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MIDDLEBURG'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
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LIVE AND LOVE MIDDLEBURG
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CUB SCOUTS PINE WOOD DERBY

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2014 TALKIN TRASH

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SALAMANDER ZONING CHANGES

DAN MORROW

Town Council devoted most of a marathon 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. session on Thursday, February 12th, to the first of at least two public hearings on Salamander Development's request to change the town's street plan to accommodate the long anticipated 49-residence development to be built on the north side of Middleburg.

Town Planner and Zoning Administrator Will Moore opened the hearing by focusing two key issues:

1. Salamander's request that the streets in the development be designated "private property," eventually to be owned and maintained by the development's Home Owners Association; and

2. Granting final approval for two street entrances linking Middleburg's existing street grid to the new development: confirming the western

Continued page 15

FOXCROFT SCHOOL CAPTURES FIRST DAC BASKETBALL TITLE

Foxcroft School was practically born with a basketball. The big intramural rivalry, between the Foxes and the Hounds, began in 1914 with a basketball game. From the time interscholastic competition began in 1917 through the 1930s, Foxcroft was a power on the East Coast, rarely losing. Even the school song has a line about it, "Here's to the horse dit with- and the basketball, of course. . ."

Until Friday, though the girls boarding and day school in Middleburg had never won a conference championship. A quick, athletic and entertaining Foxcroft team corrected that situation by routing Randolph-Macon Academy, 48-24, to win the Delaney Athletic Conference Division II Championship in a game that was moved up a day and played at a a neutral site in The Plains to avoid Saturday's storm.

Defense has been Foxcroft's strength all season as it went undefeated against conference opponents and built a 9-5 overall record. Great D was the key again in the final game of the campaign. Alternating between zone and full-court man-to-man pressure, Foxcroft held R-MA to just four points in three of the game's four quarters and was never threatened.

"The seeds of our championship this year were sown at the beginning of last season when we realized we had the athleticism to be very aggressive defensively," said Coach Patrick Finn, who was named DAC Division II Coach of the Year. "Having a year of that under our belts helped us be more comfortable with our defense this season so we were also able to add more defensive schemes to cause even more problems for our opponents.

"Steals and pressure fueled our offense and led to lots of fast break points and quick scoring runs." An astounding percentage of Foxcroft's points came off turnovers forces on defense.

On Friday, though, Foxcroft showed another side of its game as well. Not a particularly good shooting team most of the year, Foxcroft tries very few 3-point attempts. But against R-MA the club hit five of 10 attempted 3-pointers -- including four by junior point guard Pipsy Steyn (Leesburg, VA). The team also knocked down seven of 10 free throw attempts, a significant improvement over its season average.

Coach Finn had talked to the team before the game about focusing as a key to victory. It appears they listened to his words intently.

Foxcroft's three junior stars – guard Alex Grace (Purcellville), center Kat Forrest (Sperryville) and Steyn – once again led the way. Steyn scored 12 points and had four assists, Grace tallied 14 points and Forrest had nine points and a game-high 13 rebounds. Freshman guard Mia Moseley also played a key role in the victory with eight points, including a perfect 4-for-4 from the free throw line, and pulled down eight rebounds.

After the game Grace was named Player of the Year in Division II. She led the DAC in scoring during the regular season, averaging 16 points per game. Forrest, who led Division II in rebounding with 11.7 per game, also was selected to the division's First Team while Steyn was tabbed for the Second Team.

In a 46-23 semifinal rout of Tandem Friends in Engelhard Gym on Thursday, Alex scored 16 points to lead all scorers while Kat had nine points and 10 rebounds. Pipsy added six points and sophomore Marley Blycher also had six points and seven rebounds.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY: PAGE 46 · FRIENDS FOR LIFE: PAGE 42

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FQ8470391 $4,300,000

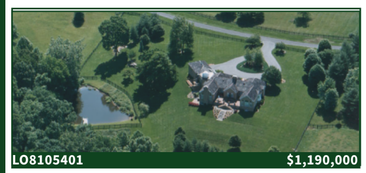
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LO8175796 $1,665,000

ROBIN CIRCLE, LEESBURG - Custom-built stone, brick, & cedar estate on 3.54 acres w/ features & amenities ideal for of entertaining & enjoyment. Heated indoor pool, sports pub, reg. racquetball court w/ hoop, audio/video system w/ 2 home theaters, rooftop deck, picnic pavilion, potting shed, 2+ 2-car garages, & caretaker apartment.
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COMING SOON! $1,295,000

LEEDS CHAPEL LN, HUME AREA - Horse farm in Northern Fauquier Hume Area: 25 acres 2/ board fencing, 6 stall center aisle barn, run-in-sheds, tack rm, apartment. Private bucolic setting on rolling countryside w/ Fabulous Views. 5 bdrms, 5 baths, 4 fireplaces and finished basement.
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LO8105401 $1,190,000

MIDDLEBURG - Spacious brick house w/roop top observatory in private setting. Large master wuite w/ lots of closets. Family room w/fireplace connects to open kitchen. Large mud room, 4 car garage. Finished lower level w/ in-law suite: bedrom media room, living room. Pond and 10 gorgeous acres.
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LO8245968 $990,000

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Joy Thompson 540.729.3428


LO8352599 $765,000

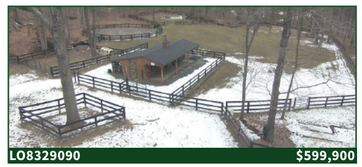
SILCOTT LN, PURCELLVILLE - Gorgeous 25 Acres! Views!! Pond!!! Privacy!!!! 4 Bdr, 3 Bath Cape Cod, Gourmet Kitchen w Granite, HW Floors, Open Floor Plan, Main Level Master, Deck w Pergola, Beautiful Landscaping, Perfect for horses, vineyard, or just to enjoy! In Land Use-Conservation Easement=less real estate taxes. And no HOA!!
Joy Thompson 540.729.3428


LO8549874 $669,000

DOVER RD, MIDDLEBURG - Charming Cape has been fully renovated. ideally situated on quiet cul-de-sac street. Remodeled kitchen & baths. Hardwood & marble floors throughout first floor. 4 fireplaces, large great room & pool - ideal for entertaining. The grounds are mature with large oaks & extensive landscaping. A Must see.
Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 | Peter Pejacsevich 540.270.3835


FQ8482311 $649,000

RECTORS RD, MARSHALL - private & convenient turn key 4 br 3.5 ba just off of Atoka Rd in between Upperville and Middleburg! Great kitchen with upgraded appliances, new first floor master and gleaming HW floors. a new deck and patio, separate 2 car garage with loft space! A rare find outside of "town" in the epicenter of hunt country.
Ted Zimmerman 540.905.5874


LO8329090 $599,900

LEESBURG - Must see! Turn key horse property. Ideal for Fox Hunters, trail riders, 4-H. 2 stall barn w tack rm, lights h2o, bluestone ring. 3 paddocks/dry lot. Perimeter hacking trail & great ride out! Beautiful home with HW floors, granite, 9' main ceilings, large living area. Total Privacy
On the Market... With Sam Rees 703-408-4261


FQ8503814 $595,000

3085 RECTORTOWN RD, MARSHALL - Charming cottage in historic Rectortown. 3 bdrm/2.5 bath home works well as a weekend retreat or full-time living. Viking range, soapstone countertops, exquisite HW floors, restful porches on 1st/2nd lvls, wood-burning fireplace, French doors on 1st/2nd lvls. Within 10 mins of Middleburg, Marshall.
Walter Woodson 703-499-4961


FQ8546825 $240,000

ATOKA RD, MARSHALL, VA - Great investment property on sought after Atoka Rd. near Rectortown, Marshall, & I66. Fixer upper that is well worth transforming into a charming cottage/hunt box, for rental or weekend place. Sold in AS-IS CONDITION. 2 acres that can likely be subdivided in 2 lots according to FQ County. Village Zoning.
Patricia Burns 540.454.6723


LO8550144 $4,000

PARSONS RD, MIDDLEBURG, VA - Stunning renovation, privacy, delightful views only a mile from town! 4BR/2.5BA stone home- newly renovated 1930 home; SS appliances & granite; master suite on 1st floor, heated floors, formal living, dining, library rooms. 12 acres w 4 fenced paddocks, 3-stall barn, tack room, hot water, run-in shed, great ride out..
Laura Farrell 540.395.1680

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News of Note

"OVATION" Makes History Winning the World Champion Hunter Rider Spectacular!


PHOTO BY TERESA RAMSAY

Dr. Betsee Parker's "OVATION" made history winning the World Champion Hunter Rider Spectacular Class for the third year in a row at the Winter Equestrian Festival in West Palm Beach."OVATION'S" stablemate "SMALL AFFAIR" also owned by Dr. Betsee Parker, was Reserve Champion in the World Champion Hunter Rider Spectacular Class. "OVATION" and "SMALL AFFAIR" were both ridden by Victoria Colvin.

By donating all of her horse's winnings to the Danny & Ron Rescue Dr. Betsee Parker has encouraged others to follow in her foot steps. Learn more about the Danny & Ron Rescue by visiting their website dannyandronsrescue.com.

PROPERTIES IN HUNT COUNTRY

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New Listing

Spectacular custom built home on **50 acres** with gorgeous Blue Ridge Mountain views. Stucco, 3 Fireplaces, metal roof and flagstone porches. Open floor plan includes Main Floor Master Bedroom, Den, LR, Chef's Kitchen, Sunroom, 3 bedrooms on 2nd level and full walk-out basement designed for Recreation Room & more. Heated pool, two-car garage with one bedroom apartment above. **$2,799,000**
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QUAKER HAMLET-PHILOMONT



An extraordinary historic farm on **24+ acres** with two main residences and a tenant house/guest house, amidst towering trees, stonewalls, brillant gardens and a spring fed pond. The two stables are stunning and include a total of 20 stalls with huge lofts, opening to paddocks and overlooking the pond. English gardens, picket fences, a paneled office, all in pristine condition and absolutely charming. **$2,350,000**
Mary Ann McGowan (540) 687-5523

LOCUST GROVE-DELAPLANE


Reduced!

Fabulous **250 acre** farm. Beautiful stone main residence meticulously updated and restored. Charming 1 bedroom Log Guest Cabin with kitchen and bath and separate Log Cabin Studio/Office. Center-aisle 4 stall stable with huge storage area. Gorgeous views, pond, lush pastures and woodlands. Private and protected conservation area; may be divided into 2 parcels. Surrounded by 1000 acres in easement. **$2,175,000**
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B&B-WINERY-BREWERY



A beautiful **10 acre** historic farm circa 1787, ideally located on the DC Wine Trail, offers fabulous opportunity as a winery, B&B,or farm base brewery. Gorgeous site at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Gracious Manor Home, 5 bedrooms, charming 2 bedroom Guest House, Log Cabin, 3 Bay Garage with wonderful Recreation Room. All overlook a picturesque stocked pond & beautiful views! **$1,235,000**
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BERRY HILL-MIDDLEBURG


Reduced!

This charming historic residence, built in 1815, extensively updated in 2004 and 2013, is in a private country setting in the heart of horse country. Features a spring fed pond, renovated barn, new A/C, refinished floors, gorgeous gardens and updated kitchen. The house, tastefully decorated in neutral tones, blends the warmth and charm of an antique home with every modern amenity. **$1,145,000**
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Rare opportunity to own **7.0455 acres**, recorded in 2 parcels, on Western edge of historic village of Middleburg. Partially within Middleburg Town Limits & partially within Loudoun County affording flexibility of zoning & uses. The Western most parcel has approved 4-bedroom drainfield. Must walk the land to truly appreciate the value and beauty of this land. **$525,000**
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News of Note

AB INBev Retains 2014 Foxcroft Road Trash Title

Talkin' Trash ~ 2014 Foxcroft Road Pig Pen Awards

William H. McCormick VMD

2014 was the 13th 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 891 individual pieces of trash, the year 2014 was below the average of 1054 for the preceding twelve years, a 15% decline in production and the second lowest numerical total for all those years.

The course of trash collection is a 4.6 mile route of dirt and paved 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).

A total of 891 individual pieces of trash, an average of 2.4 pieces per day, were retrieved from the Foxcroft Road. Most of the trash was recycled. The perennial nicotine champion, Marlboro, was way off in production, accounting for only 50% of its twelve year average. Camel, Newport, and Red Man were all reduced to insignificant numbers. This year's total was the third lowest in the last thirteen years. Since the American Surgeon General's survey has linked tobacco use to at least 21 diseases, the apparent decline in tobacco use is not mourned here.

In the New Age-Soft Drink category, there was moderately close competition between, the duopoly, Coca- Cola and Pepsico (49 vs. 32 in absolute numbers or 29% vs. 21% of the New Age-soft drink group). Coke has dropped 50% since its peak in 2011. However, Pepsi is down greater than 300% since its peak in 2010. These two brands labor under the perception that they promote obesity, and they have suffered the same fate as McDonald's.

The Fast Food group represented a total 14% of all trash in 2014. Both McDonald's and 7-Eleven had their fourth lowest production of trash in the last thirteen years. MacDonald's was off 256% from its peak in 2010, whilst 7-Eleven has only been off 31% since its peak in 2005.

In the Beer, Wine, and Liquor category, AB InBev currently controls 64% of the Foxcroft Road beer cans and bottles, whereas all other beers are responsible for 36% of market share. AB InBev accounted for a full 10% of all road trash. One would think that AB InBev would be happy with its dominant position in the market. However, in absolute terms AB InBev has dropped 344% from its high in 2006.

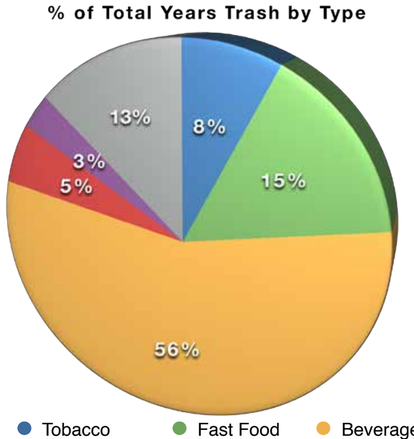
AB InBev with 10% (92 pieces) of individual trash exceeded Coca-Cola's absolute total of 5% (49 pieces). This year the "Trashy Ten" accounted for 39% of all road trash. The cumulative total number of pieces of trash per year has averaged 1051 for the last twelve years. 86% of this trash clearly bears 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. :

AB InBev (92) or 10% of all trash for 2014MacDonald's (50) or 6% for 2014

1. Coca Cola (49) or 5% for 2014
2. Pepsico (36) or 4% for 2014
3. 7-Eleven (26) or 3%
4. SAB Miller (23) or 3%
5. Marlboro. (20) or 2%
6. Deer Park (19) or 2%
7. Red Bull (17) or 2%
8. 7UP- Dr. Pepper (13) or 1%

This year's Foxcroft Road Pig Pen individual grand prize is awarded to AB InBev.

On a related subject congratulations are in order for landowners, Mark Casparwich and Peter Goltra for undertaking the splendid stone wall repairs and repointing on either side of the Foxcroft Road near the Benton Bridge. However, no compliments are extended to the proprietor of the former John S. Pettibone's Homewood Farm, which is the first farm on the right as one leaves Middleburg on the Foxcroft Road. Homewood now sports 150 yards of four strand barbed wire on metal posts. Alexander Solzenhitsyn, in The Gulag Archipelago, wrote that "the fiftieth anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution was also the hundredth anniversary of the invention of barbed wire." Barbed wire, an American invention, will perform as advertised especially in less than savory contexts. Seeing a horse caught in barbed wire is considerably uglier than trash on the road. Trash can be removed, barbed wire may cause wounds that will never heal.



Summary of Repetitive Trash

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Tobacco	100	92	63	73	70	92	96	97	37	720
Fast Food	127	146	103	163	270	144	127	198	127	1405
Beverage	776	727	472	663	729	567	534	421	436	5325
Generic Cups	80	88	40	49	61	35	50	42	60	505
Plastic Bags			21	25	29	31	60	63	64	293
Misc	73	126	162	89	103	185	194	122	146	1200
Total	1156	1179	861	1062	1262	1054	1061	943	870	

Tobacco

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Marlboro	64	47	43	32	33	54	52	41	20
Parliament	1	2	5	4	2	0	1	1	0
Camel	5	6	3	0	5	11	16	29	3
Red Man	1	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	3
Newport	13	15	4	8	11	12	14	9	3
Merit	0	0	4	15	7	0	0	0	0
Benson & Hedges	0	0	3	4	1	2	0	0	0

Soft Drinks

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Pepsico	112	90	70	80	123	76	50	52	36
Coca Cola	80	98	81	76	73	102	53	58	49
7UP/ Dr. Pepper	12	10	10	11	13	13	17	14	13
Select (Safeway)	12	6	6	2	12	9	0	1	7
Arizona	3	1	3	4	18	7	6	10	4
Red Bull	19	20	19	40	16	14	15	19	17
Other	70	73	51	46	57	75	68	59	44

Water

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Deer Park	19	26	11	19	26	26	21	18	19
Aquafina(Pepsico)	10	11	5	6	8	8	5	3	0
Dannan	8	4	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
Desani(Coca Cola)	10	17	6	10	7	5	3	2	4
Kirkland	0	7	4	5	9	4	3	8	4
Nestle's	0	9	2	8	5	4	11	8	3
Refreche	0	7	1	11	14	8	3	5	3
My Essentials							10	3	1
Others	12	14	10	12	17	21	21	15	26

Fast Food

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
McDonald's	48	62	51	75	128	61	30	54	50
Chick-Fil-A	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	12	4
7-Eleven	29	32	23	15	36	34	34	25	26
Taco Bell	0	1	1	5	13	10	6	17	8
Starbucks	1	11	2	7	7	6	3	9	5
Sheetz	8	4	4	3	4	2	5	11	1
Wendy's	4	2	5	25	27	5	3	30	14
Burger King	8	5	2	2	10	3	1	2	5
Dunkin Donuts			1	5	3	3	2	3	1
KFC		6	0	3	2	3	2	2	1
Popeyes					30	2	2	1	0
Subway							8	14	3
Others	23	23	13	23	10	15	17	18	18

Beer / Wine / Booze

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Budweiser	119	68	36	36	42	51	60	14	17
Bud Lite	41	52	40	40	28	37	58	34	23
Busch	32	24	17	14	18	8	3	4	6
Natural Ice	77	29	6	4	4	5	10	3	1
Natural Dry	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Natural Light	12	14	2	9	12	1	3	4	10
Michelob	7	12	10	5	11	6	6	3	1
Other In Bev	26	10	20	0	4	6	8	8	1
Corona/Medelo	26	10	17	20	52	40	22	17	32
Pabst Blue Ribbon	5	1	1	2	1	1	0	2	0
Steel Reserve	2	1	2	1	2	5	1	0	3
Heineken	0	14	13	18	20	7	11	7	6
Foster's	0	5	2	0	3	0	0	0	1
Yeungling	0	0	6	9	5	9	8	1	2
SAB Miller	53	81	61	153	107	38	28	17	23
Others Beer	41	38	19	14	23	20	14	10	8

Shiny Silver Trophies at the National Sporting Library & Museum

Among the many treasures at Middleburg's National Sporting Library and Museum is a collection of stunningly beautiful silver trophies of all shapes and sizes. Curator of Permanent Collections Nicole Stribling recently described some of the trophies in a blog post entitled Shiny Silver Trophies:

In addition to paintings, sculpture, drawings and prints, the NSLM art collections include some wonderful examples of decorative art objects. Some of the most popular pieces are the shiny silver trophies, of all shapes and sizes. Since it's highly unlikely that I will ever win any trophy as grand as these (though I never give up hope!), I will have to make do with caring for these precious objects here at the museum. But I will do so happily, because they are real treasures – delightful to look at and fun to research and study.

