

2016 MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER'S BOARD APPRECIATION DINNER

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GREAT MEADOW INTERNATIONAL: ON TRACK TO FEI NATION'S CUP

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SOUTHERN LIVING'S BEST SMALL TOWNS: MIDDLEBURG

LAUREN R. GIANNINI

Residents, neighboring communities and tourists know what's special about this town whose popularity as a destination continues to grow by leaps and bounds. Southern Living chose it for their special online feature about the South's Best Small Towns, part of the year-long celebration of their 50th anniversary.

Here's what Southern Living said about the Best Small Towns: "These Main Street towns evoke the best of what we are as a culture. They're places with a beating heart, where tradition is the lifeblood, and neighbors gather on front porches for a glass of sweet tea. Here are our 20 favorite small spots."

Alphabetically, Middleburg ran next to last, but to be one of the 20 small towns chosen from the many hundreds of small towns found throughout the South is, well, quite amazing. One person who isn't that surprised by the accolade was born, raised and lived here her entire life: Mayor Betsy Davis.

"I have always known how very special our town is," said Mayor Davis. "The beauty of our tree-lined streets and the gorgeous scenery that surrounds us is second to none. The history that our town holds is intriguing. People appreciate that we are 'the real thing' — that we haven't tried to mold ourselves after anywhere else. We have evolved and grown stronger through the years just by loving what we have and working hard to preserve it."

Acknowledging that some people have expressed concern about Middleburg's growing popularity, she added, "That's what keeps us strong. We must share what we have while not changing who we are."

Her words are typical of the graciousness of southern hospitality. However, many factors contributed to Middleburg being selected as a Best Small Town.

"We start with our readers and pay close attention to how they respond to stories and destinations," said Valerie Luesse, Senior Travel Editor at Southern Living. "We reach out to our network of editors and freelancers. We go for a good geographic spread. We love visually beautiful settings, landscape, architecture, and towns that are into historic preservation and adopt causes, especially downtown. We love when a local group is excited about their town."

"We look for towns that are pedestrian friendly — good places to stroll and relax, where you can park the car and explore the shops, restaurants, galleries, culture, arts, the outdoors," Luesse continued. "Then we deliberate, think about it, consider all the factors. It's not a flash decision. There's a great deal of merit and honor to be chosen one of the best."

In the 50 years since its inception and first issue, published in February 1966, Southern Living has succeeded in its quest

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MIDDLEBURG

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FQ9590732 \$6,500,000

CLOVERLAND FARM, THE PLAINS - Overlooking 149 acres in Orange County Hunt, this is truly a masterpiece of fine country living. Exquisite stone home designed by William Lawrence Bottomley & built by William Hanback. Grand foyer, stately rooms, mahogany library, conservatory, chefs kitchen, indoor pool, tennis court, magnificent views.

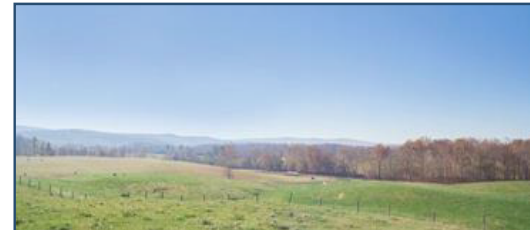
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FQ8470391 \$3,500,000

10000 MOUNT AIRY RD, UPPERVILLE - Extraordinary brick colonial on 50+ gorgeous acres in prestigious Greystone. Over 9000 sq.ft. of spectacular living space featuring 3 beautifully finished levels. Heated pool, tennis court and brilliant gardens overlook a picturesque pond with fabulous mountain views, in a private & secluded location!

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CL9514053 \$2,900,000

1511 ELLERSLIE RD, BERRYVILLE - A rare opportunity to own 249+/- ac of waterfront property in the countryside. With a combination of tall vistas, panoramic views & the Shenandoah river, you can have your pick of home sites. Minutes from Millwood & nearly 1/2 mile of shore line! See video on website.

Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacevich 540.270.3835



LO8269159 \$2,800,000

35679 MILLVILLE RD, MIDDLEBURG - Beautiful stone home on 40+ acre. Bright, spacious 4 BR/5BA - perfect for entertaining. Open floor with spacious light-filled dining room and living room that open up to decks and views of Goose Creek. Exquisite 8-stall stone horse barn with tack room. Additional guest house and lot available.

Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacevich 540.270.3835



FQ9566772 \$2,750,000

1714 ZULLA RD, MIDDLEBURG - Eglinton Farm - 76+ acres on sought after Zulla Road 1 mile from Middleburg. Beautiful 5 bedroom 4.5 bath house with more than 6,500 sq ft of living space. House includes 2 bedroom apt. Additional 3,000 sq ft guest house stable, ring fenced pastures and equipment sheds. Orange County

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LO8105401 \$975,000

DOWDEN DOWNS RD, HAYMARKET - Stunning custom home! Italian tile and Marble. Granite in the kitchen and bathrooms. Two story foyer and family room w/ custom stone fireplace. Huge deck w/ spacious sitting room overlooking backyard and pond. Theater room, ready to finish bar, wine cellar & safe in basement. Four car garage.

Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacevich 540.270.3835



LO8763606 \$1,385,000

23545 OLD MEADOW LN, MIDDLEBURG - Hard to find minutes from town, private and protected, all brick Georgian built in 1998. 10' ceilings on first floor, coved ceiling, lovely molding, 2 gas fireplaces, 4 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, new sunroom, great kitchen, 3 car garage w/ workshop, circular asphalt driveway on 7.75 acres.

Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacevich 540.270.3835



LO9500466 \$1,166,000

BERRY HILL FARM, MIDDLEBURG - At 200 yrs, "Berry Hill" has been fully renovated by a new owner, and is back on the market. Thoughtful changes meet modern expectations but retain all historic charm. 10-ac gem features a spring-fed pond, paddocks, stable, and scenic grounds. Inside, large bright rooms are warmed by generous use of stone & wood.

Kim Hurst 703.932.9651 YourCountryHome.net



LO8105401 \$975,000

23085 PANTHERSKIN LN, MIDDLEBURG - Exceptionally spacious brick house with rooftop observatory in private setting. Large master BR w/ample closet space. Family room w/ FP connects to kitchen overlooking pond. Large mud room & 4 car garage. Finished in-law suite w/ BR, Liv w/ FP, kitchenette, media room & work/storage rooms

Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacevich 540.270.3835



LO9592340 \$724,500

AMITY FARM, MIDDLEBURG - Unique country house on 8.5 acres with paddocks and riding ring. Visit horses just out front door, or use 3 stalls as a dramatic feature of a future atrium joining both wings of the home. Stocked pond with sandy beach! Home includes 2 main bedrooms plus two guest rooms/office. Mountain views!

Kim Hurst 703.932.9651 YourCountryHome.net



FQ9501611 \$695,000

694 FEDERAL ST, PARIS - Fabulous historic property in the heart of Paris. Zoned Village Commercial. 1.7+ acres consisting of a main residence/showroom with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. 2 bedroom Guest House/Rental Property and two smaller buildings for retail, office space, or storage.

Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacevich 540.270.3835



LO9505718 \$499,000

13 HUNT CT, MIDDLEBURG - Ultimate quality! Immaculate all brick townhouse w/ high end upgrades & finishes. Recently refinished HW floors, built-in bookcases, beautiful crown molding, Wi-fi thermostats & Ralph Lauren lighting fixtures throughout. 3 fireplaces, 4 levels, beautiful light-filled kitchen. Mins from downtown. MUST SEE!

Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacevich 540.270.3835

NEWS OF NOTE

KEITH & PAM FOSTER CREATE ANOTHER FABULOUS SHOP

Discriminating shoppers from around the country always plan to visit Keith and Pam Foster's Middleburg shop, The Outpost, when they are in the area. They have absolute confidence that the decorative piece they've been searching for will be found among the spectacular range of stylish art, furniture and elegant items The Outpost offers.

Now, according to Keith, there is a new, second shop about to debut.

"We love everything about The Outpost," he explained,

"but for some time I've wanted to test a concept that would offer our customers and clients something very different...something more reflective of a different side of our style."

What Keith refers to is his and Pam's love of the natural world, great gardens, and a lighter, more whimsical style that so perfectly balances and integrates with their love for the darker British Campaign and travel related styles.

To test his idea, Keith staged one room of The Outpost last spring to offer beautiful and original European garden and park

pieces. "It was a success," he said smiling. "We sold everything in the room rather quickly."

So, with confidence and a highly professional commitment to their clients, Keith and Pam will open The Keep, their new Upperville shop April 16th and 17th in the former Upperville Primitive Baptist Church on John S. Mosby Highway. It will be open weekends only. In addition, they have completely transformed the adjoining cottage, which is now available for short-term rentals on VRBO. If you love The Outpost's look, you

or your guests will want to move in to The Cottage.

"The Keep will offer a very different vibe and aesthetic," Keith emphasizes. "The spectacular space has been totally renovated. It's very light and open with 16 foot high ceilings and a casual yet dramatic style that incorporates the major garden influence that we both love."

Keith, who continues to design golf courses in his "spare time" will welcome customers at The Outpost along with Lauren Rhodes, and Pam will most often be at The Keep.

Meanwhile, The Outpost reopens Friday, April 9th and Keith expects many clients to be in the area for a first view of the new offerings.

As in year's past, many local shoppers get a jump on the official opening date by watching for the arrival of containers that are delivered at the shop following Keith and Pam's far-flung travels. In fact, recently when containers began to appear outside The Outpost, many clients arrived soon after the trucks left to survey the new pieces as they made their first appearance.







Please Consider us for all your Real Estate Needs!



NEWS OF NOTE

MARK AND MAGGIE O'CONNER AMERICAN CLASSICS AT BARNs OF ROSE HILL

Two-time Grammy Award winner Mark O'Connor and Maggie O'Connor, versatile and accomplished violinists who play everything from Classical violin to Bluegrass and Rock & Roll Fiddle will appear at The Barns at Rose Hill April 2nd.

Mark and Maggie O'Connor - American Classics identifies the cornerstones of repertoire, style and wonderful diversity of A New American School of String Playing. Mining a huge body of repertoire that has made its impact on American music, the selected tunes and arrangements by Mr. O'Connor represent stylistic importance, pedagogical value and have timeless appeal.

The program offers a broad and interconnecting collection of American music through violin solos and duos, with several featuring piano accompaniment. Audiences as well as students of the violin will find themselves inspired by the songbook of America as they have never heard it before.

A product of America's rich aural folk tradition as well as classical music, Mark O'Connor's creative journey began at the feet of a pair of musical giants. The first was the folk fiddler and innovator who created the modern era of American fiddling, Benny Thomasson; the second, French jazz violinist, considered one of the greatest improvisers in the history of the violin, Stephane Grappelli. Working with classical violin icons Isaac Stern, Itzhak Perlman, Yehudi Menuhin and Pinchas Zukerman, he absorbed knowledge and influence from the multitude of musical styles and genres he studied and participated in. With his body of work including 45 feature albums of mostly his own compositions, Mark O'Connor has melded and shaped these influences into a new American Classical music, and a vision of an entirely American school of string playing.

Violinist and American fiddler Maggie O'Connor performs a variety of musical styles in concert halls throughout the U.S. and

beyond. Frequently performing with her husband, violinist and composer Mark O'Connor, together they have appeared as guest soloists with the *Singapore Chinese Orchestra*, the *Santa Rosa Symphony* and many other symphony orchestras performing his composition *Strings and Threads Suite*. Maggie is also a frequent guest performer in her husband's ensembles ranging from *Hot Swing* and *An Evening of American Strings to An Appalachian Christmas*, a hit concert tour taking place each holiday season. Maggie is working as co-director along with Mark for the *O'Connor Method Camp NYC* featuring the lesson book series that is rising in popularity each year. She is also featured in her and her husband's new album "Duo," which David McGee of Deep Roots Magazine claims "As a technician and as an

expressive player, she is formidable, has it all. What I find so special about her, apart from the sheer soulfulness abundant in the music she makes, is her uncanny sense of playing off of and with Mark, knowing when to assert herself and when to be empathetic and supportive."

TICKETS AND INFORMATION:

Barns of Rose Hill is located at 95 Chalmers Court, Berryville, Va. 22611. Free parking is available next door at the Berryville-Clarke County Government Center / Clarke County Library / Barns of Rose Hill parking lot.

For more information, please visit the Barns of Rose Hill website at BarnsofRoseHill.org.



BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN

MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

DAN MORROW

At its February 25th work session Town Administrator Marthat Semmes reported that the latest draft of Middleburg's General Fund Expense Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 totaled roughly \$3 million, around an eight percent increase over the preceding year.

Noting that the draft projected only a seven percent increase in revenue, Semmes reiterated her traditionally cautious approach to revenue estimates. "Revenue derived from Salamander's property taxes and tax-revenue-producing operations were always a question mark," she said, noting that, on the positive side, "they continued to exceed the Town's expectations."

While Middleburg's property tax assessments were up nine percent last year, she said, they were up only 5.8% this year.

The bulk of the decrease, Semmes suggested, was an appropriate decline in the taxable assessed value land owned by Salamander that had been zoned but has not yet been developed. Once houses are constructed on that land, the assessed value will increase.

Based on her conservative estimates, Semmes draft projects an equalized property tax rate of sixteen cents, a penny lower than the current rate. That penny decrease, she noted, equaled roughly thirty-one thousand eight hundred dollars less revenue.

Semmes reminded Council that the amount of the town's "contingency reserve" or emergency fund would change as the budget evolved. It currently stands at about \$232,000.

In the weeks and months ahead Council faces decisions on whether to sell or improve several town properties including the Health Center Building; technology investments from

street lighting to parking meters; if, when, where and how to move its police department and town offices; and funding options and requests related to worthy events, programs and causes, including the old Zion Church building, the Middleburg Museum, and support facilities made redundant by the removal from service of one of the Town's water wells.

Construction and Its Discontents

Business people, residents, friends and visitors to Middleburg continue to bear up and soldier on as the Virginia Department of Transportation completes construction on the Middleburg portion its "Route 50 Streetscape Project" and the Town improves its water distribution system.

During a work session discussion Council member Shea noted pointedly that "the Town needed to make sure it was doing all it could to help the businesses." Last year, she noted, when work was being done on Liberty Street, the sidewalk was closed for weeks. "Something like that could make or break a business," she noted.

In the midst of what all appear to agree is a mess worth suffering through in the long run, there have been points of light.

Restaurants, Water, and Dishes

As businesses are connected to the Town's new water lines, for example, water becomes unavailable for hours. Councilmember Kevin Hazard and Town Administrator Semmes reported pleas from the Red Horse Tavern and the Red Fox Inn requesting that, if possible their water be turned off later than the currently scheduled 9:00 p.m. cut-off times so they could get their dishes

washed in time to open the next day.

Semmes explained that the water project contractor had already decided to make water connection changes for restaurants at night in an effort to have as little impact as possible, and would work with the owners to begin work as late as possible. They had managed the Trotters Perk Bistro connection, she noted on the day they were closed.

Parking

Police Chief A. J. Panebianco also credited project manager Jovi Alves, whom he described as "an asset to the community," for doing "some significant behind-the-scenes work to make sure there was parking on the streets."

Though the community was being heavily impacted by the project, Panebianco continued, "it would be worse without Mr. Alves," who, in his view, clearly "cared about the community and has told him that he wanted the project to have as little impact as possible, while still getting the work done."

