



WINDY HILL FASHION SHOW

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HELIPORTS AND PARKING METERS

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NEW GRANT PROGRAM ENERGIZES START-UP BUSINESSES

LAUREN R. GIANNINI

Philanthropy is alive and well in Middleburg where the Piedmont Community Foundation has launched a brand-new funding program for entrepreneurs, Economic Development Micro-enterprise Grants. However, unlike similar programs which are found more often in international business arenas, the PCF grants are designed for locals whose success in business will generate income and create more jobs.

"While a micro-enterprise program within a community foundation is not unheard of, it's still pretty unique," said Brad Davis, President of Piedmont Community Foundation's Board of Directors. "We think that the Economic Development Micro-Enterprise Grants program can be a great resource to help people with low to moderate income limits become vital members of the Loudoun and Fauquier business communities."

Davis and PCF Board Member Ben Wegdam know that success requires a good concept, thorough business plan, and seed money. They also acknowledge that sometimes the best ideas can founder and fail for lack of venture capital. Like many PCF donors and sponsors, they have experienced both sides of the desk, business-wise.

Wegdam had been the US Finance Director of Royal Ahold, owner of various supermarket chains in the US. When headquarters moved to Boston, he opted to join forces with his wife, Tara Wegdam. In 2000 they opened Crème de la Crème in Middleburg and, four years later, Lou Lou Boutique, which has grown into a popular upscale branded chain with stores in Virginia, Maryland, D.C. and Massachusetts.

"Ben has 20 stores all over the place – the grant program was really his idea, and we both thought that it would be a great opportunity in a down economy to give start-up businesses a chance – people with good ideas and sound plans who don't have the equity to qualify for bank financing," said Davis, co-founder of Ridge Capital Partners LLC, a private equity investment firm.

Venture capital in the form of a grant is a brilliant idea. The recipient isn't required to repay the "lender" although, at some point, PCF and its business activists hope that those who benefit from the Micro-enterprise Grants program will get involved and donate funding so that others might be able to start or revive their small business.

"We are looking for more people to join the sponsors and individuals who are donating funds – 100 per cent will be given out in the form of these micro-enterprise grants to individuals with great business ideas who qualify," Wegdam said.

For example: a plumber has been working with a company for years and wants to start his own plumbing business, but he can't pay for a truck, equipment and inven-

tory, because he doesn't have equity and can't get a bank loan. "That plumber would be able to apply for this grant," Wegdam said. "We would provide a grant with start-up capital."

Both Davis and Wegdam emphasized that the key is a really good business plan, which will create jobs in Fauquier and Loudoun Counties. In order to qualify, you submit an application that provides great detail in terms of your business plan, financial records, personal background, professional resume and credentials. It's a serious endeavor, but well worth the effort for new and small business owners determined to succeed.

"We have a selection process and a committee of experienced entrepreneurs, planning and business people – they will review applications and interview the individuals and decide who gets the grants," Wegdam said. "It can be a start-up or an existing business that needs money to grow, but not a business that has made money."

Whoa, there's more. In addition to a vital cash infusion to get your new venture started or to keep your existing business healthy and growing, the Economic Development Micro-enterprise Grants program will provide advisory follow-up in the form of mentors. Davis and Wegdam and many of the business owners who are involved with PCF know the importance of sound advice.

In other words, it isn't enough to think that people will flock to you simply because you hang out a shingle announcing your goods and/or services. Your plan is a vital piece of strategy, which might require modifications and greater detail in order to make your business dream a viable and profitable reality.

Even as PCF seeks applicants for the Economic Development Micro-enterprise Grants program, they hope to see more entrepreneurs and individuals in the local communities get involved with funding. Gifts of any amount for the Grant "pool" are welcome and all donations are 100 per cent tax-deductible.

As new businesses strengthen and grow, sinking roots into local communities, those micro-enterprise grant recipients will have the opportunity to "pay it forward" and help others. It's a win-win situation for all concerned.

For information about Micro-enterprise Grants: <http://www.piedmontcf.org/>

Recommended reading: "The Lemonade Stand" by two entrepreneurs, who share how they turned their business "lemons" into "a juicy fruitful idea" and who co-founded Leesburg's "Lemonade Movement," which has been helping entrepreneurs locally and across the nation. They don't give you money, but they share savvy business strategies. <http://lemonheadsrule.com>



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21242 BEAVERDAM BRIDGE RD, MIDDLEBURG - Beautiful custom stone & stucco home on 9.38 acres. 4 bedrooms, 5 1/2 bathrooms. Main level bedroom, custom kitchen w/ granite & a breakfast bar. Custom bookshelves, 4 fireplaces, 3 car garage with an upstairs apartment. Finished basement, generator, porch off the master suite, a pool, and a minutes to middleburg and Purcellville.

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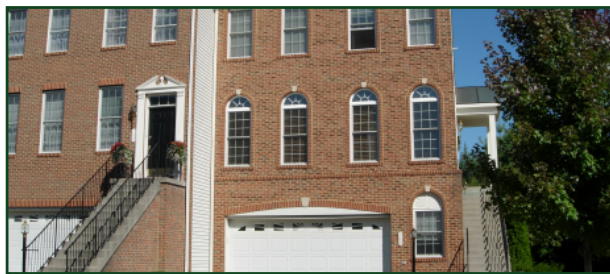


6262 JAMES MADISON, WARRENTON - PRICED TO SELL on 63+AC in FQ CO. Immaculate 4BR house. MA BR and living area open to pool. High ceilings, French doors, great views. 2 small barns, fenced paddocks, creek. Very protected area, private location. Access to miles of riding, Training farm and Polo. Close to Warrenton shops & restaurants. Highland and Wakefield schools nearby.

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PURCELLVILLE, VA - The perfect townhouse with a great Purcellville location. End Unit with very private backyard that backs to trees. 3 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths. Deck. 2 car garage. Finished walk out Basement. Don't miss out!!!



BLUEMONT, VA - Horse Property! Custom built Log Home on almost 14 acres. Gorgeous stone patio with unbelievable VIEWS!!! 4 stall center aisles barn with tack room, feed room and wash stall. Bluestone/rubber riding ring. Blackboard fencing. Auto Waterers. Run in sheds. Work-shop. Pond!! The list goes on and on!!!



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6120 OLD BUST HEAD RD, BROAD RUN - Laughing Fox Farm is a 22ac turnkey Equestrian Facility complete w Huge Indoor & Outdoor Arenas, 4 Bdr, Main Level Master Home w Stone FP & Gourmet Kitchen, Views of Rolling Countryside, 16-Stall Dual Center Isle Barn w heated wash rack, Elec Waters, 9 Paddocks Round Pen, Work Shop w Full Bath, Equip Shed, Run-in Sheds.

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540.729.3428



FQ8176289
\$1,299,000



21450 ROSEDOWN CT MIDDLEBURG, VA -Former Westport III Model Home available on 3+ acres in Middleburg, VA! Light filled open floor plan featuring 5 bedrooms with 4 full and 2 half baths. Fully finished lower level with full bath. Three car garage and a beautiful covered back porch.

PETER PEJACEVICH
540.270.3835



SCOTT BUZZELLI
540.454.1399



25577 ROYAL HUNTER RD, ALDIE - Model Home For Sale! NV Remington Place w/ 4 finished levels. Over \$1M if purchased new! Professionally decorated with every upgrade imaginable! 5 bedrooms, 5 1/2 baths, gourmet kitchen, sun-room, bumpouts, mouldings, built-ins, drapes, rods, wet-bar, landscaped, irrigation, lighting, deck, patio. Amazing VALUE!

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703.774.6109



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\$799,999



6326 JOHN S. MOSBY HWY MIDDLEBURG - Maplestone is a wondrous blend of old country warmth and modern industrial architectural details. A stone and stucco manor, surrounded by 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 with a true Middleburg address.

FQ8034727 • \$750,000

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110 FEDERAL ST. E MIDDLEBURG, VA - Charming 3-4 bedroom house with many recent upgrades. Both levels have 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. Stone fireplace; kitchen with granite; sunporch; separate dining rm. Property is 2 lots & 1 blk from shopping and restaurants. Some amenities: stone terrace, fish pool, fenced gardens, storage building. A must see: It is bigger than it looks!

MARY OWEN CHATFIELD-TAYLOR
540.454.6500



LO8182034
\$475,000

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NEWS OF NOTE WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

KIM AND LINDA HART ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE WEDDINGS OF TWO DAUGHTERS THIS SUMMER



MR. & MRS. O'NEIL - HART.

Celie Hart married Shane O'Neil of Cottage Grove, Oregon, on June 15th at the Hart home on Bloomfield Road in Unison. Celie is an Editor in the Creative Department of Hill Holliday, the leading advertising agency in Boston. Shane is a Therapist at The Commonwealth Center in Brookline, MA, and is finishing his Master's degree in Clinical Social Work at Boston College. Both graduates of Boston University, Celie and Shane were married by Kenneth Elmore, Dean of Students, Boston University. The couple, who both changed their names to O'Neil-Hart, will reside in Boston.



SARAH HART CLERGET REASSURING HER FIRST LOVE.

Sarah (Montana) Hart married Dan Clerget of Imbler, Oregon, on September 28th at the Hart home in Pray, Montana. Sarah is an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Montana. Dan owns and runs two businesses: Minuteman Firearms and Clerget Investments of America. The couple was married by District Judge Russell Fagg, Kim's cousin. Sarah rode her best friend of 22 years, Sam (the horse), into the front yard ceremony. The couple resides in Helena, capital of Montana.

PROPERTIES IN HUNT COUNTRY

BOXER HILL



10 minutes west of Warrenton. The completely private major house overlooks its pond, pastures and horse facilities. All 3 levels have been remodeled. Newly built are the heated pool & pool house, the center aisle stable with heated office with full kitchen & bath, round pen, ring run in sheds and miles of black board fencing. Half the 79+ acres are hardwoods with riding trails & a creek running thru.

\$1,500,000
Susie Ashcom (540) 729-1478

CHILTON'S GATE



103 acres above the Rappahannock River with 1,000 ft. of river frontage. There is also a wildflower/habitat land and a lake. A lovely in-law cottage, built for an earlier Chilton, serves today as a comfortable home that could be used as a "wed a Terre" while building a larger residence. The farm is currently in Land Use. It sits a mile down river from the Fauquier Springs golf course and 12 minutes to Warrenton.

\$1,300,000
Susie Ashcom (540) 229-3201

WALNUT HALL



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CHESTNUT HOLLOW



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NEWS OF NOTE

HELIPORTS AND PARKING METERS

DAN MORROW

Helicopters, hearses, and wedding limousines all required special attention from the Middleburg Town Council over the past month.

Queries from Salamander Resort and Spa about how helicopters could be used by and for their guests generated questions and lengthy discussion of helicopter flight paths, safety, noise, horses, dogs, and sleep.

A request to reserve more than thirty parking spaces on the Town's main street during a busy shopping weekend, generated even longer discussions about the economic impact of parking re-

strictions and the hardships they caused for planners of weddings, funerals, and other special services and celebrations.

Thou Shalt Not Park

Town Administrator Semmes informed Council at their October work session that Middleburg United Methodist Church revised their policies and the guideline they distributed for weddings and funerals at the church to reflect council's concern about multi-hour reservations of large numbers of public parking spaces for weddings, funerals, and other private events.

At its regular October meeting Tyler Gore, of Royston

Funeral Home, asked Council to reconsider its proposed new parking guidelines.

For a funeral, he noted, he was now given five free spaces though he really needed nine. That shouldn't be a burden, he told council. Funeral services, he observed, usually only last twenty to twenty-five minutes.

Gore also noted that only two churches that were really affected by the new guidelines and in his view there was really no good reason for new and more stringent rules.

Gore understood, he said, how a request for more than thirty spaces in the business district for an entire day would create genuine concern. He noted, however,

that this has only occurred once and that no other nearby town imposed such tight restrictions on parking.

He believed, he said, that the issue would work itself out if Council resisted the temptation to impose rigid and inflexible guidelines and regulations.

After lengthy discussion Council agreed to let the staff administratively handle any issues related to the need for more than five parking spaces for funerals under special conditions.

Town Clerk North then noted that because Council was proposing an increase in the fee for reserved parking from \$10 to \$25 per day per space, the fee increase would need to be advertised for a public hearing.

Choppers over Middleburg

At its October work session Town Administrator Semmes, acting on behalf of Vice Mayor Darlene Kirk, asked Council to consider the impact on the town and its neighbors posed by regular helicopter landings at the Salamander Resort.

Councilmember Mark Snyder suggested the Council consider adding a restriction to the town's noise ordinance to restrict the hours a helicopter could land or take-off or, alternatively, to treat helicopter noise in the same way the Town regulates noise from fireworks.

Mayor Davis reminded Council that Councilmember Trowbridge Littleton was a pilot who, while he was her next door neighbor, flew a helicopter for a Congressman. He kept the helicopter in his back yard, she said, and flew to Washington, DC, most mornings. It was not a problem, she said, though she may have heard him start it up every now and then.

Town Administrator Semmes noted that the State adopted regulations in 2012 that would prevent a locality from imposing a total ban on helicopter departures and landings for personal use, but did allow a locality to require a special exception permit and impose "reasonable conditions" for repetitive helicopter landings on the same parcel of land.

Town Planner Beniamino agreed and suggested Council instruct town staff to ask the Town Planning Commission to move forward on drafting just such a regulation.

