



MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER CHRISTMAS GALA

PAGE 20

DR. BELINDA BURWELL, DVM,
ABOUT TO RELEASE THE REHABILITATED
AMERICAN BALD EAGLE



CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE

PAGE 6

ARF DONATES OVER QUARTER OF A MILLION IN FIRST THREE YEARS

Animal Rescue Fund is a not-for-profit organization established four years ago to help other organizations provide care to animals in need. This year, ARF awarded a record \$104,000 in grants to 21 existing animal shelters and animal service initiatives. During the first three years of existence, ARF has awarded a total of \$264,000 to organizations that applied for aid through ARF's annual grant process.

"Naturally, the contributions which make this possible don't fall from the sky," says ARF Chairman Jennifer Richards. "We are blessed with the most dedicated Board of Directors, volunteers and loyal contributors."

She continued, "Business owners in our area have been wonderful. The Shaggy Ram's Joanne Swift is the kindest, animal loving, supporter; Tom Wiseman from Wiseman & Associates never fails to pitch in to help."

Our gratitude is extended to the Middleburg Bank; Senator Jill Vogel; Nova Smiles; The Middleburg Eccentric and especially to Mrs. Jacqueline Mars and Mars Petcare US, Inc. without whose generosity we would not be able to donate food to many needy shelters.

"We are also immensely grateful to look to Ron Bradley, Zohar Bendov, Manley Johnson and Ken Rietz for extra financial support."

ARF is an organization of volunteers who recognize the inherent burden faced by existing shelters to not only care for rescued animals but to raise their own funds as well. ARF was created to increase awareness of and funding for existing animal shel-

ters and animal service organizations.

Twenty-one organizations received ARF grants this year including: The Middleburg Humane Foundation, The Blue Ridge Wildlife Center, The Fauquier SPCA, PAWS for Seniors, WAAG, Cause Fur Paws and The Virginia German Shepherd Rescue.

For a complete list, please visit the ARF website at www.arfrescueva.org.

"We are overwhelmingly grateful to the generosity of our local residents," said Founder Ursula Landsrath. "We deeply appreciate our many volunteers and contributors."

New Board Members

In 2014 ARF welcomes two new members to the Board of Directors: Cristin Cotten of Delaplane and Carole Stadfield of Middleburg. Jennifer Richards will be Chair, Ursula Landsrath President and Mary Johnson Vice-President. Other officers are Treasurer Dede McClure, Secretary Angie Webber and Special Events Chair Cathy Boswell.

ARF also announced the dates for its three annual events in 2014. Sunday, May 18 is the 2014 date for the Deleplane Dog Fest & Bazaar. The annual Animal Night will take place Saturday, October 11, and the ARF Estate Sale is planned for the weekend before Thanksgiving. Information about these events can be found at www.arfrescueva.org.

"We are overwhelmingly grateful to the generosity of our local residents," says Ursula Landsrath. "We deeply appreciate our many volunteers and contributors."



ARF'S TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS, CRISTIN COTTEN WITH GABRIEL, AND CAROLE STADFIELD HOLDING ANGEL



ARF BOARD MEMBER, CATHY BOSWELL, PRESENTS A \$10,000 ARF GRANT FOR THE BLUE RIDGE WILDLIFE CENTER TO DR. BELINDA BURWELL, DVM, DIRECTOR AND VETERINARIAN



ARF BOARD MEMBERS, DEDE MCCLURE AND ANGIE WEBBER, WITH RESCUED GREAT PYRENEES, MAXINE



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PATRICIA BURNS
540.454.6723



FQ8204258
\$7,950,000



HERITAGE FARM, MARSHALL, VA- Fantastic opportunity. A rarely available large parcel. 296 acres. Zoned RA. Potential easement credit. 3 tenant houses. Large pond. This is 3 separate parcels, 6071-09-6237, 6071-28-8393, 6072-00-7650. Heritage farm is a perfect hard asset investment and offers the potential of an incredible tax benefit.

PETER PEJACEVICH
540.270.3835



SCOTT BUZZELLI
540.454.1399



22553 DRESDEN FARM LN, MIDDLEBURG, VA - Dresden Farm is a beautifully maintained 115 acre horse farm. It includes a circa 1785 5 bedroom main house, a 12 stall Belmont barn with 8 paddocks, heated waterers, a new generator and a separate tack room. There are 4 additional dwellings (including newly renovated manager's house and guest house), extensive greenhouses, gardens, a pool, and a 5 acre pond.

PETER PEJACEVICH
540.270.3835



SCOTT BUZZELLI
540.454.1399



36579 MOUNTVILLE RD, MIDDLEBURG, VA- Magnificent hunt country estate. White Oak Farm, 60 outstanding acres in the foxcroft area.. Turnkey horse farm with a restored 1890's 4 br, 2 full 2 half bath. Original hardwood, wine cellar, 7 stall courtyard stable with a party/hunt breakfast room, 7 paddocks with new fencing. 2 additional dwellings. LO8233146 \$3,300,000

PETER PEJACEVICH
540.270.3835



SCOTT BUZZELLI
540.454.1399



209 WASHINGTON ST E, MIDDLEBURG, VA - Historic c.1820 turnkey B&B in Town of Middleburg. Includes real estate, successful business, contents (excl. owner's personal items). Beautifully decorated & furnished. Off St. pkg, 8 lovely rooms w/ en suite bathrooms, huge commercial kitchen, dining rm, office, sitting area, parlor, 9 frpls, decks, gardens. Includes add'l .25 ac corner lot Tax ID #538293356000. Walk to shops/restaurants.

PATRICIA BURNS
540.454.6723



LO8226376
\$2,200,000



9376 BRIAR LN, DELAPLANE, VA - Turn-key Equestrian property on 31+ private acres, frontage on Goose Ck. Spacious 4 BR; Master suite on main level, California closet, jacuzzi, etc. Open floor plan with mahogany beamed vaulted ceilings. Gourmet kitchen with Wolf appliances, 31x16 den, double 58' decks. Extraordinary stable! 14~x14~ stalls, etc. 120~x240~ ring, 5 paddocks, sheds with water/elec. Great ride-out, Convenient commute....

ANNE MCINTOSH
703-509-4499



FQ8230417
\$1,799,000



BEAVERDAM BRIDGE RD, MIDDLEBURG, VA - Beautiful custom stone/ stucco home on 10+ acres. 4 bdrms, 5 1/2 baths. Main level bedroom, custom kitchen with granite and a break fast bar. 4 fireplaces, 3 car garage with an upstairs apartment. HUGE finished basement, whole house generator, porch off the master suite, a pool, minutes to middleburg and Purcellville.

TED ZIMMERMAN
540-905-5874



LO8169923
\$1,600,000



23085 Pantherskin Ln, Middleburg, VA- Exceptionally spacious brick house in sought after Atoka Chase, minutes from downtown Middleburg in a very private setting. Large master suite. Large mud room. 4 car garage. Finished lower level. Media room. 10 acres. Pond. 5 bedrooms. 4 baths.

PETER PEJACEVICH
540.270.3835



LO8105401 • \$1,190,000
BUNDLES MURDOCK
540.454.3499



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.

LO8195937 • \$1,075,000

PETER PEJACEVICH
540.270.3835



SCOTT BUZZELLI
540.454.1399



544 TILTHAMMER MILL RD, BOYCE, VA - With beautiful views of the Blue Ridge Mountains, this home is located on a 20 acre-parcel. The ranch style brick house, with 4 bedrooms and 3 baths, was built in 2007. With a large kitchen, spacious dining room, a covered porch, patio and a guest house, it is perfect for entertaining.

CL8055171 • \$980,000

PETER PEJACEVICH
540.270.3835



SCOTT BUZZELLI
540.454.1399



10157 JOHN S. MOSBY HWY, UPPERVILLE, VA - Amazing oppty. for buyers looking for a home-based business. Very charming, in a great location, with good visibility off John Mosby Hwy. between Upperville and Paris adjacent to Blackthorne Inn. Organic gardening? Antiques? Grapes/wine tasting? Also good for a horse person. Outbuildings and good parking.

PATRICIA BURNS
540.454.6723



FQ8110815
\$795,000



21062 HOODED CROW DR, LEESBURG, VA - Tenant occupied until Jan.31st. Please excuse TENANT'S CLUTTER. Note that Gleds ville Road at 15 South is closed. Must go past and enter at Emerald Park. Directions noted correctly in listing. Home has over \$90,000 dollars in builder and homeowner improvements. Not your typical builder standards. Designer kitchen and baths. Custom yoga studio in basement, yard with sprinkler. No-voc paint

COLLEEN GUSTAVSON
703-296-2347



LO8221569
\$579,000

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NEWS OF NOTE

MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL UPDATE

The Middleburg Charter School Committee submitted an application to the Loudoun County School Board last August and has been busy working out the details with a School Board charter review committee during a series of bi-monthly public meetings. These meetings have covered the topics of governance, facilities, personnel, curriculum, special education, finances, and transportation.

If approved by the School Board, Middleburg Elementary School will convert to a public charter school and be operated under a multi-year contract with the School Board by a nonprofit corporation composed of community members, parents, and school staff. The new charter school, MCCS, hopes to give priority admission to children residing in the Middleburg community and will also be open to any child residing in Loudoun County. If those desiring admission exceed the capacity of the school of 137 students, then a lottery will be conducted to determine admissions.

MCCS is excited to offer

an educational program that will provide our children an excellent education and will meet the needs of the community. It will include an innovative interdisciplinary curriculum, multi-age classes, all-day kindergarten, and a modified school year calendar.

MCCS will adopt the Leonardo Da Vinci program developed at Barcroft Elementary School in Arlington, VA. This curriculum was developed under the leadership of their award winning principal Miriam Hughey-Guy, who retired in 2013. She is serving as a consultant to the MCCS committee and, along with selected staff from Barcroft Elementary, will guide the MCCS staff in implementing a similar program at MCCS. The program uses Leonardo Da Vinci as a model to inspire the children to develop their innate intellectual curiosity. A thematic, project-based, interdisciplinary curriculum will employ unifying topics to provide context for teaching and practicing the various disciplines of math, language arts, science, social studies, history, art, music and PE. Barcroft's

program is aligned with the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Unlike traditional elementary schools, MCCS will not have children separated by grade and taught multiple subjects by a single grade level teacher. Grades K-2 will be combined into one class while grades 3 through 5 will be combined into a separate class with the number of class rooms of each grouping determined by student enrollment. Combining children across age groups allows younger students to see models for learning in older children, provides mentoring opportunities for older children in a class, and ensures continuity of child-teacher relationships across several years. Instead of all teachers covering every discipline, teachers with experience and qualifications in either math or language arts will teach primarily those subjects to multiple classrooms and mentor younger teachers as they develop expertise in their chosen area.

Full-day kindergarten gives children the extra instruction at a young age that

research shows has major benefits. A modified year-round calendar reduces the long summer break, when children lose ground academically. School opens in early August. Two-week breaks, called intercessions, are scheduled between quarters, one between the late summer and fall quarters and another between the winter and spring quarters. Intercessions include opportunities for remedial studies for children as well as enrichment classes or camps depending on the interest of the students.

Parents and community members are invited to hear more about MCCS at a public meeting at Middleburg Elementary School on Monday, February 3rd at 6:30pm. Miriam Hughey-Guy will attend the meeting as well as members of the Loudoun County School Board's Charter Review Committee and everyone will be available to answer questions.

For more information please contact MCCS at 540-505-0456 or by emailing middleburgcharterschool@gmail.com.

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NEWS OF NOTE

MIDDLEBURG WATER UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

DAN MORROW

At its regular meeting on January 9, 2014, Town Council voted unanimously to hire a new company, Inboden Environmental Services, to handle the day-to-day management of the Town's water systems, arguably Middleburg's largest assets and most complex management challenges.

With the town's management contract with Loudoun water due to expire at the end of 2013, Town Administrator Martha Semmes, with full council support, had issued a formal Request For Proposals for the system contract in the fall of 2013.

"Two were received, she said, from "private utility service providers," both long active in the state: one from Inboden Environmental Services, based in Mount Jackson Virginia; the other from the ESS Group, with offices in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Norfolk, Virginia. The town's current contractor, Loudoun Water, did not respond directly to the town's formal RFP, but submitted a draft "renewal contract" for consideration on January 2, 2014.

A committee comprising Town Administrator Martha Semmes, Councilmembers Mark Snyder and Kevin Hazard, and Bob Etris of the Houston-based consulting firm Whitman Requardt Associates re-

viewed all three offers and unanimously recommended hiring IES.

A key element in the town's choice of vendors, Semmes reported, was the now well-established need to have water and wastewater system management staff on site, "all day during the week and some during the weekends" both of which were required by the permits issued by the State to operate the systems, and the realities of day-to-day maintenance and problem solving needs.

Indeed, Semmes noted, in her view the recent serious and very expensive damage to the town's Well 4 treatment plant "would not have occurred or the damages could have been minimized" if Loudoun Water staff had been on site.

Customers with frozen water meters, she also observed, need immediate attention, and tend not to be happy to wait for the dispatch of service personnel stationed elsewhere in the county, if and when they become available.

It has apparently become "increasingly difficult" and expensive Semmes observed, "for Loudoun Water to provide the level of service the Town staff, Council and customers expect." Their draft renewal contract, she further noted, had simply not offered to provide the on-site staff presence the town required, and, in her view, appeared to offer less service than

their competitors at higher cost.

Mark Snyder, arguably the Town Council's resident expert on water issues past and present, noted that the members of the review committee all agreed that "IES was a great solution and had the capabilities, dedication and years of service to do the job, and were cheaper than any other alternative."

Semmes also noted that IES had "direct experience with the membrane technology at the [Town's new] wastewater treatment plant."

Terry Inboden, the founder of IES, could be in Middleburg as early as February, Snyder said, to facilitate a smooth transfer of operations. IES, in Snyder's view, should be able to "fully assume operations in March."

Middleburg Charter School

Dave Quanbeck and Janelle Stuart, of the Middleburg Charter School Committee reported that the Loudoun County School Board would vote to approve or disapprove their application on February 25th.

Three members of the School Board will hold "an unofficial, advertised meeting on February 3rd at the elementary school in order to gauge the level of community support."

The Middleburg Committee "encouraged people to attend and noted that one member of the School Board was skeptical of charter schools and was asking to see community support."

Quanbeck also encouraged supporters to attend the regular full meeting of the School Board on February 11, "during which time the charter school adoption would be discussed as an information item and public input would be accepted."

Town Council agreed to consider a resolution of support for the project during their January 23rd work session.