Salamander Development

Town Planner Moore reported that Salamander presented its first draft of the design guidelines to the Historic District Review Committee for the new homes planned for their already-zoned residential development.

Council member Trowbridge Littleton reported that, in his view, "the models looked nice."

Town Planner Moore noted that the HDRC "was taking this very seriously as they understood the large effect of this development on the community" confirming that "they would look at the guidelines in detail."

SHAKESPEARE IN THE 'BURG IS ALMOST HERE! GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!



Shakespeare in the 'Burg is just two weeks away and now is the time to purchase tickets for The Life of King Henry V, The Importance of Being Earnest and Billings, the winning play from our international playwrighting competition.

The playwright, Lloyd Pace, will be joining us from New York to see his play performed and to talk with our guests about being a playwright and this play in particular. Billings will be preceded by a gourmet champagne brunch catered by Ayrshire Farm and the Home Farm Store. Tickets are \$25. The performance is at the Middleburg Community Center, and doors will open at 11 a.m.

New this year is an expanded stage so that all of our guests will have great seats. Every performance will be up close, personal—and highly entertaining. The production values of the American Shakespeare Center, who will perform the two plays on Saturday, April 2, are extraordinary. They create a dynamic yet intimate experience for playgoers, and they have been honored many times for the high standards they bring to the stage.

The Importance of Being Earnest is at 2 p.m., Saturday, April 2. Doors open at 1:30 for a musical prelude that you won't want to miss. Chrysalis Wines will be selling wines at both Saturday performances, and Popcorn Monkey will be selling popcorn, including our commemorative Shakespeare in the 'Burg popcorn tins. Tickets are \$40.

The Life of King Henry V is at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, with doors opening at 7 for music. Both of these plays, by different authors and with very different subjects, share a mutual compassion and depth of understanding of human nature. Oscar Wilde's Earnest uses satire and farce to make his point. Shakespeare's use of language is unequalled in our history, and Henry V has everything—humor, romance, tragedy and action. Tickets are \$40.

Book your tickets at www.shakespeareintheburg.com

And—be sure to join us at the Middleburg Library on Friday, April 1, 6-8 pm. Hunt Lyman and Jill Beifuss will make a special presentation as we commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. They will discuss the enduring legacy of Shakespeare and his contributions to the English language, and their presentation will include a performance aspect. The library also sponsored a competition for the best cake decoration, so you won't want to miss this. This event is FREE, and there will be refreshments!

AHT INSURANCE EXPANDS CHICAGO MANUFACTURING PRACTICE

AHT Insurance, a nationally recognized independent insurance brokerage, is please to announce the expansion of its Chicago operations. Opened in 2014, AHT's Chicago office has focused on the growth of AHT's manufacturing, technology, and private equity practices. AHT's growth in these areas, particularly the manufacturing space has warranted the addition of Adam Billmeyer to the AHT team.

Billmeyer joined AHT as a Risk Consultant for the manufacturing practice on February 12th. The addition of Billmeyer will reinforce AHT's commitment to the manufacturing industry in the Midwest and further establish AHT Insurance as a leader in property and casualty insurance and risk management for manufacturers.

George Forrester, AHT Senior Vice President commented, "We are thrilled to have Adam join our team to provide more bandwidth to AHT's packaging and processing machinery manufacturing practice as we celebrate our 20th year serving the industry. The growth of the practice in Chicago allows AHT to effectively deploy our proprietary systems and resources to our manufacturing clients in the Midwest."

Prior to joining AHT, Billmeyer was a commercial sales executive for a large national broker. He has also acted in both marketing and business development roles for a successful, family owned business in the financial industry, specifically in advanced planning for families and businesses. Adam received his degree from the University of St. Francis.



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Dover Road, Middleburg \$885,000

2 minutes to Middleburg - Spacious open floor plan, wrap around front porch & side porch, family room with fireplace, built-in bookcases & doors leading to rear slate patio, very nice large kitchen w/ cherry cabinets, granite counters & stainless steel appliances. Main level Master Suite, large upper level recreation room, full roughed in unfinished lower level, 2-car garage.



Atoka Chase Lane, Middleburg \$1,375,000

Custom home with views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Front porch, rear patio, main level master suite includes 390 gallon heated pool, living room with fireplace & picture windows, family room addition with fireplace, 2-car garage. Gently rolling 11.65 acres, excellent horse property, four board fencing, large paddock, stone wall & machine storage building designed to be converted to 3-stall barn.



COMING SOON – Just off Zulla Road, The Plains

10 beautiful rolling acres - Gracious home with large rooms, 2 fireplaces, kitchen open to family room with fireplace, separate dining room, living room with fireplace, 2-car garage, covered brick rear patio in private setting.

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~ BE LOCAL ~

BARNs OF ROSE HILL

BERRYVILLE, VA

APRIL PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

~ Coming Events in the beautiful James R. Wilkins, Sr. Great Hall ~

April 2 • Mark and Maggie O'Connor: American Classics
Grammy-winner Mark O'Connor and his wife, Maggie, perform a broad and interconnecting collection of American music through violin solos and duos.

April 9 • Joan & Joni: A Tribute to Joan Baez & Joni Mitchell
D.C. area singer-songwriters Allison Shapira and Kipyn Martin perform beloved originals and folk songs.

April 9 • Book Talk • Free Event
Military historian John R. Maass discusses his recent book *The Road to Yorktown: Jefferson, Lafayette and the British Invasion of Virginia*, which explores the 1781 British invasion of central Virginia in the campaign leading up to the Siege of Yorktown in October 1781.

April 10 • Film Series: The Salt of the Earth
Oscar-nominated documentary of renowned Brazilian photographer Sebastiao Salgado.

April 15 • Rhythm Future Quartet
This acoustic jazz ensemble offers up a newly minted sound, influenced by the classic Hot Club of France, yet wholly contemporary.

April 16 • Benefit Fashion Show: What Goes Around Comes Around!
Go back in time through current fashions to benefit the Clarke County Humane Foundation. Fashions by Chico's of Creekside. Silent auction will add to the fun.

April 17 • Classical Music Series: Featuring Guitarist Michael Chapdelaine
First Prize Winner in the world's top competitions in both Classical and Fingerstyle genres. Chapdelaine enchants and dazzles audiences with his breath-taking versatility.

April 22 • Book Talk - Free Event
Lesley Lee Francis, granddaughter of the beloved American poet Robert Frost, talks about her new book, *You Come Too: My Journey with Robert Frost*.

April 24 • Bluegrass & BBQ Series: The Foghorn Stringband
This band is the present-day shining gold standard for American string band music playing their "Hard Hittin' Rural American music!"

April 27 • Michael Lynche & The Black Saints
This American Idol winner, "Big Mike", is a new breed soul singer with classic influences. A night of amazing love songs by an amazing singer.

Barns of Rose Hill

95 Chalmers Court,
Berryville, VA 22611

Ticket Prices & Info:
(540) 955-2004
BarnsofRoseHill.org

A CULTURAL CENTER FOR THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY

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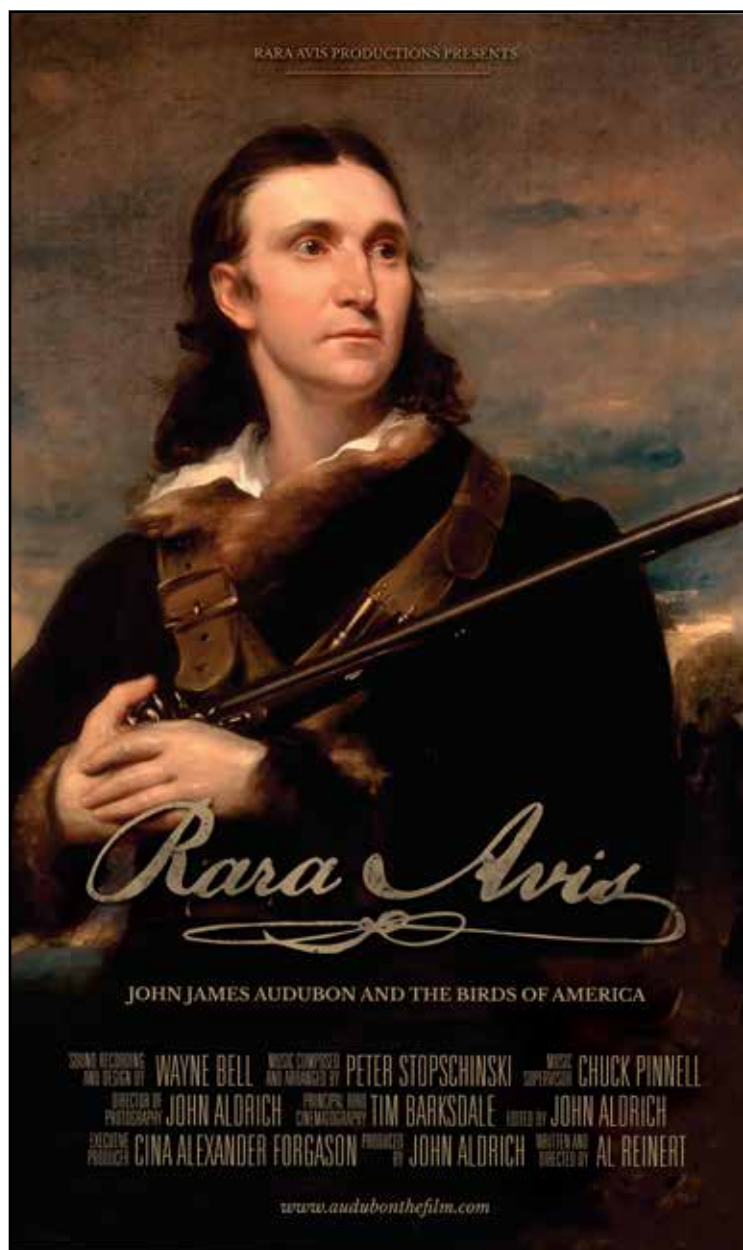
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NEWS OF NOTE

FOXCROFT SCHOOL TO HOST SCREENING OF AWARD-WINNING AUDUBON FILM, "RARA AVIS"

DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER WILL LEAD DISCUSSION OF THE FIRST FILM ABOUT JOHN J. AUDUBON, HIS OBSESSION WITH "BIRDS OF AMERICA" AND THE LEGACY HE LEFT BEHIND



Noted conservationist and Foxcroft alumna Cina Alexander Forgason (Class of 1973) and two-time Academy Award nominee Al Reinert will screen and discuss their compelling documentary about naturalist and explorer John James Audubon, *Rara Avis: John James Audubon and the Birds of America*, at Foxcroft School at 7 p.m. Monday, April 11th.

The public is invited to attend the event – the latest offering of the Helen Cudahy Niblack '42 Arts Lecture Series -- in the Athletic/Student Center on the School's Middleburg campus. Admission is free but seating is limited.

Please telephone 540.687.4510 or email advancement@foxcroft.org for reservations.

The first feature-length documentary about the Frenchman who made it his life's work to catalog 700 birds of North America with exquisite painting that have influenced naturalists and artists for generations, *Rara Avis* was named Best Film for Storyline and Production at the 2016 Waimea Oceans Film Festival. It is an intimate look at Audubon's life, the price he and his family paid for his obsession and the monumental work he left behind and it informs and captivates viewers just as Audubon's astonishing paintings did 200 years ago.

Reinert, the writer and director of *Rara Avis*, co-wrote the screenplay for *Apollo 13*, which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Writing, Screen-



AL REINERT

play. He received his second Oscar nomination for Best Documentary, Feature, for the film, *For All Mankind*, which also garnered the Sundance Film Festival's Audience Award, Documentary and Grand Jury Prize, Documentary. His most recent documentary, *An Unreal Dream — The Michael Morton Story*, won the SXSW Film Festival's Audience Award for Best Documentary.

A lifelong conservationist and managing partner of Rara Avis Productions LLC, Caroline "Cine" Alexander Forgason serves on the boards of The Nature Conservancy of Texas, The Peregrine Fund and the Lewa USA Wildlife Conservancy, which supports a conservancy and community development projects in northern Kenya.

The free, public screening is part of a longer visit to Foxcroft by Forgason and Reinert during which they will meet with stu-



CINA FORGASON

dents and faculty in other more informal and conversational settings.

The Helen Cudahy Niblack '42 Arts Lecture Series, established by Austi Brown (Foxcroft Class of 1973) in memory of her mother, has brought a variety of literary, performing, and fine artists to Foxcroft to share their work, stories, and perspective on the nature of the creative process with both students and the larger community since it began in 2007.

MOSBY HERITAGE AREA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS AT CIVIL WAR PARK DAY

The Mosby Heritage Area Association, the non-profit preservation and education organization, needs volunteers to help maintain the pristine, historic look of the Atoka village, formerly called Rector's Crossroads, on Saturday, April 2 at 1:00 p.m.

This initiative is part of a nationwide clean-up effort sponsored by the Civil War Trust, a nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America's hallowed battlegrounds.

Park Day at Atoka will begin at the historic Caleb Rector House, 1461 Atoka Road, Marshall, Virginia, 20115. Volunteers will be asked to clean up the historic village, a common rendezvous site for Mosby's Rangers and site of a June 21, 1863 Civil War battle.

Before the clean-up begins, volunteers will enjoy a historical program that puts the Civil War history that occurred on the landscape in context. Refreshments will be served.

Please dress for outside work with good boots and gloves and, if possible, bring a rake.

For more information, or to RSVP for the event, please contact the Mosby Heritage Area Association at 540-687-6681 or info@mosbyheritagearea.org.

For a complete list of participating Park Day sites, visit civilwar.org/parkday or contact Meg Martin of the Civil War Trust at 202-367-1861, ext. 7231.

SECOND ANNUAL PENNWRITERS WRITERS CONFERENCE

Local Pennwriters representative, Bobbi Carducci, is proud to announce that the line-up of workshop presenters at this year's Pennwriters conference includes Nancy Martin, winner of the 2009 Lifetime Achievement award for mystery writing from Romantic Times magazine and Eccentric Publisher Dan Morrow, historian and 2013 author of *Murder In Lexington*, a true tale of seduction, murder and southern honor in one of Virginia's most famous college towns on the eve of the American Civil War.

Nancy is the author of 48 pop fiction novels in mystery, suspense, historical and romance genres. Nancy created *The Blackbird Sisters* in 2002--- mysteries about three impoverished Main Line heiresses who adventure in couture and crime--as if "Agatha Christie had wandered onto the set of *Sex and the City*." Nominated for the Agatha Award for Best First Mystery of 2002, *HOW TO MURDER A MILLIONAIRE* won the RT award for Best First Mystery and was a finalist for the Daphne DuMaurier Award. Nancy has also written

the Roxy Abruzzo mystery series for St. Martin's Minotaur, *FOXY ROXY* and *STICKY FINGERS*.

Also presenting at the conference: Pennwriters President and nonfiction author, Carol Silvis, Jay W. Foreman, David Hazard, David Sackrider, Linda Harris Sittig, Sharon Kraftchak, Val Muller, Dixiane Hallaj, Bobbi Carducci, and Kathy Jo Shea, owner of Second Chapter Books.

Authors interested in discussing possible publishing opportunities for their book are invited to make an appointment to meet with a representative of S&H Publishing or Freedom Forge Press. Conference registration required.