One of our most recent additions is the new National Sporting Library & Museum Cup. This is actually an active trophy that will be awarded every year at the running of the Virginia Fall Races.

The Virginia Fall Races, a steeplechase meet held every October at Glenwood Park in Middleburg, was founded in 1955 by Theodora Randolph (1905 - 1996) and George L. Ohrstrom, Sr. (1894 - 1955). The NSLM Cup (formerly called The Chronicle Cup) is a timber race run in memory of George L. Ohrstrom, Sr. and his son George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. (1927 - 2005), co-founders of the National Sporting Library and former owners of the Chronicle of the Horse.

The Warwick style trophy vase was crafted by the silversmiths Elkington & Company of London, in 1920. The NSLM name and logo engravings were added in 2014 by the generous donor, Juliana May.

Zeke Ferguson Steeplechase Trophy

In addition to the many trophies that are part of the permanent collection at the NSLM, our institution also houses several long-term loans from hunts, shows and racing associations. Perpetual trophies that are awarded once a year spend the rest of their time living here.

They are on display in our Library so our visitors, event fans and even past winners can come see them. The Baltimore Museum of Art does something similar - the *Woodlawn Vase*, awarded to the winner of the Preakness in May, is displayed in their galleries during the rest of the year.

Many of our loan trophies are silver and some are bronze or painted bronze sculptures like this one.

This charming trophy is for the *David L. "Zeke" Ferguson Memorial Stakes* race. The owners, John, Jr. and Leah Ferguson, recently took some time to tell me more about the trophy and its namesake.

The award is in honor of Zeke Ferguson (1922 - 1994), a prominent Virginia horseman who fox hunted, played polo and owned both hurdle and timber steeplechase horses.

Zeke's most accomplished horse was a grey named Leeds Don, who won the Virginia Gold Cup three times in a row (1965 - 1967)!

The National Steeplechase Association instituted the memorial stakes race to commemorate Zeke's many contributions to the sport of steeplechasing and the race was first run in 1998 at Colonial Downs in Richmond. This past year it was relocated to the International Gold Cup at Great Meadow.

The 2014 winner was Able Deputy, owned by Irvin Naylor, trained by Cyril Murphy and ridden by Ross Geraghty.

The bronze sculpture is by Eve Prime Fout (1929 - 2007), who was an accomplished Virginia horsewoman - on the hunt field and on the track - and was also a painter and sculptor. The Ferguson family commissioned her to create the trophy in 2007. The horse is a grey like Leeds Don and the jockey's silks are the garnet and grey colors of Ferguson.

The NSLM collections include a few other works by Eve. Our favorite fox on the wall in front of the Library building is also by her. And several Orange County Hunt trophies feature her bronze sculptures.



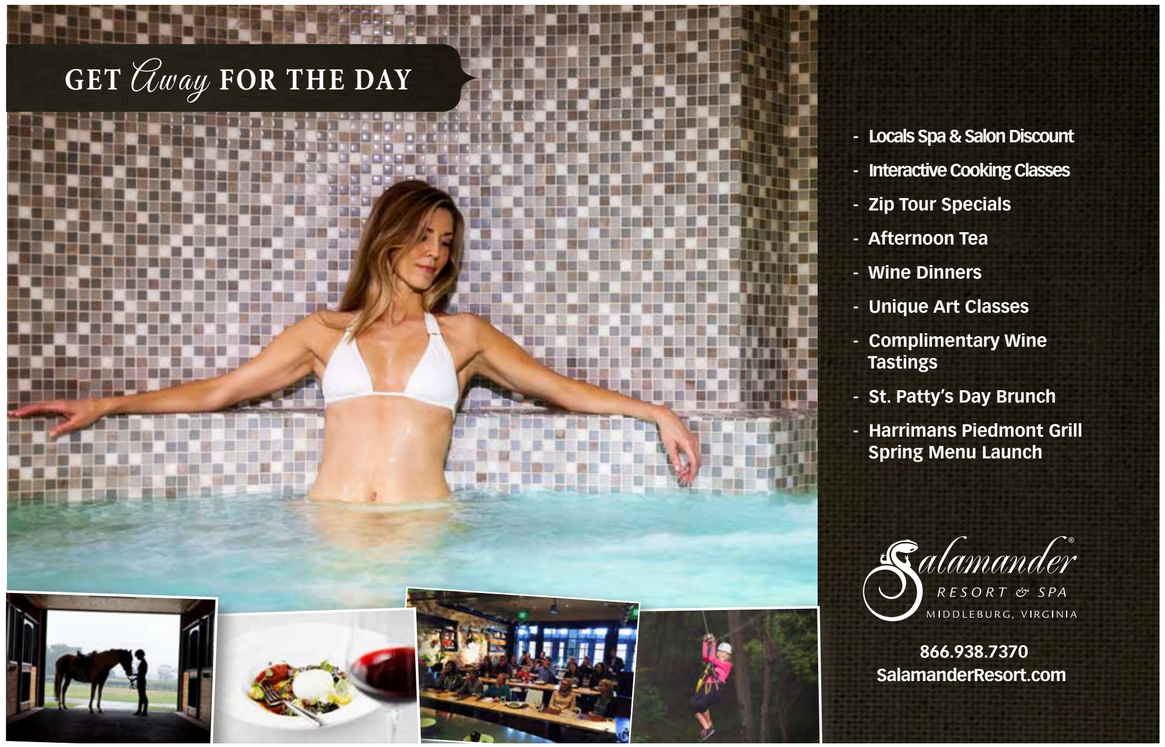
Maryland Hunt Cup

Another recent addition to the NSLM trophy collection, which is sure to be a favorite, is the Maryland Hunt Cup trophy, won by Mr. T. B. Blakiston in 1912, on board the horse Conby.

The *Maryland Hunt Cup*, one of the most challenging steeplechase races in the world, was first run in 1894. The four-mile race with twenty-two fences has been run at Worthington Valley (northwest of Baltimore) since 1922.

I wonder if Mr. Blakiston celebrated his win by taking a big drink of champagne from his new tankard trophy? He certainly would have deserved it! The fences in this timber race are up to 4 ft 10 inches high. Yikes.

This little piece of Hunt Cup ephemera from the NSLM holdings advertises the 1921 race. The fences still look pretty much the same - solid wood, post and rail. The early courses also included deep ditches, creeks and railroad tracks, but those were removed from the course after 1922."



News of Note

The Nature Generation Partners with Middleburg Bank

Support Brings Environmental Stewardship Education to Youth Across the Region



The Nature Generation volunteers Caitlin Dudek and Jessica Sedgwick Kent are joined by Middleburg Bank Client Service Representative Patti Yarborough and a Loudoun Valley High School student in testing the health of the South Fork Catoctin Creek on the Chapman DeMary Trail in Purcellville.

The Nature Generation, an environmental nonprofit, is pleased to announce Middleburg Bank as its new Sustainable Partner. As a partner, Middleburg Bank provides cornerstone financial support that allows The Nature Generation to make environmental stewardship education accessible to youth across the region.

Middleburg Bank generously supports The Nature Generation's environmental education programs and is a key sponsor of the Chapman DeMary Trail, an outdoor classroom in Purcellville, Va. which provides hands-on environmental learning opportunities to thousands of students and residents throughout the region.

"Middleburg Bank is an outstanding community-minded organization and has played an important role in our successes. They are generous financial contributors and also work collaboratively with us to directly inspire more kids to be good stewards of the earth - whether it's passing out Monarch-friendly milkweed seeds to their customers, helping to develop a pollinator habitat or sponsoring an environmental reading contest for 5,000 area students," said Ian Kline, chairman of The Nature Generation.

Middleburg Bank President and CEO Gary R. Shook commented, "We are extremely excited about this partnership. The Nature Generation shows exemplary leadership in both environmental stewardship and community outreach. I believe that by working together we can make a positive impact in Purcellville and the surrounding area."

Support The Return of Elk to Virginia

Lauren R. Giannini

The Bull Run Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation will hold its 24th annual Big Game Banquet with silent and live auctions at the Middleburg Community Center on March 14. The event is more than a fun fund-raiser. It is also a celebration. Back Street Catering, featuring the magical cookery of the legendary Tutti Perricone, will supply the feast.

In 2012, Buchanan County in southwest Virginia became home to 16 elk. In 2013, 10 more followed the first contingent. Last spring, another group was introduced, plus the calves that have been born, bringing the total to about 75. The goal is at least 600 elk, which will encourage a stable, self-sustaining herd.

"It has been a big goal and for 20 years, we worked hard for funding for feasibility studies, which proved critical to gain support for the project," said Bradley Clarke, one of the founding members of the Bull Run Chapter (1991). "We've had very good success this year both locally and nationally with our focus being on the preservation and enhancement of habitat. All the species thrive and survive because good habitats that are in balance promote everything else."

Until the mid-19th century, more than 10 million elk roamed the entire U.S. and parts of Canada, their numbers decimated by settlers needing food. The Eastern elk, so-called for being indigenous east of the Mississippi, has been extinct since 1855 when the last one was killed. It was bigger than its Western cousins: Eastern cows weighed about 500 pounds, bulls around 700. One attempt in 1917 to transplant 125 Western elk from Yellowstone National Park into 11 Virginia counties ended with the last one dying in 1970.

Enter the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, which worked cooperatively with the Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources and the Kentucky Fish & Wildlife Commission to re-introduce elk to Kentucky. Since then, six other states, including Virginia, have followed Kentucky's example.

Reintroducing elk to Virginia has been a labor of love and intense effort by the conservation-hunters involved in RMEF. Virginia has eight chapters with about 2,265 members. RMEF is a nationwide organization with more than 500 chapters and a membership of 205,250, which shows steady growth. Conservationists and hunters, they have pursued their mission goals with dedication and determination.

Since its inception in 1984, RMEF has worked consistently to fulfill its mission of ensuring the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitats and the American heritage of hunting. To date, RMEF has protected or enhanced 6.6 million acres and opened more than 769,000 acres for hunting and other public outdoor activities. Best of all, the elk population has grown to about one million in the U.S.

RMEF's 30th anniversary in 2014 proved stellar. Among other achievements, the 501(c)(3) earned four stars, the highest rating possible, from Charity Navigator, for the sixth consecutive year. RMEF also finalized its efforts to augment elk herds in Virginia.

"Without conservationists, we would have few of the natural wonders left in the U.S.," said Clarke. "This history of conservation began in earnest with Teddy Roosevelt. Be sure to bring your children to our Big Banquet. Teaching the next generation what true conservation means is imperative. In the long run, the animals will thank you."

About Bull Run's Big Banquet on March 14 in Middleburg: the word is out that it's going to be a total sell-out again this year, so make elk tracks to secure your tickets online. Not a member of RMEF yet: no worries – banquet ticket includes supporting membership for new elk enthusiasts.

For information: www.rmef.org

For tickets to Bull Run Big Banquet: www.events/rmef.org or call Rich Vigue at 703-217-4988

Cherry Blossom Grants $104,500

The Middleburg-based Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Foundation will be granting a total of $104,500 in 2015 to assist local women in the fight against breast cancer. Pursuant to the Foundation's objectives to Detect, Treat, Educate, and Eradicate breast cancer, the Grants Committee has selected the initial grant recipients for 2015. They include:

Loudoun Breast Health Network, Loudoun Voluntary Caregivers, Blue Ridge Hospice, The IIIB's Foundation, Casting for Recovery, and Novant Health's Mobile Mammography Van.

Additional grant recipients will be announced during the next few months.

Funding for these grants is generated largely through direct donations, and through the annual Cherry Blossom Walks, Runs, and Pooch Prances held each year in Middleburg and in Ashburn.

The Cherry Blossom Foundation strives to keep its emphasis local, serving the women of Loudoun, Fauquier, and surrounding counties. Since its inception in 2007, the Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Foundation has granted $683,600.

For more information, please contact Board Chairman James P. Atkins (703) 447-2302, email: info@cherryblossombreastcancerfoundation.org, or visit Foundation's website: www.cherryblossombreastcancerfoundation.org.

The Middleburg Community Farmers Market Now Taking Vendor Applications for the 2015 Season

The Town of Middleburg is pleased to announce that applications to be a vendor for the 2015 season of the Middleburg Community Farmers Market are now being accepted. The market, located behind the Middleburg Community Center (300 W. Washington Street) on Stonewall Avenue, will be open from 8 a.m. – noon, every Saturday from May 2 through October 31, 2015.

Sponsored by the Town of Middleburg, the Middleburg Community Farmers Market provides local agriculturalists with a retail outlet for their products. The market also provides citizens of the area with an opportunity to purchase fresh quality products from the people who produce them. The market is open to a variety of vendors such as meat producers, produce growers, baked goods, and specialty food vendors.

Visit http://www.townofmiddleburg.org/MC_FARMERS_MARKET.html for operating guidelines, terms of agreement and an application. The deadline for applications is March 10, 2015. Contact Cindy Pearson, Market Manager for the Town of Middleburg at 540-687-5152 or cpearson@townofmiddleburg.org for additional information.

Please check the Middleburg Community Farmers Market Facebook page for additional information.

Middleburg Seeks Ideas for Use of Historic Asbury Church

Middleburg recently received a donation of the historic Asbury Church at 105 N. Jay Street thanks to a donation from the former owners, B Diversified Funding I, LLC. Now the Town needs ideas from the community to ensure that the church is put the best use.

The church building has been vacant since its last congregation merged with another church in the 1990's. Because the building has deteriorated, initial plans call for stabilization of the structure to prevent further deterioration.

Once the Town has reviewed the submitted ideas and decided on the Church's eventual use, renovation of the structure will begin.

The 1829 Asbury Church, as the oldest surviving church building in Middleburg, and is a significant historic resource in the National Register Middleburg Historic District. It was built as the first Methodist place of worship in town until a larger church was built on Washington Street.

During the Civil War, it was used as a temporary hospital for both sides. In 1864, the church became the first Black church in town and remained a center of religious activity for the local Black community until it was removed from active use in 1994.

The Town Council and staff are very interested in the community's ideas about how this wonderful structure might be used to the benefit of the town.

For more information or to provide ideas for future uses for the building, please call Martha Mason Semmes at (540) 687-5152 or email her at townadmin@townofmiddleburg.org.

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News of Note

National Sporting Library & Museum Announces 2015 John H. Daniels Fellows

The National Sporting Library & Museum is pleased to announce the 2015 recipients of the John H. Daniels Fellowship. Since 2007, the NSLM has hosted the fellowship program in honor of the legacy of sportsman and book collector John H. Daniels (1921-2006).

Fellowship recipients include post-graduate students, authors, curators, museum professionals, professors, and scholars researching a variety of subjects related to field sports.

2015 recipients and their topics include: Collin McKinney, From Warrior to Gentleman: Masculinity and Sport in the Nineteenth Century; Kathleen Crandell, A Historical Perspective on the Causes, Incidence, Management and Treatment of Laminitis in Horses; Lucas Rubin, Trotting in Brooklyn, ca. 1800 to 1868; Dorothy Ours The Llangollen Sketchbook; Peter McNeil, 'Taking the Dust': Macaroni Men and English Equine Fashions c 1760-1790; Louise Curth, The Pocket Farrier: Veterinary Texts in Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Century America; Maryanna Skowronski, View: A Pictorial History of the Elkridge-Harford Hunt; and Matthew 'Duke' Biscotti, A Bibliography of Foxhunting.

The diversity of fellows' projects reflects the wide variety of material within the NSLM collections. Topics in the collections include history, art, literature, anthropology, and sport, with research projects ranging from the architecture of stables, history of horsemanship, equestrian fashion, and poetry, to falconry, veterinary science, environmental conservation and fly fishing.

The next deadline for applications is June 2015. Interested applicants may visit www.nsl.org or contact Erin Livengood at elivengood@nsl.org or 540-687-6542 ext 25 for more information.

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Author Rachel Thompson to Speak on George Marshall

The Mosby Heritage Area Association, the Middleburg, Virginia-based nonprofit historic preservation organization, will host a talk by author Rachel Y. Thompson, entitled "Marshall: A Statesman Shaped in the Crucible of War." The event will take place Sunday, March 15th, at 2 p.m. at Farmer's Delight, 36276 Mountville Road, Middleburg, VA 20117.

Ms. Thompson is the author of a new biography of General George C. Marshall, "Marshall: A Statesman Shaped in the Crucible of War." In this book, Ms Thompson hopes to make Marshall known not only for his military career, but also as a civilian, friend, family member, and as a person. She is a very well known Marshall expert, full of enthusiasm for her subject and for exploring much more about the man than simply his "Marshall Plan."

Ms Thompson is Director of Special Projects at The George C. Marshall International Center in Leesburg, Virginia. She created, developed, and for eleven years has implemented the Marshall Immersion Workshop for secondary level teachers from across the United States and Europe.

She co-wrote the biography, *America's Hero to the World: George C. Marshall* and has written educational materials to accompany several PBS video productions. She has authored teacher's guides, essays, journal articles, and lessons for the educational outreach programs of the *National Council for the Social Studies, the White House Historical Association, USA Today, Time-Life, and the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute* in Hyde Park, New York. Before becoming an educational writer and Marshall historian, Ms. Thompson was, for thirty-one years, a U.S. History and American Government teacher in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Tickets are $25 for MHAA members and $30 for non-members. Reservations are requested in advance and may be made through www.mosbyheritagearea.org or 540-687-6681.

Childs Burden Opens First Meeting of the AMU Battlefields Preservation Plan Partners

Childs Burden, Mosby Heritage Association President, opened the meeting and welcomed a crowded room by saying, "I look forward to the great task ahead of us to preserve the almost 30,000 acres of Virginia battlefield land for the future viewing and education of our children and grandchildren."