Salamander Signage

Town Administrator Semmes reported that the management of Salamander Resort and Spa had approached the Town about working together on a "way-finding signage program." Council should expect a budget proposal, she noted, at some point in the near future.

Historic District Guideline

Town Planner and Zoning Administrator David Beniamino reported that the town's Historic Dis-

trict Review Committee had brought in a consultant at its last meeting "to discuss updating the Historic District Guidelines." The consultant, he said, will submit a proposal to the HRDC on the topic in February, and that HRDC would provide a recommendation for Council's consideration shortly thereafter.

Police

Chief of Police A. J. Panebianco presented his department's "end-of-the-year report" to council. Highlights of 2013 included dealing with a string of burglaries early in the year, with the town's Lieutenant Mike Prince playing "a key role" in identifying the individuals later arrested in connection with the crimes.

Officer Tim Tharpe, he reported, is now addressing the Town's longstanding parking meter issues, inspecting them on a monthly basis and marking those that are out of order for repair. In 2014, he said, the department will also keep track of malfunctioning meters "in a searchable spreadsheet so the staff would know at a quick glance which ones malfunctioned most often and needed to be replaced."

Panebianco had high praise for work of Officers Heather Fadely and Mark Putnam, who found themselves in the highly unusual position for Middleburg officers of having to investigate two deaths within two days.

Officer Jay Hollins, he noted, has completed advanced, instructor school level training and has been passing that training along to other members of the force "as well as some officers in Purcellville."

The Department's new Facebook page has clocked six hundred "likes" and counting. It receives three-to-six hundred hits on each new post, Panebianco reported, and received around five thousand hits for a post soliciting Christmas cards for a little girl.

Middleburg enjoys a very low crime rate, the Chief noted, in part because his officers are "out on the street" . . . "a lot."

Open and honest communication from citizens and business owners, he continued, also plays a major role, sometimes making it possible for his officers to intervene to prevent trouble rather than having to react after the fact.



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February 7 – 23

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February 28 – March 3

Oscars

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March 14 – 17

St Patrick's Day

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NEWS OF NOTE

CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE

LAUREN R. GIANNINI

You can't miss Canine Companions for Independence with their distinctive yellow and blue vests, attentive and ready to serve their person. Founded in 1975, Canine Companions have proven their worth by helping children and adults to live better lives in spite of disabilities and medical conditions.

"My daughter was the first in this area to get a Canine Companion, and we

really want to "give back" by helping CCI in any way we can. One way is to recruit new puppy raisers. CCI could not exist without these amazing people," said Carina Elgin. "Currently, four CCI puppies are being raised by Heidi Hotchkiss at Foxcroft, by Jane Banse and the CCI Club at Middleburg Academy, by the Slater family of Middleburg Montessori, and by Georgiana Watt."

Right before press time, Lynne Kelly and her son Sam Morgan welcomed their CCI

puppy. Other members of the local community who have sponsored or raised CCI puppies include Lisa and Zohar Ben-Dov, Julie and John Coles, Jennifer (Frost) Fleming, Gail Griffith, and Susanne Lamb.

CCI puppies attend the bi-weekly CCI training class under the tutelage of Genevieve Warner CPDT at Middleburg's American Legion. "Graduate" teams often stop by to watch, especially Caroline Elgin and Shelly, her second CCI service dog.

Caroline has cerebral palsy, caused by birth trauma. Weak muscle tone makes walking difficult, and her speech is soft and unclear. Teaming with Sajen at the age of 10 helped her to evolve from shy fifth grader into poised young lady.

"Getting a CCI dog is a really great thing because it brings you into the world. You always have a friend nearby," said Caroline. "You have more independence and confidence, because your dog can help you with many

things. You also get a whole new family, because the volunteers are all such great people."

Sajen turned 12 and retired to a life of leisure on the Elgins' farm in The Plains. The Elgins flew to California so Caroline could team up with Shelly. The two dogs couldn't be more different. Sajen is a big, black male who needed lots of praise, whereas Shelly (two) is a small, very mellow female and responds to Caroline's soft voice, perfect for the next phase of her life, when mom might not always be nearby.

Carina recalled Caroline and Sajen's first Middleburg Christmas parade. "My husband Dean and I were astonished, watching this shy girl in a wheelchair, driving down the middle of Main Street, just beaming – smiling, waving and so very proud of her dog. It was the first of many amazing experiences for Caroline with Sajen by her side."

Canine Companions for Independence, a nation-wide 501c3 non-profit, breeds Labradors, Golden Retrievers, and crosses of the two to be trained as service dogs, facility dogs, skilled companions, and hearing dogs. CCI service dogs partner with children and adults with physical disabilities. The dogs turn lights on and off, fetch things like the remote and shoes, pick up dropped keys, pull manual wheelchairs, and lots more. They provide great social support and guarantee that their person is never alone.

The official path of each Canine Companion starts when pups are weaned and spend 15-18 months with puppy raisers. In May several Middleburg puppies will be handed over to CCI for advanced training. From birth to graduation each dog costs about \$40,000, but in CCI's unique program, thanks to volunteers and donors, there is no charge to the children, adults and veterans who qualify and pass the training.

Not every CCI puppy makes the grade. They can't have allergies or health issues and undergo rigorous training and testing. If any CCI dog leaves the program or is not matched with a human partner, its "raiser" person or family has first dibs and usually welcomes their former pup with joy and open hearts.

That was the case with the Slater family. "My four

children – Cassella, MegAnn, CatiAdele, Bobby – and I have raised four puppies for CCI and so far two have graduated to become service dogs," said BethAnn Slater. "A third one went almost all the way through the advanced specialized training to be a hearing dog, but she was culled for distractibility. Hedy is a great dog and she's with my oldest daughter at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg."

"Our fourth CCI puppy is Shyla and my youngest, Bobby, brings her to school at Middleburg Montessori," Slater added. "Shyla's day varies. She gets put through the basics – sit, stay, bed and down – and also practices being calm at school. With the children there's a lot of distraction and they can get noisy. The most difficult part of raising CCI puppies is returning them for advanced training. We are very sad when the dogs leave us, but there is also great joy to know that our puppies can help someone live a better life."

Every December local Canine Companions for Independence turn out in full force to participate in the Christmas In Middleburg parade. This year a brand new team joined the CCI group: Forest Stone Allen and Toliver walked the entire length of the parade route. Three years ago, Forrest suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). In November he succeeded in taking and passing the intensive two-week training at CCI's northeast headquarters (New York state). Forrest teamed up with his Canine Companion service dog, raised coincidentally by family friend and former Middleburg resident, Colleen Hayduk Roberts.

"Toliver has been an enormous help to Forrest through these recent and very disappointing setbacks – two hospitalizations and three surgeries," said his mother Dr. Rae Stone, DVM. "Toliver spreads love, joy, and hope everywhere he goes – to Forrest and to his family (father Kent Allen DVM and brother Austin), friends, doctors, nurses, therapists, and other hospitalized patients. Toliver's unconditional love, his special brand of joy and hope eases the pain and makes anything seem possible."

People who grow up with disabilities or whose health issues result in severe challenges often end up feeling alone and outside of mainstream society. But there is nothing like a love-

ly big dog, fiercely devoted and loyal to their person, to make a bad day better and brighter. It's also interesting how the CCI service dogs actually help a person to come to grips with their realities at various stages of their lives.

People asked Caroline whether she has a better relationship with Sajen or Shelly, although she loves them both. "Shelly – because I am older and she is more my own dog now that I don't need my mom around like I did when I was 10," said Caroline, who attends college to study graphic arts and started LabradorableDesigns.com, a greeting card and graphics business. "I also understand now that I am older how much Shelly is going to mean to me and how special she is. I understand better how volunteers and staff worked really hard to prepare her for me."

Canine Companions for Independence can save lives literally. Nation-wide, the CCI community has about 3,000 active members and about 1,851 active graduate teams.

For more information and to get involved, please visit www.cci.org



N:

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Be sure to make it by noon so you don't miss the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Tours conclude with light refreshments and goodies. Bring family, friends and neighbors to celebrate all that this means for our community.

Discover how we're ready to transform your health and wellness experience.

We look forward to seeing you Feb. 22.
Learn more at NovantHealth.org/haymarket.

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NEWS OF NOTE

CABIN FEVER, FIRST JURIED EXHIBIT OF 'ARTISTS IN MIDDLEBURG'

The Middleburg Arts Council is proud to sponsor Cabin Fever, a juried show of the Artists in Middleburg at The Byrne Gallery from February 8 to March 2, 2014.

Artists in Middleburg (AiM) is an informal collection of talented artists interested in promoting, exhibiting and sharing the arts in Middleburg, Virginia. AiM maintains a list of interested artists, hosts monthly meetings, gathers for art socials and creates art events for members and the surrounding community. Cabin Fever is the first juried AiM member show.

The renowned artist William Woodward selected the artworks for the exhibit. He is Professor Emeritus of Fine Art at The George Washington University where he taught and directed the painting program for graduate students. Woodward has several decades of experience in creating narrative art.

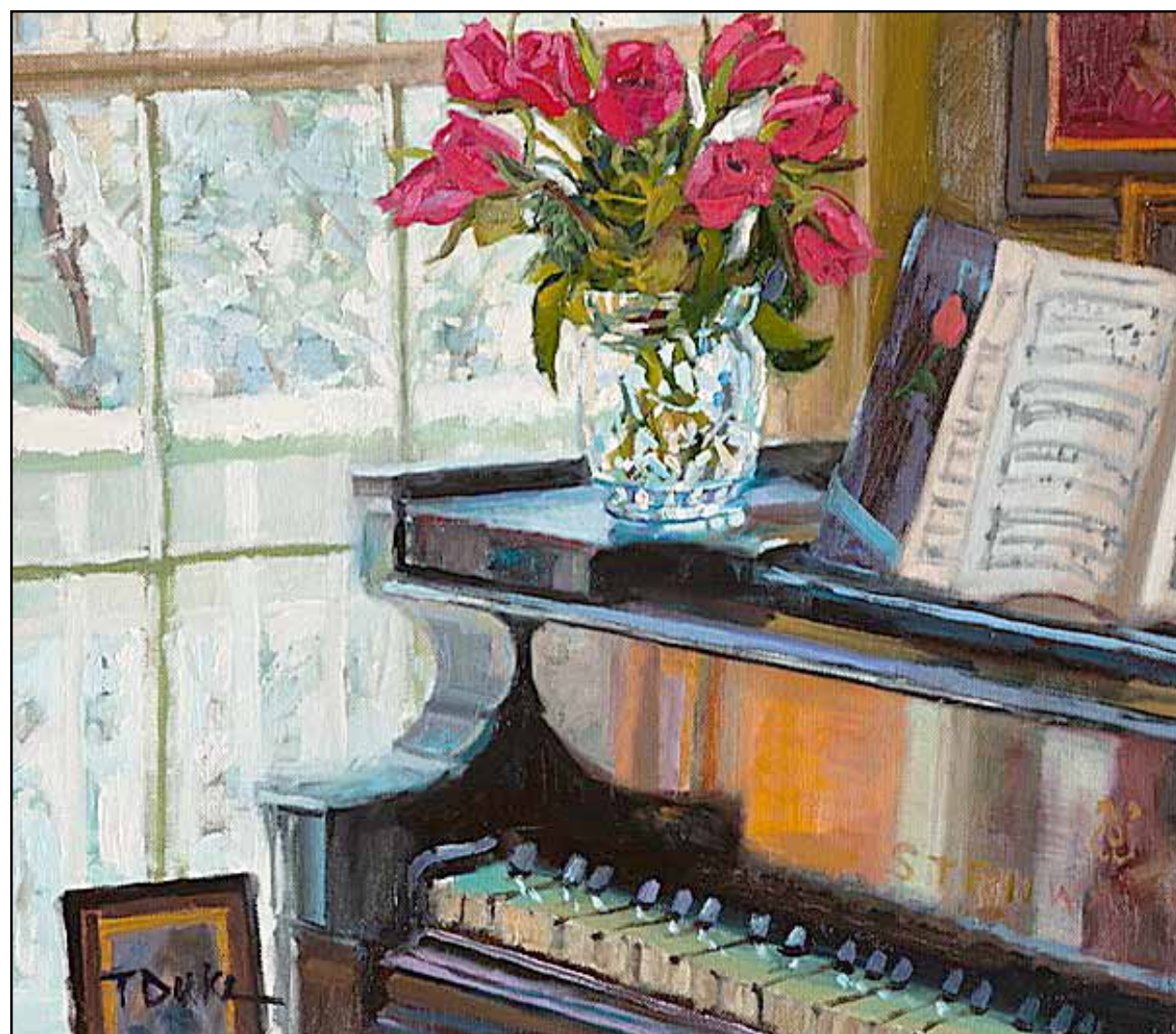
More at www.william-woodward.com

Cabin Fever will include artworks that bring thoughts of warmth and hints of spring in the cold month of February. Come enjoy the warmth and hospitality of Middleburg, break your "cabin fever!"

This exhibit is hosted by gallery owners Susan and Bill Byrne, of The Byrne Gallery, located in the heart of Middleburg at 7 West Washington Street. Additional works will be shown in the second floor gallery at Sona Bank across the street.

Please join us for the opening of Cabin Fever at the Artists' Reception on Saturday, February 8th from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

The Byrne Gallery Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, noon - 5:00 p.m.; Closed Monday and Tuesday. Contact Susan Byrne at 540-687-6986 or www.byrnegallery.com



MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOCIATION TO HOST MASTERS OF FOXHOUNDS FOR PANEL DISCUSSION

The Mosby Heritage Area Association, the Northern Virginia Piedmont preservation and education organization, will host on February 16th at 2:00pm, their annual event, Foxhunting in the Piedmont: History and Future of the Sport, featuring Masters of Foxhounds and enthusiasts for a casual conversation and panel discussion. The event will be held at the Hill School's Sheila C. Johnson Performing Arts Center at 103 S. Madison Street, Middleburg, Virginia.

The event will bring together current and former Masters of Foxhounds Dr. Will Allison, ex-MFH; Mr. Randy Rouse, MFH; Mr. Jake Carle, ex-MFH; Mr. Turney McKnight; and Mr. Tad Zimmerman, MFH to discuss their respective Hunts and any trends they are noticing in the field. The discussion will end with audience input and questions and will serve as a very informal and entertaining afternoon. This event is great for all ages and interests.

Previous panel speakers include: Tommy Lee Jones, Robert Ashcom, Melvin Poe, and Albert Poe.