Conference Location: at Ida Lee Park, 60 Ida Lee Drive, Leesburg, VA. This full day writers conference will include a catered lunch. The cost is \$100.00 for non-members, \$85.00 for students and \$75.00 dollars for members of Pennwriters. Registration can be done online at <http://pennwriters.org/area-7-mini-conference-writers-project-runway-ii/> or by contacting Bobbi Carducci, bcarducci@comcast.net, 540- 903-6831

HUMANE COMMERCE AWARDS

The 88th Academy Awards honored the best films of 2015, but not before Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC), the leading international non-profit certification organization improving the lives of millions of farm animals in food production, steps up to the stage to shine a spotlight on a few retail superstars that are making a difference in the lives of farm animals.

HFAC believes the best way to help farm animals is through

the marketplace. Every year, they give an "Oscar" nod to those retailers that show their commitment to animal welfare by selling Certified Humane® products in their stores.

So without further ado, the Oscar goes to....the following local businesses among others.

Best Performance in a Supporting Role Safeway Inc.

Safeway, another 3-time winner in this category continues to show their support for cage-free eggs. They are the only major grocery retailer

in the U.S. to require all of its eggs not just be cage-free, but Certified Humane® cage-free -- in all of their stores. Safeway sets the bar high for other grocery retailers.

Most Committed Pet Food Retailer Wylie Wagg

Wylie Wagg operates a group of stores in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, selling all available varieties of Certified Humane pet food and snacks. That's something to bark and meow about!

APPLETON CAMPBELL EARNS 2015 ANGIE'S LIST SUPER SERVICE AWARD IN TWO CATEGORIES

Appleton Campbell, a locally owned and operated plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and electrical services company based in Warrenton, Virginia since 1976, received the 2015 Angie's List Super Service Award for consistently providing excellent customer service in:

- Heating & Air Conditioning
- Plumbing

"Only about 5 percent of companies have performed so consistently well enough to earn our Super Service Award," said Angie's List Founder Angie Hicks. "It's a really high standard."

Angie's List Super Service Award 2015 winners have met strict eligibility requirements, which include an "A" rating in overall grade, recent grade, and review period grade; the company must be in good stand-

ing with Angie's List, pass a background check and abide by Angie's List operational guidelines.

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For additional information about Appleton Campbell, please visit appletoncampbell.com.

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NEWS OF NOTE

GREAT MEADOW INTERNATIONAL: ON TRACK TO FEI NATION'S CUP™



LAUREN GIANNINI

Land Rover Great Meadow International presented by Adequan is hopping with preparations for the FEI Nations Cup™ and the Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team's Olympic Prep Trial. It's going well, and construction of the new arena, visible across the Gold Cup Course, is well underway. In another month, the berm will be seeded, and Attwood Services will complete

the subsurface with their drainage engineering topped with GGT footing.

Tickets are on sale with all sorts of options from VIP to Tailgating to General Admission. This is the first Nations Cup™ held outside of Europe, and it's happening at Great Meadow in The Plains, Virginia, July 8-10. Come out and cheer and enjoy the action.

Cross-country is the heart and soul of the Nation's Cup™ CICO*** and final outing for the

Land Rover U.S. Eventing Team. Unlike the Virginia Gold Cup where numerous horses run and jump together, the cross-country phase of eventing is a beautiful and magnificent solo flight by one horse and rider navigating 32 to 33 jumping efforts over 3500 meters or a little over two miles. Each duo leaves the start box about five minutes apart, so there are often several horses at various stages on the course at any given time: excitement — up close and personal.

Michael Etherington-Smith, who has spent his working life as event director in England and six years as Chief Executive of British Eventing, brings all that experience with him to the GMI team. He's thrilled to be out from behind a desk and back to his first love, course design, having been responsible for the cross-country courses for the 2000 and 2008 Olympics and 2010 World Equestrian Games, to name only three.

Etherington-Smith's involvement began at the very beginning when U.S. Chef d'Equipe David O'Connor and Great Meadow President Rob Banner kicked around the idea of creating an international and unique boutique eventing venue, now known as Land Rover Great Meadow International.

"The Nations Cup™ is always a great competition, and

it's already taken off in Europe," said Etherington-Smith. "It's a very costly step to bring it here. There's been a lot of investment, and a lot of people have been involved. This is the first ever Nations Cup held outside Europe. All horse sports on the international level need to do something to get that sports presentation. This GMI showcase is a very positive one."

Start making plans for July 8-10 at Land Rover Great Meadow International. All the action happens in two days: dressage in the morning and afternoon on Saturday, show jumping in the evening and, on Sunday, cross-country and the awards ceremony. Remember: there's nothing like it in the nation.

For more information: www.greatmeadowinternational.com

MARTHA SEMMES HONORED BY AICP

On April 3, 2016, in ceremonies to take place in Phoenix, Arizona, the American Institute of Certified Planners will induct Middleburg Town Administrator Martha Semmes into its College of Fellows.



The Institute grants such honors to only the best of the nation's certified planners, with only slightly more than one honoree per state honored each year.

According to the AICP, selection as a Fellow is based on "achievements of the planner as an individual, elevating the Fellow before the public and the profession as a model planner who has made significant contributions to planning and society," men and women who have "achieved excellence in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, public and community service, and leadership."

As outstanding professionals, "Fellows of AICP" will address student organizations, state APA conferences, and professional development programs."

Semmes has served with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission; in Leesburg as a town planner; with the Loudoun Main Street Program; in Purcellville as Town Planner and Zoning administrator; with APA Virginia on the board and as an officer of the Virginia Association of Zoning Officials; the Virginia Downtown Development Association; Loudoun Interfaith Relief and the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter.

This is actually her second tour of duty in Middleburg, her first, completed in 2002 as Town Planner, and from 2010 to the present as Town Administrator, the highest ranking non-elected town official.

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NEWS OF NOTE

TOP GOLF TEACHER IN VIRGINIA NAMED AS CREIGHTON FARMS’ DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION

ERIKA LARKIN JOINS AWARD-WINNING PRIVATE CLUB CREIGHTON FARMS



The Club at Creighton Farms announced today that Erika Larkin has joined as the golf club’s new Director of Instruction. Erika boasts an impressive list of accolades, including being recently named the 2015-2016 “No. 1 Teacher in Virginia” on the “Best Teachers in State” list by Golf Digest. Erika has also been on the “Top 40 Under 40 Young Teachers” list by Golf Digest every year since 2012, and was named the 2012 “Middle Atlantic PGA Teacher of the Year”

and “Top Golf Pro of 2011” by Washingtonian Magazine. Erika is no stranger to Creighton Farms – she has been instrumental in the recent golf instruction program expansion at the club, which includes AimPoint Express programs, golf schools and clinics, year-long improvement classes, and significant use of technology and training aids. To have Erika join the Creighton Farms team as their Director of Instruction was a natural next step. “Erika is an outstanding golfer

first steps towards the business of golf instruction. Erika became a member of the PGA in 2006 and started the Larkin Golf Learning Community at Stonewall Golf Club in Gainesville, Va., where she gained national exposure for her teaching. She is also a contributor to Golf Digest and occasionally appears on the Golf Channel. “I look forward to starting this new chapter of instruction and golf at the Club at Creighton Farms,” said Erika. “The membership at Creighton Farms con-

sists of golfers of all levels, from novice and junior to advanced players. It’s exciting to work with many different levels and to build a golf instruction program that incorporates all ages, skill levels and the newest technologies available to enhance players’ abilities. Plus, this is truly an incredible club with a remarkable course – I’m thrilled to be a part of it.” Erika lives in Gainesville with her two children and husband Mike.

RARE ANTEBELLUM HOME AND GARDEN TOUR



The Mosby Heritage Area Association, a nonprofit preservation and education organization, will host a rare opening of historic Green Garden, a renowned antebellum hunt country home near Upperville, on Sunday, April 3.

The tour of the house will be part of a Civil War program beginning with five tales by regional historians. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. at Buchanan Hall, 8549 John Mosby Highway (Rte. 50). The 70-minute program will be followed by a caravan to nearby Green Garden, 22439 Greengarden Road, Upperville, VA 20184, where attendees will have a welcome reception and tour of the home.

Green Garden, a National Historic Register site, dates from 1833; its columned main portion was built in 1846. The home is known for its role as a Mosby Safe House. Several of Mosby’s Rangers lived here during the Civil War, including then-owner Jesse Richards’ sons Adolphus (“Dolly”) and Thomas. Green Garden still has its legendary “hidey hole” used by Mosby’s Rangers for rapid escape.

The speakers at Buchanan Hall will include Childs Burden, co-founder of the Mosby Heritage Area Association, who will give a lively talk on the cavalry campaign at Aldie-Middleburg-Upperville in June 1863.

Also speaking will be Gettysburg National Military Park Superintendent Ed W. Clark, as well as Gettysburg Foundation President Joanne M. Hanley. Other speakers will touch on the action at Vineyard Hill—the location of Buchanan Hall—and the safe house experience of Mosby’s Rangers at Green Garden.

This event is a fundraiser for the Mosby Heritage Area Association’s education program that sends professionals into classrooms in the region with local history and a preservation message. It will be co-hosted by the Gettysburg Foundation.

Tickets are \$30 for MHAA members and \$40 for non-members. Refreshments at Green Garden are included. Please telephone (540) 687-6681 for reservations.



The growth of food and the preservation of land for farming.

If you live in the area you’ve likely noticed lots of activity at Gilbert’s Corner recently. Gilbert’s Corner Market is a newly established organization and group of producers dedicated to the preservation and cultivation of local farmland for our community. They are in the early stages of creating a sustainable agricultural approach and a marketplace for local farmers who are committed to responsible agricultural practices in the nearby Piedmont. To date, over 400 acres have been permanently conserved at Gilbert’s Corner, a large portion of which is specifically for farming.

Join us in celebrating the citizens and farmers who have come together to preserve this open space in perpetuity. Visit Gilbert’s Corner this season to support open space and the establishment of a central marketplace in the community. It’s destined to be a model for communities across America. To learn more, go to gilbertscorner.org.

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NEWS OF NOTE

SOUTHERN LIVING'S BEST SMALL TOWNS: MIDDLEBURG CONTENTED FROM PAGE 1



“to highlight the beauty and culture of the growing South” reaching more than 23 million people each month.

To celebrate Southern Living’s gold anniversary, the staff mapped out a festive yearlong celebration. Plans had been in the works for a huge February issue that included Best of the South features, some in print,

some digital. The campaign kicked off with a big party in January called “Evening With The Editors” which launched the commemorative book, “Southern Living 50 Years” held in Time’s new Food Studios and the magazines test kitchens. The gale evening doubled as a reunion with former editors and staff.

To quote the magazine: “Our anniversary year is more than a celebration of Southern Living. It’s a celebration of life in the South.”

“We wanted to celebrate the best of the region with special stories throughout our 50th year that would showcase what we and our readers love,” said Luesse. “We’ll continue to fea-

ture more Best of topics, and Small Towns is one our readers love because they’re being introduced to a place where they would enjoy staying on their way to another destination – small towns like Middleburg that offer a lot. One of the great stories for the anniversary issue was interviewing some of the original staff. We were going

to small towns that no one had ever covered, and that forged the relationship between small towns, Southern Living and its audience.”

Middleburg has been in the public eye for quite some time. It made headlines during the Kennedy era. Also, it appears in many back issues of Southern Living for antiques, cozy inns, great weekend getaways, holiday shopping, etc. The town will host the 4th annual Middleburg Film Festival, October 20-23, 2016. Last December, Christmas in Middleburg experienced a record-making turnout, and the committee’s already working on logistical improvements for the next one.

“We’re truly blessed to have visitors who want to come and learn about us and enjoy all that we have to offer – horses, history, shopping, dining, vineyards and gorgeous views – something that our locals appreciate on a daily basis,” said Mayor Davis. “Our gentle growth will continue to keep us strong and we will not lose sight of who we are and where we came from. Sometimes, on weekends, Middleburg can be more crowded, but that boost to our economy helps our town and businesses to thrive. We shall do our best to protect and perpetuate what makes our home one of Southern Living’s Best Small Towns.”

Be sure to visit: www.southernliving.com/travel/best-small-towns

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View from rear of the home

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NEWS OF NOTE

LAND TRUST OF VIRGINIA TO HOST ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY



Ridge from a lovely terrace and garden setting. Join LTV for an afternoon celebrating conservation efforts to save Virginia's open space, natural resources, and cultural heritage.

The Garden Party will again feature a "wet paint" auction, Painting for Preservation, where artists will create individual and unique artworks from selected locations in the Orion garden. Party guests will be able to bid on these works of art during the party to secure their opportunity to take a canvas home. In addition, there will be a silent auction featuring items from local shops and restaurants for consideration.

Individual and business sponsorship opportunities are available.

When: Sunday, May 22, 2016
3:00-6:00 pm.

Where: Orion Farm, 7476
Frogstown Road, Marshall, Virginia.

Tickets: Individual tickets will be available online, by mail or phone, starting April 1.

Contact Kerry Roszel at 540-687-8814 or Kerry@landtrustva.org.

The Land Trust of Virginia Garden Party will be held on May 22, 2016 at Orion, the home of Gayden and Robin Parker, in Northern Fauquier County. The estate is nestled in heart of Orange County Hunt territory, with near 180-degree views of rolling hills, pastures and the Blue

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SOCIETY SEEKS HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS OF PURCELLVILLE



The Purcellville Historical Society is hosting "A Walk Through Purcellville," an exhibit of photographs from the personal collections of residents, collectors, businesses, and public archives.

The goal of this Memorial Day weekend exhibit is to give past and current residents an opportunity to expand and share their sense of community through scenes reflecting Purcellville's rich history and each exhibitor's connection to their time in Purcellville.

The only requirement is for the photos to be specific to Purcellville. Within these guidelines, all types of photos will be accepted: portraits, team photos, buildings, landscapes and events.

We welcome and encourage images from all eras.

There are several ways you can send photos for the event. The first is to email the images to phspresident1@gmail.com. With each photo, please provide several sentences describing the scene and the people within it, as well as a notation explaining your preferences regarding how the images should be printed/displayed.

If you choose to mail photos, be sure all your photos are clearly labeled on the back with your full name. On a separate sheet include an explanation of the people, place, date and event shown in the photo. These descriptions, as well as those sent via email, will be used to create captions for the photos. Finally, please in-

clude any special care you want taken with the photos and an address to which they can be returned. A donation toward shipping fees/mounting fees is greatly appreciated. All mailed photos should be sent to: Purcellville Historical Society, PO Box 765, Purcellville, Va 20134

We are accepting photos until April 20th, 2016!

The exhibit will run Friday, May 27 through Sunday May 29, 2016 at Purcellville's historic Train Station. More details on the open house and exhibit times will become available as the date nears.

For more information email President Kacey Young at phspresident1@gmail.com

GLENN SEAMAN JOINS MIDDLEBURG REAL ESTATE ATOKA PROPERTIES



Middleburg Real Estate/Atoka Properties recently announced the addition of realtor Glenn Seaman to their team, serving discriminating home and land buyers and sellers in Northern Virginia.

Glenn has lived in the DC/MD/VA area for over 40 years. His desire to help others led him to his first professional career in law enforcement with the Maryland State Police, where he faithfully served with integrity & fairness for over 20 years. He distinguished himself, as a recognized expert in the Maryland courts, and as an instructor in various fields of law enforcement.

Planning for his future after law enforcement, Glenn entered the real estate profession 18 years ago. His experience includes owning and operating a property management/security company that served luxury vacation homeowners in Garrett County, Deep Creek Lake, Maryland.