The Mosby Heritage Area Association (MHAA), a Northern Virginia Piedmont preservation and education organization, recently called the first meeting of the Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville (AMU) Battlefields Preservation Plan Partners to order at Atoka, Virginia.

The meeting took place in the Caleb Rector House, built in 1803 and now owned by MHAA. In addition to MHAA, the Partners are the Land Trust of Virginia, NOVA Parks, the Piedmont Environmental Council, the Unison Preservation Society, and the Aldie Heritage Association, with representatives of Loudoun County, Fauquier County, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources as advisors.

Henry Plaster, Chair of the MHAA Preservation Committee, followed with introductions around the room and a description of the many tasks ahead.

"Our Plan calls for 13 short-term and 10 long-term actions beginning this year with adding conservation easement protection to the local battlefields, working with Fauquier and Loudoun County in revising their Comprehensive Plans, Facilities Manuals and ordinances, and seeking new research and archeological grants," said Plaster.

The remainder of the meeting was a discussion of which organization would take the leadership of particular actions.

MHAA began work on this project in 2012 using the $41,625 grant money from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program to produce the recently completed "Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville Civil War Battlefields Preservation Plan" covering the battles during which Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart fought a delaying action in June 1863 to screen the movement of General Robert E. Lee's Army northward from Virginia into Pennsylvania and the July 1 Battle of Gettysburg. Additional information is available online at: www.nps.gov/history/nps/abpp, www.mosbyheritagearea.org under 'About Us', info@mosbyheritagearea.org or call 540-687-6681. The Preservation Plan can be viewed at http://amubattlefieldspp.wordpress.com/.

This was one of 27 National Park Service grants totaling $1.35 million to preserve and protect significant battle sites from all wars fought on American soil. Funded projects preserve battlefields from the Colonial-Indian Wars through World War II and include site mapping (GPS/GIS data collection), archeological studies, and National Register of Historic Places nominations.

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News of Note

Oak View National Bank Opens First Art Exhibit

Jon Henry and Denise Philipbar co-curated Oak View National Bank's first art exhibition, Attention: Intention. The show will run through March 31st.The work of Beth Scher, M.G. Stout, L. Mylott Manning and Linda Ray is featured in the exhibit.

Oak View National Bank in Marshall, Virginia is an FDIC member.

"We want to call attention to contemporary art while showing the intention behind the artists' compositions using a military theme as a springboard; it is so prevalent in our area and affects so many lives," explained Philipbar.

The works by the four artists range from expressive and mixed media realism to highly organized abstract compositions that parley these often disparate genres.

Jon Henry is a graduate art student at James Madison University working on his MFA. Denise Philipbar is an artist, curator, and writer who lives in Woodbridge, VA and holds an MFA from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. The exhibit curators met through the Old Furnace Artist Residency in Harrisonburg where Philipbar was a resident artist and Henry is the director.

Artist Beth Scher, who splits her time between her homes in upstate New York and southern Florida, uses the arresting forms of gun-toting women in military uniform to explore the concepts of femininity and feminism.

Ms. Scher explains, "I portray them as young women who intentionally seek to display their sexuality and vulnerability, yet are trained killers, in a position of power and placed in serious conflicts. I wonder what the consequences are in a society that must deal with this dichotomy."

Scher's use of oil paint, collage and yarn craft provides us with a vibrant and intriguing view that brings forward strong sculptural and abstract elements.

Such conflict is further explored in the works of M.G. Stout, in her collaborative series of paintings in acrylic with photographic images by combat veteran Jason Conner.

Stout's studio is in Old Town Alexandria. Using paint, Stout traverses this soldier's homecoming experiences through her use of expressive brush strokes and vibrant colors.

"I wanted to create a series that would voice a collective experience to open the door for other vets to see that they aren't alone," Stout tells us.

The works of L. Mylott Manning, based in New York City, are abstract constructions of paint and thread on canvas. Her bold geometry and prominent use of primary colors demand attention from afar, while upon closer inspection we can see a free form use of dripped paint that provides a lyrical note.

The geometric forms of Mylott Manning's work also gesture to the work of Scher and Stout, setting up an intriguing dialog between these works.

Lynda Ray is a Richmond based artist working in encaustic wax and oils. Her lively compositions provide us with paintings she says that are "containers of time."

Her encaustics are built up in multiple layers like labyrinths to be explored at leisure. Thread-like elements join with bolder shapes such as chevrons and cellular forms that harken to the more chaotic elements of Mylott Mannings works while playing upon the linear forms of Scher's craft elements, and the military motifs of Stout's paintings making Ray's work the perfect compliment to round out this exhibition.

Intention will run through March 31, 2015 at Oak View National Bank. The Bank is located at 4174 Old Stockyard Road Marshall, VA 20115

National Sporting Library & Museum to 'Open Late' for Free Concerts and Community on Fourth Fridays of April-September

The National Sporting Library & Museum, recently announced a new program called "Open Late" that will intrigue and please everyone in Hunt Country. Museum galleries will be open until 8:00 p.m., music will be performed, regional wine, craft beers and performers will be available and picnics will be welcome.

Melanie Mathewes, Executive Director of the National Sporting Library & Museum explained, "We're very excited to announce that this year, on the first Friday of April, May, June, July, August and September, our facilities and our campus will be open late to allow the public to visit and enjoy our treasures. All are invited to picnic and relax on our campus lawn, enjoy music concerts, and try regional wines and craft beers."

"We've planned these events with young families in mind and with the hope that those passing through Middleburg heading east or west after work will join us."

Melanie has wanted to begin a community-wide program for the NSLM since she arrived in Middleburg.

"Knowing how difficult it is to take time out of busy schedules during the day, we thought staying open late would give people more opportunities to explore the exhibitions and collections on view in the art Museum," she explained.

"When I discussed it with our board and staff and members of the Middleburg community, I was delighted that everyone was excited to make the idea a reality. We decided to encourage the community to spend a couple of hours here each month this summer."

Concerts will take place on the grassy knoll bounded by Route 50 and The Plains Road with performances on the back terrace of the Museum.

"Everyone is very excited about this new NSLM program and the community has been tremendously supportive," she emphasized. "For instance, the Town Council will help us with the costs to bring The Piedmont Symphony Orchestra for their concert and we are very grateful for their financial assistance because we know it will be a spectacular evening."

All businesses and organizations who partner on the 'Open Late' program will be noted on the NSLM website with logos and web links. Plans for co-marketing programs are also underway.

To market the "Open Late" evenings, NSLM will work with the friends, family and alumni of Virginia schools and area organizations. Middleburg Hunt Point to Point will be featured on site April 24. Virginia Tech is adopting the evening of June 26 and George Mason University is highlighted on July 24. Middleburg Community Charter School, Foxcroft School, Hill School, Middleburg Academy and Wakefield School will celebrate Friends and Family Night on September 25.

NSLM is working closely with business leaders, area schools and universities to ensure that the "NSLM Open Late" program includes the widest possible representation of the region's culture.

"We hope that everyone will join us when we are "Open Late" this summer. These events are sure to create a real buzz for our business community as our guests wander through the village to shop and dine."

Visitors to the "Open Late" events may also bring picnics to enjoy on the lawn. Please do not bring glass bottles, containers or alcohol. Regional wine and craft beers will be available for purchase."

For more information on "Open Late" and how you can be involved, please contact Alex McKay, NSLM Membership Manager, at 540-687-6542 ext 24.

The schedule for NSLM's 'Open Late' evenings includes:

April 24
Middleburg Hunt Point to Point
Band: Difficult Run Jazz Band
Beer: South Street Brewing
Wine: Three Fox

May 22
Band: Tara Mills Band
Beer: 3 Brothers Brewing
Wine: Naked Mountain

June 26
Virginia Tech Alumni Night
Band: Piedmont Symphony Orchestra
Beer: Forge Brew Works
Wine: Cana Winery

July 24
George Mason University Alumni Night
Band: George Mason University Jazz Ensemble
Beer: Hardywood Park Craft Brewery
Wine: Otium Winery

August 28
Band: Reckless Island
Beer: Mad Fox Brewing Company
Wine: Boxwood Winery

September 25
Friends and Family Night
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Band: Lisa Lim
Beer: Legend Brewing
Wine: TBA

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Dale Schulz

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What areas does Hunt Country Propane deliver to?

We are small, local propane company who currently only delivers in Loudoun, Fauquier, Prince William, Clarke and Frederick Counties in Virginia. We are growing rapidly in this limited market area. We have no plans to expand beyond this area at this time. Every day we get calls from people wanting to become Hunt Country Propane members and save on propane. It only takes a 5-minute call to switch. It couldn't be easier.

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News of Note

Less Cancer Promotes National Cancer Prevention Day on The Hill



Washington, D.C., Rep. Steve Israel (DNY) introduced a Resolution for National Cancer Prevention Day, February 4th, which served to remind people that they need to educate themselves in the areas of prevention and reduction of risks for human health and the environment. This is the fourth year that this resolution has been introduced and marks a historical expansion of the cancer landscape to include public awareness, education, and prevention.

Less Cancer's promotion of Cancer Prevention Day on February 4th included several prominent speakers and a panel discussion led by Less Cancer board member and author of A World Without Cancer, Margaret I. Cuomo, M.D. The event took place in the Cannon Building Caucus Room, located on 27 Independence Avenue SE.

Less Cancer's National Cancer Prevention Day offered a dynamic exchange of information and insights. University students, legislators, the medical community and industry, and cancer prevention advocates joined together in a collaborative effort to prevent cancer. Less Cancer's efforts to bringing attention to cancer prevention have been heard around the globe and have been essential to engaging and educating millions of web and social media users.

The day's events featured multiple high profile speakers, including David L. Katz, M.D., M.P.H., who delivered The Ronald B. Herberman, M.D. Memorial Lecture. Dr. Katz is the founding director of Yale University's Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center (1998). He received his B.A. from Dartmouth College (1984; Magna Cum Laude); his M.D. from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (1988); and his M.P.H. from the Yale University School of Public Health (1993). He is a two-time diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine, a board-certified specialist in Preventive Medicine/Public Health, and a clinical instructor in medicine at the Yale School of Medicine.

Leadership Award

This year's Less Cancer Leadership Award went to Film Director, Jon Whelan. Whelan is the director of Stink!, an off-beat documentary about his tenacious quest to uncover the source of a chemical scent in a pair of his daughter's pajamas. Like most Americans, Whelan believed that if a product was on the store shelf, then it must be safe.

Through his investigation, Whelan discovered a culture of secrecy surrounding carcinogens in everyday consumer products that began in corporate boardrooms and extended all the way to the halls of Congress. Formerly the co-CEO of Afternic.com, an internet/media start-up advisor, and a founding member of the New York Angels, Whelan currently advocates for truthful product labeling and is a full-time parent of two young daughters.

Other speakers included Lawrence Deyton, M.D., Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Public Health and Professor of Medicine at the George Washington School of Medicine, Sandra Read, M.D., a dermatologist and past Co-Chair of the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention,Tom Sherman, M.D., Chairman of the Less Cancer Board and a state legislator from New Hampshire, Bill Couzens, Founder of Less Cancer, and Less Cancer board members Veronique Pittman and Larry Fisher.

Legislative speakers included Congressman Steve Israel from New York, Congressman Charlie Dent from Pennsylvania, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell from Michigan, and Congressman Don Beyer from Virginia.

The closing speaker was Anand K. Parekh, M.D., M.P.H.,Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health (Science and Medicine) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

A Team Less Cancer presentation was delivered by Less Cancer board member and journalist, Miles O'Brien and Less Cancer Bike Ride Founder, Suzi Tobias.

Margaret I. Cuomo, M.D., Less Cancer board member and author of A World Without Cancer, served as Panel Moderator. Dr. Cuomo is a board certified radiologist, teaching professional, and national advocate for the prevention of cancer, heart disease, and diabetes. Her recent book, A World Without Cancer: The Making of a New World and the Real Promise of Prevention, presents a provocative and surprising look into the ways that profits, personalities, and politics obstruct real progress in the war on cancer.

This groundbreaking book, based on her own firsthand experience with cancer patients, has been described as "urgent and powerful," "an eye-opening look at the way we fight cancer," and a "call for bold leadership to transform our system from treatment to prevention."

Panelists included the following:

Margaret I. Cuomo, M.D., Less Cancer board member, author, and moderator.

Graham A. Colditz, M.D., Dr. P.H. Deputy Director, Institute for Public Health, Chief of The Division of Public Health Sciences, and Niess-Gain Professor of Surgery in the School of Medicine.

John D. Groopman, Ph.D. Dr. John Groopman is the Anna M. Baetjer Professor of Environmental Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Associate Director for Cancer Prevention and Control at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center in the School of Medicine.

Christopher A. Loffredo, Ph.D. Co-Director of the Cancer Prevention and Control Program of the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center at Georgetown University.

Deborah Raphael, Director, San Francisco Dept. of the Environment.

Marc D. Schwartz, Ph.D. Co-Director of the Cancer Prevention and Control Program of the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center at Georgetown University.

David Widawsky, Ph.D. Director of Chemistry, Economics, And Sustainable Strategies Division Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

US Environmental Protection Agency.

Bill Couzens, Less Cancer Founder. Couzens originally hails from Detroit, Michigan. He is a graduate of Wayne State University and the Founder and President of the nonprofit, Next Generation Choices Foundation, widely known as Less Cancer. Less Cancer has worked towards breaking the cycle of increased incidences of cancer.

Couzens initiated National Cancer Prevention Day as a working day to better understand the progression that needs to be accomplished in the cancer prevention arena. Founded in 2004, Next Generation Choices Foundation partners with communities to create and dispense online educational tools that focus on environmental health. This includes exposures to toxins, pesticides, healthy housing, food supply and factory farming.

The organization has been active in education concerning lifestyle issues such as dieting, smoking and tanning and has been instrumental in educating lawmakers. It has also worked to protect the public through community education, policies and best practices from the legislative branch to Corporate America.

The Next Generation Choices Foundation Board is chaired by Thomas M. Sherman, M.D. Board members include Bill Couzens, Margaret I. Cuomo, M.D., Greg Lam, Veronique Pittman, Maryann Donovan Ph.D., M.P.H., Miles O'Brien, John Couzens, Stormy Stokes Hood, KC Graham, Larry Fisher, David MacDonald, Natalia (Ali) Pejacsevich, and Ronald B. Herberman, M.D. (in memory).

The Coffee is On Us on January 29th



Big thank you to Middleburg Bank for buying everyone coffee, hot chocolate, latte, mocha, smoothies and more! We had a lot of fun!!

Ladies...



Middleburg Humane Foundation

News of Note

Middleburg Designer Is Breaking Barriers In Urban Design

Her Wildlife Habitat for McDonald's Serves Up Butterflies With Hamburgers



Darcy Justen is shaking up the world of urban landscape design and is on a mission to change the way we landscape. Recently she has finished a unique project for McDonalds in Fredricksburg, Va.

A local Master Gardner from Middleburg, Va. who has never given up on her passion for all things that grow, she always draws inspiration from nature first and then focuses on bringing together existing elements.

Darcy began gardening as most of us, planting a few things from our local garden center every year. But unlike most of us she wasn't happy with many of those plants and started buying more local and native plants.

"I consider myself a lazy gardener who doesn't really have time for all my projects so if I plant something that can make it here, it can make it anywhere," she says laughing.

Many believe that this philosophy is very much point of sustainability.

"My small farm is where I experiment with everything. My husband, Peter, calls me the "midnight gardener."

"She has been known to drive the truck around the property and move trees and garden by the headlights, and she loves every minute of it."

When first approached about the landscaping for a new McDonalds Darcy explains, "I wasn't interested. I was positive the project wasn't for me. I am not a typical designer." But, then I asked myself, why not a McDonalds? Why doesn't someone design something that is friendly to the environment, uses the amazing amount of native plants Virginia is so blessed with, and is cheaper to maintain?"

"Suddenly, I was very excited about the project and the opportunity to offer a bold new approach to this urban setting. I mean, who doesn't want to eat Big Macs while watching butterflies?"

It was Welburn Management who was building the McDonald's and that's who hired Darcy Justen Designs.

Working with Welburn Management was "delightful," Darcy says.

"Diane Welburn from the beginning had a vision to combine her love of nature with their restaurant and when I presented the idea of a natural and sustainable landscape, she loved it and couldn't wait to get started!"

They were surprised and pleased to learn that Darcy's design would designate the McDonald's property as a Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.

"It is the first sustainable eco-friendly McDonalds landscape in the country and the only one of its kind," states Darcy, "Now that we've proven it can be done, we hope it catches on!"

It was a huge project in scope and called for the replacement of all 36 trees with native trees. The original plant list went from 60 to over 600 trees, shrubs, bushes, groundcovers and perennials.

The initial cost was only slightly higher than planned explained Darcy, but the cost savings of native plants and trees is huge over time. For example, a drip irrigation system was installed that uses 70% less water. Eco friendly landscapes using plants native to Virginia offer year around color and unique textures without the need of regular maintenance such as needless mowing, trimming or applying expensive and harmful chemicals.

"We were also able to create a 50' x50' butterfly garden in the shape of a butterfly that has a dual purpose. Not only is it lovely to look at but functional as it completes a depressed area with deep-rooted plants; the roots of the plants help to filter the water before it re-enters the local water supply and the rain is absorbed into the ground within a few hours."

"The butterfly rain garden is balanced by two small meadows on each side and instead of grass we put down clover which doesn't need to be mowed and provides food for pollinators."

"I was thrilled to have had the opportunity to work with Darcy and her team on the Butterfly Garden project," confirms Ashley Welburn, "It is essential that we take care of our environment, and it is our hope that we can be an example to other businesses to think creatively when constructing new projects that can help the world around them."

Adults and children alike will enjoy taking a stroll through the beautiful perennials and where they will enjoy a host of pollinators.

Darcy also decided to use ground covers under trees instead of the classic mulch piles to help maintain water and assist with run off.

She emphasized that the biggest perk is that it also provides shelter and cover for small birds, a real benefit for the local ecology. She was also happy to cut the list of annuals by more than half and added dozens of perennials that will require little water and provide shelter for wildlife, nectar for pollinators and long lasting beauty.

"It's all about breaking the cycle of always using ornamental plants, lots of grass and even more mulch. Most ornamental plants for example are decorations with little biological purpose," Darcy says. "Putting natives in any area helps to restore that extremely delicate relationship between plants and insects which in turn supports all wildlife."

After raising her six children, Darcy went through the Loudoun county Master Gardener program where she caught "the gardening bug" and took every possible horticultural class, training and workshop she could get her garden gloves on.

Currently she is in the Master Naturalist program and the National Wildlife Federation Landscapers Certification Program.