Well 4's Welfare

At a town council work session Councilmember Mark Snyder expressed concern that construction activity at the Middleburg Professional Center, including possible blasting, might have a negative impact on the Town's already problem-plagued Well Number 4.

Town Administer Semmes later reported that a special investigation of an accident that had caused the shutdown of the Well 4 treatment plant had gone well, resulting in a reversal of a decision by Virginia Municipal League insurance authorities not

to cover the costs of repair.

Based on new information, discussion with the town's utility consultant and town staff, VML informed the town on October 1st that it would cover the accident under Middleburg's current insurance policy. The new decision should save the town "several hundred thousand dollars," according to Town Administrator Semmes, who singled out Bob Krallinger, Middleburg's outside utility consultant, for special praise.

Semmes also reported that the contractor for the Well 4 repairs was able to repair and rebuild some of the valves the Town thought it would have to replace, that they had successfully refilled the system with water and pressurized it. After the plant's filters are re-bedded, Semmes reported, the last step before putting the plant back on line would be to re-chlorinate the water and test the system one last time.

Police

Chief of Police A. J. Panebianco reported that he had met with officials from the Virginia Department of Transportation about safety at the Pendleton Street intersection. There is now, he noted, a STOP bar newly painted on the pavement, noting that he would look into painting the word "STOP" on the pavement there as well.

In addition, a police officer has been assigned to the intersection to determine daily how many moving violations were occurring.

His officers, he noted, observed a few motorists speeding on their way out of the resort but, in his view, there was a much greater perception of speeding on Pendleton than actual breaking of the law.

Panebianco recognized Officer Jay Hollins for volunteering to be the instructor for a tactical first aid course class for the Department. Middleburg's officers are also scheduled to receive CPR training in the near future.

RoboCalls in Emergencies

The Town has long been seeking a more efficient way to communicate with its citizens on short notice, especially during emergencies. Town Clerk North reported that she found two companies that provide automated phone alert systems (robocalls) for local governments and small businesses that appeared to be easy to use and did not require a monthly minimum call commitment.

Economic Development Consultant Hired

Town Administrator Martha Semmes and Economic Development Coordinator Cindy Pearson met with members of the board of the Middleburg Business and Professional Association to formally begin work on new initiatives for the year ahead. The town has retained Kennedy

Continued Page 11

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NEWS OF NOTE

MIDDLEBURG REMEMBERS THE KENNEDYS

On Sunday, November 10th, the Mosby Heritage Area Association is hosting *Middleburg Remembers the Kennedys* from 2:00-4:00pm at the Sheila C. Johnson Performing Arts Center at the Hill School, 130 S. Madison Street, Middleburg, Virginia 20117.

The event will offer an intimate glimpse into the time the Kennedy family spent in Middleburg, on the 50th anniversary weekend of their last visit together to Middleburg.

Middleburg Remembers the Kennedys will be a touching event for many, especially those who remember attending Mass

with the Kennedys, those who rode with Jackie and the children, those who bumped into Jackie at the feed store, and simply those who admire the Kennedys.

The nation will be bracing for the 50th anniversary of the assassination twelve days after this event, but on November 10th, the Mosby Heritage Area Association strives to remember the happy times of Camelot with the young, vibrant family we called our neighbors.

The event will open with Don Woodruff, Hill School history teacher and Kennedy campaign worker, who will offer an introduction to JFK's presidency.

Next, local author and his-

torian, Eugene Scheel, will discuss the Kennedy presence in 1960s Middleburg.

Finishing the discussion will be Howard Allen, the photographer who captured many candid moments of Mrs. Kennedy and the children on horseback at their homes in Middleburg. Mr. Allen has just released a book, *Unforgotten Times*, about his time with the Kennedys. The book shows never-before-released photographs of the Kennedys taken here in Hunt Country and it will be available for signing and purchase on November 10th.

Also contributing to the event will be Taylor Shapiro, reporter for the Washington Post,

whose mother, Vicky Moon, authored the book *The Private Passion of Jackie Kennedy Onassis: Portrait of a Rider*.

To close, the speakers will engage in an intimate discussion, with personal memories of the

Kennedy family while they were here in Middleburg.

Tickets are available at 540-687-6681 or www.mosby-heritagearea.org for \$30 for MHA members and \$40 for non-members.

THEGIFTMERCHANT.COM

Kristine Rich has 24 years experience in the gift industry, which she started while still in college. While selling fine china & crystal in 1988, she fell in love with quality, handmade products from Ireland. Kristine opened her own store

in Middleburg in 1989, which was The Irish Crystal Company. In 1997, she expanded the offerings at the store to include mouth blown, hand painted ornaments from Poland & Italy. Through the years, she enjoyed working with her family, meeting new customers, & making new friends from around the country & overseas. Kristine's experiences at the Irish Crystal Company included working with different companies, golf tournaments, and individuals finding the best gifts & awards possible for their events and special occasions.

Kristine decided to take a break & closed her store to stay home to be a mom in 2004. She always enjoyed selling crystal, china, & Christmas ornaments and missed the excitement & fun of working with her customers. During the spring of 2013, she decided to launch TheGiftMerchant.com.

Kristine's focus now is selling on the internet to provide her customers with the best possible products & service. You will find many lines of fine gifts on her website such as Waterford Crystal, Wedgwood China, Royal Albert China, and ornament lines like Christopher Radko, Joy to the World Collectibles, Polonaise & Cotton Colors. She has beautiful quality gifts for every occasion whether it is a new baby, new home, birthday or wedding. TheGiftMerchant.com has an extensive collection of the most current tea ware on the market. The collection of ornaments that can be found on TheGiftMerchant.com is spectacular! Some of the ornaments may be personalized. If you have a special event that you need a quantity of gifts, Christopher Radko, Joy to the World Collectibles, & Cotton Colors all have customization programs for their ornament lines. She would love to work with you to create your own custom ornament for your event.

Kristine is excited to be one of the new vendors at the Middleburg Christmas Show at the Episcopal Church in November. She will have lots of gifts that will be great for Christmas as well as large selection of Christmas ornaments for sale. TheGiftMerchant.com will also have a day at the Christmas Show where a representative from the Cotton Colors ornament line will be personalizing ornaments with names & dates for customers. If you need a gift before the Christmas Show please email her at Kristine@TheGiftMerchant.com or call 703-880-3082.

ALEX & WALTER WOODSON JOIN MIDDLEBURG REAL ESTATE/ATOKA PROPERTIES



Walter & Alex Woodson are excited to have just joined forces with Middleburg Real Estate and Atoka Properties, the oldest and most prestigious real estate firm in the area. They will be working in company offices in Middleburg, Purcellville and Leesburg, bringing the highest levels of service and integrity to their clients.

In addition to their specific real estate experiences and expertise, the Woodsons bring a unique array of talents to the table to support their clients.

A cum laude graduate of New York University and Manhattan native, Alex worked for nearly a decade in the intelligence community where her discretion was key and where her organizational, analytical and communications skills were honed, and which she applies now in her work for clients.

While raising her family, Alex was extremely active in her community, in her child's school, in various civic and social groups and within her church. Most recently, she served on the Vestry and as Junior Warden at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upperville and on the board of the Upperville Garden Club. She also is an ac-

tive member of the Middleburg Garden Club. Alex and Walter were asked and served for three years on the Parents' Council of their daughter's school; Seawane: The University of the South.

About to enter his 10th year in real estate, Walter's work runs the gamut from upper end estates, to family-oriented homes, to weekend getaways for those lucky enough to escape to the country. He also handles select land sales.

Also a graduate of New York University, Walter spent 25 years in governmental and public affairs, most recently as Senior Vice President of a major national trade group and then as COO and Secretary/Treasurer of another high-powered lobbying firm. These posts required significant managerial, budgetary, communications, public relations, marketing/advertising and political skills.

Walter began his DC career serving as legislative director for a senior member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Walter, a native North Carolinian – but with deep Virginia roots going back to 1600s – moved with Alex to Alexandria, Virginia, in 1979. They moved to Middleburg in 2004.

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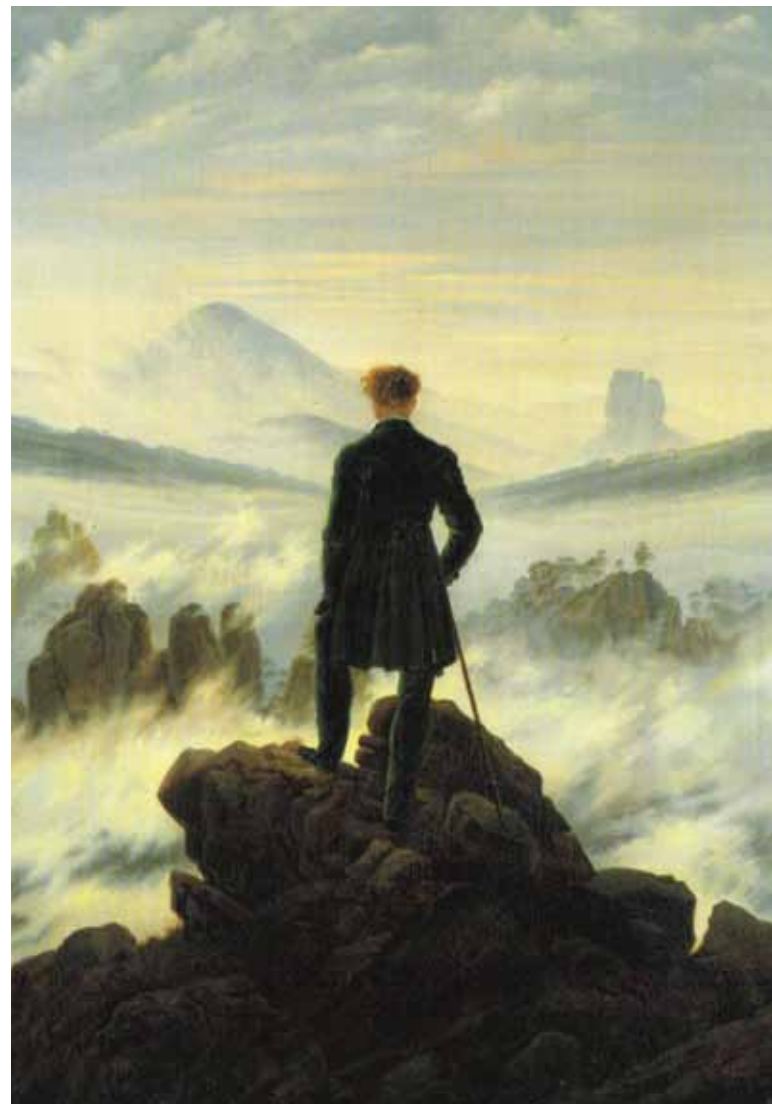
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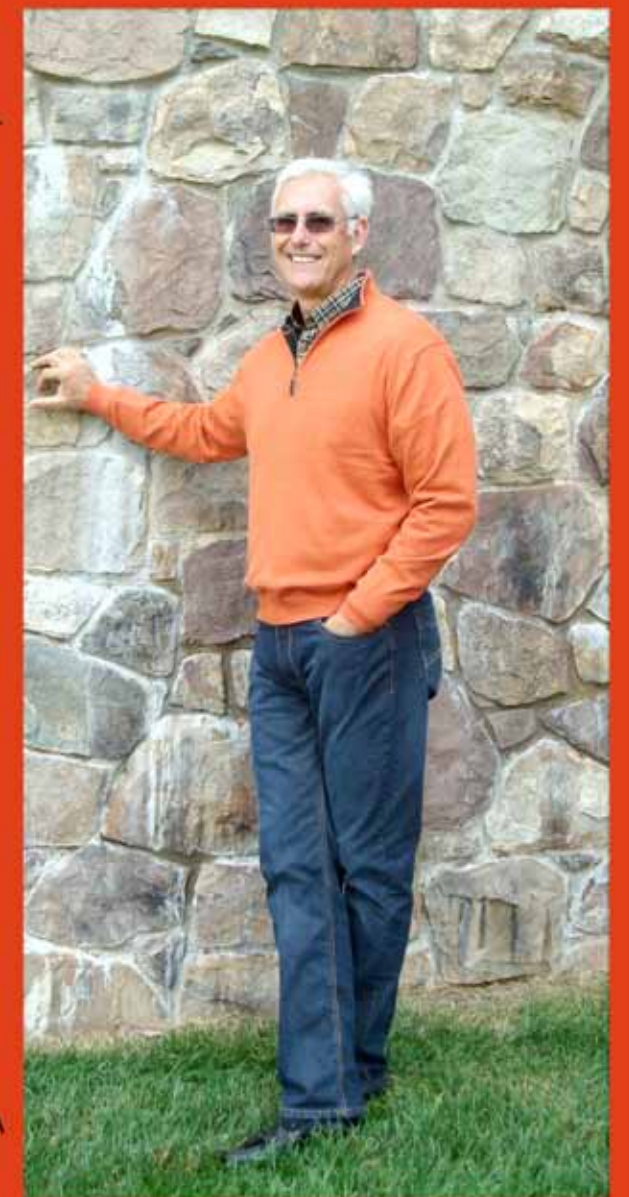
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NEWS OF NOTE

BIDDING GREATLY EXCEEDS ESTIMATES AT LONG BRANCH AUCTION

Spirited bidding amid a standing room only crowd at Potomack Company's Fine Collections Auction on October 5 and 6 exceeded pre-sale estimates for high-end 18th and 19th century antiques and sporting art from the Harry Z. Isaacs Collection of Historic Long Branch estate museum in Virginia, and Chinese art continued its strong run at Potomack in the two-day sale.