He also worked with investors by locating, researching, and assisting with the acquisition of large parcels of land for residential development. He has helped clients sell and purchase residential homes in Maryland and Virginia. Glenn also worked for an established title company conducting real estate settlements that has provided him with additional experience and knowledge that many agents do not offer.

Glenn can help you whether buying and/or selling your first home or your fifth home. He can help you find the right home for your growing family and with down sizing. Glenn's broad range of knowledge and experience in the real estate industry, coupled with his high standard of customer service, will give you confidence and peace of mind. He will make your real estate transactions an enjoyable and successful experience.

To contact Glenn, Please telephone his office: 703- 777 1170 x423 or his mobile: 571 315 0143.

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GERRY BURACKER: ON COURSE



Gerry Buracker knows dirt—he can move tons of dirt, develop the site for a riding ring, polo field, the house and barn of your dreams. Whatever the job, when it comes to dirt, he can handle it. His new excavating company, On Course LLC, gets a solid foundation from 35 years of experience in heavy equipment and construction. It just so happens that Buracker's a dirt-savvy Mr. Fixit if you need an existing problem corrected and a maestro of grading and fine grading. Best of all, he's as honest as the day is long.

On Course services include site development, land clearing, road, driveway and utility installations, indoor and outdoor riding arenas, equestrian facilities, galloping track, race track and polo installations, as well as erosion and siltation control. Buracker is local, born in Luray to a family of farmers and horse breeders. He was young when his father uprooted the family to Chantilly way back when it was still country to plumb a better market for his Quarter Horses. He grew up working on the farm. He made hay and started their homebreds and rode them. He still rides both English and Western. At 18, he started operating heavy equipment for a construction company. A year later, he was promoted to foreman. By the time he was 38, Buracker was president of the company, building it to the point where he was in charge of negotiating multi-million dollar heavy utility installation con-

tracts and managing more than 80 employees. He was known and respected throughout the construction industry for his exceptional integrity and insight.

Buracker's more local projects include the National Museum of the Marine Corps (Quantico), the Loudoun County Government Center (Leesburg), and the National Sporting Library in Middleburg. He served two years as president and eight years as board member of the Heavy Construction Contractors Association. He was also a director-at-large for the National Utilities Contractors Association. "Call Before You Dig" is still sound advice and you can thank Buracker for his participation in that campaign.

"After the construction industry took a turn for the worse in 2008, I had to re-think my life and I took a step back from the pressures of running a company," said Buracker. "I found comfort getting back to the horses. For a while I did a lot of equine transport around hunt country and up and down the East Coast. Then I took a breather. I spent more time with my family and our horses, but I kept thinking about my skills and how to package them. I'm really good at excavation, drainage, site preparation and grading. I love working around horses. My wife Jennifer and I figured it out: earth work plus horse work equals On Course LLC."

For more information: www.on-courseearthwork.com

FOXCROFT'S SAYLOR HART HEADED TO NATIONAL RIDING CHAMPIONSHIP



Saylor Hart, a sophomore at Foxcroft School, earned herself a trip to the Intercollegiate Equestrian Association (IEA) National Championships last weekend with a terrific performance. The Keswick, VA resident was second out of 12 riders in the Varsity Intermediate Over Fences class at the IEA Zone 3 Finals in Lexington, VA.

Hart is one of only 24 riders from across the country who will gather at the Lexington Horse Park in Lexington, KY, on April 20-24 to compete in this division. The IEA is the

largest scholastic riding organization in the United States with more than 12,500 middle and high school riders participating in Hunt Seat and Western competitions across 42 states.

"She adapted her riding style to suit her mount and had a very correct and thoughtful ride over her course," reported Director of Riding Kate Worsham, who trains the entire Foxcroft Riding Team. "The competition in the Intermediate division was very strong, but Saylor was able to draw on her strong technique and maintain her composure to carry her

through."

Three other riders competed at the Zone 3 finals and did themselves and Foxcroft proud. Freshman Kayla Lee (Austin, TX) just missed qualifying for Nationals with a fourth-place finish in the Varsity Intermediate Flat class. Riding in the Varsity Open division, senior Meghann Harmon (Middleburg, VA), put in a "solid ride," to place 7th out of 12 competitors on the Flat and freshman Clair Newton (Leesburg, VA), showed poise and potential in the Over Fences class.



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LOUDOUN COUNTY EQUINE ALLIANCE ANNUAL MEETING

The Loudoun County Equine Alliance will host an Equine Expo and Annual Meeting at Otium Cellars on Thursday, March 31st at 6:00pm. The meeting will begin at 6:00pm, followed by the Expo at 6:30pm to 9:00pm. The event is open to the public.

The Equine Expo showcases equestrian businesses, organizations, facilities and support industries. Attendees have the opportunity to learn more about how these vendors can assist and improve their equestrian endeavors. A select number of tables are still available.

The highly anticipated results of the Loudoun County Equine Survey will be a discussion point at the meeting. Members of the Loudoun Board of Supervisors and the Town Council of Purcellville plan to attend.

Refreshments will be available, and wine will be available for purchase from the winery.

The mission of the Loudoun County Equine Alliance is to advance the interests of all equine disciplines and related industries through a unified voice that advocates, educates and communicates the initiatives and benefits of the horse industry, within the equine community, to the public and to elected officials.

For more information contact Kelly Foltman, DVM info@loudounequine.org 315-430-7515

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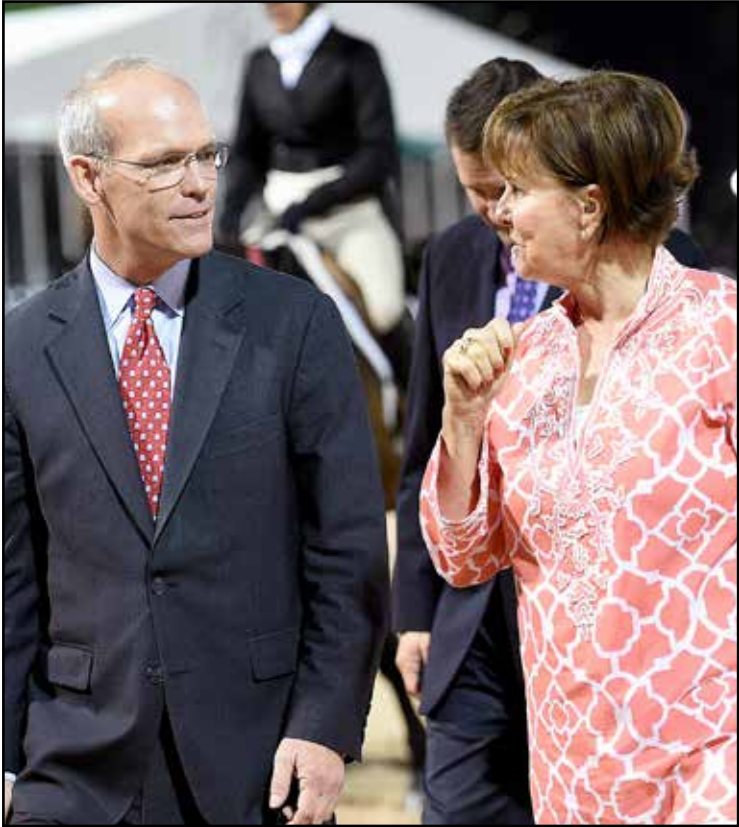
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BLUE RIDGE RACES

BERRYVILLE, VA - PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK



9TH RACE WINNER ZANCLUS AND KIERAN NORRIS UP



2ND RACE WINNER DAI_BANDO



GERARD GALLIGAN ON BOARD CURVE OF STONES



DIANA GILLIAM 2NDPLACER IN LADY RIDER TIMBER



7TH RACE START



1STRACEWINNERPRIMA



BLUE RIDGE RACES

BERRYVILLE, VA - PHOTOS BY VALER DURBON



JEFF MURPHY WINNER OF THE MAIDEN HURDLE RACE ON BOARD PRIMA FACIE - OWNED BY CELTIC VENTURE STABLE .
IN THE PICTURE : ANNE WATKINS / MARY MUNSTER / JEFF MURPHY / LISA ANDERSEN / DIANE INGOE / MIRIAM ANVER /
JACQUELINE FLEMING / PATRICIA MCCANN / EVA SMITHWICK



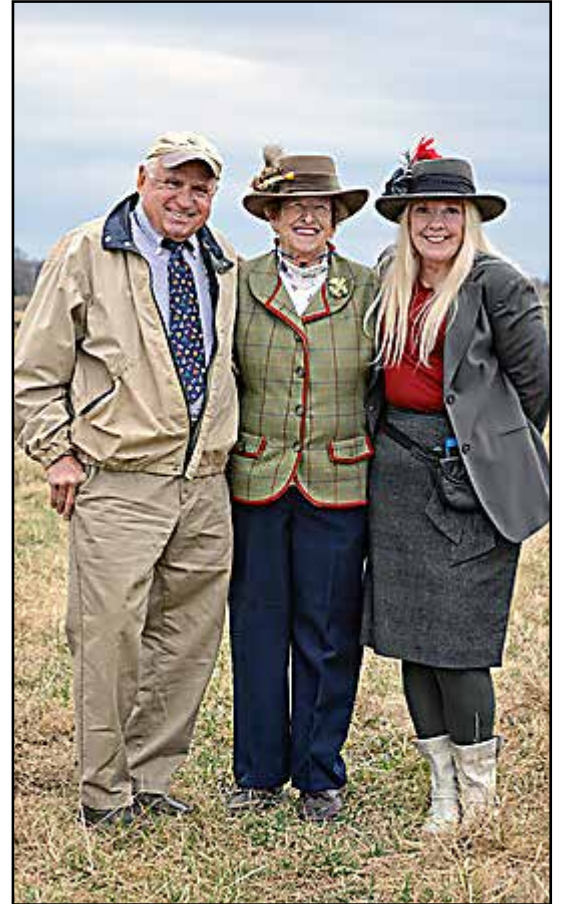
GERARD GALLIGAN ON BOARD CURVE OF STONES



DONNA T. ROGERS AND DOUGLAS LEES



VICTOR RODRIGUEZ ON BOARD RED GINGER



GEORGE WILTSHIRE, ANNE WATKINS AND MARY MUNSTER



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MIDDLEBURG LIONS CLUB 2016 BLAND COMPETITION

THE HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLEBURG, VA - PHOTOS BY DEE DEE HUBBARD

The Middleburg Lions Club would like to thank The Hill School and Karen Chase for their participation in this year's Lions Club Bland Competition. We would like to thank the judges and everyone who participated. Special thanks go out to the Middleburg Lions Club members, Tom Kiernan, Ken Arthur, Ron Lang and Gary Eizember for their year-round ser-

vices to the club and the community.

This year's Instrumental winner, Christopher Yuki Papenfuss, went on to take Second Place in the Regional contest. The winners of this event go on to compete statewide for numerous scholarships. The competition is meant to honor James Bland, a Composer from 19th Century Virginia.

Middleburg Lions Club Bland Junior Division

1st Place Micah Josia Kao, Age 9 Played Minuet in G Major from J.S Bach's Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach

2nd Place Avni Garg, Age 9 Played my Heart will go on

Middleburg Lions Club Bland Senior Division

1st Place Christopher Yuki Papenfuss, Age 14 Played Sonata No.1 II Leggiero e Legato

2nd Place Ella S. Kim, Age 7 Played Nocturne in C Major

Tied with

2nd Place Xiyou Wang, Age 18 Played Oiseaux tristes (Sad Birds)

Judges

Kathleen Hall, Karen Chase, Cynthia Paola Saucedo Estrada, Carlos Figueroa



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~Hamlet: Act 1, Scene 3

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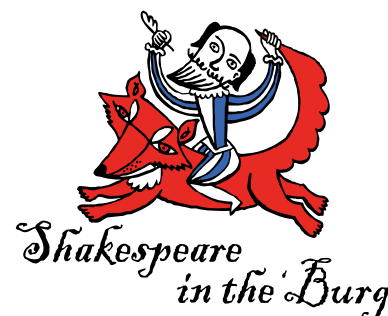
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April 10: Fancy Stitch Sampler
Class with Ruth Dils
April 8-23: BB Needlepoint
Designs Trunk Show
April 23: Jenny Henry Young
People's Stitching Workshop
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BOBBY BURKE CELEBRATES HIS BIRTHDAY AT THE BLACKTHORNE INN UPPERVILLE VA. PHOTOS BY TERESA RAMSAY



FINNEGAN'S FURY SERANADING BOBBY BURKE ON HIS BIRTHDAY.



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PLACES & FACES

2016 MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER’S BOARD APPRECIATION DINNER
MIDDLEBURG, VA, PHOTOS BY DEE DEE HUBBARD

Thank you Nicky Perry, Chair of the
Middleburg Community Center’s
2016 Board Member Appreciation Dinner
& Honorary MCC Board Member, for
30+ years of service to the Middleburg Community Center

On March 18, 2016 the Middleburg Community Center honored the current and past members of the board of directors at a dinner in the “Robert H. Smith Ballroom.” Honorary Board Member, Nicky Perry reminded the guests of the fun that has been had at the Center over that time, from the art auctions to the plays and bowling alley. It was an important reminder of all that the board has done to help the center evolve to meet the needs of the community.

Current President Bundles Murdock, remarked on the vibrancy of the events that are being put on every day at the Center, including the April 8th Art Auction and April 15th Concert on the Steps. Former board member, Tutti Perricone’s Back Street Catering provided a delicious meal, with dessert by current board member Bethann Beeman’s Island Treasures Gourmet Rum Cakes. Music was provided by the Community Music School of the Piedmont

The following list represents all of the previous board memebers from its beginnings in 1949.

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2016 MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER’S BOARD APPRECIATION DINNER
MIDDLEBURG, VA, PHOTOS BY DEE DEE HUBBARD



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PROGENY

ACTIVITIES ABOUND AT MIDDLEBURG CHARTER SCHOOL



Ms. Escobar's "Give Back Class" that has been working to make our school and community a better place to live. On March 17th, the class took a walking field trip and visited places around town handing out St. Patrick's Day cards and treats to local people and businesses. Their favorite stops were at The Common Grounds and Southern States. They concluded their trip with an impromptu trek to the Middleburg Fire Station where they were greeted with open arms and received a tour and fire hats while passing out

their treats and cards.

On March 16th, Ms. Katie Brennen's class titled "Time Travel to Colonial Middleburg" took a walking field trip to visit historic locations through out town. The students spent the week making butter, creating colonist clothing and learning about the rich history of Middleburg.

During the week of March 7-11th, eight 4th and 5th graders participated in MCCS's first "Intro to Robotics" class with Mrs. Amy Lutter. The boys built and programmed their Lego EV3 robots on small teams. Later, they undertook programming chal-

lenges and as a group they even created a simple robot that could draw on paper.

We have offered two weeks of intersession classes to our students twice already this year. Our first two weeks were in October. Our second two weeks are currently going on and our next intersession classes will be offered to MCCS students in June when school is out.

This is something that we offer that we feel truly sets us apart from other schools. The kids are so passionate about the activities they choose to participate in that learning becomes fun at MCCS!

HIGHLAND SCHOOL KEY CLUB EMPTY BOWLS PROGRAM RAISES OVER \$1,200

Highland School's Key Club raised over \$1,200 during its eighth annual Empty Bowls Soup Dinner recently. Proceeds benefit Community Touch, the Fauquier Food Bank, the F.I.S. H. summer meals for kids program, the Fauquier Food Distribution Coalition, and Key Club's Dignity Project, where student conduct outreach to individuals and families in insecure housing at low rent motels.