Tickets can be purchased ahead of time on MHAA's website www.mosbyheritagearea.org or by calling 540-687-6681. Tickets are \$30 for MHAA members and \$35 for non-members. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

Biographies of the Speakers:

Will Allison, ex-MFH began hunting with the Warrenton Hunt in 1964. Dr. Allison was appointed Honorary Secretary in 1980 and he served in that position until he was named Joint Master in 1985, serving with Mrs. Maximilian "Sally" Tufts. He continued as Joint Master for 15 years until his retirement in 2000. Dr. Allison, a native of Warrenton and a long time member of the Virginia Gold Cup Association, was elected its President in 1995 and continues in that position. Dr. Allison was elected chairman of the Virginia Gold Cup Association Spring and Fall Race committees in 2000 and continues in those positions as well. He is also on the Board of Directors of the National Steeplechase Association and is currently President of the Virginia Steeplechase Association.

John J. (Jake) Carle II, ex-MFH served as Master of Foxhounds for the Keswick Hunt from 1964-2000. He contributed remarkable amounts of his own time and financial support, funded professional whippers-in, designed the kennels, and established a successful hound breeding program. Mr. Carle also expanded the Keswick territory in 1980 to include land formerly hunted by the Rapidan Hunt. He was the 2011 recipient of the Julian Marshall Award of the Bryn Mawr Hound Show. Mr. Carle has served as the Virginia District Director of the MFHA, a Board

member and Vice President of Virginia Foxhound Club and American Foxhound Club, and was a founding member of the Museum of Hounds and Hunting of North America. He currently resides in Amissville, Virginia.

H. Turney McKnight moved to the Jarrettsville, Maryland area in 1969. In 1970, after winning four consecutive steeplechase races, he was featured in the "Faces in the Crowd" section of Sports Illustrated (his daughter Anna would be featured 30 years later for winning four straight equestrian events). In My Lady's Manor Point-to-Points, Mr. McKnight was second twice and three times third between 1973 and 1983. In addition, Mr. McKnight continues to serve as chairman of the meet and oversaw the historic move from a 69-year old venue to the newly constructed course on the grounds of the Elkridge-Harford Hunt Club. Mr. McKnight and his wife, Liz, who is MFH of the Elkridge-Harford Hunt, each had Maryland Hunt Cup wins on Tong, a horse bred by his mother. Mr. McKnight's Hunt Cup win was 1982 and Mrs. McKnight's in 1986, making them the only married couple to both have won the Cup. Mr. McKnight is a retired attorney.

Randy Rouse, MFH is among the longest serving Mas-



ters of Foxhounds, serving as MFH of the Fairfax Hunt since 1961. He enjoyed his first fox-hunt after returning from Navy service during World War II. Mr. Rouse was able to work with masters of Loudoun, Middleburg, and Piedmont Hunts, along the western boundary of the Fairfax Hunt country to face the challenge of disappearing open country in Fairfax. By the late 1960s, Mr. Rouse had obtained leases from Middleburg and Loudoun Hunts, and the Fairfax Hunt was meeting with increasing frequency in the Ashburn-Arcola area. Mr. Rouse also organized the first

point-to-point race meet hosted by the Fairfax Hunt in 1958. In the 1970s, he, and his prized horse, Cinzano, won all 11 races they competed in as an amateur steeplechase jockey.

Arthur A. "Tad" Zimmerman, MFH became Master of Foxhounds of the Piedmont Hunt in 2002 after

hunting as a child with the Radnor Hunt in Pennsylvania, where he also showed hunters as a junior. He later came to Virginia to ride with J.C. Wolford. In 1975, Mr. Zimmerman was a reserve rider for the Pan

Am games in Mexico City and in 1976 was on the short list for the Montreal Olympics. He is the Chief of the General Services Division at the International Monetary Fund, where he has worked for 25 years. He and wife of 36 years, Cathy, have two sons, Jack and Ted, who has followed in his father's equestrian footsteps. Mr. Zimmerman is Senior Steward for the National Steeplechase Association and is a Regional Representative for Northern Virginia and West Virginia on the board of the Masters of Foxhounds Association.

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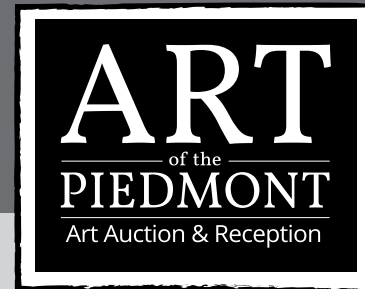
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auction info & inclement weather schedule

a benefit for the Middleburg Montessori School



Lilla Ohrstrom Walking My Rose Colored Way

NEWS OF NOTE

JANET WHITEHOUSE, CO-FOUNDER OF MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOC.

A master at involving others and energizing efforts on behalf of charitable organizations, Janet Grayson Whitehouse once described her approach to preservation as “advocacy is a team sport.” In 1993, in coordination with the PEC and as co-chairman of the Goose Creek Association, she spearheaded the first meeting - held at Grace Episcopal Church in The Plains, Virginia - to rally opposition to Disney’s proposed theme park near Haymarket. “The meeting was organized to feel the pulse of opposition within our community,” Childs Burden, President of the Mosby Heritage Area Association has said. “Well, the pulse was not

beating, it was racing.” This was the opening salvo in the battle which ultimately led to Disney’s abandonment of the project.

In 1995, she co-founded and chaired the aforementioned Mosby Heritage Area Association, which through its “preservation through education” programs annually teaches over 5,000 Virginia students about local history. Through its many initiatives, MHAA serves as an advocate for the preservation of historic, cultural, scenic and natural resources of the Northern Virginia Piedmont. Its many educational programs seek to bring an awareness of the significant heritage of this unique area which in turn leads to an appreciation for its pres-

ervation.

In honor and recognition of Janet’s lifelong passion for the preservation of her beloved Virginia Piedmont, the Janet Grayson Whitehouse Fund has been established by the Mosby Heritage Area Association. Funds will be used to further the educational programs and preservation efforts of MHAA.

Donations to the Mosby Heritage Area Association, a non-profit a 501(c)(3) organization are tax deductible. Contributions may be sent in her honor to MHAA, PO Box 1497, Middleburg, VA 20118 with checks made payable to the Mosby Heritage Area Association and designated to the Janet Grayson Whitehouse Fund.



WARRENTON HUNT’S RED CARPET EVOKES HOLLYWOOD BLAST FROM THE PAST

LAUREN R. GIANNINI

Warrenton Hunt invites you to dress up as your favorite movie star and walk the red carpet at Fauquier Springs Club on February 22 when their annual fundraiser “Night At The Races” recreates the glamorous ambience of 1930s-40s Hollywood at Santa Anita Park.

The evening’s attractions and entertainments include the Chateauville Players from the Castleton Music Festival, playing show tunes from that Golden Era, several live auction items, a huge silent auction and, of course, the races.

“Tickets for Night at the Races tend to sell out fast and I sent my reservation in early to snag one of our seven special tables for 10 people,” said Michele Mitchell, who serves on the committee for the gala evening. “Special tables are decorated differently, you and your guests are served champagne at the table – you don’t have to go to the bar for it. There are chocolates and wonderful little touches that just add to the fun. I’m decorating the tables and I can’t wait – this year’s Night at the Races is going to be so cool.”

Considering last year’s party, that’s a classic understatement. It seems that the committee has raised the bar (pun intended) and intends to outdo their personal best. Warrenton Hunt’s membership takes great pride in both their sporting and social reputations.

Dress code is cocktail attire and black tie for the gentlemen. Warrenton Hunt’s masters – Rick Laimbeer, Kim Nash and

Celeste Vella – encourage guests to dress up as their favorite movie stars, because there will be a contest. Laimbeer makes a superb Master of Ceremonies and while it’s anybody’s guess how he will handle replicating the Golden Era of Hollywood at Santa Anita, you can bet that the evening will be great fun.

“The color theme is black, white and red, just like Hollywood in the good old days,” said Mitchell. “People should think about red carpet attire or dress as an actor or actress. They might want to think up a group theme for their table.”

The festivities begin at 7 and conclude at 11 p.m. The cost of the ticket (\$95 per person) includes the open bar and buffet dinner. Each ticket provides the guest with \$50 “Betting Bucks” (sorry – no real currency, please), which you wager at betting stations before each of the races projected onto the big screen. Winners’ names are put into a hat for a drawing for special prizes.

Warrenton Hunt raises funds to support their hounds with the silent and live auction items. This year’s live auction features a trip for four to Santa Anita Park and tour of the backstretch with one of the top trainers, special evening at the Castleton Music Festival, two-night stay at the luxurious Keswick Inn, and private hunt for 15 people with Warrenton Hunt.

This is a “gap” year for the Warrenton Hunt ball, so make your plans to get in on the Night at the Races’ red carpet glamour and racing action.

RSVP to Alice Laimbeer (payment by checks only): alaimbeer@gmail.com



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Left to Right

Howard Allen - Book "Unforgotten Times" - Special Recognition
Dee Smedley and Krista Garber - Middleburg Pharmacy - Special Recognition
Carol Caberello - The Upper Crust - Outstanding Customer Service - Hospitality
Mark Metzger - Highcliffe Clothiers - Outstanding Customer Service - Retail
Claudia Pfeiffer - National Sporting Library & Museum - Event of the Year- Munnings Exhibit
Bryan Wright - Middleburg Christian Pre-School - Special Recognition
Mickey Gustagson - National Sporting Library & Museum - Event of the Year - Munnings Exhibit

Back Row

Trey Matheu - Salamander Resort & Spa's Grand Opening - Promotional/Marketing Campaign of the Year-round
John Deering - Middleburg Auto Parts - Outstanding Customer Service - Business

Not Pictured

Susan Koch and Giardy Ritz - Middleburg Film Festival - Special Recognition

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WHAT'S IN YOUR TANK? FAQS ABOUT PROPANE

DALE SCHULZ

What is happening with the market price of propane?

Our current price is \$2.399/gallon. Unlike other companies that have multiple prices depending on who you are, we have a single, low price. Many of our members were previously paying up to \$5.00/gallon with other propane companies before switching to Hunt Country Propane. Not only is the price of propane up this Winter, but natural gas prices are up 32% from this time last year.

Do you have delivery charges?

We are the only propane company in the local area that does not have delivery charges which can be \$20.00/delivery. We have no delivery, no hazmat charges, etc.

When should I get filled up?

If your gauge is reading less than 50% you are ready for a fill up. You want to be topped off your tank going

into the Fall/Winter. If we have a blizzard you may not be able to get propane for several weeks and propane could be in very short supply, as it is currently.

My current propane company says they own my tank. I am not sure they do. How do I find out for sure?

Call the company that has been providing your propane recently and ask them to kindly provide you with documentation that they own your tank. We have found numerous instances of recent where the propane company said they owned the tank only to find they didn't in fact own the tank.

If I don't own my tank can you fill my tank up?

Unfortunately, we cannot fill you up. Approximately, 50% of the homeowners in Loudoun, Prince William, Clarke and Fauquier Counties do not own their own tanks. These homeowners pay significantly more than homeowners that own their own tank. In over 25-years of building

custom homes in the area we never installed a propane tank that the homeowner did not own.

How did it happen that I don't own my own tank?

Answer: When your home was being constructed your builder, often a production builder, struck a deal with a propane company that they would provide the buried propane tank without charge in return for their owning the tank when the home was completed. It was a good deal for the builder as they got a tank for free and a good deal for the propane company as they had a captive customer. You were the only one with the bad deal. We have found instances where homeowner who don't own their tank are paying \$2.00/gallon more than homeowners who own their own tank.

How long will it take for me to payback the cost of pur- chasing my tank?

Often less than 1-years, after which time you will be saving every fill up. Buy your tank.

Is propane cleaner burning than fuel oil?

Yes. Propane produces approximately 50% less harmful emissions than oil. Many people are surprised to learn that home heating oil is the same product as diesel fuel. The diesel fuel you purchase at a service station includes on-road taxes which home heating oil does not. In 25-years of building custom homes we only installed a single oil burning furnace. Most of our clients insisted on clean-burning propane. The majority of new custom homes built in the area have gas (propane) furnaces.

What has been your ex- perience with electric heat pumps.

In my years of building custom homes, I've never seen anyone who actually liked a heat pump. They blow out cool air and run continuously. We recommend hi-efficiency gas (propane) HVAC systems in our custom homes. It sometimes makes sense to install a heat pump above a garage or barn, be

even in these situations you'd rather have gas heat.

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About the Author: Dale Schulz is the President of Hunt Country Propane, www.hunt-countrypropane.com, located in Middleburg and Berryville. Hunt Country Propane is a local, lower priced area propane supplier. You can contact them at 540.687.3608 or dale@HuntCountryPropane.com



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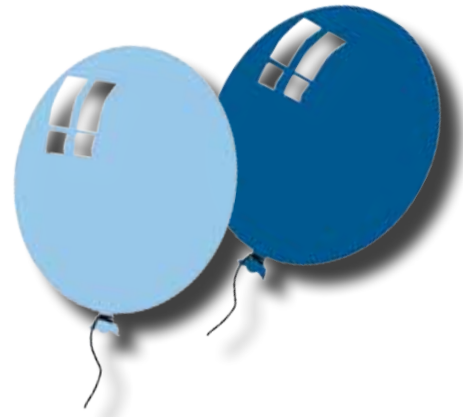
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NEWS OF NOTE

AB INBEV RETAINS 2013 FOXCROFT ROAD TRASH TITLE

TALKIN' TRASH ~ 2013 FOXCROFT ROAD PIG PEN AWARDS

WILLIAM H. MCCORMICK VMD

2012 was the twelfth consecutive year of volunteer action to control trash on the Foxcroft Road. The author conducts this survey as a single observer. However, there are others who also pick up trash on the Foxcroft Road, such as the Middleburg Hunt and the Foxcroft students themselves. Therefore, if anything, the numbers here noted are understated. At a value of 1037 individual pieces of trash, the year 2013 achieved a total slightly below the twelve year average of 1054. To aid those first time readers and as a reminder to past readers of this column, the course of trash collection is a 4.6 mile route of dirt and hard road that includes portions of the Polecat Hill Rd. (Rt. 696), the Foxcroft Rd. (Rt. 626), the Snake Hill Rd. (Rt. 744), and the Millville Rd. (Rt. 743).

In the past year, 1037 individual pieces of trash, an average of three per day, were retrieved from the Foxcroft Road. Most of the trash was recycled. The perennial nicotine champion, Marlboro, accounted for 42% of the tobacco total with Camel second at 30%, and Newport third at 8%. The relative numbers of tobacco products increased their percentage from 5% in 2010 to 9% of total trash in 2012, and that percentage holds steady in 2013 with Marlboro totals falling vs. Camel. According to the CDC, tobacco is the root cause of 30% of all cancers and 80% of lung cancer.

