guided tour.

You helped pay for it, after all. The renovations and improvements to facilities here and in Richmond (where the 'Skins were wooed to hold training camp) totaled approximately \$40 million; taxpayers footed the bill for about \$6.5 million of that, with Loudoun residents chipping in \$2 million.

Why the team, which plays professionally in Maryland and constantly fluffs officials in DC in hopes of yet another new stadium, should be getting \$2 million from a county that's unwilling to see tax increases to pay for rising infrastructure demands (think roads and education; don't get me started on the hand-wringing around Metro) is a fascinating question, and one to which General Manager Bruce Allen responded thusly.

"As a payroll," he said, "we're one of the largest businesses in the commonwealth."

JUST BACK FROM....

HARBIN ICE FESTIVAL

EXQUISITE TRAVELS WITH MATT HANNAN

To be honest, when clients first mentioned a visit to Chinese Siberia in the middle of winter, I hesitated. We had explored the region once before in the summertime during an excursion to view Siberian tigers. However, overcome at the anticipation of one week in northern China in January, I almost refused. They were great friends though and so with a little insistence on their part I easily gave in.



On a map, the city of Harbin is just a little black dot in the far northeast reaches of China. But like so many others, it contains a population of over 10 million people. It is situated along the Songhua River in Heilongjiang Province and in the past was the ancestral home to the Manchurian people who from 1644 to 1911 ruled China. Harbin was also the home in the first half of the 20th century to a very large population of White Russians that fled the October Revolution. And in fact the downtown area of the city still contains an entire historic district comprised of elegant European architecture built by the newly arrived immigrants. These days Chinese characters and shop signs all but obscure many of the original facades but still a visit there is quite interesting.

So upon arrival at the comfortable and well-appointed Shangrila Hotel, we immediately opened our curtains and spotted from our river-view rooms, Tai Yang Island - the site of one of the world's three major ice festivals and our reason for traveling.

It was here that for two days and one night our small but intrepid group of three ventured out to view amazingly artistic compositions of birds and flowers, Chinese goddesses and legendary mythical figures. Chinese carving

is renowned world wide and these larger than life sculptures made from blocks of ice from the river exceeded expectations. In the evening the highlight was a stroll through a section of the festival grounds that contained an entire illuminated city complete with Buddhist temples and pagodas sculpted of ice with neon lights inserted throughout. Temperatures hovered higher than normal in our favor but even so an hour at a time outside was enough.

Both days, to cap off each frigid festival visit, a taxi was hired to the nearest restaurant where quantities of 'bendi pijiu' (locally brewed beer), Dan Dan Noodles (a specialty of minced pork with cilantro and fragrant Sichuan peppercorns in a soy based broth) and assorted other Chinese delicacies were consumed. At alternate meals we sampled red cabbage Borscht, potato Pirogues and chai from local Russian cafes operated by various central Asian restaurateurs.

Looking back we enjoyed our visit tremendously, regardless of the distance and weather. So when given the opportunity to travel to a unique and fascinating part of the world, complete with excellent companionship, all the tea in China should not keep one sitting at home!

LOOKING GOOD AND STAYING COOL

SINCERELY, ME
BRANDY GREENWELL

Is everyone's air conditioner working on power ranger mode? Do you feel like a piece of barbecued meat when walking to your car? There are always a few weeks in the summer months of 100 degree plus heat indexes and warnings to the public. What do you do to stay cool?

On days of such extreme heat, it is even too hot to go to the pool. No wonder there are always summer blockbusters being released in July. If it is too hot to swim, go to the movies and snuggle into your favorite fleece for 2 hours of entertainment and extreme a/c. Or, for those on a budget, just go pop-sicle shopping to achieve the same chilly result. I went for a swim the other day in effort to cool off and it was like diving into a lukewarm bathtub. And walking on the flagstone- forget it. I just took my shoes in the pool with me.

When I was horse showing as a child, my grandmother used to moisten washcloths, put them in baggies and then in the freezer overnight. It was a gift straight out of Heaven to put them on my face and neck after the judge didn't excuse jackets. I just started doing this again with a little essential oil or lemon added and it is divine for those of us that play outside. Try it at your next horse show, baseball game, camp or picnic. You will thank me. Proper care post use is essential. One word:

mildew.

So speaking of being outdoors, I hope everyone is using sunscreen. And not the kind that is flammable according to recent news posts. Sometimes the game of "building the better mouse trap" backfires and we all just go back to square one. Just put the damn lotion on, rub it in and enjoy your day. I highly recommend Arbonne's Before Sun, which has an SPF of 30 and anti aging ingredients to prevent the full on beef jerky effect. If you overcook, the SeaSource Gelee is amazing for cooling burns. Plus it is like a little date in a jar. It makes you warm, then cool, then you tingle all over.