For a donation, guests select bowls handmade by Highland ceramics students, taste soups donated by local businesses and Highland families, and enjoy desserts made by Highland's Baking Club.

Guests dine inside and outside on the patio, where they enjoy music by Mr. Fatula and student musicians. Many



guests stayed for Highland's spring musical, Brigadoon.

Many, many thanks to the numerous student volunteers, and local businesses and Highland families who supported this event. 2016 Empty Bowls Sponsors included: Black

Bear Bistro, Claire's at the Depot, Harris Teeter, Hidden Jules, Hunan Café, McMahon's Irish Pub and Restaurant, Molly's Irish Pub, The Natural Marketplace, The New Bridge, Safeway, The Treuting Family and Tal Tomlinson.

FOXCROFT'S ANNUAL WALK-ATHON – A "COLOR RUN" THIS YEAR – IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 3

Foxcroft School's Junior Class is sponsoring an all-school, 5K "color run" Sunday April 3 to benefit Heifer International and encourages residents of Loudoun County to make a difference in the world by supporting the event. Donations, payable to Heifer International, may be sent to the School.

For years, Foxcroft has held an annual walkathon organized by the Junior Class. Over the years, the "walkathon" has changed – instead of a trek

to the village of Middleburg, it's now a run held entirely on campus and highlighted by students being covered with colored powders. The purpose and spirit of the "walkathon," however, remains the same: Students in the Junior Class choose a worthy beneficiary and then organize the event and the associated fundraising, soliciting sponsorships from local businesses, family and friends. Thousands of dollars, as well as increased awareness, have been raised for charitable



organizations ranging from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and Room to Read to the Polaris Project and Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter.

THREE FOXCROFT HOOPSTERS NAMED ALL-DAC

KAT FORREST OF SPERRYVILLE, ALEX GRACE (PURCELLVILLE) AND PIPSY STEYN (LEESBURG) EARN HONORS

Seniors Kathleen Forrest, Alex Grace and Pipsy Steyn, a trio that led Foxcroft School to unsurpassed heights on the basketball court over a three-year period, received All-Delany Athletic Conference basketball honors this season for the third year in a row, it was announced Wednesday by Coach Patrick Finn.

The three girls joined the Foxcroft varsity as sophomores and led the team to the DAC Division II championship game two years running, culminating in the school's first-ever basketball title last season. The competition provided much more difficult this year as Foxcroft moved up to Division I, and although the team finished last in that division's standings, the team played well and hard – which rival coaches recognized as they chose For-

rest, Grace and Steyn as among the best players in the conference.

Kathleen, known as "Kat" to her friends and family, received Second-Team mention, meaning opposing coaches considered her among the 12 best players in the division. Kat was a First-Team choice in Division II last year and received Honorable Mention in her sophomore year. This season, she averaged 7.9 points per game and 8.5 rebounds per game in eight DAC games while leading the team in both departments.

Alex and Pipsy, Foxcroft's starting backcourt tandem, received Honorable Mention from the five division coaches who participated in the voting. Alex was a First-Team Division II choice in 2014 and was named Player of the Year in DAC II in 2015 when Foxcroft



won the title. Pipsy was a DAC II Second-Team choice in each of the previous two seasons.

Alex, who led DAC II in scoring last season while setting a Foxcroft single-season record, was second on the team in scoring this year, averaging 7.4 ppg in 10 league games. She also led the team in steals.

Pipsy was third in scoring with a 5.9 ppg and led the team in assists (2.4 apg) in nine DAC contests.

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STEAM CHALLENGE

Test your skills and have fun building a Rube Goldberg Machine.



Friday, April 1, 3 - 7 p.m.

Team building pursuit of 21st-century skills: Critical Thinking, Creativity, Communication, Collaboration

Saturday, April 2, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Competition building a Rube Goldberg Project. Judges will be engineers from Raytheon, and the winner will receive a 3D printer kit.

This event is open to all junior high school students. No registration fee.

Middleburg Academy is an independent school serving grades 8 through 12, with small classes, dedicated faculty, full STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) curriculum, excellent athletics, and a remarkable record of graduates excelling at top universities. To find out more about our school, and to register for the competition visit www.MiddleburgAcademy.org.



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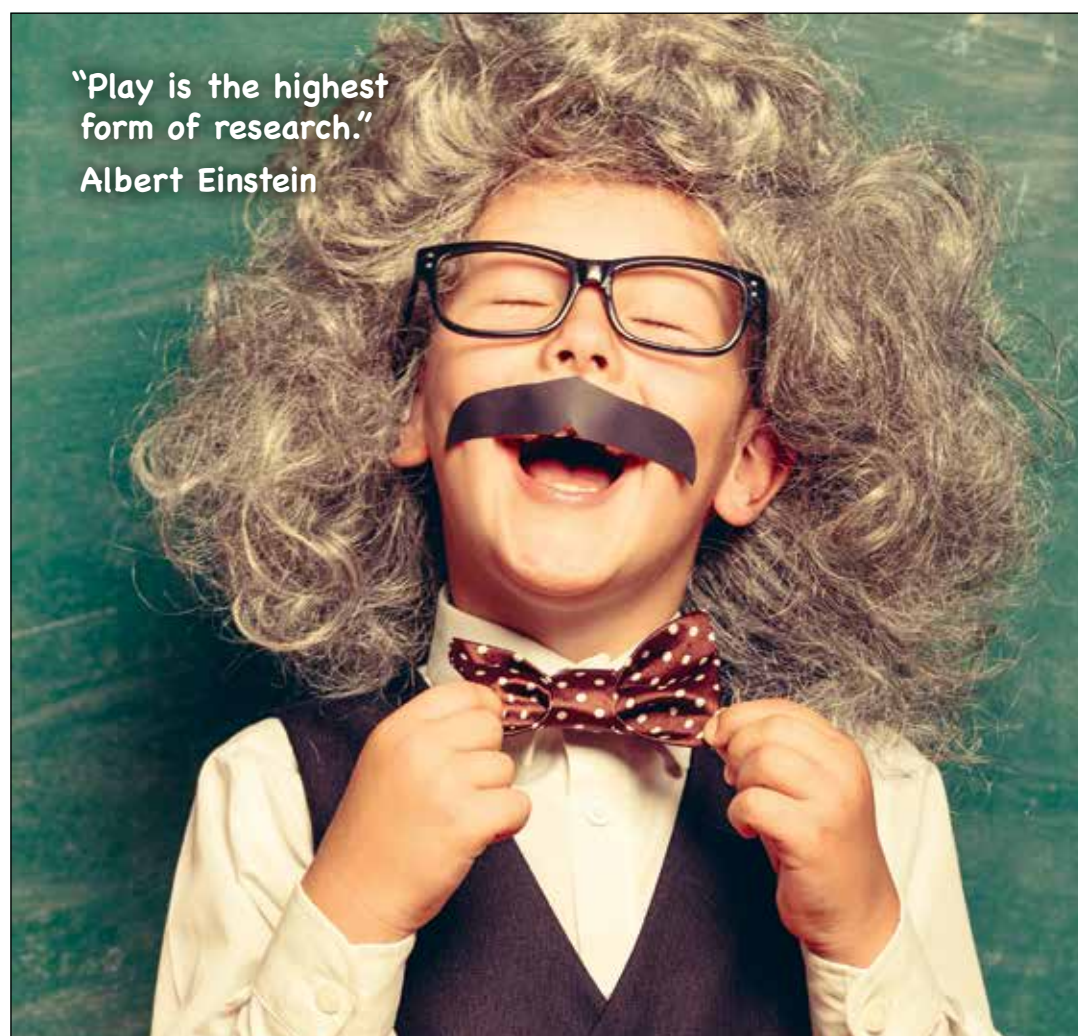
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PROGENY

FOXCROFT STUDENTS HELP GOVERNOR LAUNCH MILLION WOMEN MENTOR INITIATIVE



Foxcroft School students celebrated International Women's Day Tuesday with Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe and a stunning group of STEM leaders, who are committed to growing the number of girls and women studying and working in the critical science, technology, engineering and math fields.

Speaking before several hundred people in Richmond's historic Patrick Henry Building, Governor McAuliffe launched the Million Women Mentors initiative in Virginia (MWM-VA) and presented a proclamation supporting girls and women in STEM.

"When we are advancing women we are advancing the Commonwealth," said the Governor. "I want to make sure that women are leading the way in STEM, so we are 'all in' with the Million Women Mentors."

He is first governor to serve as Honorary Chair of a state chapter of Million Women Men-

tors, a nation-wide initiative to support girls and women in STEM by providing one million STEM mentors.

Dr. Carole Inge, one of MWM-VA Co-Chairs and founder of the International Association for STEM Leaders, invited Foxcroft Science Department Chair Maria Evans, Ph.D., to bring students to the event because she had read about the School's outstanding STEM program and special initiatives, such as its girls-only interschoolastic STEM competition and Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS) curriculum. Foxcroft's contingent consisted of 13 girls who are passionate about STEM. (Only three other high schools were represented and none by more than three girls.)

"It was a wonderful opportunity for the girls," said Dr. Evans, an aerospace engineer who gave up launching rockets and designing constellation orbits to teach at Foxcroft. "They got

to meet the Governor and hear about the many diverse opportunities in STEM fields from some impressive speakers. They also made some wonderful connections with people and companies and got excited about the possibilities."

Of particular interest to the students were programs supported by Cisco Systems and Lockheed Martin. They also enjoyed hearing from such powerful women as Michelle Lee, the first woman to be Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade Maurice A. Jones; and MWM-VA Co-Chair Jennifer Bisceglie, who is CEO of Interos Solutions and Global Chair of WIPP (Women Impacting Public Policy).

"I'm counting on you," Governor McAuliffe told the students. These Foxcroft girls seem anxious to rise to the challenge! Founded in 1914, Foxcroft is a college-preparatory boarding and day school for girls in



grades 9-12. It offers 75+ courses, including 17 APs, and fields athletic teams in nine sports, including a nationally-known riding program and a state champion lacrosse team. The 2015-16 student body is comprised of 166 girls from 18 states, the District

of Columbia, and 14 countries. About one-third of the students receive financial assistance, 25 percent are international students and 16 percent students of color. For more information, call 540.687.4340.

OBITUARIES

HEIDI KATRINA MARIA BOGGS SAMUEL CHARLES DEANE



Heidi Katrina Maria Boggs, 48, of The Plains, passed away peacefully in her sleep after a long illness on March 11, 2016 surrounded by her parents. Katrina is preceded in death by her father, William Dixon Boggs. She is survived by her mother and step-father, Rein T. and William H. du Pont; and five siblings, Christopher "Chris" Dixon Boggs, John Thomas "Tommy" Maria Boggs, Anne Everett Westbrook, William Ph. du Pont, and Ridgely du Pont. Katrina was a prolific and well loved painter.



Samuel Charles Deane passed away February 15th peacefully in his sleep surrounded by his loving family. Born June 15, 1931 to Floyd Deane and Cornelia Dickerson and was raised in Charlottesville, Virginia by his sister Florence Burnett. He was a veteran of the Korean War serving two years as an airplane and helicopter mechanic while stationed in Germany. Upon returning state side he married his sweetheart Barbara Jane Rose of Fairfax, Virginia in 1955 and remained so until his death. They had four children and 8 grandchildren that he adored. Best known among friends as the proprietor along with his wife of The Atoka General Store.

His passion was training race horses. He was a very successful trainer in the Mid-Atlantic region training numerous winners mainly from his backyard. Sam was predeceased by his grandson Sam Deane and is survived by his wife of 60 years Barbara Jane Deane, his sister Florence Burnett, four children; Laura Karoll from New Jersey and John Deane, Mark Deane, Angela Deane living in Virginia and seven other grandchildren John Micheal Hill, Taryn Deane, Katelyn Deane, Jacob Deane, Jesse Deane, Jenna Deane and Morgan Carriero. A celebration of Sam's life was held on Thursday February 18th at the Middleburg Methodist Church.

ROBERT MCLESTER RAMSAY

Robert McLester Ramsay, of Middleburg, Virginia passed away March 7, 2016 at the age of 94. We have lost another member of "The Greatest Generation."

He was born in Birmingham, Alabama on July 26, 1921 to Andrew Carnegie Ramsay and Mary Ruth McLester Ramsay. Mr. Ramsay attended Ramsay High School and graduated from Culver Military Academy in Culver, Indiana. He attended the University of Virginia where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and played varsity golf. In 1942 he enlisted in the United States Army.

Serving in World War II as a 1st Lieutenant in the 1st Cavalry Division, 5th Cavalry Regiment, Mr. Ramsay saw action in the Pacific Theater from February 1944 through June 1945. He participated in the New Guinea Campaign, the Admiralty Islands Campaign, and the invasion of the Philippines at Leyte and the liberation of Luzon.

He served on General MacArthur's staff when he returned to the Philippines. For his service, he was awarded the Philippine Liberation Medal, the Army Combat Infantry Badge, the World War II Victory Medal and was awarded a Purple Heart.

After the war he completed his education at the University of Ala-

bama where he earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1948. He also attained his Professional Engineering License.

Upon his return to Birmingham, Mr. Ramsay began his career as a design engineer for James A. Evans Engineering. In 1951 he founded Banks, Ellett and Ramsay, Inc., a mechanical engineering and contracting company, where he served as President for 30 years. In 1958 he purchased Birmingham Lead and Smelting Company and served as President.

In 1972 his company purchased Shook and Fletcher Air Conditioning, Inc. and Banks, Ellett and Ramsay became the largest mechanical contractor in Alabama. In 1982 he founded Superior Mechanical, Inc. where he served as President and CEO for 17 years until his retirement.

At the time of his death, Mr. Ramsay served as Chairman of the Board of Ramsay-McCormack Land Company.

Predeceased by his parents, brother Andrew Carnegie Ramsay, Jr., daughter Mary McLester Ramsay Fikes, and his wife of 59 years, Rhoda Hale Ramsay, Mr. Ramsay is survived by his wife of 12 years Joan Faville Ramsay; his children Erskine, Robert, Charles, Rhoda and Richard; his step-children Cynthia, Brooke and Jonathan; 20



grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Ramsay was former President of The St. Andrew's Society of the Middle South; former President of the Sons of the Revolution in Alabama and former Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars in Alabama.

During his years in Birmingham, his many civic contributions included: former President, Mountain Brook Exchange Club; former Chairman, Birmingham Area Chapter of the American Red Cross; former Board Member, Boys and Girls Club of Central Alabama; former Board Member, Pearson Hall, Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Facility, and Cub Scout Leader, Troop 363, for 10 years.

MICHAEL GARY (MIKE) FLENIKEN

Michael Gary (Mike) Fleniken passed away on February 29th at the age of 62. Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 25, 1953, Mike was the son of Carroll Joseph Fleniken and Jane Newton Fleniken of Lafayette, Louisiana.

He was predeceased by his father and his younger brother, Gregory Joseph Fleniken. Mike graduated from the University of Southwestern Louisiana and after a five year courtship married the love of his life, Connie Lynn Walton of Lafayette on April 9th, 1983. Connie and Mike were itinerant gypsies moving numerous times and living in several states before settling in Houston, Texas.