In the New Age-Soft Drink category, there was close competition between, the duopoly, Coca Cola and PepsiCo (58 vs. 52 in absolute

numbers or 27% vs. 24% of the New Age-soft drink group). Coke was able to establish a slim two year lead over its oldest rival, PepsiCo, both of which are slightly down this year.

The Fast Food group sustained 7% growth in 2013. A total 12% of all trash in 2012, Fast Food this past year accounted for 19% of all road trash. It is surprising given that the nearest fast food business establishment is at least 25 minutes driving time away from Middleburg. To date the Middleburg Town Council has been able to turn away the largess of the fast food sector. A new comer, Wendy's, accounted for 15% of fast food, second place on the road, whilst Seven-11 slipped to 13% and perennial champion McDonald's was responsible for 27%.

In the Beer, Wine, and Booze category, Miller/Coor's and Corona/Modello must share second place to AB INBev. AB INBev currently controls 55% of Foxcroft Road beer cans and bottles, whereas SABMiller controls only 13% of market share with Grupo Modelo moving up to 13%. A new comer, Spark's, has 9% of the beer group.

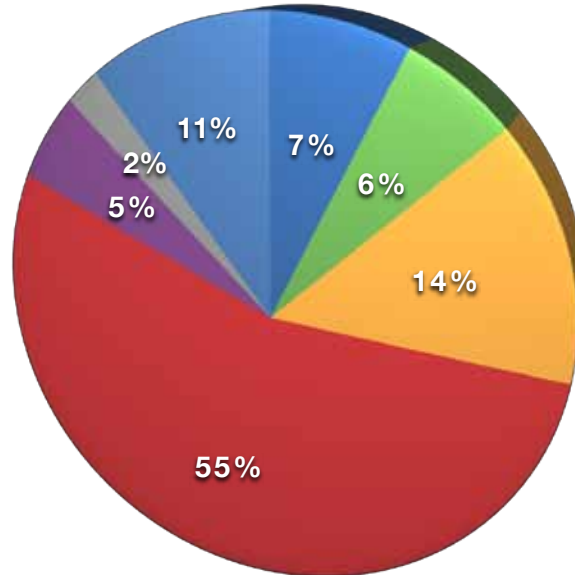
AB INBev accounted for a full 7% of all road trash, which is a significant drop from 14% in 2012 and an egregious drop from 26% in 2006. A casual observer might note that during the administration of President George W. Bush, the number of Budweiser products averaged greater than 200 per year. Currently, under President Obama, In Bev AB's total products on the road have precipitously dropped to less than 100. Could this be the making of a social and political scandal? Perhaps In Bev AB consum-

ers are simply more responsible than the Budweiser users. Maybe a clever marketing campaign starting with a return of August Busch IV hawking "Bud" at the Super Bowl might turn things around. Generally a fourfold drop in the use of one's product would be a cause for some concern in the board room.

AB INBev with 7% (72 pieces) of individual trash exceeded Coca-Cola's absolute total of 5% (58 pieces). This year the "Trashy Ten" accounted for 39% of all road trash. The cumulative total number of pieces of trash per year generally averages approximately 1100, 86% of this trash clearly bears the label of a commercial entity. 14% of all trash could be said to be "accidental." Though they have good and bad years, the following readily recognizable corporate entities are ranked in order of gross trash production on the public roads.:

1. AB IN Bev (72), production is down 7% from 2012.
2. Coca Cola (58), up 9% from 2012
3. McDonald's (54), up 47% from 2012
4. PepsiCo (52), up 4% from 2012.
5. Marlboro. (41), down 21% from 2012.
6. Camel (31), up 81% from 2012.
7. Wendy's (30), up 900% from 2012.
8. 7-Eleven (25), down 26% from

% of Total Years Trash by Type



- Tobacco
- Fast Food
- Generic Cups
- Misc
- Slow Food
- Beverage Containers
- Plastic Bags

- 2012.
9. Red Bull (19), up 27% from 2012.
10. Deer Park (18), down 14% from 2012.

This year's Foxcroft Road Pig Pen individual grand prize is awarded to AB INBev, despite a de-

creased trash production by 7% from 2012. AB INBev and its predecessor Anheuser-Busch still should be awarded the coveted title of "King of the Road." However, the duopoly of Coca-Cola and PepsiCo (110) actually out duel AB INBev alone. Also, the junk food trifecta of McDonald's - Wendy's - 7-11 (109) are close at hand.

Summary of Repetitive Trash

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
Tobacco	61	100	92	63	73	70	92	96	97	744
Slow Food	39	64	69	66	62	53	82	88	94	617
Fast Food	113	127	146	103	163	270	144	127	198	1391
Beverage Containers	765	776	727	472	663	729	567	534	421	5654
Generic Cups	86	80	88	40	49	61	35	50	42	531
Plastic Bags				21	25	29	31	60	63	229
Misc	22	73	126	162	89	103	185	194	122	1076
Total	1086	1220	1248	927	1124	1315	1136	1149	1037	

Tobacco

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Marlboro	33	64	47	43	32	33	54	52	41
Parliament	5	1	2	5	4	2	0	1	1
Camel	7	5	6	3	0	5	11	16	29
Red Man	1	1	4	2	0	1	0	0	1
Newport	4	13	15	4	8	11	12	14	9
Merit	0	0	0	4	15	7	0	0	0
Benson & Hedges	0	0	0	3	4	1	2	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	7

Soft Drinks

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
PepsiCo	92	112	90	70	80	123	76	50	52
Coca Cola	87	80	98	81	76	73	102	53	58
7UP/Dr. Pepper	20	12	10	10	11	13	13	17	14
Select (Safeway)	22	12	6	6	2	12	9	0	1
Arizona	4	3	1	3	4	18	7	6	10
Red Bull	26	19	20	19	40	16	14	15	19
Other	30	70	73	51	46	57	75	68	59

Water

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Deer Park	27	19	26	11	19	26	26	21	18
Aquafina(PepsiCo)	3	10	11	5	6	8	8	5	3
Dannan	7	8	4	0	1	0	0	3	0
Desani(Coca Cola)	11	10	17	6	10	7	5	3	2
Kirkland	0	0	7	4	5	9	4	3	8
Nestle's	0	0	9	2	8	5	4	11	8
Refreche	0	0	7	1	11	14	8	3	5
My Essentials								10	3
Others	16	12	14	10	12	17	21	21	15

Fast Food

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
McDonald's	38	48	62	51	75	128	61	30	54
Chick-Fil-A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	12
7-Eleven	39	29	32	23	15	36	34	34	25
Taco Bell	2	0	1	1	5	13	10	6	17
Starbucks	6	1	11	2	7	7	6	3	9
Sheetz	4	8	4	4	3	4	2	5	11
Wendy's	0	4	2	5	25	27	5	3	30
Burger King	2	8	5	2	2	10	3	1	2
Dunkin Donuts				1	5	3	3	2	3
KFC			6	0	3	2	3	2	2
Popeyes						30	2	2	1
Subway								8	14
Others	23	23	23	13	23	10	15	17	18

Beer / Wine / Booze

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Budweiser	78	119	68	36	36	42	51	60	14
Bud Lite	58	41	52	40	40	28	37	58	34
Busch	33	32	24	17	14	18	8	3	4
Natural Ice	67	77	29	6	4	4	5	10	3
Natural Dry	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Natural Light	2	12	14	2	9	12	1	3	4
Michelob	8	7	12	10	5	11	6	6	3
Other In Bev	23	26	10	20		4	6	8	8
Corona/Modelo	23	26	10	17	20	52	40	22	17
Pabst Blue Ribbon	19	5	1	1	2	1	1	0	2
Steel Reserve	16	2	1	2	1	2	5	1	0
Heineken	0	0	14	13	18	20	7	11	7
Foster's	0	0	5	2	0	3	0	0	0
Yeungling	0	0	0	6	9	5	9	8	1
SAB Miller	44	53	81	61	153	107	38	28	17
Others Beer	65	41	38	19	14	23	20	14	10



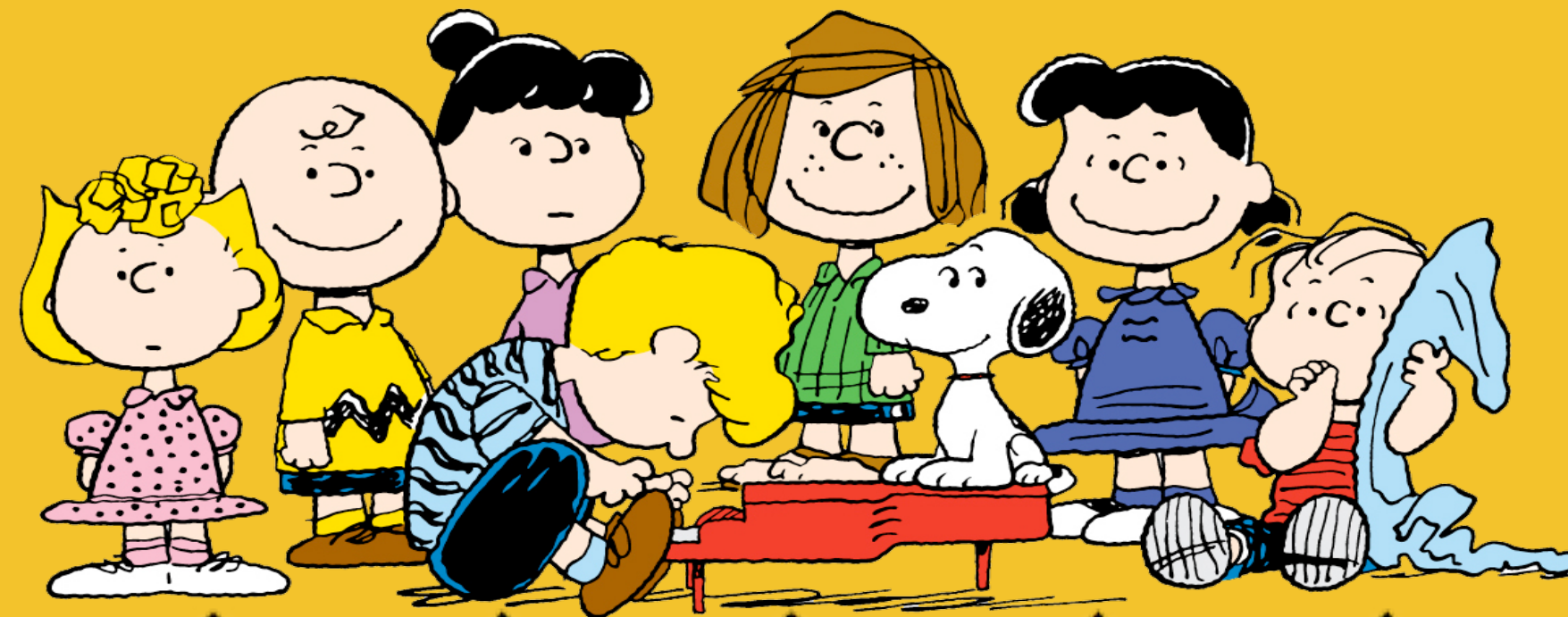
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Book, Music and Lyrics by Clark Gesner




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Saturday, February 15th at 3:00 & 7:00

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Presented through special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc.
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NEWS OF NOTE

AHT GOLF TOURNAMENT RAISES \$27,000 FOR LOUDOUN INTERFAITH RELIEF

AHT Insurance has proudly announced that it raised \$27,000 for Loudoun Interfaith Relief at its 25th annual Charity Golf Tournament at Piedmont Club in Haymarket. Having been a beneficiary of the tournament several times, Over the past ten years, the AHT Golf Tournament has raised over \$184,000 to Loudoun Interfaith Relief.

The mission of Loudoun Interfaith Relief is critically important to the lives of thousands of residents in Loudoun County. The organization feeds the hungry by providing emergency food assistance to those in need and promotes self-sufficiency to any person or family living in Loudoun County.

Bonnie Inman, Executive Director of Loudoun Interfaith Relief noted, "The contribution given to Loudoun Interfaith Relief will have a huge impact for our community. The generosity of AHT Insurance enables us to provide emergency food assistance to an ever increasing amount of families in need."

Alex Green, President of AHT Insurance remarked, "With strong support from area residents, businesses, and several national insurance companies, the proceeds from this year's event represent a continued commitment to support local charities. We thank those that contributed to making this event a success."



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FACES & PLACES

2013 VHSA CONVENTION AND HALL OF FAME AWARDS

PHOTOS BY TERESA RAMSAY ~ THE HOMESTEAD, VA



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OLIVER BROWN AND STUDENT



TOMMY LEE JONES AND JIM MCCAULEY



MRS. DORIS JONES AND TOMMY LEE JONES



JIMMY LEE, DOUGLAS WHEELER AND JOHN COLES



SANDRA RUIZ



WAYNE EUBANK AND PEGG SEALS



JASON & ALISA BERRY



NANCY PETERSON, JOHN & JULIE COLES



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MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER CHRISTMAS GALA

PHOTOS BY DEE DEE AND JAY HUBBARD ~ MIDDLEBURG, VA



ANDREW MOTION & JANE COVINGTON, DARRIN MOLLETT & BILL BALLHAUS



JAN NEUARTH & JOSEP KEUSCH



CAROL EVANS WELLS, LISA BEN DOV AND TONY WELLS



KEVIN & JOANN HAZARD AND JAMIE CRAUN



GLORIA ARMFIELD AND JIM THOMPSON



RANDY & BETHANN BEEMAN



ALEX & JILL VOGEL



CINDY POLK & DAVID O'FLAHERTY



JOEY & KRISTA SNIDER



BRIAN & BRIDGETTE WILSON



JUANITA CANARD, JIM HERBERT AND JOANNE COLES



BUNDLES MURDOCK AND DAPHNE CHEATHAM

The Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Foundation Grants and Champions for 2013

2013 GRANTS TO HELP LOCAL BREAST CANCER PATIENTS

IIIB's Foundation, Ashburn	\$ 3,000
Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers	\$ 5,000
Casting for Recovery, Healing Retreats	\$ 2,000
Blue Ridge Hospice	\$ 7,500
Georgetown Lombardi Cancer Center	\$ 10,000
Novant Prince William Medical Center	\$ 50,000
Healthworks, Leesburg	\$ 30,000
Loudoun Breast Health Network	\$ 10,000
Inova Breast Care Institute and Comprehensive Cancer Research Center	\$ 25,000
(a four year commitment of \$100,000)	
	\$ 142,500

Cherry Blossom Champions for 2013

Three who significantly contributed to the detection, treatment, education, or prevention of breast cancer in our area:



Breast surgeon and patient advocate,
Dr. Shannon Lehr

**100
WOMENSTRONG**
— A Component Fund of Piedmont Community Foundation —

The charitable group,
100 Women Strong



Philanthropist, business & non-profit leader,
Mr. Michael Howland

Detect, Treat, Educate, Eliminate
**CHERRY BLOSSOM
BREAST CANCER**
foundation

Donations & Foundation Information:

CherryBlossomBreastCancerFoundation.org
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musical experience
with
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Saturday, February 1st at 7:30

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Enjoy dinner in Middleburg and have dessert at the show.