Bidders at the nationally

recognized Alexandria, VA, auction house traveled from all over the United States as well as Ireland and London to compete for the collection that was assembled for Long Branch by Isaacs, a Baltimore businessman and philanthropist.

Elizabeth Wainstein, owner of Potomack Company, was thrilled with the results. "Prices this high for American furniture have not been seen since prior to 2007," said Wainstein. "It is wonderful to see excitement again for pe-

riod eighteenth century furniture."

Twelve Federal assembled carved mahogany dining chairs from New York, circa 1800, were estimated at \$3,000-5,000 and realized \$49,937. A George III gilt bronze and cut glass six-light chandelier attributed to Parker and Perry dated the last quarter of the 18th century sold for \$44,062 against an estimate of \$5,000-8,000.

A standout among the sporting-themed paintings in

the Long Branch collection was Maiden Hurdle, Clonmel by Peter Curling (Irish, 1955-), acquired by Harry Isaacs from Tryon Gallery, Ltd., in London and sold at Potomack for \$12,925. Silver from numerous consigners was in high demand; in particular, a George III armorial silver epergne from Long Branch made in London in 1768 by Daniel Smith and Robert Sharp that brought \$32,312 from an estimate of \$6,000-8,000.

On Sunday the excite-

ment in the gallery continued as Potomack welcomed Chinese bidders who at times enthusiastically shouted "Sold!" before their bid had even been hammered down as the winning price. Asian works continued their strong showing at Potomack, especially a collection of over 100 lots from the personal library of works by Wang Jiyuan (1893-1975), including many from the Ming and Qing Dynasties, together with 10 pieces of calligraphy dedicated to him by Yun Yufren, Wang Fang Yu, Tan Yan Kai and Liu Jiang Duan. Jiyuan was an established watercolorist and oil painter who founded the renowned Tien Ma Society in Shanghai to promote Western Style art.

High lots from the Wang Jiyuan collection included Lot 576 - He Tong and Su Xuen Ming (1623) Seal Catalogue that sold for \$52,87, Lot 694 - Kang Youwei (Chinese 1858-1927) Couplets, ink on paper scroll (\$44,062) and Lot 699 - Yu Youren (Chinese 1879-1964) Cursive Calligraphy ink on rice paper, which brought \$64,625 against an estimate of \$4,000-6,000.

A rare sandstone carved head of Bodhisattva probably from Cave 17 at Yungang sold for \$99,875 with an estimate of \$6,000-9,000. Rounding out the Fine Collections Sale were a large assortment of vintage couture jewelry by makers such as Hobe, Pennino, Chanel and Boucher and an impressive group of life size bronze busts portraying great legal figures from our nation's history such as John Jay, Oliver Wendell Holmes and John Marshall consigned by the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association and including works by sculptor Felix de Weldon, sculptor of the Iwo Jima Memorial.

Potomack kicked off its Splash! series of special events in the week leading up to the October sale with a jewelry exhibition and talk by specialist Jane Gehrig, a discussion on what makes a great piece of furniture collectible and tour of the Long Branch furniture by Matthew Sturtevant, former Christie's department head and furniture specialist, and a fashion show reception featuring couture models strolling through the gallery wearing designer clothing provided by Neiman Marcus Mazza Gallerie and designer gowns consigned by an heir of the renowned department store's president Stanley Marcus.

The Potomack Company is a fine art and antiques auction house located at 1120 North Fairfax Street in Alexandria, VA. For additional information, visit www.potomackcompany.com or call 703-684-4550. Potomack's next catalogue sale will be December 7.

CONTINUING SPECTACULAR FIRST SEASON NSLM OFFERS TWO EXHIBITS & SYMPOSIUM



ARTISTS ROBIN HILL AND MEG PAGE WITH CLAUDIA PFEIFFER, NSLM CURATOR



ROBIN HILL, MARCIA CARTER, GAYLE AND TOM DELASHMUTT

Autumn and winter visitors to the National Sporting Library & Museum will have the rare opportunity to see stunning portrayals of birds, animals and fish created by contemporary artists whose work is informed by the tradition of early artist-naturalists.

These intimate studies are presented in two exhibitions: *Contemporary Artist-Naturalists Robin Hill and Meg Page*, October 12 - February 25, 2014, in the Museum and *Teaming with Nature: James Prosek* October 25, 2013 - January 30, 2014, in the Library.

There is a long tradition of viewing nature as both resource and partner among people who engage in

equestrian, angling and field sports. Recent National Sporting Library & Museum exhibitions have explored Izaak Walton's ideas on the contemplation and celebration of nature; the emergence of the artist-naturalist; and the 19th century intersection between field sports and the evolution of conservation.

Contemporary artist-naturalists Robin Hill and Meg Page, both deeply connected to the natural world, continue in the spirit of Dürer, Catesby, Wilson and Audubon, rendering flora and fauna from near and afar.

Unlike their predecessors,

however, who oftentimes found themselves cataloguing new species in a lush, abundant and untouched environment, Hill and Page as naturalists face the modern issue of documenting and preserving wildlife in a diminishing habitat.

"As artists, their exhibit of approximately thirty masterful and distinct interpretations distinguishes them from their peers and presents work that rises to the level of their forerunners," notes George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. Curator Claudia Pfeiffer.

Robin Hill and Meg Page will present gallery walks at the Museum on November 16, 2013, in conjunction with the Library symposium "Perspectives on Teaming with Nature."

On Saturday, November 16, 2013, the NSLM will present a symposium called "Perspectives on Teaming with Nature" that continues the tradition by exploring 21st century opportunities and challenges.

The symposium features acclaimed leaders who are deeply engaged with the natural world in their respective fields: scientist and conservationist Thomas E. Lovejoy; Smithsonian art historian Eleanor Jones Harvey; conservationist and historic preservationist Gerald Adelmann; and artist, writer, naturalist and conservationist



James Prosek. Participants will be able to learn how these leaders have creatively "teamed" with nature in art history, conservation, science, historic preservation and the visual arts.

There will also be an opportunity to learn how to build broader awareness within one's own community, especially in museums and educational settings.

A variety of visitor opportunities are planned to support the all-day symposium, Saturday, November 16, 2013, that begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Founders' Room of the NSLM Library.

The speaker schedule includes Lovejoy, Adelmann, Harvey and Prosek speaking in the morning with Hill, Page, Roberts and Mathewes speaking in the afternoon.

Registration will open on Tuesday, October 15th. The cost is \$50.00 (NSLM members \$35.00).

Please call 540-687-6542 ext. 10 or email jshreehan@nsl.org. Limited seating.

Have you ever been sued for telling the truth?

About a year or so ago, I was unjustly arrested and accused of many crimes that carried the potential penalty of 120 years in prison. Jack Goehring pressed charges against me for something I was innocent of, and he even scheduled a photographer to be on hand to document my arrest in an effort to defame me, no matter the result of a judge's decision. Given that the accusations were untrue, I am pleased with the positive outcome of that trial. Now, Jack Goehring is suing the *Middleburg Eccentric* newspaper, its publisher, Dan Morrow, and me for 9.4 million dollars for defamation of his name, for running a story that outlined the truth related to the charges that were brought against me during that time. I have done my very best over the years to deliver unbiased truth in the *Eccentric*, and I value dearly the First Amendment which supports freedom of speech. Today, I am reaching out to the community for support in defending Dan Morrow, myself and this publication against the baseless accusations of Jack Goehring. I am again being unconscionably attacked and sued. As many well know, the financial burden to defend oneself can be debilitating. Any support you can offer would be greatly appreciated.

Dee Dee Hubbard
Editor in Chief
Middleburg Eccentric, LLC

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NEWS OF NOTE

P. BUCKLEY MOSS RELEASES VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS PAINTING AT FRAMECRAFT

World-renowned artist P. Buckley Moss was recently at Framecraft, 64 Main Street in Old Town Warrenton and sign her work. During the show, Ms. Moss released her new painting entitled Virginia is for Lovers.

The State of Virginia provided exclusive permission for the title of this historic painting. The original painting, and the limited edition giclee on paper are available for purchase.

P. Buckley Moss, a resident of Waynesboro, Virginia since 1964, is one of America's most prized living artists. She is well known for her portrayals of

the Amish and her tranquil landscapes. An extensive collection of her work are displayed and may be purchased at Framecraft including paintings, prints, ornaments, books, puzzles, and gifts.

Ms. Moss completed a historic Old Town Warrenton Series, commissioned by Framecraft, in 2012 that included her painting of the Mosby House entitled Historic Charm, the 2010 painting of the Old Courthouse called Warmth Within Warrenton, and her 2009 painting of the Warren Green Hotel entitled Teddy's Ride.

An alumna of New York's prestigious Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art,



Ms. Moss is a formally educated and accomplished artist. Her work is admired by both academics and collectors and is represented in more than 200 galleries worldwide. Today thousands of

collectors throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan recognize and appreciate the distinctive look and exceptional appeal of art by P. Buckley Moss.

A SPECTACULAR CHRISTMAS IN HORSE COUNTRY MIDDLEBURG TROTS OUT THEIR FINEST FOR HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES

Located in the heart of Virginia horse country, Middleburg, has been extolled as being one of the quaintest destinations on the east coast. The traditional Christmas festivities, with the backdrop of a classic hunt country village have become a family tradition and essential part of the spirit of Christmas for small children, world travelers, and citizens far and wide.

Christmas in Middleburg is a wonderful community event. Festivities begin at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, December 7 with Breakfast with Santa and a silent auction at Middleburg Elementary School.

Starting at 11 a.m. the Middleburg Hunt Review takes to the streets creating a spectacular sight as approximately 100 horses, riders in pink coats and dozens of hounds come through the town. Throughout the day there are hayrides, choir performances, The LCPRCS Craft Fair at the Middleburg Community Center (300 West Washington Street), the Middleburg Garden Club's Christmas Flower & Greens Show at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, as well as shopping and dining in the town's shops and restaurants.

The Middleburg Christmas Parade begins at 2 p.m. as spectators line the sidewalks along Washington Street (Route 50) to watch as a unique assortment of floats, troops, and musical groups march by. In keeping with the animal friendliness of the town, the parade includes horses, llamas, alpacas and dogs. Not to be missed are the antique fire trucks and of course, Santa brings up the rear riding on a beautiful horse drawn coach.

Back by popular demand is the Christmas in Middleburg Wine Crawl. From 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., the progressive wine tasting will feature Virginia wines at Middleburg Country Inn, Barrel Oak Tasting Room and Gallery, Home Farm Store, The Wine Cellar,

Middleburg Common Grounds, Market Salamander, Goodstone Inn & Restaurant, and Olio Tasting Room. Visit www.ChristmasinMiddleburg.org for a full list of wine crawl stops.

"Christmas in Middleburg is a wonderful family event," said Parade Organizer Jim Herbert. "This year's event will be especially exciting because the parade will feature many new additions; there will also be unique activities taking place throughout the day for visitors to enjoy."

The Middleburg Business and Professional Association will host a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on Friday, December 6. Caroling begins at 5 p.m., behind the Pink Box Visitor Center at 12 North Madison St. The Christmas Tree Lighting will be followed by the Third Annual Holiday Concert at A Place to Be. Recitals begin at 6:15 p.m.

Event parking for Christmas in Middleburg will be available for \$5 per vehicle, one mile east of Middleburg on Rt. 50. Free shuttle service will be provided. For more information call the Pink Box Visitor Center at 540-687-8888 or email Organizer@ChristmasinMiddleburg.org. Visit www.ChristmasinMiddleburg.org to view an event schedule, list of activities, shop specials, and more. Proceeds from Christmas in Middleburg will benefit Seven Loaves and Middleburg FISH.

Getting there: Middleburg is located approximately 45 minutes from Washington, DC and is in close proximity to Dulles International Airport. To get there from metropolitan Washington, take I-66 West to Route 50 West (Exit 57B) toward Winchester. Drive approximately 25 miles to Middleburg. Event parking will be available for \$5 per vehicle, one mile east of Middleburg on Rt. 50. Free shuttle service will be provided.

DR. TONY WELLS HONORED

Middleburg author Tony Wells was recently honored by the Naval Submarine League for his article, "Air Raid Petropavlovsk: A Drill to a Strategy" which appeared in the winter, 2013 edition of *The Submarine Review*.

The Naval Submarine League's Literary Awards were presented at the Naval Submarine League's Annual Symposium Awards Luncheon, that took place on Thursday, October 24th, at the Fairview Park Marriott in Falls Church.

Dr. Wells has served as an officer in both British and American navies, and is the author of the *The Golden Few*, the true story of a group of young men who ran for Britain in the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games and four years later found themselves engaged in an air war of survival high above the English countryside and over the English Channel.

HELIPORTS AND PARKING METERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Smith of the CLUE group to do a "reconnaissance visit," conduct an economic development brainstorming session, and make recommendations for next steps for consideration by the town and its business leaders.

Main Street Middleburg Committee Active

Mayor Betsy Davis called for more active participation in the town's Main Street Middleburg Committee, an effective though now unofficial organization that has remained engaged in spite of the disbandment of the State's former Main Street Program.

The group, Davis noted, met regularly discussed local events from a very local perspective, and regularly brainstormed ideas.

In the Mayor's view, "... the attendees got more out of the Main Street Committee meetings than the Biz Buzz events as they had an exchange of ideas."

