

RANDY ROUSE – A WINNER GONE AWAY



PHOTO BY LIZ CALLAR

MIDDLEBURG FUTURES GROUP

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LAUREN R. GIANNINI

Randolph Dashiell Rouse was more than three months into his 100th year when he died, after a brief illness, on April 7, 2017, at the Virginia Hospital Center. Randy, as he was known, is survived by Michele O'Brien Rouse, his wife of 34 years. They lived in Arlington and kept horses on their farm in Lenah.

Other survivors include a brother, William D. Rouse of Alexandria, as well as nieces, nephews and many friends and kindred sporting enthusiasts.

Born December 30, 1916, in Smithfield, he was raised in Newport News, Virginia. After graduating in 1939 from Washington & Lee University, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. In 1947, he founded Randolph D. Rouse Enterprises, a construction and investment firm, in Northern Virginia.

Before long, Rouse joined Fairfax Hunt. He became the Master of Foxhounds in 1961, serving in that capacity for the rest of his life. Several years ago, he helped facilitate the merger with Loudoun West into Loudoun Fairfax Hunt.

Rouse enjoyed the "fast lane" of Thoroughbred horses and had a passion for foxhunting and racing. He was a true sportsman, accomplished horseman, and a talented and very competitive amateur jockey — the sporting world may never know another one like him.

Rouse wore all the hats: owner, trainer as well as the mandatory protective skull cap for jockeys. His lifetime record as an owner, according to racing announcer Will O'Keefe's website, CentralEntryOffice.com, spans 23 pages, detailing 986 lifetime starts, both sanctioned and point-to-points, that yielded 169 wins, 149 seconds and 135 thirds. His trainer record is a little shorter, but

not by that much.

Racing as an owner-rider on the Virginia Point-to-Point circuit from 1967-1983, Rouse made 126 starts, winning 57 and placing second 25 times with 12 third place finishes. He garnered four Leading Rider Over Fences titles and 10 Owner-Rider Timber Championships — two of them with the incomparable Cinzano.

Cinzano had been ruled off from racing under rules on the flat and at sanctioned steeplechases, an innocent equine victim of switched identities and insurance fraud perpetrated by the vet who imported the Uruguayan horse of the year and a look-alike dud. It was a huge scandal at the time but had nothing to do with Rouse, who gave the great Thoroughbred a job. He trained Cinzano to jump, foxhunt, and race over timber in the Seven Corners Owner-Rider series on the point-to-point circuit. Cinzano won 21 times in 30 starts, including two wins and one second with Rouse's wife, Michele.

Rouse began his amateur jockey career as a winner at the Fairfax Races, which he helped to organize and chaired for more than 30 years. He won his 1967 debut aboard Frosted Prince in the Amateur Flat in September and triumphed in his final race aboard Cousin Wes in the Owner-Rider Timber at the Fairfax Hunt Point-to-Point in April 1983. In fact, as a rider, Rouse was undefeated in his last 12 races, spanning three seasons and Cinzano was his mount for 11 of those wins, all but the final one aboard Cousin Wes. Cinzano crossed finish lines some 20 to 50 lengths ahead of the rest.

Rouse enjoyed a storied run on the sanctioned circuit, starting in 1960 when his Ricacho won the Virginia Gold Cup at the old Broadview course in Warrenton. He harvested many year-end awards with the Virginia Steeplechase Associa-

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NEWS OF NOTE MIDDLEBURG FUTURES GROUP

BRIDGE LITTLETON
PHILIP MILLER

Middleburg is a special place with a genuine history and uniquely abiding sense of community. We are a community concerned for the well-being of the town; the quality of life for both its citizens and the businesses which choose to call Middleburg home. Recently Middleburg has been faced with some economic challenges. It's important to point out this is not unique to Middleburg. All communities experience periods of economic change. The important thing is how communities come together to meet those challenges and chart a path forward. We believe Middleburg is not in a period of decline but opportunity. It is for this purpose we have created the Middleburg Futures Group.

MFG is a cross section of Middleburg citizens, business, and government leaders, bringing a diverse and broad range of experiences. The members of this team represent a dynamic set of organizations whose purpose is to support our economic development: The Town Council,

Middleburg Business and Professional Association (MBPA), the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC), and the Town Planning Commission. Each organization is equally represented with three people from the Town Council, MBPA and EDAC, and one from the Planning Commission.

These 10-dedicated individuals have a simple mission: identify and understand the true issues facing the Town, develop a plan to address them, and then implement that plan in partnership with the community. This team is focused on action, not words; results, not studies. We are also formed around several important core principles: We are here for Middleburg; our goal is not to change it, but to preserve it and help it prosper for everyone: Citizens, business owners and visitors alike. It is our belief this will be a long-term partnership where we will all drive forward the shared success of Middleburg.

We are excited to say that we are already well on the road to success. Our first step in the process was to discover the popular opinions of Middleburg. Why do people come here and why do they come back? What do they

love about the town and where could it be improved? What does Middleburg mean to them personally? Answers to these questions are important from the perspective of locals and visitors alike. To find these answers, we developed a detailed survey, asking people a variety of questions. What they best-loved about Middleburg, why it holds a special place for them, what we are most known for, what we need to protect and what we need to improve.

We wanted to know if visitors appreciated Middleburg for the same reasons as locals, or for different reasons. To distribute the survey to a large pool of potential respondents, we partnered with local businesses, large economic development organizations and event organizers. The turnout was incredible, with over 1,100 responses; 50% of those coming from locals and 50% from those who live more than 20 miles from Town.

We learned three key facts. First, the reason we as citizens and locals treasure Middleburg: a peaceful rural community in the heart of Virginia horse country; is the same reason visitors value Middleburg. Second, visi-



tors come to Middleburg for the experience that is Middleburg because it is an escape from the common and ordinary, and while here they shop and eat as a part of that greater experience. Finally, it is the experience we create of community, equestrian events and our idyllic countryside that brings people here initially and as repeat visitors. Because of this, we know the Middleburg experience is our greatest attraction, and we must build upon it.

The Middleburg Futures Group had its first session in late March where we examined these results and identified the core issues. Next, we will look outside Middleburg to understand regional problems and seek out possible success stories for inspiration. Our next meeting will be held over two days in early May, and our goal is to develop a detailed action plan. The team is thoughtful and energized. We

look forward to getting to work to help improve conditions for existing businesses, to attract new businesses to town and to capitalize on the special Middleburg experience for locals and visitors alike.

We have heard and felt your concerns. Concerns have been raised on everything from high vacancy rates and high retail rents to lack of parking, limited dining options and inconvenient store hours. These are some of the main issues we will address with the plan we undertake. We will examine these issues and fully understand the challenges to developing a plan that the community can support. With this, we will create and execute the right solutions. We cannot plot the correct course without your help. We invite anyone to reach out with questions, thoughts and most importantly to lend a hand.

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NEWS OF NOTE

THE RAIN CLOUDS PARTED: THE OATLANDS CHERRY BLOSSOM 5K WAS GREAT SUCCESS

Leesburg: A beautiful sunny Sunday, April 23d, sandwiched between two days of heavy rain, allowed the Cherry Blossom Breast Cancer Foundation to successfully conduct its 11th year of fundraising for local women's fight against breast cancer and the Foundation's first Spring 5K Walk, Run, and Pooch Prance. "God granted us great weather for the eleventh year," said Cherry Blossom founder, James Atkins, "but Saturday, Chair Marcy Harris and I were worried that the torrential rains and cold temps would deter participants." That did not happen. Adults, children, teenagers, Girl Scouts, pooches and dedicated runners came out to support local women and to enjoy the great course at Oatlands Plantation, backed by Grand Sponsor, Middleburg Bank. Thousands of dollars were raised for Cherry Blossom to donate to local women. www.cherryblossombreastcancerfoundation.org.



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NEWS OF NOTE

A GOOD WINTER!

MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

With the exception of what Town Administrator Martha Semmes termed an eminently manageable “March Curveball” Middleburg benefited greatly this year from mild weather. The Town’s snow removal budget was relatively “untouched,” she noted, “which allowed us to continue progress on hail storm repairs to Town Buildings.” Most of the roof damage will be completed by the end of April.

Business & Economic Development Director Search

Middleburg received more than 150 applications for the job soon to be vacated by the retiring Cindy Pearson. The town reached out to thirteen “finalists”

and interviewed ten by phone. Semmes has now reduced the field to five top candidates, from whom a smaller number will be selected for face-to-face interviews.

Semmes retained the services of the Springsted recruiting firm to determine whether or not Middleburg’s salary range for the position was competitive. “While we are in the ballpark,” Semmes reported, “we are lower than the closest comparable position in Warrenton.”

Free Parking

At their regular monthly work session on Thursday, March 23, 2017, Town Council unanimously adopted amendments to Chapter 89 of the Town Code that introduces new rules and penalties

for motorists “Stopping, Standing and Parking” their vehicles in Middleburg. Middleburg’s removal of its parking meters and institution of timed free parking was a work long in progress and strongly supported by the business community. Moves in the opposite direction in the eastern part of Loudoun County have yielded reductions in the patronage of visitor-dependent businesses and lawsuits by some of those affected.