I wish I could advise how to avoid sweat rings. Whether

under arms, under wire, the small of your back or the big smiley face on your butt cheeks, I haven't found a remedy other than carrying a personal fan around and strategically rigging it to my body. I'm sure I'm not alone and those of us that walk around with damp race tracks on the backs of our shirts or occasionally get accused of wetting themselves after a long sit in the sun just need to embrace it. Short of botoxing from head to toe, I don't think there is a cure to being the drippy one. Sigh. Come on, October.

One would have to be a moron to leave a child or pet in the car in extreme heat. We are all aware of the consequences of doing so and it is just not acceptable. Period. But when will

there be PSA's on leather seats? I am not even kidding that it can be seriously damaging to either the lady or gent who plops down in the driver's seat while wearing shorts, a short dress or skirt. That dude that invented that collapsible windshield screen is my hero and I'd like to give him a high five for personally protecting my tushy in the summer.

Hang on hot ones, it will be cold soon and we will all be wishing for days like today.

Find me on Facebook at Brandy Greenwell: Sincerely, Me



BUZZED

THE PLANT LADY



KAREN REXROD

Recently I liberated a lilac tree from a wild grape vine. Removing a large vine can be easy work, tug and then pull at the base, chances are it will come out and what seemed like a big job boils down to a large heap of leaves with little effort. As I finished up I noticed a beautiful caterpillar on the trunk of the lilac. Research on the web that night told me it was an Abbott's sphinx caterpillar and it's sole source of food was the grape vine I had removed. Fortunately I was able to find it the next morning and move it to a location with lots of grape vine. Another lesson in gardening, observe and question what you see, in this case it saved the very thing I found so fascinating.

Last week came the dead heading or removal of flowers

on lamb's ears, the old fashioned (very high maintenance) Stachys byzantina. In the thick of a very large patch I heard a bee buzzing. Now I'm used to the sound of bees buzzing and pretty good at knowing when to back off. Buzzing is usually a passing sound, a bee or beetle on its way to nectar and/or pollen. This day it was persistent and sounded like it was aimed at me. It turned out to be a yellow jacket look alike but with a wider abdomen, a wool carder bee, specifically a male wool carder bee that was buzzing me to defend his territory and keep me away from his ladies. A European bee, first seen in New York in 1963, it hails from the same places the honey bee comes from, they cohabitate in the wilds of Europe. The wool carder bee is named from the females habit of harvesting fur from the leaves (carding) which she uses to line her nest.

The nest is in tubes or ends of hollow sticks. A solitary bee, the male will defend the patch of lamb's ear, buzzing all who pass and only allowing his ladies to enter mating with them as they collect nectar and fur. It was my first time to notice them and it's probably the first time they have been in the garden, since the "big attitude" buzzing was hard to ignore. I understand they can also be found on catmint or Nepeta x faassenii.

The flower stalks remained. I am letting the wool carder bees be obsessive with their lamb's ears, eventually they will move on and I can continue with my work. Another lesson in observation, little bee with big attitude doesn't sting.

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PASTIMES

THE ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE

TOM NEEL

What seems a lifetime ago, my wife Linda and I directed a large gallery for the publishing company The Greenwich Workshop. The gallery featured amazing painters of very broad artistic diversity. Wildlife, fantasy, Americana, marine, western, portrait, landscape, still life, aviation and more. The mediums used by these artists were all that you might imagine and even egg tempera.

The actual gallery space was 6,000 square feet and I hung this space and its many shows alone, after hours. Though the art was of high quality and thus was priced to suit its demand, I learned great care still had to be put on its placement. Not only its placement within the gallery, but its placement among other paintings and painters.

It was like coming to a fork in the road and having to go both ways at once. One path was understanding continuity and the other was understanding visual stimulation. A very seasoned gallery owner once told me, "I'm not a traditional painter, but I feel I am an artist." He went on to say, "My gallery is my canvas, the artist's work is my paint and it's my creative goal for art enthusiasts and collectors to be moved when they come to my gallery."

I kept this information at hand every time I hung that gallery and still do so today. I can also recall back then hanging the gallery at night, it looking perfect the next day and then a painting would sell. I would of course be happy, but then there was this hole to fill, which was an interesting torment!

Expanding on these two paths of continuity and visual stimulation. It doesn't matter if you are a collec-

tor visiting a gallery or an artist with paintings in a gallery, you both want these two things to be present. Back then, with four full time salespeople there to work with clients, I gave myself the luxury of doing a lot of observational people watching. I watched customers as they moved from piece to piece. I watched what made them stop, what made them move on and what made them purchase, and frankly, being very satisfied with their decision to do so.