"The Virginia Master Naturalist program really opens your eyes to our regional challenges and offers many ways to get involved and help," says Darcy. "We have unbelievable resources right here locally to become more informed."

This isn't the first project she's been involved in that explores newer concepts in landscaping. She has worked on everything from woodlands management, children's gardens, parks, residential backyards to urban stainable landscapes and meadows.

One of the favorite calls she looks forward to is from a school that is looking to design a garden. She finds working with the kids the most rewarding. Darcy also tries to share her experience and what she's learned along the way through lecturing, writing, teaching classes or workshops locally in the area.

When asked what makes the biggest difference in how she designs, she responded: "I start every project with an enormous amount of research and that makes a huge difference." The majority of commercial and urban landscaping is done by landscapers or civil engineers who are not naturalists or horticulturists. Their job is not to create an eco-system and the plant lists are usually fairly short. I'm happy to say many counties in Virginia and even on the state level are addressing these issues and supporting new ideas in sustainability."

"I'm only interested in projects that will have a positive impact on the environment. There are no excuses for not using native plants. I'm a firm believer that it's about the presentation of valuable information that educates my clients. We don't always need to choose what seems easy and convenient, but rather look what is possible. Virginia has more native plants than any other state and it's up to all of us to protect the insects and wildlife that support them."

Her story is not only thought provoking for commercial landscape designers and our county governments who have the ability to shape many of these outcomes, but inspiring for regular gardeners. Every gardener has an opportunity to change our local environments, one garden at a time.

To learn more, please visit DarcyJustenDesigns.com.



Salamander Zoning Changes

Continued from Page 1

entrance, approved in 2007, at Chestnut Street and Stonewall Avenue; and moving the second, from an originally designated right-of-way through Middleburg Community Center property to a new location at Reed Street and Stonewall.

Technically, these changes depend on Town Council approval of amendments of the town's zoning map, adopted along with Salamander's pre-resort construction proffers in August 7, 2007.

The requested changes represent the final stages of a long series of negotiations: a "Visioning Committee" report in 2004; the crucial "Memorandum of Understanding" between the Town and Salamander in 2005, and an ongoing series discussions with Town Staff and its Planning Commission ever since.

Salamander's current request was submitted in early December 2014, revised on January 20 after discussions with the Town, and is expected to be revised again after discussions with the Town Planning Commission on January 29, and a February 4 meeting with Town Staff and the Town Attorney.

The currently proposed "look and feel" of Salamander's new 49-residence development appears to be no longer in doubt.

Salamander's Prem Devadas describes it as a world class residential development designed to complement and enhance a world class resort.

His organization's goal, he says, has always been to seamlessly integrate its resort and spa, and now it's private residences, into both the architecture and spirit of Middleburg.

Those goals, he continued, reflect not only his stakeholder's emotional commitment to the Town and area, but good business.

What is good for Middleburg, he notes, is good for Salamander. The image and appeal of both are co-dependent.

Private Streets

Salamander has requested that the streets on its property be privately owned and maintained because it is convinced that its standards for both construction and maintenance are higher than those of the Virginia Department of Transportation, which (with rare exception) currently owns and maintains all of Middleburg's streets.

Under the new proffer Salamander Development would build and maintain the streets outlined in its proffer (see map) until such time as the new development's Homeowner's Association was financially capable of assuming those responsibilities.

The new streets and the new homes they will serve, according to Salamander, will be built and maintained to standards consistent with a world class resort. New owners and residents would expect and demand that issues like pothole repair and snow removal, for example, be taken care of immediately and not be dependent on Virginia state equipment, staff, or timelines.

Nor are private streets "unusual" according to Salamander. Most, if not every world class resort in the United States owns its own streets for precisely the reasons outlined.

Salamander also promised that the new development would not be "gated." It's streets, though privately owned, would be accessible to all, deliberately designed to be an integral part of the Town of Middleburg.

Speaking to public concerns about fire department and police access, Police Chief A.J. Panebiaco said he and his department are satisfied that law enforcement and emergency service access is more than adequate.

The Town Planning Commission and several members of the public attending the hearing expressed concern about guarantees. What would happen, they asked, if the houses in the proposed development just didn't sell, or if economic conditions made it impossible for Salamander or the new Homeowners Association to meet its obligations.

Bonding was one answer: a completion bond to be returned to Salamander only after construction has been completed and approved; and a two-year maintenance bond.

A revised proffer by Salamander is expected to further address those concerns.

The Town Planning Commission, at its January 29 meeting, according to Town Planner Moore, responded favorably to Salamander's assurances, but required formal guarantees in a revised proffer that there would be no gates or "other obstructions" preventing free public access to the new development.

Town Council Member Bundles Murdock noted pointedly her preference for both VDOT ownership of the new streets and an overall design for the development that would more closely reflect the traditional grid pattern of Middleburg's streets.

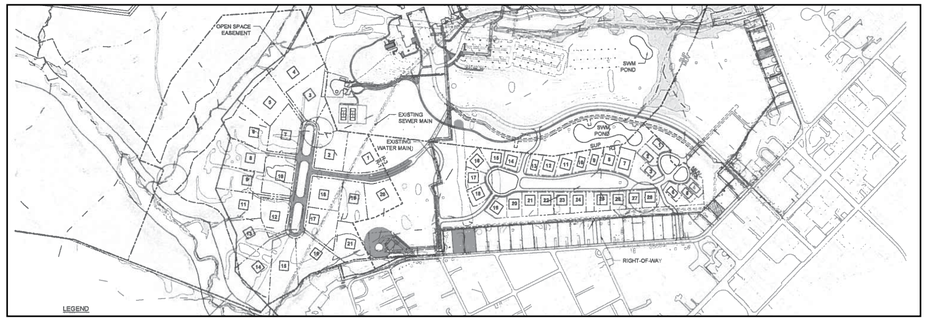
Access Roads

Access to the new development will be through two new intersections on Stonewall Avenue: one at Chestnut Street and one at Reed.

Pending VDOT approval both intersections will be 4-way stops.

According to Town Planner Moore, "It is not entirely clear why the eastern access point [to the new development] was originally shown through . . . Community Center property."

Public concerns focused mainly on traffic and public safety at the two new intersections. Forty-nine new residences could reflect as much as a 20% increase in the total population of Middleburg. The increase in the number of cars based in Middleburg, in addition to staff and guest traffic in and out of the Resort and Spa, critics charged, could pose serious threats to safety on Stonewall Avenue.



Hearing to Continue

After more than two hours of discussion Council "adjourned" rather than "closed" its public hearing, pending the submission of a final, revised, proffer from Salamander reflecting its responses to concerns raised officially by the Town and by the public.

A second round of public comment is expected to be scheduled as soon as the revised proffer is in hand, and will be advertised.

Visit Loudoun

Beth Erikson, President and CEO of Visit Loudoun outlined her organizations success in promoting both the County as a whole and Middleburg in particular.

Among the highlights:

Middleburg's Salamander Resort and Spa has been voted among the nation's top 10 Most Romantic Destinations by Travel and Leisure magazine,

Visit Loudoun contributed $25,000 to support this past year's Middleburg Film Festival, which Erikson described as having the potential to be truly "transformative."

"Shakespeare in the Burg" also received a $3.100 Visit Loudoun grant.

Grant to Sporting Library and Museum

After a presentation by Melanie Matthews, Town Council unanimously approved a $2,000 grant to support the Sporting Library and Museum's proposed new "Open Late" program, a series of "fourth Friday" events that couple picnics and concerts on the lawn with an opportunity to visit the Museum and Library "after hours" (see story on page 10).

Town Council Member Mark Snyder suggested that the events would not only be good for the Town, the Library and the Museum, but would fit well with Middleburg's existing relationship with the Bluemont concert series.



News of Note

Think Pink Raise $4500 for Cherry Blossom Foundation



Foxcroft School students made a LARGE donation to the Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Foundation Friday. Posing with the $4,500 check are (left-right, back row) Athletic Director Michelle Woodruff, senior Meredith Dietz, CBBCF directors Stephanie Knapp and Becky Hoecker, senior Madeline McNamara, Head of School Cathy McGehee, sophomore Mary Park Durham and (l-r, front row) juniors Marias Blundell, Pipsy Steyn and Charlotte Scharfenberg. Mary Park and McGehee serve on the CBBCF board; Woodruff and the Athletic Association, which the five other students head up, orgaznied the tournament. The other students

How to Get into College: The Insiders' View

Public invited to meet seven college admission officers at Foxcroft School



How colleges read applications and the intricacies of the admission process at selective state universities will be the focus of two upcoming, public events presented by the Office of College Counseling at Foxcroft School.

On Wednesday, March 4, admission deans from Hollins University, Longwood University, Radford University, the University of South Carolina and Virginia Polytechnic Institute Tech will discuss how different admission committees review applications, share tips on how an applicant can best present herself and take turns reviewing the same application

A month later, on Monday April 6, Amy W. Jarich, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions at the University of California, Berkeley, and Rebekah C. LaPlante , Virginia Tech's Rebekah C. LaPlante will address the special challenges of applying to selective state universities.

"I am delighted to present these exciting college programs at Foxcroft," said Director of College Counseling Barbara Conner, who recently had an article about her "Five First-Class Colleges" approach to the vaunted "College List" accepted for publication in the National Association of College Admission Counselors' Spring magazine.

Conner has built a superb college counseling process and developed relationships with scores admission officers across the country during her first four years at Foxcroft. She is especially excited about Zarich's visit – a rare East Coast appearance for the former University of Virginia Dean and current Director of Undergraduate Admissions at Berkeley.

Zarich and LaPlante will provide insights and suggestions about how students can distinguish themselves among a very qualified applicant pool. They will also discuss the sometimes complicated process of applying to a school that is part of a large, multi-campus institutions, such as the University of California.

At the March 4th panel, admission professionals from five schools will review the same application and render their decisions to admit, waitlist, defer, or deny admission to the fictional applicant, giving insights into how and why they reached their decision.

Another Virginia Tech admissions officer, Assistant Director Christopher St. Jean, will participate in that event, along with Ashley Browning, Director of Admission at Hollins; Ashley Woodard, Senior Assistant Director at Longwood; Heather Miller, Assistant Director at Radford and Lindsay Tulloss, Senior Regional Representative, University of South Carolina complete that panel.

Both programs will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Engelhard Gymnasium of Foxcroft's Athletic/Student Center. College-bound students and their parents are welcome to attend the event at no charge. The School is located on Foxcroft Road approximately 3.5 miles north Middleburg. For more information, contact Director of College Counseling Barbara Conner at 540.687.4360 or barbara.conner@foxcroft.org.

OpenTable Diner's Choice Award: 100 Most Romantic Restaurants USA 2014 / TripAdvisor: 2014 Certificate of Excellence
Condé Nast Johansens: Most Excellent Inn Finalist 2014 / American Historic Inns: Top Ten Best Inns in America 2014



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Sunday, April 19, 2015
Noon-5 pm
See MiddleburgHumane.org
To Donate Items before April 11th
Linda.Baker@middleburghumane.org

Senator Jill H. Vogel
Legislative Update February, 2015



Hundreds of bills affecting our district have moved through the legislature each day since the beginning of session. Tuesday, February 10th was the intense "crossover" day. It represents the midway point of the legislative session and midnight deadline for all successful Senate bills to be sent to the House. The House has the same deadline by which to complete their bills and transmit their successful legislation to the Senate. A total of 2,468 bills and resolutions were introduced this year and at crossover, the House had passed 773 measures and the Senate had passed 715.

The Senate passed a limit on the use of drones; restriction on the use of seclusion/restraint in public schools; mandatory felonies for sex trafficking; revisions to transportation law to allow Uber and Lyft in Virginia; change in drug rules for lethal-injection executions; overhaul of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control; and requirements for runoff elections in statewide races where candidates win with less than a majority. The Senate also passed legislation to add nine misdemeanors to the list of convictions for which offenders must submit a DNA sample to the state databank. The databank has lead to the arrest of violent offenders and is an important tool for law enforcement.

Several bills stand out because of the emotional testimony they generated. Families petitioned for day care regulations in response to the death of their children. Parents testified in support of medical marijuana to treat certain debilitating epilepsy. Advocates promoted immunity from prosecution for drug users who report an overdose. A mother testified that her son died of an overdose while bystanders who feared arrest did nothing. All are bills I supported.

I am pleased that almost all of my bills passed the Senate. One of the most significant establishes a non-profit organization representing Virginia horsemen. It implements a framework to re-establish the racing industry following Colonial Downs' decision to turn in their license, shutting down racing in the state. I added a clause to allow it to take effect as soon as the Governor signed it, which would put many Virginians back to work immediately. Unfortunately, at the last minute, a conservative group mischaracterized it as an expansion of gambling. We lost votes and the opportunity for immediate implementation. That is regrettable since there is actually no expansion of gambling in the bill and no change to current law limiting the industry.

A number of health related bills that I introduced passed. They include a bill to allow employees of local school divisions to participate in the state health plan, a bill to add meningitis to the schedule of childhood inoculations and a bill to help prosecute Medicaid fraud through change in venue provisions.

I introduced a series of election bills which also passed. They establish a pilot program for vote centers; move the date of the June primary; revise duties of registrars and electoral boards; clarify rules to fill vacancies in Constitutional offices; revise rules for cancellation of voter registration; amend rules related to handheld wireless devices at the polls and establish a bi-partisan redistricting commission. My bill re-establishing the Service and Volunteerism Advisory Board, which brings millions of dollars in grant money to Virginia and my bill adding resources for the cyber accelerator program also passed.

Two bills that I introduced still face uncertainty. The first would facilitate teacher training to identify dyslexia and other reading issues. Superintendents, teachers and hundreds of parents support the bill and believe that earlier identification of dyslexia will give otherwise bright children the opportunity to succeed in school. The second requires expanded insurance coverage for autism. That bill has been replaced with a House version that may or may not pass.

My campus safety bill, study of local land use assessment on funding for public schools and bill changing the mandatory judicial retirement age from 70 to 73 also passed and now await action in the House. A bill I submitted affecting process for collecting assessments in community development authorities also passed the Senate. If it passes the House it will preserve hundreds of millions in community development projects for which bonds have been issued and the burden removed from taxpayers. The Senate also passed a bill that I introduced to prohibit horse tripping or lassoing of a horse's legs in a rodeo.

My vote for a bill to prohibit discrimination in state hiring drew statewide attention. I have cast that vote in previous years to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation among other things. Frankly, I believe discrimination by the state for any reason is indefensible. The Chamber of Commerce, the technology industry and other groups in my district urged passage of the bill arguing that current law creates barriers for business expansion, government contracting and state universities. The bill has no affect on private employers.

Finally, our biggest achievement came in passage of the Senate budget. I will elaborate further on that process in the next update. As always, I take your opinions seriously and hope that you will contact our office if you have questions or concerns. I can be reached during the General Assembly session at 804-698-7527, P.O. Box 397, Richmond, VA 23218 or you can email me at jillvogel@senate27.com. Also, please visit our website at www.senatorjillvogel.com.

Paid for and authorized by Jill H. Vogel for Senate

News of Note

Mosby Heritage Area Hosts John Divine's Civil War

John Divine of Waterford, long known as "the Sage of Loudoun," was Loudoun's best-known and most knowledgeable local historian. On Saturday, February 28th, a new booklet called "John Divine's Civil War" will be released by the Mosby Heritage Area Association at 10 a.m. at the Old School on Fairfax Street in Waterford, Virginia.

Booklet editor Rich Gillespie, the new Executive Director of the Mosby Heritage area, will lead a panel discussion with historians who knew Divine well. Panelists include Horace Mewborn, Clark "Bud" Hall, Bob O'Neill, Waterford's own Bronwen Souders, and Dennis Frye.

The event is expected to be an opportunity to share memories, gather the community, and remember a famed historian who was well-respected for not only his intricate knowledge of what-happened-where but also his personal stories of Loudoun's past.

Attendees will each receive a copy of the new booklet.

A descendant of both local Union and Confederate soldiers, Divine's vast knowledge of the Civil War in Loudoun and the surrounding region kept him in demand as a speaker, writer, tour leader, research mentor, and commentator on television documentaries.

In 1996, as Divine's health became an issue at age 85, Tracy Gillespie, then Executive Director of the Loudoun Museum, convinced him that a summary interview of his local Civil War knowledge would be of value. On President's Day, 1996 at the historic Samuel Means House in Waterford, Tracy's husband Rich and a panel of talented local history students grilled Divine for hours, and the sage lay out what he knew.

By the end of that year, Divine had passed away. The day of his funeral, it is said the cortege stretched from Waterford to Union Cemetery in Leesburg.

For some time, the interview tapes lay dormant and needing transcription, but this past summer, with a grant from The Mosby Heritage Area Association, the tapes were transcribed, edited, illustrated, and given an introduction to Divine from fellow historians in the 72-page booklet John Divine's Civil War.

Tickets are $15 for members of the Mosby Heritage Area Association and $20 for non-members and should be purchased at the door. Reservations won't be taken in advance.

Spring Gala to Celebrate Extraordinary 1965 Gift of Oatlands to the Nation
50th Anniversary Spring Gala on April 25th to Honor the Eustis Family

Oatlands Historic House & Gardens recently announced that its Spring Gala on April 25th will honor the Eustis Family for the extraordinary gift of Oatlands to the National Trust for Historic Preservation 50 years ago.

In 1965, Margaret Eustis Finley and Anne Eustis Emmet donated Oatlands including its magnificent 1804 mansion, 19th century greenhouse, terraced gardens and more than 414 acres of beautiful fields to the National Trust for future generations to explore, experience and appreciate.

"It is with a special sense of deep gratitude that we honor the Eustis Family at our Spring Gala on April 25," explained Andrea McGimsey, executive director of Oatlands. "Because of the Eustis Family's extraordinary gift to the nation, we in Northern Virginia have been able to enjoy a truly beautiful and remarkable place unlike any other historic property. Fifty years later, we remain forever grateful for the generosity of the Eustis family."

On April 25, 2015 beginning at 7pm, residents from across the National Capital Region will gather for an evening of elegance and celebration to support Oatlands Historic House & Gardens and its mission of historic preservation, land conservation research, education and community outreach.

Gala Committee Co-Chairs Jill Beach and Sally Travis will lead the 50th Anniversary Spring Gala preparation efforts for the evening which will include dinner, dancing, a live and silent auction and much more.

Special corporate sponsorships are being sought to celebrate this special occasion and table and individual reservations are also available. Ticket and reservation information is available online at www.oatlands.org/gala or contact Development Director Matt Kraycinovich at 703-777-3174 or via email at mkraycinovich@oatlands.org.