Middleburg Museum

Council Member Bridge Littleton, who also serves on the Board of the Middleburg Museum Foundation, briefly recused himself from the Council at their March work session, and as a Museum Board member thanked the

Council and staff for their assistance in moving the long-awaited project forward. Following Littleton’s remarks, Council, minus Littleton, approved a Special Use Permit for the Museum Foundation with three key restrictions:

First, that it must comply with the provision of the site plan and architectural drawings submitted by Turnure Architecture effective November 21, 2016;

Second, that Town regulations governing required offsite parking for the Museum be met before occupancy of the building; and

Third, that the Museum Board obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness for the project from the Town’s Historic District Review Committee.

Councilmember Mark Snyder noted that “it was unfortunate that there was no mechanism in place to waive the parking requirements for a museum in the C-2 District” and indicated that he would also like to relaxation of the tight parking restrictions for restaurants and retail extended into the C-3 District.

Council Approval Salamander Conservation Easement Amendment Protection of Open Spaces

At the same work, session Council approved a “Second Amendment” to the “Deed of Open Space Conservation and Vacation” between the Town, Salamander Development, and The Potomac Conservancy and authorized Mayor Betsy Davis to sign the Deed on the Town’s behalf. The agreement reflects Salamander’s ongoing commitment to working with the Town to maintain its natural and scenic

resources and, working with the Conservancy, to protect those assets in perpetuity.

Christmas in Middleburg Review

Jim Herbert, Chairman of the Christmas in Middleburg Committee, reported to Council that in 2016 his organization “did a number of things differently regarding audience and visitor promotion.”

For one thing, he said, they “throttled back on the use of social media IN ADVANCE of the event, and instead used it AFTER the event “to encourage people to return to Middleburg through the Christmas season and into January.”

The goal, according to Herbert, was “to reduce the attendance” from the unwieldy 25,000 estimated to have attended the event in one day in 2015.

Increasing off-site parking fees to \$20/car, he said, also played a significant role in reducing the size of the crowd “back down to a more easily managed 14,000 people. Of the one thousand three hundred total cars parked in paid lots, Herbert reported, nine hundred fifty pre-paid for their permits.

Doubling the shuttle bus capacity from the parking lots to the town also helped a lot.

The current working attendance goal for the 2017 event is a slightly larger, but still manageable 17,500.

There were roughly 82,000 visits to the Christmas in Middleburg website

October through the first half of December.

The new safety-driven crowd-

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SHAKESPEARE IN THE ‘BURG: NEW VENUE, NEW ACTING COMPANY CREATES MAGIC

Shakespeare in the ‘Burg’s fourth year proved to be a special one, with a new venue (The Hill School’s Sheila Johnson Center for the Performing Arts), and a new acting company (Shakespeare in the Square, New York City).

Shakespeare in the ‘Burg co-chairs Genie Ford and Jo Ann Hazard, expressed their appreciation to all those who helped bring back the festival for its fourth year, especially the Hill School, as well as Foxcroft School, which provided housing for the acting company. The Town Council of Middleburg was also recognized for its ongoing support of Shakespeare in the ‘Burg, and it’s belief that the arts are important to residents and visitors alike.

The play this year was The Two Gentlemen of Verona, and the acting company also did staged readings of three one-act plays from among the more than 200 submissions to the playwriting competition. Shakespeare in the Square came to town the weekend of April 1-2, and brought a new and delightful approach with it.

It was, in the words of one audience member, “simply magical.”

Shakespeare in the Square

presents performances that they say are “Shakespeare’s plays as ‘Shakespeare intended.’” That means an uncluttered performance that focuses on the incredible language and humanity of the plays, as well as interacting with the audience. In this performance, a few lucky people were even plucked from the audience to play an important—but silent—role, that of Crab the dog. This led to laughter and some interesting spontaneity on the part of all involved.

While “The Two Gents” is not as well known as many of the Bard’s other plays, it is believed by scholars to be Shakespeare’s first play and it includes many of the themes he would pursue throughout his playwriting career—friendship and loyalty, fidelity, conflict and women dressing as men!

On Sunday, April 2, Shakespeare in the Square actors performed staged readings of three winning plays from the one-act playwriting competition, which is an important part of Shakespeare in the ‘Burg. Their acting skill brought these plays to life, despite the lack of props and costumes—again letting the words be the focus. During an extended talkback session, the actors were



able to share with the audience how they interpreted the works and what such readings can mean to struggling playwrights.

The staged readings were preceded by a champagne brunch, and the actors were able to mingle with audience members before going back into the theatre that was home for three days.

This level of intimacy was a hallmark of the weekend. When the plays were performed in Shakespeare’s day, the audience was always close to the performers and often expressed themselves loudly as the play went

on. Shakespeare in the Square’s ethos is to recreate as nearly as possible that experience. No special effects. No elaborate sets or costumes—just the powerful and beautiful language that William Shakespeare left us to enjoy.

Each year, Shakespeare in the Square performs two plays in Washington Square Park, for free, in front of what the company describes as “under the sun and in front of a loud, standing, possibly distracted audience.”

While that may sound strange to many, the result can indeed be magical.

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NEWS OF NOTE

TROOP 2950 EMBRACES THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD



Scoutmasters can retire, but their legacy lives on. Scoutmaster Paul Davies is stepping down nine years after his founding tenure of Middleburg's Boy Scout Troop 2950.

Paul imprint on the troop's

traditions will stand strong as Scoutmaster Jay Hubbard make his way to fill the void left and carry on the tradition of the Troop.

"The troop and I wish Paul all the best on his Journey. He has left a significant mark on

the Troop and each boy that has made their way through its halls under your tutelage, as well as the community. That is your legacy; it will not be forgotten. Thank you, Paul. For all, you have done." Said Hubbard.

GIVE/CHOOSE: COMMUNITY DAY OF GIVING

The Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties once again will offer a community day of charitable giving through GiveChoose.org on May 2. (Early giving began on April 18.)

Ninety charities serving Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties have enrolled to participate. Programs supporting animal welfare, environment, health, human services, education, youth, arts and culture, and community development are represented.

GiveChoose helps local organizations raise needed funding in a highly cost-effective way while also connecting individuals with charities in their backyard.

"It's a perfect match," says Amy Owen, Executive Director for the local Community Foundation. "Donors choose a charity that represents their passion to make a difference."

GiveChoose.org is a specially designed online portal that tracks each gift made in real time on May 2. As gifts come in to support a donor's chosen nonprofit with a gift of \$10 or more, the leaderboard will increase. Charities also leverage those gifts to compete for monetary awards from a "prize pool"

throughout the 24-hour period.

The Prize Pool is a collection of sponsorship gifts from local businesses and funders, including 100WomenStrong, Claude Moore Charitable Foundation, Toth Financial, Alpha Graphics Loudoun, Backflow Technology, Loudoun Insurance Group, Wells Fargo, John Marshall Bank, Loudoun Chamber of Commerce, and others.

Since its first year in 2014, GiveChoose has raised almost \$400,000 for local charities.

The Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties is a grant-making organization that promotes community philanthropy, working with local donors who create local giving circles and personalized endowment funds.

The Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties is also dedicated to building partnerships and leadership initiatives, including the Faces of Loudoun community awareness campaign. Its varied donor-driven funds have granted out more than \$4 million into the community since inception in 1999. More information is available at CommunityFoundationanLF.org.

RANDY ROUSE – A WINNER GONE AWAY

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RANDY AND MICHELLE ROUSE - PHOTO BY LIZ CALLAR

tion, including Leading Owner in 1988 and ten flat, timber and hurdle championships. Rouse and Cinzano (Legendary Horse) were inducted into the VSA Hall of Fame in 2007; likewise, Ricacho, honored in 2014 as a Legendary Horse.

Rouse set the official record two times for oldest American ever to train a Thoroughbred

winner and he accomplished this feat in his own unique way: with the same horse. In 2014, he was 97 when he saddled Hishi Soar, the winner of the claiming hurdle at Montpelier Races, thus breaking the record set in 2006 by a 95-year-old California trainer. At the age of 99, Rouse broke his own record when Hishi Soar won the featured race,

the Daniel Van Cleef Memorial optional allowance hurdle, at the 2016 Foxfield Spring Races.

This year, on April 2, just five days before his demise, Rouse was 100 when he set his third "oldest American ever" record with Hishi Soar's victory in the Open Hurdle at Orange County Hounds Point-to-Point. Unfortunately, because

point-to-points don't run, under Jockey Club rules, Rouse's third record-breaking win based on age doesn't count officially. All the same, the legendary Randy Rouse scored a three-peat as the oldest trainer in North America to win a horse race.

Elected as the president of the National Steeplechase Association (1971-1974), Rouse and his enthusiasm for country race meetings served the sport and the NSA well. Younger generations of foxhunters won't remember the volunteer "brush parties" to cut cedar, haul it to the hunt's racecourse, and pack the brush jump boxes and trimming them for hurdle races, but that's the labor-intensive way it was done in the early 70s even at jump meets like Saratoga. Rouse was instrumental in initiating the development of a synthetic hurdle, which could be hauled from course to course. The "National Fence" has been used since Rouse's last year as president.

In January, the NSA honored Rouse with jump racing's highest accolade, the Ambrose F. Clark Award, which recognizes individuals who have done the most to promote, improve and encourage the growth and welfare of American steeplechasing. Rouse's leadership proved valuable in the 1970s, and

there's no doubt that the National Fence was both innovative and timely.