Mike will be deeply mourned by his wife, Connie L. Walton of The Plains, Virginia, mother Jane Newton Fleniken of Lafayette, Louisiana, two sisters, Cindi Fleniken Baxter and husband John of Lafayette, Louisiana and Sondra Fleniken Young of Mena, Arkansas. Four nephews, Louis Austin Walton of New Orleans, Louisiana, Trevor Young and wife, Sherry of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and William Baxter of San Francisco, California. Two nieces, Lauren Baxter Knecht and husband Kirk of Lafayette, Louisiana and Tory Amanda Young of Denver, Colorado. His brothers and sisters-in-law, Thomas Larry Smith and wife Melinda Walton of Leesburg, Virginia, Jackie L. Walton of Marshall, Virginia, Jerry L.



Walton and wife, Cindy of Lafayette, Louisiana and Suzy Aycock Fleniken of Lafayette, Louisiana as well as a lifetime of close friends.

A memorial celebration of Mike's life will be scheduled later in the year. In lieu of flowers, his family prefers donations in Mike's name to the Animal Friends of Washington County, 3901 Highway 36N, Brenham, Texas 77833.

Some hold the belief that whenever a soul leaves this earth, an impact is made that forever changes something or someone left behind. With the passing of Michael G. Fleniken, it is impossible to exaggerate the impact and the sense of immeasurable loss for so many whose lives were enriched by his generosity and spirit.

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PASTIMES

VIBURNUMS FOR APRIL

THE PLANT LADY



KAREN REXRODE

It was probably 1975 when I first discovered *Viburnum carlesii* while walking my dog and living in Vienna, Virginia. The fragrance was so incredible that I trespassed into the yard and stole a flower to take home. Every day (at least for April), I made sure to take the same route just to be near while it remained in bloom.

When I moved to Loudoun County and built my house, it was one of the first shrubs to be planted, purchased from

Mac Stiff of Roundhill Gardens. That shrub is still alive and producing those incredible fragrant flowers for 2 to 3 weeks in April. The month wouldn't be complete without it.

Commonly known as Korean Spicebush, there are now numerous cultivars and hybrids, one even named 'Spice Girl'. Capable of reaching seven feet with an equal spread, the fragrance is the sole reason to grow *Viburnum carlesii*, lacking ornament any other time of year. Although its round habit is relatively

tidy, not that I care, you would find it in my garden even if it looked like a misshapen mop.

A hybrid with *Viburnum carlesii* is *V. x burkwoodii*. Immense plants grow at Oak Hill, they are at least 10 x 10. The fragrance is not quite as strong as the one parent but still worthy. Some April days you will notice the fragrance sinks to the lowest parts of the garden where you will find me working in close proximity. Weeding is much more pleasant when immersed in their perfume.



TOP 10 THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU PURCHASE A HOUSE TO REMODEL

ASK A REMODELER



TIM BURCH

Too many times, I've had to deliver the upsetting news to new homebuyers: the remodeling project they planned for their new purchase is not feasible. With a little due diligence and experience, the buyer's disappointment could have been avoided. To help ensure you're making an educated purchase, consider these ten tips when buying a house with the intention of a future remodeling project.

1. Check the local government's zoning ordinances. Don't assume that you will have identical building rights as the neighbors. Regulations change, and the particular location of your lot (corner lot example) may be impacted.

2. Research any neighborhood association restrictions. If you conduct a title search of the property, you should find the following: architectural design guidelines and review, construction materials requirements and even restrictions on how close you can build on the property line, along with size limits.

3. Never assume that an existing structure is adequate for future modifications. For instance, second floor ceilings are often inadequate flooring structures for remodeling attic space. Similarly, deck structures may not be appropriately designed to handle enclosed spaces. Basement ceilings in unfinished areas may be too low to finish and may not meet local building codes. Also, it's important to remember that all finished spaces require an

egress (exit).

4. Check system capacities. Most often, systems in the house are designed at best to meet the needs of the existing structure. That means when you increase the size of the house, you'll likely have to create new capacity for heating and cooling. You may even need to upgrade and enlarge the water supply, as well as the gas and electric supplies.

5. Investigate policies regarding septic systems. Policies vary among districts, but it is critical that you understand the capacity of your ex-

isting system and what is entailed with expanding it. New technologies are becoming more widespread, which give more options for expansion. Always consult an engineer in your specific area for detailed recommendations.

6. Be aware of hazardous materials. Many homes in our area built prior to 1972 have lead paint. And homes throughout the area, particularly those built 45 years ago or more, may have asbestos tile. Handling these materials appropriately, as part of a remodeling project, is required by law. So you should plan

on the extra cost associated with the safe remediation of these materials.

7. Make sure that you understand and appreciate your landscaping. Some trees and plantings are very delicate and may be damaged by construction in close proximity. There are techniques to minimize damage, such as root pruning and liquid fertilization. If you're considering a remodeling project in an area with a very important tree, you should consult a professional arborist.

8. Think through access for construction. One of the most overlooked aspects of a remodeling project is the logistics of transporting materials, equipment and personnel to the construction site. Often, access is restricted by trees, pools, grade, etc., making construction much more costly.

9. Be realistic about timing. The permitting process in particular can be a harrowing experience. With new local restrictions, particularly in regard to land disturbance, permitting can often take as long as a few months. Verify all requirements in your district, and hire a professional expediter to make the process as easy as possible.

10. Be realistic about your budget. As with many new purchases, there may be some unanticipated costs, and you may want to do

more work than you initially planned. Make sure you're conservative in developing a budget that will meet your needs, and consult an expert for the particular sort of work you are considering. Remember to find someone who tells you what you need to know, and not what you want to hear.

Tim Burch is Vice President of BOWA, an award-winning design build firm specializing in luxury renovations ranging from master suites and kitchens to whole-house remodels. A Northern Virginia native, Tim focuses on clients in the Loudoun and Fauquier County areas providing them with his 25 years of expertise in the design build construction industry. He is a third generation builder, certified remodeler, and instructor. Prior to joining BOWA, he was the Lead Project Manager of Construction for the Emmy Award winning construction reality television show, *Extreme Makeover Home Edition* on ABC Television. For more information on Tim and the BOWA team, visit www.bowa.com, or call 703-734-9050. Have a question for Tim that you'd like to see covered in Middleburg Eccentric? Email him at Ask-BOWA@bowa.com.

THE ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE

TOM NEEL

Okay artists, is it show time? If you haven't had your first solo show, it's time to get into shape. Every artist at some point aspires to have their own solo exhibit. It's that chance for you to shine and have a complete body of your work featured. But it is a responsibility in which even a small one person show can be a major investment in time and

money. So it's advised to correctly plan ahead before it becomes a reality.

I've had forty or more solo shows in my 28 years of selling fine art. The early years were group shows and my first solo shows eventually started coming multiple times a year as a published print artist. For those, a lot of responsibility fell back on the hosting gallery. Solo painting shows came with time and over the last 10 years I've done two to three solo

shows per year, so allow me to offer this. Possibly the most important factor to remember is while the show might be for YOU, about YOU and because of YOU, YOU largely have a responsibility to everyone including yourself.

So, YOU need to be prepared. If procrastination is your middle name, own it and factor it in because people will be depending on you. If you are the type that runs late, now is not the time. A show is an in-

vestment in you and often others are not only depending on you, but yes, investing in you.

Next, just because you are asked to do a solo show, doesn't mean you should or that you are ready. Understand your demand and the show's intent. Feel out who you are as an artist through group shows first. Those shows will help you understand the details, time and money needed, and that the mental and financial investment will be compounded ten fold for a one person show. The creation of your art, the possible expenses of framing of your art, promotional efforts, delivery and even pick up, all have to be considered with much greater depth.

From the start, be thinking about what you want to say through your art. Write down themes and or bodies of work you would like to invest your creative soul into. It shouldn't be, "Oh no, I have a show and I can't figure out what to paint." Shows are for artists who have or will invest themselves into a body of work. Work that means something to them and this is not about quantity, it's about quality. My 25th Anniversary show featured little more than a dozen new paintings. Yes many were large, but I've known artists who think you can't have a show with less than thirty or more works of art and to be frank, I think that's losing sight of your narrative and focusing too much on the quantitative.

Your collectors will always be more interested in you and your best, rather than a number. Also keep your eye on continuity. Being all over the place with what you are presenting is more confusing than inspiring. After you know what you want to paint, sculpt or create, give yourself a realistic timeline to do so. Don't try to fool yourself by not factoring in the

pressures of creating a body of work. This is not a sprint. So give it a realistic timeline and then act on your plan.

Next, understand the money needed for materials. I have found that I don't even begin working on a show without everything needed to create it in house and I rarely misjudge those needs at this point. I never want to have inspired creative energy and be without the materials needed for that energy.

Now you are creating, where are you going to put all of this work? Do you have the space for a dozen or more paintings? Depending on size, they can be everywhere. It is amazing the space needed to store and/or dry art and that's before framing comes into play. Plus what if you have to provide a painting for a client or produce a commission in the middle of producing the work for your show? If you have given yourself months to produce your show, are you just going to tell your client - sorry, I can't do it?

Last, if your art needs framing, this expense can bring some artists to their knees. Listen, I understand quality framing can be expensive, but please do not be the artist who invests months of their creative life, only to frame it all poorly. Care about your whole presentation, because trust me, your prospective clients will. Also, if you use ready made frames, be ready for back orders and plan ahead. Start slow and build. Then be excited and enjoy! It's your time to shine.

Historic Garden Week

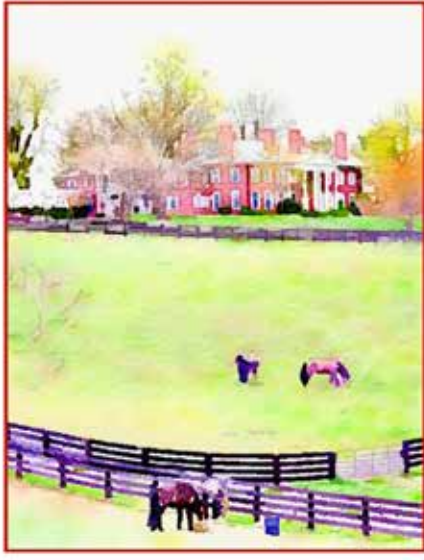
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Monday, April 25
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Tickets are \$40 on tour days and will be available at our headquarters, Buchanan Hall in Upperville, as well as the National Sporting Library & Museum, which is also on the tour.

Advance Tickets are \$35 and are available by mail by sending a check payable to FLGC with a stamped, self-addressed legal size envelope to: Ginger Wallach, P.O. 1507, Middleburg, VA 20118. For more information contact Ms. Wallach at flgc.hgw@gmail.com. Advance tickets may also be purchased online at www.vagardenweek.org or at the following retail outlets: The Fun Shop and The Pink Box in Middleburg; Christine Fox and The Town Duck in Warrenton; the Loudoun Convention and Visitors Center in Leesburg; and, after March 30, Harris Teeter in Purcellville, Aldie (Stone Ridge) and Lansdowne. Box lunches are available for \$15 each for the Monday tour only and must be ordered and paid for in advance.

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PASTIMES

KEEPIN' IT REAL

SINCERELY ME

BRANDY GREENWELL

In 2016 there is a huge farm to table movement as many crave real food for themselves and families. Chemicals and herbicides are taboo. Raw, fresh, and local are major buzz-words. And eating processed is the now 8th deadly sin.

You could also say that in 2016 people are seeking out natural alternatives to pharmaceuticals to remedy their ailments. From arnica gel to turmeric and all kinds of roots and juices in between, going natural tends to trend over a visit to Dr. Feelgood.

If so much is moving towards being real, then why is fashion stuck in the fake?

Fashion has historically been designed to flatter, improve, and accentuate the positive while eliminating the negative of every body, gender and age. But have some things gone too far?

How about the bra that promises to enhance you three full sizes? They should put squeakers in the padded scaffolding so a fresh gentleman rounding second at least has some warning of the mammary ingenuity. One could probably draw the same comparison with implants, but I doubt you'll find a surgeon who will slip a squeaker in before the last stitch.

If you are a regular reader, you know I love Spanx and will never betray their al-

mighty power. But honey, you are not really a size 4 if you need Spanx to achieve full zip. You are really a 6, maybe an 8, but you are beautiful in your own skin nonetheless.

What is up with all these fake eyelashes? Don't get me wrong, I love a long lash, but some ladies are blinking down to their lips. Eyelashes are meant to protect the eyes from dust and dirt particles in the air. Some of these girls must be expecting a meteor shower to come their way.

Nothing is better than a sun-kissed glow, but I have yet to find a "natural" look from bottle, booth or airbrush. A little can be a nice touch, over doing it can just look odd. Could you imagine what a Co-

lonial settler would say if they could see our orange society? They would think we were all witches or aliens hatched from a harvest moon.

I could go on forever about odd fashion falsies, but the fashion Razzie award has to go to one of spring's hottest trends: The Levi's Wedgie Jean. Yes, denim icon Levi has made a pair of jeans to INTENTIONALLY spread your cheeks and suck up the seam to give a wedgie. Apparently Kylie Jenner tweeted one photo wearing said jeans and they were sold out instantly. Facepalm.

Please ladies, there is absolutely nothing wrong with enhancing your natural beauty and putting your best faces



forward with outside assistance, but I really have to draw the line at intentional denim chafing being fashionable. What's the world coming to? Please boycott. Write a Congressman. Do NOT get stuck in that trend.

THIS SPRING THE RUNWAY BRINGS...

FASHION SENSE



NERISSA BROWN

No other time awakens the spirit like springtime. We are filled with the anticipation of new beginnings. Even my favorite song bird puts on prettier feathers. If spring has you due for a closet makeover and you don't want to go it alone, consider hiring an image consultant or invite your most fashionable friends over for an In or Out Party! Of course what's voted Out can be donated to support your favorite charity. It's always your call. Creating new space will inspire you to let go of the past and bring in the new. Fill in your empty space with trending newsworthy favorites. But what's trending?

How about The New Maxi, Cold Shoulder Tops, or a Cut Out Botanical Dress. Then try the new rage, handbags with Fringe or Patent Leather, and Saddle Handbags.

No fear of the snow, Gladiator Sandals, Wedges, and Feminine Pointed Flats are gravel friendly.

For accessories, try the old and new with Chokers, and Chainlink Jewelry.

For nail color choose classic or use your personal creative inspiration.

Hair is finally on the move again so try a Classic Bob, The Pixi or a Chucky Braid with tape in highlights for versatility. And there is so much more!

Keep in mind that we don't need to wear every trend.



TAMING THE WILD GREEN...

FROM BEHIND THE STOVE



BRIAN L. LICHOROWIC

As a molecular gastronomist, I like to explore what the actual act of cooking does to food and how my body reacts to different foods prepared different ways. Science shows us how, for pretty much 90+% of us, green leafy vegetables are very good for us. In fact, they're seriously good for us and needed in much larger portions than our parents or Grandma would boil for us.

Science of molecular gastronomy tells us that Arugula, Swiss chard and Dandelion greens are three of the best vegetables we can put into our bodies. Grown wild and human assisted for the past 200 years in Virginia. Leafy dark greens boast an impressive nutritional profile. Rich in vitamins A (from beta-carotene) and vitamin C, they are also great sources of calcium and magnesium, iron, and folic acid.

Arugula, also known as "Rocket" is universally viewed as a weed in the majority of the world and gets discarded and un-noticed. Now it cultivated and we pay through the nose.

One of the most popular wild greens we eat in these new nutritional "aware" days is Dandelion greens. Granted they are delicious and very nutritious but are also the primary image used on the label of Round Up. I guess that's the equivalent of a "Sports Illustrated" cover if you're a weed.