Art requires an emotional connection to be appreciated. As this connection can be deep or complex, try thinking about the car you are driving and why you chose it? Was it color, size, price, the manufacture, the name of it, function or features? Was it something going on in your life, a need for speed or maybe a need to be more practical? Was it a review, a friend's endorsement, its design, safety, that it just fit your garage space or did it remind you of your childhood? This is how art is chosen and purchased as well. Sure, there are differences, but similarities too.

It is my opinion that the average person who is actually ready, willing and able to purchase a piece of art, spends less than 2 or 3 seconds with any piece of art looking for that thing that simply allows them to mentally invest another 2 or 3 seconds or move on to the next piece of art. Their eye subliminally enters the picture at the top left and quickly uses the composition its given to find both a focal point and not necessarily what the artist is trying to say, but rather the story they, the viewer, wishes to interpret based on their own emotions. In only a few more seconds, they look for more information and validation in the title, the artist's name perhaps and the price.



Continuity with the other art around it only helps disperse confusion. It's like saying, "What's the shark painting doing next to the one with kittens?" Sometimes these things are very apparent, but often it just comes across as a bad "feng shui" type thing. You can't explain it, but something just doesn't feel right and thus, the experience is interrupted. Trust me, big stores pour a lot of money into having us feel comfortable while we shop.

Visual stimulation supports the journey by making it interesting. We represented a popular artist who just as one point, framed their own work with each piece using the exact same frame and mat - always. Similar sizes and the same palette only added to the lack of visual stimulation in hanging a show of around 35 works of art. Put five horizontal paintings of similar color and the same frame in a row and you can pretty much provide anyone with a nap by painting number three. But mix formats, vertical and horizontal, warm and cool colors and the stimulation begins.

If you are a collector, it makes your shopping experience more interesting and pleasurable. If you are an artist, it helps your work stand out among your fellow artists. A win, win as they say.

Enjoy, Tom ThomasNeel.com

WATER RESOURCES INFRASTRUCTURE: LEVEES NEED REPAIR

WATERWORLD

RICHARD A. ENGBERG

Last month this column addressed water resources infrastructure and pointed out that every four years, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) evaluates and grades major infrastructure categories. The 2013 assessment was most disturbing. Of the seven water-related categories, grades ranged from C+ to D- with five of the seven categories scoring D or D-, an altogether dismal showing. Most of the information in this article is drawn from the 2013 assessment.

This month, the column addresses levees, a category that scored D-.

So what are levees? They are man-made structures along stream banks whose purpose is to control flood flows or, in some cases, divert these flows.

ASCE estimates that the nation has 100,000 miles of levees. Most of the levees were originally constructed to protect farmland. Increasingly however, levees are used to "protect" communities. I think we are all aware of how well levees protected the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans from the Hurricane Katrina flood surge.

Still, many levees do their jobs and do them well. ASCE

estimated that in 2011, U. S. levees and dams prevented \$141 billion in potential flood damages. If this amount of money was saved in one year alone, why is there concern about levees? Why did ASCE grade levees with a D-? Here is the answer.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has constructed about 15 percent of the nation's levees. The average age of these levees is more than 55 years old. While all receive maintenance, there may not be sufficient funding to maintain them adequately. The most recent evaluation of these levees indicate that only 8 percent are in acceptable condition, 69 percent are minimally acceptable, and the other 22 percent unacceptable. OOPS!

Why is this the case? It's simple! The USACE's budget is supplied by Congress and appropriations for levee maintenance fall far short of what is needed to bring USACE levees to an acceptable condition.

What about the other 85,000 miles of levees? Most of these levees are locally owned and it has been very difficult for ASCE to obtain adequate information about them. However, I would speculate that the percentage of acceptable levees probably is similar to that of the



USACE levees.

So what can be done to insure that our 100,000 miles of levees are repaired or rehabilitated? The answer is: spend money. The National Committee on Levee Safety estimates that it would take expenditures of roughly \$100 billion to bring all levees in the U. S. to acceptable standards. If this were to happen, where would the money come from? Certainly, some would come from the federal government. But since 85 percent of levees are not federally owned, the money for their repair most likely would need to be raised from state and local sources.

Will this happen? Will the money be raised to repair and rehabilitate our nation's levees, an ounce of prevention? We are living in a time of climate change. Severe weather is becoming more commonplace. What happens, not if, but when we have another Category 4 or Category 5 hurricane or a 1000 year flood? Will our levees in their present condition do the job? I'm not optimistic. Stay tuned!



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PASTIMES

SUMMER HEAT AND EXERCISE

KAY COLGAN
B.S. CERTIFIED PILATES PERSONAL
TRAINER AND HEALTH COACH

Officially summer has begun, but the temperature feels like August. Every year I reprint this column just as a reminder that we are all vulnerable to heat exhaustion. Every living thing needs water. This includes us. Especially when the temperature begins to soar our bodies require more water. Our bodies work hard to regulate our temperatures. So adhere to the following when the mercury rises!