Rouse was one of Virginia's best, a charming southern gentleman with a ready wit, who enjoyed playing his saxophone at parties. He was a good and loyal friend who inspired loyalty. He delighted in showing people good sport in the hunt field. He loved foxhunting and rode to hounds well into his mid-80s, but even after he stopped galloping around the countryside, he followed in his truck, first at the wheel, later in the passenger seat. He lived life to the fullest at a great pace.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to Middleburg Humane Foundation (4094 Whiting Road, Marshall, VA 20115), Best Friends Animal Sanctuary (5001 Angel Canyon Road, Kanab, Utah 84741-5000), or a favorite charity. Randy Rouse was laid to rest in a private family ceremony in Smithfield, VA.

With appreciation to Don Clipping whose tribute and related news stories published by the National Steeplechase Association contributed to this article and to Norman Fine of foxhuntinglife.com for pointing out that Randy Rouse broke the record three times as the oldest American ever to win a race.

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NEWS OF NOTE

MOSBY HERITAGE AREA ASSOCIATION OFFERS "THE ROAD TO YORKTOWN: A REVOLUTIONARY WAR CARAVAN TOUR"



The Mosby Heritage Area Association (MHAA) is pleased to announce a Revolutionary War Caravan Tour on Saturday, May 20, from 9:00am-2:00pm. The caravan will meet at the Church of Our Saviour Oatland, 20340 James Monroe Hwy, Leesburg, VA. The tour will conclude around 2:00pm at Elk Run Church (8538 Greenwich Road, Catlett, VA 20119). Tickets are \$30 for MHAA members/\$35 for non-members. Tickets may be purchased at www.mosby-heritagearea.org/events, or 540-687-5188. Participants will use their own vehicles and follow along caravan-style and directions will be included in each vehicle. Carpooling is highly recommended; bottled water will be provided along the way, but do plan on bringing a bagged lunch for a picnic.

Hoping to deal a crushing

blow to the Patriot cause, British forces began a large invasion of Virginia in 1781. British and American forces converged on the state from many different directions, including a force of Continental soldiers who, on their way south, trekked through Loudoun and Fauquier counties under the command of Anthony Wayne.

Incredibly, the route of Wayne's march can still be followed today, and some of the landscape and buildings that his column passed by retain their 18th century character. Join historian Dr. John Maass as he recites stories from Wayne's march to the interior of Virginia, and leads us along Wayne's route. Some of the tour stops include Haymarket, Greenwich, Crockett Park, Elk Run Church, and more.

Foxcroft School Ceramics Instructor/Artist in Residence

Foxcroft School, located near Middleburg, VA is seeking a part time, independent contractor to teach ceramics and be a part of advancing strategic goals to enhance our visual arts curriculum and expand community partnerships. Candidate should be versed in instructional strategies for teaching girls and demonstrate an understanding of the developmental needs of adolescents in and outside of the classroom. This position also provides an opportunity to teach adult and community classes in the studio through a partnership with the School. A degree in Studio Arts or Fine Arts, or related field is preferred. A detailed job description is listed on our website at www.foxcroft.org/employment. Fingerprint record and background check required.

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NEWS OF NOTE

LAND TRUST OF VIRGINIA ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY TO BE HELD AT WIND FIELDS FARM



The 19th Annual Garden Party will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017, at Wind Fields Farm in Middleburg, Virginia, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy B. Harmon. This historic 463-acre estate borders Goose Creek and

dates to pre-Revolutionary War America. Nestled in the heart of Middleburg Hunt country, Wind Fields Farm is home to the oldest restored lime kilns in Loudoun County and offers a lovely terrace and garden setting. This beautiful prop-

erty promises to be the perfect backdrop for a great gathering of more than 300 conservation-minded guests, experts from the conservation field, and local landowners who have placed their properties in a conservation easement.

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 Wind Fields garden. Party guests will be able to bid on these works of art dur-

ing the party to secure their opportunity to take a canvas home as well as bid in a silent auction. For more information, ticket purchases or to become a sponsor, please call Kerry Roszel at 540-687-8441 or visit www.landtrustva.org.

WORLD WAR I AND AMERICA 100TH ANNIVERSARY

THE ZIMMERMANN TELEGRAM

On April 19, 2017, Middleburg's Tony Wells gave the Key-note Address aboard HMS Victory (Nelson's flagship) in Her Majesty's Naval Base, Portsmouth, England, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Zimmermann Telegram, an event critical to understanding America's evolving attitudes toward Germany and the War in 1917. The following is a summary of those remarks:

Between January and March 1917, Admiral Sir Reginald "Blinker" Hall achieved the most remarkable triumph, unimpeded by anyone in the British Admiralty, the Foreign Office, or indeed within the Cabinet Office. What did Hall get up to between January and March 1917 that will forever live in the annals of any intelligence organization worldwide? The Americans were not in the war in January 1917. The Germans were planning on restarting unrestricted U-boat warfare from February 1, 1917, in an attempt to bring the British economy to its knees by attacking its most vital national interest, sea-borne trade. Remember that in the United States in 1917 anti-British sentiment ran high, with a volatile and outspoken Irish-American and German-American population. Second, on January 11, 1917, the German Foreign Minister, Arthur Zimmermann, presented an encoded telegram to the US Ambassador in Berlin, James W. Gerard, who agreed to transmit the telegram in its coded form. The American Embassy transmitted this telegram on January 16, 1917, five days later.

Why would the German Foreign Ministry be using the American Embassy to send its messages, in this case (the Zimmermann Telegram) via Washington DC to the German Ambassador in Mexico City, Heinrich von Eckhardt? The British had clandestinely cut the German transatlantic cable at the beginning of the war in 1914. The US was neutral in 1914 and permitted limited German use of its Europe to US transatlantic cable mainly because President Woodrow Wilson was encouraging peace talks and wanted

to ensure that Berlin could talk with the US diplomatically. Zimmermann's telegram was instructing the German Ambassador in Mexico City to inform the Mexican President, Carranza, that if the US entered the war against Germany then Germany would support Mexico financially in fighting a war against the US to regain territory lost to Mexico in the wars with the United States, a bombshell of enormous proportions if made aware to the US government and people.

Hall's Room 40 was reading all the American traffic, (that ran via cable from the US embassy in Denmark), and including all German traffic, encrypted or otherwise, that was forwarded from the US Embassy in Berlin. The US cable went via the UK, and the intercept point was at a relay station at Porthcurno, near Land's End. Hall's civilian cryptographers brilliantly decrypted the Zimmermann telegram the following day after an interception by the British, January 17, 1917.

The Americans may well think that this was all a devious British plot to bring the United States into the war. The telegram was brutally explicit in two regards: On February 1, 1917, the Germans would re-



sume unrestricted U-boat warfare, and a German-Mexican military alliance was proposed, with Germany as the funding source. Hall needed a cover story for his knowledge of the German codes and avoid the Americans knowing that Room 40 was reading theirs and others mail, while at the same time convincing Woodrow Wilson and his government that the telegram was real, not a British forgery. Hall then decided on his "Deception Plan." Hall knew one key fact: The German Embassy in Washington DC, once it received the telegram, would have to transmit it to the German Embassy in Mexico City. Hall knew that they used a commercial telegraph company.

Hall's agents bribed a Mexican telegraph employee to yield the cipher, thereby enabling Hall to inform the Americans that this had come directly from the Mexican Telegraph company from Washington DC. Simple, but brilliant. Hall also took another quite remarkable action, by great timing, by doing nothing until the Germans announced unrestricted U-Boat warfare on February 1, 1917, after which the US broke off diplomatic relations with Germany on February 3, 1917.

Hall met with the US Ambassador in London on February 20 and handed him the telegram. Later the British Foreign Secretary, Arthur Balfour, on Hall's quite emphatic advice, gave the

American Ambassador a copy of the stolen Mexican cipher text and the English translation of the full Zimmermann Telegram. In Washington, President Wilson was convinced. He went ahead and released the telegram to the US press on February 28, 1917, and this immediately inflamed American public opinion against both Germany and Mexico. Wilson and his top aides also realized that they had to protect the British "Mexican Cipher" and British code-breaking capabilities.

The United States Congress declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917. President Wilson having asked for this Declaration on April 2, 1917.

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PIEDMONT HUNT POINT TO POINT

UPPERVILLE, VA ~ PHOTOS BY LIZ CALLAR



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LOCUST HILL FARM, MIDDLEBURG, VA ~ PHOTOS BY LIZ CALLAR



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ZOE VALVO



SMOKEY EVERHART



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PLACES & FACES

MIDDLEBURG SPRING RACES

GLENWOOD PARK, MIDDLEBURG, VA ~ PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK

Umbrellas The Essential Accessory For The Middleburg Spring Races

A constant April shower could not dampen the spirits of race fans at the 97th annual Middleburg Spring Races at Glenwood Park. With the turf rated good, the races proved to make an exciting albeit soggy day.

Bruton Street-US's Scorpianer won by a neck in the day's featured hurdle race, the \$50,000 Temple Gwathmey Handicap (Gr.

3), with Sean McDermott in the irons. Al (GB), piloted by Jack Doyle, won The Middleburg Bank Flat for Robert A. Kinsey and trainer Elizabeth Voss.

Osmoz won the \$30,000 Glenwood Hurdle with Gustav Dahl aboard for Irv Naylor and trainer Cyril Murphy.

Cornhusker handily won in a 5 3/4 length victory the \$30,000 Middleburg Hunt Cup with Kiernan Norris's first of two wins of the day for Armata Stables and trainer Alicia Murphy.

Wild Dynaformer, guided by Brendan Crowley, won the \$30,000 Paul R. Fout Sport of Kings Maiden Hurdle for Woodslane Farm and trainer Jack Fisher.