Her fear, she said, was "people did not attend these meetings because they believed they were the same as the Business and Professional Association's regularly scheduled Biz Buzz meetings."

Audit

Mitchell and Company, the town's long-serving official auditors, completed their preliminary field work in the Town Offices in late September, met with the Town Administrator and Treasurer, and are currently scheduled to make their formal audit presentation to Town Council on November 14.

Senator Jill H. Vogel Legislative Update October 21, 2013



As we approach fall, our Senate office is focused on legislation and preparation for the upcoming Senate session and we continue our constituent service work. In recent weeks, that has included traveling the district to speak to civic groups, local elected officials, educators, public safety representatives, environmental groups, businesses and others who are interested in policy issues before the Senate. It is an invaluable way to communicate and to learn. I also serve on a number of governing bodies that continued their work through the summer and fall, including the Senate Finance Committee, the Courts of Justice Committee, the General Laws and Technology Committee, the Rules Committee and the Board of Trustees of the Land Conservation Foundation.

I chair the Senate Finance Subcommittee on General Government and Technology which oversees funding for all state employees, courts and technology. We met last week to hear testimony on a number of important funding concerns that we hope to address in the next budget. Other committees on which I serve that met this month include the Finance Subcommittee on Public Safety, Subcommittee on Health and Human Resources, Joint Subcommittee to Evaluate Tax Preferences and the Commemorative Commission to Honor the Contributions of the Women of Virginia.

I have spent countless hours with my colleagues during these discussions, considering budget issues and legislative questions carried over from the 2013 session. Our deliberations are also in preparation for the next two-year budget which will be introduced at the end of this year. Not surprisingly, our concerns have focused on what federal action will affect Virginia, including the sequester, healthcare and the federal shutdown. In my opinion, Congress' action on the shutdown was appalling. It is a sharp contrast to how Virginia does business and a reminder that we should be very proud of the much more collaborative, bi-partisan spirit of Virginia's legislature that has distinguished Virginia as the best managed state, best state to do business and best place to raise a child. So often, the narrative about government policy is all gloom and doom. However, that is not the case in Virginia and our recent record of success should be a source of pride.

The Governor and the Secretary of Finance recently provided briefings to our committees, highlighting some of those successes. It is an impressive record. Virginia ended fiscal year 2013 with a budget surplus of \$585 million, part of a cumulative four-year surplus of almost \$2 billion. While other states are functionally bankrupt and operate in the red, Virginia remains the top performing state. It is the result of conservative revenue projections and realistic budgeting. Virginia's Constitution and our budget bill allocate the additional revenue to areas currently in need. Those include the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund which will receive \$31.5 million and help meet our obligations under the Watershed Improvement Plan to accelerate efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay. Other portions of the surplus are required to repay \$21.7 million to the Transportation

Trust Fund and to cover \$34.5 million in Virginia's obligations resulting from recent natural disasters. In other good news, Virginia added 172,600 net new jobs over the last 30 months, 90% in the private sector. Unemployment dropped from 7.4% in February of 2010 to 5.5% this fall, making it the lowest rate in the Southeast. Also, despite budget cuts, Virginia still added \$400 million in funding for higher education. That produced the lowest average yearly tuition increase in a decade and added 14,000 new in-state student slots at our schools. Virginia increased teacher pay by 2% and focused on programs for those who are struggling, including initiatives that helped reduce Virginia's homeless population by 16%. We have also recently returned \$45 million to localities, helped agricultural and forestry industries grow through new funding programs, added more funding to the Port of Virginia to prepare for the 2015 widening of the Panama Canal and funded new infrastructure at Wallops Island to make Virginia's Spaceport a national leader.

Currently, indecision and lack of leadership coming from Washington pose the greatest threats to Virginia. Much is unknown given the federal government's inability to pass a budget and address the nation's exploding debt. The federal Affordable Health Care Act also has a significant impact. Virginia's current budget requires sweeping reform of the Medicaid system prior to any expansion. To put things in perspective, however, our state spending on Medicaid has increased by 1600% in the last three decades and the new expansion will pose even greater challenges. All of this means that those of us in state legislatures have to work much harder to be prepared.

As always, I take your thoughts and opinions seriously and hope that you will contact our office any time that you have questions or concerns. You may contact the Winchester office at 540-662-4551, the Warrenton office at 540-341-8808 or send an email to jillvogel@senate27.com.

Paid for and authorized by Jill H. Vogel for Senate

PROGENY

CATHERINE MCGEHEE NAMED HEAD OF FOXCROFT

DIRECTOR OF ST. CATHERINE'S UPPER SCHOOL TO SUCCEED MARY LOUISE LEIPHEIMER AT PREMIER GIRLS SCHOOL



Catherine Smylie McGehee has been named head of school at the Foxcroft School in Middleburg, VA, Chair of the School's Board of Trustees Reggie Groves '76 announced recently.

McGehee, whose appointment is effective July 1, 2014, currently serves as the Director of the Upper School at St. Catherine's School, in Richmond, VA. She succeeds Mary Louise Leipheimer, who is retiring after 25 years at the helm. One of the pre-

eminent day and boarding schools for girls in the country, Foxcroft is celebrating its Centennial this year.

"What a pleasure and honor it is to announce Cathy as our next head of school," said Groves "As an individual and as an educator, Cathy holds the qualities and skills that the Board, the Search Committee, and the Foxcroft community feel are essential to successfully lead the School at this critical juncture."

"I am honored to serve as Foxcroft's Head of School as the School embarks on this exciting chapter in its history," said McGehee. "I look forward to working with the community to create a vision for the next 200 years and to helping young women from around the world realize their educational, professional, and vocational goals."

A native Virginian, McGehee has spent the past 18 years at St. Catherine's. Before being named Director of the Up-

per School in 2006, she served as chair of the School's English Department (K-12) and taught English in the Upper School. Previously, McGehee taught English in Eden Prairie, Wayzata, and Burnsville, MN, and at Fluvanna County High School in Palmyra, VA. She also has been a frequent presenter at independent school conferences, including the National Coalition of Girls Schools and the Virginia Association of Independent Schools, and has lectured at the University of Rich-

mond.

McGehee holds a Bachelor of Science in English from Vanderbilt University and master's degrees in English and Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the College of William and Mary and the University of Richmond, respectively. McGehee is married to Dr. Read McGehee, III, an ophthalmologist. They have two daughters, Eliza, a recent Vanderbilt graduate currently pursuing a master's at James Madison University, and Jane, a freshman at Davidson College.

The announcement concludes a yearlong search led by Committee Co-chairs Groves and Sally Bartholomay Downey, 1978 graduate and current trustee.

"The Search Committee was overwhelmed by the commitment from all constituencies to engage actively in the search process and by the caliber of the candidates who applied," they said. "Foxcroft is clearly beloved."

Founded in 1914, Foxcroft School (www.foxcroft.org) is a college-preparatory boarding and day school for girls in grades 9-12 located in Middleburg VA. Its 2013-14 student body is comprised of 165 girls from 21 states and the District of Columbia, and nine foreign countries. About one-third of the students receive financial assistance. Nearly three-quarters of the students are boarders and more than 80 percent of the faculty and administrators live on campus.

Foxcroft offers 75 courses, including 15 Advanced Placement classes and an innovative STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) program. It fields athletic teams in nine sports, including a nationally-known riding program and Virginia state finalist field hockey and lacrosse teams. The 36 members of the Class of 2013 were offered 139 acceptances and nearly \$1.2 million in merit scholarships from 100 colleges and universities in the U.S., England, France and Scotland, including Barnard, Cornell, UCLA, Washington & Lee, Virginia, and Virginia Tech.

EAGLE PROJECT BENEFITS GOLDEN DREAMS THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER



One of the final steps to becoming an eagle scout is to complete your eagle project. Noah Holt's eagle project was to build a three-stall run in shed for Golden Dreams Therapeutic Riding Center, Middleburg, VA a non-profit organization founded to help children and adults with disabilities to gain positive mental and physical experiences through equine-assisted activities. Lisa Vella, co-founder of Golden dreams couldn't have been happier. "We are a community based non profit, and to have a local gentleman such as Noah approach us with this project was an absolute gift. He and his family and friends hit the ground running and our horses could not be happier and either could we," said Vella.

This project was quite the undertaking as it took several weeks and hundreds of man-hours to complete and at times in very harsh weather. Every one knows that the success of a project is only as good as its volunteers. In this case, the volunteers came out in full force. Noah had the younger scouts from Troop

163 in Purcellville paint the wooden boards green and white while the older scouts and adults handled the more challenging tasks of measuring, sawing and using the nail gun. Since Noah was a relative newcomer to the troop a few of his friends and troop leader traveled from Vienna to assist with the project.

Many donations were made to help with the costs as well. Loudoun Lumber was a important donor with their discounts and donations and the project cost was lowered. Purcellville Paint and the Home Depot contributed with their discounts and ECS, LLC, (Engineering Consulting Services) gave Golden Dreams a generous donation. While these donations were appreciated, Noah is still in need of funding for the project. The total cost was \$3500.00. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to help this worthy cause please send a check payable to Golden Dreams Therapeutic Riding, c/o Noah Holt Eagle Project, 21250 St. Louis Rd., Middleburg, VA 20117 or online at www.goldendreamsriding.org and mention Noah Holt.

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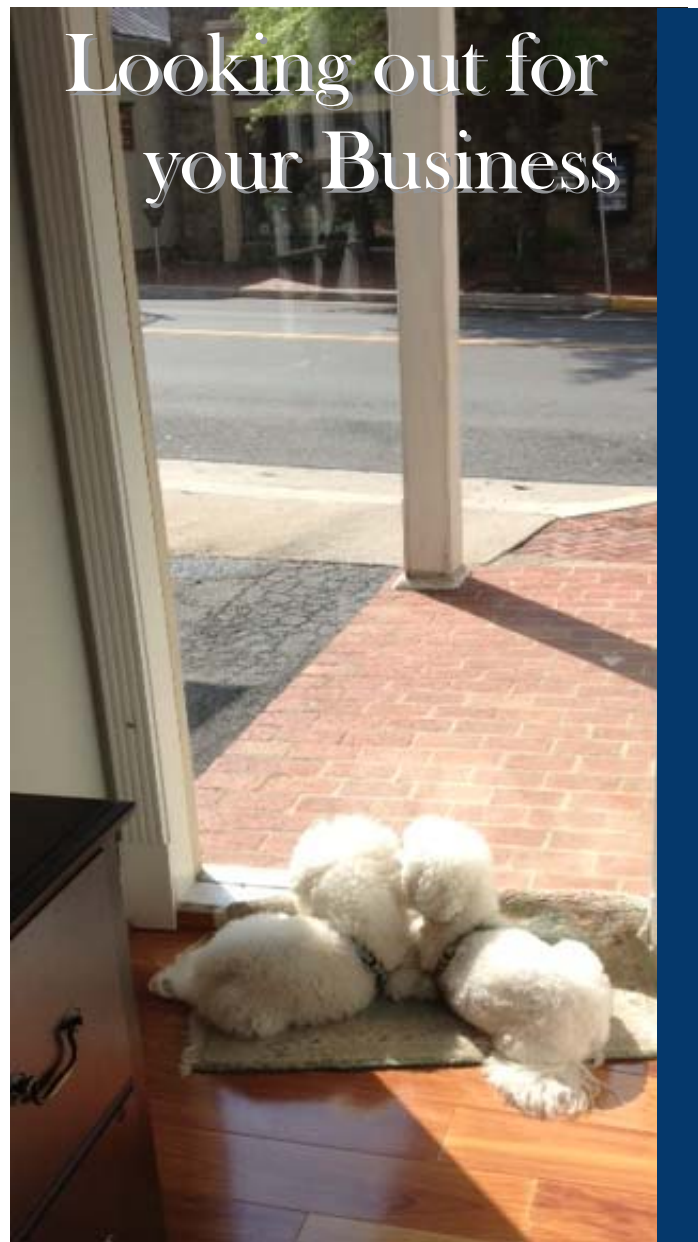
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PROGENY

WAKEFIELD SCHOOL SELECTS COLÓN AS NEW HEAD



Wakefield School's Board of Trustees has unanimously selected David M. Colón as the next Head of School. He will officially begin his duties on July 1, 2014.

Colón is currently the Academic Dean at Collegiate School, a leading K-12 college preparatory school of more than 1,600 students located in Richmond.

After earning an undergraduate degree in history from American University, he went on to complete a master's degree in Early Modern European History at Harvard University, where he was a teaching fellow.

During his time at Harvard, he also was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship.

He began his independent school career as a history teacher, and later history department chair, at the Nightingale Bamford School in New York City. He joined Collegiate School as history department chair in 2001 and became Academic Dean in 2003.

While his education and background are rooted in classical values, his academic leadership has focused on innovation for the 21st century, including forming global education partnerships, integrating technology in the classroom, developing project-based teaching methods, and building school-wide community engagement.

Colón said he was drawn to Wakefield School by its strong academic programs, its values, and its amazing community.

"It was Wakefield's classical values that initially spoke to me," he said. "Once I stepped foot onto Wakefield's campus, I was hooked. Everything from the beautiful campus to the student-centric academic philosophy to the 'Fighting Owls' mascot reaffirmed my initial connection with the school. I was particularly impressed with the senior thesis project and the international trips to Namibia and Peru, but the people made all the difference: Everyone I met was welcoming and excited about Wakefield's mission. I am deeply humbled and honored by this opportunity and look forward to being a part of the next stage in Wakefield's history."