An Interview with Dr. Maurice Elias:
Creating a Positive School Climate

In recent years, violence has become far too much of the American scene, and there is no escaping the fact that something needs to change. Communities throughout the nation are concerned, not only about safety in general, but particularly about school safety. Parents are especially concerned about a proper and productive climate which promotes school achievement and their students' personal development on all levels.

The trend in educational philosophy is toward an inclusive and supportive atmosphere that produces a positive school climate, and this theoretical direction is backed by extensive empirical research. Students everywhere need a safe and secure school environment where they have a sense of belonging, one of their strongest basic needs. A strongly-positive school climate can give them that sense of belonging.

Dr. Maurice Elias is a professor of Psychology at Rutgers University, Coordinator of the "Improving School Climate for Academic and Life Success" program at the Rutgers' Center for Applied Psychology. He co-authored a reference guide entitled "School Climate" and wrote the book, Emotionally Intelligent Parenting and is an Edutopia blogger. He is a nationally recognized expert in the areas of social-emotional learning and building a positive school culture, and he visited a local school recently to work with that school's faculty.

Dr. Elias is becoming the nation's foremost authority in the field as he is frequently called upon by local, state and national educational forums, policy writers and governing bodies, as well as the major media, for his research-based insights and expertise in helping schools correct and improve its student relationships. His theory is based on two studies. According to Dr. Elias, "The first study showed that students receiving intentional and comprehensive instruction in 'Social Decision Making/Social Problem Solving' (an evidence-based program to promote children's social-emotional and character development) in elementary school were more likely to have good academics, a more positive view of themselves and fewer problem behaviors in high school. 1 The more recent study showed that unless this work is done properly, even the best designed program will not succeed. 2 It is the culture and climate of the school that matters, and we have to build into that culture and climate with the staff practices and infrastructure to allow the teachings of the program to find their way into all aspects of school life."

1 Elias, M.J.Gara, M., Schuyler, T., Branden-Muller, L., & Sayette, M. (1991). The promotion of social competence: Longitudinal study of a preventive-school- based program. American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 61, 409-417.

2 Elias, M. J. (2010). Sustainability of social-emotional learning and related programs: Lesson from a field study. The International Journal of Emotional Education.2 (1), 17-33.

Dr. Elias explains his theory:

Question: What is your philosophy regarding positive school climate and how does it work?

Dr. Elias: The basis of our work is that children are good and want to do good things, not only for themselves but for those around them and for the larger society and world. To do this, they need proper adult modeling and guidance about how to be a person of good character and how to develop the essential skills needed for success in school and life. These skills include understanding your emotions and those of others, being empathic, and knowing how to regulate your emotions, how to set goals and how to be organized and persistent in overcoming obstacles -- working effectively in groups, sometimes as a team member, sometimes as a leader -- and how to be a responsible, ethical decision maker and problem solver. These are indeed all skills that can be learned. In addition, they need to be around adults who model human decency, respect and caring and who understand that schools must be safe places for all children, and all means all. It is the actions of the adults toward the children and toward each other as well as toward the parents and other visitors in the school that define and transmit the culture and climate of the school and the kind of character the children in that school will develop.

Question: Almost everyone is aware of the bullying that is a problem in many of the schools across the nation. What best describes a bully and what are your recommendations regarding confronting this sort of behavior?

Dr. Elias: Bullies are those who harass, intimidate, exclude, or physically or verbally abuse someone who is less powerful than themselves. They tend to pick on other students who are isolated, have physical or learning challenges, or are deemed different and less valuable in a school culture. Bullies can be very popular or very isolated; so, it's not easy to pick up the signs. Clearly, students who engage in lower levels of bullying behavior are more likely to escalate it, and they are also more likely to transfer that behavior to cyberbullying. Often, individuals turn to bullying because they feel a lack of power, control and positive meaning and purpose in their own lives. They are likely to be picked on by other kids, maybe by siblings or even by parents, and then take it out on those with less power and advantage than themselves.

Question: Adults are subjected to this same type of negative family/peer/associate/neighbor influence at times. Since schools reflect the attitudes and cultures of their school's community, what can adults do to promote a positive climate in their neighborhoods, communities and schools?

Dr. Elias: Again, adults should model human decency with respect and caring for others. We must always focus on our children's genuine strengths. We must help them see that the glass is 10% full even if it is 90% empty. We must ensure that all children in a school have one adult with whom they have a positive relationship and can approach when in difficulty. Many schools find that "buddying" students is protective, i. e., older students mentoring/buddying younger ones. Having 12th graders matched with 10th graders and 11th graders matched with 9th graders can transform a high school when done with care. Schools may reflect the culture of their community but just as there are oases in deserts, schools can be positive resources or beacons in the fog. When children attend these schools for multiple years, they emerge as beacons themselves, shedding light on their next destinations.

According to Dr. Elias, there is light at the end of the tunnel; school's can become the beacons in the fog. Dr. Elias' research and theories are being used in a great number of school systems throughout the nation.

Billie Van Pay, B.S. Literature and Composition; M.Ed. Guidance and Counseling; Specialist Ed., Administration

And The Winner Is..... Carolyn Saffer



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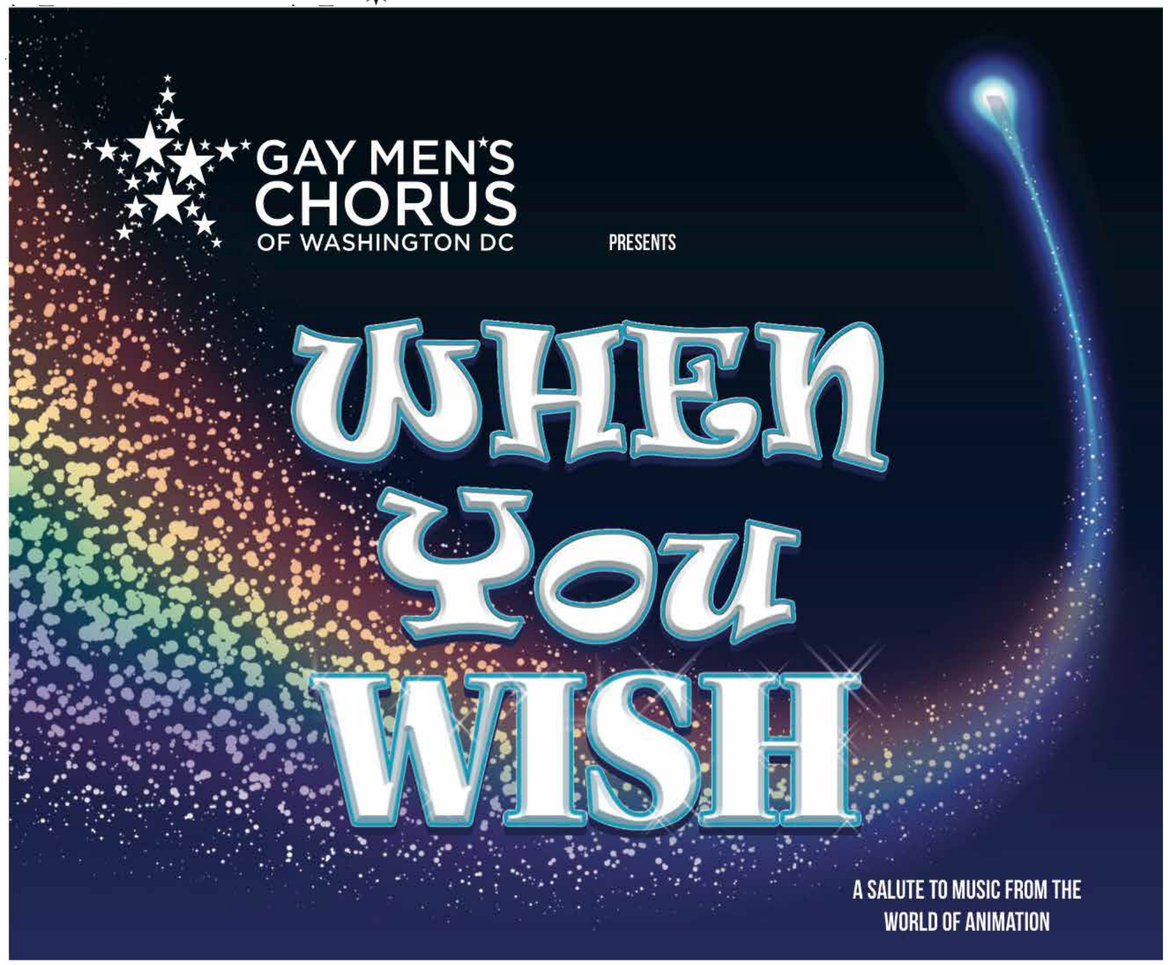
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News of Note

Climate Change, Doggerland and Sea Level Rise

Waterworld

Richard A. Engberg

I'm a little behind reading my National Geographic magazines. But I recently read an article in the December 2012 issue called "Searching for Doggerland" that really grabbed my attention. It stated that during the last ice age some 18,000 years ago, the seas around northern Europe were about 400 feet lower than they are today because so much water was tied up in glaciers.

Interestingly, England and Ireland then were actually part of the European continent. A large area now under water between England and Ireland and the continental Europe of today was dry land covered by ice. In recent years, archeologists studying the area gave it the name, Doggerland.

As the glaciers began to recede as a result of global warming (it's called climate change), people began to migrate to the area in search of food, places to live, and whatever else nomadic people do.

But guess what?

As the glaciers continued to melt, the sea level rose and by about 8000 years ago, Doggerland was mostly under water and England and Ireland had become islands. The inhabitants were forced to migrate to England, Ireland, or the European continent. Archeologists searching the reasonably shallow waters of the North Sea and the English Channel (Doggerland) have found animal bones and artifacts of a fishing culture that includes human burial grounds.

Let's do the numbers. A sea level rise of 400 feet in 10,000 years is about one-half inch per year. That doesn't seem like much. But look what happened in 10,000 years. A large area of land slowly became submerged.

The earth may seem static to those of us whose life spans average 75 years. But in geologic time the earth is very dynamic. The submergence of Doggerland is an example of climate change that took place over a long period of real time but that is more like a snap of the fingers in geologic time.

Fast forward to the present. Sea level rose eight inches in the 20th century. That's only one-sixth as fast as the average seal level rise that submerged Doggerland.

However, estimates of sea level rise for the 21st century vary from 23 inches to 73 inches. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends that urban planners look at the possibility of a 60-inch rise. This is greater than the Doggerland average and would be catastrophic for large cities around the world that are built at or near existing sea levels.

Why are these estimates so high for the 21st century? An article titled "Rising Seas" in the September 2013 issue of National Geographic states the obvious. Our planet is being warmed by the release of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse" gases from fossil fuels. According to the scientists, this global warming impacts sea levels in two ways, by thermal expansion – water increases in volume as it warms – and by the melting of glacial ice.

Nearly all prominent climate scientists believe sea levels will rise significantly this century.

As a hydrologist, I agree.

There are those who believe the climate scientists are not correct and choose to deny global warming for political or financial reasons. I believe they are wrong.

That said, I don't believe global warming will seriously impact earth during the rest of my time here. It's my grandchildren that I worry about.

Unless something is done, they will see population migration from coastal areas because of the threat of inundation from rising sea levels just like what happened to Doggerland.

Do we want this for our grandchildren? No we don't. Then let's get serious. Let's at least try to find solutions for greenhouse gas emissions and for sea level rise.

We owe our grandkids that much.



Places & Faces

Art of the Piedmont

Middleburg Community Center, Photos By Eryn Gable, Dee Dee Hubbard and Marci Nadler



Jeannie Morency and Bundles Murdock



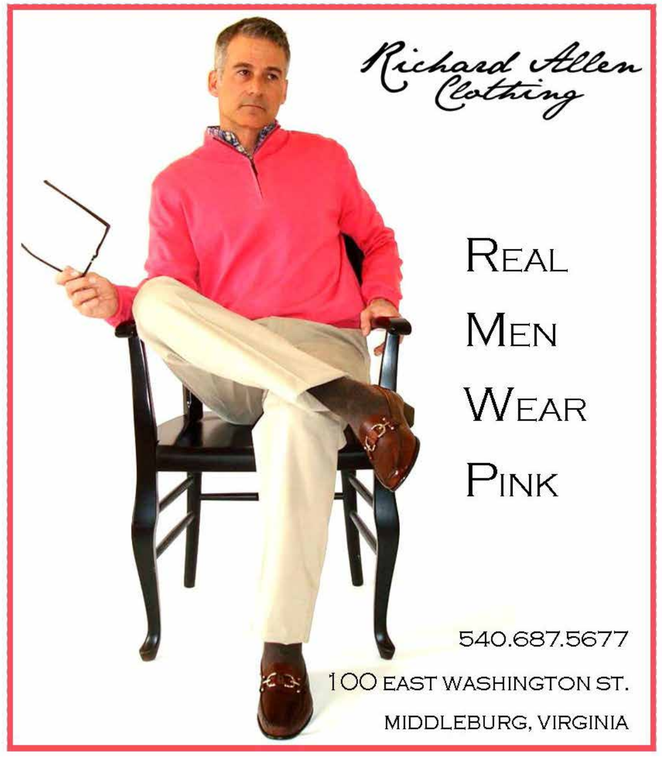
Gomer Pyle, Misia Broadhead, Gail Guirreri-Maslyk Manuel Simpson



Cyndi & Dwayne Ellis



Mr & Mrs. Richard Williams





Stephanie Bates and Vicki Bendure



Lilla Ohrstrom





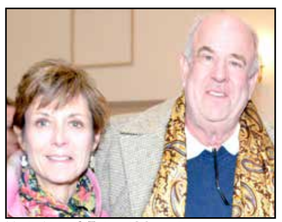
Misia Broadhead and Cathy Zimmerman



Cody Lesser and
AOTP Co-Chair Shannon Rogers



Kathy Chovnick



Mary Anne & Tucker Withers



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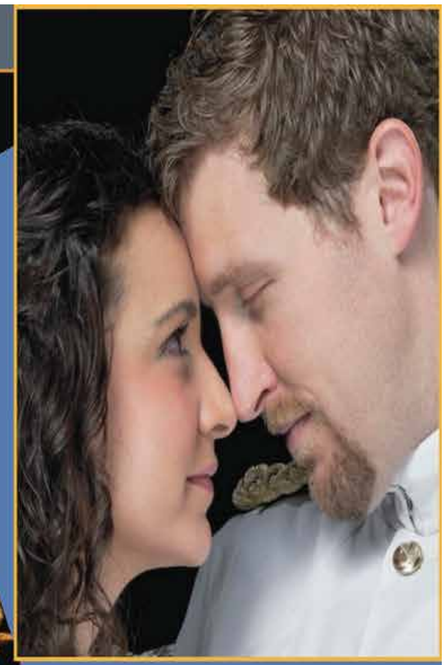
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Places & Faces

Winter Equestrian Festival

Wellington, Florida, Photos By Teresa Ramsay



"Elation", Owned by Dr. Betsee Parker and Ridden by Sophie Gochman



Emma Pell



Sloan Coles



"Love Me Tender", Owned by Dr. Betsee Parker and Ridden by Sophie Gochman



Lesley Clarke Kopp



Dorilee Burke



Paige Johnson



Alison Robitaille



Ramiro Quintana Riding "Whitney" Owned by St. Bride's Farm



Christian Müller, Denice Perry and Volker Lehrfeld



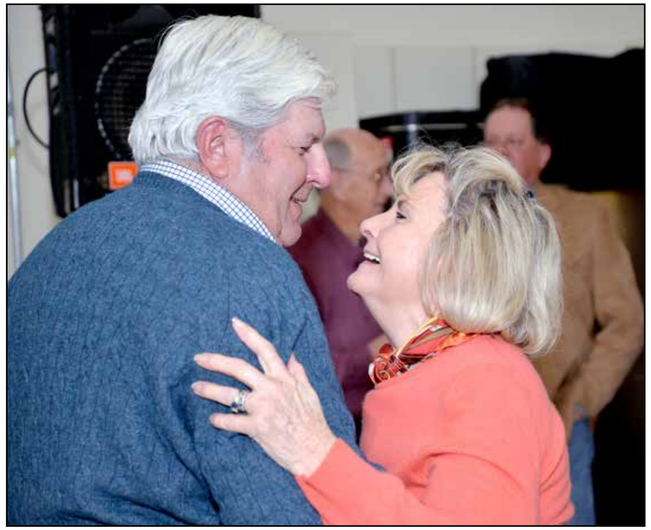
Elizabeth Wiley and "Say Again"



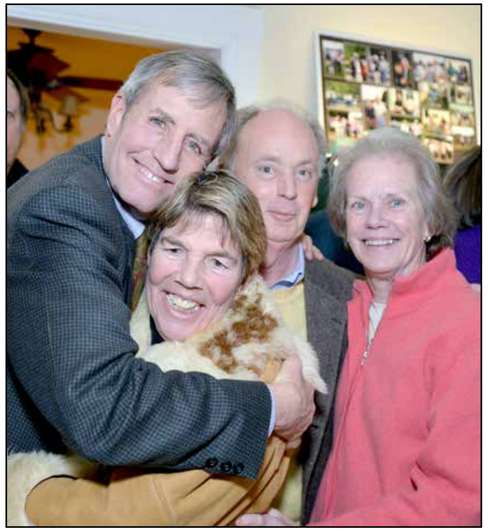
Places & Faces

Happy 50th Anniversary to Tommy Lee and Diane Jones

Photos By Bill Fendley



Tommy Lee & Diane



Snowden Clarke, Sharon Maloney, Brian Montgomery and Helen Wiley



Diane & Tommy Lee



Diane, Zohar Ben Dov and Snowden Clarke



Tommy Lee, Billy Howland and John Coles



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Looking Back Over the Years with Tommy Lee & Diane

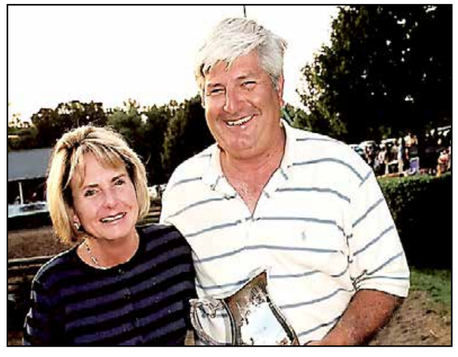
Photos By Teresa Ramsay

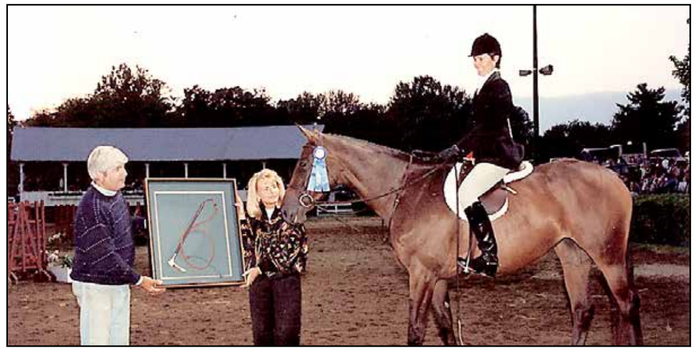












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Places & Faces

Cub Scouts Pine Wood Derby

Photos by Kim Bassinger



Excited Wolf Den



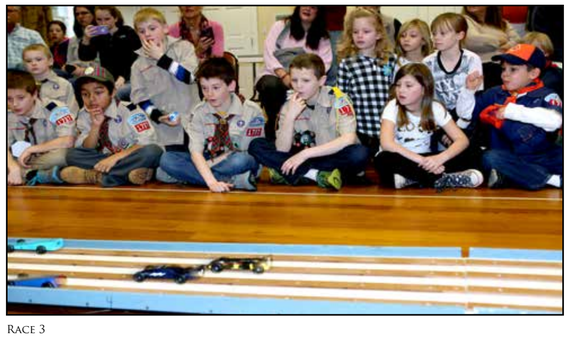
Webelos 1 Den



Matt Foosaner at the Starting Gate



Derby Winner Ryan Buttner



Race 3



Brayden Bradshaw and Calvin Muller



Tiger Vernon Lewis



Tiger Bobby Lescouski



Timothy Hubbard 2nd Place Overall



Thomas Bassinger and Will McGroddy



Race 1

Shenandoah Conservatory
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LehrerDance
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Te Deum
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Two Guys, Two Pianos
Tony Nalker and Robert Larson
Wednesday, March 4 at 7 p.m.
Clifford Leaman, saxophone
& Scott Herring, percussion
Thursday, March 5 at 7 p.m.
Jazz Ensemble
The Art of Jazz Saxophone
Friday, March 20 at 8 p.m.
Shenandoah Singers
Contemporary A Cappella
Saturday, March 21 at 8 p.m.
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Progeny

Royce Lindengren Achieves Rank of Eagle Scout



Scoutmaster Paul Davies with Eagle Scout Royce Lindengren

To conclude his twelve years of scouting, Royce Lindengren of Boy Scout Troop 2950 in Middleburg, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, to mark the end of his 12-year journey through scouting.