Able Archer, owned by KMSN Stable, won by 4 1/4 lengths the \$20,000 Sonabank Cup Hurdle with Kiernan Norris aboard.

In the last race of the day, Jeff Murphy flew over the Alfred Hunt Course to register a 10 1/4 lead win in the \$15,000 Alfred M. Hunt Open Timber on Saluda Sam for Irv Naylor and trainer William Meister.



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PLACES & FACES

ANDRE PATER RETROSPECTIVE RECEPTION

NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM, MIDDLEBURG, VA- TEXT & PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK

On a perfect spring evening, a lively group of art lovers, artists and sporting art fans welcomed artist Andre Pater at a reception held by the NSLM to open his show, "In A Sporting Light". It is a second career retrospective and contains a wonderful variety of oils, pastels, and drawings from very early in his career to more recent years.

The Polish born artist seemed to enjoy being surrounded by fans, graciously allowing photos and answering questions, taking the notoriety and adulation in stride. Pater spoke eloquently and sometimes softly of his journey to becoming a premier sporting artist before leading the guests through the collection that words are simply unable to describe.

The retrospective is a "do not miss!" event so plan as much time as you can to view the exhibition, and return again before it closes August 13. The NSLM is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am to 5. Admission is free to NSLM members, \$5 for non-members, and free on Wednesdays. Visit NationalSporting.org for more information.



MICHELLE ROBBINS, GAIL GUIRRERI-MASLYK AND MARCI NADLER



QUEENIE KEMMERER, MELANIE MATTHEWS AND DOUG KEMMERER



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CLAUDIA PFEIFFER AND ANDRE PATER



RON PATTERSON, JOANN SWIFT, PAM COVINGTON AND PAUL CRONIN



SUSAN BREWSTER, JESSICA FESTA AND ROSA CROCKER



LINDA VOLRATH AND STEPHEN PARRISH



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PASTIMES

SHHH, IT HAPPENS

SINCERELY ME



BRANDY GREENWELL

Recently at a dinner party I attended, the host thoughtfully broke the ice by asking each guest to relay one of their most embarrassing moments. Within seconds we were roaring with laughter and those of us that didn't previously know each other, became fast friends after sharing tales of rogue boogers and being caught picking wedgies in public. I've since used the same tactic in other situa-

tions, and am confident that the concept is being shared and enjoyed like I first did. Laughter is the best medicine and having the ability to laugh at yourself will certainly add years to your life. *

** Not medically proven, just a fun hunch.*

I suspect that every human has unintentionally walked around with spinach, a Cheeto or popcorn stuck in their teeth until either someone kindly alerts them or they do a double-take in the bathroom mirror. I

THE ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE

TOM NEEL

There you are, ready to go and no idea where to go. Not a good place for an artist to be. You have all of the fixings for a creative masterpiece, but none of the creative concepts breaking through. Idealess, empty, energy-less, and confronted with an original block. Holly crap, what do you do now? Some evil spell has come over you and robbed you of your mojo. This is serious, an artist without ideas and directionless, is technically not even still an artist. Artist's make art and if no art can be made, does the artist exist? Well, let see if we can fix this.

I'm afraid I might upset some of you at this point, and I don't mean to. But I've been artistic my whole life, and I've never really had a block. If I have, it has been so minor; I haven't realized it. Trust though, I'm still compassionate and here to help.

So here goes. I think creative roadblocks are more of a creative management problem than a creative emptiness one, and management must be learned like every other skill. Ideas don't always just appear in front of you at your will like some light switch you hit when you need one. I must admit, in this light, I've been pretty lucky to have some healthy improvisational ideas

on the fly. But, over the years I've more importantly developed systems to keep me off of the dead end street to nowhere. That by the way, is the key. You want always to have more creative ideas than you can ever produce, which then lets you choose from a creative toy box, grabbing that which you wish to play with and letting the fun begin.

Just as you practice your desired creative skill set, practice coming up with ideas. Sometimes I do this with just taking a pad of paper or my phone and developing a list of painting names or story titles. I do so with the good intention of using them sometime in the future, but with no

fully fueled; I rushed into the shop where I announced to the employees and other patrons that "I have gas" with great enthusiasm. I could feel my face turn beet red as the room silenced. When I exited, the peanut gallery burst with laughter and I shook my head and smiled at what an absolute bonehead thing that was to do.

Underwear bloopers are always fun. One time in my 1990's nightlife, I wore a stylish, of-the-era, white thong under flowy pants with a crop top to expose the newly pierced belly button. Upon entering the club full of black lights, I snagged a Zima and started boogying down on the dance floor to probably some song by Ace of Bass, drawing enormous attention for what I thought were my awesome dance moves and keen fashion sense. In reality, I was being laughed at for shaking my booty wearing a bright, glowing mom-thong, which was visible through my Semi-sheer pants. Good times.

I have unintentionally worn plenty clothes backwards, mismatching shoes and stocking with runs in them, but the cake gets taken by inside out yoga pants with the visible, white crotch patch on the unintended



side.

Collin Ferrell once made a verbal blooper when announcing the nomination of "The Pianist" for the 2003 Oscars. Say out loud "The Pianist" quickly and in your best Irish brogue. Yes, you said it and just giggled. I have had an equally gigggleable and humiliating moment, albeit not on television when introducing a friend whose maiden name did not phonetically combine well with her married last name of Cox. Her maiden name will be withheld to protect her identity, but it was along the lines of Loving or Craven.

Please take the time to laugh at yourselves! No one is ever perfect and no matter how hard you try and prevent it, that embarrassing moment will always, always happen.



may be helpful in the form of a journal. Certainly, many famous songwriters have kept a journal of what they feel could be a piece of a song to be created later. Just a phrase or few words can become the foundation to build on. The more of these you have, the less chance a block has to develop.

Surround yourself with, or immerse yourself in inspiration. Find that which makes you tick-tock and keep it wound up. If you just work and you don't continually search for and find new things to fill your reference department with, you can quickly become a book-less library, void of things to say. No stories to tell.

Go in search of pieces of ideas to help form full ideas later and write them down. Also, having a vision board is a very useful tool for collecting thoughts and goal setting. In a sense, a vision board can become more reflective than a mirror, which only reflects your outer image and does little to nothing to reveal the inner you.

Try broadening your scope by taking a different path. We are creatures of habit and doing the same thing nets the same results. The same results lack growth and eventually, you become so familiar with yourself you bring nothing new to the table. Nothing new has artistic block all over it. Drive a different way to the store, walk down different isles, talk to different people, see different things and be open to discovery. Remember you don't have to find a lost world, you just need to locate the key that has the potential to open the door to new ideas.

Live An Artful Life, Tom

FILL YOUR FASHION CANVAS WITH A FRESH NEW LOOK

NERISSA BROWN

Spring is an ever so pretty time of year. The wind feels softer, birds sing longer, and hollies give way to delicate buds and brilliant blossoms. It is always an awakening and maybe the most beautiful time of year. Letting nature set the theme, it is time to fill your fashion canvas with a fresh new look and all the excitement of a fabulous season.

Even in spring, fashion best moves forward when drawing a little on nostalgia. I found my historical adoration through two amazingly vibrant new period pieces. The series Victoria floods the senses with extraordinary beauty in elaborate dresses, dazzling accouterments, and seemingly impossible silhouettes. In an enchanting piece, The Collection is a striking story at the creative root of modern fashion design. It graces tantalizingly beautiful art while subtly mocking and embracing western fashion from all the generations before. Both define that figure in the mind's eye of what is and what it is like to be beautiful. With a little of the past and a little of where you would like to be, in fashion, everyone has a secret path to beauty.

So what is our secret for spring? Fashionably speaking, now is the time to adorn yourself in styles that reflect who you are. Open up to being beautiful. Soft pastels with delicate detailing in fabrics that move with a spring breeze by day. Then flow into an evening in fabrics that sparkle in the night. Spring knits are always a favorite along with soft suiting for the office. Slip on a Chanel inspired jacket just to add an elegant touch of sophistication. For a bolder entrance, ramp up those pastels toward hues that speak to you. Then find that glancing rebound when you move. Nothing brightens those around you like color in motion.

Now that your canvas has a few basic strokes let us add a little playfulness to the subject. Since nude colors have become the new black, your palette is unlimited. Find your silhouette and add focus and shadows with your colors. So that you know, you are always pretty in pink and blush compliments any skin tone. A little ruffle here and a lot of



ruffles there compliments everything spring. Instead of classic white shirts, off the shoulder tops in fresh new shapes striped in blue and white give a fresh look. Or add prints that are dramatic or globally inspired. Today's jeans are painted, fringed, frilled or patched and will give a unique look to your spring style.

Now that we're into the swing of spring, your accessories, makeup, and hair take center stage. Top off your look with bold round framed sunglasses, embellished slip-on shoes, your favorite tote, sporty backpack or cinch bag. For finishing, touches try drop earrings that can be worn asymmetrically. Chokers, bangles in an array of shapes colors and sizes are a great addition. Continue to follow the theme of letting what you find beautiful within you wear itself in your fashion. Whatever you and your hair stylist, nail and makeup artist choose, wear it with confidence.