1. If the temperature is over 90 degrees avoid strenuous exercise outdoors
2. Avoid 5Ks that are held in the hottest part of the day. Instead sign up for ones that are held during the coolest part of the day.
3. If you start to feel dizzy or nauseous do not keep working out. This is a sign of heat exhaustion.
4. If the air quality is bad, save your outdoor workout for another day and exercise in an air conditioned environment.
5. Avoid excessive caffeine and alcohol, which can cause dehydration.
6. Listen to your body, if something does not feel right, then assess and change what you are doing.

Anyone can suffer from heat related illnesses. Heat cramps are painful spasms in the muscles generally the legs and abdomen. Heat exhaustion is characterized by cramps in muscles, headache, rapid or shallow breathing, vomiting and or dizziness. The most serious of the heat related illnesses is heat stroke, this can be a body temperature as high as or higher than 106 degrees Fahrenheit, sudden collapse, dry throat, cold, clammy skin and rapid pulse. How our bodies react to high temperatures varies from individual to individual. However, it has been shown that heat cramps in a 16 year old, could be heat exhaustion, in a 45 years old and heat stroke in a 65 year old. It seems age plays a part in how our bodies cope with extreme temperatures. Medical attention needs to be sought if one suspects someone is suffering from heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

Remember hydrate, hydrate, and hydrate. If the temperature is above 90 then a run at noon would not be a good idea. Be smart and treat your body well. Remember most vulnerable are small children, animals, older adults, overweight as well as underweight individuals. Pregnant women as well are at a great risk for heat related illnesses. When the mercury goes way up then exercise smarter and then find some shade and a tall glass of ice water. ENJOY!

For more information, please contact: Kay Colgan at Middleburg Pilates and Personal Training at K's, 14 S. Madison Street, Middleburg, Virginia or 540-687-6995.

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JOSEPH COOK EDENS, JR.

Joseph Cook Edens, Jr., 85, of The Plains, Virginia died on June 3, 2013.

The son of Joseph Cook Edens, Sr. and Huldah Holladay Edens, he was born on June 21, 1927 in Richmond, Virginia. Along with his older sister, the late Huldah Edens Jackson, he grew up in Baltimore, Maryland where he graduated from the Gilman School in 1946. He completed his education with a degree from Princeton University in 1950.

A dedicated baseball pitcher throughout his college years, Mr. Edens was an All-State Player in the 1949 National Semi-Pro Baseball Congress in Charlottesville, Virginia. From 1952 to 1955 he served in the United States Navy as a naval aviator and intelligence officer for his squadron during the Korean War, ending his service as a Lieutenant, Junior Grade.

Following his military service, Mr. Edens joined his father at Hilton Farm near Orange, Virginia, a beef cattle operation that his father had purchased in 1947.

Mr. Edens married Hazle Jaffray Woodruff in 1956 and

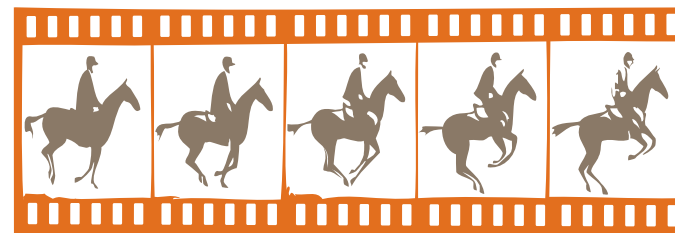
raised their three children on the farm. He continued to operate the farm until 1986 when he shifted his main focus to Agricultural Advisory, a company he started in the late 1970's that served clients in the agricultural industry around the world. He maintained life-long interests in many sports; in particular, horse racing and tennis, as well as golf, which he played weekly with friends and family.

Mr. Edens is survived by his wife, Hazle Woodruff Edens; his children Jaffray Edens Cox (Dr. Wendell Haley Cox), Joseph Cook Edens III (Kelly McComas Edens), and Edward Henry Edens IV (Natalie Miller Edens); his grandchildren Evelina Eugene Edens, Joseph Cook Edens IV, and William Hilton Edens; his niece Louise Jackson; and his nephews Haller Jackson and Dr. Robert Jackson.

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Clover is a beautiful 1+ year old Redbone Coonhound. She has excellent house manners, walks beautifully on a halti, is very clean, & affectionate. She would do best as an only pet with a secure fenced yard.

Alpine is a handsome, healthy, adult kitty. Bring some love into your home - Adopt Alpine. He is EXTREMELY affectionate and interactive. He would do best as an only cat, but doesn't mind couch potato dog friends.

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Cody is a 12 yr old Shetland Mini cross gelding. He is very shy but sweet. He would make a wonderful babysitter or adorable lawn ornament.