While at Collegiate, he took a special interest in involving the school in the community beyond the school walls, through both an extensive service program that has students working to make the Richmond area a better place, as well as an comprehensive global education program that gives students a solid grounding in world languages and connects them with partner schools around the globe. He has extensive experience in K-12 curriculum planning, academic affairs, faculty professional development, and personally

supervised the school's efforts in diversity.

The Board's unanimous vote was based on the exhaustive work and recommendation of the Search Committee, led by Paul Mayer, Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. The committee included five additional trustees, two parents, two faculty, and one staff member from the Wakefield community.

"Mr. Colón's lifelong commitment to academic excellence and innovation is very closely aligned with Wakefield's mission to provide a rigorous liberal arts curriculum combined with vibrant and engaging extra-curricular programs," said Wakefield Board Chair Susan Lewis. "We were immediately impressed with Mr. Colón's intellect, engaging personality, and commitment to student success. Building on his strong foundation of academic achievements is a passion and energy for continued innovation, and a clear desire to be a part of a fun and vibrant community."

This year, Wakefield will continue under the expert leadership of Interim Head Ed Costello. Costello will work with Colón to ensure a seamless transition come July.

Wakefield School is excited to welcome Colón and his wife Nancy, as well as their children, Phillip, Andrew, and Eloise.

WAKEFIELD SENIORS EARN NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION, ONE EARNS PERFECT SATS

Two Wakefield seniors have been recognized in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program based on their results from the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test. Juliet Mayer has been recognized as a semifinalist and also earned

a perfect score of 2400 on her SATs. Mayer is one of about 16,000 high school seniors recognized at this level, the top 1 percent of scorers on the PSAT. She will continue in the competition for some 8,000 National Merit Scholarships to be offered next spring.

Tish Johnston has been also been recognized as a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholarship Program, one of about 34,000 students throughout the nation. These Commended Students placed in the top 5 percent of the more than 1.5 million students who



JULIET MAYER

took the PSAT qualifying test. Mayer has attended Wakefield School since first grade. She is Vice President of the National Honor Society, has served as editor-in-chief of both the school's literary magazines, and plays varsity soccer.

She hopes to major in Biology and Classics in college and pursue an M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. combination.

This past summer, Mayer interned at the National Institutes of Health. She was one of about 1,000 high school and college students selected from more than 7,000 applicants. For six weeks, she performed molecular biology research under the mentorship of Dr. Scott Martin. She has also attended the Virginia Governor's School



TISH JOHNSTON

for Life Sciences and Medicine, the Institute for Human Genetics at Duke University, and taken a college-level Neuroscience course at the Center for Talent-ed Youth at Johns Hopkins.

Johnston serves as her class representative in the Student Government Association, is President of the National Honor Society and participates in Model UN and Harvard Model Congress. She is captain of the varsity field hockey team.

This past summer, Johnston took college-level courses in international relations and sociology at Stanford University; Genocide and Humanitarian Intervention; and the Sociological Complexities of Human Trafficking. She is interested in pursuing women's studies.

HIGHLAND SCHOOL VILLAGE GARDEN AND OUTDOOR CLASSROOM OPENS

Highland School's commitment to connecting children to nature continued recently with the opening and ribbon cutting of the new Village Garden and Outdoor Classroom, located directly behind the Lower School. The vision of Highland parents Amudha and Gajan Mahendiran, the garden classroom will enhance the lives of Highland's students as well as the larger Fauquier County community. "The possibilities are unlimited," stated Amudha Mahendiran. "Giving young students the opportunity to be outside more during the school day will contribute to their well-being both physically and mentally. We also are working on several initiatives to benefit the larger community outside of Highland School."

Landscape designer Nicole Siess worked with the Mahendiran family and Highland School to develop the space. Since returning to school in September, Lower School students have been busy planting the garden in this multipurpose space. The garden will yield both flowers and vegetables. They have also had lessons while sitting on tree stumps, painted pictures on the outdoor easels, and science classes peeled back the bark from some of the pine stumps that serve as stools in the garden, and collected insect larvae they found there. Students cared for them in a container in the science room and were excited to observe their metamorphosis into beetles and identify their species.

Students are also observing bean plants in the outdoor garden root view containers and comparing them to bean plants that are growing hydroponically in the science classroom. They have noticed difference in root size, leaf color, plant height, and stem diameter. All students participated in planting flowers, vegetables, and bulbs in the raised garden beds. They are monitoring the plant growth, looking for evidence of garden pests, and learning about the weeds they see. They also are learning about the life cycle of the plants.

Lower School Director, Lise Hicklin said, "The garden classroom will have many functions for both our students and the community. We are truly grateful for the Mahendiran's vision and all of its possibilities and benefits. Our students have been very happy to be outside more during the school day."



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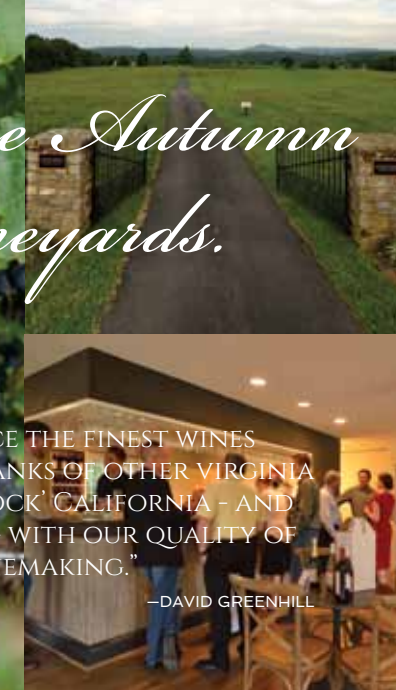
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Animal night co-host and Chair, Ken Rietz, called the event "truly gratifying. We had guests from as far afield as the Philippines, California, Texas, Florida and the entire Washington Region."

Guest Speakers were SUZANNE CLARK, founder and CEO of the Potomac Research Group and TIM SWIFT, an Emmy nominated TV producer. Music was provided by Don Chapman and Lisa Lim.



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PHOTOS BY LIZ CALLAR

Congratulations are in order for:

- Runner Up, Best Turned Out, Patricia (Trish) Smithwick from Snickersville Hounds. Trish presented nothing less than a stunning picture dressed in vintage canary breeches topped by a seldom seen bowler and thick black hairnet; her ensemble harked back to another era and she provided a welcome glimpse of sheer feminine elegance in her most proper of turnouts;
- Reserve Champion for Best Turn Out went to Eduardo Coria of Casanova Hunt; however, this gentleman will perhaps best be remembered for his generosity of spirit as he unstintingly offered to get nearly each and every gate for not one but for two days of hunting;
- Champion Best Turn Out was awarded to an effervescent Patti Brantley of Live Oak Hounds, FL. Impeccable from head to toe, the only complaint that could be lodged against her was her failure to ride one of her colourful paint horses bred on her farm "Flying Colors;"
- Most Suitable went to Marilyn Ware from both Deep Run and Keswick Hunts; it was her first entry in the Championships and the two, Marilyn trim and elegant, her grey mount polished to perfection, were an eminently matched pair;
- The Sportsmanship award went to Kathy Noffsinger on her smart grey, also from Live Oak, FL, who positively beamed with pleasure all week long at her good fortune to be hunting in Virginia;
- Reserve Field Hunter Championship went to Karen Russell of Orange County Hounds; riding an athletic dark bay, she handled both the course and the blood horse she rode with a gritty yet relaxed determination;
- Top Honours went to #28, Karen Mantz's 17 year old gelding Greyland Woods, masterfully ridden by daughter Teresa Croce (no hunt affiliation listed in the program).



KAREN RUSSELL



KATHY NOFFSINGER



MARILYN WARE



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PASTIMES

THE PERENNIALS OF NOVEMBER

THE PLANT LADY



KAREN REXROD

This is a month that perennial gardeners may choose to ignore. The bulk of our perennials have finished flowering and going dormant, but I can think of a few exceptions and I suggest you take note. There are still two Korean mums in flower, and

I don't mean in a tatty, finished sense, but in a joyous "I've just arrived" sense. They are Chrysanthemum 'Mrs. Robinson' and 'Mrs. Clarkson', the former a bronze-red pompon, the latter a wonderful yellow pompon with guard petals surrounding the center. These plants are the center of activity in my garden as swarms of insects gather nectar. These two par-

ticular chrysanthemums produced their first flowers Halloween week. During the same week I saw the first flowers on a wonderful aster named "Fannys", clearly surpassing an old time favorite Aster 'Raydon's Favorite'. The daisy flowers are a pale lavender-blue and arrive on 3 to 4 foot stems. All three of these lovely perennials become dense mounds of foliage and it is not unusual to find plants that have reached 4 to 5 feet in diameter. All the better, I say, since most perennials have been cut back and cleaned up.

And finally I must add Ajania pacifica, formerly Chrysanthemum pacificum. Grown more for foliage than flowers, this spreading, ground-covering plant rarely exceeds 18 inches in height. At this time of year, small button-like flowers are produced, clusters of yellow over gray foliage with a fine silver edge. A beautiful plant without flowers, the little burst of yellow in November only adds to its charm. I would venture to say that folks growing this plant may rate it among their top five favorites.

Otherwise we rely on a few foliage perennials for November and we are grateful for dianthus, iberis, euphorbia and lavender. I prefer the French varieties of lavender for their superior foliage. The result of hybridizing Lavandula latifolia with spike lavender (sometimes referred to as lavandin), the newer crosses yield an oil that is harsher more camphorous than standard lavender oil. These hybrids will grow into large clumps, often spreading to 5 feet. My favorites for foliage are L. 'Grosso', 'Graves' and 'Fred Boutin', all looking very fresh for the month of November.

So there you have a few good reasons to enjoy late fall. The gardener may choose to ignore the January garden, but in our climate the November garden can be lovely.

WHAT KIND OF SHOPPER ARE YOU?

SINCERELY, ME

BRANDY GREENWELL

As someone who has been on all sides of clothes shopping—retail, wholesale, personal, professional and just for passion, I have come across many different types of shoppers. I thought it was time to outline different characteristics and define categories based on the traits I have personally witnessed.

Disclaimer: There is no scientific background to my experiment, just a personal observation based on many years of experience.

The Terror: This is the person that gives the sales people a "tude instead of respecting their professionalism, gets makeup and deodorant all over merchandise, and discards unwanted items on the dressing room floor in laundry pile fashion. I'm sure some of you have a little bit of a guilty feeling right now having been called out, so if this describes you the following is how to upgrade to a different shopper status.

1. A retail sales person should be considered a professional and is there to help you with all your shopping needs. This type professional may be hard to find in urban areas, but Nordstrom has built a reputation on such customer service. I know first hand that the boutiques in Middleburg intentionally seek out engaging, helpful people to work their stores. Ask questions and let them help you. You just may be surprised at how they can advise you to find exactly what you are looking for.

2. Make-up happens. If you accidentally soil merchandise, bring it to the attention of the sales professional. They will want to know instead of putting it back on the floor dirty.

3. Try on as many items as you want, but either hand them to the attentive sales person, drape them over a chair in the dressing room or loosely put them back on their hangers. It is the professional's job to put them back on the floor in a tidy fashion. To leave them in piles is as disrespectful as putting your gum under a restaurant table or an able bodied person taking a handicap parking space. Just don't do it.

The Dream: Achieving dream shopper status does not depend on the amount you spend! The dream shopper asks for help, respects the job of the person behind the counter and says "please" and "thank you". Just those small gestures promote a pleasurable shopping experience for all involved. Try it! It will make you glow from the inside out. If this is already you, I applaud your shopping style.

The In-between: This shopper can sometimes be called a "lurker", "the window shopper", or the "just looking" shopper who has something on their mind, but just won't ask for help. This is a totally respectable title. I, for one, sometimes just like to shop for sport and at other times, nothing begs to be adopted to my closet. If you don't try, you never buy, right? If you are the In-between, stay happily where you are, but keep in mind the rules.

We are fast approaching the busiest shopping season when the retailers are working tirelessly around the clock, wrapping your presents, and quite possibly giving up time with their loved ones to help you out. Be kind, remember pa-



JUST BACK: THE ITALIAN LAKES

EXQUISITE TRAVELS WITH MATT HANNAN

MATT HANNAN

This past September I led a small group of three ladies on a nine-day garden tour to the Italian Lake District. We began our trip in Milan during the height of Fashion Week and capped it off on Lake Como at the Villa d'Este (one of the Western world's most refined hotels), so the middle of the journey was designed to feature the splendid horticultural highlights the region is so famous for.

In Milan we lodged at the Grand Hotel for three nights, taking in Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper, La Scala opera house, the Galleria and much window shopping along Via della Spiga and Via Montenapoleone. A friend and curator from Washington introduced us to the director of the Poldi Pezzoli Museum in the meantime, and it was there that we found ourselves immersed in a marvelous private collection formed in the late 19th century that eventually became the model for 'house museums' such as the Frick in New York and the Gardner in Boston.

Sitting in the Northern part of the province of Lombardy, located just below the border of Switzerland, the Lake District is a glacier-carved region host to numerous splendid palazzo and villas dating back to the Roman era. Still highly coveted by the world's wealthiest individuals and famed for its intrinsic beauty and mild climate, the villas which dot the landscape of this area are filled with treasures both inside and out.

In the 17th century the aristocratic Borromeo family were rulers of Lombardy and with the building of various palaces, churches and for-

tifications were highly influential in the artistic cultivation of the region.