Swiss Chard (which is actually a type of Beet) grows wild in the Mediterranean and is an excellent source of vitamin E, a nutrient that is usually only found in high-fat foods. It is also high in potassium, magnesium, vitamin C and beta-carotene.

Each of these three greens presented also contain lutein and zeaxanthin, which are believed to help protect against cataracts and macular degener-

ation. Extremely rich in beta-carotene, which is converted into vitamin A, can improve an individual's immune function.

Everything I'm reading these days tells me that cooking the Greens with a small amount of fat, such as olive oil or butter, will enhance the availability of these nutrients.

So, people... hear that again. Adding fat to these vegetables is necessary to make them more nutritious. Following this logic... Butter now becomes necessary and wholesome!

Parmesan Chard Bake

I, like many, am a big believer that anything with cheese on it will taste better. A chard/greens bake is sure-fire way to introduce greens into the table. It's simple and you'll come up with your own version in time. The tomato pepper adds a very light bite to the dish. Try a few combinations to see which you

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like. All types of nuts work great. Rule of thumb the better the cheese, the better the bake.

3 lbs Chard, stems & leaves washed & cut in 2' strips

1 bunch green onions, chopped

6 tbs Butter, unsalted preferred

1 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese (Fontina works too)

1 sm Tomato pepper, Chopped (Found in a jars in the pickle section)

Salt and pepper

Preheat the oven to 425°

Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Blanch the stems ONLY for 5 minutes. Add the leaves for 2 minutes.

In a bowl, place the chard, add the onions, tomato pepper and light salt and pepper and toss lightly with your hands. Transfer to an ovenproof dish.

Melt the butter in a small saucepan until it browns and pour over chard. Toss again.

Evenly place the grated cheese over the top of the chard and bake for 13 minutes. Cheese should get bubbly. If you want the top brown and crunchy, turn your oven to broil and cook for another 2 minutes (but keep your eyes on it!)

Warm New Potato Salad with wilted Dandelion greens and Arugula Aioli

One of the few potato salads that looks as good as it taste. If many of you had a grandmother like mine they substitute Bacon fat for the Aioli. The aioli is abit healthier, but not by much.

1/2lb Dandelion greens washed & dried, stems removed chopped

into 2" pieces

11/2lb new potatoes, quartered

1/3cup Olive oil

1 Lemon, zest only, save juice set aside (1/4 cup)

3 cloves Garlic

1/4 cup Kalamata olives or your favorite olives varietals

Cook the potatoes "al dente." Meaning leave abit of crunch in them.

In a bowl mix the lemon zest, garlic and olive oil together.

Heat a small sauté pan over med heat. Add 2 tbs of the lemon zest mixture and the dandelion greens stir and toss for 2 minutes, add salt and pepper and toss again. Add the potatoes and lightly fold together.

Locavore Arugula Aioli

1 cup Arugula leaves, washed stems removed

1 garlic clove

2 Egg yolks, med

1/2cup extra virgin olive oil

2 tbs lemon juice

Salt and pepper to taste

Combine the Arugula, egg yolks, garlic 1 tsp of the olive oil and 1 tsp of the lemon juice In a food processor, blender or in a bowl with a hand held Puree the ingredients, with the motor running on low add the remaining oil in ONE CONTINUOUS SLOW FINE STREAM. As emulsification occurs it will thicken.

In the potato/dandelion greens mixture bowl add a small amount of the aioli and toss gently until mixture is well covered



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PASTIMES

BALANCED EXERCISE AND KNEE HEALTH



KAY COLGAN, BS CERTIFIED
FITNESS PROFESSIONAL
CERTIFIED HEALTH COACH

As babies are knees are flexible and grow strong as we learn to walk and maneuver around obstacles. Our muscles become stronger as we learn to run, reach and bend and do all the things that children do. Fast forward to adulthood and we continually put stress on our knees. The problem isn't the stress we put on the knees but rather the imbalances that we cre-

ate in the surrounding muscles that support the knee. Repetitive movements that do not allow a balance to the muscles that surround the joint itself, causing misalignments.

In the most simplistic terms our knees lose their cushioning (cartilage) because the bones no longer line up like they should. In other words, imbalances have occurred in the muscles which will alter how the bones line up. In a perfect world we would not sit all day and we would balance our activities to create a balance within

our muscles. But, for the majority commuting and possibly working behind a desk and at a computer is the reality. Sitting creates short hamstrings and hip flexors. To counter the sitting, one needs to stand and stretch out their hamstrings and hip flexors. Working the quadriceps muscles (front of the thigh) will strengthen the muscles in front and sides of the knee. Simple leg lifts while lying supine, can create a strong and functional quadriceps. Walking is probably one of the best exercises for the knees. Paying particular attention

to extension when walking.

Pay attention to your knees. Treat them kindly. Create a balanced workout that does not overtax them, but creates flexibility and strength. Functional muscles are preferred over constricted tight inflexible muscles. A well rounded workout that incorporates all the muscle groups is more effective than always targeting the same muscles. Creating a balance is the goal. Pilates and yoga can create that strong supple body without overtaxing the joints. When we are young we don't think about our

joints too much, but as we age the reality of what we have done in the past becomes our future. Remember we only have so many miles on our joints, pick wisely what you put them through. Balanced workouts that do not overtax the joints are better suited to joint health. So stretch, reach, bend and extend for the health of your joints.

For more information about health and fitness, please contact: Kay Colgan, 14 S. Madison Street, Middleburg, Virginia or call 540-687-6995.

ALBERT'S CORNER

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



ALBERT P. CLARK

I almost always limit this column to topics about living with four-legged friends. Being a dog, however, I do have some strong opinions about protecting my territory. That territory includes not only my house, but also my family's store and our beloved town of Middleburg. So this month, I'm getting little territorial and broadening my normal subject matter in the process.

Those of you who live in and around Middleburg know that the "traffic calming" construction project has become a daily frustration for much of the business community. The sight of traffic on Washington Street at a standstill with cars stacked end to end is now all too familiar.

As the world moves at breakneck speed towards a digital economy, it can be easy to imagine that small brick and mortar companies will soon be a thing of the past. That may be true, but right now, there are

facts of both construction and e-commerce. These are not easy times for some local retailers and restaurateurs. I wanted to take a minute to sincerely thank all of the people who continue to come into Middleburg to eat, shop, or support any of our local enterprises. Your loyalty means more than you can possibly imagine. We are so very grateful.



We've been living with this since October, and it has changed the vibe of our little community. What was a bucolic village now has some rather urban problems. Getting in and out of town can be a challenge, and parking can be a little difficult too. I understand that this is the price of progress, but for many businesses in town, it feels like anything but progress. Some regular customers, as well as some tourists, are understandably opting to avoid Middleburg. Whether they'll come back one day is anyone's guess.

Meanwhile, another kind of small business disruption is happening all over the country, from tiny towns to sprawling metropolises. The convenience of online shopping is keeping customers from venturing beyond their screens. Huge companies like Amazon offer deeply competitive pricing and lightning fast delivery. Great deals arrive overnight, and customers don't even have to get out of bed. It's more than obvious why online commerce continues to grow year after year.

My family's business in Middleburg is feeling the ef-

fects of both construction and e-commerce. These are not easy times for some local retailers and restaurateurs. I wanted to take a minute to sincerely thank all of the people who continue to come into Middleburg to eat, shop, or support any of our local enterprises. Your loyalty means more than you can possibly imagine. We are so very grateful.

It goes even deeper than that, however. Shopping locally keeps our community intact and thriving. It means that our residents see each other on a regular basis. It means that the daily hum of life continues through our streets. It means that we do not become a quaint memory of how things used to be in the good old days. Your decisions matter. Your choices help shape the success or failures of small businesses. Your dollars count.

In short, you have to personally keep watch over your community if you want to keep it. As it turns out, being territorial is a pretty great thing for humans. If only I could convince my people that it's also a great thing for dogs!

Albert, a Jack Russell Terrier, is Chairman of the Board of Wylie Wagg, a shop for dogs, cats, and their people, with locations in VA and DC.

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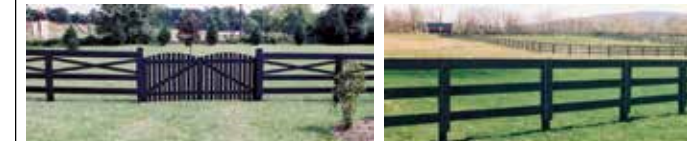


My paintings can be seen at The Shaggy Ram in Middleburg

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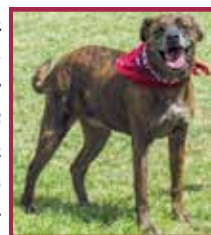
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Liberty is a 3 year old chestnut Appaloosa cross that is about 13.2H. He is ready to be trained & would make a great hunter pony. We have started backing him, & so far he has been extremely easy & acts like he's been under saddle for years! He stands for the vet & farrier & is very sweet. Liberty is ready to find his forever home.



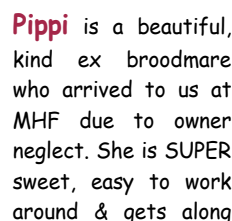
Sparky is 8 yrs old & quite the sweet gentleman. He is house-trained, crate trained, & very spry! He gets along with dogs having his same energy level & ignores cats. His family had him since he was 8 weeks old but he lost his home due to his mom's failing health. He would like a family of his own again. Sparky is currently in a foster home until we find a forever home for him.



Oliver is a friendly cat who loves attention. He is 4 1/2 years old & is seeking either an indoor or indoor-outdoor home where he will get lots of love! He's a little shy when there's a lot of activity. He likes to pick his cubby & watch the activity from that safe spot. When it's quiet, he likes to find a sunbeam or window to sit in. Oliver likes other cats, especially other mellow cats who like to sit in a cozy spot & observe the household.



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Pippi is a beautiful, kind ex broodmare who arrived to us at MHF due to owner neglect. She is SUPER sweet, easy to work around & gets along well with all other horses in a large herd. Her ideal home would be as a companion horse. She stands quietly for vet & farrier & loves being groomed & blanketed. She loads & travels well. She has never been saddled.



Midge is a 7 year old terrier mix. Midge is a spunky little lady who tells you what she wants! Midge likes taking walks outside & hanging out with other dogs. She also likes snuggling with Midge-approved humans (Her personal approval process usually involves giving her shredded chicken). She has a delightful, sassy personality. Midge is currently living in a foster home, where she's enjoying the company of other small dogs & has claimed "her" easy chair for nap times.



Cheyenne is a 9 year old quarter horse. She's had some training & handles well on the ground. She is looking for a home with someone patient, calm, & gentle because sometimes things are just too scary for her. Cheyenne would likely be happier as a companion horse than a riding horse for this reason. She gets along well with other horses & ponies.

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EDITORS DESK

CIVILITY

As all our brackets collapse and March becomes even madder, socially, politically, and weather-wise, it might be well to keep in mind, or close at hand, or both, a copy of a late 16th century Jesuit pamphlet, made famous in the United States by a sixteen year old boy, who once copied them out as part of an exercise in penmanship. The pamphlet? 110 Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior. The young American copyist? A kid from a place just south of Alexandria named George Washington. A few favorite passages, appropriate to the season (with thanks to the Foundations Magazine website at <http://www.foundationsmag.com/civility.html>)

1. Every Action done in Company, ought to be with Some Sign of Respect, to those that are Present.
2. When in Company, put not your Hands to any Part of the Body, not usually Discovered.
6. Sleep not when others Speak, Sit not when others stand, Speak not when you Should hold your Peace, walk not on when others Stop.
17. Be no Flatterer, neither Play with any that delights not to be Play'd Withal.

FLEECED BLUE

DAN MORROW

The current state of state of the GOP reminds me of nothing so much as the myth of Jason and the Golden Fleece. Jason, you will remember, accompanied by his seagoing pals, the Argonauts, set off to steal the Golden Fleece (You've seen it often: think Brooks Brothers logo, the paintings of the Habsburg Emperors, and Air Force One). A powerful and singularly annoying King named Aetes, the father of a beautiful daughter (more on THAT later) made it his task to set obstacles in the path of Jason and the boys: harness a brace of brass-footed, fire-breathing bulls; use them to plow a

MARCH MADNESS RED

JIM MORGAN

Nope, it's not about basketball. As this issue of "The Eccentric" goes to press, March is about to end though the madness looks to continue for quite some time. There are 27 more primaries and caucuses between April 1 and the conventions in July. On the Democrat side, the field is down to two though no one ever took Martin O'Whatshisname seriously anyway. Not surprisingly, the Clinton machine is bulldozing Bolshevik Bernie ... except, interestingly, among the "young," which is to say the under 35 demographic. Those folks are voting for him at a rate described by one pundit as "North Korean," meaning well over 90%. And how eerily appropriate is that comparison? What it means for the general election remains to

WATER ASK A COUNCIL MEMBER

MARK SNYDER

Hello Middleburg! This article's purpose is to address your questions, get more people involved and to address periodic issues concerning Middleburg and its community. I will do my best to address any Town questions you send to the Eccentric. My last article was an appeal for people to run in the upcoming May 3 election for three council seats and to look at opportunities to get involved on one of Middleburg's committees. I am delighted to report that J. Kevin Daly, Trowbridge M. Littleton, Philip M. Miller and Toby C. Pearce

~ BE LOCAL ~

24. Do not laugh too loud or too much at any Public Spectacle. 40. Strive not with your Superiors in argument, but always Submit your Judgment to others with Modesty. 44. When a man does all he can though it Succeeds not well blame not him that did it. 47. Mock not nor Jest at any thing of Importance break [n]o Jest that are Sharp Biting and if you Deliver any thing witty and Pleasant abstain from Laughing thereat yourself. 49. Use no Reproachful Language against any one neither Curse nor Revile.

otic working class northerners alike, foremost among them disappointed supporters of George Wallace. Overnight Dixiecrats like Strom Thurmond and Jesse Helms became ... "Republicans." And there was much fertile ground to plow. In Jason's myth the dragon's teeth grow into fully armed warriors, intent on his destruction. In the myth Jason escapes by the skin of his own teeth, thanks to the advice of Medea, the kings daughter. He blindsides one of the warriors with a well-aimed stone; one warrior blames another and so on, until injuries cascade; and the warrior harvest of the dragon's teeth kills itself off. For the GOP, the candidates and

doubt. Hillary will try to bring Bernie's kids on board by promising them all the same stuff that he has. That sort of thing is the Democrats' bread and butter anyway and will come easily to her. Buy them off. The real question remains: why isn't she in jail? But if Obama's DOJ can hold off the FBI for a while and stretch the whole process out, Hillary will benefit. Then, if she is elected, she can pardon herself. It's all such old news though, isn't it? As she once famously remarked, "What difference, at this point, does it make?" The GOP is channeling its inner Whig and appears about to implode. Perhaps not but, in any case, the fog is clearing. At the beginning of March, Republican candidates still numbered

with an aging system. Expensive new Virginia regulations included treating the water from our wells for naturally occurring radionuclides and increasingly stringent mandates for our wastewater treatment plant. We faced significant water loss in distribution and inflow and infiltration (I&I) problems with the sanitary sewer system. We employed a small utility staff. I ran for council determined to improve this while aiming to make our utility sustainable. I spent my first term learning the issues facing our water utility. The small customer-base provided limited options. We made progress

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proach too near him to whom you talk especially to his face. 79. Be not apt to relate News if you know not the truth thereof. In Discouraging of things you Have heard Name not your Author always A Secret Discover not. 87. Let thy carriage be such as becomes a Man Grave Settled and attentive to that which is spoken. Contradict not at every turn what others Say. 89. Speak not Evil of the absent for it is unjust. 110. Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.