Marty came to MHF with a badly injured back leg. Sadly, his leg had to be amputated although he is doing beautifully & loves his new lease on life. Marty needs an indoor home.

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ALBERT'S CORNER
A MONTHLY COLUMN FOR PEOPLE WHO SHARE THEIR HOMES WITH FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS.

ALBERT P. CLARK

Part of my job is to be an avid researcher. Sometimes my research is validating. Sometimes it's not. And sometimes, as was the case this month, it's both validating and disappointing.

My recent quest for information started because my people and I were watching a show about prejudice. It made me start thinking about the fact that many humans have preconceived notions about dogs based on breed. In fact, bias is a real problem in the canine community.

I doubt it will surprise any readers to hear that Pit Bulls, Rottweilers, and Doberman Pinschers routinely elicit fear in humans. These animals often have a harder time finding a home or keeping a home because of their unfounded reputations as dangerous animals. They are also the unfortunate dogs of choice for people who want to promote aggression in animals.

I have long understood that the anxiety the above breeds evoke is absurd. Some of the sweetest, most loving, and, yes, even wimpy, dogs I have known have been Pit Bulls. And the same is true for Rotties and Dobies.

Finally, however, I have scientific proof that I'm right. A 2013 extensive study by Applied Animal Behavior Science has rocked conventional assumptions. For the study, researchers from the University of Pennsylvania along with 6,000 dog owners were studied and questioned. The findings were more than a little unexpected.

According to the study, the most aggressive dog breed is ... the Dachshund. The second most aggressive is the Chihuahua. And the third most aggressive is, gulp, me. That's right, the Jack Russell. The findings are based on frequency of dog bites, and even adjusting for reporting variances between large and small dogs, the findings are apparently solid.

Pit Bulls and Rotties actually scored average or below average. The most docile breeds included Basset Hounds, Golden Retrievers, Labradors, Siberian Huskies, and Greyhounds. I guess I wouldn't be so surprised if my breed hadn't gotten the dubious honor of being third, but I have to admit that I'm still licking my wounds from the news.

Now, before Doxie, Chihuahua, and Jack lovers begin bombarding me with hate mail, let me state very clearly that those breeds are generally not dangerous at all. In truth, any and all breeds can be aggressive. It's important to realize, however, that dogs are rarely aggressive under normal conditions, so there is no need to be afraid of us.

It's also important to note that we give signals before we bite: frozen stance, lowered head, flattened ears, curled lip, raised hackles, and/or growling. If you see a dog exhibit any of those behaviors, disengage immediately with no eye contact.

There's actually some speculation that smaller dogs may bite more often because people don't take the signals of a smaller dog as seriously as they take the signals of a larger dog.

In the end, it all comes down to individuals, just like it does with people. Canine temperaments vary greatly across all kinds of pups. Don't judge a book by its cover, a person by skin color, or a dog by breed. It's that simple.

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.

HARD TO SAY GOODBYE...BUT GIVING PUPS TO TWO YOUNG BOYS WITH DISABILITIES MAKES IT ALL WORTHWHILE FOR MIDDLEBURG VOLUNTEERS

TWO MIDDLEBURG PUPPY RAISERS FOR CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENT WITH SMILES AND TEARS.

Julie Coles fell in love the first time she laid eyes on Kai, an 8 week old ball of fur brought to her by Canine Companions for Independence. "It was like having royalty for a year and a half. We love that dog. She's the smartest I've ever had." The assistance dog organization depends of volunteers like Julie Coles and Georgiana Watt, also of Middleburg, to take puppies into their homes and raise them for the first year and a half of their lives, loving them, and shaping them to become assistance dogs for people with disabilities. Coles had high hopes for Kai when she said goodbye last November, and the Golden Retriever-Lab mix began advanced training on Long Island to become a CCI Assistance Dog. On May 10th that dream came true, and Kai is now making a tremendous difference in the life of an 8 year old Staten Island, New York boy who suffers from a host of medical conditions that have included a bowel transplant.

At an emotional graduation ceremony held in Islandia, New York, Coles was reunited with Kai, and got to meet and spend time with 8 year old Devin McQueen and his mother Colleen and father Derrick. "Kai will work to make him a better person, and be that special friend that he needs so much."

Georgiana Watt raised Andrews, also a Golden-Lab mix for the first 18 months of his life, and says it was obvious from the beginning he was a special dog. "He was easy to teach. He couldn't have been better. I took him to polo matches, and he adjusted very well to all the crowds. I think that's why he was chosen for Liam, who is a great NY Rangers hockey fan, and Andrews will be accompanying him to hockey games in New York City. Liam is a wonderful boy."