He recently received his award at a ceremony hosted by the troop sponsoring organization The American Legion Post 295.

The Eagle Award is given to fewer than four percent of all scouts due to the rigorous requirements. The last of these requirements states that a scout must " Plan, develop and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to your community."

Royce chose to build a fox recovery pen for the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center in Millwood.

"We are very proud of our newest Eagle Scout and thank his parents Eric and Ann Lindengren for their support of Troop 2950," explained Scoutmaster Paul Davies.

Loudoun Country Day School Offers New Program for Three-Year-Olds

For the first time in its sixty-one year history, Loudoun Country Day School will offer a program for three-year olds. Beginning this fall, it is the first time the independent school has offered this age level as a choice for families.

"We are excited to include this age group in our lower school program," explained Admissions Director Susan Hower. "The new class will help prepare students for our four-year-old, five-day-a week program that has enjoyed great success at our school."

Lower School Director Darren Holgate added, "This class will be largely play and exploratory based, reflecting the inquiry and interest of our students as they become acquainted with learning numbers, letters, language development, colors, shapes and fine and gross motor skills. Students will get a chance to sample our "Specials" areas that include Spanish, Lab, Music, PE and library, while enjoying art projects within the classroom. In addition, our three-year-olds will participate in age-appropriate field trips."

The three-year-olds will have access to playgrounds, the library, gymnasium, art studio and computer engineering lab on the 69-acre campus. They will also enjoy author visits, International Day programs, Veterans Day programs, concerts, art exhibits, Buddy programs with older children and theme days as well as community service.

To learn more about this new program, or to take a tour, please telephone Director of Admissions Susan Hower at 703 777 3841. On Sunday March 8th LCDS will host an open house from 2-4 p.m. Please visit www.LCDS.org for more information.

Middleburg Community Charter School Will Begin Enrollment for 2015-2016 School Year

New Applicants Invited to Apply Online Beginning in February

October of 2014 was a very successful month for the Loudoun Valley High School Drama Department. This award-winning troupe traveled to Norfolk, VA, for the Virginia Theatre Association's Annual Conference and State Competition. Their production, "The Trial of Ygor," written by Virginia native Brian Wrestler and directed by Loudoun Valley's Russ Staggs, swept the awards, bringing home nearly a dozen different trophies in various categories.

The cast and crew were recognized for exceptional lighting and sound design and execution, incredible ensemble work, and impeccable acting.

Individual acting awards were given to Juniors Matt Geczy and Patrick Dahlman, who portrayed the Judge and Victor Frankenstein, respectively.

Charlie Trochil, a sophomore, was named the Best Actor in the state of Virginia.

After two intense performances, the Loudoun Valley Drama troupe was named State Champions for their performance.

"It's amazing to see these students garner this type of recognition for all of their hard work and creativity," said Russ Staggs, the cast's director. "I've seen great performances over the years, but this one takes the cake."

The Loudoun Valley Drama Department's next stop is the Southeastern Theatre Conference in Chattanooga, TN. In order to make the trip to the National Competition, the Valley Drama Department needs to raise over $15,000 in funds for transportation, lodging, and registration.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience," Staggs said, "but like most amazing experiences, it requires funding. In this case, a lot more funding than we're used to raising."

In an effort to raise funds for the competition, the troupe has created a "gofundme" account. Anyone wishing to support this incredible group of students can donate by going to http://www.gofundme.com/lvhssetc. Any and all support is welcome and much appreciated.

The troupe will perform "The Trial of Ygor" at Loudoun Valley later this year. dates will be announced soon.

Six Foxcroft Students Named to Cum Laude Society

Honored for Scholarship, Integrity, and Intellectual Curiosity



Four seniors and two juniors have been elected to the Foxcroft School chapter of the Cum Laude Society, chapter president Matthew Mohler announced Friday. The Cum Laude Society is a national high school scholastic honor society modeled on the esteemed collegiate honor society Phi Beta Kappa.

Phoebe Fei of Jiaxing China, Molly Murphy (Middleburg, VA), Tori Weber (Waterford, VA) and Stephanie Zhang (Dongguan, China) are the new Senior Class members selected. They join classmates Meredith Dietz (Unionville, PA) and Amy Zhang (Beijing, China), who had the extraordinary distinction of having been elected as juniors a year ago.

Two members of this year's Junior Class earned that exceptional honor: Patia Fann of Purcellville, VA, and Charlotte Scharfenberg of Middleburg, VA.

The Foxcroft Chapter of Cum Laude, founded in 1958, is one of more than 382 Cum Laude Society chapters located mostly at independent schools in the United States. Mohler, a Mathematics and Science teacher at the School, said that only students who evidence a genuine interest in the pursuit of knowledge, exhibit outstanding academic integrity, and have superior academic records as reflected in their course load, grade point average, and other factors, are selected for induction.

Along with Mohler, Academic Dean Courtney Ulmer and faculty members Lindsey Bowser, Susan Erba, Steven Matthews, Alexander Northrup, and Michelle Woodruff had the difficult task of electing the new members, which are limited according to the overall size of the class and other national organization guidelines. The official ceremony inducting the six newly–elected members will take place at Foxcroft's Commencement in May.



Progeny

Highland School Robotics "Team RoboHawk" Awarded NASA Grant



Team RoboHawk, Highland School's FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics team, was thrilled when they heard the big news – a grant from the single most renowned robotic and engineering organization in the world, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Not only did NASA become one of our largest corporate sponsors, its grant was the largest grant awarded in the team's 6 years of operations.

NASA's $5,000 grant will offset the cost of regional competitions and enable the team to compete in two regional competitions. The NASA logo will now appear proudly on all team merchandise, shirts, pins, hats, etc. and also on our team website.

Team RoboHawk business team members Oliver Schwartz ('15), Olivia Bell ('15), and build team member Philip Mulford ('15) wrote the grant application. Receiving the grant was just what the team needed to jump-start the season. "It's an honor that our work is supported by such a prestigious establishment," said Oliver Schwartz, student co-head of the fundraising sector of the Business Team.

Team RoboHawk is a student-driven organization dependent on the fund raising efforts of the Team's business team (comprised of students in grades 9-12). In addition to the NASA grant, Team RoboHawk receives financial support from individuals, and corporate sponsorship from Highland School, InCadence, Aerojet Rocketdyne, Seneca Resources, Ledos Pizza, Sitewhirks, Blaze Broadband, Mulford Mediation, Dell, Piedmont Press and Preferred System Solutions. The team's corporate sponsors are the foundation of the teams funding and are very much appreciated.

Team RoboHawk is off to a great start and excited about another of season of competition. Adding to the success with the NASA grant and the confidence gained last year by the team as the recipient of the "Innovation in Control Award" for their creative programming and design of the robot's High Definition vision system last year, it is clear Team RoboHawk is ready for the 2015 challenge "Recycle Rush".

Each year, all FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) teams in the world are given a new challenge the first weekend of January. Teams have only six weeks to design, build, and program a robot to meet the challenge. This year's challenge, more than ever before, requires Team RoboHawk members to really consider the strategy of the game, what type of robot will score the most points, and then figure out how to build it. It is a challenge like this that requires students to think outside the box, learn perseverance, self-determination, teamwork, and respect for fellow teammates.

To accomplish this herculean task student team members work side by side with a crew of volunteer adult mentors with professional backgrounds in electrical, mechanical, computer, aerospace and robotics engineering – people who work on similar projects every day for a living, and then generously donate their time to help the team learn and create. It is the dedication of the volunteer mentors that have allowed the team to expand beyond all expectations and accomplish incredible things in the last five years.

For more information about the team go to www.highlandrobotics.org

For more information about Highland School's FIRST robotics program, Contact Dr. Pat Hewitt, phewitt@highlandschool.org



Loudoun Valley Debaters Head to Metro Finals



The Loudoun Valley Debate team has ended the first segment of its tournament season with several outstanding debaters going to the Washington-Arlington Metro-finals.

Students who have debated schools all over the metro-area and have been invited to final rounds include Noah Mussmon, Ian Gallagher, Elizabeth Manero, Isabella Tucker, and Samuel Burridge.

After Metro Finals, the group's goal is to prepare for the Virginia High School League (VHSL) competitions that lead to the State Championships to take place at Liberty University.

James Wroe named National Merit Scholarship Finalist



Wakefield School senior James Wroe has been named a finalist in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program based on his results from the 2013 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test.

Wroe is one of only 15,000 students nationwide who have qualified as Finalists.

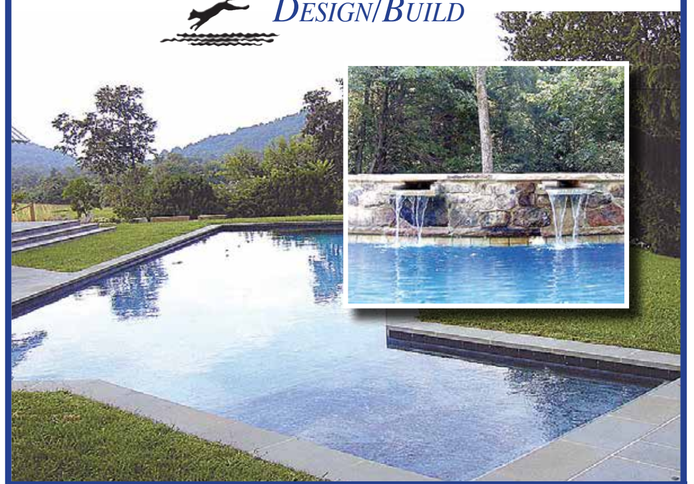
Approximately1.4 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2015 scholarship competition by taking the 2013 PSAT; finalists represent less than one percent of those high school seniors.

In February, some 15,000 Semifinalists are notified by mail at their home addresses that they have advanced to Finalist standing.

National Merit Scholarships worth around $33 million will be awarded to over 7,000 students later in the spring.

James is the son of Gerard and Sandra Wroe of Ashburn.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955.

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Progeny

Loudoun Valley Drama Crowned State Champs

Preparing for National Competition

Viking Players

October of 2014 was a very successful month for the Loudoun Valley High School Drama Department. This award-winning troupe traveled to Norfolk, VA, for the Virginia Theatre Association's Annual Conference and State Competition. Their production, "The Trial of Ygor," written by Virginia native Brian Wrestler and directed by Loudoun Valley's Russ Staggs, swept the awards, bringing home nearly a dozen different trophies in various categories.

The cast and crew were recognized for exceptional lighting and sound design and execution, incredible ensemble work, and impeccable acting.

Individual acting awards were given to Juniors Matt Geczy and Patrick Dahlman, who portrayed the Judge and Victor Frankenstein, respectively.

Charlie Trochlil, a sophomore, was named the Best Actor in the state of Virginia.

After two intense performances, the Loudoun Valley Drama troupe was named State Champions for their performance.

"It's amazing to see these students garner this type of recognition for all of their hard work and creativity," said Russ Staggs, the cast's director. "I've seen great performances over the years, but this one takes the cake."

The Loudoun Valley Drama Department's next stop is the Southeastern Theatre Conference in Chattanooga, TN. In order to make the trip to the National Competition, the Valley Drama Department needs to raise over $15,000 in funds for transportation, lodging, and registration.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience," Staggs said, "but like most amazing experiences, it requires funding. In this case, a lot more funding than we're used to raising."

In an effort to raise funds for the competition, the troupe has created a "gofundme" account. Anyone wishing to support this incredible group of students can donate by going to http://www.gofundme.com/lvhssetc. Any and all support is welcome and much appreciated.

The troupe will perform "The Trial of Ygor" at Loudoun Valley later this year. dates will be announced soon.

Wakefield Student to Perform at Carnegie Hall

Hannah Rutti, a student at The Wakefield School, has been selected for the 2015 High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall, presented by WorldStrides. She will perform as a first soprano at Carnegie Hall in February 2015 with the Honors Choir. Participation in one of the three Honors Ensembles is limited to the highest rated high school performers from across North America and select schools internationally.

Hannah Rutti, a sophomore, auditioned this fall for the Honors Performance Series and was accepted after a review by the Honors Selection Board. Acceptance to the elite group is a direct result of the talent, dedication, and achievements demonstrated in her application and audition recording. Hannah will join other performers from 49 United States, several provinces in Canada, and several foreign countries for a special performance at world-famous Carnegie Hall, a venue that marks the pinnacle of musical achievement.

According to Morgan Smith, Program Director at WorldStrides, "Being selected to the Honors Performance Series is something each Finalist should be extremely proud of accomplishing. We process more than ten thousand nominations annually, selecting only the most talented performers applying on an international level. Working with these conductors and performing at Carnegie Hall is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that these student musicians never forget."

Hannah has studied music for 8 years and is a member of The Wakefield School choir. She has also been a solo vocalist/pianist for private and public functions since 2012. Hannah received 1st place in 2011 at the Bland Regional Vocal Competition for the age 11-16 category, and 2nd place in the 2010 competition. In response to her selection as a Finalist, Hannah said, "I am honored to participate in the Honors Performance Series because I have a great passion for music, and gain great pleasure from performing with others that also have a passion for music."

Finalists will come together for five days in February 2015 in New York City to have the opportunity to learn from conductor Dr. Eph Ehly, work with other Finalists, and get a taste of New York City. The Sunday, February 22, performance is open to the public. Tickets can be purchased through the Carnegie Hall box office.

The Honors Performance Series was created to showcase accomplished individual high school performers on an international level by allowing them to study under master conductors and perform in the celebrated venue, Carnegie Hall. Each year, the Series selects approximately 500 Finalists for the High School Honors Performance Series. The Honors Performance Series is proudly presented by WorldStrides, the nation's leading educational travel organization. Learn more by visiting www.honorsperformance.org/home-program andwww.worldstrides.com.

February 14, 2015 Heart to Heart Food Drive for Seven Loaves.



Austin McGhee and Mark Moger of Boy Scout Troop 2950 braves the cold weather for the Heart to Heart food drive for Seven Loaves at the Middleburg Safeway

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Pastimes

Wisdom Teeth: Should They Stay or Go?



Dr. Robert A. Gallegos

Wisdom teeth, which are also called third molars, are the last teeth to erupt unless they become impacted. It is thought that they were originally called wisdom teeth because they erupt when a person has started to develop wisdom, between the ages of 17 and 21. If third molars need to be removed due to lack of space or complications, like infection or bad position it is usually done during the teenage years. Waiting until the teeth are fully developed makes removal more complicated and painful.

Third molars can erupt normally into a functional position, get caught in the bone (impacted), trapped against the tooth in front of it (the second molar), or erupt sideways (non-functional). If the third molars erupt in a functional position they may or may not be healthy. Often times these teeth are so far back in the jaw they cannot be maintained well and develop cavities and/or periodontal disease. This decay and disease may spread to other teeth. Many people do not have enough room in their jaw for the third molar to erupt normally. In these instances the third molars often stay fully or partially impacted in the bone. Fully impacted third molars can sometimes be okay if the do not push against the second molar or develop a cyst. Cystic teeth need to be removed to prevent jaw fracture. Sometimes the third molar is partially impacted, meaning that it erupts partially through the bone and gum but not into a functional position. Partial impaction is a problem because bacteria from the mouth will get to the tooth and will not be cleanable. Partially impacted third molars should be removed.

One of the best ways to evaluate third molars is a panoramic x-ray. This x-ray shows the jaw bone, all the teeth and other structures that are important to determining if the third molars are developing normally. If your dentist recommends removing the third molars, it is often best to remove them before they fully develop so they are less anchored to the bone and far away from the nerve. After the molars are fully developed there is a higher chance of nerve damage or bone loss in the area.

Karen and Rocket

Girls and Their Dogs



His name, Rocket, comes from his grandfather on his paternal side. (I believe it was from a huntsman in Maryland that had a Border Terrier named Rocket.) When my Rocket was born all of the litter mates – there were five of them - were named after Irish liquor. Rocket was originally Guinness. When I bought him, I decided that I wanted to find a better name for him and Rocket came out in his history and I thought that was the perfect name for him.