PROGENY

BLUE RIDGE BULLDOGS PAY IT FORWARD

PROOF THAT GENEROSITY IS CONTAGIOUS

There is no limit on what a dedicated Mom can do when asked to support a team.

When Coach Roy Thompson and his Assistant Coach Greg Franco asked Debbie Cadenas to be Team Mom for the Blue Ridge Middle School Bulldogs, they had no idea what the power of love for her team and her determination to help could do.

"Since our coaches are all volunteers, I wanted to do my best to do my part and help with the details to lessen the burden on our coach. He tries to handle everything, and there is so much to do."

The Blue Ridge Bulldogs have never had fancy spirit wear but many of the teams they play have really cool warm-up jackets and matching travel bags. Debbie didn't want to put pressure on team parents to pay an additional fee for this because the registration and uniform fees are already costly for some families.

Coach Roy Thompson and his Assistant Coach Greg Franco were sure that Debbie would be a terrific Team Mom, but had no idea what her commitment would deliver for their Bulldogs.

"I decided we needed a sponsor for our Spirit Wear," Debbie said. "I immediately thought of Sheila Johnson because when my son attended Hill School, she was so generous. She

loves sports and owns teams, so it might be possible that she would see her way to donate \$1,500 to help."

"I also remembered that children living in the eventual Salamander Resort homes would attend Blue Ridge Middle School, and that might be helpful."

Debbie wrote to Dr. Johnson and a few days later her telephone rang. It was Dr. Johnson with a question.

She really wanted to help, but would it be ok if she helped the entire Western Loudoun Basketball League with a \$10,000 Gold sponsorship?

"She told me she loves basketball," Debbie explained. She really wanted to help kids play sports, and she knows very well how expensive it is to pay for court time."

"We were stunned and delighted by her generosity, and her kindness made a profound impact on both the players and their parents."

"When our coaches wives, Michelle Thompson and Shelly Franco, were told that a family had been displaced from their home, and that other families near us were without food a week before Thanksgiving, everyone was inspired to pay forward Dr. Johnson's kindness to us."

Email blasts were sent to everyone involved requesting that food for these families be



TOP ROW-- L TO R: LUKE, MATTHEW, AKERE, JACOB, JONATHAN, TYLER
LOWER ROW: L TO R: ZACH, ROBBY, TYLER, MATTHEW, BRAYDEN, LOGAN.

gathered immediately.

Bill Owen, who heads the Catoctin Basketball team and is well known for his charitable endeavors, offered to lead his team in the food drive. Together, the Blue Ridge and Catoctin teams gathered over six vanloads of food and over \$1,200 in gift cards for Loudoun Valley to help families in need at Thanksgiving.

Because many of the twelve Blue Ridge Bulldogs also play for the Catoctin basketball team coached by Bill Owen, they were natural and highly effective phil-

anthropic team.

Recently, Dr. Johnson invited the Bulldogs, their coaches and families to Salamander Resort to meet in person and learn more about their plans for the year.

She explained how honored and grateful she was to the boys for their pay it forward initiative to help families in need during the Thanksgiving holidays, and she told them how important it is to "give back."

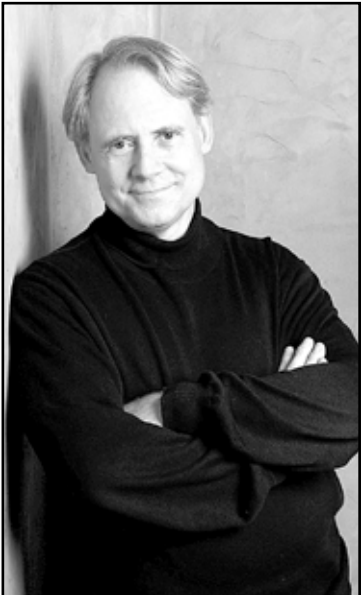
"Dr. Johnson spent a lot of time speaking directly with the

boys. She gave them a complete tour of the Resort. But, best of all, she invited them to be her guests in the owners box at a Wizards game and to meet the coaches that meant so much to her," Debbie added.

"This just shows that generosity is truly contagious," Debbie continued. "The impact of all that food on so many families in need will continue the kindness extended to us by Dr. Johnson."

"The impact of good really can extend beyond our dreams."

DON'T MISS PIEDMONT MUSIC SCHOOL'S CANDLE LIGHT CONCERT BENEFIT



The Community Music School of Piedmont will present *Brilliant Bach*, the 7th Annual Candlelight Benefit Concert featuring the internationally acclaimed J. Reilly Lewis and performers from the Washington Bach Consort. The fundraising event and silent auction will take place on Sunday, February 9th, at 5pm in the beautiful ballroom at Barton Oaks in The Plains, VA.

The event will feature the highly talented conductor and keyboard artist, J. Reilly Lewis.

"Lewis conveyed all of the music's complexity with clarity and a sense of wonder", said The Washing-

ton Post of his playing and conducting. "The program gave the audience a little bit of heaven on earth, from start to finish, the audience loved it."

Highlights of this year's program will include a selection of Bach's greatest hits for solo harpsichord from *The Well Tempered Clavier* and the Notebook for *Anna Magdalena Bach*, as well as instrumental treasures, and several of the most famous arias and duets from the cantatas - and more!

All will be performed by stellar soloists and instrumentalists from the Washington Bach Consort conducted by Maestro J. Reilly Lewis, internationally recognized Bach and baroque music expert.

As the sole, annual fundraising event for the school, the Candlelight Concert series was established to provide world-class music to the local community, and to raise critically needed scholarship and outreach funds for the Community Music School of the Piedmont.

Since 1994, the Community Music School of the Piedmont has been dedicated to providing high quality music instruction and performance opportunities for all members of the community. Headquartered in Upperville, Virginia, the school is an independent, non-profit, 501(c) (3) organization and a member of the National Guild for Community Arts Education.

Tickets for the concert are \$125. To purchase tickets please go to www.piedmontmusic.org or call the music school at 540.592.3040.

FOXCROFT'S THINK PINK TOURNAMENT WINS BIG FOR CHERRY BLOSSOM BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION

Thousands of dollars were raised once again by participants in Foxcroft's annual Think

Pink Basketball tournament to support the Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Foundation. Wakefield School, St. James

and Loudoun County Day won the Varsity, Junior Varsity and Middle School Divisions.



THE STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE FOXCROFT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED AND RAN THE TOURNAMENT WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MICHELLE WOODRUFF. ADMISSION WAS FREE BUT TEAM FEES, TSHIRT AND SHOE-LACE SALES AND CONCESSIONS PROCEEDS ALL HELP THE LOCAL FIGHT AGAINST BREAST CANCER.



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Cecilia Z.
Piedmont Scholarship Recipient
2013-2014 School Year

At Highland, Merit Meets Opportunity

Our Piedmont Merit Scholarship program is now available for new Highland students entering grades 9-12

The Piedmont Scholarship program is now available for new students entering grades 9-12 this fall. Made possible through generous donations from the Highland community, our merit scholarships award up to \$10,000 each academic year to deserving, qualified students.

Are You Ready to Make a Difference?

The Piedmont Scholarship, along with our established Founder's Scholarship and range of financial aid opportunities, helps ensure our school remains full of students dedicated to making a difference - in Highland's community, and outside it. Applications for first round decisions will be accepted until Friday, January 31, 2014.

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Interested in Applying?
Call Donna Tomlinson today
at 540-878-2740 to learn more.

www.highlandschool.org

PROGENY

HIGHLAND SCHOOL STUDENTS KICK OFF FIRST ROBOTICS SEASON



More than 50 students, faculty, industry mentors and parents gathered in the Rice Theater at Highland School to watch the unveiling of the new FIRST® Robotics game for 2014. Dubbed ‘Aerial Assist’, this year’s challenge requires teams to design, engineer and build a versatile robot that can pass, catch, and shoot a 2’ fabric-coated exercise ball.

In a series of competitions that combine the excitement of sports with the rigors of science and technology, three teams and their robots then form an alliance that works together to score more goals than their opponent. In each match, that lasts two-and-a-half minutes, the robots must navigate an area about the size of a tennis court while being controlled remotely by team members.

“Experiential education continues to be one of the key tenets of

a Highland education,” said Head of School Hank Berg. “In its simplest form, it is learning by doing and reflecting on the experience. Our experiential curriculum includes outdoor activities like rope courses, backpacking, dog sledding, trout releases, whitewater rafting, and Outward Bound partnerships, but it also includes junior and senior internships, Robotics and Lego League, field science, and service learning.”

In addition to viewing the hour-long introduction to this year’s game, which was streamed live to more than 70,000 high school students worldwide via NASA-TV, Highland School students, teachers, and industry mentors spent the rest of the day participating in brainstorming and break out sessions focused on their initial thoughts on game strategy, chassis design, and overall functionality.

TINA BARR TO HIGHLIGHT 2014 BERGAN POETRY FESTIVAL AT FOXCROFT



Tina Barr, an award-winning poet and esteemed teacher of creative writing, returns to her alma mater Saturday, January 25 as the featured writer at Foxcroft School’s Paul K. Bergan Poetry Festival, English Department Chair Alexander O. Northrup announced recently.

The Highland School team, called the RoboHawks, also received a kit of parts that are provided to all teams. The contents of the kit, which includes motors, batteries, a control system, and a mix of automation components, must then be integrated into the overall design of every robot.

Working with adult mentors, Highland students will have just six weeks to design, build, program, and test their robots. Then, teams will compete in regional and district competitions that test the limits of the machines and their inventors.

As Foxcroft marks its centennial year, it is especially appropriate to feature one of its very accomplished alumnae. A member of Foxcroft’s Class of 1973, Barr is author of three award-winning chapbooks and “The Gathering Eye,” a collection of poems that won the Tupelo Press Editor’s Award. She has had works published in numerous literary magazines and anthologies as well and was director of the Creative Writing Program at Rhodes College in Memphis, TN, for more than a decade.

Barr will hold a reading in the Audrey B. Currier Library Saturday morning at 10 am, followed by a writing workshop. Beginning at 1:00 pm she will judge competitive poetry readings by students in FoxHound Auditorium. Students and faculty will also share original and published poetry, in English and in a variety of other languages, during the afternoon session.

The festival begins Friday evening at 7:30 pm in FoxHound with a coffee house-style open mike session, emceed by Steve McCarty of the English Department, and the much-anticipated

Poetry Slam. All the festival events are open to the public at no charge. For more information, call 540.687.4511.

The “Slam” is an informal approach to sharing poetry – the let-your-hair-down, audience-involved kind of spoken word performance that is popular in college towns and coffee shops across the nation. Original works, presented dramatically by their student-authors, will be judged by students in an elimination-round format that always elicits an enthusiastic response from the audience, and earns the winners cash prizes.

Saturday’s formal reading competition, by contrast, has a long history, dating back to Foxcroft’s early years when Bible readings were part of the event. It has a strictly prescribed format: Every student participates by reading a published poem in English class. Those who advance through two rounds – judged first by their peers and then by a panel of faculty members – will read in the final with the winners receiving a traditional crown of laurels.

A Black Mountain, NC, resident, Barr teaches in the Great Smokies Program at the University of North Carolina at Asheville and at Montreat College, works with private students, and conducts workshops. She was Charles R. Glover Chair of English Studies and Associate Professor at Rhodes College and an award-winning professor at Temple University.

After graduating from Foxcroft, Barr earned a BA at Sarah Lawrence College. She also holds an MFA from Columbia University’s School of the Arts and both master’s and doctorates in Literature from Temple. For more information about Barr, as well as samples of her poetry, visit her website at www.tinabar.com.

AWARD-WINNING AFGHANI WOMEN’S RIGHTS ACTIVIST VISITS HIGHLAND SCHOOL

“I know how much potential each of us has for making things better. I hope you see those opportunities and learn how to use them for a greater cause,” said Ms. Noorjahan Akbar as she opened her recent remarks to Highland School Upper School students and faculty.

Still a senior in college herself, Ms. Akbar has already spent half her life advocating for gender equality in her native country.

“The purpose of life,” she told students, “is to leave behind things for others who are less privileged.” Her entire life has been spent dedicated to this philosophy. She reminded students that they have opportunities because others around them worked very hard to provide them.

“Opportunity,” she said, “equals the responsibility to share. We are very lucky here because we have these opportunities given to us and I hope it gives you a sense of responsibility to do something for others who deserve every bit of what we have.”

Just 40 days after her birth, Ms. Akbar and her family were forced to flee Kabul when war broke out with the Taliban in 1991. Her family fled first to Mazar-e-Sharif in Northern Afghanistan, and then, when the war reached that region, to Peshawar, Pakistan.

Her parents opened a language center to teach Afghan refugees English, math and com-

puter science. Akbar soon followed in her parents’ footsteps of empowerment through education and advocacy.

She was able to attend high school in the US and currently attends Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., thanks in large part to the Afghan Girls Financial Assistance Fund (AGFAF), which provides young women the opportunity to pursue higher education in the US. A research project in 2008 on women’s music and songs in Afghanistan led Akbar into the gender equality movement.

In 2010, she ran a creative writing program, ‘Voices for Hope,’ from which developed the ‘Stories to Heal’ project for orphans. In 2011 Akbar co-founded ‘Young Women for Change,’ whose accomplishments include organizing the first march to protest street sexual harassment against women in Kabul, the opening of a women’s internet cafe, and the start of a men’s advocacy group, in addition to empowerment programs for women.

Akbar has received many accolades for her work including the 2012 Woman of Distinction Award from the National Conference for College Student Leaders; the grand prize in Glamour Magazine’s and L’Oreal Paris’ Top 10 College Women competition for which she was granted \$20,000 for Young Women for Change; and was a speaker at the 2012 Women in the World Summit sponsored by Newsweek and The Daily Beast, whose lineup

THREE SELECTED FOR VIRGINIA AEROSPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARS PROGRAM



ANNIKA SAMPEDRO, SAM ROSSI, CHRIS NICKLES

Based on their outstanding academic records, essay compositions, and letters of recommendation, three Middleburg Academy juniors have been selected to participate in the Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS) program.

According to the Virginia Space Grant Consortium and the NASA Langley Research Center, “the applicant pool was very competitive” and their review panel “com-

mends our three students on being selected to this prestigious program.”