Canine Companions for Independence volunteer Puppy Raisers often form lifelong bonds with the families who obtain the services of the dogs they raise. Andrews is now enjoying a life of service with Liam, an 11 year old Westchester, New York boy who has Cerebral Palsy, and uses a manual wheelchair. Liam Traynor is an extremely enthusiastic hockey fan, and enjoys a special personal relationship with the New York Rangers of the NHL. Andrews now sports a Rangers collar, and has his own Rangers dog bed waiting for him whenever he visits Madison Square Garden for a game.

Andrews will travel with Liam when he plays sled hockey, opening doors, and helping him pickup dropped objects on command.

After spending a year and a half on a waiting list to receive an assistance dog (Canine Companions for Independence does not charge for the dog or any of their follow up services. It costs in excess of 45-thousand dollars to raise and train each dog), Devin and Liam were invited to CCI's regional headquarters in Medford, New York for two weeks of Team Training, where they were introduced to Kai and Andrews. During that intense two weeks, the boys learned how to care for the dogs, and how to use them to gain more independence in their everyday lives. The dogs know over 50 commands, including picking up dropped items such as remote controls or cell phones. Canine Companions dogs can pull a wheel chair, open and close doors and even turn light switches on and off. But perhaps most important, Kai and Andrews will help Devin and Liam become an active part of their peer group instead of outsiders because of their medical conditions.

Canine Companions for Independence has such high standards for their assistance dogs that only 4 out of ten dogs actually make it through their advanced training program. Puppy Raisers are given first opportunity to adopt these dogs as pets if they are released from the program.

Canine Companions for Independence Northeast Region Executive Director Debra Dougherty says volunteers Puppy Raisers like Georgiana Watt and Julie Coles are the backbones of the organization. "The Northeast Region is very thankful and appreciative of all the volunteers who help to take care to raise our dogs and think of innovative ways to raise funds so that we may continue our heartfelt mission and ensure that every person on our wait list receives a Canine Companion free of charge."

For more information on becoming a Puppy Raiser and making a difference in the life of a child or adult with disabilities, go to cci.org or call 1-800-572-BARK.

Raise a Dog, Change a Life.

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.

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EDITOR’S DESK

SAFeway

The Safeway in Middleburg has a long track record of both good service and good citizenship.

Despite intense competition, the physical limitations imposed by its site, and the difficulties of making changes in a town whose heart and soul lies in its traditions, its look and its “feel,” Safeway soldiers on with genuine grace and style.

Its there, open for service, 24/7. It has long been a major part of the Town’s revenue base.

It has donated food to Seven Loaves. It has never failed to provide a holiday base for Salvation Army Bell Ringers. Its people, management and staff have a longstanding reputation for service above and beyond the call to the the

Town, its churches, its non-profits and its citizens, and all those who come here.

Recently, plans to accommodate traffic and improve public safety on Pendleton Street, destined to become the main access route from Middleburg’s Main Street to the new Salamander Resort raised fears that the relocation of several key parking spaces would harm one of Middleburg’s treasured local businesses, a bakery.

Safeway, it is reported, has quietly agreed to allow patrons of the bakery to park in the Safeway lot, despite the fact that Safeway sells baked goods of its own. Well done. Hats off. Beau Geste.

OATH OF HONOR

At the last regular meeting of Town Council Police Chief A.J. Panebianco administered his department’s Oath of Honor to his newest recruit in the presence of the Town Government, the public his department serves, and the officer’s wife and son. A Middleburg Policeman formally receives his

badge only after taking the oath, a solemn promise made to the citizens of Middleburg, over and above the official swearing in before a judge of the Loudoun County District Court. It is a special point of pride for the force, for the Town, for those our officers who protect and serve us all.

*On My Honor,
I will never betray my badge, my integrity,
my character, or the public trust.
I will always have the courage to hold myself
and others accountable for our actions.
I will always uphold the Constitution and
the community I serve,
So Help Me God.*

WHAT PART OF “ILLEGAL” DON’T THEY UNDERSTAND?

RED
JAMES MORGAN

“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free” . . . but legally, please. Is that too much to ask? For those who believe that opposition to illegal immigration is actually opposition to immigrants in general, yes, it is. But as a Welsh-Italian-English-French-Scottish-Dutch-German-Swedish-Albanian-American, I protest.

Liberals love “root causes” so let me suggest one. The root cause of our immigration problem is Mexico; more specifically, Mexico’s inability to govern itself, something it has never effectively done since it won its independence from Spain in 1821. For well over a hundred years, Mexico was the Coup-of-the-Month Club. For decades after that it was run by a corrupt one-party government. Now the drug cartels are in charge. Mexicans are not victims of Norte Americano imperialism or exploitation. They are the victims of corrupt and inept Mexican governance.

That country has always been a basket case. Think Haiti with better beach resorts. In hindsight, it seems a shame that the United States didn’t take a lot more of Mexico in 1848 thereby improving the chances of the people of the Americanized portion and creating a Mexico small enough for a Mexican government actually to govern.