Don't forget your lightweight top coat for those rainy or chilly days. The classic trench, moto or denim jacket in any style is still a must. Middleburg's spring fashion event of the year is being held on Sunday, May 21st. Here you will see some of this season's leading trends come to life. The Windy Hill Foundation will host its 15th Annual Fashion in the Country Fashion Show and Luncheon at the Oak Spring Farm. Local celebrities strut the catwalk supporting fashion with a cause. It is my personal motto that it is always in fashion to give our time, talent and treasure to the community in which we live. All eyes are on you.

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PASTIMES

REMODELING FOR THE SECOND HALF IN THE “GAME OF LIFE”

ASK A REMODELER



TIM BURCH

What adjustments are you planning to make in your home to ensure your long-term comfort and safety?

For many of us, when it comes to our homes, the “Game of Life” plays out in two halves. The first being when we’re in growth mode: building careers, raising

includes considering options for the future as kids head off to college or we’re looking towards retirement. Perhaps this is the time to update your kitchen or bath, reclaim a space for your favorite hobby or otherwise make changes to ensure your long-term comfort and safety in your home. While the concept of Universal Design certainly applies to projects at all stages of life, it is often most relevant to “second-half” projects.

Universal Design is an approach to space planning and material selections that allows for the widest use of a space by those of varied ages and abilities. As we discuss projects that will allow us to stay in the homes we love for years to come, these principles are critical to ensuring long-term comfort, usability, and safety.

families and adding on. The focus is usually short-term or immediate. Perhaps we’ve just moved into a home that needs major changes to suit our active lifestyle. Or, growing children now crave a space of their own. Or we’re trying to create the “neighborhood destination,” a great indoor or outdoor space to keep our family and friends close by.

The second half of the game often

venience.

We also see an interest in residential elevators for easy access and a surge in demand for whole house generators for reliable energy. While emergency generators are obviously great for comfort and convenience, sometimes there is a medical need, where the client requires access to working medical equipment in their home at all times. Or perhaps the generator is necessary to protect a prized investment, such as valuable art, furnishings or a wine collection. Some of these items are so sensitive that their value could suffer if they were to be without conditioned air in extreme months. The good news is there are now generator systems available that allow for safe, efficient, and relatively quiet performance that pass the most stringent Home Owner Association rules and regulations (we know from experience).

So, if you are considering how you can create a home that will serve you well as you age in place, call BOWA first. I’d welcome the opportunity to create a plan for you that will allow you to enjoy your cherished residence in comfort and safety for years to come.

Tim Burch is a Vice President of BOWA, an award-winning design, and



construction firm specializing in renovations ranging from master suites and kitchens to whole-house remodels. A Northern Virginia native and third-generation builder, Tim enjoys calling on his 30 years of design-build experience to solve clients’ home-related challenges. He is the Construction Advisor for The Mosby Heritage Area Association and sits on the Board of Building Appeals for Fauquier County. Prior to joining BOWA, Tim 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 540-687-6771.



Domaine Faiveley Mercurey Burgundy to bring home, and grab a sandwich next door at the Upperville Country Store before making your way over to Buchanan Hall for the show.

Steven Wilson Remixes

After the hailstorm in Middleburg last June, I got a new car (to me at least), and I was psyched that it had an incredible audio system, including a DVD audio player that plays 5.1 audio. This somewhat unusual format plays the music in real surround sound instead of stereo, giving it a new level of depth and richness—it sounds amazing. Next stop was amazon.com, where I began looking for other DVD audio discs. I quickly

realized that this format is almost obsolete, with the exception of used discs I could buy on Ebay (that demo disc that came with the car has gone for as much as \$50!), some niche classical products, and a series of discs remastered by Brit bandleader and producer Steven Wilson.

Wilson (www.svhq.co.uk) is the leader of the band Porcupine Tree and a big progressive rock fan. His King Crimson 40th Anniversary Series sets are extraordinary. He worked with the original tapes from recording sessions four decades old. The cool thing about these sets is they include 5.1 DVD audio and are priced at or around \$20 each. You can play a DVD audio disc in your home DVD player, making it easily accessible especially if you can’t get a 5.1 system for your car.

In addition to King Crimson, Wilson has a diversity of material available, including XTC, Gentle Giant, Yes, Jethro Tull, Tears for Fears, and Caravan. On every disc, the 5.1 format allows you to hear every instrument and note clearly while giving you a blend that truly represents the band’s original artistic intent. You can buy these discs on Amazon and other online dealers. The Yes series is another highly recommended series, with all of their important early albums like Fragile, Close to the Edge, The Yes Album, Tales from Topographic Oceans and Relayer available. To learn more about Wilson’s work, read this interview with him: <https://tinyurl.com/n89jdng>

Head to Wilson’s website or Facebook Pages, and you can see the large number of albums he has remastered mostly progressive British material, but even a recent remaster of the great Chicago II and a soon to be released Songs From the Wood from Jethro Tull. See the list of Wilson remasters here: <https://tinyurl.com/m3qudtx>

BIG TREES

THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE

Virginia is a state with lots of champion trees and a big advantage; it’s home to the two most famous big tree hunters in the country. They form a tag team, looking for large trees that may outrank



other large trees. Gary Williamson is a retired park ranger from Chesapeake, Virginia. He is responsible for 175 list worthy trees, with more than 45 national champions or the biggest of their kind in the entire United States. Byron Carmean is from Suffolk, Virginia, a retired teacher of horticulture and forestry. He’s been hunting trees since 1983 and has located 45 to 50 state champions. These numbers fluctuate, limbs fall, trees die, numbers change.

Their contributions to the big tree program may be a significant part of Virginia’s ranking, fourth place out of the top five. Florida has over 100 national champs, Arizona and Texas follow. California comes in fifth and Washington State sixth. The point system for calculating big trees began in 1940 with the American Forestry Association. Today you can do an internet search for Virginia big trees and then search their database,



finding the largest in the state with a location, phone number of owners, and even a photograph. So incredible is the Virginia big tree network that you can nominate a tree, report the death of a champion or even re-certify an existing winner.

The point system for measuring champs is the total of three things; the trunk in inches, measured at four and a half feet up, the height in feet, and the average canopy spread in feet, divided by four. Most older trees gain in girth and may outnumber another champion trees in a matter of two years. For that reason, the list is updated every second year. If a registered tree is not measured and recorded in ten years, it is automatically dropped. Sadly urbanization claims big trees, potential champions, on a daily basis. Extreme weather and old age are always a threat to their status.

My interest in the process came after meeting a significant specimen in Warrenton, Virginia. Dominion Power had contacted the forestry department, so impressive was alone hackberry tree or Celtis occidentalis in a farm field, near a power line installation. From what I understand, it is being nominated, the measurement around the trunk is 216”!

Folks that seek out big trees, and there are many, walk up to these specimens and touch their trunk, it’s a requirement. So humbled and impressed was my experience with this hackberry that I may become a big tree junkie.

Virginia is certainly a good place to start.

HIGH-INTENSITY TRAINING AND AGING

KAY COLGAN
CERTIFIED HEALTH COACH
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High-intensity training is not new; it has been around for a long time. The idea is you get your heart rate up and then bring it down for a certain amount of time. Example, you might walk at a pace of 3.0 on the treadmill. If you were trying to achieve a higher intensity type of training, you might do 3.0 for 4 minutes and then boost the speed up to 3.5 for 1 minute and then return to 3.0. So if you were working out for 45 minutes, you would do nine cycles of this. The science is showing a definite benefit to individuals over 50 as far as aging goes. However, the group that was measured were already healthy people. It is always best to check with your physician before starting a HIT training program.

HIT training can be adapted to any workout. By challenging the pace and then recovery is where the benefit lay. Some of the more popular HIT training programs are boot camp type workouts. However, a yoga workout can become high intensity if the pace is adjusted. Spinning can be High intensity just by changing the tempo. Some of us remember this as interval training. Reaching our peak heart rate and then bringing it down to recovery, only to bring it up again. It challenges all of our systems, but in this work, all systems become stronger. An important aspect to watch for is proper form. When we speed up our workouts, the form can fail, and injury can happen. Being aware of our form during the duration of the work-

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Skip the poison & get a couple barn cats instead! You will be saving lives! We have a buddy program — 2 for the price of 1. All animals are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, microchipped, & dewormed. Contact us today to find out more. Our staff is available to give you all the information you need to set up cats in your barn.

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Bella is absolutely the most adorable beagle in the world! She is sweet to everyone & everything! She's 7 years old, & has Addison's disease which is well managed with monthly injections. She's a happy-go-lucky, incredibly well-behaved girl. Because she is a beagle, she will need a home with a fenced in yard, but you could not find a better companion for children, cats or other dogs.



Dixie is a sweet, mellow mare who found refuge with us after living hungry in poor conditions. She is sound & gets along with other horses. Previously she was used in the Madeira School's summer camp. She stands for farrier, great for vet, is a honest real lovable horse in need of a forever home. She is approximately 20 years old & only has one eye, but does not act any different than horses with both.



Rusty is a VERY handsome, gentle, 5 year old purebred coonhound who came from the most affected flood area in West Virginia. He can't live with cats or small dogs, but he is the sweetest thing you can imagine. This dog truly has a heart of gold & deserves a loving second chance at life.



Ned is a senior looking for a cushy retirement home. He's a sweet 15H guy who gets along well with other horses. Ned doesn't have a lot of teeth left, so he eats his grain as a mush & gets soaked hay cubes. But don't tell him he's too old to graze - he loves to go out in the field with other horses & crop the grass, even if he doesn't actually eat it. Help a senior horse live the good life in his golden years!