In addition to completing rigorous online research and coursework for college credit, VASTS scholars will compete for the chance to attend the all-expense paid, seven-day residential 2014 Summer Academy at Langley Research Center (Hampton, VA). Middleburg Academy was proud to have two representatives at last year’s Space Camp: Caroline Greer ‘14 and Jake Singh ‘14.



TCH FOX CHASE Hunter Show Series

WINTER HUNTER SHOW DATES

FEB. 1ST- HUNTER SHOW

FEB. 15TH - HUNTER SHOW

MARCH 1ST- HUNTER SHOW

WINTER JUMPER SHOW DATES

FEB. 8TH- JUMPER SHOW

MAR. 8TH - JUMPER SHOW

MAR. 1ST- JUMPER SHOW



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Join us for our Pre-K to Grade 12 Open House on Sunday, February 9 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at Highland’s Johnson Academic Media Room

At Highland, our students have access to the very best teachers and facilities, including our Middle School’s state-of-the-art academic center, Harkness teaching rooms, and the Lower School’s Village Garden and Outdoor Classroom.

If you’re looking for new challenges and opportunities for your child, we invite you to attend our Open House on Sunday, February 9, 2014. You’ll explore our campus, meet students and educators, and discover what continues to set Highland – and Highland’s students – apart.

HIGHLAND

SCHOOL

Celebrating 85 Years

Can’t attend our Open House? Please contact Donna Tomlinson at 540-878-2740 today to schedule an introductory tour of our campus. www.highlandschool.org

PROGENY

MIDDLEBURG ACADEMY HOSTS THE MIDDLEBURG HUNT

FEBRUARY 8TH MEET MARKS RETURN TO HISTORIC HOMELAND



PHOTO BY DOUGLAS GELSEN - MIDDLEBURG PHOTO

Sparked by one student's involvement in the local sport of foxhunting, a personal love of history and tradition, and a genuine desire to tie Middleburg Academy closely to its larger community, Head of School Colley W. Bell III and his wife, Director of Advancement Edwina Bell, have invited the Middleburg Hunt to hold a forthcoming meet on the school's campus. The event, taking place Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 10 a.m. to noon, will take advantage of the school's expansive Hunt Country property situated alongside the Goose Creek.

An Admission Open House will take place that same morning, also from 10 a.m. to noon. Prospective families will have the opportunity to explore Middleburg Academy's secondary school program, meet with the Head of School, faculty, current students and parents, and, for those who arrive early (10 a.m.), witness "the thrill of the hunt" as riders in their traditional hunt attire and their hounds set out across the school's beautiful and rolling acreage.

Welcoming the return of the Middleburg Hunt is one of many initiatives Mr. and Mrs. Bell are taking to nurture deep and abiding connections between the school and the individuals and organizations who help define the charm and character of the region. Since their arrival last July, the Bells, who reside with their

HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN ANDREW LOONEY, A JUNIOR MEMBER OF THE MIDDLEBURG HUNT, INSPIRED MIDDLEBURG ACADEMY HEAD OF SCHOOL COLLEY BELL TO INVITE "THE HUNT BACK TO HOMELAND," THE ORIGINAL NAME OF THE SCHOOL'S HISTORIC PROPERTY. THE SCHOOL HOSTS THE MIDDLEBURG HUNT ON FEBRUARY 8TH.

12-year-old son and three dogs in the Carriage House on campus, have immersed themselves in the varied aspects of Middleburg, Loudoun County and Northern Virginia living.

"I am reminded of William Blake's dictum that 'energy is eternal delight' when I think about Middleburg Academy," says school head Colley Bell. "The campus has always been a home, and the Hitts thoughtfully

placed everything in its proper order as a family – and so did the Sisters of Notre Dame when they built a school. Middleburg Academy's energy now melds the two; we are the caretakers of something very special. This is why we intend to include the larger community at every turn, as fun and interesting events will continue to have a home from this hill in Middleburg, Virginia."

WAKEFIELD'S WILLIAMS SERVING AS HOUSE OF DELEGATES PAGE



ALEXA WILLIAMS

Wakefield School seventh grader Alexa Williams is currently serving as a page in the Virginia State House of Delegates.

Williams will live in Richmond for the nine weeks she participates in the Virginia State Assembly Page Program. She will work in the House of Delegates, assisting the members of the House of Delegates, the House Clerk's staff, and other legislative staff in the daily duties required for the successful operation of the House of Delegates during the session.

Pages in the program work a full day, beginning promptly at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m. During these hours, Williams will deliver documents throughout the Capitol complex, perform errands for members and staff of the House during each day's floor session and at committee meetings, and do assignments in specific House offices including the Speaker's Office, the Clerk's Office, the Bill Room, the Copy Center, and the Governor's Office.

After work pages have approximately two hours of free time from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. A mandatory study hall is held at the hotel every Monday through Thursday evening from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Pages are responsible for arranging with their schools and teachers the preferred method of taking tests and exams. They must also make arrangements with their schools and teachers to maintain their schoolwork, including any tutoring that is required.

Pages are required to maintain an A or B grade average.

"Alexa is a creative, meticulous and dedicated student who prides herself in her work. These qualities, along with her strong track record of community service and her zeal for learning make her an excellent addition to the Page Program," said Williams' English teacher, Ms. Laura Prahla.

"She shows the desire to make a difference in her community and will greatly benefit from this opportunity to collaborate with others who share her passions."

WAKEFIELD STUDENTS SURPRISED WITH ACCEPTANCE TO VMI



BAILEY MAHONEY



MICHAEL MCELROY

Wakefield School seniors Bailey Mahoney of Catlett and Michael McElroy of Haymarket were surprised and excited at an Upper School Assembly last month when Lt. Col. Tom Mortenson, the Associate Director of Admissions at VMI

presented them with letters of acceptance from the Virginia Military Institute.

Both seniors had applied early decision to the school. Lt. Col. Mortenson wanted to recognize them in front of the Upper School, their families, and faculty members.

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PASTIMES

SNACK HARD

7TH INNING STRETCH
ALEX CUDABACK

“We know the Seahawks and the Broncos are as good as advertised, and look to be the two teams best positioned for a meeting in next February’s Super Bowl.”
- 7th Inning Stretch, November, 2013

YES!!
Ok, so I called the Broncos to go to the Super Bowl last season as well, which didn’t turn out quite so well, but what the heck. In this gig, you gotta take what you can get.

In honor of the big game, and because my son’s being five this year gives me real hope we’ll be able to resurrect our Snacker Bowl franchise, I’ve decide to dedicate this month’s space to a couple of my favorite Snacker Bowl recipes from years past.

I’m looking forward to dusting these off and raising my cholesterol to appropriately laughing-in-the-face of death levels.

WINGS

You can’t have a Snacker Bowl (East, West, Central, or any other franchise) without wings. Can’t be done. You can do takeout wings. There’s no crime in that. But if you want to make your own, and I do, these are they way to go.

This is a Tyler Florence recipe, and is taken directly from the Food Network website at www.foodnetwork.com.

- 4 pounds chicken wings
- Extra-virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 big, fat rounded tablespoon Thai red curry paste
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1 lime, halved
- Chopped cilantro leaves, for garnish

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. Rinse the wings under cool water and pat dry. Put them in a bowl, drizzle with olive oil and season well with salt and pepper. Toss to coat with the seasoning. Then spread the wings out on a baking sheet and roast about 25 minutes until the skin gets crisp and brown, and the meat is tender.

While you wait, throw the butter, red curry paste, honey and soy sauce into a blender. Season with salt and puree. Scrape out a big bowl. When the wings come out of the oven put add to the bowl with the curry butter. Squeeze the juice of the lime over the wings. Give it a toss and you’re done. Garnish with cilantro.

This recipe really is as easy as it looks, and the end result will blow your

socks off.
And you can feel better about the whole thing since the wings aren’t fried. Which almost makes up for the fact that they’re covered in a whole stick of butter.

GUACAMOLE

While technically a vegetable dish, and therefore banned from Snacker Bowl participation, guacamole sneaks in because it’s consumed atop fried tortilla chips.

And because it’s good. Damn good.

- 3 Haas avocados, halved, seeded and peeled
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne
- 1/2 medium onion, diced
- 2 Roma tomatoes, seeded and diced
- 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro
- 1 clove garlic, minced

Hot sauce (your choice, both brand and amount. I’m partial to Tobasco’s Chipotle sauce for the smoky heat; Sriracha is nice as well, if you want something a little fresher.)

In a large bowl place the scooped avocado pulp and half the lime juice, toss to coat.

Using a potato masher add the salt, cumin, and cayenne and mash. Then, fold in the onions, tomatoes, cilantro, and garlic.

Add as much of the remaining lime juice, to taste.

Let sit at room temperature for 1 hour and then serve. (This is important so the flavors marry. I’m not afraid to make the guac first thing in the morning, cover it tightly, and throw it in the fridge until game time. The lime juice will keep it from browning.)

TED BREAD

Named after my culinary genius of a friend, Ted Brown, this stuff is fantastic. I highly recommend serving it in the second half, after you’ve enjoyed a couple adult beverages beforehand.

- 1 loaf of unsliced Italian bread
- 1 package of sliced Provolone cheese (10 or 12 slices)
- 1 lb of bacon (Use good bacon, please. Try peppered, cherrywood smoked, etc.)
- 1 stick of softened butter
- 1 tablespoon of poppy seeds
- 1/4 of a medium onion, diced (I like



sweet, but up to you.)

1/4 cup of yellow mustard (The “yellow” is important. Ted prefers Heinz.)

1 tspn diced garlic

Mix butter, onion, poppy seed, garlic and mustard together until smooth-ish and yellow, so if there isn’t enough yellow (told you the yellow was important) add some more mustard.

Slice bread vertically, almost the whole way through – so the slices are about 1 inch thick.

Spread yellow mixture in between slices. (You should use the whole thing for one loaf. It seems like a lot, but cram it in there.)

Put provolone between all the slices and top the entire loaf with as much bacon as possible. Wrap 3/4 of it in aluminum foil, leaving the bacon exposed.

Bake at 350 for 20 - 30 minutes or until bacon is cooked through.

Descend upon cooked loaf like a ravening hoard and accept that your slightly burned fingers tomorrow will be SOOO worth it today.

Enjoy the game.

And the Crestor.

Oh, and I like Peyton and the Broncos to win.

Unless the weather’s the absolute pits.

Then I’ve got a seat reserved on the ‘Hawks’ bandwagon.

THE ARTIST’S PERSPECTIVE

TOM NEEL

As we begin a new year, I would like to start by thanking all of you who have shared your enjoyment for this column with me and welcome new readers. As an artist, I created The Artist’s Perspective with a goal of fostering artistic thought, through my observations and experiences. This year I hope to expand upon it and enjoy having you along.

The very tail end of last year brought an adventurous experience I’ll call - Guided by the light. It’s my belief that all artists are keen on light. Light offers both illumination and contrast, and contrast is one way we define many things in life. Contrast certainly defines shape and depth and here’s an adventurous example.

A close friend of mine bought a new plane. A life long pilot, he spontaneously decided he wanted to keep it in Florida for the winter. That’s where I come in. I am not a life long pilot, rather someone with a life long love of planes and one who loves seeing things

from the air. This plane is a bush plane, small and capable of landing almost anywhere. Maybe not the first choice for the mission in front of us, which was a one day trip from Winchester to Palm Beach, but certainly up for the task. We were off by 8:15am on a beautiful, but chilly late December morning and our 8 hour journey begins.

Now as a landscape painter, I cannot state the advantage enough, of seeing land from above. Among so many things, you see light’s effect on the land. That’s the looking down part of it, but then there’s the looking out and around part too. Seeing clouds and weather movement at an elevated level, along with shadows across the land, offers a form of affirmation and understanding of light, hard to be replicated on the ground.

Our day trip kept us in the company of the Blue Ridge, then reflective views of the low coastal land, onto the always weather interesting north Florida areas and finally into those puffy, cotton like, cumulus cloudy skies of south Florida. It is there that my story could really begin.

Like trees, clouds are the kind of thing that painters in general, but new painters especially, struggle with. At least part of the problem with both, is an understanding of what it is you are actually seeing. To paint anything you see, by painting what you think you see, can create difficulties and even with understanding we all may choose to represent any object as we artistically choose. As I’ve often said, there really are no rules here. As an artist you can do as you like, opinions be damned.

But if representation with some sense of realism is your goal, time spent painting in of itself, is not a fair exchange rate for actually understanding what it is you are seeing. A tree is not a stick with a green ball on top, any more than a cloud is a ball of cotton. A tree is a wooden skeleton with thousands of leaves and just as there are many types of trees, which change with each season, there are many types of clouds and they change with the wind and atmospheric conditions.

Without turning this into a science project, clouds are formed by moisture and therefor are obviously not

solid objects, but gaseous forms which light reflects off of. This reflective property offers an opportunity for contrast. If light hits the top, you have a strong light appearance, contrasted by a darker bottom. Time of day, such as a setting sun and other conditions, effect those lights and darks and their color, but the billowing shape of clouds makes them even more complicated.

Now imagine not seeing them from below or above and not flying through them, but around them as though they were obstacles. My friend said, “Enjoy this.” and at an elevation of 2500 feet, in the company of these immense and towering elephants of the sky, I navigated around them for miles of continuous left and right bank turns. All along I was being guided by the light.

Mostly blue sky above and openings of the land below, the afternoon sunlight illuminating the top and sides of one, would be contrasted by the shadows of another and an ever changing path would be made apparent. Each cloud a completely different size and shape, but its shape completely



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PASTIMES

A WINTER CARNIVAL

VINE & DISH



ELLEN KASSOFF GRAY

Winter is full of possibilities, frost patterns on windows, crusty driveways, a new day of shivers, icy landscapes and wholly celebrated snow days. The best forecast, however, is of course the idea of leaving it all behind and taking a sun drenched holiday in a comfortable climate. Food and wine mercifully have the potential to transform you to that

sultry scene even if you're not, in fact, sitting on a tarmac waiting for the Captain to taxi the runway. This month's Vine and Dish employs these therapeutic, healing powers to offer a wintry 'Calgon moment' and inspire a carnival of sorts in the kitchen.

The place is Portugal, the month is February when the traditional celebration of Carnival is underway. Carnival is a time-honored fête that commemorates the ending of winter and the be-

ginning of Lent, much like Mardi Gras. There is an abundance of fabulous food and wine to be consumed along with vivid costumes, legendary street music and lots of partying in an ever so agreeable atmosphere. It takes the local folk almost a year to prepare for their much-loved Carnival.