So what now? Amnesty? Perhaps, but only if we secure the border first as we already are required to do by the “Secure Fence Act of 2006.” Absent that, nothing else can work. All the current immigration

bill would do is repeat the 1986 mistake of amnesty without border security.

A guest worker program sounds nice but would only create a permanent pool of cheap labor which would, according to the Congressional Budget Office, result in our still having over seven million illegal immigrants ten years from now even after another blanket amnesty. That would not help either the legal or the illegal immigrants. Cesar Chavez understood this half a century ago. That’s why he started his own border patrol auxiliary which reported illegals to the U.S. Border Patrol and even sometimes forcibly turned them back.

A large group of legal guest workers and their probably illegal resident families would be an exploitable resource for several interested groups. First, there is Big Agriculture which wants cheap, expendable labor. Then there is the race-mongering La Raza which promotes revisionist, anti-American history and Latino victimhood and loves to foment racial discord.

Finally, there is the Democratic Party for which the whole illegal immigration issue is about using welfare bribes to create a vast pool of Democratic voters. Who really believes that if the proposed bill becomes law, the Obama administration won’t simply ignore its restrictive provisions just as it ignores current immigration law? You’d think that Marco Rubio would at least see through that part of the scam.

The federal government should stop suing states like Arizona for trying to enforce existing federal

IMMIGRATION BLUE

DANIEL MORROW

*“Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
Send these, the homeless, tempest host to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.”*

Inscription on the Statue of Liberty New York Harbor

Democrats tend to like immigrants, and vice versa. Why? Because we tend to take seriously the notion that our strength as a nation has always been rooted in our ability to welcome new people to our shores and, as part of that reception, to do our best to do our duty to live up to our highest ideal: the notion that all men are created equal.

Indeed, we democrats tend to believe that those ideals, even when imperfectly implemented, have helped to attract and keep the best of the best of the world’s emigrants, whether rich or poor,

educated or uneducated; skilled or unskilled; male or female; young or old; of every race, creed, color and culture.

If an immigrant had the will, the get-up-and-go, and could beg borrow or steal the wherewithall to get here, we always believed we could find a way to welcome them and be stronger for doing so. It was and is, we believe, not only the right thing to do, its good for all of us.

Our friends on the right, however, tend to disagree.

Ask them about those scribbles on the statue in New York Harbor and they’ll tell you, directly or indirectly, “Just kidding.”

With all too rare exception the leadership of what’s left of Mr. Lincoln’s glorious mid-19th century GOP agrees with their neo-know-nothing Tea Party masters-of-the-primaries: tired, poor, huddled masses need not apply and are, with rare exception, an existential threat to the good old U S of A no matter what they yearn for. Its an old and oft-repeated story in our history . . . and not a pretty one.

For the latest version of the

“new” GOP (the “Tea-P” we might call them) the watchwords are now: Katie bar the door; put out the light; deepen the moat; man the wire; issue the lads extra ammunition; scramble the drones; away all boats; and while you’re at it, see if we can’t get some of those folks to build us an inverse variant of the Berlin Wall before we ask them to “self deport.”

After all, from a Tea-P perspective, who really needs folks with the courage to risk their lives to cross a heavily guarded no-man’s land, ford a river or two, pass through a desert more desolate than a Bush-McCain-Romney big tent, in order to . . . horrors . . . go to work?

The GOP clearly believes there are at least twelve million other Americans who would do the work immigrants do for the very same price they’re willing to pay immigrants to do it.

Call it the GOP immigration “job-creators” gold standard: melt down the golden door, bow down to the golden calf, and invest only in golden arches where the wages of sin are low.

HYPOCRISY

TOM PRATT

legal scholars feel illegal, actions by the United States.

If Mr. Snowden had sold the information to another nation for his personal gain or had released the facts to another government to specifically harm the U. S. I would feel differently about his actions. But he very carefully, diligently and painstakingly made sure that no single person would be harmed. No information that he revealed compromised the safety of this country. Instead of profiting by his decision to release the information he has put his safety in great jeopardy and completely disrupted his life. He also released the facts to reputable news organizations and has worked through them.

Whistle blowing is integral part of a free society and the Obama administration has gone to greater lengths to squash whistle blowers than any other administration in the history of this country. And for good reason as this administration, contrary to what Obama has promised and said in his campaign rhetoric, has been more secretive than even the dreaded Bush administration before.

Given the treatment of Bradley Manning how could Mr. Snowden not fear for his safety, imagine the prospect of being treated in that manner that we now know was barbaric and amounted to torture.