Purcee is a wonderful senior kitty with an amazing personality!! She has a lot of spunk & lots of cute little quirks & habits. She gets along well with other cats, & would love to find her forever home!



Cooper & Lola are a bonded pair of dogs that have lived together for many years! Cooper is a 10 year old lab mix, & Lola is a 10 year old female terrier cross. They absolutely adore each other, but unfortunately Lola does not get along with any other animals except for her best bud Cooper! They make a super cute pair & are both house trained. They really want to spend their golden years together in a home!



Thelma & Louise are two large Molly mules who came from a slaughter auction in Pennsylvania. There is evidence they were Amish buggy mules. They are around 11 years old & very healthy, but because of trauma in their past they can be difficult to handle & would require an experienced mule person to work with them. We feel that with the right handling/ training, these girls will be able to do anything!



Amy is a 1 year who suffered from a gunshot wound that shattered her leg so badly it needed to be amputated. However, she has absolutely no problem getting around! She's very sweet & social, & gets along beautifully with other cats & people of all ages. Amy would be a fun addition to any family!

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Drug Takeback

When: Saturday April 29, 2017

10:00 am—2:00 pm

Where: Town Hall 10 W. Marshall St.

Please check your cabinets, for any unfinished, expired, or even unknown prescriptions. Don't contaminate our ground water.

The Middleburg Police Department is partnering with the DEA, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, and Purcellville Police Department for this event.

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ARBOR DAY/EARTH DAY

On April 29 the Virginia Department of Forestry, an organization driven by science and run by scientists, will award the Town of Middleburg its Sixteenth consecutive “Tree City USA” award. It is given for policies and real-world work that provides pleasure and benefit to not only all who live here but friends and neighbors as well. It is recognition

in which we all take pride, and which we display proudly for all who enter our Town.

The tradition dates from Spain, first in 1594 and then again, during the Napoleonic Wars, in 1805.

In the United States, the formal designation dates from Sterling Morton’s Nebraska City, Nebraska, “Arbor Day” in 1872. Legend has it

that over a million trees were planted across Nebraska on April 10 of that year. National Arbor Day is the last Friday in April.

This Arbor Day, following as it did the events of Earth Day, 2017, is especially significant.

Not only regulations designed to protect our forests and streams and the wildlife

they support, but the very funding of science supporting forestry and all its sister disciplines, is threatened.

On Earth Day scientists all over the world felt compelled to stand up and be counted.

Marches protesting not only the abandonment of regulations and defunding of research but denial of the value of science and scientists took

place, across the globe.

We applaud both the Town Council and staff of Middleburg for their ongoing and enthusiastic support of Arbor Day and its principles and the scientists and friends of science all over the world who spoke up and spoke out on Earth Day.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

MICHAEL TODD - HAYMARKET VA

Writing to express appreciation

ON CHARACTER

BLUE

DAN MORROW

“There was nothing like an appeal to honor. It was a virtue that all craved, even those who lacked it. Fundamentally, honor was itself a debt, a code of behavior, a promise, something inside yourself that you owed to the others who saw it in you.”

Tom Clancy - Debt of Honor, 1995

Perceptions of “character” in an individual, be they friends, lovers, priests or politician, is an intensely personal exercise . . . And as we grow older those who shaped those perceptions become memories at a pace unimaginable when we were younger.

My perceptions and those of my peers I believe to be most worthy of emulation were shaped, for the most part by family, teachers, and mentors who were products of the Great De-

pression and the Second World War . . . Men and women whose esteem I cherished and to whom, to paraphrase Tom Clancy, I owed much more than ordinary debts.

I think I was 11 when I swore the first formal “oath” . . . On my honor, in front of God and my peers. At 73 I can still recite the Boy Scout Oath and the “Scout Laws” it demanded I live up to. To do one’s best to do one’s duty, to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

The next such formal commitment came a year later when, at 12, and joined the “communion of saints” as a Southern Presbyterian. Like the Scout Oath and Laws, I can still recite the Apostles Creed . . . And still devoutly believe in the “communion of saints” and the “forgiveness of sins.”

The third I swore twice: marriage

rate, perhaps none more significant than the Ogallala Aquifer in the high plains region. As a retired engineer and erstwhile farm kid, I have a great

appreciation for water issues as they relate to our food supply and have wondered for years why it is that our ground water resources don’t receive

the serious attention they deserve in our national politics. Please pass along my note to Mr. Engberg.

Thanks and best regards,

ing. The oft heard, “Do as I say, not as I do” only drives home the seriousness of laying down laws for those who will forever judge you on how well you lived up to the rules you impose on them.

One approach is to define the opposite of character:

For me, in 1961 Joseph Heller, a 60-combat-mission B-25 bombardier, and an enlistee at 19, made a good start in Catch 22:

“It was almost no trick at all . . .” Heller wrote, “to turn vice into virtue and slander into truth, impotence into abstinence, arrogance into humility, plunder into philanthropy, thievery into honor, blasphemy into wisdom, brutality into patriotism, and sadism into justice. Anybody could do it; it required no brains at all. It merely required no character.”

The more things change . . .

Even more rare is the ability to

CHARACTER IN POLITICS

RED

JIM MORGAN

Ken Rietz, a long-time political consultant, and manager of numerous political campaigns writes in his book, Winning Campaigns, “Issues are important (but) the most important thing to voters is the candidate’s character. Trustworthiness, believability, and likeability were paramount.”

Maybe. But politics doesn’t seem to attract many people who have those qualities. And politicians generally rank below-used car salesmen in all three. Can anyone honestly say that Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton were/are trustworthy, believable, or likable?

Hillary is irrelevant now, and perhaps we shouldn’t speak ill of the politically dead. Still, let’s not forget

that William Safire once referred to her as “a congenital liar” nor that she has been a scandal machine throughout her career. Not much character there. And likable? Not even close.

Trump is crude, vulgar, boorish, and has a haircut rivaled only by Kim Jong-un’s in the ugly department. Democrats make much of his boasting about grabbing women by their private parts and getting away with

it because he’s rich and famous. And indeed he grew up as a spoiled rich brat who didn’t often hear the word “no” – kind of like Barack Obama with more money. But Trump’s comments were pretty much the commonplace vulgarities which anyone who has lived in a barracks has heard and probably said. Newsflash: men can be pigs.

Yet Democrats weren’t concerned

accept those flaws and forgive them. Given that we are all flawed at best, who then has the standing to judge the “character” or others. . . and what, if any, are the standards?

Some 250 years ago Benjamin Franklin wrote in his Autobiography, “There seems to me at present to be great occasion for raising a United Party for Virtue, by forming the virtuous and good men of all nations into a regular body.”

Citizenship operates at its very best as a spiral of growth in personal character continuously pulling us through life. If we all captured that gift - and habit -, imagine the collective impact on the country? It’s a wonderful proposition on which to design new excellence in citizenship for America.

The “spiral” of the individual citizen could well yield the “synergy” we want for the nation. Each of us will always own what belongs to our character. It can never be taken from us. And we will always possess it, but nothing more. Synergy, however - or the creation of a sum greater than

away with, if not murder, something that reasonably could have been called manslaughter. Harry “the Godfather” Reid is in the mix and even the sainted JFK was known to have a less than sterling personal character. Why do you think Jackie was fuming while Marilyn was seductively singing “Happy Birthday, Mr. President?” Yowza!

Oh, and remember those emails hacked from the DNC and John Podesta by the Russians supposedly to help Trump’s campaign? From them, we learned, among other

things, that the DNC was rigging the Democratic primaries for Hillary. In other words, we learned that Democrats have no standing to accuse Republicans of lacking character.

It is, of course, a great shame that we are reduced to discussing character within a framework of “I know you are but what am I?” As another well-known public figure once said, “Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.” Of course, if we followed that advice, democracy couldn’t function. Politics is

a stone-casting activity if ever there were one.

When did we last demand character or integrity of our political leaders anyway? In a culture of moral relativism, are we able to require character or integrity at all? Isn’t that being “judgmental?” And isn’t judgmentalism among the worst crimes in the progressive List of Bad Things?

In its race to the bottom, our popular culture does not often present old-fashioned ideas like char-

acter or morality (they’re so bourgeois and judgmental). Instead, we get trashy television shows like “Modern Family,” “The Real Housewives of (Wherever),” and “Chrisley Knows Best.”

Can a society in which the Kardashians and professional wrestlers are role models really be said to understand much about character? Deconstructing western civilization by rejecting its moral and philosophical underpinnings is not progress. Yet this is what progressivism has given us. It should be

no surprise that our understanding of character has been deconstructed as well.

This is not, however, to blame society for the failings of individuals. That’s what liberals do. It is simply to reintroduce perspective into our current civic discourse and to encourage leftward-thinking folks to stop frothing at the mouth about Donald Trump and get their own house in order.

MISPLACED OUTRAGE

KEN RIETZ

It is politics 101 in Washington – LEARN OUTRAGE.

Senator Chuck Schumer and the Democrats seem to have mastered the skill better than most when it comes to President Trump. From tweets about surveillance of Trump Tower to the appointment of a supreme court justice, they are outraged.

But where was this outrage when Attorney General, Loretta Lynch, held a private meeting with Bill Clinton while his wife was under investigation by the Justice Department? Or, when Hillary Clinton lied under oath to a Congressional Com-

mittee? Or, when President Obama whispered to a Russian official, “Tell Vladimir after the 2012 elections I will have a lot more “flexibility”?