Here in the foothills of the Blue Ridge, I visited Morais Vineyard on a brutally cold but sunny day, one of those days where the wind is wicked, and a short walk from a parking lot can chill to the bone in seconds, but ironically you are still wearing sunglasses. In this spirit, I was warmly welcomed in the tasting room where the music was genuinely rocking and patrons were cozy, toasty and completely happy. The octagonal shaped tasting room was laden with winter sun like a solarium providing a momentary respite from the arctic-like chill and glorified the humble winter sunlight. The room is handsomely embellished with a display of wine bottles 20 feet up a circular wine rack that takes center stage. It sends the eye soaring to the wood beamed ceiling. This high-energy space is rustic and charming with a contemporary twist.

Owner José Morais is from Portugal and here in Virginia he has perused his life long dream of opening a winery. The estate vineyard located in Bealeton, 10 miles south of Warrenton, is honored to be among the 2013 Top Picks by

Virginia Living Magazine this past year. Their wines have earned coveted medals in regional competitions and are proving to be one of Virginia's up and comers.

I tried the Touriga Nacional (a bronze medalist) vinified through traditional Portuguese methods of foot stamped grapes known as lagar crushing. It's made using the Portuguese native grape of the same name, a small grape that can be difficult to cultivate. The high tannins give it a concentrated flavor and ads body and structure to the wine. It has a wild berry nose and on the finish there are hints of grassy herbs and white pepper. Its striking color is of medium crimson gives it eye appeal.

Thinking I would keep the Portuguese notion in play, I recreated a recipe from another source of great national pride – a dish called Calde Verde, a kale and sausage soup. The ingredients are simple and easy to source in the winter. I added root vegetables to create a sweet twist making it a straightforward and satisfying dish. Paired with the Touriga Nacional, it creates a harmonious blend of terroires, of the grape, and that of the hearty vegetables.

So when winter weather leaves you chilled to the bone, stuck inside, and longing for a transformation a few thousand miles away - visualize yourself at Carnival in Portugal from your kitchen stove and "pular carnaval."



Caldo Verde
Serves 4-6

1/4 cup olive oil

1 cup chopped onion

2 teaspoons chopped garlic

1 tsp Caraway seeds, crushed

2 cups Idaho potatoes, peeled and diced

2 quarts water

1 tbs yellow miso paste

Salt and black pepper

1 pound kale, washed, trimmed of the thick stems and thinly sliced

In a medium soup pot, heat 3 tablespoons of olive oil, add onions, garlic and caraway seeds, cook for 2 to 3 minutes until they turn glassy, don't let them get brown. Add potatoes, water and miso. Cover and boil gently over medium heat for 20 minutes. When the potatoes are tender mash them with a potato masher right in the pot. Add kale to the soup and allow to softly simmer for 20 minutes. Add the remaining olive oil and season. Ladle into bowls and serve with toasted country bread or corn bread.



TERRARIUMS FOR JANUARY

THE PLANT LADY



KAREN REXROD

We've been cold, wet and cloudy, it's been a very dreary January. Remarkably my miniature gardens in troughs outside look fantastic. Zero degrees didn't kill them, they look like it was a piece of cake. So I decided I needed a pick me up for inside. Off to the nursery to get miniature tropical plants and make 2

terrariums. If you are inclined to killing your indoor plants, terrariums might be the thing for you. Especially now when there are so many new varieties of slow growing, miniature plants. The key is to have the right plants for your light and then to seal the top so it waters itself. Now a south window will be a bit much, but east or even north work fine, your little glass vessel doesn't become

a humid oven when the sun is out.

Little spikemosses, miniature peperomia and the new Syngonium 'Pixie' are great starters, especially for an east exposure. As a part time employee at Merrifield Gardens, I like to use their terrarium soil, it's dark (no perlite) and not too rich, which helps keep your miniature plants miniature. The glass container can have a top, or you can just stretch plastic wrap over the opening. With a little water to get them started (and I mean a little water), you can watch the whole thing get all misty inside, which is so cool in January when the world seems so dry and dead.

The terrarium craze has been going on for awhile, just like the miniature gardens for outdoors. What's so great is that it brings a world of miniature ornaments. Little tables and chairs, miniature bird houses, even weather vanes become the perfect accessory. I was given a box of miniature Japanese bridges and huts, apparently used for bonsai, but they are perfect for terrariums. When your glass mists up, just rub off a part of the glass so you can look inside and imagine your in a tropical rain forest. Maybe the best part of all, you don't have to water it. So if you do decide to venture off to some warm, tropical isle, all is good at home.

THANX TO THE PRE-SPANX GENERATION!

SINCERELY, ME

BRANDY GREENWELL

Where do you get your sense of style? I guess I should thank my paternal grandmother for my sense of style. Always a true lady, she could be found wearing a hat of some sort, heirloom jewelry, Ferragamos, St. John and a corset. Yes my friends, the pre-Spanx generations wore corsets and my grandmother did daily until her passing in 1992 at the age of 91. Could you imagine spending almost a century in full body Power Panty? She also wore proper stockings, not to be confused with panty hose. For those that don't know, stockings are thigh high nylons that attach to a garter belt, mostly reserved nowadays to movies that start after 11 on cable TV or the Victoria's Secret fashion show. The discomfort must have been unbearable, but my grandmother never had a hair out of place nor looked anything less than fully polished. She passed her love of shopping, personal style and exquisite taste genetically to me for which I am grateful. Having said that, she would roll over in her grave if she saw me in my hideous pink garden crocs or with hay dangling from my ponytail in my faded Barbour ball cap. I have evolved to shop for my lifestyle while always honoring my familial style. Little did I know how her influence would shape my entire life?

From a young age I yearned to be closer to the clothes, bobbles and shoes I loved by working in the retail industry. I started when I was 15 and have held several, long term positions in the village of Middleburg. Over the years, I have likely dressed you or your neighbors, wrapped a Christmas gift or two or referred to my list of graduation or cotillion dresses to make sure the event didn't crumble because



there was someone else in your ensemble. Now, I can be seen in an airport near you or imitating the speeding bullet up and down the east coast with my sample collection in tow. I have shifted from retail to wholesale and it makes me tingle. I can't remember from which movie a blonde is trying to become an anchorwoman and she says something like "just think, as an anchorwoman, you get to know the news before everyone else does." That is the way I feel about being a consultant buyer, sales rep and stylist. I get to see the fashions that are going to be in the stores two seasons in advance and I have a something to do with it. It is like a personal shopping crystal ball and I love it.

What is your personal style? Do you want Fashion Police and follow Stacy's dressing rules to the letter? Or do you buy clothes once every 10 years or until you have actually worn your clothes out? Do you pull apart seams on a thrift store dress and make unique creations? Or do you solicit the help of a professional to guide you? Whatever your path is, take a moment to pause and appreciate you and your style. You are as unique as a snowflake and if we all wore the same uniform think what a boring, drab world we would live in.

Cheers to being you.

NOT AGAIN!

WATERWORLD

RICHARD A. ENGBERG

Yes, it happened again. A chemical spill into a river used for public supply. By now, most of you have heard of the chemical spill into the Elk River in the Charleston, West Virginia area that impacted the drinking water supply and left some 300,000 persons without drinking water, water in which to bathe, wash dishes, or wash clothes.

The problem was detected on Wednesday, January 8, and on January 9 was pinpointed to a storage tank near the river located just upstream of the intake of a drinking water plant. The tank, capacity of 48,000 gallons, was found to be leaking 4-methylcyclohexane methanol (MCHM). The last estimate was that 7,800 gallons had escaped into the river.

Scientists don't know much about MCHM. No information is available about whether it's carcinogenic or mutagenic. While not considered fatal to humans, it can affect humans with such symptoms as nausea, vomiting, dizziness, skin irritation or eye irritation. More than 100 people that were exposed to the chemical in their water sought treatment for nausea and vomiting and four were hospitalized in the Charleston area.

So how is MCHM used? Coal is mined near Charleston. MCHM, an organic alcohol, is a foaming agent that is used to wash coal before it is marketed to remove impurities. The coal is crushed, treated with the chemical, and dried.

As of this writing (January 14), the water supply for 75 percent of the affected people is not yet suitable to use. Charleston mayor, Danny Jones, said on NPR today, that the economic loss to his community is, at this point, incalculable. Many schools are still closed. Many other events have been canceled. Businesses that rely on water, like restaurants and bars, have been unable to reopen. Shortages of bottled water and other bottled



drinks are still occurring. Declarations of emergency were issued by both West Virginia and federal authorities.

When will it end? With the leak controlled, the MCHM will be diluted as it moves downstream. However, it is still in much of the Charleston water distribution system and it could be several days before home and business owners are able to flush it out.

In the articles I've read about the spill and the resultant activities, until today when mentioned by Mayor Jones, I'd heard nothing about any environmental/ecological impacts. Surely, if the situation was severe enough that people were sickened by their public water supply, there will be impacts on the fauna in the area of the spill and downstream. I'd like to see some estimates of the damage to fish populations in the river. I have another question unrelated to the spill. In the washing process, does MCHM leave a residue on the coal and is that residue potentially harmful for persons that might breathe coal smoke? I've seen nothing about this in any article. It should be explored.

This event is not over, the story is not finished. One report indicated that the leaking tank had not been inspected since the early 1990s was the responsibility of the state. Lawsuits already have been filed against the company owning the tank. Sadly, a disaster like this can happen anywhere and the bottom line is that with regular inspections, likely it could have been avoided.

Middleburg Community Charter School



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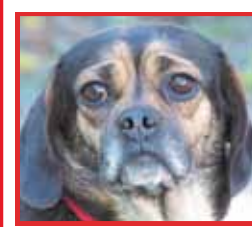
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Ede came from a high volume breeder & was rarely touched by humans. She has come a long way but is still very shy. She loves all other dogs & needs a quiet adult only home with a confident dog friend. She would love a home with her friend Cupcake - they make an adorable pair together!

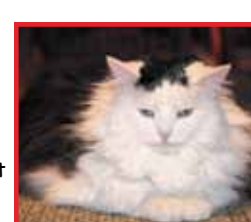
Amelia is gorgeous pit bull who was rescued from a breeding operation. She was very shy when she first arrived but has blossomed & has a very kind & fun personality. Very snuggly! Will need a very quiet adult only home with no cats.



Ellie is a 3 yr old, 15h, dark brown, TB mare. She was raced in PA. She came to us severely underweight. We plan to start working with her soon. She is a wind sucker, but not a wood chewer.



Ivy came from a hoarding situation where she was lost among the many dogs in the home. She had very little attention and is therefore shy with people. Ivy is a super sweet little lap dog once you take the time to get to know her.

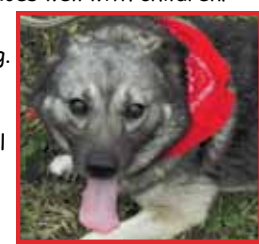


Anna is a very sweet, mild-mannered kitty who gets along with other cats as well as dogs. She hasn't been with us long, but from what we have seen she loves everyone & does well with children!

Leo is a 25+ yr old Leopard Appaloosa. He was rescued from a starvation situation & is now at a good weight. He is very sweet & easy going. Due to his old age he will need to be on an equine senior mash. Leo is a perfect lawn ornament & companion.



Balto came to us several months ago as a chained dog. He has blossomed at the shelter & has a wonderful personality. Balto does well with most dogs but needs a home with a secure fenced yard & no cats.



ALBERT'S CORNER

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

ALBERT P. CLARK

While I was trying to decide what to write about this month, I came across an interesting Wall Street Journal article. At first, I wasn't sure if I wanted to address the topic of the article because, well, it's a little depressing. But truthfully, it could be one of the most important subjects I've ever covered. I want to talk about what happens to us when our people pass away.

I realize that estate planning for pets might sound a bit extreme. It might sound like something reserved for the very wealthy or eccentric. It is emphatically not. In fact, it is easy, humane, and necessary for any person who shares a home with an animal.

Some people designate an amount of money for the care of a pet in a will. In this situation, the creator of the will names someone as the caretaker. While this is definitely a step in the right direction, the future caretaker is under "no legal obligation" to use the money for its intended purpose, according to the WSJ article. For those who cannot afford more expensive alternatives, however, I do recommend this option.

A safer bet is to set up a pet trust. This document ensures that a trustee is responsible for overseeing the financial and physical care of a companion animal. Either the trustee or someone else can be the caretaker, but it's important to make sure that the designated person is willing to accept the responsibility. As an added benefit, pet trusts can also address animal care in the event of an owner's unexpected or prolonged illness.

I recommend going to www.aspcapettrust.com and searching the site for

"pet trust". You will find a primer that is exceptionally helpful in sorting through the details of setting up a trust for your four-legged friends. I also recommend enlisting the help of an attorney to guide you through the process of setting up a trust because state laws vary. That said, www.legalzoom.com does offer a Pet Protection Agreement with a price starting at \$39.

At a bare minimum, please make some kind of plan for what will happen to your pet if something happens to you. Do not assume that friends or relatives will assume the care of your animal companion, regardless of how much you expect that they would. Even putting your pet-related wishes in writing and giving a copy of the signed document to several people can make a difference.

The bottom line is that a dog or cat is euthanized in this country every eight seconds. It is a staggering reality, and the last thing any loving pet parent wants is for their pet to become part of that grim statistic. And yet, shelters all over the country are full of animals who were surrendered when their owners died or became disabled.

Make your plans for us while the sun is shining, so to speak. If you wait until it's too late, your furry friends could face great hardship. They could quickly become neglected, abused, or homeless. Thankfully, we live in an age when there are legal options to ensure that we can all be safe if our human companions leave us. All we can do is hope that our people do the right thing while they're alive and healthy.

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



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EDITOR'S DESK

SEVEN LOAVES

For those of us who live in Loudoun and Fauquier counties, one of our greatest glories, and one of our deepest shames, are both embodied in an organization named for a miracle: Seven Loaves.

The glory of Seven Loaves, of course, lies in the work that it does and the people it brings together to fund and carry on that work.

They feed the hungry, or at least as many as they can reach and feed.

They also run a small “clothes closet,” a service that has faced growing demands in the face of some of our unseasonably cold weather.

A vast majority of the people served by Seven Loaves come from Loudoun and Fauquier counties, but

some (as many as 10% of their customers, at times, come from Clarke, Warren, Frederick Shenandoah, Page, Rappahannock, Cupleper and Stafford counties.

The shame embodied in the miracle, of course, lies both in the fact that the need for it exists at all (in one of the richest parts of the one of the richest countries in all human history.)

The organization and its volunteers have often been praised.

They need and deserve our most generous support.

Seven Loaves needs food, clothes, money and folks willing to donate their time.