Rocket is a relative of the Jack Russells that use to hunt with Bull Run Hunt back in the 1970's. He is a direct descendant of Clementine a terrier who hunted with the hounds in the Bull Run Pack back in the 70's. Clementine would go out all day with the hounds. She lived with the hounds in the kennel even though she was a bitch – and she thought she was a foxhound. She was very strong; Clementine had the stamina to go for hours and hunt with the hounds. Rocket is a direct descendant – the ninth generation – all bred by Shelley O'Higgins, professional staff for Bull Run at the time, who has continued her career up until very recently as fulltime staff for three different hunts. Shelley bred the Jack Russells and every fourth or fifth generation she would bring in a Border Terrier to strengthen the bones of the Jack Russell breed - predominantly to get a heartier stock. So Rocket is one of those generations; his father was a Border Terrier and his mother was Clementine the Second, named after the original Clementine. One of the traits of this direct line is distinguished by the dogs' speed. Rocket is very well named since he is really, really fast. The breeder, at one time, indicated that Rocket is the fasted of all the dogs she has ever bred. She evaluated Rocket for racing capability and interestingly enough he is fast enough; he is the fastest ever. However, running after a disembodied tail has absolutely no allure for him. So we decided we were not going to train him to become a racer because we would fundamentally have to change the personality of the dog and I wasn't willing to do that. Rocket is so proud of his speed. We walk at Great Meadow every day and he is able to display his running abilities to me and to anyone else who happens to be walking their dog there, as well. He is just the fasted dog.

The other remarkable thing about Rocket is that he loves people just as much as he loves other dogs. He has the friendliest disposition and is the happiest dog I have ever seen. He has often been likened to the pig, "Babe." 'Every day was a good day' for Babe – same thing for Rocket – every day is a good day!

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Non-members will be charged $5.00.



Please RSVP by email to:
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The Oasis' in Middleburg

One day a week during specific times of the year, a group of us get together to discuss books, educational videos or an interesting experience that will broaden our scope of wisdom and understanding. This group is made up of people from many walks of life. We have doctors, lawyers, retired government appointees, people from cultures outside of the United States, speech writers, pastors and people from various other paths.

We get together with the excuse of discussing various "tools" (books, videos and more) that bring us closer. This group started around twenty years ago. Some folks have moved away and others have joined in. When we are honest, we will admit that we come together because of the nourishment we receive from our discussions. We keep coming back because we are being fed by the relationship and communion that occurs when we join and listen. We share and respect each other and the ideas that are expressed. We are being fed and quenching our thirst through fellowship. We encourage and lift one another in wonderful ways.

There is a reason this group gets up, often before sunrise, to come together. There is a shift and churning that can occur when people open up to one another. The discussion can get incredibly lively and invites us to look deeply into our own lives when it comes to the question "Why"?

We laugh and joke about hoping to find out "the answer" to life. We are learning that being content with living "in the question" can be very satisfying.

We gather at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church Parish Hall in Middleburg, Virginia. The Parish Hall sits next to the chapel. There are many offerings in this location. This has been a repeated pattern for those who are familiar with Emmanuel. The church has had a mission to reach out to the community. This is a place of gathering for anyone who may be interested in bringing a group together, coming for church service, 12 step programs, yogalates classes, a private time of prayer, the annual Christmas shop, EFM (education for ministry) classes and other outreach programs are offered throughout the year.

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Pastimes

The Artist's Perspective

Tom Neel



Middleburg is now home to not one, but two new 501(c)(3) nonprofit art organizations, both with art galleries. I've wanted to write about this dynamic story, but felt I should allow it to settle in and it seems it now has. Artists in Middleburg (AiM) and Middleburg Arts Project (MAP) were both the vision of Peter Wood and his partner Tom Dionne. AiM was originally created [over 3 years ago], as simply a way of organizing a group of local artists, while Wood's first idea was MAP, with the ultimate goal of having Middleburg become an arts destination. Of course while well intended, this would be no simple feat for the traditional equestrian community.

AiM and its monthly pot luck meetings honestly had lack luster artist attendance. It's fair for me to say this because I attended most of them. Still, Peter and Tom managed to make some real ground in the way of organizing some well attended art shows, gaining some true town support and amassing a list of well over 100 artists. Also in the process, Peter Wood managed to elevate himself to Chair of the town's resurrected Middleburg Arts Council, for which he still serves.

Despite the efforts made, the AiM group really wasn't going anywhere and in a surprise turn, in the summer of 2014, Peter and Tom decided to re-focus all of their efforts on their original goal of building MAP. They made their intentions clear, enlisted the help of Sandy Danielson to take over and head up AiM and soon after, MAP appeared. The trouble at first was that it soon looked as though there were actually two organizations with the exact same vision and mission. It was a confusing transition.

Quickly though, an opportunity came about for MAP to have a gallery space at 4 East Federal Street, a key ingredient to Map's direction. But no sooner it seems than this happened, a parallel opportunity of gallery space arrived for AiM at 102 W. Washington Street. To add to the confusion, in the midst of all of this, The Byrne Gallery ended up also hosting art shows for the Middleburg Arts Council, which both organizations support. Their second show "On Main Street", is going on now. Round and round it goes!

Today, both organizations MAP and AiM, have settle in nicely and are moving forward in a complimenting direction. Both seem to have found their calling. MAP has focused on rotating shows which support a small group of regular artists, Peter Wood among them, while introducing a wide range of regional talent.

As for AiM, some real credit must be given to Sandy Danielson, who has fostered new life with the organization and its gallery, by continuing to support its core group of member artists with their regular meetings, while offering classes, hosting book signings, providing workshops and shows and acquiring their nonprofit status.

It might be fair to say, that a visitor to the AiM gallery would see the standard fair of landscape, still life, equestrian type offerings, while the MAP gallery would offer a more eclectic variety of work. Either way, the town has a wider range of art offerings and educational resources than it did just a year ago and that's certainly a good thing.

As for the Middleburg Arts Council, it states its mission as - To create opportunities for the entire community to value, participate and benefit from the arts in the historic town of Middleburg, Virginia. This includes the Film and Shakespeare festival, along with other assorted events throughout the year. So, while there is still a ways to go before Middleburg would be considered an arts destination in the grandest sense of those words, there's little question the seed that was planted and watered, has sprouted and it is growing. I'm sure AiM, MAP and the town would appreciated your visits.

Live An Artful Life, Tom

Live and Love Middleburg

Sincerely, Me

Brandy Greenwell



It's February. It's $%*&! cold. Outdoor activities are generally halted and cabin fever is a daily aliment. But February also is home to Valentine's Day when the romantic world pulses and swoons despite frosty temperatures. February is no stranger to releasing a good romantic movie, but there are many eras and genres of cinematic cheese from which to choose.

This year, I predict there are going to be record-breaking box-office sales to see Fifty Shades of Grey and multiple peppy steps in and out of the theaters. Movie theaters across the country will surely be steaming from the big-screen explosion of the mainstream, borderline pornographic, naughty-but-nice novel about…romance, amongst other things and depending on the critic.

Does The Notebook float your boat? Or anything else by Nicholas Sparks because the themes never seem to vary too much. Though having seen it countless times, of course I tear up at the sickeningly sweet yet predictable plot. I think either Noah or Lon would be a total catch and there would be many women willing to pick up Allie's sloppy seconds. You know if it were real life.

Unfaithful and Fatal Attraction both have incredible scenes of passionate, physical love, but admirers beware. Adventures in stalking and cheating lead to murder and boiling rabbits. No one ever wins in those situations, despite the heat.

Titanic- love on the rocks. Nothing says forever like seeing your true love sink to the bottom of the abyss. And who in the h e double toothpicks throws a gazillion dollar necklace into the ocean? Certainly makes me question the line "I'll never let go".

Then there are the movies where love has a dollar sign attached. Both Pretty Woman and Can't Buy Me Love display a monitory exchange for feigned affection, though only one is an actual prostitute. I don't think being bribed by the lawn boy is an illegal act, but money changed hands nonetheless. Both had happy endings for adult fairy tales. In one they drive off into the sunset in a limo; the other, on a riding mower.

Love Actually, though technically a Christmas movie, is all about love, actually. But in one scene, there are with sentiments delivered on cardboard that are unforgettable in the hopeless love way. "With any luck, by next year…I'll be going out with one of these girls... [Pictures of models]… But for now let me say, …without hope or agenda, …just because it's Christmas…(and at Christmas you tell the truth)…to me, you are perfect …and my wasted heart will love you…until you look like this... [picture of the mummy]" . Come to think of it, this is very similar to the Bridget Jones' Diary line "I like you just as you are." Go Brits for keepin' it real.

And perhaps the most quotable love movie ever for Generation X is from The Princess Bride. I personally have been to more than one wedding where the "tru wuv" speech was given at the altar. Because of course, for a guy, the right answer will always be "as you wish."

For what it's worth, sweets shaped like hearts, if given with love are always on the diet. Live in love, Middleburg.

Albert's Corner

A monthly column for people who share their homes with four-legged friends.

Albert P. Clark



Most people have lost interest in Super Bowl XLIX by now. Those tense final moments are left to history. Seattle's questionable final call is no longer topic number one. The nachos are nixed and the potato skins are toast. I, however, am still gloating. You see, the Patriots might have been the official winners, but the real champions came in canine form. Dogs ruled the day.

Let's look at the stats. Budweiser's "Lost Dog" ad took top honors in numerous polls, leaving other ads in the dust. It's not the first time. Budweiser has hit it out of the ballpark with previous dog-centric ads, as have many other brands. People love puppies. Marketers have known this since Nipper bonded with a gramophone for RCA and a cocker spaniel tugged on a little girl's bathing suit for Coppertone. Dogs are effective in ads for pretty obvious reasons. We're cute, so people look at us. We pull heartstrings. We're aligned with loyalty and trust. It's pretty basic -- "barketing" works.

This year, however, something unusual happened. GoDaddy decided to venture beyond the pale … and they took a dog with them. Bad move. Counting on viewers to find humor in a Budweiser spoof, GoDaddy proudly released its Super Bowl commercial on the Today Show and online days before the game. The ad featured a lost puppy finally finding its way home, only to be tossed back on a delivery truck, having been sold online through a GoDaddy website. Expecting hilarity to ensue, they miscalculated the backlash by a mile. Ordinary people joined vocal animal rights groups in a resounding hiss of disapproval. Just like that, GoDaddy was issuing an apology and replacing a $4.5 million ad. Ouch.

It seems that people are getting the message. Political pressure to ban the unethical selling of animals is intense. Organizations large and small are working tirelessly to ban puppy mills and place restrictions on breeders. There is a movement afoot, and in 2015, the cause made it into the conversation around the Super Bowl. Good news, indeed.

Meanwhile, Puppy Bowl XI, Animal Planet's beloved lead-up to the Super Bowl, won the top cable spot (excluding sports) on Super Bowl Sunday, with 10.4 million viewers. Even better, the event partnered with rescue groups and shelters. This year's show was directly responsible for approximately 425 adoptions, according to Animal Planet. All participating animals were up for adoption, with the hope that viewers will think about rescue first when they consider bringing animals into their homes.

There is much work to be done in an effort to educate people about the importance of treating animals humanely and supporting rescue. There is no question, however, that great strides are being made. When dogs dominate the airwaves on Super Bowl Sunday, not just for their advertising chops, but for their welfare, it's a brand new day.

I would like to mention a couple of things before closing. In no way did I intend to be dismissive of cats in this article. My feline friends get plenty of attention too, owning the internet as they do. And I also did not mean to snub those amazing Clydesdales that starred with the Bud pup. I love and advocate for all animals. People need to coexist with all species in peace and harmony on this planet. The one exception being that useless squirrel who torments me through the window on a daily basis. I refuse to advocate for him. I am a terrier, after all.

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, Arlington, and Woodley Park.

Lenten Rose is Worthy

The Plant Lady



Karen Rexrode



Less than a month out from helleborus bloom, the need to venture into the garden grows stronger and stronger. Precursors, snowdrops and winter aconites have popped up, pre-spring harbingers, hip, hip and hooray they say. Lenten rose or Helleborus orientalis is not far behind, the leaves of last year still intact. I remove them as March arrives, leaving the floral head free of encumbrance.

The breeding of helleborus has reached a new high, interspecific hybridization introduces species such as H. niger, H. sternii and the hybrid H. x ballardiae (niger x lividus) with what we know as the Lenten Rose. The resulting plants have strong upright stems, incredible foliage (some even patterned) and flowers that look you in the eye. Previously the floral heads bent down in a non-flattering sulk.

These new hybrids are the work of German and English breeders. From Joseph Heuger we have the HGC (Helleborus Gold Selections) tagged hybrids. Probably the most popular and well received of all new hybrids. Only one in 100,000 seedlings make the grade, the winners are vegetatively propagated, which means you're getting a piece of the original plant (versus seed grown).

A contender for best of the HGC helleborus is H. 'Pink Frost'. The flowers begin a dusty pink and age to a deep, red-pink. Reliable, early to flower, the plant is strong, the foliage superior. In the ground, the sum of its requirements would be some shade and summer watering, as least at the roots establish. Also fabulous in a container, the foliage is handsome enough to honor the pot.

Another new hybrid worth mentioning is Helleborus 'Penny's Pink'. From RD plants in England, the name is in honor of Penelope Hobhouse. Not only are the flowers gorgeous, but the spring foliage is patterned in both white and pink.

Since this great perennial blooms for such an extended time, it's exciting to think that March flowers will extend into April and spring will come full throttle after their reliable introduction.

Aging and Strength

Kay Colgan, Certified Fitness Professional and Health Coach

Did you know that you are able to improve your strength no matter what your age? Even if you have never worked out and consider yourself frail. Our bodies are amazing as our muscles respond to strength training. This does not mean you go and pick up the heaviest object you can and hoist it up. Safety in strength training is a must to reach gains and not set you up for injury. Read on to find out what you can do to improve your strength add some flexibility, maybe even get you out the door walking. We also receive a bonus, you see as we lift weights our bones get a boost and build bone density. WOW! Let's get started on building a stronger body today.

First, decide on what is best for you. Would you like to be in a class with similar people so you also get the social part of working out with like- minded individuals? If so, find a gym or studio that is convenient to you that offers strength training programs for beginners. It is important that you check to make sure the instructor is certified through a national organization and his or her certification is up to date. Going to an uncertified instructor is not safe and your strength program could end up in injury. Being certified for over 25 years now, I recognize the important changes that have occurred over the last 25 years. Every year or two, certified instructors have to renew their certifications via taking fitness courses. Depending on the certification, the number of courses varies. Which for the consumer means you are in the safe hands of an instructor that not only is up to date with current fitness protocols but also might have further training in older adults. Exercise is not merely lifting a dumbbell and hoping for the best, there are many components that fitness encompasses. Only addressing one, leaves the body unbalanced and could lead to injury.

Our golden years can be some of the best years of our lives. Being strong will allow us to play the back nine, play tennis, or whatever you like to do. For some, retirement comes too soon and the thoughts of our bodies just deteriorating is depressing at the least. But, research has proven that older people who exercise and specifically add strength training to their lives, are happier and able to enjoy active lives. The whole idea that exercising is for the already fit and the young is just not correct. All the fitness magazines show young hot bodies on the cover. The outward appearance is deceiving, because usually the picture is air brushed. I also wonder what is the magazine trying to sell with very scantly clothed women and men on the covers. Vanity is not fitness. Fitness is a balance of what is going on inside of our physical and psychological selves. We are able to reach high in the cabinet for the glass, pick up our groceries, walk to the mail box and have energy left for a round of golf. In my many years in the fitness industry, I have had the pleasure of training people well into their nineties. They showed up did their workout and led very social and active lives. Being older does not have to be a decline, but rather a time for you. Research has proven that anyone can experience significant strength gains with progressive resistance training in their fifth through ninth decades of life and beyond. Adding a cardio, balance and flexibility component creates a win-win program. Let's do it together, I plan on playing the back nine for a very long time.

For more information about health and fitness, please contact Kay Colgan at Middleburg Pilates and personal training, 14S Madison Street, Middleburg, Virginia or call 540-687-6995. If you just need help in getting started, please call and I will help you or give you the proper contacts.

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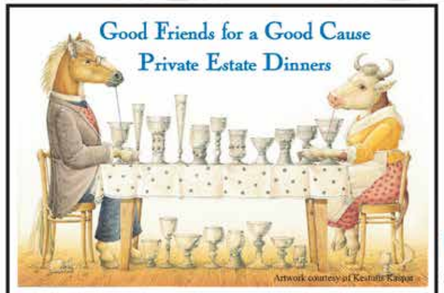
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Liberty is a 2 yr old chestnut Appaloosa X that should not get much taller than 13H. He was recently castrated. He stands for the vet & farrier but we are still working on his ground manners.



Callie is a very cuddly tripod kitty. Her front paw was injured & suffered nerve damage so her leg had to be amputated. She gets around just fine & is healing beautifully. She would do well in a home with other adult cats but wouldn't appreciate young kittens that want to play.



Bobby is a large & goofy mastiff/boxer? looking for a companion that is calm & patient. He is a smart boy that does well with consistent training & direction. He does well with other dogs but they should be comparable in size as he is large boy & likes to play. He would do best in a home with children 12+ due to his size.



Livia is an amazing 7 yr old girl. Sadly, she had a poor start in life & lived as a breeding dog. Now that she's spayed & has been able to put her past behind her, she has excelled in training with our volunteers & even knows how to do a little dance!

Kittens!!! We have some great kittens such as Mel & Curly looking for their forever homes. They are adorable, playful, & healthy. Ask about our buddy program: 2 for the price of 1. Help keep friends together!



Savannah is a 7 yr old 15H Pony x Arab mare, dark bay w/black legs, mane & tail, one white sock. Savannah has good ground manners, but is shy & needs a quiet experienced owner. She is healthy, sound, a very pretty mover, & is ready to be backed.





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.



Zara is a 2 year old tripod (lost a hind leg due to a knee injury). She loves to play and is housebroken. She requires a home with a secure fenced yard as she needs to be able to get adequate exercise.



Dyson is a 3yr old , 100# Lab. He's a sweet boy that has not had much interaction with other dogs & is particular about his dog friends. He needs a home without cats. He is crate trained & house trained. Dyson lost his home when his young owner went away to college!

Riley is a 2 yr old Rottweiler X. She is an energetic, 50lb girl that loves squeaky toys & taking long walks. She is already housetrained so a transition to a new home would be relatively easy. She is good with children but can be "overly loving" to small toddlers so larger children would be best.



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Editors Desk

Trust and Transformation

Now it really begins.

Barring some unforeseen major changes in the law, existing proffers, and Middleburg's attitudes toward the Salamander Inn, Salamander Development, or Sheila Johnson herself, a process now is well under way that will profoundly reshape the village of Middleburg.

We believe Salamander Development's new residential development, 49 new luxury residences on large and well landscaped lots just north of Stonewall Avenue, will be a success, for the Town, for the developer, and for its new residents.

Things could have been different. A lot different.

Had the former Harriman property been sold to a less public spirited owner rather than to Mrs. Johnson and her colleagues, Middleburg might well have faced "by right" development in the form of cul-de-sacs and MacMansions on those parts of the property that then lay outside the town limits.

Middleburg's water and sewer systems, then in a state of neglect and disrepair, would have either collapsed or cost the Town far more than it could afford to repair.