Just like 2016 however, the Democrats and their allies in the liberal media, are overplaying their hand. Remember Hillary’s “Basket of Deplorables”? The general public is starting to get fed up with the Resistance Movement and the constant effort to undermine the Trump presidency. This is particularly true of the constant drumbeat about Trump’s links to Russia.

After 12 months of the liberals and their friends in the media using the network news to attack Trump’s connection with Russia, here is what

we know:

There are three independent entities conducting investigations – the FBI, the House Intelligence Committee, and the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The heads of several Obama Intelligence Agencies have said publicly that there is no prove of collusion with the Russians by the Trump campaign.

The Russians did hack the DNC and the Clinton campaign to create chaos during the election.

The only crime that was committed was the leaking to the press of General Michael Flynn’s name by someone in the Obama administra-

tion.

Trump defied Russia and bombed a Syrian airbase after Syria used chemical weapons.

What is starting to irritate the public is that, although there is nothing new to add, we have to hear about the “Russia Story” every morning and every night on the network news.

Then, when it became known that Susan Rice, while working in the White House, requested secret transcripts of telephone conversations monitored by the NSA, to unmask the names of those talking, this revelation received only minor news coverage. The real OUTRAGE is that a political operative, in the White

House, can ask to see top secret transcripts of phone calls monitored for National Security purposes.

Then there is what I consider the OUTRAGE of the year. A cable TV commentator on MSNBC implied, on camera, that Putin had orchestrated the use of poison gas in Syria so that President Trump could look good striking back at Syria.

IT IS NO WONDER that an outsider was elected President last year. If the liberals and their cohorts in the media keep it up, they will ensure an 8-year Trump presidency.

You can read Ken’s blog or order his book at www.kenrietz.com

CITIZENSHIP - AND THE SYNERGY OF A NATION

THE PUBLIC SQUARE

JERRY VAN VOORHIS
CHANDLER VAN VOORHIS

a total of the parts - could prosper the nation as a whole, at a vastly magnified level.

Just as the spiral of character reaches out, grows from within, taps into tomorrow, and first fans and then disciplines the course of change, synergy is a universal constructive principle. Its nature is always positive, always additive, and always emergent. In fact, the two work in tandem. Like honeybee colonies, though, where the group outperforms even its top individual members, synergy depends on how the members themselves are connected.

To combine the best in citizen character and its resulting synergy for America, The Public Square believes our leaders and citizens must have a common citizen standard - of the kind the United States has envisioned from the start. We think such a synchronous spirit could move citizenship and the larger synergistic state marvelously forward. It’s not unlike the “principle of resonance” showing two tuning forks ascertain-

ing the same pitch when only one is tapped and the other simply “hears” the sound.

Besides, something deeper is involved with synergy. Analysis cannot always discover or produce the secret of the whole, but there is a progressive outcome with synergy. It lives beyond the net of our words and actions and thoughts, because it forges the new in life. Its dynamic and evolving character, where the “whole is in the parts, and the parts are in the whole,” let actions transform themselves. The whole, in other words, integrates into its own sphere of activity.

Because we already know the power of synergy, we can create the America we want for the future. Music, for example, puts parts together to create songs with dramatic effect. Business mergers combine two enterprises into one to find new benefits in cash flow, cost control, debt, and tax structure. Average citizens “kill two birds with one stone” all the time - starting every morning with two rather than one making up a bed.

What if the trust of the proverbial handshake helped sanction the integrity of the business contract again? With less crowded dockets could our court system, now massively clogged, better sort critical legal distinctions for the good of our democracy? Finally will America, as a nation centered on life more than death, have finally have found the eternal voice to defend itself against any domestic or foreign foe - thus means to feel forever at home with itself?

The spiral of belief and the synergy of hope magically drive straight to the base of our American promise in both governmental genius and citizen greatness. They are a remarkable combination. In common pursuit, they could forever fortify the American Dream. A country’s leadership, guided by virtue as Franklin hoped, and the citizen body, propelled through character progression, can build an enduring civilization. There may be other visions for the future, but The Public Square is hard-pressed to know one destined to do as much good.

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WHY IS WATER SO EXPENSIVE IN MIDDLEBURG? ASK A COUNCIL MEMBER

MARK SNYDER

Hello, Middleburg! I am pleased and proud to announce that the Virginia Rural Water Association recently awarded its (small) Water System of the Year to the Town of Middleburg! Middleburg's application cited the utility fund's financial turnaround, implementing a professional rate model, capital improvements and the activities of our Utility and Wellhead Protect Advisory Committee. Martha Semmes and I plan a day trip to Roanoke to accept the award.

Since people routinely asked me, I will attempt to answer the question: "Why is water so expensive in Middleburg?"

First, most people look at rates from large systems before they ask, such as Loudoun Water. A significant factor for Middleburg is our small size. Our utility has just under 500 customers. Middleburg has a utility with just over \$15 million dollars in assets (undepreciated). Middleburg has done our best in the past decade,

a decade and a half, to rectify problems from the past – at least three decades where too little was spent for maintenance and replacement. For example, as recently as 1999 when a water line burst, the utility had to turn-off water to the entire town. We did not have working valves!

The Town began to change this starting with a professional engineering study in 2003. Next Middleburg signed a contract to maintain our two water towers, which were starting to show maintenance needs. Middleburg then signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Salamander Resort. The MOU included replacing our old wastewater treatment plant with a state-of-the-art membrane system and added a second water treatment plant on Stonewall Avenue. Salamander built these facilities to Middleburg's specifications. After inspections and certifications, Middleburg added the facilities to the water utility. Middleburg hired a company, Municipal & Financial Services Group (MFSG), to prepare a professional rate model. Middleburg updates

this rate model yearly in the preparation of each annual budget with actual operations and maintenance cost data, annual capital improvements and annualized asset replacements (the model includes all major utility assets with the life expectancy for each item). We also contracted with Inboden Environmental Serves (IES) to provide professional maintenance and operation. This contract costs less than Middleburg was paying Loudoun water and IES provides much better service. Finally, our engineer, Bob Krallinger, agreed to join IES, the Town Administrator and me for monthly utility meetings to discuss and plan for water utility improvements. This work has contributed many improvements, such as improving our percentage of unbilled water (lost to leaks, et cetera) from about 50% in 2010 to 12% in 2016.

Recently, Middleburg replaced old-obsolete water lines on Washington Street with over 2,500 feet of new 12-inch water line and added 750 feet loop system to replace old lines on the eastern side of Town with low

water pressure and poor water quality. Middleburg is in the process of contracting the replacement of the western sewage pump station, a project we expect to conclude in the next year. Middleburg is also planning to replace old and undersized water lines in Ridgeview. We anticipate coordinating this project with VDOT so that we replace the lines before they repave the streets.

Large utilities, such as Loudoun and Prince William have many thousands of times more customers than Middleburg, which cannot take advantage of their economies of scale, so I won't try to compare them.

Oh, so how do water rates in Middleburg compare with small towns in western Loudoun? Minimum bi-monthly bills in Hamilton and Round Hill are less by about \$25 to \$30 per month. I cannot tell if those utility systems measure up to Middleburg's level of maturity. Minimum bi-monthly bills in Purcellville, with a population over twelve times Middleburg's (about 9,100 versus 700), has a minimum bi-monthly bill about two dollars less than

Middleburg (about \$60 versus \$62) during 2016. Bills above 2,000 gallons are also cheaper in Purcellville than in Middleburg. In 2016 Middleburg water costs an additional \$31.69 per 1,000 gallons (water and sewer) versus Purcellville's additional \$22.59, but this comparison only holds for up to 10,000 gallons (costs step up with increased consumption). None of these utilities use the same billing rules, so cost comparisons are difficult. That is why I estimated minimum bi-monthly bills for comparison.

Is there good news? Middleburg's utility is becoming very mature. We can expect it to stabilize with rate increases mainly to just keep up with inflation (no more increases to repair end of useful life or foreseeable maintenance or operation issues. Middleburg's fees already include all current and anticipated costs so our utility can provide the best possible service, at the fairest rates possible, prices I believe will be stable.

That is my opinion – what do you think?

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SEA LEVEL RISE

WATERWORLD

RICHARD A. ENGBERG

Climate change is a phenomenon that has been happening on our planet most likely since it was formed. Many earth scientists believe the earth was formed some 4.5 billion years ago. Alternatively, there are those people who calculate the age of the earth based on the Bible. Up front let me say that as a scientist, I believe the former. Whichever way you believe, it is a fact that climate change is occurring right now.

The earth is warming. According to an article in this month's National Geographic, the average global temperature for 2016 was 1.69 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than the 20th century average. The icecaps of

Greenland and Antarctica are melting at alarming rates and sea levels are rising, slowly, but nevertheless rising. An interesting fact: For centuries, European explorers sought a Northwest Passage, a way through the Arctic Ocean to Asia. Several expeditions met with disaster and safe passage was not found. The ice was too thick even in summer. In the early 21st century, as temperatures warm, arctic ice is melting, icebreakers from several countries have been active in the Arctic Ocean. In 2016, the first journey through the Northwest Passage was made by a cruise ship.

So the question is, 1) is global warming strictly a natural phenomenon, or 2) is the natural warming exacerbated by human activity vis-à-

vis greenhouse gases released to the atmosphere from fossil fuels? More than 90 percent of climate scientists believe it is number 2. There is, however, a vocal minority of a few climate scientists together with non-scientists who vigorously deny that human activities contribute to global warming. I am not part of this minority.