Utilizing natural islands in the center of Lake Maggiore the family created such masterpieces as the magnificent Borromeo Palace, a baroque jewel set atop Isola Bella, complete with a vast and splendid garden that creates the illusion of a galleon ship floating on a sparkling blue ocean.

Formal gardens consisting of seasonal plantings within boxwood parterres were designed alongside pleached hornbeam hedges and highly pollarded European Plane trees.

Potted citrus lined the edges of crushed gravel paths with flowering Bougainvillea vines and centuries old creeping fig climbing stuccoed walls and columns. Beyond black pebble fountains surrounded by Ostrich fern and pink begonia, the deep blue sky formed a backdrop for lush Himalayan pines, marble urns, finely carved finials and Roman inspired statuary atop splendid stone plinths. Upon reaching the highest point of this island palace, one was left breathless at the incongruous sight of fuschia colored ivy geraniums, snow-capped mountains and lush Mediterranean vegetation all within the same view shed.

And so it was only natural that in this magnificent part of the world we were to have our glorious and highly anticipated horticultural epiphany.

For not only did we immerse ourselves in the wonder of this captivating setting but we also indulged in magical visits to Isola San Giulio at Lake Orta, the botanical gardens at Villa Taranto and Bellagio at the center of Lake Como.

Then, toward the end of our trip,

GETTING WET – EARLY DAYS WITH THE U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WATERWORLD

RICHARD A. ENGBERG

As I begin this column, the idiocy in Washington continues. Do we default on our debt? Does the government remain closed indefinitely? I refuse to think about it and slip into a reverie about my "Good Old Days."

Flash back to 1966. I was newly employed by the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) as a chemist in a water laboratory in Lincoln, Nebraska. Along with other new hires, I was part of a training program to acquaint us with all aspects of the work of the USGS Water Resources Division. It was March and I was informed that I'd be going to the field with an experienced employee to measure the flow and collect samples at a river about an hour from Lincoln.

Bruce and I loaded the vehicle and drove to the site. The temperature was in the upper 30's and the river, about 50 feet wide, was frozen over. Flow measurements are typically made and samples collected either by wading into the river or, if it is too deep to wade, from a bridge. However, with ice, you can't do either. Instead, what was required was

to walk on the ice and to chop holes to allow access for our measuring and sampling equipment to the flowing water under the ice.

When we arrived, Bruce put on a pair of hip boots. "Why wear boots", I asked?

"Because, if the ice should break, I won't get wet", he replied. "Going through the ice and getting wet is totally embarrassing."

Oh _____. I thought. I didn't have hipsters but I had a brand new pair of chest waders that I promptly put on. Then, picking up my assigned equipment I headed for the stream bank. The edge was about five feet above the ice and at about a 30 degree angle.

It was slick from thawing. I carefully started down and after one step my feet went out from under me and I slid down the bank flat on my back and onto the ice. Humiliation! Bruce laughingly jeered, "Wait till I tell folks at the office."

We chopped more than 20 holes in the four-inch thick ice. We measured the flow of the water and collected samples through the holes. We worked for over two hours. The temperature warmed to 40 degrees. The ice creaked frighteningly as we walked back and forth across the river.

the views of the mountains in the distance and the sparkling blue water before our eyes.

And, as a 19th century paddleboat moved slowly across the lake, framed by camphor trees at the water's edge, we sat back in our chairs,

took a deep breath and marveled at the exquisite atmosphere surrounding us.

To contact Matt, please visit either www.matthannantravel.com or info@matthannantravel.com.



Finally we finished and climbed out. I made it successfully. Only one item was left on the ice, something called a tag line that was stretched across the river to show us where to chop the holes. Bruce said that he'd retrieve the tag line while I loaded the other the equipment in the truck.

I loaded the truck and then watched Bruce walking across the ice reeling the tag line. He almost made it back to the bank when with a loud crack, the ice broke and he went through. The river was only a little over 2 feet deep but it just overtopped his hip boots. He struggled out and climbed up the bank.

He shooked out of his boots and poured out the water. His jeans were soaked. As he was wringing out his socks, I said, "Uh, Bruce...."

He replied, "I'm not sayin' a word and you better not either." So ended my first field trip. What a beginning for a 36-year USGS career!

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PASTIMES

TUCK THIS
7TH INNING STRETCH

ALEX CUDABACK

Bill Belichick and the New England Patriots were finally served a nice, warm glass of comeuppance this past week-end when they fell to the New York Jets in overtime, thanks largely to new, oft-overlooked and, apparently, at least to Belichick, ill-understood rule.

According to cbsprts.com the rule, number 9.I.3.2, clearly states that "[Defensive] players cannot push teammates on the line of scrimmage into the offensive formation."

Belichick, meanwhile, and in typically I-just-swallowed-a-bag-of-lemons fashion, was quoted immediately following the game saying, "We weren't on the second level when we pushed him, no. You can't push from the second level. I didn't think we did that."

Of course, the rule says nothing about "second level" players, or any other level players for that matter. And maybe, just maybe, the spirit of the rule is to prevent injuries from occurring when a player in the second level races forward, picking up speed and generating force, before slamming into the back of a hapless teammate in an attempt to breach the offensive line of the opposing team.

But that's not how it's written, and there's no possible room for Belichick or anyone else to claim the rule isn't

clear.

Which should all bring a certain amount of schadenfreude to any members of the 2001 Oakland Raiders and their fans who were surreptitiously hosed in the AFC divisional playoff game of that year by Belichick and an at-the-time Super Bowl-less Patriots team.

Yes. 2001. The Tuck Rule Game. The Snow Bowl. Or, perhaps most appropriately, the Snow Job.

Clinging to a 13-10 lead with less than two minutes remaining in the fourth quarter, Charles Woodson of the Raiders slammed into a young Tom Brady, jarring the ball loose, and leading to a fumble recovery by Raiders' linebacker Greg Biekert.

Glory was the Raiders', and all they needed to do was grind out the clock to seal the win, move on the AFC Championship game, and send Foxboro Stadium into the only retirement befitting such a dump.

However, stunningly, or not so stunningly if you're familiar with the decades long, well-documented history of NFL conspiracy against the late, great Al Davis and his Raiders, the referees, upon review, reversed their call and returned possession to the Patriots, citing rule 3.22.2.2 which read as follows:

"When [an offensive] player is holding the ball to pass it forward, any intentional forward movement of his

arm starts a forward pass, even if the player loses possession of the ball as he is attempting to tuck it back toward his body. Also, if the player has tucked the ball into his body and then loses possession, it is a fumble."

The true travesty lay in the fact that, as supported by video evidence, Brady was NOT moving his arm forward at all. One could make the case his arm wasn't moving, period.

In any event, the play was overturned, something that should have required incontrovertible visual evidence that Brady had not transitioned from throwing quarterback to scrambling pretty-boy, the Patriots' drive continued, Adam Vinatieri booted a 45-yard field goal into driving wind and snow, and the game was sent into overtime.

The Patriots (surprise!) won the coin-toss to start the overtime and drove the ball 61 yards before Vinatieri hit the game-winning 23-yard field goal.

The aftermath? The Patriots went on the win that year's Super Bowl against the Rams, and make it to four more, winning two of them.

The Raiders managed to go the Super Bowl the following season, getting absolutely stomped by their former coach, Jon Gruden, and his new team, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Since then, the Raiders have neither gone to the playoffs nor had a winning season.

And they've drafted JaMarcus Russell.

So, yes, Raider nation is a little bitter and, yes, takes absolute and unadulterated joy in Belichick, Brady and the Patriots getting a healthy dose of rulebook who's-your-daddy.

Sadly, Belichick responsibly and reasonably admitted he'd been mistaken in his understanding of the rule and its application only a day later.

And Tom Brady is still married to a supermodel.

And the Patriots still get to keep their ill-gotten Super Bowl trophies.

And the Raiders are still dreadful. I mean, just look at them. They lost to the Redskins earlier this season!



Speaking of offensive idolatry, for those who still think the Redskins' argument to keep their nickname still holds water, it's my great pleasure to suggest Charles Krauthammer's recent opinion piece in the Washington Post.

It's available here http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/charles-krauthammer-redskins-and-reason/2013/10/17/cbb11ee-374f-11e3-ae46-e4248e75c8ea_story.html

And, as it's written by someone even my most rightwards-leaning acquaintances could never accuse of being a soft-hearted member of the "lamestream media," it might well qualify as enlightening.

CLIMATE CHANGE

A digit degree, a breath warmer than the last exhaled caused the shift - the fissure.

And the arctic cliff shivered once, then crashed to the waves liquefied free to seek the ocean depth.

Unable to sink in, buoyed by the salty surface, it rushes, skips the waves, races to a new continent it floods in fury.

~Krista Genevieve Farris



ful is just as much work or possible stress, as trying to become successful and possibly even more so. Especially if you don't recognize that this is the case. The thing he values most today is a thing we are all born with: a limited amount of time.

My wife and I have always self prescribed ourselves to the five year plan. This allows periods for satisfaction, reflection, recalibration and achieving a level of success again and again and realizing it.

No one who at 30 years old will know how they will feel about being 40 at 40. You can take a guess at 30 of how you think you will feel. But not until you get there can you actually know. I think life seems more relevant and frankly more

pleasurable though, if you live it as you go and not over thinking the future. No one really wants to be in a squirrel cage, but we are plenty capable at putting ourselves there, apparently even after becoming by all rights, successful.

If your goal as an artist is to acquire awards and in doing so, you do not achieve a satisfactory level of financial success, have you achieved the success you were looking for? Well, yes. Awards were your goal. Because you may have failed at something else, doesn't mean you have not achieved your intended success. But it does validate our need to broadly understanding success as an important life tool.

We were all born with a built in and extremely important success gauge. Unfortunately we all at some point or another, ignore it and some never look at the gauge at all. It is of course the happiness gauge. No tool is better at letting us know how successful we are in our own mind and that's the only mind that really matters. Perception is everything here. There will always be someone with more money or more things. Chase it if you want it, but when you have acquired it, know it and allow yourself to feel successful in doing so, instead of replacing it with an empty feeling. That's the squirrel cage effect. Successfulness should feel great and the most important thing is to not let your success be defined by others.

Feeling successful in the abundance of new ideas, creativity and community outreach, is a valuable currency in my opinion. Give yourself clear goals to achieve and make sure that you feel success in reaching those goals. Keep learning, ascend step by step and reflect when you come to a landing. After all, stair landings give you a chance to catch your breath, look back on your accomplishments, change direction and ascend once more. Enjoy!



BOURBON SAGE BREAD PUDDING WITH CHOCOLATE LAB FROM BARREL OAK WINERY

VINE & DISH

ELLEN KASSOFF GRAY

Now that fall is dealing her full deck of colors we get frosty breath, the season's first shivers, winds of change and shorter days. Cravings for warm & hearty comfort foods begin to influence menu choices just as sweat pants and wool socks make their way back to our drawers.

October marks the beginning of the chestnut harvest and reaches its peak in December. My husband, a professional chef, knows that fall is on for sure when he gets his annual phone call from John Harry & Dianne Pitfick of Cornucopia Farms in Purcellville telling him that the chestnuts are ready to go. He usually buys a few hundred pounds throughout the season. All of them will be blanched, hand split and peeled and then used in everything, from soups to pastas and desserts.

Pairing wine with chestnuts may be a bit unexpected but the Port-Style Chocolate Lab from Barrel Oak Winery in Delaplane is truly perfect. The winery notes that the Chocolate Lab started off as an experiment to infuse a chocolate note in a wine - hence the name "Lab". Barrel Oak Winery, a very dog-friendly winery, adapted the "chocolate" part of its name - thereby three simple concepts in one - chocolate infused, dog friendly, and created to some extent in the "lab", and who doesn't love a Chocolate Labrador - works for me! The current vintage at the winery is Chambourcin grapes (a French-American hybrid). As an estate wine, one hundred percent of the grapes were grown at Barrel Oak Winery.

So how does that wine get that chocolate flavor anyway? After the

wine finishes the fermentation process cracked cocoa nibs are added to the tank which imparts a subtle chocolate note. After sitting for a few days the left over nibs are extracted and the wine is filtered and aged in American and Hungarian Oak Barrels for six months. The wine is then transferred into recovered whiskey barrels for an additional 2-3 months. This provides a hint of smoke and whisky. It has a soft richness to it, while being smooth and easy.

Now to employ this seasons chestnuts - consider the humble bread pudding of the savory sort. It's a modest culinary endeavor that was traditionally a means for the frugal cook to use up stale bread. Akin to a blank canvas this dish is a perfect way to hype seasonal produce. While a backdrop of basil & tomatoes is perfect in the summer and leeks & onions are preferable in the spring, in the depths of autumn a bread pudding is the ideal opus for chestnuts and sage.

Using fresh chestnuts is of course the ultimate but can be a bit demanding in their preparation. If you are not able to acquire fresh chestnuts (or just don't have the time needed to prep them) they are available in many markets canned, preserved or shelled frozen. The best way to peel fresh chestnuts is to first score them (slicing an X on the bottom) and bake in a 350 degree oven till skins peel back. Let them cool and peel with a paring knife. Rough chop chestnuts to a chunky consistency

The Chocolate Lab is light, with notes of cherries, cocoa, and a wisp of mocha at times, the wine will bring its beautifully subtle chocolate notes to the Bourbon Chestnut Bread Pudding. It's strong enough to play with the residual Bourbon flavors and hold its own against

the rich nuttiness of the chestnuts.