After stealing the Golden Fleece, Jason and the Argonauts set sail in the Argus hotly pursued by King Aetes. Medea, never at a loss, killed her own brother, cut him into pieces, and dropped them in the sea. She knew her father, proud and mean-spirited though he was, would be grief stricken, would stop, try to collect the pieces, and at the very least, give them an decent burial. Sadly, after all this is over there may not be enough of the Grand Old Party to bury. Let us hope that after the dust finally settles it only the GOP, and not something dearer to us all, in need of rites.

in the hundreds. But, at month's end, there are only three. Christie and Carson quit and have become pathetic hangers-on hoping for some crumbs from Trump's table. Christie is Pancho to The Donald's Cisco, though that's probably unfair to the Cisco Kid, one of my favorite western heroes when I was a boy. But then Cisco's horse was named Diablo and Pancho's was named Loco. Maybe there's a connection after all. Christie once showed real promise and might have become the next Reagan. But sucking up to Obama after Hurricane Sandy and, now, endorsing the carnival barker, has killed his political career even if he does get to be President Trump's Attorney General. The Ides of March proved lucky for Kasich who won Ohio and therefore stays in the running for the vice-

when council agreed to fund an engineering study that produced a Utility Master Plan in 2003. This provided a wealth of information on existing conditions along with needed improvements. Funding improvements proved difficult. When Salamander asked Middleburg to connect to our water, we reached agreement that in lieu of the Inn paying an availability fee, they would build new wastewater treatment and water treatment plants as specified by the Town. The utility operates as an enterprise, meaning it is supposed to pay its own way. Thus, we entered a pe-

When operations and maintenance overwhelmed a small utility staff, we entered an operational agreement with the county in about 2005. We were disappointed with their services when we encountered serious problem

HYPOCRISY TOM PRATT

These are politically trying times for most Americans and I am sure most are reaching our limits on how much more campaigning we can suffer. Our system is so incredibly rigged by corporate media and big money that I am not sure it will ever change. The head of CBS recently said that all the Trump malarkey might be bad for the country but certainly good for the network, as they are having their best year in history, nice for them bad for us. In most other countries, elections take place over six or so weeks not 6 or so years as seems to be the case here. How much more can the candidates say, repeat, repeat, repeat. Also, in most European countries candidates are given equal TV time and their campaigns are publically funded, again far from that here. All the republican candidates are an embarrassment to this country. All want to either return to war in Iraq and Afghanistan or go to war in Syria again with no end plan. They are all beating their chests and acting like Tarzan but none have even hinted at diplomacy. The republicans are not alone Hillary wants to continue her favorite foreign policy of regime change. The only and I mean the only alternative to all of this madness is Bernie Sanders and I cannot figure out why he is

FEDERAL WATER RESOURCE AGENCIES THE U. S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION: MAJOR WATER SUPPLIER WATERWORLD

RICHARD A. ENGBERG

The 100th meridian bisects North Dakota and Texas and the four states between them. As settlers moved west during the 19th century and crossed this imaginary line they moved from the humid east to the arid west. Wherever they settled, adequate water supplies were necessary but not always available. Wells they dug were not always reliable. In the east, they had been accustomed to perennial streams assuring year around water supplies but many of the western streams were ephemeral, in other words, they might be dry during parts of each year if rainfall or snowmelt was inadequate. Nevada, arguably the most arid

ISIS AND SYRIA: A JOINT U.S.-RUSSIAN ASSESSMENT

DR. ANTHONY WELLS DR. ANDREY CHUPRYGIN

In Syria the government of Bashar al-Assad has managed to survive, with intense international controversy over who should have the unenviable task of governing Syria. Is it likely that the total collapse of the central government in Syria will directly facilitate the strengthening of ISIS and Al-Qaeda affiliates? The latter scenario may likely lead to the failure of political reform, and subsequently endanger the future democratic development of the region as a whole. Is there any logic, and on the ground political reality, in temporarily sustaining the government of Bashar al-Assad as a realistic means to eradicate radical Islamist insurgency? Does ISIS or the Bashar-al-Assad regime present a greater threat to regional, and possible even world, stability? Does a clear dictatorship provide any short term benefits in the face of the ISIS threat? This is a daunting and non-trivial issue that has to be addressed.

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and maintain water production and waste water systems. I am pleased to report that IES is doing an excellent job! We are finally at the point of introducing real improvements. We replaced old water lines on

Washington Street with a new 12-inch water main. We are connecting customers now and expect to complete this spring. We also extended a new water main into the east end of Town (beyond Jay Street) to replace

tions starting with the conventions: if by some chance those moderate republicans can provoke a brokered convention and Trump is not the nominee I am pretty sure he would run as an independent as he does not seem the type to give up easily. And if Bernie does not get the dem nomination, I would hope he would decide to run as an independent as well because of the incredible number of supporters that he has gathered. If these two things were to happen I think it would be the best thing for this country: to have four candidates for the presidency instead of two. Just think how great it would be to break up the power that both the republican party (less now since the advent

approximately 100 lost their lives during construction. At the time, this was the greatest engineering project the world had ever seen, and it elevated the Bureau to one of the most prominent engineering organizations in the world. After the astonishing success of Hoover Dam, the number of Bureau water facilities grew substantially eventually by around 1980 amounting to 340 projects. In the 1960's the Commissioner of the Bureau, Floyd Dominy, was one of the most powerful people in Washington, DC. However, by 1980, just about every river in the west that could be dammed had been dammed. In the Bureau's own words, "The arid West essentially has been reclaimed." The Bureau began to shift from an organization dedicated to construc-

pears equivocal, since there is an inconsequential amount of moderates to support. Syria held unprecedented multi-candidate presidential elections during the summer of 2014. These elections were held despite the ongoing wartime climate. Analysts agree that the viability of the opposition candidates remained questionable at best. These elections were the first pluralistic presidential elections in Syrian history, and were endorsed by an international monitoring group. The Syrian regime is the antithesis of modern civilized government. However, it is nevertheless a short term pragmatic and viable alternative to Al-Nusra or the rapidly advancing Islamic State? Neither ISIS nor Al-Nusra are likely to hold elections of any kind, join the international community, or adopt international arms control treaties such as the CWC. The next President of the United States will have to face these stark realities, and make decisions.

~ BE LOCAL ~

EDITORS DESK

POLICY IS RARELY LEADERSHIP

THE PUBLIC SQUARE

CHANDLER AND
JERRY, "DUTCH" VAN VOORHIS

In this election cycle, a lot of things live in the wrong buckets. Running a campaign around ideology or policy is wrong. Assessing leadership is the electorate's main task. The Presidential Campaign is being fueled by a lot of terrible governing assumptions. Unfortunately, there seems to be no focus on leadership.

A lot of bad manners have taken hold on the campaign trail. But at least everyone can see those for themselves. The real worry is at another level: namely, the assumptions set up as criteria for picking a leader in 2016. The most notorious of them is the frenetic need to judge presidential fitness on the twin poles of ideology and policy (or process).

We need to be true to principles, but ideology is not one. Since so many politicians are chameleons in saying what they want people to hear, candidates often benefit from trying to stand for something. Still, over time preferences and issues, once part of a core, change. Underlying principles don't. Candidates often mix up the two.

With policy, which is a sum-

mation of a process, which by nature is itself unthinking, our dotting on it amounts to freezing out true leadership. This strangles our ability to make free choices as a people. We live in a heritage of our increasingly bureaucratic state where the role of true leadership has gradually dwindled.

Over the last 50 years, our bureaucratic state has spawned mostly very talented public servants in key policy positions. They naturally cluster and coalesce as they deal across agencies they lead. Inevitably, a synchronization of authority evolves. And the web connecting this part of our officialdom has made government mostly today a universe of policy. Elected leaders, who once shaped the national government to leadership ends, now mostly thread this deadened maze, at some level undoubtedly, in doing their work.

The Public Square asks if we have carried this governing syndrome too far. While, policy needs to be grasped and understood, policy is not leadership. Policy supports leadership. If elevated as leadership, it inevitably comes to substitute for leadership in many cases, and in others virtually chokes it over time. Since policy makers are very educated, and sometimes isolated inside

their single domain, the combination will often assume a role of presumptive power. Translated, we know better than you do.

Over and over in the present campaign, from commentators, journalists, and even, now, other Presidential politicians on both sides, there are regular demands to spell out sufficiently "all the policy details." Far more than "gotcha" questions choking a candidate on stage, the insidious bearing down on policy detail chokes our public understanding. It fails the citizenry on the leadership equation it tunes in to decide.

A policy question, posed to illumine the public, is often no more than a controlling way to satisfy the thirst for enough information to rip someone apart. It's the chicken bone of politics.

The very question causes the dialog to descend, when the public really wants to attain a clearer understanding of where a candidate will lead the country.

We have a long tradition in our nation of five word utterances saying more than 12-point policy papers. Position papers are founded on consensus. That usually means comfortable agreement, though at a single point in time only. So position papers, created with fanfare, quickly lose

force. They please reader more than command focus. Any big point is typically the lost, and pure process only is extolled. Position papers by nature are false marks of leadership. They are actually a poor test for it.

The Presidency is not a policy post. The Presidents who come from the policy world have been among our most lackluster and insignificant. Think of Hoover, Johnson, and Carter. Those scoping policy well, but staying persistently above it, often gave us more panoramic levels of leadership. Think Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Reagan.

The greatest leaders in our nation's past have had authority, grip, and vision. George Washington might never have asked us to refrain from "entangling alliances" if he had become entangled in the partisan policy differences of Hamilton and Jefferson. Lincoln had to think about Union and "our better angels" to rise above the messy fault lines of Sectionalism. Teddy Roosevelt forged our 20th National Parks landscape and Great White Fleet for the oceans by not staying inside the battles for humane work rules as we forged a new Industrial Order.

The Public Square believes there is a resonance missing in this election cycle. The passions for ideology, policy, and process are not the chief credentials for pulling a lever. Ideology narrows. Policy files the mind down. Process numbs a listener. They lack leadership authenticity - and its breadth, lift, energy.

We need a real leader, who summarizes and informs the spirit of our times, whose instincts are authentic, who reaches beyond prevailing norms, who gives us a stout sense of American responsibility for tomorrow across our land. We need a leader who is more than a safely informed voice accommodating the conventional wisdom of a passive and defending political order and culture.

The Public Square holds none of our citizens are highly educated, and none are less educated, at such an hour in our democracy. As with those in the Middle Ages who spoke through the common ballad, the public knows its hearts and senses its needs best every four years. They are asking the America political vision to rise to the times. Our country needs to honor the deeper instincts the public is forcing the nation to confront.



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Fairview
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Circa 1904 Colonial home • 3 BR • 3 1/2 BA • High ceilings • Gourmet kitchen • 5 fireplaces • 90x200 covered arena • 12 total stalls • Main barn redesigned by John Blackburn • 4 bay garage with apartment • 12 paddocks • Asphalt drive & security gate • Heated pool • Property has 2 DUR's and whole house generator • Hilltop setting with mountain views

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Foxhall
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Historic property in protected area • First offering since 1951 • 3 log structures circa 1690, 1720, and 1940 connected to create charming home • 4 BR, 3 BA, 3 FP & beautiful floors • Huge boxwoods • Needs updating • 33.89 acres mostly open • Creek • Solid barn • Original structure Quaker meeting house

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Immaculate equestrian property in turnkey condition • Exceptional location • Stone home expanded to approx. 7,000 sf. • Includes 4 main level suites • Lovely gardens, pool, garage apartment & pond • Blackburn designed 6 stall stable • 70x210 indoor arena • Observation deck • Tack room • 2 wash stalls • Office • Addtl 4 stall barn • Entire property is fenced and cross fenced on 26 acres & 8 paddocks

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Providence Farm
Bluemont, Virginia • \$2,650,000

42 acre equestrian property in Piedmont Hunt • Lovely 5,000 sf home with 1st floor master suite • Horse facilities include indoor (150' x 75') and outdoor (200' x 100') arenas • 10 stall stable with 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
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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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Stonecrest
Bluemont, Virginia • \$995,000

Beautifully maintained stone and stucco house • On crest of the Blue Ridge • Large views to the east • Perfect for entertaining and gatherings of extended family • Over 7000 sq ft, 5 BR, 6 FB, 1 HB, 3 FP • 2 MBR suites, one on main level • Finely appointed in all respects • Landscaping, automatic security gates, & estate fence ensure privacy • Garages for 5 vehicles

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Wood Hill
Middleburg, Virginia • \$3,300,000

3 miles from Middleburg • 49 acres • Elegant 1940's brick colonial home • Stable • Cottage • Apartment • Pool • Tennis court • Mature trees and sweeping lawn to Goose Creek which surrounds most of the property

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Trough Hill Farm
Middleburg, Virginia • \$2,450,000

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

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Duck Pond
Boyce, Virginia • \$1,027,000

Fine 4 BR, 2.5 BA house on 39 acres • Well cared for and well maintained • Wrap-around porches • MBR on main level • Kitchen and baths updated • Lovely property • Excellent 4 stall barn with H/C wash stall and heated tack room • Board fencing • Paddocks • Very good run-in shed • Level land, mostly open • Pond • Invisible fence on 10 acres • Blue Ridge Hunt territory

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Jay Street
Middleburg, Virginia • \$545,000

Quiet village living • 2 blocks from the center of town • 3 level fieldstone townhome • Attached garage • Hardwood floors • Granite counters and bright open floor plan • Back yard is fenced for dogs and privacy • Blue stone terrace is great for grilling and entertaining • Easy maintenance and great conveniences

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TURN-KEY BUSINESS: Stunning upscale gift shoppe in the center of Middleburg's Commercial District! Sales price includes real estate, business & inventory. Approx. 1/2 of inventory is offsite & included in sale. Wonderful opportunity for a true "turn-key business" in the heart of Virginia's horse & wine country. With the opening of Salamander Resort & Spa, and The Annual Film Festival, this is a tremendous location!

\$1,400,000

Rebecca Poston (540) 771-7520

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Delaplane ~ Extraordinary custom stone and cedar residence on **25 gorgeous acres** with spectacular views in prestigious "Possum Hollow". Soaring ceilings in the Great Room with a stone fireplace, offer a fabulous place for entertaining. Wood floors, a gourmet kitchen, dining room with multiple windows, plus 5 bedrooms & 4 full baths on 3 finished levels. Custom decks overlook the pool & spa. Priced to sell!

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\$649,000

Cricket Bedford (540) 229-3201

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Bluemont ~ Custom built, Post & Beam Lindal cedar home in private setting on **5 acres** just below Appalachian trail. 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths, eat-in Kitchen, formal Dining Room & Living Room with fireplace. Hardwood floors, Tung & groove ceilings, exposed beams & floor to ceiling windows. Fully finished Lower Level with Family Room, Den, Exercise & Game Rooms. Exceptional custom construction design makes home incredibly energy efficient!

\$495,000

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\$190,000

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RENTAL ~ Charming farm house with lovely views. Unique design joins 2 stone homes. 3/4 Bedrooms, 4 full Baths, Country Kitchen+2nd kitchen, Living Room with fireplace, Dining Room with slate flooring and Family Room with large stone fireplace and built-ins. Den/Office on Main level could be 4th bedroom. Hardwood floors. Covered front porch, side porch and large rear deck ideal for entertaining. Can be rented furnished.

\$2,900/mo

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CLARK HOUSE



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