Financially, the Town would have faced either massive increases in all its taxes or bankruptcy, or both.

Under a different owner the virulent opposition that marked the initial sale of the property (and launched this newspaper) may well have evolved into something worse.

Instead, thanks both to Mrs. Johnson (and especially to her selection of Prem Devadas as her key liaison to the Town) the history of Salamander's development, from its first store fronts on the streets of old Middleburg, through the building and transfer to the town of a state-of-the-art water and sewer infrastructure, through the building of the Inn and Spa, to the present has been a story of increasing mutual trust and mutual benefit.

Every new endeavor involves risk.

Salamander's new housing development is a big one, both financially, and for lack of a better word, spiritually.

As Devadas himself noted recently Salamander's success now and in the future is intimately linked to the success of the Town of Middleburg. Their images are inextricably related.

For more than a decade now both Salamander and the Town have worked together in increasing harmony to design and create an addition to the town that is precisely that . . . and addition to the town, respectful of its style and traditions, with an eye to a bright and promising future.

So far so good.

Here's to many, many years of even better.

Profiles

Blue

Daniel Morrow

Profiling lies at the heart of our survival as a species . . . not to mention our ability to market junk food, talk to voters, and rationalize the best and worst of our prejudices.

Pattern recognition, more often than not unconscious, lies at very heart of our ability to recognize danger.

Our ability to quickly distinguish friend from foe depends on it. Cops and cantors, perps and priests, soldiers and civilians, all "profile," both automatically and consciously. Indeed, most of us who "profile" as part of our profession are trained to sharpen our skills at doing what, because we are human, comes naturally.

Pattern recognition, aka profiling, triggers our instantaneous impulses to fight or flee.

It informs all language, art and music.

Because of it we see gods and men in the clouds and clouds in the daily news.

Because of it we know who is most likely to buy what . . . and how . . . and why.

The ability to see meaningful patterns, now enhanced by mathematics and technology beyond anything our fathers could have imagined, has saved lives, launched, lost and won wars, and taught us that what often appears to be incontrovertibly true or false is neither, or a little of both.

Our abilities to instinctively and almost instantaneously make decision about what's just, or harmful, or respectful, or loyal, or awe-inspiring or compassionate, the ability to recognize patterns and act on that knowledge is one of the true glories of our species.

This side of pattern recognition informs what is best about us.

Unfortunately, at times, it informs what is worst.

Patterns, real and imagined lie at the very heart of both the excuses we offer for the evil we do, and the ideologies, faiths, and prejudices that we use to encourage others to join us.

It defines our gods, and excuses our godlessness, in every sense of the word, spiritual and secular.

There is no escape from profiling.

There are, however, defenses against our acting precipitously because of it.

In part those defenses lie in all our other instincts.

In part they lie in our determination and the effectiveness of our attempts to codify and enforce those safeguards.

Hence codes of honor, religions, philosophies, constitutions and courts of law, rules, regulations, training, research, analysis, and all our other efforts to temper excess and error and reward informed behavior that benefits us all.

Our demons are real. Pattern recognition gives us racism, sexism, mindless violence and a host of other evils.

Happily, the better angels of our nature are also real, disproportionately present, and lie at the heart of what we as a species have evolved to be. They are courage and hope, self-sacrifice and generosity, compassion and forgiveness, and a thousand other qualities we seek to immortalize by how we live and in the stories we tell our children.

They are all profiles . . . patterns of behavior . . . that we do our best to describe, pass on, and have those who follow us enhance, improve and translate into action.

When we fail the cost is all too often unconscionable.

Perhaps it is not to late to profile our patterns of failure, and do our best to overcome them based on what we have learned from patterns of success.

What exactly is wrong with profiling?

Red

James Morgan

When auto insurance companies charge higher rates to 17-year-old boys than to 50 year old women, they are profiling. In fact, they are discriminating on the basis of age and gender. And that is precisely what they should be doing given the proven higher accident rates of 17 year old boys versus those of 50 year old women.

When one group of people, however identified, is known to be especially prone to certain problematic behaviors, it makes perfect sense to single that group out for a different kind of attention than is paid to other groups. No serious person would suggest that such "discrimination" is wrong. Yet the very word "profiling" now causes progressive heads to explode and generates entirely predictable accusations of racism, sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia, blah, blah, blah.

Jesse Jackson once said that, if he were walking down a dark street, he would feel more threatened by the approach of three young black men than three young white men. Do we conclude from that Jesse Jackson is anti-black? Or might we conclude that profiling is not inherently racist at all but is, rather, a reasonable reaction to the facts?

One such fact is that the demographic group that includes black males aged 15-24 indisputably is involved in violent crime at a higher rate than any other demographic group in our society. There is nothing racist about stating that demonstrated truth. It is no more inappropriate than pointing out that heavy smokers are more prone to lung cancer than non-smokers. That does not mean, of course, that every single individual within the demographic will inevitably follow the pattern. But patterns do exist. Most white males are not serial killers but most serial killers are white males. Ask the FBI. They did the profile. Likewise, most Muslims are not terrorists but most terrorists are Muslims. Patterns exist.

When you board a plane – be honest now - will you wonder more about the intentions of that bearded, mid-20s, swarthy-complexioned, Middle Eastern-looking man in line ahead of you or those of the elderly white (or black) nun behind you? Would you consider yourself "Islamophobic" for automatically feeling more uneasy about the former than the latter? Unless you were infected with a severe case of the progressive virus known as political correctness, you wouldn't. Nor should you.

The fact is that profiling uses certain characteristics including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, height, weight, eating habits, clothing styles, recreational preferences, and frequency of drinking or smoking to assess risk for a variety of purposes.

Profiling – all profiling – is about risk assessment. You identify where higher risks exist by correlating various characteristics with high risk behaviors. Sometimes those behaviors correlate with racial, ethnic, or cultural factors. When they do, it would be foolish not to include that information in your assessment simply in order to avoid having some goofy liberal (pardon the redundancy) call you a bad name.

Yet we see political correctness become reality when TSA agents pat down wheelchair-bound WWII veterans while ignoring the swarthy fellow mentioned above. One writer has called this lunacy "a tyranny of fairness."

Profiling is not perfect. Real criminals or terrorists might be missed. But playing the percentages makes sense. The simplistic "progressive" view is that profiling equals racism. Period. So such folks naturally believe that "stop and frisk" was a racist policy utilized by the racist New York City police department for racist reasons. Never mind that over half of New York's finest are minorities.

Profiling equals risk assessment. Nothing sinister there. It is not inherently bigoted in any way. Yes, like anything else, it can be misused. But the idea itself is simply the application of common sense to real world problems. Whether by insurance companies, police forces, or the Department of Homeland Security, profiling should be unapologetically accepted as the useful tool it is.

Hypocrisy

Tom Pratt

Thom Hartman has a recent article in ALTERNET that bears summarizing as it really puts into great perspective how the actions of the neocons who planned, orchestrated and conducted the destruction of Iraq have contributed to the rise of international terrorism. They now, as Darth Vader Cheney, has said many times, would like to blame Obama for their misdeeds rather than admit to any wrongdoing, which is ludicrous at the least!

Thom Hartman likens Iraq to an American state that has suffered a catastrophic event either man made or an act of nature where the water supply, electricity and most of the homes and buildings are destroyed. Prisons are damaged so criminals melt back into society and almost total chaos reigns.

After the catastrophe, enter the federal government, which walls off the state, removes all state employees and elected officials and replaces them with hand chosen people whose allegiance is to the Feds and private companies that have profit motives.

The tax system is changed from one that was progressive and fair to a flat 15% income tax. Social security and health care previously provided are now cut off and unemployment skyrockets to nearly 70%. Those with some means are able to flee this nightmare but most are trapped. It is nearly impossible to get gas for cars, water borne diseases are rampant, and schools are too dangerous for children to attend. People loot stores for food and supplies necessary for life. Unions are dissolved and the 200 largest companies are shut down leaving all employees unemployed.

The federal government decides that deploying 100,000 or more National Guard troops is the only way to maintain order and security. The local police and firemen are fired because it is deemed better to have government employees running the show.

Because of the dire circumstances people turn to neighborhood organizers and religious leaders for some kind of help. Different faiths and ethnicities gather together to help themselves. People are angry at the federal government because they can see through all the skullduggery and realize that profit and power are the main goals of the government and their situation is being used to profit outsiders at their expense.

This is almost exactly what happened in Iraq and an environment was created for the rise of groups such as ISIS.

Saddam Hussein was not by any means a benevolent dictator but there would have been little chance of ISIS finding a safe haven under his rule.

When Bush, Cheney et al, planned this illegal invasion the reason there was no "plan b" after the fall of Saddam is because they had an economic plan. Paul Bremmer was put in charge; he fired the military dissolved all local companies allowed western (mostly American) entities to come in and profit from the destruction caused by the invasion. Not surprisingly the Iraqis fought back and formed militias and civilian groups to try to recover their country.

ISIS is a despotic organization with no morality but they are smart and have been providing electricity, water and some social services that we should have been doing. Why are we not doing in Iraq what we did in Europe after the war? Why are we not rebuilding the country we destroyed? In my opinion that is the only way to defeat ISIS,.

Endless bombing and military force will simply keep us at war for decades as in the past and you know what, ISIS knows that as well and is thriving on it.

Rude Rudy!

John P. Flannery

Rude Rudy Giuliani, the former Mayor of New York, and unsuccessful Republican Presidential nominee, says President Obama doesn't "love" America, and then he said his remarks are not racist because Obama had a white mother. Sounds crazy - and it is - but it's also true.

Rudy has terminal West Wing envy. And not very good political judgment. Or good manners.

Rudy was hosting a reception at the formerly chic midtown NY watering hole, "the 21 Club," on West 52nd Street, for Governor Scott Walker – so the Governor could find some open checkbooks for his nascent presidential campaign.

That fund-raising reception may have also been calculated to position Rudy for a cabinet post should Republican Governor Walker win the 2016 Presidential sweepstakes.

But Rudy's gotta hate and, seemingly, no one more than President Obama.

At this "private" gathering, Rudy said, "I do not believe that the President loves America." Rudy also said, "I know this is a horrible thing to say." Then, why did you say it Rudy? Because it was "private." You'd think he would have learned something from "the Mitt."

Rudy later unwisely added that his remarks about Obama's upbringing should not be considered racist because the president was raised by "a white mother."

It sounds like something a comic like Jon Stewart would make up. But no, it's true. Rudy really said that.

Rudy is an understudy for the miserable and mythic Tantalus, his "precious" just out of reach, whether he stretches upward or stoops, and it's because Obama got the job Rudy wanted – and Obama did it twice.

We're watching the sad pathos of Rudy's growing political irrelevance.

The only thing Rudy loves is the Yankees - and you gotta wonder if that's not an act as well.

I suspect that Rudy wasn't listening when Obama said the following:

"I am the son of a black man from Kenya and a white woman from Kansas.

I was raised with the help of a white grandfather who survived a Depression to serve in Patton's Army during World War II and a white grandmother who worked on a bomber assembly line at Fort Leavenworth while he was overseas.

I've gone to some of the best schools in America and lived in one of the world's poorest nations.

I am married to a black American who carries within her the blood of slaves and slave-owners—an inheritance we pass on to our two precious daughters.

I have brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, uncles and cousins, of every race and every hue, scattered across three continents, and for as long as I live,

I will never forget that in no other country on Earth is my story even possible."

How does one contemplate the author of such sentiments - and conclude the man, our President, Barack Obama, hates America.

If JFK had to assure America that his religion was something separate and apart from service to America, did Obama have to assure America, or at least Rudy, that he bore no grudges for this nation's reluctance to end slavery and to contain racial discrimination - even now?

Rudy ironically fits a virulent and toxic strain in American history, of paranoia, attacking immigrants and scapegoating various groups, in one iteration known as the "know nothings," to divert the public's attention from what's really the matter – and that must be addressed with care and deliberation.

Or, perhaps only Rudy hates Obama.

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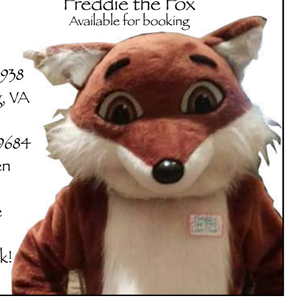
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Oakfield

Upperville, Virginia • $4,900,000

Stone manor house in spectacular setting • 86.81 acres • Highly protected area in prime Piedmont Hunt • Gourmet kitchen • Wonderful detail throughout • 5 BR • 5 BA • 3 half BA • 3 fireplaces, classic pine paneled library • Tenant house • Stable • Riding ring • Heated saltwater pool • Pergola • Full house generator

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Dakota

Middleburg, Virginia • $4,300,000

87 acres • Fieldstone and stucco house featuring a reclaimed-timber barn transformed into an intimate family room overlooking two expansive ponds • Custom kitchen, antique beams, lovely first floor master suite, 4 bedrooms • Media room, bar, exercise facility, generous storage • 3-car garage, in-law suite, 3-stall barn, generator

Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930



Flint Hill Farm

Delaplane, Virginia • $3,350,000

Family compound includes 8,800 sf main house built in 1789 • 3 BR guest house • 2 BR carriage house • Repurposed airplane hanger now a complete home gym • Exquisite $4M renovation completed in 2005 includes exposed beams, solid mahogany doors & windows, imported antique fireplaces & spectacular floors of re-claimed choice hardwoods • Stately limestone foyer • Stunning kitchen • Excellent Views

Ann MacMahon (540) 687-5588



Faraway Farm

Middleburg Area • $3,350,000

Solid stone home with copper roof on 70 acres • Original portions dating from the 1700's • First floor bedroom & 3 additional suites • Original floors • 8 fireplaces • Formal living room • Gourmet kitchen • 2 ponds • Mountain views • Stone walls • Mature gardens • Pool • Log cabin • Piedmont Hunt

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Trough Hill Farm

Middleburg, Virginia • $2,750,000

A pastoral 5 bedroom c. 1830 farmhouse and a grand stone pavilion • Elegant but unfussy • 103 acres of open farmland • The pavilion serves as a pool house, greenhouse, banquet room, and guest quarters • Great location

Ann MacMahon (540) 687-5588
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Providence Farm

Bluemont, Virginia • $2,650,000

42 acre equestrian property in Piedmont Hunt • Lovely 5,000 sf home w/ 1st floor master suite • Horse facilities include indoor (150' x 75') and outdoor (200' x 100') arenas • 10 stall stable w/ large apartment • 8 more stalls in shed row • 6 paddocks • Cross country course & 9,800 sf heated Morton Building

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Echo Hill

The Plains, Virginia • $1,699,000

Stone English country home in top location between Middleburg & The Plains on 13 acres • Large boxwoods & classically planted gardens • 4 BR home with new kitchen & main level master suite • Hardwood floors, built-in book cases, fireplaces & bright open family room • Bluestone terrace overlooks new pool & entertaining area • Separate guest cottage/pool house & garage • Whole-house generator

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Lions Lane

Boyce, Virginia • $999,900

109 mountain top acres • Unbelievable western views • Hunters' paradise • Over 2.5 miles of walking, hiking and/or ATV trials • 3 bedrooms • 2 fireplaces • Updated gourmet kitchen • 3 car garage • Energy efficient

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October Hill

Purcellville, Virginia • $850,000

4 bedroom • 2 1/2 baths • 3 fireplaces • 2 car garage • Main house totally renovated, new kitchen, granite counter tops • Hardwood floors on main level • New carpeting & freshly painted • 20 acres • Phenomenal European style stable with 6 stalls, tack, office & apartment • Owner is a licensed broker in Virginia • More land available

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The Corner Garden Building

Middleburg, Virginia • $650,000

Classic old Middleburg fixture • Zoned C-2 • Lovely large front porch and old stone walls - nice visibility one block south of the main street • Extensive plantings, room for expansion and full of charm • Approximately 2,300 sf building on .11 acre lot • Front portion dates from 1870's

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Julep Chase

Rectortown, Virginia • $499,000

Circa pre-1800 • One of the oldest homes in historic Rectortown • 2 bedroom • 1 bath • Dining room, sitting room & spacious library with built-in book shelves • Viking 6 burner stove & Sub-zero Refrigerator • Improvements include house-sized wood-working shop with Cyclone system • Two generators • Priced to sell

Alix Coolidge (703) 625-1724



Delaplane Post Office

Delaplane, Virginia • $375,000

Commercial Zoning • 3,800 sf • 2 separate apartments • Each with 2 bedrooms • Large additional outbuilding • Great possibilities

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info@sheridanmacmahon.com
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CLIFTON, VIRGINIA
Elegant estate on 7.5 acres backing to parkland features over 14,000 SF of living space + separate pavilion, ideal for outdoor entertaining! Finest finishes throughout, 7BR/9.5BA. Short drive to downtown DC. $3,795,000
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BOXLEY FARMS, BLUEMONT, VIRGINIA
Prepared to be amazed! Authentic Georgian Revival Estate - Mountain & water views, antique pine floors, Italian marble counters/floors, chef's kitchen, wine cellar, owners' wing, 3-stall barn/apt, English gardens. $2,950,000
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INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

FOX MEADOWS, DELAPLANE, VIRGINIA
Magnificent brick Georgian with soaring 16' ceilings situated on the highest part of the 82 acres capturing the pastoral views. Large 3BR tenant house. $2,390,000
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FEATHERBED, MIDDLEBURG, VIRGINIA
NEW PRICE! 1750 stucco farmhouse with wood flrs, exposed beams, fpls & expansive rooms. Guest cottage, apartment, great bank barn, center aisle stable & arena. Idyllic setting, mature trees & views. 20AC. $1,495,000
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MANASSAS, VIRGINIA
Circa 1815, historic Moor Green is sited on 10+ acres conveniently located near Routes 95, 66, and the VRE. Beautifully remodeled interior, gorgeous outdoor living spaces including pool, and a new 4-stall barn. $1,279,000
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POSSUM HOLLOW, DELAPLANE, VIRGINIA
Lovely brick 5BR on 25 mainly wooded acres. Stunning cherry floors, superb views to the S.E., professionally landscaped. Excellent condition, great location. $1,230,000
Carole Miller 540-729-7896
Kevin Keane 540-687-2221



WATERFORD, VIRGINIA
Quaker stone home on 25 acres. Many recent upgrades, beautiful hardwoods, huge screened porch under mature trees. 3BR cottage in excellent condition. Renovated bank barn. $899,000; With add'l 4 acre lot $999,000.
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ZULLA HILLS, THE PLAINS, VIRGINIA
NEW PRICE! Charming house, custom built, energy efficient, A+ condition. 4BR, 3.5BA. Dumb waiter from garage to kitchen. 5.91 acres. Great location. $650,000
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