The United States and the Obama administration has, as they say, made their bed and now must lie in it. Countries that are aware of the way the U.S. treats political prisoners can use that to justify giving U.S. citizens who are fearful of such treatment asylum. The United States has pointed the finger at so many nations for their human rights abuses and then completely strips prisoners not only at Guantanamo but prisons though out the country of their human rights. It has just come to light because of hunger strikes at prisons in California that prisoners at a northern Californian prison, Pelican Bay, have been kept in solitary for 10 to 20 years not seeing the light of day simply because they have a tattoo that signifies a relationship to a gang.

Even more embarrassing for Obama is that a Swedish Professor, Stefan Svallfors, has nominated Edward Snowden for the Nobel Peace Prize, as an antidote to having given the prize to Obama in 2009.

So the next conversation you have or the next news report that you see regarding Mr. Snowden keep in mind that he is a dedicated person like Bradley Manning who is trying to improve the world by bringing the actions of an imperialist nation into the sunlight.

requires us to do. We also need to mandate e-Verify or some similar requirement for both current and new immigrant employees. And “mandate” is the operative word. What’s the point of having a voluntary verification system?

Again, the key is securing our borders. We have a national right – no, a national responsibility - to do this despite some breathless interpretations of Emma Lazarus’s po-

STRENGTH IN COOPERATION

MARK KIMBALL

I was reading some reviews of the popular movie “The Heat” with Sandra Bullock and Melissa McCarthy and it occurred to me that this little movie and the reaction to it may help explain my concern about the ability of otherwise intelligent elected officials to get together on what should be normal, routine pieces of business.

Some critics have gone out of their way to attack Ms. McCarthy as a tractor sized stereotype, the implication being that she is fat, unhealthy and apparently, increasingly unfunny. Others have been offended by the studio airbrushing of the advertising poster to make her appear slimmer and therefore, for some people, more attractive. They feel that she should be allowed to celebrate both the size of her body and her Hollywood contracts. The idea here is that we should accept people for who they are regardless of how they look or how they take care of themselves.

The most fascinating thing about this to me is the level of vitriol now floating around the social media world as if this were some sort of major international incident needing intervention by the UN or the World Court. What if we just applied a little common sense from the middleground and offered the following points to all concerned:

1. By all accounts, Ms. McCarthy is a talented come-

dian. Her TV show is doing well and she has a growing reputation as a writer and a slapstick performer in movies. More power to her. Time will tell if it lasts.

2. Hollywood is famous for air brushing. This is not even the worst example. After all, they have given Kate Hudson breasts that Marilyn Monroe would have displayed with pride. I don’t like it, but I certainly have more important things to think about, like where would I like to go for lunch today. When did the poster become more important than the movie? Well, of course, it didn’t except for those who just have too much time on their hands or find political significance in absolutely everything or actually allow their lives to be driven by the celebrity issue of the day.

3. If Ms. McCarthy is happy in her own skin right now, which she claims to be, I wish her all the best. I might also whisper in her ear: Make sure you get regular medical check-ups. It is common knowledge, regardless of what the “just be yourself” movement maintains, that as you get larger and older bad things may begin to happen that threaten your health and could shorten the time you have with those lovely children and perhaps later, their children. Maybe you are one of the lucky ones with an incredibly strong gene

pool. I hope so. But, just in case, I also hope the people who love you keep track of your blood pressure.

4. But honestly, folks, in a world where 19 firefighters died in a wildfire, a Korean jet crash landed in San Francisco and the Texas legislature just sent the Governor new restrictions on abortion, do we really need to focus on poor Ms. McCarthy’s waistline? Does she need our help or advice about anything at all?

5. The real point being this: If this is the kind of thing that can distract us and, more importantly, divide us, then I guess I should not be surprised that political leaders are arguing so vehemently about subjects that used to be handled more routinely. Of course we should debate vigorously about abortion or gun control. But we now seem to expend way too much energy on minor subjects like insignificant government appointments, as though the assistant deputy director for international nutrition is equal to the Secretary of State. If you want the Administration to take your issues seriously then you need to learn the difference between a legitimate moral or legal principle and normal business. In the old days we pretty much let the President have his appointments and, even if we disagreed about the budget, we managed to pass one without holding half

the country hostage. Why? Because we knew that the people wanted their country to function effectively, that cooperating was not a sign of weakness and that, eventually, when we finally had to tackle the big issues, we had a better chance of finding acceptable solutions to them because we hadn’t wasted all our political capital on things that just didn’t matter.

I fully realize that with the reach of modern technology giving us more information than we need on almost every thing and the current tenden-

cy of most of the members of Congress to confuse obstinacy with integrity, that I may have to wait awhile for the American people to replace these turkeys with regular citizens who know how to get things done. In the meantime, I will weigh in from time to time to try and help move things along. At the moment, though, I am on my way to a local theater to see “The Heat”. The poster and Ms. McCarthy aside, if 78% of the people really like it as much as reported, I will at least experience a couple of hours of good old fashioned consensus.

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