Bourbon Chestnut Bread Pudding

Serves 6

5 cups French baguette, cut into 1-inch cubes

4 tablespoons unsalted butter

2 large garlic clove, finely chopped

1 small yellow onion, minced

1 TBS chopped fresh sage, finely chopped

4 large eggs

1 1/2 cups heavy cream

1 cup milk

3/4 cup bourbon

1 1/2 cups peeled, chopped chestnuts (fresh, canned or frozen)

1/2 cup Parmesan cheese plus additional for garnish

Salt and freshly ground pepper

Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese before baking

Preheat the oven to 350°. Spread the bread cubes on a baking sheet and toast in the oven for 8 - 10 minutes, or until golden.

In a large skillet, melt the butter over medium heat. Add the garlic and sage and onion and cook, stirring until fragrant, about 3 minutes.



In a large bowl, whisk the eggs with the heavy cream & milk and bourbon. Add Parmesan. Gently fold in the bread cubes, sage and chestnuts. Season with salt and pepper. Let stand until all of the liquid has been absorbed, about 30 minutes.

Transfer the bread pudding to a

12-by-8-by-2-inch baking dish. Sprinkle cheese on top. Set the baking dish in a roasting pan and add enough hot water to the pan to reach halfway up the side of the baking dish. Bake for 35 minutes, or until set and the top is golden brown. Let pudding set for 10 minutes before serving.

THE ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE

TOM NEEL

How do you measure success? It actually doesn't matter if you are an artist or not, but as an artist, do you have a personal goal to measure your idea of success? Is it an amount of money, a creative achievement or skill or maybe an award of some kind? Maybe it's press or articles about you?

The point is, have you given yourself the tools to even recognize your success when it arrives and if you haven't, will your success actually arrive at all? When you put your mind to doing something, you usually know when you've accomplished that task. But achieving success, or your perception of it, may be

much harder to pin point.

You may find this interesting. I recently asked two different friends, when did they know they were successful? Both are successful by the definition of coming from very modest backgrounds and becoming self made millionaires. Their answers may surprise you, but teach us all something about success.

One said, a dozen years after starting his company and certainly years after having significant wealth, he finally was able to sleep comfortably through the night. He finally felt his company had a good enough financial cushion to make payroll and other expenses through the annual slow time his company would experience. Think about this now. His defi-

nition of success wasn't built directly on personal wealth, company market share or business accomplishments. His definition of success was being able to sleep soundly.

Now the other friend could have retired at 35 and now admits all these years later, that he never really ever felt successful, rather that he was always chasing success. That is to say, that even by all accounts that he was very successful, he never truly felt that way. Only now, retired and enjoying life, does he feel successful. He interestingly sighted, that living below his means, feels more successful than constantly trying to keep up, even though he was wealthy. In other words, it would seem that being success-

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JUST BREATHE

KAY COLGAN, HEALTH COACH AND CERTIFIED PILATES AND FITNESS INSTRUCTOR

I just celebrated another birthday, which I am grateful for. Ten years ago I was given a diagnosis of breast cancer. Scary is the first word that comes to mind when you hear the "C" word. This must be some kind of mistake. After all, I was at the peak of my physical conditioning. Nutritionally, I had a very complete sound dietary regime. In fact, I was a very committed vegetarian. I was also a mother and wife so the fear of not being here was inconceivable. Reality set in with a second opinion and then the many decisions that needed to be made. Looking back, some of it is just a blur, hardly recognizable. But the gripping fear of hearing cancer still grips me at times. Every time the mammogram does not look exactly right and they need to take another picture, the fear creeps in. Experiencing a weird body ache and the fear creeps in. It is almost like you are unable to take a breath. But Pilates continues to help me conquer the fear by breathing.

I use the Pilates breath in my everyday life, not just when I am teaching or taking a class. Breathing is an integral part of our lives, but during stressful times we tend to breathe shallow which serves to increase our anxiety. Pilates teaches us to breathe deeply and fully before exhaling completely. Taking ten breaths that are deep and full and then exhaling calms even the most anxious person down. While breathing is not a cure for cancer it is a way of not letting it control us.

Facing a serious diagnosis knocks the wind right out of us. By breathing deeply it is possible to face the diagnosis in a more calm state. Making decisions when calmer gives a sense of control and helps to insure the decisions are right for

you. I know it helped me and it kept me in the game. Taking a Pilates class that focuses on breathing and body control will give back the power to jump even the highest hurdles. I know it helped me and kept me in the game. Cancer cannot define a person. I am a person with many talents and abilities who just hap-

pened to have cancer. I am not defined by cancer. Now I am called a survivor. I also tend to hide from this label. Yes, I am living, but I did nothing different than those whose lives were cut short by this disease. I am grateful for my life and sad for those who lost the battle.

So during this month of Breast Can-

cer awareness, get your mammogram, walk or do some type of cardio 30 minutes daily, take a Pilates or yoga class and just breathe!

If you or a loved one has been recently diagnosed with breast cancer and need a listening ear or just need to breathe please call me: Kay Colgan, Middleburg

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ALBERT'S CORNER

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ALBERT P. CLARK

In honor of Halloween, please imagine that you are in an old, secluded house with a dog and cat for company. It's late and the sky beyond the windows is a starless dark black. The dog is lying calmly at your feet, when suddenly he springs to attention and begins growling slowly, threateningly. He is looking up at the ceiling with a steady and lasting gaze while continuing to growl. The cat is wide-eyed, stock-still and fixated on exactly the same spot. You look around but see nothing at all.

Obviously, a lot of people would worry about an intruder, but let's say that a thorough check of the house proves no one is inside. Would you then consider the possibility that the animals had seen a ghost? If so, you are in good company. Human belief that animals may see and/or sense paranormal activity is widespread and longstanding.

A quick Google check yields lots of interesting stories. I even got a little scared reading some of them, so I had to stop. But the basic premise is that animals are more connected to the spirit world than humans. Supposedly, we more readily accept ghosts because we lack the need for rationalization. We do sense a lot of things before they happen. Maybe it's not a stretch that we would also have a deeper connection to the hereafter.

Likewise, it seems we have a long history of visiting the physical realm after we have departed. There are countless stories of people seeing, feeling or hearing pets after they have passed. Some of them may or may not be accurate, but surely they can't all be wrong. And by the way, cats, dogs and horses are the most commonly reported apparitions.

Famous tales of animal hauntings include:

1) Tourists and residents alike consistently see the ghosts of soldiers with their horses at Gettysburg's Civil War Battlefield.

2) Visitors to the Los Angeles Pet Cemetery report being licked by Rudolph Valentino's Great Dane.

3) A phantom horse gallops all over the grounds at Dover Castle in England. Both night security and groundskeepers have reported sightings.

4) A cat consistently haunts the halls (and room 16) of the Hotel Vendome in Arizona.

5) Night workers at the Colosseum in Rome have reported hearing noises of animals, including the roars of lions.

Frankly, though, the more interesting tales are not famous. They are the surprising experiences of practical, grounded people who believe a beloved lost pet has visited them.

Last but not least, there are a lot of animal psychics offering to share their gifts. Some of them provide exceptionally convincing readings of pets who have passed. For the record, my people have heard some flat-out stunning stories from customers regarding readings they have gotten.

But, lest any of you are a little spooked, I'll bring my opening ghost story to a close. The house is in Middleburg. And while there are lots of stories of hauntings in this area, the eerie presence in my story is not a ghost, but something far, far more evil: yet another stupid stinkbug.

Happy Howl-O-Ween!
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.

SKYLAND FARM HITS CULPEPER CIRCUIT CHAMPS

The HITS Culpeper summer show circuit in Virginia concluded, and Skyland Farm riders and horses celebrated a variety of circuit honors after attending the six shows that spanned from April through September.

Abbie Taylor took time off from a busy career to show "Tizzy" for her mother, Linda Taylor, and her time spent in Virginia was rewarded. She and her 'Tiz collected the circuit championship in the competitive Adult Amateur Hunter, 18-35, section.

Virginia Bonnie guided her Wink And Smile to top honors in the Small Pony Hunter section after posting winning performances over fences, under saddle and in

the Pony Hunter Classics.

Elizabeth Wiley and Marvalust earned the circuit tricolor in the Thoroughbred Hunter 1 section. Marvalust wasn't able to attend the photo session, so he wore his ribbon proudly at home in the field.

Alex Tippet jumped to the reserve championship circuit award in the High Children's Jumper section with Ainsley Treptow's El Cano. In addition, Denice Perry rode her Cirenna to the reserve championship in the Level 5 jumper section.

It was a great summer, and congratulations to all of the Skyland Farm riders for their excellent performances!



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EDITOR'S DESK

THE MIDDLEBURG FILM FESTIVAL

The Middleburg Film Festival, the first of what we hope and believe will become an annual east-coast film industry tradition, began this year with four days of carefully selected narrative and documentary films.

Screened in intimate theater environments only Middleburg can provide, the Festival has already attracted films, filmmakers, actors, and fans of global stature.

At press time local authorities were planning to handle gracefully at least 1,000 visitors a day.

By staging screenings across the village, Sheila Johnson and her foundation staff have not only made the festival a showcase for fine film work, but a showcase for Middleburg.

It is also the first real test of a large-scale project whose success truly depends on a well-designed and well-executed partnership between the Salamander Resort and Spa, the festival organization and staff, and the town.

The very tone and spirit of that partnership is reflected, we believe, in the graceful choice of a name for the festival itself.

It might well have

been named the Salamander Film Festival, or promoted informally as “Sundance East,” or touted in terms of any number of other punchy promotional ties.

It wasn't.

It was named The Middleburg Film Festival.

Its website is middleburgfilm.org.

Like the new Resort and Spa, it's designed to fit the spirit and the landscape of our part of the Old Dominion.

Indeed, we are all, truly, stakeholders.

Let's make everyone who visits welcome and look forward to a long, long history of Middleburg Film Festival success.

Seven Loaves

Thanks once more to all the friends, citizens and business people of Middleburg who generously filled Chief A. J. Panebianco's police car one more time . . . with pounds and pounds of food, destined for free distribution to our fellow citizens in need.

They represent the best of the true spirit of Middleburg.

LET'S SHUT DOWN THE GOVERNMENT!

BLUE
DANIEL MORROW

I can hear it now (forgive me Edward R.)

Ted, Sarah, Michelle, Rush, Eric, Rand and a gaggle of gerymandered minions of the let's starve-the-beast gang needed an idea. A big idea. A killer idea. And fast.

The SEQUESTER wasn't working out exactly as they'd hoped.

Nearly all those laid-off folks who weren't getting paid any more turned out to be voters with bills to pay . . . or folks depending on those payments . . . or both . . . or worse.

Worse, still Obama's numbers were rising . . . and theirs weren't.

And a distressingly persistent if slow improvement in the economy wasn't really helping the cause.

Then . . . from a far right corner of a T-shaped table piled so high with empty pizza boxes Sarah could barely see Russia . . . a thought . . . an idea . . . a shout was heard!

SHUT . . . IT . . . DOWN !!!

"The keg?" some staffer muttered.

"No! The government ! The Government ! THE GOVERNMENT!" the cry crept . . . right around the table as the mad brilliance of Texas Ted Talk slowly but steadily sank in.

"We can shut down the government and blame it on . . . well . . . blame it on . . . who . . . or what?"

"OBAMACARE !" screamed himself . . . for what seemed like 21 straight hours.

"You have got to be kidding," some snotty staffer muttered sotto voce. "We already tried that. It killed us at the polls and ruined Newt's marriage. People may not like government . . . but they sure like a lot of what it does."

"OBAMACARE !" Ted shouted, apparently at the wall.

"Even people who don't like government LIKE Obamacare," the staffer replied. "And those who don't like the IDEA of it like bits and pieces of it: like keeping their kids on their insurance plans until they're 26 or making sure people with pre-existing conditions can get

coverage."

"We can fix that," Ted muttered. "How?" the staffer asked.

"OBAMACARE," Ted shouted again, for no apparent reason.

"We can lie," one of the more pragmatic staffers added. "Let's tell 'em that EVERYONE will face HUGE premium increases."

"But EVERYONE isn't insured," someone noted just to be perverse. "Isn't that sort of the point of Obamacare?"

"OBAMACARE" Ted shouted, just for grins.

"Think about it!" the staffer continued. "There are only . . . what . . . 40 million uninsured . . . they're disproportionately poor . . . they don't vote much . . . and, good Lord, lots of them are . . . well, . . . women."

"We'll just prove that when EVERYONE has insurance, all those folks WITH insurance will ALL pay more for it."

"Huh?" someone said. "How will we prove THAT?" some staffer translated helpfully.

"Easy. Find out what young healthy people, or even better, young, healthy MEN will have to pay . . . and compare THAT to what everyone else will be paying."

"And just to play with their heads a little," the wily staffer added, "we'll include in the bad pool all those folks who couldn't get any insurance at all in the bad old days. That will REALLY skew the numbers."

"OBAMACARE" Ted shouted.

"And, of course we won't count the subsidies many of the less-well-off will receive," the staffer continued.

"OBAMACARE" Ted shouted at random. "AMERICAN PEOPLE."

"Brilliant!" the rest roared. "Lies, Damned Lies . . . and best of all, BAD STATISTICS."

"AND we have a loophole to play with," an Alaskan noted helpfully. "MEDICAID !"