All are appreciated.
All will be well used.

AL QAEDA'S BACK. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT.

RED

JAMES MORGAN

From the French, “terrorisme,” the word originally described the 1793-94 “Reign of Terror” in revolutionary France; the first, but not the last, time that progressives took themselves too seriously and started killing people.

From the 1848 upheavals in central Europe into early 20th-century Russia, “terrorism” and “anarchism” were synonyms commonly used to describe the organized, extra-governmental violence of the political Left. Such violence from the Right, however one defines “right,” has always been sporadic and less organized than its leftist counterpart.

Modern terrorism literally exploded onto the scene in the late 1960's with groups like the IRA, the PLO, the Basque ETA, Peru's “Shining Path,” Germany's Baader-Meinhoff Gang, the Japanese Red Army, and the Italian Red Brigade. Being left-wing, these groups always blew people up in the name of “liberation” and “social justice.”

Today, terrorism is largely a Muslim phenomenon. And, no, this is not to say that all Muslims are terrorists. Nonetheless, most modern terrorists are Muslims. The jihadist rationale is neither liberation nor social justice but a toxic witch's brew of koranic exhortations to kill infidels, envy and hatred of Israel, and a manufactured sense of historical grievance vaguely connected to the Crusades (which didn't actually begin until 450 years after Islamic armies had swept across and conquered what once was called “Christendom”).

Wikipedia defines terrorism as “the systematic use of violence as a means of coercion for political purposes,” but that could be applied to warfare too and terrorism and war are different things. There are “rules of war;” not

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always followed but always understood. There are no “rules of terrorism.” There often are acts of kindness and restraint in war. There is only barbarity in terrorism.

Progressives ponder terrorism in the abstract, hypnotically staring at it as one would stare at flames in a fireplace, and always seem to blame it on western imperialism. It's not the terrorists' fault. Thus is our progressive president naturally and benevolently inclined toward Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood (no matter that it is al Qaeda by another name). Add a dash of their usual cultural relativism and progressives end up saying, and perhaps actually believing, silly things like “one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter.” But while abstract terrorism may be reducible to a few non-judgmental lines in some freshman political science textbook, real terrorism is not.

“Our humanity,” William Golding wrote, “rests in the capacity to make value judgments, unscientific assessments, the power to decide that this is right, that wrong, this ugly, that beautiful, this just, that unjust.” We can and must make moral judgments about terrorism even when progressives call us “judgmental” for doing so. And the fact is that blowing up school busses full of children, flying airliners into buildings, decapitating hostages on TV, or opening fire in crowded shopping malls are acts of pure evil. Their perpetrators are not freedom fighters.

Our survival depends on our taking terrorism seriously and opposing it as forcefully as we can. After 9/11, President Bush said, “We will not waver, we will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail.” But we will do all of those things if we refuse first to pass judgment on evil and decide instead that terrorism is just

FEMINISM: WHAT REALLY WENT WRONG?

BLUE

DANIEL MORROW

Last month's RED rant, “What Went Wrong With Feminism,” could well serve as a primer on how and why the Tea Party in particular, and the cowed moderate rump of the formerly GRAND and now indisputably OLD Party has lost the support of the vast majority of women in Virginia, in the United States as a whole and among significant numbers of moderate Republican women as well.

Modern “feminism” RED argues, has become “the enemy of everything feminine,” as if all those he considers modern “feminists” can be defined by his truly oddball and narrowly defined notion of what constitutes modern feminism or by his notion that feminists must not only meet his criteria, but be female at all.

“Modern” feminism is “all about abortion and gay rights,” RED pontificates. Nonsense. Those obsessions clearly define the modern Tea Party, and any number of adherents to assorted religious cults claiming special insights into the mind of God, but certainly not to modern feminists.

Modern feminists, RED continues, favor killing children “when their presence becomes burdensome.” That's not only nonsense, but an affront to every human being, male or female, who ever had to face the necessity of terminating a pregnancy, or counsel those in that position. It is especially galling when bandied about by a passionate defender of denying healthcare to women, children, and the elderly, not to mention indiscriminate carpet bombing of civilian populations (but that's another story.)

Gay women, RED argues are all “masculine” and gay men, “feminine.” He clearly hasn't watched anything rated PG or higher in the last 40 years, read the news, or watched professional, college, or high school sports lately. He clearly missed the news that many of our decorated veterans are gay, and that the decorated veterans who are gay women are actually more likely to be harmed by their own officers and fellow soldiers than by their enemies on the field. (Not because they are gay, but because they are women.)

GOODBYE AND, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, GOOD RIDDANCE

MARK KIMBALL

There may be a few people who will miss the BCS football program. I will not be among them and here is why:

1. Intended to bring the top two teams together each year, the BCS system was composed of a flawed set of voting polls and ruined by an even worse set of computer rankings, best understood by those who created them. The rest of us were left scratching our heads in a mathematical daze.
2. The human polls were not much better. Ranking teams too early in the season, they often made it impossible for a team to rise to the top by December simply because the team started too low in September. The coaches poll was the worst because the coaches, too busy actually coaching, almost always assigned the job to someone else, whose identity and motives would remain unknown.
3. Even when the system almost worked, as it did this year with Florida State and Auburn, we still had to wonder what might have happened if teams like Oregon and Clemson had been included. And what about Michigan State? Defeating Stanford 24-20, the Spartans would have moved on to a championship game in a playoff system.
4. The major supporters of the BCS were the directors of the bowl games who created a nifty

system of salary and benefits that was totally self serving. One director paid himself more than \$700,000 a year to oversee one game. Promising to be a charitable endeavor, it was discovered that less than 2% of the revenue went to needy causes. After the obligatory payouts to the teams, the rest went to cars, parties, vacation trips, payoffs and kickbacks.- 5. These things are always about money, but the truth is that there will be even more money now because we are closer to a real championship than ever before. There should also be more scrutiny over where that money goes now that the we have access to the financial records of the bowl game organizers.
- 6. The playoff system that begins this fall will not be perfect. Limiting the playoff to four teams will inevitably bring controversy and result in fruitless arguments and hurt feelings. But it is a start. It is already two teams better than the BCS and should evolve into an eight team or more playoff over time. Some people are concerned that the committee will be meeting privately to choose the teams. I am all for it. At least now there will be open discussion among professionals that will require consideration of regions and teams that could just be ignored in the past. And these folks will be more transparent and accountable to the public than

in-Chief.

RED's notion of “feminine” perfection, “independence” and “success,” of course, is none other than Sarah Palin. It is at least arguable that all the things that endear Palin to RED and her fans, and all the things that contributed to her singular lack of success in nearly every field of human endeavor, politics not least among them, are precisely the demands of an isolated, oddball religious and anti-feminists society whose norms, much beloved by RED, she did her best to live up to.

Perhaps the most striking, sad and infuriating elements of Red's anti-feminist rant, however, at least in the view of this old white male, was his complete lack of appreciation for the centuries-long struggle for fair and humane treatment of women in even the most “enlightened” of “western” societies.

Women, RED argues, were somehow, magically, “given” their rights to vote by “men”. . . as if the right to equal treatment before the law, freedom from abuse, injustice and unconscionable discrimination were ever “men's” to “give”. . . and as if the struggle to obtain those rights and freedoms had not cost lives, and fortunes, and, “sacred honor” of generations of good women (and men) who, then and now carry on the struggle and proudly label themselves “feminist.”

any poll or computer. As happens every year with the NCAA basketball tournament, the selection committee will be grilled and forced to justify its decisions. No wonder they asked Condoleezza Rice to join the group. She not only loves football, but will bring

her diplomatic skills to both the meeting room and the press conference.

We are entering a new era. I am with those who think we are moving in the right direction and am looking forward to a great college football season and the

closest we have come to really determining a national champion on the playing field.

As for the BCS, let's just say it never quite worked out. So goodbye and, with all due respect, good riddance.

HYPOCRISY

TOM PRATT

I started to write this month's column last night on another subject while listening to the news in the background and heard a disturbing report that a popular restaurant in Kabul was the latest attack by the Taliban. With great trepidation I did a Google search for more details and to my great sadness it was the restaurant that I feared.

While in Afghanistan a few months ago my journalist friend said we were going to a very special place for dinner to meet a friend of over 30 years who was back in Kabul once again after a period of 8 years in France and she was anxious to reconnect with him.

As soon as we walked in I felt as though we had been transformed back in time and were at Ricks in Casablanca. The room was filled with people speaking many different languages and having a great time in a safe haven away from all the troubles close by out on the street. To get in you went through steel doors in an adobe wall with 2 or 3 armed guards, then a few steps further another group of guards and more steel doors and finally

into the restaurant.

The owner, Kamal Hamade greeted us with great fanfare and the food started coming, plates and plates of the best Lebanese and Afghan food, topped off with his specialty, Lebanese chocolate cake.

It is no longer; the Taverna du Liban was the restaurant attacked and Kamal was killed along with 12 other foreigners and 8 Afghans.

A tragedy that I am afraid will be repeated in the coming months, possibly years as the U.S. prepares to pull out. The Taliban is claiming more and more territory all the time.

Before we started the war in Afghanistan there was, of course, repression and problems and life was not a “piece of cake” by any stretch of the imagination, but there was a sort of order to the chaos and the people had a sense of how to cope within their tribal cultures. Enter the U.S. and that order became chaotic by us opening up a hornet's nest of Taliban.

The Taliban does not want help, they do not want interference from NGO's who are truly trying to help the Afghan people.

They want the population

uneducated and submissive. They do not want agricultural reforms replacing the poppies. They are religious fanatics who are cruel beyond imagination.

So what are we to do? I wish some wise sage could come up with an answer. We once again attacked a country for our own reasons and totally unbalanced the system and are now leaving a huge mess behind. Look at Iraq; same story, more violence than before we went in. We MUST stop interfering in countries where we know nothing about the customs or people, and stop this insane nation building.

Perhaps Obama recognizes this by his refusal to enter the Syrian fray and is really trying hard to avoid war with Iran. I certainly hope that is the case and that the people of this country respect that and demand that Congress lift the sanctions on Iran and give diplomacy a chance instead of destroying yet another country by war.

Not only was Kamal a friend to all who entered his space he also was a friend to homeless dogs who dropped by for great snacks each night, and there were many. Who will feed them now.....

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bruce Smart's column is sorely missed. His style and thoughtfulness conveyed well-reasoned arguments that invited polite reflection.

The new column is exactly the opposite. Mr. Morgan's expose on modern feminism and vulgar attack on Simone

Elaine Broadhead
The Plains, VA

de Beauvoir represent yellow journalism based on attitude not facts. Perfect example is the statement that Hillary Clinton never accomplished anything. Perhaps Mr. Morgan had a senior moment forgetting that Secretary of State is considered an accomplishment. Sarah Pal-

in's chief accomplishment was killing wolves from helicopters. I myself prefer peacekeepers to killers.

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Liberty Hill
Boyce, Virginia • \$1,900,000

Mountain top retreat with 60 mile panoramic views of the Shenandoah Valley • 215 acres • 1/3 pasture • Main house circa 1787 • 3 BR, 1 BA • 2 fireplaces • Random width pine floors • 2 BR, 1 BA guest cottage • Stone & frame barn circa 1787 • Remnants of formal garden • Old cemetery • Spring fed pond • Gazebo
Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905 Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930



Canongate
Leesburg, Virginia • \$700,000

Circa 1760's stone farm house on 6.45 acres • Beautiful wood floors, 4 wood burning fireplaces, country kitchen with granite countertops, bathrooms all updated • Fenced paddocks, two stables and a machine shed
Margaret Carroll (540) 454-0650



Upperville Cottage
Upperville, Virginia • \$225,000

Cute bungalow in the village of Upperville • 3 BR • Hardwood floors & built-in china cabinet • Remodeled in 2001 with many important updates such as new septic in 2006, new well pump in 2009, new furnace & water purification system in 2011 and new standing seam metal roof in 2012 • Nice fenced yard and garage/shed
Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930

info@sheridanmacmahon.com
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EGLINTON, MIDDLEBURG, VIRGINIA

76+ acres with beautiful courtyard. 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath house with 6,500+ square feet, 2 bedroom apartment over garage, 3,000 square foot guest house, stable, ring and fenced pastures. \$3,100,000

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INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

WOODSIDE, DELAPLANE, VIRGINIA

On Nat'l Register of Historic Places (ca 1750 & 1848). Beautifully maintained & updated 5BR home. Orange Co Hunt. 32ac. Barn, pool, apt. Scenic views. Min to Middleburg \$2,500,000

Kathryn Harrell

540-687-2215

Jim Thompson

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INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

SCAWFELL FARM, ELKWOOD, VIRGINIA

Masterful 2003 renovation & expansion of 1860s home. 5 bedroom, 5 bath home + 2 bedroom, 1 bath log home. Rappahannock river frontage. 58 acres. \$2,195,000

Alan Zuschlag

540-270-8150

Anita Sisney

703-973-1987



HOUYHNHNM FARM, HUME, VIRGINIA

110 acre horse farm in Old Dominion Hunt. 2BR tenant house + 12 stall Belmont Barn & sand riding ring. Land is open & rolling with 3 streams. \$1,250,000

Carole Miller

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Kevin Keane

540-687-2221



BRUSH ARBOR, PURCELLVILLE, VIRGINIA

NEW PRICE! Beautiful property on 10 +/- acres in historic Lincoln area. Spacious & open main house with 4BR, 3.5BA. Walls of glass, new kitchen. Pool. 7 stall barn. \$1,150,000

Ruth Ripley

540-687-2222

Carole Miller

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THE PERCH, THE PLAINS, VIRGINIA

Lovely, private home on 8.93 acres. 2-car garage with office & apt. High ceilings, first floor master suite plus 2nd master suite on lower level. Pool + stable. Orange Co. Hunt. \$995,000

Anita Sisney

703-973-1987

Kevin Keane

540-687-2221



TALLWOODS, DELAPLANE, VIRGINIA

Lovely 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on 11 acres. Custom designed. Many renovations & upgrades with new appliances in 2013. Easy access to DC. \$995,000

Page Glascock

540-687-2237

Jud Glascock

540-687-2226



BLUE HILL, WARRENTON, VIRGINIA

65 open acres with fantastic views. Charming all brick cape offers 4BR, 3BA, 2 fireplaces, sunroom, formal dining and living room. 2 car garage & basement. Min to Warrenton. \$995,000

Lynn Wiley

540-454-1527

Jim Thompson

540-687-2224



HUME, VIRGINIA

NEW PRICE! 50 acre parcel with perfect combination of cleared & wooded acreage, western mountain views & privacy of mature hardwood forest. \$548,000

Kevin Keane

540-687-2221

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