As a hydrologist, I'm concerned with sea level rise that is one of the results of global warming. Since 1900, our oceans have risen 8 to 9 inches. No that doesn't sound like much but what has happened in recent years is significant increases in flooding in coastal areas around the world. Couple sea level rise with major storm-related disasters, for example, Superstorm Sandy, together

with increasing population densities in coastal areas, and sea level rise seems much more significant. Sandy itself caused nearly \$70 billion in damages.

While predicting sea level rise is an inexact science, enough significant data are available on temperatures and on melting rates of ice sheets and glaciers, that climate scientists have predicted that by the year 2100, sea levels could rise as much as six feet. If this happens, it would cause dire situations for countries such as Bangladesh, island nations such as the Maldives, and cities such as Shanghai. In the U. S., barrier islands on the east coast would be threatened or might disappear. New Orleans could become an island surrounded by levees.



Mount Gordon Farm
The Plains, Virginia
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128 acres and immaculate 3 level, 13,000+ sq ft stone & shingle main house • 5 BR • 8 FP • Exceptional finishes on every floor • Caterer's kitchen • Elevator • Spa • Separate guest cottage • Pool • Farm manager residence • 3 additional tenant houses • 12 stall center-aisle stable • Pond • Extraordinary land w/incomparable views extending beyond the Blue Ridge Mts • Orange County Hunt

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Monroe Valley Place
Aldie, Virginia
\$1,995,000

Beaumont Model Home, prime lot in Creighton Farms • 3 level brick home • Amazing quality & detailed finishes • 5 bedrooms • 4 full + 1/2 bath • 4 fireplaces • Master suite on main level • Gourmet kitchen with Wolf appliances & shaker cabinets • High ceilings, oak floors, award winning media room, elevator • Attached garage • Rear brick patio • Golf course views

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Westwind Farm
Middleburg, Virginia
\$1,575,000

Classic Middleburg colonial, completely redone in 2009 • 5 BR • 4 full BA, 2 half BA • 2 FP • Gourmet kitchen • Top of the line finishes throughout • 2-car attached garage • Beautifully landscaped • Sweeping unobstructed mountain views • 21.08 gently rolling acres • Fenced & cross fenced • Great barn, multiple run in sheds & riding/jumping paddocks

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Old Gate House
Middleburg, Virginia
\$1,175,000

Charming antique brick and stucco farmhouse • Circa 1820 • Expanded to approx 4,000 sf • Well maintained 4 BR home w/recent addition including master suite & large family room • Wood floors • 5 FP • Whole house generator • Lovely walled gardens • Sought-after location • Private setting nestled among large protected farms close to Middleburg on hard-to-find small acreage-just under 2 acres • OLREA

Alix Coolidge (703) 625-1724



Merry Chase Farm
Marshall, Virginia
\$3,200,000

Prime Atoka Road location • 155.08 rolling & mostly useable acres • Beautiful setting, tree lined drive • Main house circa 1837 • 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4 fireplaces • Improvements include 4 tenant houses, 3 barns, indoor and outdoor riding arenas

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Old Fox Den Farm
The Plains, Virginia
\$1,985,000

Restored 3 bedroom 1830's farmhouse on 65 acres • Multiple porches & fireplaces, lots of charm • Lovely pool, shared pond, 4 stall barn, workshop • Expansive mountain views, rolling open pasture & fully fenced elevated land • Gorgeous setting in the protected valley between Middleburg and The Plains • Conservation easement permits 2 more homes to complete the compound

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Willow Way Farm
Middleburg, Virginia
\$1,500,000

Prime Middleburg location • House completely redone in 2004 • Hill top setting with panoramic mountain views • 3 BR • 3.5 BA • Main level master suite • Pine floors • Beautiful millwork • 3 FP • Attached 2-car garage • Beautiful windows • Gracious room sizes • 4-stall barn • Riding ring • In-ground pool • Lovely gardens • 31.05 acres recorded in 3 parcels

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Joshua Mann House
Middleburg, Virginia
\$935,000

Circa 1817 antique solid stone home in the village of Middleburg • Original floors, 2 stone fireplaces & exquisite details • Main level master bedroom • New kitchen & new roof & lower level den/tavern room • Glass enclosed rear porch adds nice living space to a classic period home • Large lot includes swimming pool and may be dividable

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Rolling Meadows
Purcellville, Virginia
\$2,950,000

Stunning 267 acres between Middleburg & Purcellville • Rolling terrain - some open some wooded • Lovely building sites with mountain views & large spring fed pond • Miles of trails • Complete privacy with extensive frontage on Beaver Dam Creek • Very unique offering - can be divided once • Fairfax & Piedmont Hunt Easement • Come hunt, fish, swim, ride and enjoy the outdoors

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Cadore
Middleburg, Virginia
\$1,800,000

Custom-built stone & stucco home • 4+ bedrooms include 1st floor master • Gourmet kitchen • Home office with T-1 line & VIP security system & home automation • 4 stone patios • Perennial gardens & large mature trees • 3-car garage • Gated entrance, pristine grounds, pond, barn • 24 acres

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The Hague-Hough House
Waterford, Virginia
\$1,495,000

Hill top setting in historic village of Waterford • Circa 1745 brick and stone home on 17.20 acres • 6 BR, 5 BA & 7 FP • Beautiful woodwork throughout • High ceilings • Meticulous renovation • Improvements include barn w/apartment • Garage space for 6 vehicles • In-ground pool • Large pool house • Stone outbuildings • Lovely gardens

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Oak Ridge
Warrenton, Virginia
\$750,000

Prime location, off Springs Road • Surrounded by large farms & estates • House circa 1890 with 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA, FP, hardwood floors, new kitchen • Garage • 2 sheds/studio potential • Tenant house • Property shares large spring fed pond • Private setting on 13.21 acres

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Belvedere
Middleburg, Virginia
\$2,499,000

Gracious home with 5 BRs • Gourmet kitchen • Two-story floor-to-ceiling window display of the Blue Ridge Mountains • 3 FPs, coffered ceilings, random width rustic cherry floors • Large home office, gym, rec room, multiple porches and patios • Three finished stories, approx. 10,000 sf • Carriage house • Garage • Privately situated on 27 acres

Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930
Margaret Carroll (540) 454-0650



Silcott Springs Farm
Purcellville, Virginia
\$1,595,000

Traditional fieldstone house, circa 1790 with 2009 addition and renovations • 4 bedrooms • 3 1/2 baths • 6 fireplaces • High ceilings • Gourmet kitchen • Guest house, barn, spring house, run in sheds • 44.61 fenced & usable acres • Spring fed pond

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



The Plains Market
The Plains, Virginia
\$1,400,000

Great opportunity to own The Plains Market & Deli • Located just 1 mile from Route 66 and a growing area • The only gas station in the town • Includes active convenience store with deli kitchen & fixtures • 4 gas pumps and 2 diesel pumps • Prime location

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Pleasant Vale Road
Delaplane, Virginia
\$650,000

Great Fauquier County location • Small tract surrounded by large farms • Home built by current owner • 4 BR, 3.5 BA & 2 FP huge 2-car attached garage • Room under garage can be used as a wine cellar • Shades in all rooms • New flooring throughout most of 1st floor & upstairs bathrooms • Freshly painted • Basement had been workshop • 6.84 acres, fruit trees, stone walls, mountain views

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NEW LISTING! A well maintained 2 story colonial style home has 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, formal living & dining rooms, large mudroom, full basement & back up generator with auto start. A large deck provides for outdoor entertaining while taking in the beautiful views. Located in OCH territory with great ride out (by permission). There is a 4 stall, center aisle barn with attached run in: well drained 120' x 240' grass schooling ring; 2 large pastures & 3 paddocks. The **19.32 acre** farm is surrounded by larger holdings protected by conservation easements. A tractor building & kennel complete the package. **\$1,300,000**

Emily Ristau (540) 687-7710

PLEASANT MEADOW



Stunning 3 level colonial with sun-filled rooms, 2 story foyer, fabulous gourmet country kitchen, open to fireplaced family room & spacious breakfast room. Huge master suite & luxurious bath, three additional bedrooms & baths on 2nd level. Walkout level ready for completion. Fantastic center aisle 6 stall stable, board fenced paddocks, riding ring (120X200), run in shed – ideal for equestrians! **\$1,150,000**

Mary Ann McGowan (540) 687-5523

CHIMNEYS



The Plains ~ One of Fauquier County's oldest properties on **17.3 acres**. The main house, c1790 is stucco over frame and has heart pine floors, beamed ceilings, 5 Fireplaces, 6 bedrooms 5 full and 2 half baths. It is surrounded by boxwood and perennial gardens with a lovely pool, pool house and stone cabin guest house. An old Virginia Classic and a must see! Also listed as a **commercial** property. **\$1,100,000**

Rein duPont (540) 454-3355

ST. LOUIS ROAD



Middleburg ~ Small horse farm on **10 private acres** with custom French country home. Features flagstone front terrace that opens into a Grand 2-story slate entrance hall, formal Living & Dining Rooms, spacious Kitchen with Eat-in area and Family Room. Hardwood floors & 2 fireplaces. 3 sets of doors open to a fenced back yard with mature trees, swimming pool & spa, and tree covered flagstone terrace for entertaining. Full basement. 3-stall Barn with tack room & wash stall. 3 fenced Paddocks with 2 turn out sheds. **\$895,000**

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