"We don't have to expand it ! After all, adding all those folks to the rolls only makes our ENEMIES

look good and only helps the . . . excuse the expression . . . POOR."

"Sure, some, like you guys in Virginia, will just have to say no to getting \$22 billion or so of your own tax dollars back from the Feds to finance the deal."

"But what the hey, why NOT give up a program that would cost you nothing in year one, a pittance thereafter, and save the lives and health of tens of thousands of POOR Virginians?"

"And face it, who REALLY cares? You're not poor, I'm not poor, and the poor don't like either of us."

"OBAMACARE" Ted shouted. "AMERICAN PEOPLE. SICK SICK SICK"

"Speaking of sick, did you know Medicaid patients tend to be sicker than uninsured people," someone from Fox News added helpfully.

"Well, duh," some staffer muttered. "Wouldn't poor people who were sick be more likely to sign up for Medicaid than poor people who were well?"

"Shaddup," said one of the Teddies, now on a roll on Cruz control. "If we do this RIGHT we can not only shut down OUR government . . . we can threaten the economy of the ENTIRE WORLD . . . and . . . if we're lucky . . . shut down LOTS of governments."

"RIGHT!" the T-square shouted. "We can threaten not to raise the DEBT CEILING! It will be like putting a gun to Obama's head . . . not to mention all those Kenyans in the Senate. They wouldn't DARE tell us no."

"And when we're done," someone added helpfully, "EVERYONE will love us. What could possibly go wrong?"

"But what will the Fox say?" Ted asked, knowing what's good for what Ailes you.

"Obamacare?" someone suggested.

With that, they all trooped off to the house of the Prince of Orange to truly make his day.

"OBAMACARE" Ted shouted.

HYPOCRISY

TOM PRATT

At the time of writing, the government has just re-opened and the budget crisis has been averted for a few months. As an oft critic of President Obama, I must now congratulate him on standing his ground and not giving in to tea party extremists whom I believe have nailed their respective coffins shut as far as future elections go.

I certainly hope the American electorate makes it very clear who was at fault in this destructive attempt to defund The Affordable Care Act and votes accordingly. What a bunch of self-serving, narrow-minded, sub-intelligent bunch they proved themselves to be.

At an event I recently attended, the speaker was former Reagan Chief of Staff, Ken Duberstein. Mr. Duberstein spent much of the hour blaming the President for his refusal to negotiate with the opposition and felt he should have been more open to their point of view regarding The Affordable Care Act and their other attempts to defund government spending mostly on much needed social programs for United States citizens.

Well, he was proved wrong and the President won by standing strong and not negotiating. Mr. Duberstein kept praising the Reagan administration almost

to the point of attempting to make it eligible for beatification. There are many of us who feel a high percentage of our present problems stem from that Presidency: the tax reform which has allowed the rich to get so rich that the famous 1% now control some 90% of all the wealth in this country, a fact that has contributed to much more poverty since his reign.

Reagan's policy of de-regulation and privatization has led to the financial misdeeds of Wall St. and beyond. The breaking of the air traffic controllers union has led to further attacks on unionization which in turn cause more hardships for the working poor. All of this can be directly attributed to that administration not to mention the Iran Contra affair.

I also would like to ask Mr. Duberstein if any president whose opponents publicly stated (just a few days after the inauguration) their main focus would be to make sure that his presidency would be a "one term affair," why negotiate with those who espouse that kind of nonsense rather than doing the job they were elected to do.

On another point: I have been very outspoken about how the U.S. needs to be at war so the defense corporations can keep making their obscene profits, the following excerpt from Amy Goodman's show 'De-

mocracy Now' seems to add credence to my point.

"The Public Accountability Initiative has revealed many purported experts who made the case for military strikes on Syria in the mainstream media had undisclosed ties to military contractors. The report identifies 22 commentators with industry ties that suggest a financial interest in war.

While they appeared on television or were quoted as experts 111 times, their links to military firms were disclosed only 13 of those times.

The study highlights the case of Stephen Hadley, a former national security adviser to President George W. Bush, who spoke on CNN, MSNBC, Fox News and Bloomberg TV, and wrote a Washington Post op-ed urging U.S. strikes on Syria. In none of those appearances was it disclosed that Hadley serves as a director of Raytheon, the company that makes the Tomahawk cruise missiles widely touted as the weapon of choice for bombing Syria. Hadley earns more than \$128,000 a year in compensation from Raytheon and holds more than 11,000 shares of Raytheon stock, which rocketed to an all-time high during the Syria debate."

If your main source of news is corporate-controlled media, you should view it with extreme skepticism.

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SHUTDOWNS AND HEALTH CARE AND DEBT – OH MY!

RED

JAMES MORGAN

"The fact that we are here today to debate raising America's debt limit is a sign of leadership failure ... Increasing America's debt weakens us domestically and internationally ... Washington is shifting the burden of bad choices today onto the backs of our children and grandchildren. America has a debt problem and a failure of leadership." - - Senator Barack Obama, March 2006

Think he's changed his mind about that? No matter. The recent debt ceiling "crisis" was not a crisis anyway. October 17 would not have caused us to default even without a deal. But it was hyped to keep the pressure on and this was just the latest episode in the ongoing saga of "Obamascare." It was as phony a crisis as Himself falsely claims that Benghazi

and the IRS scandal are.

Default never need happen as long as we pay the interest on our national debt and there is plenty of money for that. There is no "default date" and we are legally obligated to pay the national debt before other debts even if that requires some spending cuts. If the Dear Leader had declared default on October 17, as he threatened, he would have done so illegally. Not that that ever stopped him before.

The weeping and gnashing of teeth we heard over the debt ceiling was just media froth to cover Obama's deceitful push for his unworkable health insurance scam. Can anyone really doubt anymore that Obamacare was designed to fail? The \$400+ million website debacle alone demonstrates that. These are not "glitches." They are the predictable (and, by conserva-

tives, predicted) results of a fundamentally flawed policy. Costs and deductibles already are rising exponentially. Doctors are retiring. Jobs are being lost. And, once this monster finally fails, many people will demand that the government "do something." Obama then will happily do what he always has wanted to do anyway and impose a single payer national health care system run by the IRS. Gee, what could possibly go wrong? Think "Lois Lerner." Welcome to Cuba, where everyone has health insurance but only the Party apparatchiks have decent health care. They call that "fairness."

We made it work for over two centuries but America's great experiment with democracy has been shaky some time now and the downslope has accelerated recently thanks to a president who boasts that he will fun-

damentally remake America. Of course, Obama wasn't counting on Ted Cruz stirring up the peasants, some of whom literally stormed the Barricades in response to the government's petulance and thuggishness in closing churches on military bases and blocking access to numerous public sites including even the ocean off the coast of Florida. Closing the ocean! King Canute, call your office. The arrogance of the progressive mind knows no bounds and the president, progressive to his core, clearly wanted, as one justifiably angry park ranger put it, "to make life as difficult for people as we can."

Everything about this pathetic shutdown farce ties in with Obama's ultimate goal of imposing his nightmare of government-run health care on the country. And, as Senator Mike Lee correctly

noted, "The Obama Administration's behavior during the first week of the shutdown has been the best argument against Obamacare anyone has ever made."

Alas, the Crusade may have been too little too late; too much progressive, rule-by-expert mentality to overcome. Such thinking is latently totalitarian but, given recent election results, the majority of Americans seem to be fine with it. Those who haven't seen the highly instructive film, "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith," might want to do so. As Senator Padme Amidala said therein, "So this is how liberty dies; to thunderous applause." But the good guys eventually won that fight too so perhaps there is hope. Real hope, not Obama's kind. Democrats are gloating right now but the struggle goes on.

WHATS IN A NAME?

MARK KIMBALL

By the time this article is published, it will be two weeks old. Dan Snyder may already have decided to stonewall the movement to change the name of his football team or he may have had a change of heart and already be designing a new logo. He certainly does not need my assistance with this issue, but, this being America, where we all get to weigh in on topics of interest, here is what I think he should do if he is still vacillating:

1. Admit that the controversy now has a life of its own. Once the national media took the issue seriously with people like Bob Costas bluntly calling the name "Redskins" offensive, the debate is likely to continue and worsen. Ignoring the noise will no longer work.

2. Understand the difference between Then and Now. When the moniker was originated, the country felt differently about race and the effect of certain words on our perception of fairness. A smart and sensitive man, a description that those who know him best say fits Mr. Snyder, would see that the times have changed and would now do something positive.

3. Take control of the issue. He could ask the public for input on a new name and logo. He could even limit the suggestions to maintaining some connection to the Native American tradition he claims to honor. Make it a contest like they did in Seattle. Celebrate the winner. Start a whole new history and get the well-deserved credit for removing a totally unnecessary taint of

his leadership.

4. Make more money. New uniforms, new jerseys for the fans, new memorabilia including hats, flags, horns, gloves, utensils, mugs, etc. Everybody wins. The offended are disarmed. The traditionalists adjust. The NFL is relieved.

Mr. Snyder owns the team. He can do with it as he pleases. He is also a perceptive and successful businessman. He would not tolerate a coach who refused to see that the game had evolved since the single wing formation of the 30's and 40's. Maybe it is time to hold himself to the same standard. Don't call it morality or ethics or political correctness if it makes you uncomfortable. Call it common sense and let's move on.

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Trough Hill Farm
Middleburg, Virginia • \$3,200,000

A pastoral 5 bedroom c. 1830 farmhouse and a grand stone pavilion • Elegant but unfussy • 103 acres of open farmland • The pavilion serves as a pool house, greenhouse, banquet room, and guest quarters • The result is refined, but maintains its understated sophistication

Ann MacMahon (540) 687-5588 Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Westfields
Middleburg, Virginia • \$1,379,000

Custom home on 10 well maintained acres • Beautifully decorated • Hardwood floors, high ceilings, 4 fireplaces, gourmet kitchen • Large screened porch • In-ground pool and spa surrounded by brilliant garden • 4 stall barn/3 paddocks • Full house generator • Irrigation system for garden

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Keepsake Farm
The Plains, Virginia • \$1,195,000

Quintessential Virginia farm house • Storybook setting amid large parcels of protected land • Older log cabin with 1800's clapboard farm house attached • Master bedroom with updated en suite bath with handsome upgrades • Charming gardens among peaceful 7+ acres • Perfect for horses • Two stall barn with water and electric

Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930 Alix Coolidge (703) 625-1724



Stone Chase Farm
Round Hill, Virginia • \$975,000

Hard to find 17 acre horse farm • Black board fencing & stone walls surround this charming property • Brick home w/ large pool • 5 BR • 2 car garage • 4 FP • Full basement w/ private BR & BA • Kitchen opens to fantastic sunroom • Barn with tack room • Run in sheds • 3 ponds & a creek running through

Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930

110 East Washington Street • P.O. Box 1380
Middleburg, Virginia 20118
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Signal Mountain
The Plains, Virginia • \$1,950,000

160 acres terracing the Bull Run Mtns. • Stone walls through entire property • Views across the entire region • Stone & cedar carriage house with 3 bay garage and top of the line finishes • 1/2 acre pond • Gated entrance • Complete privacy • Rare find - great escape

Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930



October Hill
Purcellville, Virginia • \$1,375,000

Beautiful farm on 55.24 acres • Lovely views • Contemporary home with 4 bedrooms • 2 1/2 baths • 3 fireplaces • 2 car garage, very private • European style stable with 6 stalls • Tack room • Office, wash stall & apartment • Owner licensed real estate broker in Virginia

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Maresfield
Marshall, Virginia • \$999,995

Protected location in Orange County Hunt • 5 BR with master suite on first floor • 3 1/2 BA • 2 fireplaces • Mountain views • Pool • 10 useable acres • 150 x 220 riding arena • 8 stalls • Run-in shed • Stone walls

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Chinn Lane
Middleburg, Virginia • \$599,000

Absolutely lovely Williamsburg cape • Tucked in hidden lot in Village Hamlet • Elegant 1st floor master suite • Large formal living room with fireplace and built in book shelves • Upstairs includes 2 additional bedrooms and home office • Lower level finished with family/media room and 2 car garage

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Lions Lane
Boyce, Virginia • \$1,395,000

109 mountain top acres • Unbelievable western views • Hunters' paradise • 3 bedrooms • 2 fireplaces • Gourmet kitchen • 3 car garage • Energy efficient

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Briarmead
Front Royal, Virginia • \$1,350,000

Organic farm in superb location • 50 usable acres • Great mountain views • Circa 1880, completely updated 4-5 BR, 5 BA home • Gourmet kitchen with large family room • Herb garden • Fruit trees • Vegetable garden • Apt over garage • Kennel/stables, bank barn • Property is protected by conservation easement

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905 Ann MacMahon (540) 687-5588



Adams Green Lane
Middleburg, Virginia • \$985,000

Quality home in convenient location • Private setting • Much larger than it appears • Expanded and completely renovated • Large 1st floor master suite • Gourmet kitchen w/ Carrera marble • 4 BR & 4 1/2 BA • Hardwood floors • Natural light • French doors • 2 fireplaces & top of the line finishes throughout • Decks for entertaining

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Meadowbrook Court
Middleburg, Virginia • \$399,000

Immaculate end unit town home feels like a private cottage • Completely renovated • New kitchen & baths • New roof • Elegant living room with wood burning FP • Built in book shelves • Private terrace & landscaped garden • Perfectly turn key • No maintenance

Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930

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Cindy Polk 703-966-9480
David O'Flaherty 540-687-0383



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